

REGIONAL COOPERATION NEWSLETTER – SOUTH ASIA
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In this edition

OUR TRIBUTE TO NELSON MANDELA
ICSW BOARD MEETING AT NETHERLANDS
MEMBER COUNTRY EVENTS IN 2013
INDIA, BHUTAN, MALDIVES, NEPAL
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
PUBLICATION

Wish you a happy Christmas & New Year.



Our Tribute to Nelson Mandela- A great social reformer

Nelson Mandela will be remembered by all for bringing an end to the inhuman system of apartheid in his country that denied people equal rights. A political prisoner kept in Robben Island for 27 years, he emerged from the prison in 1990 and led the Republic of South Africa to democracy with a message of reconciliation, tolerance, love and hope.

He became the first President of South Africa elected through democratic nation-wide elections and won the Nobel Peace Prize. A wise and humble person who became an iconic figure, he was considered a father to his nation and was widely respected and adored. Nelson Mandela believed in a free society and fought for its so every person could live together in harmony with others and with equal opportunities.

Editor



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WELFARE

A World Organisation Promoting Social Development

ICSW Board Meeting in the Netherlands



The International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW) held a joint meeting of the Board & Managing Committee at Leiden, the Netherlands on 18th and 19th November 2013. The

Board meeting attended by the regional Presidents provided an opportunity for policy review of the ICSW activities around the world, namely in the 9 regions covering 83 countries where ICSW operates. The Board also discussed at length potential strategy options for future activities of the ICSW, including the ICSW role in promoting social protection schemes at the global and regional levels, and particularly promotion of the Social Protection floor initiative (SPFI). The input of the ICSW in organizing the joint global Conference of ICSW-IFSW-IASSW in Melbourne, Australia in July 2014 was also discussed.



President Michael Cichon in his opening remarks emphasized new opportunities that the NGO community, including ICSW, has in the context of the ongoing global negotiations on the post 2015 development agenda at the UN. The outcome of the discussions will play a crucial role in development policies for the next one and half decade. Active in several key areas of social

development at the national, regional and global levels, the ICSW has been one of the founding members of the Global Coalition for the Social Protection Floors and adopted the SPFI as one of its core policies. The observer status that ICSW enjoys with the UN, the ILO, UNICEF, UNESCO and WHO is important, providing an opportunity to address a global audience and also cooperate with numerous other stakeholders. ICSW has been actively involved in organizing the Civil Society Forum traditionally convened at the UN HQ in New York prior to the meeting of the Commission for Social Development. The Executive Director Sergei Zelenev in his remarks provided a review of the most pressing global policy challenges that ICSW faces and suggested new approaches in several areas (e.g. revamping the Website, establishing regional Newsletters where they are lacking, improving visibility,

promoting research activities). The Board also reviewed the financial situation of the ICSW, the elections modalities and succession planning in the regions.





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Member Country Events in 2013

India - International Conference on achieving literacy for all

A three day International Conference on achieving literacy for all with a focus on effective, innovative approaches to scale up literacy, reduce gender disparity and create a literate world was organized by the National Mission Authority along with UNSECO at India Habitat Centre in New Delhi from 18th – 20th July. This conference was attended by representatives from most of the South Asian Countries.

The literacy rate of India is 73% as per 2011 census. To achieve the world goal of 80% literacy by 2015, the Human Resource Ministry is restructuring the entire adult education system in India with a paradigm shift to life long education. More than 700 million people globally do not know reading, writing and arithmetic and most of them are in India, China, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

For details contact a.umarov@unesco.org

Bhutan – Workshop for Training Media Managers And Trainers.

This workshop was organized by the Bhutan Media and Communication Institute (BMCI) . The three-day workshop on Media Management was attended by CEO's and Senior Managers of Bhutan print media houses. The objective of the workshop was to train participants to identify operational issues that needed improvement, to develop relevant solutions and to help to set the vision and direction for their respective organizations.

For more details contact: i.panveska@unesco.org.

Maldives

Workshop on Teaching and Learning in Science

A five day training workshop for the masters trainers and teachers of secondary schools of Maldives was held under the UNESCO JFIT project on “joyful and effective teaching learning of science”. This was organized at the National Institute of Education Male, with the objective of developing a group of master trainers for effective science teaching learning in Maldives. Participants were exposed to various teaching learning methods for effective science education, adult learning process and key aspects and quality for being and effective trainers

Source: E news letter volume 4, issue 3 of UNESCO New Dehi



Nepal – International programme on Social Protection : Legislation and Policy

An International Programme on Social Protection was conducted by Nepal Constitution Foundation (NCF) and Forum for Human Rights and Public Health – Nepal (Friendship – Nepal, our national member in Nepal). The major stakeholders of the programme were political leaders, bureaucrats, social activists, human and child rights activists, academicians and lawyers.

Dr. Adhikari, the first speaker, in his introductory remarks highlighted the challenges pertaining to the social protection sector. In addition, he outlined the importance of dialogue in establishing and incorporating a legal frame-work of social protection policy. Mr. Sanjay Khanal in his presentation stressed the inter-changeability of social protection, safety net and social security. He also elaborated on the three dimensions of social protection.

1. Social Protection, Social Injustice, Poverty and discrimination
2. Social Protection, Social Welfare and Social Justice
3. Social Protection related to risks are – life, wealth, development

Mr.Thakur Dhakal of UNICEF highlighted the need for an assessment of the effectiveness of the impact of government implemented social security schemes.

Mr. Bishnu Bastola ICSW Friendship Nepal our National Member stressed a rights-based approach to be implemented from grassroots level. He highlighted the need for an awareness programme to prevent its becoming ineffectual.

Source Report on Interaction Programme on Social Protection of Bishnu Bastola, Nepal, Email: Friendship-Nepal (info@friendshipnepal.org.np)



International Conference

Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development 2014

The joint world conference of ICSW , IASSW and IFFW on Social Work Education and Social Development 2014 will be held at Melbourne, Australia from 9 to 12 July 2014.



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL
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The theme of the Conference is '**Promoting Social and Economic Equality: Responses from Social Work and Social Development**'.

The sub themes of the conference are

- Strengthening the social and cultural wellbeing of individuals, families and communities – promoting resilience, empowerment, safety and respect
- Addressing health inequalities and disadvantage for individuals and communities
- Fostering social and economic initiatives that promote security and protection
- Creating sustainable and safe physical environments
- Educating for change, human rights and equality
- Ensuring the sustainable and ethical use of technology in human services

This Conference will provide opportunities to share achievements and ideas of experts related to health, disability, mental health, child and family welfare, gender and human rights , education etc...

For registration and more details visit Site: www.swsd2014.org

Publication

"Social Inclusion of Internal Migrants in India", UNESCO New Delhi.

This publication provide and over all view of existing innovative practices that increase the inclusions of internal migrants in society and acts as a living document that could inspire and assist professional and government officials to facilitate the social inclusion of migrants in India.

Internal Migrants account for nearly 30% of the total Indian population – 309 million as per census of 2011. There is an urgent need to raise awareness of internal migrants' positive benefits to the society.

For details download at <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002237/223702e.pdf>

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