

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 (UNEP) and Observer Status under UN

Environment Assembly (UNEA) since 2022

Affiliate Member UNESCO MIL Alliance

PROMOTING SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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I am only one, but I am
one. I cannot do
everything, but I can do
something. And I will
not let what I cannot do
interfere with what I
can do.

— Edward Everett Hale



PICTURE: APSWDP EXTENDED KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT IN TWO DAY CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR ECO CLUBS IN THE BACKGROUND OF WORLD SOCIAL WORK DAY 2023 TO DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, CHANDIGARH POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE (CPCC), CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION AND SWARMANI ASSOCIATION

APSWDP NEWSLETTER

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FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR IN CHIEF

RAJEEV KUMAR

We are pleased to share the release of Volume-III, Issue-20 of our Quarterly Newsletter 'The Voyage'. This edition offers a comprehensive coverage of our diverse programs and activities, including workshops, webinars, global events, learning and networking opportunities for professionals, and recent partnerships for capacity building and mainstreaming. Additionally, expert comments and practitioner views are featured, along with a series on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 7, which focuses on ensuring access to clean and affordable energy. We have also included a 'know your member's section' to introduce our esteemed members.

EXPERT'S SPEAK

Dr. Vivek Trivedi, Social Development Officer, DAY NULM, Municipal Corporation Chandigarh.



I am fortunate to have motivated and inspiring youth in conceiving and shaping an Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP). In the yesteryears, APSWDP has taken a gigantic leap in getting associated with United Nations and its allied agencies, like Special Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC, accreditation and association with UN DGC, UNEP, Observer status in UNFCCC and United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA). The seed sown in 2014 has grown into a fully grown tree and is aspiring to be a banyan tree with an objective to spread knowledge and wisdom across the globe in future towards sustainability. I wish APSWDP present body a great future ahead.

Mr. Amit Joshi, Prevention Specialist, Punjab, SETU, FHI 360.

I have been associated with APSWDP for a couple of years, when I participated in one of the workshops organized on the occasion of World Social Work Day 2015 at Chandigarh during my engagement at Directorate of Urban Development, Himachal Pradesh. I found APSWDP a vibrant organization which is promoting Social Work Education for Sustainable Development and working on capacity building & training of educators and youth on sustainable development, climate change adaptation and mitigation. I wish APSWDP a great future ahead in the development sector.



AN INTRODUCTION TO UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS - 7 (UN- SDG 7): AFFORDABLE & CLEAN ENERGY

- *MR. BHAVESH SWAMI,

As you read this, India is officially chairing the G20 presidency, and the world is looking forward to this developing country on how it makes a transition in a variety of domains including clean energy.

Climate change has turned to climate catastrophe if we just see the number of natural disasters that have occurred in the last 365 days especially in our part of the world.

No country developed or developing is spared, when it comes to calamities that are taking place across the globe; the intensity is increasing and their after effects too. Speaking of the reasons, our energy requirements form one of the fundamental additions to the overall emissions. But then every country, every citizen has a right to make progress for self and his wellbeing, energy access is fundamental to it.

On one hand, we see more fossil fuel being used with changing world order and at the same time, these energy crises form a pathway to brainstorm on how to accelerate our quest to move towards green fuels. How to find the Buddha's' middle path to achieve this energy transition in the most sustainable way, is the key to success.

India stands at a unique doorway, where it has removed millions out of energy poverty and has also brought forward a major section of its population to adopt clean fuel (for cooking) as well; seems a small task but when we collate the overall emissions, it forms a major chunk of the pie. What else, this demand for new energy has led to scout for newer forms of energy as well, and today we can proudly say to have 40% energy mix coming from non-fossil fuels. This makes us stand as the fourth-largest renewable energy market in the world. But still these avenues are still not up to the mark with what India's growth trajectory needs. We require it more and at a much faster pace as we are against the timelines with respect to climate change; so how to achieve this goal of faster transition.

Decentralization - A major loss occurs in transmission and distribution (still among the highest in the world). How we can think of decentralised energy generation and its local usage can be a game changer in the overall scheme of things.



Remember, the central grid failure a few years ago, happened because of supply mismatch from all the regional grids. Though the architecture has increased many folds now and can handle such situations, still having local generation and usage can be a step in this direction. The 2300 and 2000 MW capacity solar based power plants in Rajasthan and Karnataka are a proof of such green transition.

