

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

Affiliated with Department of Global Communications (DGC) of the United Nations

Accreditation under United Nations Environment Programme and UN Environment Assembly since 2022

Affiliate Member UNESCO MIL Alliance and International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW)

PROMOTING SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Established: 2014

VOLUME: III

ISSUE: 18

JUL-SEP 2022

The best way to not feel hopeless is to get up and do something. Don't wait for good things to happen to you. If you go out and make some good things happen, you will fill the world with hope, you will fill yourself with hope.

— Barack Obama



PICTURE: DIALOGUE ON MAINSTREAMING OF TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY AT STATE LIBRARY, CHANDIGARH.

APSWDP
NEWSLETTER

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FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR IN CHIEF

RAJEEV KUMAR

We are pleased to share **Volume-III, Issue-18** of our Quarterly Newsletter '**The Voyage**'. The current issue includes a wide coverage of our multifarious diverse programs and activities including webinars, global happenings, learning, networking opportunities for professionals, recently partnered events on capacity building and mainstreaming, expert comments, views from practitioners; and a series on **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 5: Gender Equality**. We have also created a '**know your member's section**' to introduce our esteemed members.

EXPERT'S SPEAK

Mr. Bhavesh Swami, Lead - Clean Energy Policy and Engagements at The Climate Reality Project, India



APSWDP has emerged as a niche organization bringing a galaxy of thought leaders together. Vibrant, resourceful, and domain expert members are always available to share their learnings, formally and informally.

This very knowledge sharing makes APSWDP a unique organization that gives a sneak peek into their domains and the way sustainability is being practiced therein, everyday learning we call it.

With members joining not only from South Asia but from different regions across the globe, the objectives of crossing cultures and countries; place APSWDP at a pinnacle position.

Dr. Neeza Singh, Librarian, T. S. Central State Library, Sector-17, Chandigarh.

Indeed, it is great to get associated with APSWDP for jointly organizing a programme on Mainstreaming of Transgender Community: A Dialogue at the State Library on 27th August 2022, which was one of its kind initiative in propagating a vibrant momentum in society. Through, this programme, we came across various dimensions of the association. The event gauged wider coverage of diverse social domains focusing on the Inclusive Development approach.

To my surprise, the association has grown beautifully into a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary global network of young development professionals dedicatedly engaged in a voluntary capacity. We look forward to our association with APSWDP in future endeavours as well.



AN INTRODUCTION TO UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS 5 (UN-SDG 5): GENDER EQUALITY

- *DR. SUMIT ARORA

UN SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG 5 or Global Goal 5) concerns gender equality and is fifth of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals established by United Nations in 2015. The 17 SDGs recognize that action in one area will affect outcomes in others, and that development must balance social, economic and environmental sustainability. A system thinking approach is the base for global sustainability.

SDG 5 has nine targets and 14 indicators. Six of the targets are "outcome-oriented": ending all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere; ending violence and exploitation of women and girls; eliminating harmful practices such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation; increasing value of unpaid care and promoting shared domestic responsibilities; ensuring full participation of women in leadership and decision-making; and ensuring access to universal reproductive rights and health. The three "means of achieving" targets are: fostering equal rights to economic resources, property ownership and financial services for women; promoting empowerment of women through technology; and adopting, strengthening policies and enforcing legislation for gender equality.

Through the pledge to "Leave No One Behind", countries have committed to fast-track progress for those furthest behind, first. SDG 5 aims to grant women and girls equal rights, opportunities to live free without discrimination including workplace discrimination or any violence. This is to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Targets, indicators and progress

The targets and indicators for SDG 5 are extensive and provide equal opportunity for females (women and girls). Targets cover a broad crosscutting gender issues including ending all forms of discrimination against all females everywhere (Target 5.1), violence and exploitation of females (Target 5.2), eliminate practices such as female genital mutilation and forced marriages (Target 5.3), increase value of unpaid care and promote shared domestic responsibilities (Target 5.4), ensure full participation of women in leadership and decision-making (Target 5.5), ensuring access to universal reproductive rights and health (Target 5.6), fostering equal rights to economic resources, property ownership and financial services for women (Target 5.a), promoting empowerment of women through technology (Target 5.b) and adopting, strengthening policies and enforcing legislation for gender equality (Target 5.c).

