

# 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

United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) and UNFCCC

Affiliate Member UNESCO MIL Alliance

PROMOTING SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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I always wondered  
why somebody  
doesn't do something  
about that. Then I  
realized I was  
somebody.  
-Lily Tomlin



PICTURE: VISIT OF MS. V HEKALI ZHIMOMI, ADDITIONAL SECRETARY MOHFW & DIRECTOR GENERAL NACO TO APSWDP OFFICE.

## APSWDP NEWSLETTER

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## FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR IN CHIEF

### RAJEEV KUMAR

We are pleased to share the release of Volume-IV, Issue-24 of our Quarterly Newsletter 'The Voyage'. This edition offers comprehensive coverage of our diverse programs and activities, including workshops, events, learning and networking opportunities for professionals and recent partnerships for WSWD 2024 commemoration. Additionally, expert comments and practitioner views are featured, along with a series on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 11, which focuses on sustainable cities and communities. We have also included a 'know your member's section' to introduce our esteemed members.

## EXPERT'S SPEAK

**Professor Inderjeet Singh Sodhi, Department of Public Administration, Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi.**



It gives me enormous pleasure to share that the Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) is among the well-known associations and think tanks in the country. I have been related to this organization for the last few years and observed the entire team is vibrant and with high energy while planning and executing the program activities. APSWDP has been extending massive support to the members for their holistic development and network building which is a matter of great appreciation. I wish APSWDP and all the members great success in all future endeavors.

**Dr. T. Gopinath, Head, Department of Public Administration, RGNIYD, RC, Chandigarh.**

The APSWDP is an initiative of experienced professionals in the field of social work and social development to cater to the needs of the hour in our country. Their vision and actions are highly meaningful and noteworthy. The multiple activities of the association connect the different agencies working in the field for the transformation of society as a just society. The research, consultation, training, and publications of the association are widely acknowledged by the stakeholders and take their outcomes to the grassroots and applied in action. Their successful advocacy campaigns, impactful community development programmes, and innovative approaches to social work and development need to continue forever.



# AN INTRODUCTION TO UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS - 11 (UN- SDG 11): SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

- \*DR. SUMIT ARORA,

## Introduction:

Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11 or Global Goal 11), titled "sustainable cities and communities", is one of 17 Sustainable Development Goals established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015. The official mission of SDG 11 is to "Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable". The 17 SDGs take into account that action in one area will affect outcomes in other areas as well, and that development must balance social, economic and environmental sustainability.



SDG 11 has 10 targets to be achieved, and this is being measured with 15 indicators. The seven outcome targets include safe and affordable housing, affordable and sustainable transport systems, inclusive and sustainable urbanization, protection of the world's cultural and natural heritage, reduction of the adverse effects of natural disasters, reduction of the environmental impacts of cities and to provide access to safe and inclusive green and public spaces. The three means of implementation targets include strong national and regional development planning, implementing policies for inclusion, resource efficiency, and disaster risk reduction in supporting the least developed countries in sustainable and resilient building.

3.9 billion people—half of the world's population—currently live in cities globally. It is projected that 5 billion people will live in cities by 2030. Cities across the world occupy just 3 percent of the Earth's land, yet account for 60-80 percent of energy consumption and 75 percent of carbon emissions. There are serious challenges for the viability and safety of cities to meet increased future demands.

## Background:

SDG 11 addresses slums, human settlement management and planning, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and urban economies. Prior to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, Millennium Development Goal 7, target 4, called for efforts to achieve a "significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers" by 2020. There has been a rapid growth of mega-cities, especially in the developing world: "In 1990, there were ten mega-cities with 10 million inhabitants or more, and in 2014, there were 28 mega-cities, home to a total of 453 million people". With regards to slums, data shows that "828 million people live in slums today and most them are found in Eastern and South-Eastern Asia".