Finance - Channels made under the umbrella of Green Climate Fund and World Bank's line of credit are already in full swing but the overall kitty to help make this 'Just Transition' happen for a developing world is still lesser. Commitments made by the 'Polluters of the past' are not enough and even if are made, not being honoured in letter and spirit. We need this money transfer and tech transfer to take place, to find an equitable world. Green Finance for clean energy, energy efficiency in the local context is looked after by banks like SBI, SIDBI especially for the factories and manufacturing enterprises but the ease of availing these loans is still an Everest task.

Secured energy future - Events across the world are shaping our immediate priorities. The war between two nations is a primal example of entire EU going back to fossil fuels. The commitments made at international forums like the CoP go for a toss. Another aspect is categorization of fuel based on ease, for some gas is a clean fuel but in reality, it involves fracking which in itself is a heavy emission releasing process. Equitable access to minerals and free flow of knowledge is the key to a more collaborative world order.

Community involvement - Last but not the least, every action of ours should be pro-planet. Everything an individual, an organisation does, should think of what betterment their actions are bringing to the 'Mother Earth'. The very emphasis of Mission LiFE is to inspire the wider world with such sustainable actions itself. Energy transition should bring in more jobs. It should open avenues for green jobs that too at the local levels (remember, we said decentralisation is the key). The work force entering markets in search of jobs need to be prepared with newer skill sets to grab these opportunities.

