2019 ISTR Asia Pacific Conference theme:
Shifting Sands? The Challenges of Regulatory Change and Its Impact on the Third Sector Environment in the Asia Pacific Region

For third sector researchers, contemporary Asia presents somewhat of a paradox. Many of the countries in this enormous region of the world are home to a vibrant civil society or third sector, engaged in a wide range of activities from social services, to advocacy, to budding social entrepreneurship. Yet in many countries in Asia, governments are expanding their oversight and/or control over the activities of advocacy groups and organizations engaged in independent services and support through tighter regulatory controls and scrutiny. This phenomenon is evident in countries as diverse as India, China, Nepal, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam. There are, of course, other ways in which the state intervenes, controls and even collaborates with third sector organisations, including providing tax or regulatory incentives to engage in different forms of community service or corporate social responsibility, and in more advanced economies there has been a significant shift in funding of specific service delivery away from the state to the third sector.

The suggested paradox lies in the evidence that while governments are acting to control the advocacy role of third sector organizations, they are going an extra mile to create supportive environments for the enterprising and service delivery role of such organizations. In addition, the corporate sector is investing heavily in social entrepreneurship in the region. This complex set of relationships between the state, the market and the third sector offers an important focus for this conference. However, we are also interested in drawing in the extremely wide breadth or research conducted in this highly interdisciplinary, dynamic field of research and would welcome all contributions.

The 2019 Asia Pacific ISTR conference is an opportunity to showcase exciting new practice developments and research that seek to establish sustainable roles for third sector organizations and help them to cope with challenges in the many diverse countries that make up the region. We are very keen to see a wide range of papers that encompass applied
research, practice research and theoretical advances and explorations in all aspects of this field.

ISTR ASIA PACIFIC CONFERENCE STREAMS
Researchers are invited to submit papers under the following streams:

- Regulatory Regimes and Civil Society
- Digitization and Civil Society
- Sustainable Well-Being: Welfare, Education and Health and the Third Sector
- Civil Society and Democratization
- Social Enterprise
- Philanthropy
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Partnerships and Collaborations
- Global Challenges to Third Sector Sustainability
- Developing Southern Theory for Third Sector Studies
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Organization and Leadership
- Emerging Areas of Theory and Practice

PH.D. SEMINAR – application deadline 11 February 2019
Continuing a tradition now well established for the ISTR International Conferences, we will hold a PhD seminar for doctoral students from the Asia Pacific Region immediately prior to the Regional Conference. This is an excellent opportunity for research students to gain advice and broaden their research horizons with peers and experienced academics from a diverse range of countries in the region and to build important networks.

The PhD Seminar will be held in Bangkok on July 13 -14, at National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA).

PhD Students at all stages of research from all Asian countries can apply for the PhD Seminar. 

Please note that you must use our PhD Seminar Abstract template for abstract submissions. This template can be downloaded by clicking here and locating the template link.

Please complete the template and submit your application at https://www.istr.org/page/AsiaPacPhDUplad

SUBMISSION AND SELECTION OF ABSTRACT
Proposals of Abstracts are welcomed for Paper Sessions and Panels (pre-arranged) of 3-4 papers are welcomed.

All Abstract should:

- indicate the problems or issues the research addresses and relating it to the literature
- briefly outline the methodology used in the research
- provide indication of main findings to date
- include bibliographies.
Abstracts should be between 500 to 800 words in length (excluding bibliography).

- All abstracts should be prepared and written in **English using the ABSTRACT Conference Paper or Panel Template SUBMISSION FORM** (see below to download forms)
- Conference Papers and Panels will be organised in parallel sessions.
- Special Note on Panel Submissions: A panel submission is a proposal for a coordinated set of papers (usually 3 or 4 in number) on a particular topic or issue. Please note that panel proposals require an abstract identifying and justifying the theme of the panel as well as a full abstract for each panel paper. Panel proposals that do not include full abstracts and author information for each paper will not be considered. The person submitting the panel proposal must be willing to act as the panel coordinator and ensure that all proposed paper presenters commit to attending the conference. Please note that papers which are part of a submitted panel cannot be submitted separately as an individual submission. If the submission is submitted twice by the same author it will be rejected.
- Submissions by practitioners, emerging scholars, and Masters and doctoral students engaged in research are very welcome.
- All authors and presenters must formally register for the conference.
- **Please note that you must submit your abstract online and must use our Paper or Panel ABSTRACT TEMPLATE for abstract submissions.** To download the template:
  - Paper Submissions: Visit [https://www.istr.org/page/APPaper](https://www.istr.org/page/APPaper) to download the abstract template and also upload your abstract submission
  - Panel Submissions: Visit [https://www.istr.org/page/APPanel](https://www.istr.org/page/APPanel) to download the abstract template and also upload your abstract submission
- All submissions meeting the requirements (paper and panels), will be subject to a blind review.
- Only proposals of sufficient research quality and that are relevant to the aforementioned conference themes will be accepted.

**IMPORTANT DATES**
Deadline for Abstract submission for Conference/Panel/PhD Seminar: **11 February 2019**
Notification of acceptance/rejection to authors/ PhD students: **25 March 2019**
Deadline for conference registration: **11 June 2019**
Deadline for final submission of papers: **25 June 2019**
Conference starts: **15 July 2019**

**CONFERENCE'S ACADEMIC AND ORGANISING COMMITTEES**

**International Academic Committee**

**Singapore (Chair):** Swee Sum Lam, National University of Singapore

**Australia:** Ruth Phillips, University of Sydney

**Bangladesh:** Salma Akhtar, University of Dhaka
China: Xijin Jia, Tsinghua University (invited)  
Yongdong Shen, Zhejiang University

Hong Kong: Kin man Chan, Chinese University of Hong Kong  
Yanto Chandra, City University of Hong Kong

India: Manjula B. Chengappa, St. Agnes College Mangalore (invited)  
Ingrid Srinath, Ashoka University (invited)

Indonesia: Maria R. Nindita Radyati, Trisakti University

Japan: Aya Okada, Kanazawa University  
Masanari Sakurai, Ritsumeikan University

Pakistan: Shazia Maqsood, Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy (invited)

Philippines: Maria Faina Diola, University of the Philippines

South Korea: Sangmi Cho, Ehwa Womans University

Taiwan: Grace Li-Min Liao, China University of Technology

Thailand: Juree Vichit-Vadakan, National Institute of Development Administration

USA: Lili Wang, Arizona State University

Local Host Committee

Chairs: Juree Vichit-Vadakan, National Institute of Development Administration  
Dipendra K C, School of Global Studies, Thammasat University

Mokbul Ahmed, Asian Institute of Technology  
Prapin Nuchpiam, Faculty of Law, National Institute of Development Administration  
Pannin Sunamasrethakul, School of Global Studies, Thammasat University

REGISTRATION FEE

Registration fee will be $200 USD (ISTR members); $150 USD Students; $325 USD and $250 USD (including one- year ISTR membership fee for middle/high income and low income country institution/affiliation, respectively). The fee will include conference materials, lunches, and one dinner.

Information including accommodation and scholarships will be available on the conference website later.

QUESTIONS

Any questions on abstract submissions for papers, panels, and posters, and any other information of the ISTR Eleventh Asia-Pacific Regional Conference should be directed to 11th ISTR Asia Pacific Host: istrbangkok@sgs.tu.ac.th