## Targets, indicators, and Progress:

The UN has defined 10 targets and 15 indicators for SDG 11. Targets specify the goals, and indicators represent the metrics by which the world aims to track whether these targets are achieved. Six of them are to be achieved by the year 2030 and one by the year 2020 and three have no target years. Each of the targets also has one or two indicators that will be used to measure progress.

- **Target 11.1: Safe and affordable housing** - The full title of Target 11.1 is "By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums".
- **Target 11.2: Affordable and sustainable transport systems** - The full title of Target 11.2 is "By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons".
- **Target 11.3: Inclusive and sustainable urbanization** - The full-text of Target 11.3 is "By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries".
- **Target 11.4: Protect the world's cultural and natural heritage** - The full title of Target 11.4 is "Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage."
- **Target 11.5: Reduce the adverse effects of natural disasters** - The full text of Target 11.5 is "By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations".
- **Target 11.6: Reduce the environmental impacts of cities** - The full text of Target 11.6 is "By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management."
- **Target 11.7: Provide access to safe and inclusive green and public spaces** - The full text of Target 11.7 is: "By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and Persons With Disabilities"
- **Target 11.a: Strong national and regional development planning** - The full text

of Target 11.a is "Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning".

**Target 11.b: Implement policies for inclusion, resource efficiency and disaster risk reduction** - The full text of Target 11.b is "By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation, and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster risk reduction 2015–2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels."

**Target 11.c: Support least developed countries in the sustainable and resilient building** - The full text of Target 11.c is formulated as "Support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, in building sustainable and resilient buildings using local materials".

### **Monitoring:**

High-level progress reports are prepared by the United Nations Secretary-General annually, evaluating the progress towards all the Sustainable Development Goals. The most recent report was published in 2021. The previous report was from April 2020. In 2018, the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) took stock of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals and discussed progress, successes, challenges, and lessons learned on the road to a fairer, more peaceful, and prosperous world and a healthy planet by 2030. SDG 11 was one of the six SDGs discussed in depth. The progress on the SDG 11 has been stalled by the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the direct and indirect impacts of the pandemic, this Goal is increasingly less likely to be achieved on time. All the UN member states are committed to following up on their progress towards implementing the 2030 Agenda and its goals and targets. Almost all the UN member states have presented their national progress towards the SDGs through Voluntary National Review (VNR). Despite the importance of cities within the sustainable development framework, only a few initiatives have emerged to assess progress towards the SDGs on a city scale.

### **Challenges:**

Cities in many countries were epicenters of COVID-19. Approximately 60% of COVID-19 cases have been found in urban areas, shedding light on the function of cities in generating and accelerating the pandemic. Both congestion and increased mobility in cities have been named as some major contributors to the spread of epidemics through aerosols, droplets and fomites.



The COVID-19 pandemic has illuminated the deeply rooted inequalities in the cities, which is reflected in disproportionate pandemic-related impacts on migrants, the homeless, and the residents of urban slums and informal settlements. The success of SDG 11 post-pandemic requires concerted action on the part of Governments at all levels, civil society, and development partners.

During the crisis, cities have emerged as drivers of economic recovery, centers of innovation, and catalysts for social and economic transformation. Smart city technologies and solutions have contributed to resilience in cities by facilitating the gathering and exchange of information in real-time, decreasing risk, and enhancing planning, absorption, and adaptation abilities.

**Role of Social Workers:** In view of SDG 11, there lies an important role for the professional social workers to play in diverse aspects like managing social affairs, social and economic development, livelihood generation, and community engagement in social enterprises like RRR-based community enterprises which promote urban sustainability of the city.

