



Introducing the D-CoE at IISc Bangalore

Transforming Design and Innovation in Karnataka

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The **Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore**, in collaboration with the **Government of Karnataka**, has launched the **Design Centre of Excellence (D-CoE)** to transform the state's design and innovation landscape. The D-CoE will function as a **nodal agency** supporting Karnataka's vision of becoming a **national hub for design and Industry 4.0**. As a **"School of Practice for Design"**, the centre bridges the gap between academia and industry, providing critical hands-on training to students, startups, MSMEs, and corporates. Recognizing the high failure rate of startups due to challenges like insufficient innovation and lack of market-fit products, the D-CoE leverages IISc's expertise to address these barriers. With IISc's history of success in fostering startups and its robust design research leadership, the D-CoE focuses on imparting **design thinking, prototyping, and business development** skills essential for driving innovation and enhancing the success of new ventures.



Building Design Excellence: D-CoE Joins Hands with IISc's Thought Leaders



Officially IISc: D-CoE Capture Their Moment at the Main Building

At the heart of the initiative is the **PG-Level Certificate Program in Product Design and Innovation**, a structured, modular curriculum offering both **in-person** and **online** learning. Participants can enroll in individual modules or complete all eight to earn a comprehensive certification. The modules cover key areas such as **Design Thinking and Methodology**, **Aesthetics and Semantics**, **Ergonomics and Human Factors**, and **Industry 4.0 Technologies**. Specialized labs with cutting-edge facilities like **mechanical and electronic prototyping tools**, **AR/VR technology**, **additive manufacturing**, and **digital twins** ensure participants gain real-world, industry-aligned skills. By training a diverse audience, including final-year engineering students, startup teams, and employees of MSMEs and corporates, the D-CoE empowers participants to address challenges in **product design**, **smart manufacturing**, and **entrepreneurial business development**.

The D-CoE will train **40,000 learners** over the next five years, enhancing Karnataka's leadership in innovation and Industry 4.0 adoption. This initiative supports the creation of a **skilled workforce**, fosters sustainable innovation ecosystems, and strengthens connections between academia, industry, and government. With access to **state-of-the-art infrastructure**, such as CNC machines, collaborative robots, virtual training studios, and business development tools, participants will be equipped to thrive in an evolving technological landscape. The D-CoE will also conduct **awareness workshops** across Karnataka, introducing institutions and stakeholders to the centre's offerings. Through its mission to bridge skill gaps and drive design-driven solutions, the D-CoE promises to position Karnataka as a model for design and innovation excellence across the country.