

Autumn School on
**BIG DATA
AND METHODS IN
REGIONAL SCIENCE**

October 21-25, 2019

Tata Institute of Social Sciences
Deonar, Mumbai



RSAI 



Autumn School on **BIG DATA AND METHODS IN REGIONAL SCIENCE**

The Regional Science Association of India in collaboration with Tata Institute of Social Sciences, supported by the *Nurturing Young Talent Programme* of the Regional Science Association International is going to organise the Autumn School during 21-25 October, 2019.

Objectives of the Autumn School

To provide a platform for enhancing teaching-learning and research experiences of participants with a view to establishing and expanding the knowledge base on a range of contemporary methods in spatial analysis that are used in addressing issues in regional science.

Concept Note

In celebration of the Golden Jubilee of Regional Science Association, India, we are privileged to hold our first **Autumn School on Big Data and Methods in Regional Science** in commemoration of the birth centenary of Professor Walter Isard.

Researchers in regional science use different methods of spatial and social analysis. There is a constant need to re-think and re-imagine methods and models, to evaluate the state-of-the-art technologies, software and models available to enhance the research output both in terms of quality and dissemination. At this juncture, one of the prime reasons for this re-think is the onslaught of data upon researchers. According to an article in Forbes magazine, by 2020, some 2 megabytes of information will be generated every second per person. Making sense of Big Data is the current challenge and researchers must constantly review methods of analysis. The workshop will incorporate technical sessions wherein experts will share their experiences of use and applicability of contemporary methods in spatial analysis of big data, debate and discuss with participants and also facilitate the hands-on use of software in case of data analytics, spatial statistical modelling, GIS and Remote Sensing. The experts will expect participants to defend their research papers on the basis of comments/suggestions that will pre-date the workshop. The aim is to bring together resource persons and instructors from different sub-themes of Regional Science and also to have special sessions dedicated to planning and policy matters, with special reference to urban planning. We aim to create a melting pot of academicians and policy makers to create a new agenda for Regional Science in the coming years. The dissemination of research in regional science, handling big data and data analytics with renewed synergies are expected to be the clear outcomes of the proposed workshop.

Participants

Applicants are expected to have clear research goals pertaining to the theme and a good understanding of spatial science (geography, economics, planning and allied subjects). Applicants should have completed Masters and enrolled / applied for Research positions. Early career researchers may also apply. Basic statistics, soft-computing skills and GIS knowledge is necessary. Selections will be based on the research proposals being evaluated by a Review Committee comprising members of International and India section.

Application Process

The Autumn School is open to early career researchers (pursuing Ph.D., Post Doctoral Research) and faculty members.

Step I:

Applicants must submit (in PDF) to rsaitiss.autumnschool@gmail.com along with the following documents:

- (a) A covering letter expressing the relevance of the workshop to his/her academic career
- (b) A research concept note (max 2-3 pages) will be the basis of selection. It must contain (i) relevance and discussion of the problem including its applicability (ii) clear research questions (iii) literature review (iv) analytical framework and (v) expected outcomes.
- (c) Brief current CV

Step II:

On being selected, full papers must be submitted in order to be enrolled for the workshop

- (a) Each paper will be allocated to a subject expert who will provide insights and suggestions on the paper well ahead and will also act as discussant for sharpening the research skills adopted in the study.
- (b) After the workshop, select papers will be published in a forthcoming volume of the journal *Regional Science: Policy and Practice* (The RSAI journal published by John Wiley & Sons Inc., (based on selection by the editorial board and reviewers).

All the applicants are requested to fill up the registration form using the link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe99P8mqFTHJrx3vS719IKN3KSDVPGKQNXVDVGdehHV sZx-Ow/viewform>

Special Session

A Special Session "In the footsteps of Professor Walter Isard" is proposed to be organized by **The Regional Science Academy** (TRSA) in memory of Prof. Isard (2019 being his Birth Centenary).

Important Dates

Preliminary application (Step I) with at least 400 words abstract within:	June 20, 2019
Notification of selection:	July 15, 2019
Full paper submission within:	August 30, 2019
Registration within:	August 30, 2019

Registration Fees

Members of RSA India and RSAI:	INR 4000
Non-members (SAARC):	INR 5000
Non-member Non-SAARC countries:	100 €

Registration fees will cover study material, lunch and tea, field visits.

Accommodation

Participants are requested to make own arrangements for their accommodation. We shall provide information on nearby accommodation of different budget categories in due course. Connectivity and access via different modes like local train, bus, autos, taxi available at all times.

Coordinators

Prof. Abdul Shaban

*Professor,
School of Development Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Deonar, Mumbai.*

Prof. Sumana Bandyopadhyay

*Professor,
Dept. of Geography, University of Calcutta, Kolkata*

About the Collaborating Institutions

Regional Science Association India (RSAi) [www.rsai.org.in] The Indian Chapter of the Regional Science Association started on 7 September, 1967 at the Department of Architecture and Regional Planning, IIT Kharagpur, West Bengal, India. The First International Regional Science Conference was held here by Late Prof. Walter Isard as President, RSA International, then housed at University of Pennsylvania. The Association in India functioned independently since then. Over the years, the Association has grown from strength to strength, and is a relatively compact organisation, having around 400 Life Members and 135 Annual Members. The bi-annual Indian Journal of Regional Science was launched in 1968-69, aimed at publishing good quality research papers selected through a peer review process. It reaches out to 170 University Libraries.

Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) [www.tiss.edu] is one of the premier social science institutions of India, was established in 1936 as the Sir Dorabji Tata Graduate School of Social Work. In 1944, it was renamed as the Tata Institute of Social Sciences and was a deemed University from 1964. an institution of excellence in higher education that continually responds to changing social realities through the development and application of knowledge, towards creating a people-centred, ecologically sustainable and just society that promotes and protects dignity, equality, social justice and human rights for all. Today it runs 21 Schools and 45 Centres of interdisciplinary research and has four campuses across India, at Mumbai, Tuljapur (Rural campus), Hyderabad and Guwahati.



Regional Science Association International (RSAI) [www.regionalscience.org] founded in 1954 is an international community of scholars in the field of regional science working towards understanding of regional and spatial impacts of global processes of economic and social change. It is composed of four supraregional groupings of individual national and international sections or associations: European Regional Science Association (ERSA), North American Regional Science Council (NARSC), Pacific Regional Science Conference Organization (PRSCO) and Latin America Regional Science Association (LARSA) and presently has over 42 country sections. It publishes two journals through John Wiley and Sons Inc., Papers in Regional Science and Regional Science: Policy and Practice. Since 1970, it has organized a World Congress every four years and with its growing popularity will do so every two years since its 2018 World Congress hosted by RSA India at Goa.



**21-25
October
2019**

Venue

Tata Institute of Social Sciences

V. N. Purav Marg, Eden Gardens, Deonar, Mumbai

Maharashtra- 400088, India

