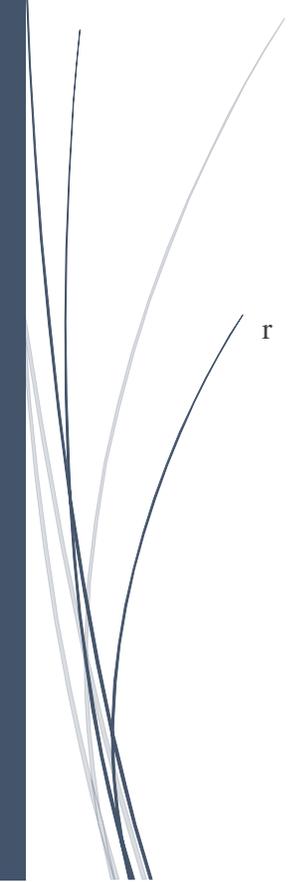




14th South Asian Economics Students' Meet

Theme: Sustaining South Asia

Sub Theme	Topic
1	No Poverty, Zero Hunger, and Reduced Inequalities
2	Good Health and Well-being
3	Quality Education
4	Gender Equality
5	Clean Water and Sanitation
6	Affordable and Clean Energy
7	Decent Work and Economic Growth
8	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
9	Sustainable Cities and Communities
10	Climate Action, Life below Water and Life on Land



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GUIDELINES for those interested in participating and representing India in the 14th SAESM to be held at Dhaka, Bangladesh

1. Students from Colleges in India *must* be enrolled in a bachelors programme in economics.
2. Every participant has to write a conference paper and take part in an additional event (Budding Economist / Economics Quiz / Economics Debate) which is mandatory.
3. You have to apply with a *paper proposal* which includes the structure of the paper and an indicative bibliography. The paper proposal should have a 500 words / one page A4 size abstract of what they intend to write in the paper.
4. Co-authored papers will not be accepted.
5. Submit a CV along with transcript / mark-sheet of your undergraduate study. Please indicate your preference for Budding Economist, Quiz and debate.

PLEASE NOTE

1. All selected candidates will have to pay a registration fee of USD 200. It will cover travel cost from from Delhi / Kolkata to Dhaka, and conference meals and stay in Dhaka along with other members of South Asian contingent
2. All applicants will have to submit a college ID proof which shows that the applicant is a bonafide student of the college in the academic year 2017-2018.
3. The deadline for submission of relevant material for selection is **September 10, 2017**.
4. The result will be declared by September 20, 2017

Email address for all submissions and other correspondence:

saesm2018@gmail.com

Mihir Pandey
Deb Kusum Das
Country Coordinators, India

14th South Asian Economics Students' Meet (SAESM)

**Organized by: South Asian Network on Economic Modeling
(SANEM)**



SOUTH ASIAN NETWORK ON ECONOMIC MODELING (SANEM)

<http://www.sanemnet.org>

Theme: *Sustaining South Asia*

Venue: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Date: 18 – 22 January, 2018



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14th South Asian Economics Students' Meet (SAESM)

Venue: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Date: 18 - 22 January, 2018

Theme: *Sustaining South Asia*

**Organized by: South Asian Network on Economic Modeling
(SANEM)**

1 About SAESM

South Asian Economics Students' Meet (SAESM) is an independently organized, World Bank supported annual academic event, involving undergraduate economics students from South Asian Countries. SAESM provides a unique platform for the young economics undergraduates from South Asia to come together and share their views and opinions on the thematic issues. Each SAESM has a particular theme that is relevant and related to the contemporary economic issues of South Asia. SAESM started in 2004 with New Delhi being the host city. Lahore, Colombo, Dhaka, Kathmandu and Thimphu have been other venues for SAESM. Afghanistan, in 2013 became the newest member of this club. SAESM has a steering committee consisting of the country coordinators.

2 Theme

The theme for 14th SAESM is "***Sustaining South Asia.***"

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of global aspirational goals which is also known as the 2030 Development Agenda titled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with 169 targets replaced the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) from the beginning of 2016. These new set of SDGs are all-inclusive, all-encompassing including ending poverty and hunger, improving health and education, making cities more sustainable, combating climate change, and protecting oceans and forests to ensure peace and justice in a gender-sensitive eco-friendly participatory environment.