Target 5.1: End discrimination against women and girls

Indicator 5.1.1: Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex. This means the indicator works towards the legal frameworks which can be applied to promote and enforce non-discrimination on the basis of sex across various measures including hiring, equal pay, marital rape and property rights, among others. Discrimination against women (or sexism) can be measured with a range of indicators such as early marriage, gender-based violence and women's property rights.



Target 5.2: End all violence against and exploitation of women and girls

Indicator 5.2.1: Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age.

Indicator 5.2.2: Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence.

Target 5.3: Eliminate forced marriages and genital mutilation

Eliminating harmful practices is a way of ensuring that girls are able to live their live full potential lives without any harm. Reducing these risk allows for girls pursue their education, own their bodily autonomy and eventually become productive members of the social, economic and political processes. Educating women has a direct proportional relation with the development of the community. There are two indicators:

Indicator 5.3.1: Proportion of women aged 20–24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18

Indicator 5.3.2: Proportion of girls and women aged 15–49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation (FGM) or cutting

Target 5.4: Value unpaid care and promote shared domestic responsibilities

This target has one Indicator: Indicator 5.4.1 is the "Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location".

Unpaid care and domestic work includes cooking and cleaning, fetching water and firewood or taking care of children and the elderly. Women carry out at least two and a half times more unpaid household and care work than men. As a result, women have less time to engage in paid labor, work longer hours, combining paid and unpaid labor.

Target 5.5: Ensure full participation in leadership and decision-making

Advancing global norms and national practices to further women's leadership in politics and public institutions is important for gender equality. Indicators are:

Indicator 5.5.1: Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local government.

Indicator 5.5.2: Proportion of women in managerial positions

As at 1 January 2020, representation by women in single or lower houses of national parliament reached 25 per cent, up slightly from 22 per cent in 2015. Women have better access to decision-making positions at the local level, holding 36 per cent of elected seats in local deliberative bodies, based on data from 133 countries and areas.

Target 5.6: Universal access to reproductive rights and health

Indicator 5.6.1: Proportion of women aged 15–49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care.

Indicator 5.6.2: Number of countries with laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education.

Target 5.a: Equal rights to economic resources, property ownership and financial services



Indicator 5.a.1: Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and (b) share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure

Indicator 5.a.2: Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control

Target 5.b: Promote empowerment of women through technology

This target has one indicator: Indicator 5.b.1 is the "Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex".

Technology is an important tool for learning, sharing and engaging that should include more gender specific policies that enhance equality. Empowering women with mobile telephones has been shown to accelerate social and economic development.

Target 5.c: Adopt and strengthen policies and enforceable legislation for gender equality

This target has one indicator: Indicator 5.c.1 is the "Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment"

Countries should work towards progressive gender equality policies that recognize how structures can enable progress towards women and girls empowerment.

Conclusion

To achieve Gender Equality, it is vital to hear the voices of women and girls in every realm by engaging them at all global and national decisions making process. Moreover, the education system needs strengthening by making it more gender sensitive so as to make all students feel equal. Besides, violence against women, unequal distribution of resources, equal employment of resources and similar job opportunities, are some of the key issues that needs to be addressed at Regional, National as well as the International level.

Achieving gender equality requires the engagement of women and men, girls and boys. It is everyone's responsibility.

— Ban Ki-moon



***Dr. Sumit Arora is an Urban Sociologist & Development Practitioner. He is the President of Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP).**

Key References: www.un.org

APSWDP PROGRAM & EVENTS

Capacity Building Programme and Community Event for Marginalized Communities under Composite Targeted Intervention Project.

In order to celebrate 75 years of Independence with the theme 'Ek Bharat, Shresht Bharat', APSWDP under the ambit of Chandigarh State AIDS Control Society (CSACS) organized a Capacity Building Programme and Community Event for the vulnerable and marginalized groups of sexual minorities who are at the brink of confronting several health related challenges including HIV/AIDS, STIs/STDs/ Venereal Diseases, and other socio-legal challenges.

