



**Vivekanand Education Society
Institute of Management**
Studies & Research

AID Edu
Accessible, Inclusive & Digitized Education



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+ Project AID Edu

in association with

**Vivekanand Education Society
Institute of Management and
Research (VESIM)**

presents

International Conference

AHEAD 2026

**Accessible, Holistic & Equitable Advancement
through Digital Education 2026**

Partner Institutes:



Pre Conference Workshop: 26th to 27th October 2026

Conference Dates: October 28th-30th October, 2026

Venue: VESIM Mumbai

Mode: Hybrid

ABOUT

VESIM

Vivekanand Education Society Institute of Management and Research (VESIM) is a premier business school established in 1994 under the aegis of Vivekanand Education Society (VES), a reputed educational trust founded in 1962 by the visionary humanitarian Late Shri Hashu Advani. Guided by the philosophy of inclusive and value-based education, VESIM has consistently strived to make quality management education accessible to students from all sections of society. The institute emphasizes ethical leadership, innovation, and social responsibility, aiming to create future-ready managers capable of making meaningful contributions to business and society. VESIM's association with Erasmus+ projects, including capacity-building initiatives and international mobility programs, reflects its strong commitment to global engagement, academic excellence, and cross-cultural learning.

Project AIDEdu

AIDEdu is an Erasmus+ Collaborative Partnership Project led by a consortium of ten higher education institutions, including three from Europe, four from India, and two from Nepal. The project is driven by the shared vision of enhancing the quality of higher education with a strong emphasis on equity, inclusion, accessibility, and global connectivity.

The consortium aims to improve teaching and learning processes in higher education institutions by fostering inclusive pedagogies, digital innovation, and global collaboration. By developing inclusive academic frameworks, teacher training programs, and learner-centric policies, the project envisions a transformed higher education ecosystem that nurtures critical thinking, lifelong learning, employability, and social responsibility.

Through collaborative research, faculty development, policy recommendations, and digital learning initiatives, AIDEdu contributes to building a resilient and inclusive higher education system aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

The AHEAD 2026 International Conference on Accessible, Holistic & Equitable Advancement Through Digital Education provides a global platform for academicians, researchers, education leaders, policymakers, industry professionals, and practitioners to collaboratively explore transformative pathways for the future of higher education. In an era characterized by rapid technological advancements, widening socio-economic disparities, and evolving learner expectations, higher education institutions face the critical challenge of ensuring quality education that is both inclusive and equitable. AHEAD 2026 addresses this imperative by emphasizing the strategic integration of digital technologies with holistic pedagogical approaches to enhance access, learner engagement, flexibility, and academic success. The conference foregrounds the role of digital education as a powerful enabler in bridging learning gaps, promoting diversity, and supporting lifelong learning.



CALL FOR PAPERS

The conference invites original, unpublished research papers, conceptual papers, empirical studies, case studies, and action research contributions aligned with the conference theme and objectives. Submissions may focus on, but are not limited to, the following broad areas:

Submissions may focus on, but are not limited to, the following broad areas:

- Inclusive and equitable education practices in HEIs
- Digital education, blended learning, and EdTech innovation
- Accessibility frameworks and learner-centered pedagogies
- Global partnerships and internationalization of higher education
- Policy reforms and governance models for inclusive education
- Student engagement, retention, and success strategies
- Faculty development and institutional capacity building
- Education for sustainable development and SDG integration



SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Authors are invited to submit original, unpublished research papers and case studies aligned with the conference theme “Transforming Higher Education: Accessibility, Inclusion, Digital Education and Global Partnerships for an Equitable Future.” Submissions will undergo a double-blind peer-review process.

Paper Types

- Full Research Papers: 5,000 – 8,000 words
- Case Studies: 2,000 – 4,000 words

(Word count includes references, tables, and appendices.)

Formatting & Style

- Citation & Formatting Style: APA 7th Edition
- Font: Times New Roman, 12-point
- Line Spacing: 1.5
- Margins: 1 inch on all sides
- Alignment: Justified

Abstract

Each submission must include an abstract of 200–300 words, clearly outlining:

- Purpose and objectives of the study
- Research methodology
- Key findings
- Practical and theoretical implications

Include 4–6 keywords immediately after the abstract.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Author Information

Provide a brief author biography (100–150 words) for each author, including:

- Full name
- Institutional affiliation
- Designation
- Contact email

Language : All submissions must be in English.

Submission Process

- Submit the abstract and full paper via email to:
- Subject line: "AHEAD Conference 2026 Paper Submission"

File Format

- Microsoft Word (.docx)

Plagiarism Policy

Submissions must be original and unpublished. All papers will be screened for plagiarism. Manuscripts with plagiarism above 10% will be rejected.

Research Paper & Case Study Template

Title of the Paper

Abstract (200–300 words)

Keywords: (4–6 keywords)

1. Introduction
2. Literature Review
3. Research Methodology
4. Data Analysis and Results / Case Description
5. Discussion
6. Conclusion and Implications
7. References

Follow APA 7th edition referencing style.

IMPORTANT DATES

♦ **Abstract Submission:** August 15th, 2026

♦ **Full Paper Submission:** September 15th, 2026

♦ Submit your paper here: conference.AIDEdu@ves.ac.in

♦ **Conference Dates:** October 28th to 30th, 2026

Venue :: VESIM MUMBAI, with hybrid options available

Registration Fee: (No Registration fees for academic partners)

- Academicians from India and Nepal: 1500 INR
- PhD scholars from India: 1000 INR
- Students: 500 INR
- International Participants : 75 Euros

PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITIES

♦ Accepted papers will be published in the AHEAD 2026 Edited book

♦ Selected high-quality papers may be considered for publication in a peer-reviewed journal scopus indexed journals.

♦ Official publication partner International Journal of Educational Technology in Higher Education and *South Asian Journal of Business and Management Cases*

SUBMISSION PROCESS

- All submissions will undergo a double-blind peer review process to ensure academic rigor and relevance.
- Submit your abstract and paper through the conference email id
- For inquiries, contact the AIDEdu Conference Committee at: conference.AIDEdu@ves.ac.in

WHY PARTICIPATE?

- Contribute to global discourse on accessible and inclusive education.
- Network with leading researchers, educators, and policymakers in the field.
- Showcase your work to a diverse audience through the AIDEdu project's dissemination channels.
- Drive impactful change in HEIs by sharing best practices and innovative solutions.

We look forward to your contributions to this transformative conference, as we work together to shape the future of inclusive, accessible, and digital education for Generation Z and beyond.

Best regards,

Patrons:

- Shri. Suresh Malkani, President, VES
- Shri. Rajesh Gehani, Secretary, VES
- Dr. Prakash Lulla, Treasurer, VES

Conference Convener:

- Dr. Shalini Bariar

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