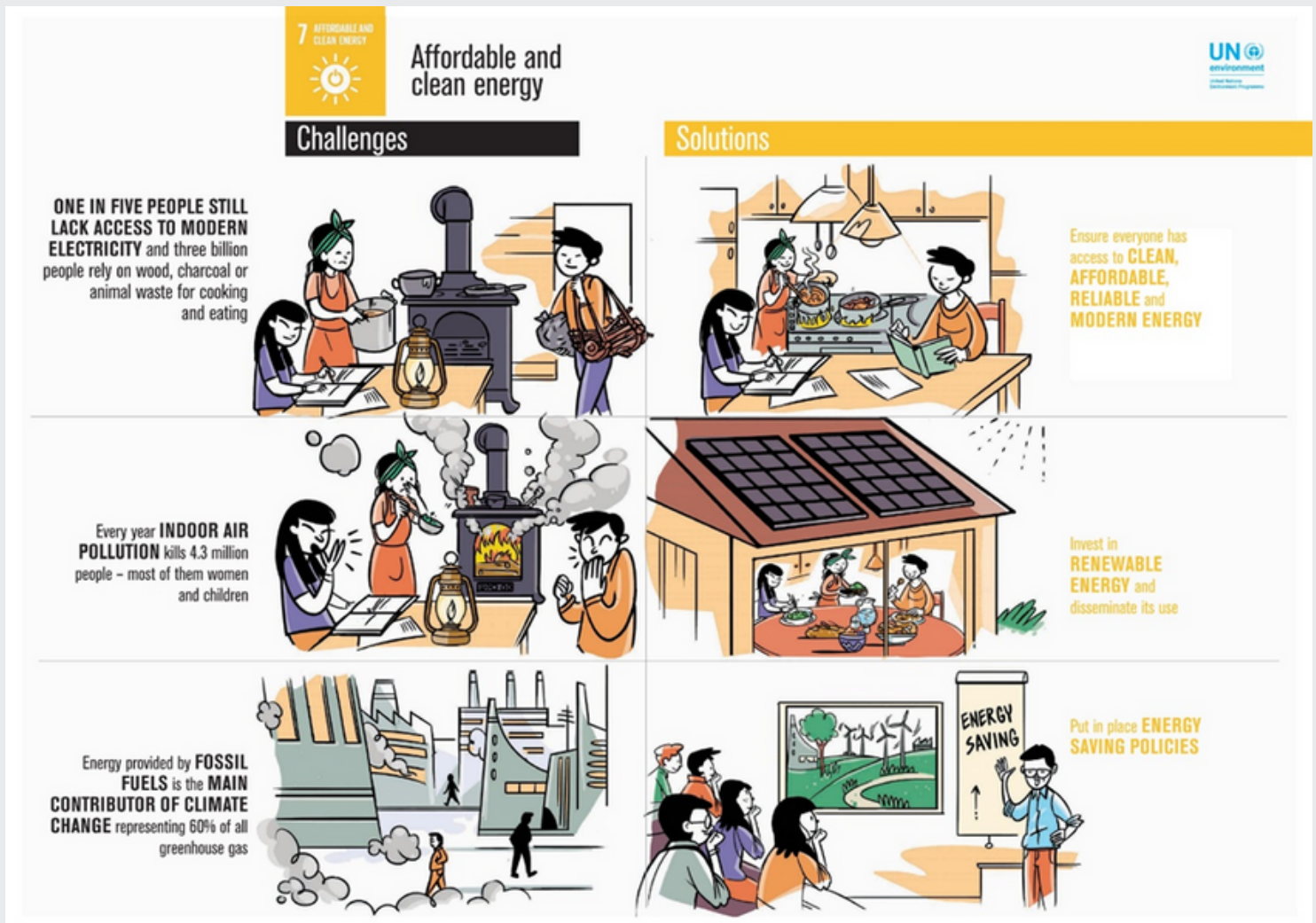


Photo Credit: <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/sustainable-development-goals/why-do-sustainable-development-goals-matter/goal-7>

SDG - 7 speaks it loud and clear. How we can "Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all".

Having the world's youngest population and providing solutions to the world in every form and format, would be a true achievement in times to come.

Achieving a just and equitable energy transition is "one of the biggest challenges facing our world,"

**António Guterres
UN Secretary-General**



***Mr. Bhavesh Swami is associated with The Climate Reality Project India and South Asia and also a co-opted member in the Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP).**

APSWDP PROGRAM & PROJECT UPDATES

Composite Targeted Intervention Project (CTIP) - Narender Kumar, Project Manager (CTIP), APSWDP.

Community Awareness Health Check-up and Development Camp: A Community Awareness Health Check-up and Development Camp was organized by APSWDP-CTIP at Community Park, Near Community Centre, New Indira Colony, Sector-13, Manimajra, Chandigarh on 28 February 2023 to mark and commemorate International Women's Day 2023.

Dr. Devender Singh Verma and Dr. Geeta Verma jointly inaugurated the event in presence of Sh. Narender Kumar, Project Manager, CTIP Project. Sh. Narender Kumar shared the background of the event, which marks the International Women's Day. He also discussed regarding the significance of HIV testing and Syphilis screening for all the registered HRGs. Moreover, he also talked about Regular Medical Check-up which is offered free of cost to all the HRGs registered with the project. During the event, 55 HRGs (33 FSWs and 22 MSM) got screened by a team of Medical Practitioners.

Community Awareness Generation and Sensitization Programme: A Community Awareness Generation and Sensitization Programme was organized by APSWDP-CTIP at Sky Hotel, Manimajra, Sector-13, Chandigarh on 7 March 2023 to mark and commemorate International Women's Day and World Social Work Day 2023 in the background of Swachhta Ki Holi.

Sh. Narender Kumar, Project Manager, CTIP-APSWDP welcomed Smt. Rekha Trivedi, Secretary General, APSWDP cum Project Director, CTIP, the Chief Guest during the Community Awareness Generation and Sensitization Programme. He also greeted Sh. Karamveer Singh, Chief Executive Officer (Hon.), APSWDP. Besides, he also exchanged his greetings with all the key speakers, namely Sh. Aakash Yadav, Advocate, Hon. Punjab and Haryana High Court; Mx. Kajal Mangalmukhi, TG/ Hijara Rights Activist; and Sh. Balbir Singh, Assistant Community Organizer, DAY-NULM, Municipal Corporation Chandigarh during the event.

Smt. Rekha Trivedi, while in her inaugural address, talked about various milestones that have been achieved in the past which is a positive step in making the society HIV free and to enable People Living with HIV/AIDS to live a health and positive life. She also talked about the various services that are provided to HRGs free of cost under the CTIP project, which have enabled HRGs to lead a health and disease free lifestyle. Besides, the project has also focused on establishing linkages of HRGs with various social welfare schemes for their betterment. While concluding her address, Smt. Rekha Trivedi ensured that all HRGs registered with this project should avail free services being accorded under this project. Also, she highlighted the fact that the project shall have more opportunities for the HRGs in near future who are firm in reducing their risk behaviour.

