



**CDIPR**  
Centre for Development of Intellectual  
Property and Research  
बौद्धिक संपदा एवं अनुसंधान विकास केंद्र



**NAOVINA**  
Development of  
Intellectual  
Property and  
Research Foundation  
Centre for Development of Intellectual Property and Research

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## **South Asian Academic Summit, 2026**

### *South Asia's largest Academic Event*

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**SOUTH ASIAN  
ACADEMIC SUMMIT  
2026**

The *South Asian Academic Summit, 2026 (SAAS 2026)* is a year-long, international Academic Summit envisioned as the *South Asia's largest and most comprehensive Academic event*, Organised by the *Centre for Development of Intellectual Property and Research (CDIPR)*, *Naovina Development of Intellectual Property and Research Foundation*. Conceived as a year-long, multi-disciplinary, transnational academic movement, SAAS 2026 brings together the most comprehensive assembly of scholars,

policymakers, professionals, and students ever convened under a single academic umbrella in the South Asian region. Rooted in a strong legacy of organising globally recognised academic forums; including the South Asian Global Intellectual Property Summits, SAAS 2026 represents the natural evolution of CDIPR's academic vision: moving from issue-specific conferences to a *holistic, interdisciplinary and continuous academic ecosystem for South Asia*. SAAS 2026 is not conceived as a single conference or an isolated event. Instead, it is envisioned as a *twelve-month academic movement* designed to strengthen knowledge production, foster cross-border collaboration and translate scholarly research into policy-relevant and socially impactful outcomes. With integrating law, public policy, technology, social sciences, sustainability studies, innovation management and governance, SAAS 2026 seeks to position South Asia as a *global knowledge contributor rather than a passive knowledge consumer*. SAAS 2026 is expected to host over 2,000 participants from 96 nations, representing a wide spectrum of backgrounds, including academia, public policy, law, governance, technology, innovation, industry, civil

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society and research institutions. This diverse participation underscores the Summit's position as *South Asia's largest academic event* and a premier platform for cross-border intellectual exchange. Participants are expected from *South Asian countries*, alongside extensive global representation across *Europe, North America, Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, East Asia, Southeast Asia, and Oceania*.

### **Objectives of SAAS 2026**

The *South Asian Academic Summit, 2026* has been designed around clearly defined academic, institutional, and societal objectives:

- **Strengthening Regional Academic Cooperation:** To foster meaningful collaboration among universities, research institutions, think tanks and scholars across South Asia and beyond.
- **Promoting Interdisciplinary Research:** To break disciplinary silos by encouraging dialogue between law, technology, economics, humanities, social sciences, and environmental studies.
- **Bridging Academia and Policy:** To translate scholarly research into policy briefs, white papers and governance frameworks relevant to South Asian realities.
- **Empowering Early-Career Scholars:** To create structured opportunities for PhD scholars, post-doctoral researchers and young faculty members through mentorship, training, and publication avenues.
- **Enhancing Global Visibility of South Asian Scholarship:** To position South Asian research within global academic and policy conversations through international collaborations and publications.

### **Central Theme of SAAS 2026**

***“Knowledge to Impact: Reimagining South Asia's Academic, Policy and Innovation Futures”***

The central theme of the *South Asian Academic Summit, 2026* reflects a decisive shift in the role of academia from passive knowledge production to *active societal transformation*. SAAS 2026 is

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built on the conviction that *research must move beyond journals and classrooms to influence governance, innovation, sustainability, and human development across South Asia.*

Under this theme, the Summit seeks to:

- Convert *ideas into evidence-based policy*
- Translate *research into real-world solutions*
- Reposition *South Asia as a global knowledge creator*
- Integrate *law, technology, policy, culture and sustainability* into a unified academic dialogue

The theme recognises South Asia not merely as a region facing challenges, but as a *laboratory of ideas, innovation and indigenous wisdom* capable of shaping global academic and policy narratives.

### **Participating Nations**

SAAS 2026 is envisioned as a truly *transnational South Asian and global academic platform*, bringing together scholars, institutions, policymakers and professionals from across the region and beyond.

<b>Core South Asian Countries</b>	<b>Global Academic &amp; Policy Partners</b>
<i>India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Afghanistan, Bangladesh</i>	<i>United Kingdom, United States of America, Canada, Australia, Singapore, Japan, Germany, France, Netherlands, Switzerland, Sweden, South Africa, Brazil, Kenya, United Arab Emirates</i>

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**Tentative Calendar of Programs (January - December 2026)**

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**1. South Asian Conference on Constitutionalism & Democratic Governance, 2026**

- **Date:** 28th January, 2026
- **Theme:** *Constitutional Values, Institutions, and Democratic Resilience*
- **Overview:** Examines constitutional governance, judicial independence, democratic backsliding, and comparative constitutional experiences across South Asian states.

**2. Global Interdisciplinary Research & Humanities Colloquium, 2026**

- **Date:** 15th February, 2026
- **Theme:** *Beyond Silos: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Law, Society, and Culture*
- **Overview:** Encourages interdisciplinary scholarship integrating law, humanities, history, sociology, and philosophy to address complex societal challenges.

