

# THE VOYAGE

THEORY TO PRACTICE I 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
Affiliated with Department of Global Communications (DGC) of the United Nations

PROMOTING SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

VOLUME: II

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#### **Noble Thought**

Helping is selfsatisfaction and
not expecting
anything in
return, a volunteer
act.

-Babuschka Lorenz

APSWDP NEWSLETTER

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## FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR IN CHIEF

#### **RAJEEV KUMAR**

We are delighted to introduce Volume-II, Issue-I of our Quarterly Newsletter 'The Voyage' which is a transformed version of our previous monthly newsletter. It includes a wide coverage and series of columns on professional social work, our multifarious diverse activities, global happenings, learning, networking opportunities for professionals, partnership building, expert comments, views from practitioners. We have also created a 'know your member's section' to introduce our new members. With broader horizons, we anticipate that the Volume-II of our newsletter will receive wider appreciation from the members.

#### **EXPERT'S SPEAK**

# Dr. Rajan M. Welukar, Gandhian Philosopher and Former Vice-Chancellor, Mumbai University.



APSWDP intends to catalyze vibrancy in thoughts and actions in Promoting Social Work Education for Sustainable Development through building capacities of educators and trainers, empowering and mobilizing youth, and accelerating sustainable solutions at the local level. I am happy to see the perpetual momentum propagated by APSWDP among young educators and practitioners in the country, which is gradually becoming global and being recognized at various levels including the United Nations.

# N. P. S. Randhawa, IAS Chief Executive Officer, Punjab Energy Development Agency (PEDA), Government of Punjab.

I am delighted to see the way APSWDP has evolved and grew during the last six years in the country which is fairly a short span to achieve the pinnacle. The rigorous involvement of APSWDP in addressing the diverse social issues has not only provided sustainable solutions through social dialogues but has also developed a platform for development practitioners. The establishment of the Virtual Center of Excellence for Social Welfare Administration is a promising step in this direction. I am hopeful that APSWDP shall continue its journey to disseminate knowledge and to generate awareness on the diversity of issues which is the need of the hour. Undoubtfully, APSWDP has become a leading think-tank amongst civil societies with global recognition in the country.



### AN INTRODUCTION TO UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (UN-SDG)

#### - \*DR. PRIYANKA KHANNA KAUSHIK AND DR. SUMIT ARORA

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with 169 targets adopted by the UN Member States in 2015 are 17 thematic areas that outline a roadmap for sustainable development until 2030. It provides a shared blueprint for a better and sustainable future for the people and the planet. The impact of these goals on global sustainable development will largely depend on the world's ability to transition to new governance for sustainability that recognizes the roles and responsibilities of local and subnational governments.



#### **BACKGROUND**

The history of SDGs dates back several decades. In 1962, for the first time Rachel Carson, an American biologist, alerted the world about the environmental impact of chemical pesticides, through her book, "Silent Spring". Seven years later, in January 1969, the worst oil spill of that time- the 'Santa Barbara Oil Spill', that released over 15 million liters of oil onto the California coast, captured global attention. This acted as an alarm for humans to consider their responsibility for conserving the environment. This led to the first Earth Day (April 22, 1970). Later in 1972, for the first time, environmentalists initiated, 'Green Political Movements'. Consequently, during this time the,' Conference on the Human Environment 'held in Stockholm highlighted the alarming environmental risk due to the rising weight of human activity on nature. Movements towards bringing changes in policies especially against the development of nuclear power began.

It was in 1983, the Brundtland Commission was established under the leadership of Gro Harlem Brundtland. The report of this Commission published in 1987, defined the term "Sustainable Development". It meant a development that meets the needs of the current generation without compromising on the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Later in 1992, at the Earth Summit, more than 178 countries adopted Agenda 21- the concept of 'Sustainable Development' as a global one- to improve lives and protect the environment. The Member States unanimously adopted the Millennium Declaration in 2000, which led to the elaboration of eight **Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)** to reduce extreme poverty by 2015. On the 20th anniversary of the Earth Summit in 2012, the Rio+20 Conference the document on, "The Future We Want", was adopted by the Member States. The UN States were then operating in the context of MDGs, which were followed by an era (2015–2030) of SDGs.