#### **References:**

- <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal11>
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:A\\_RES\\_71\\_313\\_E.pdf](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:A_RES_71_313_E.pdf)
- <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2021/The-Sustainable-Development-Goals-Report-2021.pdf>
- <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/>

**\*Dr. Sumit Arora is working as Development Practitioner/Consultant in Punjab and also serving as Hon. President of the Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP).**

**“The mark of a great city isn’t how it treats its special places – everybody does that right – but how it treats its ordinary ones.”**

**Aaron M. Renn**



## APSWDP PROGRAM & PROJECT ACTIVITY UPDATES

### Visit of Ms. V Hekali Zhimomi, Additional Secretary MoHFW & Director General NACO to APSWDP CTIP Office.

A visit central team led by Ms. V Hekali Zhimomi IAS, Additional Secretary MoHFW & Director General NACO along with Project Director, CSACS, Deputy Director TI, CSACS to APSWDP CTIP Office was made on 4th Jan, 2024. The team examined and observed the project implementation and innovative activities. She appreciated the efforts of the project management team.

### Visit of Ms. Shobha, General Manager, HUDCO to APSWDP SAMTA NYAY KENDRA.

A visit of Ms. Shobha, General Manager, HUDCO to APSWDP SAMTA NYAY KENDRA was made on 31st March, 2024 to assess the work under taken on transformation of transgender community vis-a-vis livelihood project opportunities initiated with various stakeholders in the Chandigarh.

### Comprehensive Report of Link Worker Scheme (LWS) Project - 2023-24 of Punjab State AIDS Control Society (PSACS)

APSWDP under Link Worker Scheme (LWS) Project of Punjab State AIDS Control Society (PSACS) shared Comprehensive Report - 2023-24 to Joint Director, PSACS at the end of FY by Mr. Lucky Jishtu, District Resource Person (DRP), LWS. The report highlighted the progress made during the project cycle, SWOT Analysis, Challenges & Limitations in the project.

### Awareness Generation and Sensitization Programme under Link Worker Scheme (LWS) Project at Samrala, Ludhiana.

APSWDP under Link Worker Scheme (LWS) Project of Punjab State AIDS Control Society (PSACS) organized an Awareness Generation and Sensitization Programme on HIV/AIDS for key stakeholders was organized at Project Office Samrala, Ludhiana on 15th March, 2024. In the programme, a skit was performed on HIV/AIDS, Drug Menace and issues related to stigma by the professionals. In the programme, more than 60 persons participated in the event.

### APSWDP being represented in Civil Society Summit (CSO) organized by NIPCCD, New Delhi.

Ms. Rekha Trivedi, Secretary General, APSWDP was invited by NIPCCD, New Delhi on behalf of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. In the programme, interaction was made by Secretary General, APSWDP with Smt. Smriti Irani, the Hon. Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India on the role of civil society organization in the empowerment of women and marginalized.





## MOU SIGNING WITH CBSA, CGC LANDRAN, MOHALI, PUNJAB

Association of Professional Social Workers & Development Practitioners (APSWDP) signs MOU with Chandigarh Business School of Administration, CGC Landran on 09th February 2024, to share their expertise and join hands in conducting various activities and programmes to sensitize/ mobilize the community according to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) and building resilience through capacity building with special emphasis on Social Inclusion of the Informal Sector. And also to ensure to work on various social issues including integrated health, quality education, economic development, social equity and justice, migration due to urbanization, climate change, peace and harmony, water & sanitation, etc.



## EXTERNAL EVALUATION OF CTI PROJECT

An External Evaluation Team led by Dr. Nidhi Jaswal comprising two expert namely Mr. Manish Kahar from Gujarat and Mr. Vikas Chaudhary (Finance expert) from Punjab, appointed by Chandigarh State AIDS Control Society (CSACS) evaluated the Composite Targeted Intervention Project which was commissioned on 1st April 2021. The team evaluated the APSWDP project w.r.t. NACO indicators in comprehensive manner and the project secure 91 percent marks in the evaluation process.



## Know Your Members



**DRISHTANA SINGH**  
LEGAL PRACTITIONER

Drishtana Singh is a legal practitioner and consultant in Punjab and Haryana High Court with more than five years of experience. She completed BA. LLB (Hons.) from Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Patiala, Punjab in 2017.

