



THE VOYAGE

THEORY TO PRACTICE
VOLUNTEERISM TO PROFESSIONALISM

Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP)
In Special Consultative Status with Economic and Social Council of the United Nations since 2019
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PROMOTING SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION FOR
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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MESSAGE FROM EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

DR. SUMIT ARORA

It gives me immense pleasure to release the fifth issue of our monthly newsletter. I hope the information and content in the newsletter will provide a deep understanding about the tasks undertaken by APSWDP.

In this issue, we will have a chance to read about successful launch of APSWDP Virtual Dialogue Series on UN 75 2020 and Beyond Shaping Our Future Together: What Future We Want, participation of members in UNITAR/CIFAL sponsored trainings, selection of APSWDP for State Award by Chandigarh Administration and an article on "COVID-19: A Threat or An Opportunity" contributed by Mr. Akash Yadav, a young Legal Practitioner and member with the Association.

I congratulate all the team members for putting up their ideas in this edition. With these words, I take this opportunity to invite short write-ups from our esteemed members which will be published in our forthcoming issues.

APSWDP NEWSLETTER

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IN
SUPPORT
OF

UN75 | SHAPING
OUR
FUTURE
TOGETHER
2020 AND BEYOND

APSWDP VIRTUAL DIALOGUE

UN75 2020 and Beyond Shaping Our Future Together

In pursuit of celebrating the 75th Anniversary by igniting people's debate: UN75, the Secretary General Antonio Guterres has launched a global dialogue, which is perhaps the largest and furthest reaching global conversation ever on building the future we want.

APSWDP has conceived and organized a virtual dialogue in support of UN75 2020 and Beyond, Shaping Our Future Together on 8th August 2020 (Saturday).

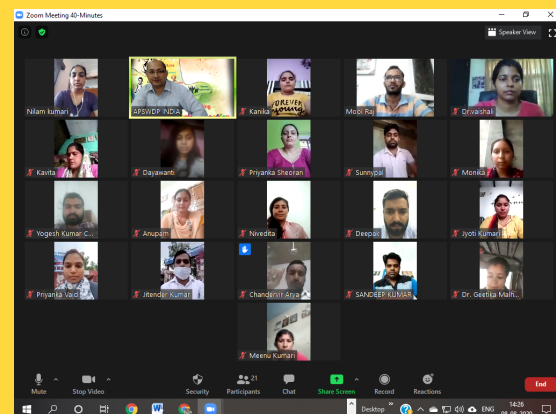
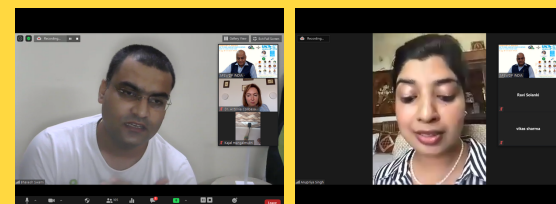
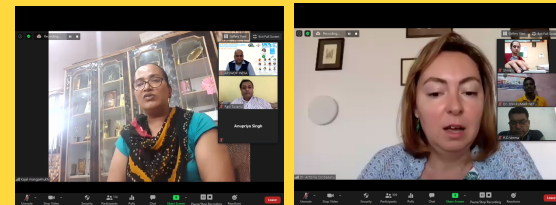
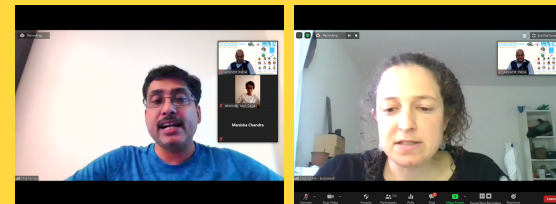
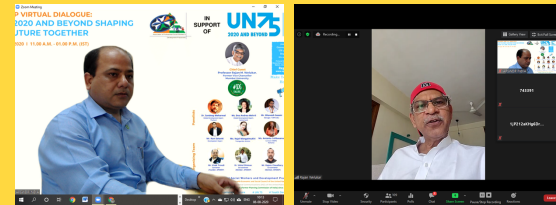
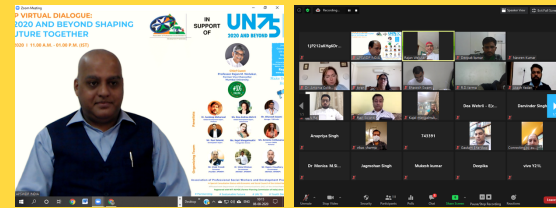
APSWDP has come forward to corroborate with the United Nation's global initiative of encouraging people, especially youth and marginalized to put their heads together to define how enhanced international cooperation can help realize a better world by 2045, the UN's 100th birthday.