Mr. Narender Kumar while concluded the event shared that since the project is dealing with HRG community that is vulnerable to plethora of social issues, support from SLSA and Judiciary is very much required at different points of time. Also, he acknowledged that TGs and Hijra community are facing constant challenges and they also need to get adequate support in terms of their basic grooming through education and skill development.

Pictures from CTI Project



APSWDP PROGRAM & PROJECT UPDATES

Capacity Building Workshop on Strengthening of Eco-Clubs

Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) extended technical and knowledge support in organizing two day capacity building workshop on strengthening of Eco-Clubs organized by Department of Environment, Chandigarh Administration and Chandigarh Pollution Control Committee in collaboration with Swarmani Youth Welfare Association and The Climate Reality Project, India & South Asia and S.D. College, sector 32, Chandigarh.

The workshop was organized in the background of Teacher's Training and Green Campus Program coinciding World Social Work Day 2023 with an aim to promote Education for Sustainable Development with exclusive support from The Climate Reality Project, India & South Asia.

The two-day workshop was intended to build the capacity of Eco-Club coordinators in taking up the multifarious activities related to awareness, action and sustainable solutions in respect of 4R's and in making Chandigarh a Zero Waste city. The workshop included two expert sessions from The Climate Reality Project, India & South Asia on Teacher's Training and Green Campus Program followed by a in-depth and comprehensive sessions; which further focused on identifying the present issues, challenges, corresponding solutions and building an action plan in strengthening the capacity of Eco-Clubs. The workshop made more than 200 participants to attend the deliberations from diverse experts and visiting C & D plant and Horticulture Waste Management plant run by Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh.

The program has witnessed deliberations from Dr. Vivek Trivedi, Dr. Ajay Sharma, Dr. Brij Bhushan, Dr. Rupali, Dr. Ajay Sharma, Ms. Rekha Lala, Mr. Bhavesh Swami, Mr. Hitesh Gulati, Dr. Sunita, Mr. Karamveer Singh and Mr. Rohit Sharma.



NATIONAL CONCLAVE: APSWDP BEING REPRESENTED IN 2023 NATIONAL YOUTH CONCLAVE HOSTED BY MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

Mr. Karamveer Singh represented APSWDP in 2023 National Youth Forum hosted by National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA). The conclave was aimed to gather the youth around the country, build the leadership capacities of future leaders, and promote youth empowerment. The event on March 13-14, 2023 brought together young minds to deliberate on the U20 and Y20 priority areas and foster bright leaders of tomorrow. It was India's biggest youth summit that saw youth across diverse fields including leaders, experts, and innovators.



APSWDP CTIP TEAM PARTICIPATED IN 12TH AIDSCON HOSTED BY CSACS, CHANDIGARH

APSWDP CTIP team led by Ms. Rekha Trivedi along with Mr. Narender Kumar, Ms. Jasvir Kaur, Ms. Puneeta, Ms. Sonia and Mx. Pardeep participated in 12th AIDSCON organized by CSACS, Chandigarh at Park View. The CTIP team displayed a Poster on Samta Nyay Kendra in the AIDSCON, which was appreciated. In addition, two ORWs namely Ms. Puneeta and Ms. Sonia received award of honor for their contribution in mobilizing children of FSWs to get admission in schools and linking their families with government schemes, particularly formation of Transgender SHGs.



Know Your Members



DR. MONICA SINGH
ACADEMICIAN

Dr. Monica Singh is an academician and a Social Work professional. She is Doctorate in Social Work and is presently a Professor of Social Work at the Center for Social Work, Panjab University, Chandigarh. She remained Chairperson of the Center for Social Work in the recent past at Panjab University, Chandigarh. She is associated with various government and non-government organizations in various capacities.



DR. SUMIT ARORA

DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONAL

Dr. Sumit Arora is a development professional and an urban sociologist. He is a Doctorate in Sociology from Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar. Presently, he is working as Capacity Building Expert in PMIDC, Punjab. Dr. Sumit is also associated with The Climate Reality Project India as Climate Reality Leader trained by Nobel Laureate Al Gore. He is also an alumnus of Jeju International Training Center (JITC), CIFAL/UNITAR, Jeju, South Korea.