THE GLOBAL GOALS For Sustainable Development



The 14th SAESM is going to focus on these SDGs, and all the sub-themes for the conference is going to be SDG oriented. The young researchers are encouraged to write research papers focusing on the importance and challenges of implementing SDGs in South Asia. Moreover, the paper presenters are expected to write quantitative or qualitative papers on how successful implementation of the SDGs can lead to more rapid and sustained economic growth in South Asia and help bring peace, harmony and affluence in this region.

3 SAESM in the past - Themes, Venues and Sponsors

SAESM is a novel initiative which started in 2003. It is coordinated by the Department of Economics of five leading universities in South Asia which serve as the Coordinating Universities in the respective countries: University of Delhi (India), University of Dhaka (Bangladesh), Lahore University of Management Sciences (Pakistan), Tribhuvan University (Nepal) and University of Colombo (Sri Lanka).

The past SAESMs have been themed on topical issues pertaining to South Asia, and most notably, the South Asian integration has been amongst the most discussed core theme for several years. The themes of the SAESMs held by respective host country, and the Principal Sponsors of the SAESM are given in the table below:

Edition	Year	Venue	Theme	Main sponsor
1st SAESM	2004	New Delhi	Economic Developments in South Asia: Which Way Ahead	National Foundation of India
2nd SAESM	2005	Lahore	Issues for South Asian Development	Syed Babar Ali Foundation
3rd SAESM	2006	Dhaka	Sharing Ideas for a Better Understanding of South Asian Development	Prime Bank
4th SAESM	2007	Colombo	Economic Development and Regional Cooperation in South Asia	World Bank
5th SAESM	2008	New Delhi	Economic Challenges to Make South Asia Free from Poverty and Deprivation	World Bank
6th SAESM	2009	Dhaka	Young Economist's for an Integrated South Asia	National Bank
7th SAESM	2010	Colombo	Economic Freedom and Poverty Reduction in South Asia	Friedrich Naumann Stiftung
8th SAESM	2011	New Delhi	Development Alternatives in South Asia	Institute for Financial Management and Research
9th SAESM	2012	Kathmandu	Towards a Green South Asia	World Bank
10th SAESM	2013	Lahore	The Political Economy of South Asia	World Bank
11th SAESM	2014	Thimphu	South Asian Integration: Prospects and Challenges	World Bank
12th SAESM	2015-16	Colombo	South Asia in the Asian Century	World Bank
13th SAESM	2016-17	Kathmandu	One South Asia	World Bank

4 Participation

Each member country will be represented by a team of 10 students and 2 faculty members. Each student is expected to write and present a research paper on a sub-theme, such that, all 10 subthemes are covered by each team. Moreover, four participants have to participate in the Budding Economist competition and other four participants will have to form a team to participate in a country wise Economics quiz competition. The remaining two participants from each country must participate in a mixed team debate competition. To sum up, every delegate from a country team must submit a research paper on any of the sub-themes. Besides, each and every delegate has to participate in one more event (e.g. Quiz/Debate/Budding Economist Competition).

All the students of Economics in South Asian Universities and Colleges are eligible to participate in the event. The respective country coordinators have the final authority to select the participants representing their country. The decision of the country coordinators will be final and binding. Aspirants should contact their respective country coordinators for further details.

Competing number of students = 10					Total Number of	
	Conference Papers	Budding Economist	Economics Quiz	Economics Debate	Students	Faculty
Afghanistan	All 10	4	4	2	10	2
Bangladesh	All 10	4	4	2	10	2
Bhutan	All 10	4	4	2	10	2
India	All 10	4	4	2	10	2
Nepal	All 10	4	4	2	10	2
Pakistan	All 10	4	4	2	10	2
Sri Lanka	All 10	4	4	2	10	2
Total	70	28	28	14	70	14

*** Each participant must participate in the paper presentation competition along with one more event (either budding economist/economics quiz/ economics debate). Participants cannot take part in no less or no more than two events. Co-authored papers will not be accepted.**

5 Application Procedure

Every participant has to write a conference paper in this year's SAESM. Country coordinators of respective countries will be responsible for selecting 10 papers under 10 sub-themes, and these final papers have to be sent to SANEM. Also, country coordinators have to provide a list of the students who will participate in Budding Economist, Economics Quiz, and Economics Debate competitions.