APSWDP in order to provide them with dignified life have introduced the concept of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) among the registered HRGs with the Composite Targeted Intervention Project. SHGs are informal groups of people who come together to address their common problems. While SHGs might imply a focus on the individual, one important characteristic of SHGs is the idea of mutual support and having people help each other. These groups can serve many different purposes depending on the situation and the need. For instance, within the development sector, SHGs have been used as an effective strategy for poverty alleviation, human development, and social empowerment and are often focused on microcredit programs and income-generating activities.

During the Community Event, APSWDP also launched its first SHG with the name 'Saanjh' which connotes togetherness amongst the HRG community and shall motivate them to work more for achieving triumph.

APSWDP Jointly Organized a Dialogue on Mainstreaming of Transgender Communities.

APSWDP jointly Organized an awareness programme on the theme entitled "Mainstreaming of Transgender Community: A Dialogue", in association with T.S Central State Library, Sector-17, Chandigarh and State Legal Services Authority (SLSA) at State Library on 27 August 2022 (Saturday). The main objective of this meeting was to discuss the issues of Transgender and different ways to mainstream them with society. During the dialogue, 05-panel speakers including renowned Transgender and Activists namely Mx. Dhananjay Chouhan and Mx. Kajal Mangalmukhi, Dr. Vivek Trivedi, Special Invitee Member, Transgender Welfare Board, Chandigarh Sh. Gautam Bhardwaj and Dr. Sumit Arora were invited.

The welcome note was given by Mrs. Neelam Bansal, Library Incharge (Patron) followed by an introduction to the dialogues and key speakers by Dr. Neeza Singh, Librarian (Organizer). The dialogue started with Mx. Dhananjay Chouhan with a brief introduction about her experience with society and the works that she has accomplished in Chandigarh for the welfare of the Transgender Community. Mx. Kajal Mangalmukhi who shared her childhood experience and her entire journey of being a Hijra/ Eunuch, her survival story. Sh. Gautam Bhardwaj, Advocate, SLSA Chandigarh wherein he shared about various government schemes for the Transgender Community. Also, he shared about the Samta Nyay Kendra, the Legal-Aid Clinic for the Transgender Community which has been accorded to APSWDP. Dr. Vivek Trivedi, who summoned all the social activists and educational institutions to work for main streaming in the community by way offering support in getting formal education, skill development, linkages to libraries, livelihood opportunities etc. In the last session, Dr. Sumit Arora, President, APSWDP wherein he discussed the term 'Gender' and how the roles and responsibilities have been helpful to Mainstream the Transgender Community in time to come. The concluding remarks were given by Dr. Neeza Singh, wherein she appreciated all the panel speakers for voicing their concerns that can be helpful to Mainstream the Transgender Community in time to come.



Picture: Sh. Sandeep Mittal, DD TI, CSACS, Ms. Rekha Trivedi, PD, CTI, APSWDP and Sh. Gautam Bhardwaj, SLSA, Chandigarh in the community event.



Picture: Dr. Neeza Singh, Convener, Panel Speakers and Experts (Mx. Kajal Mangalmukhi, Mx. Dhananjaya, Adv. Gautam Bhardwaj, Dr. Vivek Trivedi) and Dr Sumit Arora, President, APSWDP participating in dialogue on Mainstreaming of Transgender Community at State Library, Chandigarh.

Commemoration of International Literacy Day on 8th September 2022 under the Global Theme: Transforming Literacy Learning Spaces.

For commemorating International Literacy Day 2022, the Virtual Centre of Excellence for Social Welfare Administration (VCoE-SWA), under the aegis of Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) organized a virtual dialogue/ program on 08th September, 2022 (Thursday) from 02:30 pm to 04:00 pm (IST) in partnership with Chitkara College of Education, Chitkara University, aligned with the worldwide theme, "Transforming Literacy Learning Spaces", an opportunity to rethink the fundamental importance of literacy learning spaces to build resilience and ensure quality, equitable, and inclusive education for all, with an aim to work together with academic institutions and organizations, government and communities.

