



## International Conference 2018

### Harnessing Science and Technology Applications through Capacity Building and Economic Policies for Sustainable Development

The United Nations sustainable development goals enshrined in their objectives that poverty was to be halved by 2015 by various nations globally. However, this goal has rarely been achieved by many countries. Much more remains to be done to achieve the targets. To achieve the UN 2030 agenda objective of ending poverty and hunger everywhere, the following issues are deemed pivotal:

- 1.) The majority of the Afro Asian population lives in rural areas which are mainly the production sites for raw materials. The utilization of natural resources is injudicious.
- 2.) In these regions national agricultural productivity is quite low while international investors are able to obtain high efficiency through capital and technology deployment, economies of scale. However the produce is export bound and does not contribute to national needs.
- 3.) The impact of climate change is soaring, disaster management is in its infancy with regard to research, required dimension and footprint.
- 4.) The food processing industry is yet to gain pace, hence related economic growth is far below its potential.
- 5.) Knowhow transfer from international knowledge centers is punctiform.
- 6.) The need for short-term currency requirements sets priorities over sustainable development strategies on many national agendas.

The philosophy of capacity building is to enable human resources to understand the needs of development and to acquire training through hands on practice for performing tasks necessary for

development. The focus, therefore, has to be to minimize theory practice gaps.

With the advent of emerging technologies, it is possible to give pace to the primary production of crops, post-harvest processing of crop produce, manufacturing technologies for developing value added products, science and technology applications for assessment and optimization of natural resources including land, rhizosphere, water, forest, bio diversity etc. Therefore, know-how and guidance in using emerging technologies is valuable to effectively utilize human capital and natural resources. Also, the policies of credit for start-ups, agri-ventures and tax policy have to be pro-development and individual and entrepreneur friendly. Yet it is acknowledged that this is but one dimension towards the UN's Agenda 2030 goals. The success of technology advance needs to be accompanied by economic and political dimensions.

This international seminar is intended to provide a platform for knowledge and experience sharing between developed and developing countries so that the pace of sustainable development can be accelerated in developing countries by sharing knowledge and resources. Three days international seminar shall therefore be organized at the representative campus of the Afro-Asian Studies Promotion Association (AASF), Mahatma Gandhi House, Theodor-Heuss-Str-11, 37075, Göttingen, Germany. The organizers cordially invite you and your colleagues to participate in this seminar in the historic university town Göttingen, Germany.