6 Guidelines to Submit Conference Papers

Following sub-sections provide the guidelines to submit the Conference Papers.

6.1 Sub-themes for Conference Papers

The 10 Sub-themes for 14th SAESM are given below:

Sub-theme 1: No Poverty, Zero Hunger, and Reduced Inequalities (SDG 1, SDG 2 & SDG 10)

Sub-theme 2: Good Health and Well-being (SDG 3)

Sub-theme 3: Quality Education (SDG 4)

Sub-theme 4: Gender Equality (SDG 5)

Sub-theme 5: Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6)

Sub-theme 6: Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7)

Sub-theme 7: Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8)

Sub-theme 8: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (SDG 9)

Sub-theme 9: Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11)

Sub-theme 10: Climate Action, Life below Water and Life on Land (SDG 13, SDG 14 & SDG 15)

6.1.1 Sub-theme 1: No Poverty, Zero Hunger, and Reduced Inequalities (SDG 1, SDG 2 & SDG 10)

Sub-theme 1 encompasses Goal 1, Goal 2 and Goal 10 under SDGs. Goal 1 under SDGs and focuses on ending poverty in all its forms everywhere. Goal 2 encompasses zero hunger and aims to achieve food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. Goal 10 describes reduced Inequalities within and among countries.

Paper presenters can explore the current scenario of poverty and hunger in South Asia; which policies should be adopted to implement SDG 1 and SDG 2 in their respective countries and South Asia as a whole. The economic implications of ending poverty and hunger in South Asia can also be explored. Papers that link up the issues of agriculture, hunger, food security, nutrition and reducing inequality with the aid of inter-regional cooperation, trade and processes of evolving a common policy framework in international bodies such as FAO and WTO are encouraged. In addition, the researchers can examine the prospects of how sustainable trade policies can reduce income inequality within and across countries which might lead to poverty reduction and sustainable development. Various issues regarding income growth rate of bottom 40 percent population- compared to the national average and coverage of social safety net program should also be assessed in the research papers. The paper presenters may also focus on innovative ways to finance SDG 1, SDG 2 and SDG 10, Internal resource mobilization to finance SDG 1 and SDG 2, role of new technology for sustainable agriculture; role of microfinance to eradicate poverty; importance of strong economic and political institutions to reduce inequality in South Asia in their research papers.

6.1.2 Sub-theme 2: Good Health and Well-being (SDG 3)

Sub-theme 2 can be directly linked with Goal 3 under SDGs which focuses on good health and well-being and ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages.

The paper presenters can try to analyze the aspects of making investments for improving health in South Asia, cost and benefit analysis of implementing SDG 3 in their respective countries. The researchers can also try to explore what factors can play a pivotal role in achieving Good Health and Well-being in South Asia. Various factors regarding pollution related health hazards, health expenditure as percentage of GDP, share of public and private expenditure in health sector can also be analyzed in the papers and incorporated in econometric models. Corporate Social Responsibility as a potential source of financing SDG 3 can also be assessed in the research papers.

6.1.3 Sub-theme 3: Quality Education (SDG 4)

Sub-theme 3 is related to Goal 4 under SDGs which emphasizes on quality education which will ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Paper presenters can focus on analyzing the different aspects of investing in education and human capital development in South Asia. In addition, the researchers can also try to assess what factors could affect some targets under this specific goal such as ensuring completely free,

equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes for all boys and girls and ensuring equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and university education. Corporate Social Responsibility as a potential source of financing SDG 4 can also be assessed in the research papers. Dropout rate at different levels of education disaggregated by sex, issues regarding NEET (not in education, employment or training) can also be analyzed in the papers.

6.1.4 Sub-theme 4: Gender Equality (SDG 5)

Sub-theme 4 is equivalent to Goal 5 under SDGs which stresses on the importance of gender equality which aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Women have a critical role to play in all of the SDGs, with many targets specifically recognizing women's equality and empowerment as both the objective, and part of the solution. Women's empowerment is a powerful multiplier of well-being and a prerequisite for sustainable development. Research also indicates that when more income is put into the hands of women, child nutrition, health and education improves.