Over 10 million people from different parts of the world helped shape the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The process culminated in 17 goals in September 2015. The SDGs became the blueprint for a brighter and sustainable future for all. Another key agreement bound with the 2030 Agenda is the "Paris Climate Agreement", 2015, to stop global warming and human-induced climate change.

The year 2016 marks the first year of the implementation of SDGs, which aimed to achieve the goals on the principle of "leaving no one behind". These Goals are also called a radical plan for humanity and development.

- 1. **NO POVERTY** The target is to end poverty in all forms everywhere. To reduce (by 2030) at least half the proportion of men, women, and children living in poverty according to national definitions. For this, not only their rights have to be protected but sound policy frameworks at the national, regional, and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions have to be built.
- 2. **ZERO HUNGER** -The aim is to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. As the food demand is increasing globally the food production will have to be doubled by 2050, globally. Besides this Goal 2 includes a target to eliminate malnutrition of all forms and ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets keeping the aim to double agricultural productivity.
- 3. **GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING** This goal aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. All people should have universal access to affordable good-quality healthcare and medicines, including financial risk protection. This is in accordance with Doha Declaration The target is to reduce child and maternal mortality.
- 4. **QUALITY EDUCATION** To ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, goal 4 goes beyond primary education to linking vocational education. All should have access to affordable education and be able to have skills for decent work. Education, in turn, is a contributing factor in making the world secure, sustainable, and interdependent.
- 5. **GENDER EQUALITY** The goal is to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. This can be achieved by putting an end to discrimination, violence against women and girls, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health. They should be given equal rights to economic resources according to national laws. The policies and laws too should be sound to promote empowerment of women and girls at all levels.

- 6. CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION- This goal aims to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, which is a human right. To achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all. Besides this, it also aims to protect and restore water-related ecosystems and reduce water pollution. Also, it focuses on strengthening the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management.
- 7. AGREEABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY- Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all. This goal is a prerequisite to achieving many sustainable development goals that extend beyond the energy sector. One of the targets is to promote research in renewable energy and expand infrastructure and upgrade technology.
- 8. **DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH** Promote sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all. Promote development-oriented policies that support productive economic activities. To increase traderelated assistance and develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment.



PICTURE: 5 P'S OF SUSTAINABLEDEVELOPMENT

- 9. **INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, AND INFRASTRUCTURE** To build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation by 2030. Goal 9 aims to support development in the field of technology, research, and innovation. What is most important is that there be environmentally sound technologies for sustainable development.
- 10. **REDUCED INEQUALITIES** The aim is to reduce inequality within and among countries. Goal 10 aims to ensure equal opportunities by eliminating any discriminatory laws or policies. It advocates sustained income growth for the poorest 40 percent of the global population and achieves empowerment. It facilitates a safe and responsible human migration. Most prime is social, political, and economic inclusion.
- 11. **SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES** The target is to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. This is to be reached by a participatory, integrated, and sustainable approach to urban planning. It also aims to ensure access to safe and affordable housing and transport systems. By 2030 the aim is not only to increase the number of cities and human settlements but to adapt to climate change, develop and implement in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030.
- 12. **RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION** The goal is to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns without disrupting the ecosystem. It advocates environmentally sound management of chemicals and a waste sand significant amount of reduction in waste generation through reduction, recycles and reuses. The aim is to reduce the possible adverse impacts on the environment and protect the poor and affected communities.
- 13. **CLIMATE ACTION** The aim is to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, especially on less-developed nations. Also, changes in temperatures are affecting ecosystems such as forests, agricultural land, mountain regions, and oceans, as well as plants, animals, and people that live in them. The aim is to fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund.
- 14. **LIFE BELOW WATER** The goal is to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development. Due to pollution and over-exploitation of the oceans (growth in plastic waste, overfishing, and destructive fishing practices) the biodiversity is threatened.
- 15. **LIFE ON LAND** The goal 15 aims to protect restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems as there is ongoing evidence of loss of biodiversity. It calls for conservation, restoration of ecosystems with the halt of deforestation, restoring the degraded forest. It advocates combating desertification by 2030. It calls for urgent actions to end poaching and trafficking of wildlife products and protected species of flora and fauna.
- 16. **PEACE AND JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS** The goal is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development because evidence shows that development cannot be sustainable without peaceful and inclusive societies. It envisages reducing corruption, all forms of violence and guarantee access to equal justice for all. Promote discriminatory policies and develop accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.
- 17. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS- The aim is to strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development. Towards this both public and private funding, the political sphere too is expected to make a greater contribution to achieving the targets. The new framework for financing agreed upon by all is the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. The developed countries are committed to allocating 0.7 percent of their gross national income. The areas where the partnership is called for are not only finance but, technology, capacity-building, trade, systemic (policy) issues, multi-stakeholder partnerships, data monitoring, and accountability.

