About IMF
Inclusive Manufacturing Forum (IMF) is a formal body created at NIAS, Bengaluru, India in April 2017 with three major dimensions
i) It should enable participation of people from all strata of the society, especially those who have been marginalized so far, including rural, poor, under-privileged, specially-abled, women and senior citizens.
ii) It should use technology of all kinds as appropriate, including high technology, which should be environmentally friendly and efficient, reducing drudgery while creating new jobs / incomes.
iii) It should provide access for people to participate in all parts of the technology/product / solution life-cycle.

IMF 2017 was held during 6-8 April 2017, attended by over 100 invited thought leaders from engineering, social science, rural sector and the government. Six thematic discussions namely design; manufacturing; digital supply chain; quality and validation; academic research to industry; and education were deliberated.

About IMF 2018
IMF 2018 will be held during 5-7 April 2018 at NIAS, Bangalore. It will be attended by invited thought leaders from academia, industry, NGOs and Government as well as students to engage in focused and deeper deliberations in critical application areas such as sustainable agriculture, affordable health care and renewable energy, leading to identification of specific action points in each application area.

The specific goal of IMF 2018 is to act as a platform to evolve a white paper that will support formation of concrete policies in inclusive manufacturing, so as to provide dignified well-being and sustainable development for all, by democratizing and distributing manufacturing, empowering local production with local resources and marketing links.

Policies for inclusive manufacturing should support:
- a large and heterogeneous population and create jobs for millions; so as to generate and re-distribute wealth; and make manufacturing socially relevant;
- development of a knowledge economy, in line with the UN millennium goals, for prosperity, health, sanitation, water, infra, energy, etc.,
- continuous expansion of all forms of equity, including gender and inter-generational equity.

Programme

4 April 2018
- 1700-1900: Introduction & Curtain Raiser Talks
- 1900-2100: Reception, Preconference & Dinner

5 April 2018
- 0900-1030: Welcome address, Inauguration & Keynote
- 1030-1100: Coffee / Tea break / Poster presentation
- 1100-1300: Workshop 1: Agro-Processing and Productivity: Policy for IM
- 1300-1400: Lunch / Poster presentation
- 1400-1600: Workshop 2: Energy for all: Policy for IM
- 1600-1630: Coffee / Tea break / Poster presentation
- 1630-1830: IM Innovation / New Areas to be showcased

6 April 2018
- 0900-1100: Workshop 3: Affordable Healthcare: Policy for IM
- 1100-1130: Coffee / Tea break / Poster presentation
- 1330-1430: Lunch / Poster presentation
- 1430-1630: Workshop 5: Craft & Small Scale Manufacturing: Policy for IM
- 1630-1700: Coffee / Tea break / Poster presentation
- 1700-1900: IM Innovation / New Areas to be showcased
- 1900-2100: Conference Dinner

7 April 2018
- 0900-1030: Summary Presentations on outcomes from the five workshops
- 1030-1100: Coffee / Tea break
- 1230-1300: Valedictory
- 1300-1400: Lunch

* Topics under finalization and may change in subsequent notifications