**3. South Asian Law & Policy Conclave, 2026**

- **Date:** 22nd March 2025
- **Theme:** *Law, Policy and Governance in a Transforming South Asia*
- **Overview:** Discusses AI governance, platform regulation, digital constitutionalism, and emerging technology laws in South Asia.

**4. Global South Dialogue on Law & Development, 2026**

- **Date:** 19th April 2026
- **Theme:** *South–South Perspectives on Law, Development, and Justice*
- **Overview:** Encourages comparative dialogue between South Asia, Africa, and Latin America on development-oriented legal frameworks.

**5. South Asian Economics, Trade & Development Conference, 2026**

- **Date:** 17th May, 2026
- **Theme:** *Regional Integration, Trade, and Development in South Asia*

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- **Overview:** Examines regional trade frameworks, digital economy, development finance, and South–South economic cooperation.

**6. South Asian Conference on Sustainability & Climate Justice, 2026**

- **Date:** 6th June, 2026
- **Theme:** *Climate Justice and Sustainable Development in South Asia*
- **Overview:** Explores environmental governance, climate policy, ESG frameworks, and sustainable development models in the Global South.

**7. South Asian Forum on Indigenous Knowledge & Cultural Heritage, 2026**

- **Date:** 19th July, 2026
- **Theme:** *Decolonising Knowledge: Protecting Heritage and Indigenous Innovation*
- **Overview:** Focuses on traditional knowledge, geographical indications, cultural heritage protection, and community-based innovation systems.

**8. International Conference on Public Policy & Governance, 2026**

- **Date:** 16th August, 2026
- **Theme:** *Evidence-Based Policymaking for a Transforming South Asia*
- **Overview:** Brings together scholars and policymakers to deliberate on regulatory reform, governance capacity, and public policy innovation.

**9. Global Conference on Fintech & Digital Economy, 2026**

- **Date:** 20th September, 2026
- **Theme:** *Governing Financial Innovation in a Digital Economy*
- **Overview:** Discusses fintech regulation, digital payments, blockchain finance, reg-tech, and sup-tech challenges in South Asia.

**10. South Asian Conference on Education Policy & Academic Governance, 2026**

- **Date:** 11th October, 2026

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- **Theme:** *Rethinking Higher Education and Research Governance*
- **Overview:** Focuses on university autonomy, academic freedom, research funding, rankings, and institutional governance reforms.

### **11. International Conference on Innovation, IP & Knowledge Economies, 2026**

- **Date:** 15th November, 2026
- **Theme:** *From Ideas to Impact: Innovation and Knowledge-Based Growth*
- **Overview:** Examines intellectual property, startups, MSMEs, university–industry collaboration, and innovation-driven economic development.

### **12. South Asian Academic Forum, 2026**

- **Date:** 13th December, 2026
- **Theme:** *Knowledge to Impact: Reimagining South Asia's Academic Futures*
- **Overview:** Concludes the intellectual discourse of SAAS 2026 by outlining priority research areas, academic cooperation goals and policy-oriented scholarship for South Asia.

### **Special Features of the Summit 2025**

- Cross-Border Expert Panels and Keynote Sessions
- Research Paper Presentations and Global Publication Opportunities
- Workshops and Certificate Courses in Collaboration with Global Institutions
- Policy Dialogues and Applied Research Sessions
- Launch of Exclusive Academic Publications and Research Reports

### **Who Should Attend?**

- Students and Early Career Researchers
- Academicians and University Faculty Members
- Researchers, Scholars, and Doctoral Candidates
- Legal Practitioners, Policy Consultants, and Advisors
- Government Officials and Policymakers

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- Entrepreneurs, Innovators, and Industry Professionals
- Technology Experts and Professionals

### **Publication Opportunities**

Selected high-quality papers presented at SAAS 2026 will be considered for publication through multiple scholarly channels, including:

- *International peer-reviewed journals with Digital Object Identifier (DOI) allocation*
- *Edited academic book volumes with ISBN aligned to conference-specific themes*
- *Policy briefs, white papers, and research reports for institutional and governmental stakeholders*

All publications will follow a rigorous peer-review process to ensure academic integrity, originality, and global relevance.

### **Previous Milestones**

*The academic credibility of SAAS 2026 is built upon a strong foundation of successful prior initiatives. The **first edition of the South Asian Global Intellectual Property Summit, 2024** recorded participation from over **300 academicians representing more than 36 countries**, marking a significant milestone in South Asian academic collaboration and global engagement. Building on this success, the **2nd South Asian Global Intellectual Property Summit, 2025** achieved an unprecedented scale, witnessing participation from **over 1,400 academicians representing more than 76 countries**. This extraordinary response firmly established the Summit as one of the most globally represented academic platforms originating from South Asia.*

*Drawing from these milestones, SAAS 2026 aspires to institutionalise this momentum by creating South Asia's largest and most sustained academic engagement platform, focused on long-term research collaboration, high-impact publications, and meaningful policy influence at regional and global levels.*

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