In addition, she is empaneled lawyer with various government department including Punjab Energy Development Agency (PEDA) and also a council member in Anti-Sexual Harassment Council of Women's Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (WICCI), Chandigarh.

She is Certified Cyber Crime Intervention Officer and Accredited SCMA Mediation Advocate (Standards and Competencies in Mediation Advocacy).

She has passion for writing research papers and have published in Indian Journal of Projects, Infrastructure & Energy Law, RGNUL Financial and Mercantile Law Review and Madras Law Journal.

She has passion for addressing Human and Women Rights concerns in addition to climate justice and environmental.



**DR. VIVEK TRIVEDI**  
DEVELOPMENT PRACTITIONER

Dr. Vivek Trivedi is a Social Development Officer (SDO) in the Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh, and has a Doctorate in Social Work from Panjab University, Chandigarh, with more than 18 years of experience in the development sector and social welfare Administration.

Dr. Trivedi has been awarded the Hindustan Times Brightest Young Climate Leadership Award 2010 by the British Council, New Delhi, and conferred twice State Awards in 2014 and 2020 by the Chandigarh Administration.

Dr. Vivek founded the Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) India in 2014 with like-minded professionals, which is now being conferred UN Consultative Status under ECOSOC, Observer Status and Accreditation with UNFCCC, UNEP and United Nations Environment Assembly.

He is a global traveller and given global fellowships/leading opportunities over the last two decades, including by UN agencies.

## CELEBRATION OF WORLD SOCIAL WORK DAY 2024 AT CHANDIGARH



World Social Work Day was commemorated on the 19th of March 2024 on the global theme **Buen Vivir: SHARED FUTURE FOR TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE** at Chandigarh by organizing a **“ONE-DAY WORKSHOP on SHARED FUTURE FOR TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE”** in collaboration with the Department of Public Administration, Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Regional Center Chandigarh and The Climate Reality Project-India and South Asia. The workshop was inaugurated by Mr. Parminder Pal Singh, IAS, Additional Secretary, Department of Education, Government of Punjab. In the programme, a book titled “Transformative Change in Society and Administration: Perspectives, Development, and Challenges” and the first copy of International Journal of Social Work and Sustainable Development (IJSWSD) were released on the auspicious day. In the workshop, more than 65 participants from diverse background have participated and more than 10 development expert delivered expert talks.

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

#### CALL FOR ESSAYS 2024 International Essay Contest for Young People - Goi Peace Foundation

The annual essay contest is organized by Goi Peace Foundation in an effort to harness the energy, creativity and initiative of the world's youth in promoting a culture of peace and sustainable development. It also aims to inspire society to learn from the young minds and to think about how each of us can make a difference in the world.

For more details: <https://www.goipeace.or.jp/en/work/essay-contest/>

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#### Job Opportunities

##### Multiple Vacancies

Capacity Building Manager  
Financial Management Service  
Foundation (FMSF)

Location: Noida, Uttar Pradesh

Apply by: 09 May 2024

Link:

[https://www.devnetjobsindia.org/JobDescription.aspx?Job\\_Id=241101](https://www.devnetjobsindia.org/JobDescription.aspx?Job_Id=241101)

##### Director

Centre For Enquiry Into Health And  
Allied Themes (CEHAT)

Location: Mumbai, Maharashtra

Apply by: 30 Apr 2024

Link:

[https://www.devnetjobsindia.org/JobDescription.aspx?Job\\_Id=240517](https://www.devnetjobsindia.org/JobDescription.aspx?Job_Id=240517)

##### Head of Programme Delivery

Suvita

Location: Pune or Patna, Remote, India

Apply by: 01 May 2024

Link:

[https://www.devnetjobsindia.org/JobDescription.aspx?Job\\_Id=240597](https://www.devnetjobsindia.org/JobDescription.aspx?Job_Id=240597)

#### APSWDP Membership

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



Write your intent to join at  
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SCAN ME

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