Guest Speakers - Ms. Harpreet Kaur and Mr. Hitesh Kumar Gulati; shared their knowledge and wisdom in the Virtual Program/ Dialogue on "Transforming Literacy Learning Spaces", where Ms. Harpreet shared her thoughts on "Literacy Learning Spaces and Inclusive Education and Mr. Hitesh Gulati talked on the theme "Literacy Learning Spaces to build Resilience Among Educators".

Commemoration of WORLD OZONE DAY on 16th September 2022 under the Global Theme: Global Cooperation Protecting life on Earth.

For commemorating World Ozone Day 2022, the Virtual Centre of Excellence for Social Welfare Administration (VCoE-SWA), under the aegis of Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) organized a virtual dialogue/ program in partnership with Chitkara College of Education, Chitkara University, Signicent LLP, and The Climate Reality Project India (TCPI).

World Ozone Day 2022 to be marked on 16 September, is observed under Montreal Protocol³⁵ with the theme "Global Cooperation Protecting Life on Earth". The theme recognises the wider impact the Montreal Protocol has on climate change and the need to act in collaboration, forge partnerships and develop global cooperation to address climate challenges and protect life on earth for future generations.

Guest Speaker, Ms. Supriya Salaria provided insights on "Ozone Layer Protection and Sustainable Development", and Guest Speaker, Mr. Hitesh Kumar Gulati engaged the audience in a "QUIZ on World Ozone Day 2022".

It is indeed a pleasure to witness active participation from varied occupations including Academicians, Business Consultant, Corporate Sector Professional, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Professional, Development Practitioner, Entrepreneur, Government Officers, Public Health Expert, Legal Practitioner, Researcher, Social Activist, Students and others.

The image displays a collage of promotional materials for two virtual events. The top section features a poster for International Literacy Day (September 8, 2022) with a lightbulb graphic containing icons for literacy and education. It lists guest speakers Hitesh Kumar Gulati, Harpreet Kaur, and Rekha Trivedi, along with organizers Dr. Sangeeta Pant, Dr. Vani Parwez, and Dr. Pooja Singh. The event was held on Zoom from 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM IST. Below this is a screenshot of a Zoom meeting for the Literacy Learning Spaces event, showing a presentation slide on 'Ozone Layer Protection & Sustainable Development Innovation' and a video feed of Hitesh Kumar Gulati. The bottom section features a poster for World Ozone Day (September 16, 2022) with a thermometer graphic. It commemorates the theme 'Global Cooperation Protecting Life on Earth' and lists guest speakers Supriya Salaria and Hitesh Kumar Gulati, and organizers Dr. Sangeeta Pant, Dr. Vani Parwez, and Rekha Trivedi. The event was held on Zoom from 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM IST.

GLOBAL PARTICIPATION: APSWDP BEING REPRESENTED IN 4TH UN REGIONAL BUSINESS HUMAN RIGHTS FORUM, ASIA-PACIFIC

The Responsible Business and Human Rights Forum convenes different stakeholders in the Asia-Pacific region, including governments, civil society organizations, human rights defenders, trade unions, academia, international organizations, national human rights institutions, business enterprises, industry associations, journalists, lawyers, activists and campaigners for constructive dialogue and peer-learning on how to strengthen responsible business and corporate accountability in the region. Under the theme "Harnessing Levers of Change", the 4th UN Responsible Business and Human Rights Forum explored what has worked to promote business respect for human rights and the environment and what has not, challenges and opportunities, as well as what novel strategies can be employed to accelerate progress in this domain with the participation of different stakeholders across the region.

Mr. Karamveer Singh represented APSWDP under civil society organizations in the forum from 20th-22nd September, 2022 at UNESCAP in a view to explore global network in line with UN SDGs, more precisely in reference to SDG 8 on decent work, SDG 5 on gender equality, and SDG 10 on reduced inequalities.