The APSWDP UN75 virtual dialogue was inaugurated and chaired by **Prof. (Dr.) Rajan Welukar, Former Vice Chancellor, Mumbai University**. The key panelists were Dr. Sandeep K. Meharwal (Regional Advisor, FHI, Asia Pacific, Thailand), Ms. Dea Andrea Wehrli (Environment Expert, Switzerland), Mr. Bhavesh Swami (The Climate Reality Project India), Ms. Anupriya Singh (Former Consultant UNESCAP), Mr. Ravi Solanki (National Consultant, MIS, Govt. of India), Mx. Kajal Mangalmukhi (Transgender Activist, India), Dr. Antonia Colibasanu (Geo Politics Expert, Romania). The UN 75 Dialogue was moderated by Mr. Hitesh Kumar Gulati and convened by an organizing committee of APSWDP comprising Mr. Vivek Trivedi, Dr. Sumit Arora, Mr. Rajeev Chaudhary and Dr. Vishal Dhiman.

The virtual dialogue was registered and participated by 156 wide range of participants from the USA, Finland, Canada, Egypt, Nepal, Philippines, Romania, Switzerland representing Civil Society organizations, Youth Networks, Para Legal Volunteers, Research Scholars, Development Practitioners, Representatives of Marginalized Communities (PWDs & Transgender), Corporate, Learning and Development Professionals, Post Graduate University Students of Social Work, Interns and young children.

The UN75 Dialogue was aimed at enabling the participants and panellists to share their ideas on the growing crisis situation and available solutions. The outcomes will be shared with the office of United Nations for framing a comprehensive global plan of the future we want.

APSWDP UN 75 DIALOGUE PICTURES



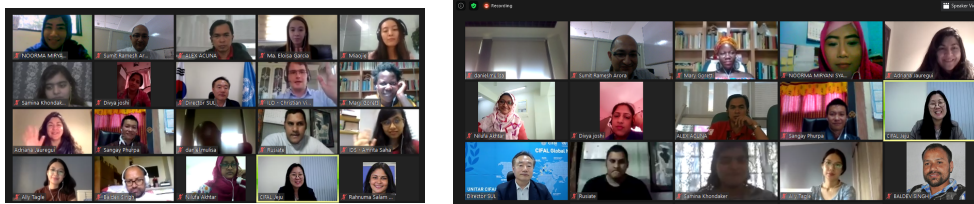
In Picture (Clockwise) : Hitesh Kumar Gulati, Moderator, Group Picture of Panelists, Vivek Trivedi Convener, Prof. Rajan Welukar Chief Guest, Dr. Sandeep Meharwal, Dea Andrea Wehrli, Kajal Mangalmukhi, Antonia Colibasanu, Bhavesh Swami, Anupriya Singh (Panelists) and Group Picture of Participants.

Participation of APSWDP Members in UNITAR/CIFAL JEJU sponsored Training Workshops



APSWDP members have been nominated and selected in two virtual global training workshops on the themes "Post COVID-19 Era: Pathways to Resilient Livelihoods of the Urban Poor During the Pandemic" from 28th July 2020 to 04 August 2020 and "A Greener Tomorrow: Environmentally Sound Technologies for Sustainable Development" from 05th August 2020 to 12th August 2020, which were organized by UNITAR CIFAL Jeju International Training Center (JITC), Jeju South Korea.

Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) had nominated Dr. Sumit Arora and Dr. Baldev Singh Negi for participating in the "Post COVID-19 Era: Pathways to Resilient Livelihoods of the Urban Poor During the Pandemic" and Dr. Sumit Arora and Ms. Ishita Wadhawan in the "A Greener Tomorrow: Environmentally Sound Technologies for Sustainable Development" training workshops respectively. The workshop was attended by representatives from various countries in South Asia like Mongolia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan etc.



The key objectives of the training workshops were (a) offer a venue for knowledge sharing and motivate participants to discuss their current status and issues of the development, transfer, and adoption of innovative practices; (b) provide an opportunity for policymakers and sector experts in the Asia-Pacific region to share and exchange their good practices and (c) promote a learning atmosphere and establish a strong network which can be utilized after the workshop. In the past, our members have been nominated in seven such training workshops and presently, APSWDP has a wide range of globally recognized resource pool of trained members for further dissemination in our country.

State Award (Commendation Certificate) by H.E. Governor of Punjab and Administrator U.T. Chandigarh



Chandigarh Administration, U.T. Chandigarh has nominated Association for Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) Chandigarh, India for the highest civil honour in Chandigarh U.T. under Non Government Organizations category for COVID-19 Pandemic Humanitarian Response Relief Campaign by way mobilizing resources from civil society, corporates, philanthropist and mobilizing young volunteers for their distribution.