#### CONCLUSION

As we all are well aware that the world is presently facing a time of immense challenges to sustainable development. Billions of our citizens continue to live in poverty and are denied a life of dignity. There are rising inequalities within and among countries. There are enormous disparities of opportunity, wealth and power. Gender inequality remains a key challenge. Unemployment, particularly youth unemployment, is a major concern. Global health threats, more frequent and intense natural disasters, spiralling conflict, violent extremism, terrorism and related humanitarian crises and forced displacement of people threaten to reverse much of the development progress made in recent decades.

The natural resource depletion and adverse impacts of environmental degradation, including desertification, drought, land degradation, freshwater scarcity and loss of biodiversity, add to and exacerbate the list of challenges that humanity faces. Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time and its adverse impacts undermine the ability of all countries to achieve sustainable development. Increases in global temperature, sea-level rise, ocean acidification and other climate change impacts are seriously affecting coastal areas and low-lying coastal countries, including many least developed countries and small island developing States. The survival of many societies, and of the biological support systems of the planet, is at risk.

The Agenda 2030 is a plan of action for people, the planet and prosperity. It seeks to strengthen universal peace by eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan and customize it as per their requirements. The countries need to be determined to take the bold and transformative steps which are urgently required to shift the world onto a sustainable and resilient path. It embarks on this collective journey wherein a pledge that no one will be left behind shall be required.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets aim at demonstrating the scale and ambition of this new universal Agenda. It seeks to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. The SDGs focus on the integration and balance of the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental.

Through these 17 Sustainable Development Goals, one can envisage a world free of poverty, hunger, disease and want, where all life can thrive; a world free of fear and violence; a world with universal literacy; a world with equitable and universal access to quality education at all levels, to health care and social protection, where physical, mental and social well-being are assured; a world where we reaffirm our commitments regarding the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation and where there is improved hygiene; and where food is sufficient, safe, affordable and nutritious; a world where human habitats are safe, resilient and sustainable and where there is universal access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy.

#### Suggestions & Recommendations

In order to achieve the Agenda 2030 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the world needs to come together at one platform. Following are a few of the suggestion and recommendations to make the process of implementation better:

- 1. All Government departments, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, corporate houses under their corporate social responsibility (CSR), etc. are expected to come up together to achieve the causes under the UN SDG 2030.
- 2. Among the SDGs, Goal-17 'Partnerships for the Goal' is required to strongly adhered and implementing at the grass-root level.
- 3. Government must empanel NGOs/ CSOs for the grassroots implementation of the SDGs and to improve the SDG matrix.
- 4. Identification of the right tools and information to impart capacity building training programmes to the children and youth who can play a critical role in the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs.