Know Your Members



PARVINDER KAUR ANAND
PHILANTHROPIST

Ms. Parvinder Kaur Anand is a Post Graduate in the field of Arts and Fine Arts. She has flair in Disability, Environment and Gender related work. She has taken much interest in Disability Inclusion having inspiration from her own family. She is associated with number of eminent organizations in Delhi and Punjab. She loves to volunteering in social and community development programs since the outbreak of COVID -19. COVID has made her to get inclined towards Social Work. Charity and community work in post pandemic world.



VIKAS CHOPRA
CORPORATE & ENGINEERING PROFESSIONAL

Mr. Vikas Chopra is decisive, action-oriented and result-focused engineering professional having more than 20 years of experience. He has grown up with exhilarating experiences in India and Australia, pursuing academics in engineering, project management. He has a multi-decadal career as a professional across Information Technology, Operations, and Efficiency Management for business domains. He has extensive experience and interest in philanthropic activities that has led to benevolence activities. He is a volunteer since 2011 of Hindu Council of Australia and actively participates in event management of festival celebrations and fundraiser events in Australia.



DR. JITENDER DAHIYA
DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

Dr. Jitender Dahiya is Psychologist by education and possess Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology from MDU University at Rohtak in Haryana. He has expertise in Counselling, HIV/AIDS, and in the other domain of Social Development and Gender areas. Dr. Dahiya is also a certified Master Trainer under Global Fund Round -7 component under TISS/PGIMER. He has blend of experience in teaching, management, NGO and Government. Presently, he is working as Assistant Director (SPM), in State AIDS Control Society, Chandigarh.



S. KAPTHIANMUAN
SOCIAL WORKER AND PRACTITIONER

Mr. S. Kapthianmuan is a post-graduate from TISS specializing in Community Organization and Development Practice. He is currently leading the Monitoring and Evaluation of the Centre For Accelerated Development at Sauramandala Foundation. He is committed to promoting and achieving the SDGs. He had also worked in the Nudge Foundation as a Senior Associate in Impact Measurement and Management. He has robust M&E and Project Management skill set.

APSWDP REPORTER - SOCIAL WORK AND DEVELOPMENT NEWS**APSWDP Conclave Report on Mainstreaming of Transgender Communities in India.**

The report published by APSWDP gives an understanding of Transgender issues including social, cultural, economic, and livelihood. The conclave report has propagated new dimensions of the evolution of cooperatives among transgender communities. It has also touched up on the concept of Samta Nyay Kendra and its future course of action in addition to a draft action plan for mainstreaming of Transgender in the country.

Access full report at <https://apswdp.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Final-Report-Virtual-Conclave-on-the-Transgender-Community-in-India-24.09.2022.pdf>

APSWDP REPORTER - SOCIAL WORK AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH**United Nations Internship Programme**

If you are thinking of entering the world of diplomacy and public policy, an internship at the United Nations could be the ideal start for you. The objective of the internship is to give a first-hand impression of the day-to-day working environment of the United Nations. It will give a real chance to work with the UN. As part of the UN team, working directly with outstanding and inspiring career professionals and senior management, interns will be exposed to high-profile conferences, participate in meetings, and contribute to analytical work as well as organizational policy of the United Nations.

For more details: <https://careers.un.org/lbw/home.aspx?viewtype=ip>

GCRA International Online Conference - "Researching the underrepresented: Experiences of CALD (Culturally & Linguistically Diverse) Communities during the pandemic"

Theme: The conference will be beneficial to researchers, scholars, practitioners, policy makers, academics and anyone interested in pandemic, research and policy.

Method: Online Conference on Microsoft Team

Official Language: English

Organized by: Global Communication Research Association.

Register: <https://www.iassw-aiets.org/featured/10330-gcra-international>

Job Opportunities

**State Project Associate
United Nations Development
Programme**

Location- Bhopal, India

Apply by: 6 October 2022

Link:

<https://unjobs.org/vacancies/1664048206498>

**Project Analyst-Entrepreneurship
United Nations Development
Programme**

Location: New Delhi, India

Apply by: 3 October 2022

Link:

<https://unjobs.org/vacancies/1664027962936>

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