



WebSciX 2026

ACM Web Science Satellite Conference · 20 Years of Web Science

November 26–28, 2026 · IIIT Bangalore, India



ABOUT WEBSICX INDIA

WebSciX India is the inaugural Asia-Pacific satellite event of the ACM Web Science Conference, advancing interdisciplinary study of the Internet, the Web, and AI and their societal impact across India and the region. It builds on the Web Science for Development (WS4D) series held in India since 2019.

With over 800 million Internet users as of 2025, India's digital landscape — shaped by 1.4 billion people and rapid technological adoption — faces challenges of digital divides, misinformation, and data governance that call for a focused regional Web Science approach.

WEB SCIENCE TRUST

WebSciX 2026 is held under the auspices of the **Web Science Trust (WST)**, the global charity coordinating WSTNet — a network of leading Web Science labs worldwide. WST traces its roots to the Web Science Research Initiative, co-founded at MIT CSAIL and the University of Southampton in 2006.

The Web Science Lab at IIIT Bangalore is a proud WSTNet member, bringing this global perspective to South Asia.

HISTORY AT A GLANCE

2006 — Web Science Research Initiative founded by Tim Berners-Lee, Wendy Hall & colleagues.

2009 — First ACM Web Science Conference held.

2010 — WSRI becomes the Web Science Trust; WSTNet launches.

2014–18 — Focus on social media, misinformation, platform governance.

2019 — WS4D begins in India at IIIT Bangalore; WSL joins WSTNet.

2023–24 — Generative & Agentic AI reshape the field.

2026 — WebSciX India launches as the inaugural Asia-Pacific satellite.

CONFERENCE THEME

20 Years of Web Science — looking back and looking forward.

Web Science has evolved from studying hyperlink structures into an interdisciplinary field spanning computational, social, economic, and regulatory perspectives — through Web 2.0, misinformation and platform governance, and the rise of AI and knowledge graphs.

Today the field confronts the web as critical infrastructure. The rise of **Agentic AI** — systems that reason, plan, and act with minimal human oversight — marks the defining challenge of the next decade.

WEB SCIENCE LAB, IIIT-B

The Web Science Lab (WSL) at [IIIT Bangalore](#) is interested in understanding how the Internet, WWW and AI affects different facets of human life. The Internet, WWW and now AI have brought about massive changes on human life in just about all facets— be it in business, administration, social well-being, personal relationships, education, etc. While these technologies continue to evolve at a rapid pace, there is relatively little attention given to how we as humans are transforming in this new world.

CONFERENCE VENUE

IIIT Bangalore

26/C, Electronics City Phase 1, Hosur Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560100, India

Located in Electronics City — Bengaluru's primary technology hub.

WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

WebSciX 2026 hosts a dedicated workshop day as part of its three-day programme. Workshops are half-day or full-day focused sessions bringing together researchers and practitioners around emerging or specialised topics in Web Science. Accepted workshop papers are published in the proceedings.

WORKSHOP 1 · AI & COGNITION

Consciousness Studies in the New Age of AI

Exploring how Indic philosophical traditions on consciousness, self, and awareness can inform contemporary AI research on agency, ethics, and the emergence of AGI.

Supported by The Chittosha Collective, IIIT Bangalore.

WORKSHOP 2 · DPI & REGULATIONS

Digital Public Infrastructure

A half-day interactive workshop on consent management, trust architectures, and accountability for DPIs — identity, payments, health, and data exchange — in the era of generative and agentic AI. Features a keynote, lightning talks, breakout discussions, and a live demo of the **Anumati** consent platform.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Full Papers — 6–10 pp (incl. references): mature, original research.

Short Papers & Posters — 3–5 pp (incl. references): emerging ideas, ongoing projects.

All papers undergo peer review and are published in the proceedings. At least one author of each accepted paper or poster must register and present in physical mode.

Format: Springer LNCS template (LaTeX/Word).

Review: Double-blind — remove author names; submit as Anonymous authors.

Portal: Submit via [OpenReview](#) (institutional email recommended).

IMPORTANT DATES

Paper Submission 16 Aug 2026

Notification 20 Sep 2026

Camera-Ready 30 Sep 2026

Conference

All deadlines Anywhere on Earth (AoE). Same dates apply for workshop submissions.

TOPICS OF INTEREST (SELECTED TRACKS)

- **Web Architecture & Decentralization**
Web3, DIDs, Solid pods, sustainable web engineering
- **Network Science & Graph Theory**
Hypergraphs, dynamic network evolution, tipping points
- **Information Retrieval & Content Analysis**
Conversational search, multimodal web mining, archiving
- **Algorithmic Bias & Auditing**
Audit-as-a-Service, polarization, coordinated inauthentic behaviour
- **Collective Intelligence & Crowdsourcing**
Hybrid human–LLM workflows, creator economy
- **Autonomous Agency & Governance**
Agentic accountability, DPI trust architectures, bot-to-bot economics
- **Cognitive & Social Implications**
Attention economy 2.0, AI-native societies, regional language erosion
- **Public Good & Policy Design**
EU AI Act, India's AI directives, DPDP, sovereign data
- **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)**
X-Road, Beckn, UHI, UPI, ONDC
- **Innovation, Infrastructure & Economy**
Regional AI models, open weight models, platform monopolies
- **Work, Knowledge & Labour**
Automation, gig work, reskilling, AI in education
- **Political & Popular Cultures**
AI slop, extreme speech, Gen-Z activism, digital well-being
- **Ethics & Epistemology**
Regional ethical AI, linguistic diversity, right to be forgotten
- **Regulation & Governance**
Platform regulation, digital sovereignty, AI accountability

STEERING COMMITTEE

ORGANISING COMMITTEE



Dame Wendy Hall
Univ. of Southampton



Noshir Contractor
Northwestern Univ.



S. Rajagopalan
IIIT Bangalore



Shalini Urs
MYRA School, Mysore



Dr. Srinath Srinivasa
General Chair
IIIT Bangalore



Dr. Bidisha Chaudhuri
PC Co-Chair
Univ. of Amsterdam



Dr. Sakthi Balan Muthiah
PC Co-Chair
Shiv Nadar Univ.



Dr. Sushree S. Behera
Organising Chair
IIIT Bangalore



Dr. Tulika Saha
Publicity Chair
IIIT Bangalore



Dr. Jayati Deshmukh
Workshops Chair
BITS Hyderabad



General enquiries & Paper submissions: webscix-2026@iiitb.ac.in or <https://wsl-iiitb.github.io/WebSciX-2026/>