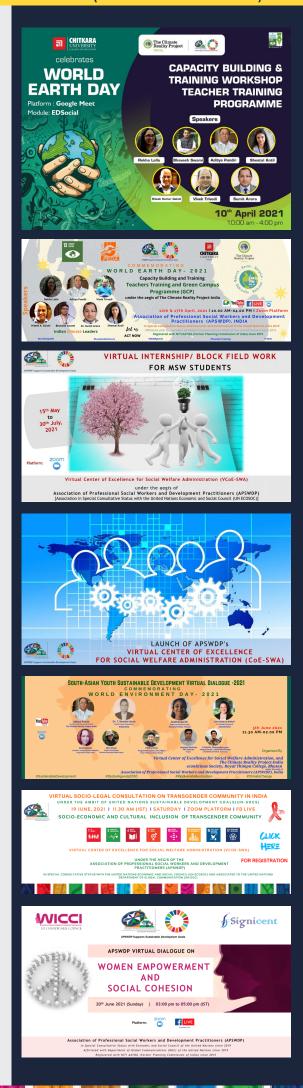
\*The authors are development practitioners with rich experience in HIV/AIDS and Urban Development having Post Doctoral Degree in Social Work and Ph. D. in Sociology from Punjabi University, Patiala and GNDU University, Amritsar, Punjab respectively.

#### **SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION**

"Social Work is the profession of the people helping people. If you are committed to improving human lives, if you value human diversity, and if you believe in the importance of improving social problems and helping people live empowered lives, then social work may be the right profession for you." – **Dr. Deana F. Morrow, Director, MSW, West Virginia University.** 

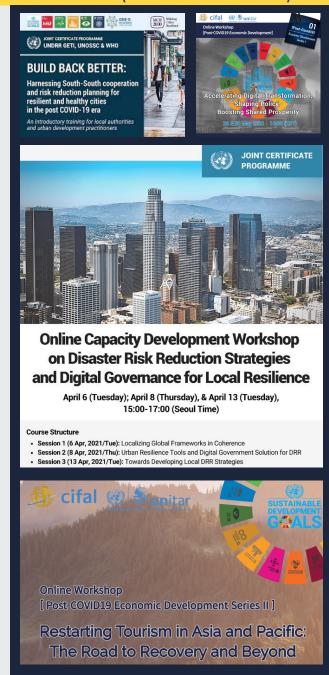
## **APSWDP PROGRAM & EVENTS**

- Virtual Teachers Training and Green Campus Programme in the background of World Earth Day- 2021 on 12 and 17 April 2021- A Virtual Teachers Training and Green Campus Programme was organized by the APSWDP in partnership with Chitkara University, Punjab Campus under the aegis of 'The Climate Reality Project-India' on 12th and 17th April 2021 to commemorate 'World Earth Day 2021'. The training program was inaugurated by Shri Aditya Pundir, Head-India, and the South Asia, The Climate Reality Project. The training was attended by 100 participants including aspiring teachers, academicians, and researchers from the university.
- Launch of Virtual Center of Excellence for Social Welfare Administration on 30 April 2021- APSWDP while following its Vision & Objectives as well as the learnings from COVID-19 Pandemic established a Virtual Center of Excellence for Social Welfare Administration (VCoE-SWA) with the following three key objectives:
  - 1. to meet an enormous unmet need of social welfare, social development, NGO/CSO/CBO/NPO sector, and the society at large that can be met through capacity building, training, and capability development of human resources engaged in the Social Sector;
  - 2. to nurture the experts who are skilled and trained on various aspects of Social Development, Welfare and Professional Social Work, and others;
  - 3. have a long-term focus on building competitiveness in the center and in their stakeholders.
- APSWDP Virtual Block Field Work Programme Structure for PG MSW Students RGNIYD, Chennai (May-July 2021) VCoE-SWA on the request of the Department of Social Work, Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Chennai has launched a three months duration Virtual Block Field Work Programme for 11 MSW students.
- Virtual National Dialogue on Role of Youth in Tobacco Control on 30 May 2021 APSWDP organized Virtual Dialogue on Role of Youth in Tobacco Control on the occasion of World No Tobacco Day 2021 on 30 May 2021. The dialogue was presided by Vivek Trivedi, Founder of APSWDP, and sessions from youth experts were taken by Dr. S. Rama Gokula, Mr. Karan Kaila, Anil Kumar, and Rajeev Kumar.
- South Asian Youth Sustainable Development Virtual Dialogue (SAYSDVD) 2021 on the occasion of World Environment Day 2021 VCoE-SWA under the aegis of APSWDP has organized SAYSDVD 2021 in partnership with PEDA, Government of Punjab, econScious Society, Thimpu, Bhutan, and The Climate Reality Project-India on 5 June 2021. The dialogue witnessed deliberations from key guest speakers including Aditya Pundir (TCP-India), Geethanjali M (IFS), Dea Andrea Wehrli, (Switzerland) Dr. Thu Ba Huynh (Australia), and Dr. T. Kemala Intan (Indonesia). The program was participated by more than 540 participants across the globe.
- APSWDP Socio-Legal Virtual Consultation on Transgender Communities in India- VCoE-SWA under the aegis of APSWDP has organized virtual consultation on Transgender issues on 19 June 2021. The consultation was presided by Amit Sharma, OSD Hon. Punjab Haryana High Court, Chandigarh and was participated by more than 200 participants.
- APSWDP Virtual Dialogue on Women Empowerment and Social Cohesion- The Role, Influence & Impact on Community Driven Development (CDD)- A virtual dialogue was organized on Women Empowerment and Social Cohesion in partnership with the Women's Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (WICCI), Chandigarh and Signicent Information Solutions LLP on 20th June 2021. The program was participated by more than 200 participants.



