

GLOBAL AGENDA FOR SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Theme 3: Promoting environmental and community sustainability

Progress Report

IASSW Board Meeting in Dublin

1 – 3 July 2018

Introduction

This report gives feedback on the submission of the third report of the Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development on the theme: *Promoting environmental and community sustainability*. It also reports on the special issue of the International Social Work journal on theme 3. In the way forward, it gives a brief overview of the fourth and final theme of the Global Agenda, and alludes to the new Global Agenda post 2020. Finally, it flags items that should be discussed by the Board during the Board meeting in Dublin.

Third report of the Global Agenda

The regional reports on theme 3 were all submitted in time for inclusion in the third Global Agenda report which is overseen and finalised by the coordinator of the Global Group, Dr David Jones. We commend Dr David Jones who is representing IASSW, IFSW and ICSW equally well as coordinator of the Global Group of the Global Agenda.

Dr David Jones is the editor of the third Global Report and the Foreword is a joint message from all three presidents. Chapter 1, the Global Overview, was written by Dr David N Jones, Meredith Powers and Rory Truell. The conclusion chapter on *The way forward*, was written by Dr David Jones. Various authors have contributed to the regional reports. All editorial changes were made in consultation with the authors of the regional reports. Regional reports have been circulated to the Global Group for comments and suggestions in finalising the Global Report.

The Global Group and coordinators are as follows:

Presidents: Annamaria Campanini (IASSW), Eva Holmberg-Herrstrom (ICSW), Ruth Stark (IFSW)

Global Agenda coordinators: Antoinette Lombard (IASSW), Lena Dominelli

(IASSW), Sergei Zelenev (ICSW), Rory Truell (IFSW), David N Jones (Co-ordinator of the Global Group).

The contents of the Global Report at the time of this report was as follows:

Foreword (by the three Presidents)

The expected contents of respective chapters are as follows:

Global Overview

Africa Region

Asia Pacific Region

European Region

Latin America and Caribbean Region (Spanish)

Latin America and Caribbean Region (English)

North America and Caribbean Region

Way forward

Appendix I: The Partner Organisations

Appendix II: History and Process

Appendix III: United Nations Conventions and other Instruments relevant to this theme

Appendix IV: Ethical codes which refer to sustainability

Appendix V: Agenda Coordinators

The deadlines for finalising the Global Agenda report were tight but at this stage there will definitely be a PDF version online in time for the conference. With all the work being completed in the weekend of 15 – 17 June, it is anticipated to have a few printed copies ready in Dublin.

In alignment with the previous two reports, the Global Report's citation will be as follows:

IASSW, ICSW, IFSW (2018) 'Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development: Third Report. *Promoting Community and Environmental Sustainability*'. (Ed. David N Jones), IFSW, Basel, Switzerland.

Special issue: International Social Work

The special issue of the International Social Work Journal on theme 3, includes an interesting range of articles which illustrate different perspectives from all regions and different settings. Dr David Jones is the editor of the issue. In selecting articles for the special issue, he was limited to papers already published online in advance. The special issue will be published at the same time as the conference.

Global Agenda: Theme 4

The fourth and final theme of the Global Agenda, *Strengthening recognition of the importance of human relations*, will be launched in Dublin.

In the original Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development Report (2012) this theme was captured as follows:

OUR ROLE IN PROMOTING WELLBEING THROUGH SUSTAINABLE HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS

The United Nations and other international bodies

We commit to working with the UN and other international bodies to promote the importance of sustainable, interdependent communities to achieve social development and wellbeing. We will advocate for methodologies which support community empowerment.

Target Group: Communities

We will work in collaboration with others to promote strong inclusive communities that enable all members to participate and belong. We will promote policies aimed at social integration and cohesion as a means for achieving the economic and social wellbeing of all persons, including older people and persons with disabilities, mental health needs and/ or learning difficulties.

Our own organisations

We will promote within our own organisations the importance of reducing social isolation and building social interaction through social relationships, embedding the principles of social cohesion, development and inclusion in any published policies and standards relating to education and practice.

Way forward

The Global Group has to work on a joint statement on the fourth theme to report to the Dublin conference. The theme, *Strengthening recognition of the importance of human relations*, will be the themes of World Social Work Days in 2019 and 2020, and a core element of the world conferences in 2020. The planning for the next phase of The Global Agenda process is also supposed to start now in order to determine and shape

the Global Agenda for the next ten years, 2020-2030. If the Global Group put some suggestions forward before the Board meeting, we will share it with you during the meeting.

Discussion points at Board meeting

Board members are requested to think about ideas on the fourth theme of the Global Agenda and the way forward of the Global Agenda beyond 2020 for discussion during the Board meeting. One burning global issue is the refugee and migrant question and the role of social work.

Respectively submitted,

Antoinette Lombard

Chair: Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development