REKHA TRIVEDI
SOCIAL WORKER AND ACTIVIST

Mrs. Rekha Trivedi is Post Graduate in Social Work (M.S.W.) from IGNOU, New Delhi, and Bachelor in Law from CCSU, Meerut. She worked with various state-level projects related to social welfare and domains like Women Empowerment, Livelihood, and Sustainable Development with IDIPT Project funded by ADB. She is founder and promoter of the Wheelchair Cricket Federation of India and is working on the empowerment of Persons with Disabilities through sports. She is the recipient of the Karmyogi Award from Indian Oil and Pranav Media and honored by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India.



DR. JOGINDER KUMAR YADAV
ACADEMICIAN

Dr. Joginder Kumar Yadav is a Hindi Literature Doctorate who currently serves as the Regional Director for Himachal Pradesh at the Indira Gandhi National Open University in Shimla. With a passion for writing in Hindi Literature, he has authored numerous books in the field. Alongside his literary pursuits, Dr. Yadav has also been involved with various literary associations throughout the country. Before joining the Indira Gandhi National University, he held administrative positions in the education department of the Himachal Pradesh government. Overall, Dr. Yadav's impressive background in Hindi Literature and experience in education administration make him a valuable member of the academic community.

APSWDP REPORTER - SOCIAL WORK AND DEVELOPMENT NEWS/OPPORTUNITIES**1. Why India Needs Mid-Course Corrections to Help Achieve Sustainable Development Goals:**

A recent assessment shows that India is not on target for 19 out of 33 SDG indicators, especially in areas like basic services, child health, and gender equality. While India has made progress in poverty reduction, mid-course corrections are needed. The Aspirational Districts Programme is not performing better than other districts in meeting SDG targets, and the risk of not meeting targets is concentrated in certain states.

For more details: <https://www.news18.com/opinion/why-india-needs-mid-course-corrections-to-help-achieve-sustainable-development-goals-7252375.html>

2. India elected as Chair of 62nd Session of the Commission for Social Development

India has been elected as the Chair of the 62nd Session of the Commission for Social Development, with the priority theme of "Fostering Social Development and Social Justice through Social Policies to accelerate Progress on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication." The commission aims to advise the Economic and Social Council on social issues not dealt with by specialized intergovernmental organizations. The final day of the 61st session saw the commission forward four draft resolutions to ECOSOC, including one focused on creating full employment and decent work for all. India's leadership role in the G20 and its social development initiatives may be advantageous for other nations.

For more details: <https://newsonair.com/2023/02/16/india-elected-as-chair-of-62nd-session-of-the-commission-for-social-development/>

3. Regional Asia-Pacific training course on migrant workers' rights and advocacy in the Asia-Pacific.

The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) and Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA) are inviting applications for a regional Asia-Pacific training course on migrant workers' rights and advocacy in the Asia-Pacific. This training course will take place 8-12 May in Sri Lanka.

The training program will build the knowledge and skills of advocates working to protect and promote the human rights of migrant workers. It will enable them to more effectively use internationally agreed standards and mechanisms in their advocacy. The residential program will also provide a valuable forum for the sharing of knowledge and skills, and for the building of support networks.

For more details: <https://dtp.org.au/training/2023-human-rights-advocacy-and-migrant-workers-in-the-asia-pacific-region/>

Job Opportunities**Multiple Vacancies**

Individual Consultant: Women's Nutrition
UNICEF

Location: Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
Apply by: 11 April, 2023

Link:

https://www.devnetjobsindia.org/JobDescription.aspx?Job_Id=217517

State Project Coordinator
The Union

Location: Delhi

Apply by: 15 April, 2023

Link:

https://www.devnetjobsindia.org/JobDescription.aspx?Job_Id=217448

Education for Development Specialist
UNICEF

Location: India - New Delhi

Apply by: 12 April, 2023

Link:

https://www.devnetjobsindia.org/JobDescription.aspx?Job_Id=216282

APSWDP Membership

Join APSWDP as Life Associate/ Annual member/ Student member for knowledge networking (terms and conditions applied).

Write your intent to join at apswdp@gmail.com



SCAN ME

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