- 1. Capacity Development Workshop on **Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies and Digital Governance for Local Resilience** organized on 6 –13 April 2021– participated by Vivek Trivedi.
- 2.UNITAR CIFAL Training Workshop on **Social Protection Series II: Spotlight on Vulnerable Groups to Climate Risks** on 18–20 May 2021 participated by Ishita Whadhawan, and Anupriya Singh.
- 3.UNITAR CIFAL Training Workshop on Accelerating Digital Transformation, Shaping Policies, and Boosting Shared Prosperity on 26–28 May 2021 participated by Dr. Mool Raj Verma, and Dr. Britto.
- 4.UNDRR-UNOSSC-WHO Build back better: Harnessing South-South cooperation and risk reduction planning for resilient and healthy cities in the post-COVID-19 era (8,15,22,29 June 2021)- participated by Vivek Trivedi.
- 5. National Colloquium on National Council on Social Work Council (Education and Practice) Bill, 2021 on 12 June 2021 organized by CBLU, Bhiwani, and APSWDPparticipated by Dr. Mool Raj Varma, Dr. Sumit Arora.
- 6.UNDGC **Communication Workshop** on 17 June 2021 participated by Dr. Sumit Arora.
- 7. International Youth Conference 4 Synergy Act and Impact on 25–27 June 2021– participated by Karamveer Singh.
- 8. Restarting Tourism in Asia and the Pacific: The Road to Recovery and Beyond on 30 June 2021- participated by Dr. Mool Raj Varma.

http://inpswa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2021-BILL-15-1-2021.pdf



#### SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION COLUMN - PURNIMA BHARDWAJ, M.S.W

Social work is a profession that is based on practice and promotes social change, development, cohesion, and the empowerment of people and communities. Social work practice is something that focuses on the holistic development of any individual by understanding human development, behavior, and the social, economic, and cultural institutions and interactions. Social work has been steadily progressing towards the status of a full profession across a range of variables in different countries, including the development of a distinctive knowledge base, registration and protection of title, the development of a Code of Ethics, and a move to requiring higher education at graduate, masters and doctorate level. However, pay and remuneration continue to be lower than other professions, and public regard for the profession varies between countries. There are still some obstacles to be overcome to achieve unambiguous professional status, though progress is clearly visible. In India, the profession emerged with the efforts of J R D Tata who established TISS in Mumbai in 1936, and at present a National Council on Social Work (Education and Practice) Bill, 2021 is pending approval of Lok Sabha, which will put forth a milestone in getting a council established in India for further development of the profession and bringing uniformity in the profession. (Reference: Penelope Welbourne (2009), Social Work: The Idea of a Profession and the Professional Project and INPSWA

