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International Conference on Frontiers of Sustainability- Global Responsibility for Innovation & Entrepreneurship

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In collaboration with



Track 8

Sustainability Impact Measurement, Scalability & Growth Strategies



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Track Information

We invite original contributions that examine how policy, regulatory systems and governance frameworks can drive sustainable transformation across sectors and societies. As the world crosses critical planetary boundaries, including climate, water, and biodiversity thresholds, while facing geopolitical disruptions and financial uncertainty, regulatory instruments and institutional architectures are no longer exterior but rather they are at the heart of sustainability transitions.

From the European Green Deal and India's Energy Conservation Amendment Act (2022), and from emerging global climate and biodiversity finance frameworks to evolving ESG disclosure norms, the global landscape is shifting. The development of standards like TCFD, ISSB and the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFC) highlights the need for harmonised, enforceable sustainability reporting. Sustainability has evolved from a voluntary pursuit to a legally enforced obligation. This evolution is reshaping how firms, governments and civilians respond to global challenges.

However, the policy landscape remains fragmented and still evolving. Studies claim that the inconsistency in ESG standards and disclosure mandates can lead to confusion and compliance fatigue (Kotsantonis & Serafeim, 2019; Berg et al., 2022). Literature has highlighted that effective governance mechanisms, including stakeholder engagement, institutional capacity and enforcement, can improve environmental and social performance (Gönenç et al., 2021; Dechellepretre et al., 2019).

Finance is increasingly at the centre of this transformation. Regulations around climate finance, biodiversity finance, sustainable investment, ESG risk disclosures, and green bonds are rearranging capital flows (Boltaon & Kacperczyk, 2021). Yet, ethical tensions remain on, who defines 'sustainable', and how are social equity, participation, and justice embedded into financial regulations? Social scientists have called for inclusive regulatory innovation that balances economic, environmental, and social concerns (Loannou & Serafeim, 2017; UNDP, 2023).

New regulatory edges are emerging around natural capital, biodiversity, and ecosystem services. The adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (COP15, 2022) has pushed institutions to consider ecosystem restoration, species protection, and nature-based risk disclosures. Initiatives like the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosure (TNFD) aim to standardise how policymakers and firms measure and report biodiversity-related impacts and dependencies, paralleling earlier efforts like TCFD.

This track seeks evidence-based insights into how sustainable policies and regulations both as enablers and constraints. Are the current regulations truly incentivising sustainable transitions, or producing unintended consequences? How are economies aligning domestic priorities with global commitments like the Paris Agreement, the UN SDGs, or the Global Biodiversity Framework? What governance models ensure both legitimacy and accountability in sustainability policymaking?

We encourage submissions that move beyond normative aspirations to offer empirical insights, analytical frameworks, and comparative policy assessments or case studies. Submissions may draw from public policy, climate finance, ESG analytics, regulatory science, and governance theory.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to

- Global Regulatory Trends in Sustainability – Understanding changing international sustainability laws.
- Corporate Governance & Risk Management – Ensuring companies remain compliant and future-ready.
- Sustainable & Climate Finance Policy – Regulating green finance flows, climate risk disclosures, and transition instruments (e.g., ECB, SEBI, RBI policies)
- ESG Reporting Frameworks & Financial Governance – ISSB, GRI, SASB, BRSR, and their institutional implications
- Green Bond Taxonomies & Disclosure Standards – Legal harmonisation of green finance rules
- Policy Design for Sustainability Transitions – Instruments, incentives, trade-offs
- Regulatory Innovations for Social Equity – Addressing justice, inclusion, and participatory mechanisms in policy
- Ethics in Global Sustainability Governance – Responsibility, transparency, and legitimacy
- Implementing SDGs at Multiple Scales – National policy, city-level governance, and cross-border coordination
- Governance of Water, Energy, Waste & Agriculture Systems – Integrated resource governance models
- Policy Impact on Sustainable Development – Measuring how laws influence environmental and social progress.
- Stakeholder Engagement in Policymaking – Involving citizens and businesses in policy creation.
- National & International Sustainability Standards – Guidelines for harmonised global sustainable practices.
- Governing Natural Capital & Biodiversity Disclosure.

Methodological Scope:

- We welcome theoretical, quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods studies, including:
Policy evaluations and regulatory impact assessments
- Cross-country or cross-sectoral empirical comparisons
- ESG performance datasets, disclosure analytics
- Legal-institutional analysis and framework development
- Stakeholder mapping and participatory case studies
- Studies from emerging markets, vulnerable regions, and low-carbon transitions are especially welcome.

Major Keywords

Sustainability regulation; ESG disclosure; governance; policy impact; stakeholder engagement; SDG alignment; international standards

Uniqueness of the track SDG goals connected:

SDG 12 – Responsible Production & Consumption; SDG 13 - Climate Action; SDG- 14- Life Below Water; SDG 15- Life on Land; SDG 16 – Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions; SDG 17 – Partnership for the Goals

SUBMISSION TYPES

Research Pitch: Extended Abstract (1500 Words) It will be published in FOS 2026-GRIE conference Proceeding book with ISBN

Full Length Paper: (5,000 to 6,000 Words) It will be published in Springer proceedings (Scopus Indexed)

Publication outlet:

- All submissions will undergo a rigorous peer-review process. Based on the review outcomes:
- Selected ideas and abstracts will be included in the Book of Abstracts (with ISSN).
- Conference Full length papers will be published in the Springer Proceedings (Scopus Indexed).
- Selected full papers, as recommended by the conference peer-review team, will be invited for submission to one of the listed journals, in alignment with the scope of the work.

Note: For more details, please refer author guidelines in conference website

Website link: <https://fos.tsm.ac.in/>

Submission link: <https://forms.gle/BZ4kipxiDbJpu7aj6>

Major Reference

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- Gönenç, R., Dougherty, S., & Koks, W. (2021). Institutions, governance and the SDGs: An empirical assessment. OECD Working Paper.
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