The paper presenters can focus on how providing women and girls with equal access to education, health care, decent work and representation in political and economic decisionmaking processes which will fuel sustainable economies and benefit societies in South Asia and contribute to the growth process. Moreover, factors which can help in achieving gender equality in South Asian countries and could affect achieving some specific targets under this goal such as ending all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere should also be explored. Various issues such as Violence against women, physical and psychological violence, and domestic violence can also be analyzed in the papers. Different factors such as women holding superior or decision making positions in various sectors, maternity benefit provision, drop out from labor force after child birth, availability of day care services in different sectors can be assessed and incorporated in econometric models to realize their impact on income and growth in South Asian region. Role of ICT to reduce gender inequality, employment generation for women and promote empowerment of women in South Asia can also be assessed in the papers.

6.1.5 Sub-theme 5: Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6)

Sub-theme 5 corresponds to Goal 6 under SDGs which focuses on clean water and sanitation that ensures availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

Every year millions of people, mostly children, die from diseases associated with inadequate water supply, sanitation and hygiene. Water scarcity, poor water quality and management and

inadequate sanitation negatively impact food security, livelihood choices and education opportunities for poor families across the globe. Drought afflicts some of the world's poorest countries, worsening hunger and malnutrition.

The researchers can focus on how acquiring universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all, achieving access to equitable and adequate sanitation and hygiene for all and improving water quality by minimizing pollution, eliminating dumping and reducing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally by 2030 can lead to sustainable development. Issues regarding Arsenic pollution problem in South Asia can also be addressed in the papers. Surface water treatment such as installing water treatment plants or water reservoirs to provide people with hygienic water and its economic implications can also be assessed in the papers. Therefore, the paper presenters can work on how increased access to clean water and sanitation can lead to growth and prosperity and what factors can play a vital role in promoting inclusive growth and sustainable development.

6.1.6 Sub-theme 6: Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7)

Sub-theme 6 is analogous to Goal 7 under SDGs which emphasizes on affordable and clean energy. Goal 7 aims to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

The researchers can try to assess how affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all can help achieve growth and development in South Asia. Renewable, clean, sustainable energy sources are alternative to fossil fuels, economies based on sustainable energy resources ensure reduced environmental pollution which help reduce negative externalities. Financing solar energy for sustained economic growth in South Asia can also be analyzed in the papers. Investment in renewable power sector infrastructure and role of PPP in power sector in South Asia can also be analyzed in the papers. The researchers can try to analyze what factors should affect the increased usage of affordable and clean energy in South Asia and their implications for sustainable development and growth.

6.1.7 Sub-theme 7: Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8)

Sub-theme 7 can be associated with Goal 8 under SDGs which stresses on decent work and economic growth and aims to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

One of the major agendas of vision 2030 by UN is to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. Decent jobs are referred to productive jobs for men and women in conditions of freedom, equality, human dignity and security. It also includes chances for work that yield a just income, provides a secure work environment, and also social security for the workers and their respective families.

The paper presenters can focus on how South Asian workers can transit from current status of having a good-enough job to a decent job and evaluate the economic implications of this process. Moreover, how this transition can lead to economic growth in this region can be assessed in the papers. The presenters can also focus on the policies that should ensure increased number of decent jobs for South Asian workers which should result in rapid enhancement of per capita income in South Asia. Significance of strong economic and political institutions to ensure inclusive growth in South Asia can also be assessed in the papers.

Econometric analysis can be carried out focusing on different variables such as interaction of FDI, remittance, export volume, unemployment rate with economic growth. Issues regarding NEET (not in education, employment or training), e-commerce, and sector wise employment generation in South Asia can also be analyzed in the papers.

6.1.8 Sub-theme 8: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (SDG 9)

Sub-theme 8 is related to Goal 9 under the SDGs which encompasses industry, innovation and infrastructure. The goal aims to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

Researchers can examine how promoting entrepreneurship, diversification, technological upgrading and innovation can lead to higher levels of economic growth in South Asia. Furthermore, how building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation can lead to sustainable development in particular countries. Moreover, PPP to finance infrastructural initiatives, regional efforts for infrastructural development, patronizing SMEs for enhanced growth can be evaluated in the papers. The paper presenters can also try and analyze what factors can help in achieving the specific targets under this goal.