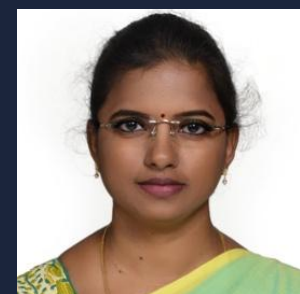
The State Award in the form of a Commendation Certificate was given under signature of H. E. V. P Singh Badnore Governor of Punjab and Administrator Chandigarh U.T. on the occasion of 74th Independence Day i.e. 15th August, 2020 received by the Hon. Mayor Chandigarh due to COVID-19 Pandemic. The award was received by Rekha Trivedi, Secretary General and Hitesh K. Gulati, Director Policy & Administration.



SHIVASHANTAVEER DIWAKAR
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERT

Mr. Shivashantaveer Diwakar is a social development professional and have Masters in the field of Social Work. He has more than 13 years of experience in social welfare administration with expertise in Labour and Employment. Presently, he is working with Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India as Sub Regional Employment Officer.

Know Your Member



DR. PRIYADARSINI
SOCIAL WORK PROFESSIONAL

Dr. Priyadarshini is a social work professional with expertise in Human Resource Management (HRM), have Masters in Social Work (M.S.W.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.). She has more than 10 years of experience and is presently working as an Assistant Professor in Department of Social Work in Sri Ramakrishna College of Arts & Science at Coimbatore.

COVID-19: A THREAT OR AN OPPORTUNITY

- Akash Yadav

It is doubtless to mention that COVID-19 has affected the day to day functioning of each one of us and has further led to a sluggish and depressed global economy. The entire world has already experienced various modifications due to this pandemic. For instance, change in the way of working, climate change and pollution, social and financial scenario, etc. In all probabilities, it would be right to mention that this situation has transformed nearly every aspect of our daily lives.

It has been reported that nations across the World have cherished good quality of air as the residents were under compulsive lockdown and have been caged inside four walls due to the outbreak. Even the companies have introduced and adopted the concept of work from home where employees are privileged to work from home instead of going to their workplace.

This has turned out to be a blessing in disguise with respect to the environmental aspects since the reduced carbon emissions from our daily commute can lead to significant improvement in the quality of air.

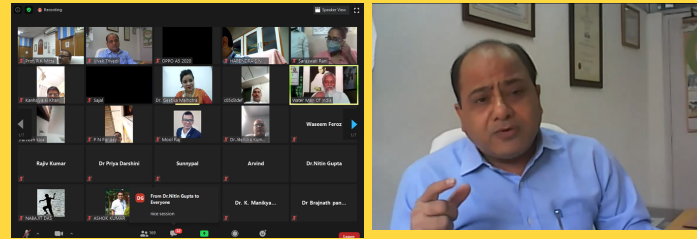
While looking at another positive connotation, it has reduced an average monthly expenditure of a family which means more of needs are focused rather than desires. This has abridged the overall cost of living as people are concentrating on their health and safety where one can aim to make most out of it.

Previously, many professions were considered unsuitable for remote working. During this tough time, deciphering through goodwill and innovation has been made possible. For instance, lawyers are getting accustomed to the 'new normal', and have started exploring new ways of thinking, working and executing. A major plus of work from home has reduced the carbon emission and environmental pollution, something very similar to the vision of United Nations Sustainable Development Goal-13. According to the Climate Group, working from home has the potential to reduce over 300 million tons of carbon emissions per year.

Today's time is becoming a challenge for the mankind to adapt itself to the contemporary way of working by out-ruling the traditional life style. Likewise, the advocacy has to range from Climate Change Adaptation to COVID-19 adaptation, by the way of giving a new ray of hope to the humanity. It is an opportunity to crack the anticipated threat to a positive opportunity for a sustainable change.

And of course, we also need to adapt to the very assumption that this is a temporary response to COVID-19, and that everything will go back to normalcy once the restrictions are called-off. It is our hope that these changes would not just wash-off very quickly and that we have to make best out of it. This is the right time to rebuilding our manifestation of torment phase by leaving no stone unturned.

APSWDP invited to be a part of a technical session on Water Conservation and Sustainable Development.



Mr. Vivek Trivedi, Founder APSWDP was invited to share his experiences on Water Conservation and Sustainable Development in a technical session in the Virtual Workshop on Water Conservation organized as a part of the Sustainable Consumption Campaign launched by the CBLU, Bhiwani on 18th August, 2020. The workshop was presided over by Prof. R. K. Mittal Vice Chancellor, CBLU, Bhiwani and inaugurated by opening remarks made by Chief Guest Shri Rajinder Singh, Water Man and winner of Roman Magsaysay Award.

In his technical session, Mr. Vivek Trivedi shared his experiences vis-à-vis learnings made during past ten years voluntarily with The Climate Reality Project India. He also highlighted behaviour modification, coping mechanism and lifestyle transformation while dealing with such key areas in daily life. In addition, he has also made emphasis on using water harvesting mechanism and also a check on rising consumerism.

He concluded his session by summoning professional social workers and social work students to undertake this very task of working with SDGs in their future career too.



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