## **APSWDP FUTURE PROGRAMS/PLANS**

- Harnessing Technology Innovations for Sustainable Development on 3 July 2021 (Saturday) The Virtual Center of Excellence for Social Welfare Administration, (VCoE-SWA), under the aegis of the Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) has conceived a Virtual Dialogue on "Harnessing Technology Innovations for Sustainable Development" in partnership with Signicent Information Solutions LLP, with an aim to develop continuous support for leading a discussion, identifying alternatives and implementing the technology solutions by involving unheard voices of youth in creating a sustainable and peaceful world. Register at <a href="https://bit.ly/3hdM8jh">https://bit.ly/3hdM8jh</a>
- Virtual Women Conclave on Climate Change Adaptation: Changing Life Style and Modifying Behavior on 10 July 2021 (Saturday)- Virtual Center of Excellence for Social Welfare Administration, (VCoE-SWA), under the aegis of the Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) has conceived a Virtual Women Conclave on Climate Change Adaptation: Changing Life Style and Modifying Behavior in partnership with The Climate Reality Project India and WICCI Chandigarh. (See Announcement at <a href="https://www.apswdp.org">www.apswdp.org</a>)
- Virtual Certificate in NGO Administration and Management (August-September 2021) Virtual Center of Excellence for Social Welfare Administration, (VCoE-SWA), under the aegis of the Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP), has conceived a specialized course for NGO functionaries and young aspirants who want to evolve an NGO/NPO/CBO/YO. The course will be launched virtually on 15 August 2021 for registration.

## **Know Your Members**



RAVISHARMA
DEVELOPMENT PRACTITIONER

Mr. Ravi Sharma is a development practitioner by profession and possesses a Masters Degree in Buisness Administration (MBA). Post Graduate Diploma in Rural Development and pursuing presently Masters in Social Work (MSW) from IGNOU. His areas of expertise are in Community Development, Women Empowerment, Resource Mapping, Youth Development, Entrepreneurship development and Rural Development. Presently, He is serving in the State Mission Management Unit (SMMU)- DAY NULM under Department of Urban Development, Government of Arunachal Pradesh.



NIRMAL JOT KAUR
DEVELOPMENT PRACTITIONER

Ms. Nirmaljot Kaur is a development practitioner by profession and possesses a Masters Degree in Social Work from Punjabi University, Patiala, Punjab. Her areas of expertise are in Community Driven Development, Rural Development and Women Development, Network Building, Resource Mapping and Mobilization with experience of three years, Presently, she is working in Alternative Development Initiatives in the capacity of Community Development Facilitator.



KARAN KAILA YOUTH ACTIVIST

Mr. Karan Kaila is a youth activist and an enthusiast sports person. He loves to work for building motivation among youth towards healthy life style, away from drugs by promoting sports. He also support Wheelchair Cricket in the country for building capacities of Persons with Disabilities through sports for inclusive development with Wheelchair Cricket Association of India (WCFI). He represented Punjab and led Under 19 Indian Cricket Team in world cup at Dubai. He has received Naman Award from BCCI. Presently, he is serving CAG, Haryana.



ACADEMICIAN

Ms. Rivti Chand is an inclusive professional with more than 12 years of cross functional experience in Organizational Development and Strengthening, Capacity Building & Training, Recruitment & Selection, Entertainment education, BPO sector. She has extensively worked in designing and implementing HR Systems and Policies. She has also served as Assistant Professor in AIT (MBA) at Chandgarh University. Presently, she is persuing Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) from Chitkara University.

