Introduction
Association of Professional Social Workers & Development Practitioners (APSWDP) is a registered not for profit organization of professional social workers and development practitioners working in various social welfare domain across the country. Social issues like poverty, livelihood, health, education, water & sanitation, unemployment, disease control programme, urbanisation, youth issues of de-addiction and others have covered the whole gamut of government, development agencies and academic institutions. Since, the influx of specialization and expertise has increased over the current decade in the country among implementation agencies, then requirement of trained social work professionals and practitioners is indeed a factual requirement. The association focuses on creating a country wide and global network of dedicated social work professionals and development practitioners from remote geographical rural areas, to discuss, debate and develop key framework on evidence & practice based interventions, methods. Focus will be to enable social workers and development practitioners all around the globe to share their ideas and working on various development issues. APSWDP will also offer a platform to youth leaders, scholars/researchers with striving passion to participate in bringing reformation through correctional measures in existing policies.

Genesis:
Association of Professional Social Workers & Development Practitioners (APSWDP) was founded initially by a group of professional social workers working in development sectors led by Mr. Vivek Trivedi, development practitioner and a global youth leader. It primarily started with a popular online social forum ‘Alliance of Social Work & Development Practitioners’ on the occasion of 65th Republic Day 2014 i.e. 26th January, 2014. The forum productively stretched to BSW and MSW learners of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) with support from Regional Centre Chandigarh. An orientation programme-cum-workshop was organized jointly by the Forum of Professional Social Workers coinciding World Social Work Day and Month for the first time at Chandigarh involving research scholars, learners, civil society and line departments on 29th March, 2014. It was felt during the workshop at regional centre that the forum must be taken on a next higher level by attaining a legal status. On 1st December, 2014, the World AIDS Day, the online forum received its legal status as an
association under the Society Registration Act 1860 as ‘Association of Professional Social Workers & Development Practitioners (APSWDP)’.

**Accreditation:** The Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) has been accredited with following credible inter-governmental institutions of national and global importance:-

- United Nations Special Consultative Status under Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) since 2019
- Affiliated with Department of Global Communications (DGC) of United Nations since 2019
- Registered with European Commission (E.U.) as Expert under Research and Innovation Programme since 2017
- Affiliation under National Institution of Transforming India (Niti Aayog- former Planning Commission of India) since 2015

**Our Aims:** The key aims of Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners are:

1. To promote social work and social development as a profession through national, regional & International cooperation and Network.
2. To strengthen professional values, ethics, standards and professional relationship with the employing organizations.
3. To support social organizations, community based organizations for the promotion of professionally educated and trained social workers participation in planning, formulation of policies, social work trainings, monitoring & evaluation
4. To strengthen the values of great Indian reformers into social work education and profession.
5. To bridge between the Professional Social Work organizations and Development agencies also including the faith based & Cultural organizations.
**Key Objectives:** The key broader objectives of Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners are:

1. Work for developing cooperation between Professional Social workers in the Country.
2. Organizing workshops, conferences, social work forums, exposure visits, researches, field projects for the promotion and expansion of Professional Social Work.
3. Work for building relationships between local Social Work organizations & their members to International organizations and bodies.
4. Engaging with political leaders, researchers, corporate icons, technologists in the country with the view to fostering cooperation among Professional Social Worker & international issues, including UN organizations.
5. Focus on strengthening relationship with professional Social Work organizations with SAARC countries with the view to provide impetus on regional development.
6. Establish working relationship between social work scholars, statesman administrators and corporate leaders in the country.
7. Undertake focused area based studies targeting international social issues with respect to Indian context.
9. Develop a think tank of Social work professionals so that this can provide solutions & action plan to complex social issues of national importance to national, state and local government.
10. Examine social work curriculum taught by the universities from the prospective of professional career with a view to improving credibility of Social Work Profession.
11. Develop statistical tool and evidence based indicators pertaining to human development.

**Purpose of Volunteering:** Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) aims at engaging and providing an opportunity to the volunteers from various sectors across the country and abroad. The key objectives of
this volunteer prospect is to grant exposure to youngsters in order to acquire rich experience of being engaged in our professional network, for learning ethical values, practicing with leading mentors and interaction with professional experts associated with APSWDP.

**Areas of Volunteering:** The following are the key professional areas, where one can volunteer:

1. Event Management
2. Supervision
3. Content Writing
4. Compiling Report and Documentation
5. Designing IEC
6. Public Relation
7. Photography
8. Managing web portals
9. Social Media campaigns
10. Others (on request and approval)

**Eligibility Criteria:** Graduates/ Post Graduates or above in the area listed above from the recognized universities/ institutions would be eligible to apply for volunteering.

**Application Procedure:** The volunteers may forward their application on prescribed format (Google forms link given below) accompanied by a letter of reference from any person of eminence in the domain of social development along with a forwarding letter from the applicant stating therein the purpose for applying and how volunteering would benefit them. Updated Biodata/ CV of the applicant should also be enclosed herewith. Volunteers from 18 to 35 years can apply for this opportunity.

**Selection Procedure:** List of applications received shall be jointly placed before the Director (Policy & Administration) and Director (Capacity Building & Training) for the purpose of scrutiny. At the onset, volunteer applicants who are shortlisted for this opportunity shall be notified through email as well as through personal call. List of shortlisted volunteers shall be uploaded on the official website of APSWDP. The office of APSWDP shall reserves the right to accept or reject the applications without giving any intimation/ reason.
**Duration of Volunteering:** The duration of volunteering shall be based on the availability of assignments/ activities/ events with APSWDP. However, volunteers available locally shall be given preference for regular assignments.

**Stipend:** No stipend of any kind will be given during volunteering. Travel, food, stay and other miscellaneous expenditures shall has to be borne by the volunteer. However, during events and programmes, limited meals shall be arranged.

**Benefits of Volunteering:** The volunteers will have following benefits during and after doing volunteering with APSWDP:

1. Understanding of professional social work
2. Interaction with experts from various domains
3. Opportunity to get exposure of knowledge on UN Systems and SDGs
4. Confidence build-up
5. Demonstrates Social Responsibility
6. Network and relationship building
7. Positive outlook on life
8. Experience of Social action
9. Working from theory to practice
10. Social service towards humanity

**Procedure:**
Interested applicants can apply at the links below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScKk4gJsfuWSr9QNYQfPiO6TUFowRF0C53oINGJEyO2nTW8Uw/viewform

In case of any inquiry, please contact below:
**Director - Capacity Building and Training (Honorary)**
**Mob:** +91-7087060356
**Email:** apswdp@gmail.com