Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development 2020-2030

Theme 2

Co-building a new Eco-Social World: Leaving no one behind

The global impacts of climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic on humans and the environment are of great concern to social work and social development. More global challenges are expected to emerge. The need for collective and inclusive deliberations both at national, regional and international level is the foundation for redefining and co-building at each level new eco-social agreements.

The second theme of the Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development, ‘Co-building a new eco-social world: Leaving no one behind’ is, in this context, a call for global discussion aiming to articulate new values to guide a socially just and sustainable future for all people.

For these deliberations to be fruitful, it is expected that social workers, social work educators and social development practitioners in collaboration with other partner organisations to foster collective actions that promotes universal rights, social solidarity and new form of relationship across the globe.

For the Global Agenda, ‘Co-building’ refers to valuing sincerely everyone’s diverse strengths, recognizing humanities interdependencies and the need to respectfully work together in designing, planning and implementing the New World we call for collectively. “Co-building” is the only guaranty to translate into practice and policy at multi-systemic levels across the Global North and the Global South. Thus, the proposed theme will be a step for moving on from Ubuntu and promote collective action through our networks and memberships.

The development of a new Eco-Social World builds on the 2010-2020 Global Agenda and the overall framework of the Global Agenda for 2020-2030 to development new social agreements between governments and the populations they serve and among government that facilitate universal rights, opportunities, freedom and sustainable well-being for all people nationally and globally.

Leaving no one behind emphasises our commitment to universal social protection.

We have a policy and practice imperative towards a just society. The term ‘leaving no one behind’ is the central, transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It represents the unequivocal commitment of all UN Member States to eradicate poverty in all its forms, end discrimination and exclusion, and reduce the inequalities and vulnerabilities that leave people behind and undermine the potential of individuals and of humanity as a whole. (https://unsdg.un.org/2030-agenda/universal-values/leave-no-one-behind)