6.1.9 Sub-theme 9: Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11)

Sub-theme 9 can be linked with Goal 11 under the SDGs which focuses on sustainable cities and communities that aims to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. With over half of the world population now living in cities, mass transport and

renewable energy are becoming ever more important, as are the growth of new industries and information and communication technologies.

The paper presenters can work to examine how making human inhabitants inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable can induce sustainable development and contribute towards the growth process in South Asia. The linkage between sustainable urbanization and economic development in South Asian context can also be explored. Papers may also examine conflicts over land-use and resources as cities expand by encompassing rural or agricultural spaces often by dislocating the existing inhabitants and the environment around them. Papers can also deal with impact on rapid urbanization on changing aspirations, spending habits and consumption patterns, creating new cultures of consumption. The presenters are also encouraged to try and formulate pragmatic financing strategies for this particular goal in their country. Furthermore, what factors could affect achieving the targets under this goal such as reducing the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities and providing universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces should be given priority while analyzing the issue. Lives in the slums of South Asia, policies regarding how the lives in slums can be improved, access to safe drinking water and sanitation in slums can also be assessed in the papers.

6.1.10 Sub-theme 10: Climate Action, Life below Water and Life on Land (SDG 13, SDG 14 & SDG 15)

Sub-theme 10 encompasses Goal 13, Goal 14 and Goal 15 under SDGs. Goal 13 emphasizes on climate action and aims to combat climate change and its impacts by regulating emissions and promoting development in renewable energy. Various sorts of environmental pollution are considered as negative externalities for the economy as a whole. The paper presenters can focus on how reducing reliance on fossil fuels and building economies based on renewable energy sources can lead to sustained growth and development in South Asian countries. Issues regarding reducing climate change vulnerabilities, disaster preparedness, and adaptation of green technology in South Asia should also be assessed in the papers. Appropriate adaptation or mitigation policies along with strong institutions for implementing climate actions; role of private sector, NGOs and global partners to materialize the climate activities; innovative ways such as climate fund, austerity measures, CSR, etc. to finance SDG 13 can be evaluated in the research papers.

Goal 14 focuses on life below water which targets conserving and sustainably using the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. The researchers can try to analyze how sustained consumption of marine resources can ensure faster growth in South Asia and reduce environmental vulnerabilities. The role of blue economy and its importance for sustained economic development can also be evaluated in the South Asian context under this sub-theme.

Goal 15 focuses on life on land. Goal 15 aims to protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss. The paper presenters can assess policies about how best to sustainably manage forests and ecosystems, how to promote sustainable tourism in South Asia that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products. Internal resource mobilization to support the financing of SDG 15 can be assessed in the papers.

6.2 Format for Submission of Conference Papers

1. The authors are advised to focus on the main issues covered by a theme with respect to his/her own country or South Asia as a whole and, not any narrowed-down issue or a case study. However, each author will have the freedom to decide his/her own topic suitable for the paper. The papers should not be co-authored.
2. The papers must demonstrate application of Economics knowledge in addressing the chosen issue relevant to his/her own country. Theories and models may be used in placing and analyzing the issue in the context, but the application is the key.
3. The authors are required to strictly adhere to the standard technical specifications of academic research papers.
4. The expected standard of the presentations takes into account that the delegates are undergraduates and hence the expected academic excellence and competency is at normal academic standards at undergraduate level.
5. Format to be adhered to:
 - a) Font type: Calibri
 - b) Font size: 16 for section headings, 14 for sub-headings, 12 for text, 10 for footnotes
 - c) Bold and italic are accepted
 - d) Line spacing: 1.15
 - e) Document size: 4000-5000 words (10-12 pages, excluding cover page)
 - f) Page numbers: bottom-right
 - g) Color: black and white only
 - h) Referencing: Harvard style
6. Cover page
 - a) [On the top of the sheet]: 14th SOUTH ASIAN ECONOMICS STUDENTS MEET
 - b) Session Theme of the paper, as given in this document
 - c) Title of the paper, as chosen by the author
 - d) Name of the author, university, country
 - e) Abstract of the paper, not exceeding 150 words
7. Conference presentation
 - a) Power Point presentations, strictly limited to 10 minutes

- b) Q & A session: 8 minutes
 - d) Questions and comments are not allowed from the author's own country team
8. Submission

Email address for all submissions and other correspondence: saesm2018@gmail.com

6.3 Submission Deadline

September 10, 2017: Submission of abstract / structure of paper for selection

October 30, 2017: Submission of final paper to country coordinator.

