

Guidelines for Applicants

RCC+ @ UCIC 2026: University of Colombo Research Communication Challenge

Three Minutes. One Insight. A Pathway to Impact.

1. About RCC+ @ UCIC 2026

RCC+ @ UCIC 2026 is the University of Colombo's research communication challenge. It invites early-career academics, researchers, and postgraduate students of the University of Colombo to present one key research insight within three minutes and explain how the research can move beyond academia towards practical application, stakeholder uptake, and tangible impact. The challenge is not a conventional technical paper presentation. It focuses on clear, concise, confident, and engaging communication to a multidisciplinary audience.

2. Purpose of the Challenge

RCC+ @ UCIC 2026 aims to:

- Encourage early-career academics, researchers, and postgraduate students of the University of Colombo to communicate their research clearly, concisely, and confidently within three minutes.
- Strengthen the visibility of research undertaken within the University and encourage communication beyond disciplinary boundaries.
- Promote research communication that demonstrates a possible translation pathway and highlights the relevance of research to society, policy, industry, communities, sustainability, innovation, and inclusivity.

3. Eligibility

The competition is open to researchers affiliated with the University of Colombo as follows,

- Early-career Academic and Research staff (45 years or below)
- Postgraduate students (No age limit)

Each Faculty, Institute, and the Campus may send the finalist for the University-wide final round.

4. Scope of Research Presentations

Presentations may be based on:

- Completed research within 3 years
- Ongoing research with substantial progress

The research should have scholarly merit and be suitable for presentation at a university-wide international conference.

5. Presentation Rules

Each participant should follow the rules below:

- The presentation must be completed within three minutes.
- Presentations exceeding the three-minute limit may be disqualified.
- The presentation must be delivered in English.
- Only one static slide is permitted.
- The slide must not include animations, transitions, audio, or video.
- Additional electronic media or props are not permitted.
- Participants are discouraged from reading from a prepared script.
- Brief cue notes may be used.
- A formal question-and-answer session will not usually be included unless otherwise notified.

6. RCC+ Translation Pathway Model (+ Moment)

Participants are encouraged to explain their research using the following pathway:

Research Insight → Potential User → Uptake Pathway → Value Created

This means the presentation should show:

- What key insight or contribution the research provides
- Who may use or benefit from the research
- How the research can be taken forward
- What value it can create for society, policy, industry, communities, environment, sustainability, innovation, or national development

7. Recommended Presentation Structure

Segment	Suggested Time	Focus
Research Communication	Around 2 minutes	Problem, purpose, approach, key finding, contribution, or significance
“+ Moment” / Translation Pathway	Around 1 minute	Potential users, uptake pathway, next step, and value beyond academia

This time allocation is only a guide. The presentation will be judged on whether it meaningfully communicates both the research and its translation potential within three minutes.

8. Slide Guidance

Participants may use **one static slide only**.

The slide should support the oral presentation and should not be overloaded with text. Where appropriate, the slide may include the RCC+ Pathway Strip:

Problem → Research Insight → Potential User → Uptake Pathway → Value Created

- What the research is about (problem, or knowledge gap it addresses)
- Why the problem is important
- What approach or methodology was used
- What key finding, outcome, or contribution emerged
- What is new, useful, or significant about the research
- Who may use or benefit from the research
- How the research can be taken forward
- What value the research may create beyond academia

9. Judging Criteria

Criterion	Marks
Research clarity and significance	25
Engagement and delivery	20
Communication to a multidisciplinary audience	15
“+ Moment”, Translation Pathway, and stakeholder uptake	30
Slide effectiveness and RCC+ Pathway Strip	10
Total	100

10. Application Deadline and Submission

The application submission deadline will be 25th June 2026.

Submit via the google form

<https://forms.gle/bmPEQUjE5kH3kxuy5>

11. Contact for Submission and Further Information

Dr. Priyanga Kariyawasam

Coordinator

RCC+ @ UCIC 2026 Coordination Committee

University of Colombo International Conference 2026

Contact: 077 738 6344 / 070 533 9576 / priyanga@at.cmb.ac.lk

12. Closing Remarks

RCC+ @ UCIC 2026 provides a university-wide platform for early-career academics, researchers, and postgraduate students to communicate not only what they have researched but also how their research can contribute to wider academic, societal, policy, industrial, environmental, institutional, or community value. Faculties, Institutes, and the Campus are kindly requested to support strong participation and a fair internal selection process.

Prof. Chamini K. Hemachandra

Chairperson

University of Colombo International Conference 2026

University of Colombo

18.05.2026