#### APSWDP REPORTER - SOCIAL WORK AND DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Guidance Manual on Strengthening Supervision for the Social Service Workforce- The purpose of this manual is to offer guidance on supervision to individuals working to provide, manage or coordinate social services. This manual defines what is meant by supervision in social services, outlines the key elements of good practice in supervision, and summarizes the different forms of supervision. This manual presents general recommendations as well as specific case examples and draws from documented best practices. {Author(s): Global Social Service

Workforce Alliance - Supervision Interest Group}

**Download document:** 

Guidance\_Manual\_Strengthening\_Supervision\_Social\_Service\_Workforce.pdf

2021 UNHCR Best Interests Procedure Guidelines: Assessing and Determining the Best Interests of the Child- The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and its partners support the strengthening or establishment of comprehensive child protection systems, which includes providing individual children at risk with targeted, timely, systematic and coordinated support in their best interests. These Guidelines focus on this crucial element of the UNHCR child protection mandate. The primary objective of the BIP Guidelines is to support UNHCR and partner staff in improving the protection outcomes for refugee children by: i) situating the best interests of refugee children within a comprehensive child protection system and ii) strengthening child protection case management for all refugee children. {Author(s): **UNHCR**}

**Download document:** 

https://www.socialserviceworkforce.org/system/files/resource/files/UNHCR%20BIP.pdf

#### **GLOBAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

ILO Massive Online Open Course - Business and Decent Work: How enterprises contribute to achieve decent work for all (SDG 8) - 6 September - 15 October 2021 - The aim of this MOOC is to enhance understanding on the ways and means whereby multinational enterprises can contribute to the achievement of decent work for all (SDG 8) through their operations. Starting from the principles set forth by the ILO MNE Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social policy, the MOOC will gradually expose participants to the business and decent work nexus, ways in which companies can contribute to the different pillars of the decent work agenda, and the issue of partnership, coherence, and synergies with other existing frameworks that promote responsible business practices.

Last Date- 5 September 2021. Weblink - https://oarf2.itcilo.org/DSB/A9713778/en

UNEP MOOC on Nature-based Solutions for Disaster and Climate Resilience - Nature offers many solutions to reduce the impacts of disasters and climate change, such as protecting forests on steep slopes, maintaining sand dunes along coastline and wetlands to buffer excess rainwater. In this free-of-charge massive open online course (MOOC), find out how people around the world are building resilience to disasters and climate change impacts through nature-based solutions. This course will help you understand how to apply these nature-based solutions that restore or protect natural or modified ecosystems and biodiversity and allow for their sustainable management. This course is open to everyone, whether you have an environmental background or not and you can choose from your preferred languages including English, French, Chinese (Mandarin), Spanish, Arabic, Hindi, and Bahasa. Audit the course for free and receive a UNEP certificate upon course completion. Verified users can pay to receive an additional edX certificate. Weblinkhttps://www.unep.org/explore-topics/education-environment/what-we-do/massive-open-onlinecourses

ASASWEI Social Work International Online Conference 9Pandemics, poverty and inequality: Social Work in the 21st century - 1 - 3 September 2021

The link is as follows: <a href="https://asasweiconference.org.za/">https://asasweiconference.org.za/</a>. Abstracts may be submitted on: https://asasweiconference.org.za/abstracts/

UNDRR Comprehensive Risk Management: The 'How-To' for Achieving Coherence - 8 July 2021

The complex and systemic nature of climate and disaster risks requires the adoption of a Comprehensive Risk Management (CRM) approach. This includes applying this approach to the assessment and integration of risks into planning for the implementation of the 2030 global frameworks.

For participation: https://undrr.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAoceipgz8jG9OYvKwEjRefJfrlT6lA1R8T

**Job Opportunities** 

**UN Agencies** https://www.in.undp.org/content/in dia/en/home/jobs.html

**NUNV Reports Officer - UNICEF** Last Date- 01.07.2021

**NUNV Operations Support** Officer - UNCDF Bhubaneswar Last Date- 05.07.2021

ICT Associate (Open to Indian Nationals Only) - UN Women Last Date- 14.07.2021

**APSWDP** 

hthttps://apswdp.org/index.php/2021/0 6/26/apswdp-recruitment-undertargeted-intervention-project-fundedby-chandigarh-sacs/

**Monitoring and Evaluation** Officer-cum-Account Officer -**APSWDP TI HIV AIDS Project** 

**Out Reach Worker - APSWDP TI HIV AIDS Project** 

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