6.4 Evaluation Criteria

All the authors of conference papers will have to make a 10-minute presentation of their papers. A research paper will be evaluated for 100 marks (60 marks for the paper and 40 marks for presentation). All papers will be evaluated by a pool of experts from South Asia.

7 Other Events

There are going to be 3 other events for the students:

- Budding Economist Competition (4 Students must participate)
- Team based country specific Economics Quiz Competition (4 Students must participate)
- Cross Country mixed team SAESM Debate Competition (2 Students must participate)

7.1 Budding Economist of South Asia Competition

Four participants from each team can compete in the Budding Economist competition. This is a competition that seeks to test individuals on a variety of skill sets. The Budding Economist competition will consist of the following events:

1. Paper Presentation: The research paper, presented as the Conference Paper, will also be considered as the paper for Budding Economist Competition, and, therefore, the total marks obtained from writing and presenting the paper will be carried forward for this competition.
2. Written test: There will be a written test on Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Development Economics and Mathematical Economics (Statistics and Econometrics included). Detailed syllabus for the written test will be provided.
3. Visual Round: The participants will have to discuss an image shown to them by applying any economics theory and vocabulary.
4. Panel Interview: The participants will have to answer questions from a panel of judges in the final round of the competition.

Marks obtained by a participant in each event will be carried forward. First round of elimination will be done by combining the marks of the research paper and the written test. Top Twelve participants will qualify for the next round and take part in the visual round. Top Five participants will proceed to the final round of panel interview. The participant with highest aggregate marks will be declared the winner.

7.2 Economics Quiz Competition

A team of four participants from each country will participate in the quiz competition. The quiz competition will consist of five rounds, of which, three rounds will be on economic theories and concepts (Microeconomics, Macroeconomics and Development Economics) and a round each on South Asia and general awareness.

7.3 SAESM Debate Competition

For the first time ever in SAESM's history a debate competition is going to be organized. The debate competition will be arranged in British Parliamentary format. Two delegates from each team have to participate in a cross country mixed team Economics Debate Competition. Eight

teams will compete in this competition. Each team will consist of two members. Cross country teams will be formed through lottery such that no team consists of two delegates from a same country. Then there will be two semifinals, first two teams based on points accumulated from each semifinal will qualify for the final round. Topics for the debate competition will be related to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). There will be a panel of judges to score the teams. Detailed rules and regulations of the Economics Debate competition will be sent to the country coordinators to circulate among debaters.

8 Retreat

After two days of rigorous academic activities, the participants will have a day of retreat. The retreat will provide an opportunity to witness the historical and natural beauty of the host country and enjoy outdoor activities.

9 Registration Fee

Every participant including faculty members will have to pay **US\$ 200** as registration fee. This fee has to be paid to the respective country coordinators and is non-refundable.

10 About the Organizer

SANEM, launched in January 2007 in Dhaka is a leading think-tank in South Asia. It is also a network of economists and policy makers in South Asia with a special emphasis on economic modeling. SANEM aims to promote the production, exchange and dissemination of basic research knowledge in the areas of international trade, macro economy, poverty, labor market, environment, political economy and economic modeling. It seeks to produce objective, high quality, country and South Asian region-specific policy and thematic research. SANEM contributes in governments' policy-making by providing research support both at individual and organizational capacities. SANEM has maintained strong research collaboration with global, regional and local think-tanks, research and development organizations, universities and individual researchers. SANEM promotes young researchers from Economics, Business and Social Sciences to undertake independent research work on contemporary issues. SANEM has an internship program in place for fresh university graduates. SANEM arranges regular training programs on economic modeling and contemporary economic issues for both Bangladeshi and other South Asian participants. SANEM has been chosen as the SAESM secretariat for the next three years.