

STRENGTHENING SOCIAL SOLIDARITY & GLOBAL CONNECTEDNESS

WORLD SOCIAL WORK DAY

#WSWD2021



APASWE

Asian and Pacific Association for Social Work Education



East Asian Sub-Regional APASWE Webinar (World Social Work Month Event)

SOCIAL SOLIDARITY IN THE NEW GLOBAL AGENDA AND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN EAST ASIA

WHAT CAN SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION DO?

DATE & TIME

March 26th (Fri) 2021, 2pm in Beijing and 3pm in Seoul & Tokyo

SPECIAL SUPPORT

Japanese Association for Social Work Education (JASWE)

& Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B) *Theoretical and Empirical Study on Glocal Social Work in Multicultural Care Systems* (No. 19H01590)

OPENING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTION

David Rose

University of Melbourne

APASWE Secretary

OUTLINE AND RATIONALE

Viktor Virag

Nagasaki International University

APASWE Board Member

Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development

- The Global Agenda is the main platform for advocacy and action of the three global bodies of our profession
 - International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW) → APASWE's global partner
 - International Council for Social Welfare (ICSW)
 - International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW)
- It provides a unique opportunity for social work and social development practitioners as well as educators to unite, promote, voice, articulate and agree priorities in social, economic, political, and environmental areas



Four pillars of the Global Agenda for 2010-2020

- Social and economic equality
- Dignity and worth of people
- Community and environmental sustainability
- Importance of human relationships



Overarching Global Agenda framework for 2020-2030

Co-building Inclusive Social Transformation

- This new framework recognizes and commits to celebrating the strength of all people and promoting their active role in leading sustainable development
- It fosters active participation by all voices, particularly those people who are often marginalized
- It aims to develop new social agreements between governments and populations that facilitate universal rights, opportunities, freedom and sustainable well-being for all people nationally and globally

First Global Agenda theme for 2020-2022

***Ubuntu*: Strengthening Social Solidarity and Global Connectedness**

- The principle of enhancing social solidarity and recognizing global connectedness is central to shared and sustainable futures that highlight responsibility between all people and the environment
- It is the foundation for promoting an inclusive process of developing new social agreements
- ‘*Ubuntu*: I am because we are’ is an African concept and was globally popularized by Nelson Mandela
 - It is expressive of the professional perspectives of interconnectedness of all people and their environment
 - It highlights indigenous knowledge and wisdom



Background (1)

- The reality of global interconnectedness and the value of social solidarity is highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic
- We must recognize not only the impact of and lessons from the pandemic but also long-standing realities of economic and social inequalities, as well as failures in social protection and continuing social injustice
- We need another form of societal organization that respects human rights, equality and social justice

Background (2)

- There is a need for organic solidarity at family and group levels, and for a global, multi-layered solidarity to ensure everybody's health, safety and wellbeing
- It is important that global, regional, national and local professional bodies work together to address, articulate, conceptualize and practice all forms of solidarity at all levels
- Solidarity can be understood in many ways from basic human solidarity in groups such as family and friends to institutional solidarity in community organizations or professional bodies

Examples of understanding solidarity (1)

- **Global solidarity** points out collective responsibility in fighting the pandemic and in rebuilding economic health with a focus on the importance of multilateralism and peace building
- **Community solidarity and the role of state** includes social protection mechanisms that ensure access to economic, health and welfare security
- **Technology and knowledge solidarity** refers to shared knowledge and technological support to ensure access to these, since knowledge justice is crucial to social justice in contemporary society

Examples of understanding solidarity (2)

- **Solidarity between generations** means equality in the intergenerational distribution of resources, especially physical resources of the earth (can also be called environmental solidarity)
- **Respect for all within community solidarity** compels us to address shared vulnerabilities and to challenge racism, stigmatization, isolation and discrimination in the social sector by facilitating and mediating respect for human rights
- **Other approaches to solidarity** are also possible

Today's topic and objectives

Social Solidarity in the New Global Agenda and the COVID-19 Pandemic in East Asia: What Can Social Work Education Do?

- The four questions we seek to answer are:
 - How do we define Social Solidarity in East Asia (China, Korea, and Japan)?
 - What are the obstacles to Social Solidarity in East Asia (generally and during the COVID-19 pandemic)?
 - What are the roles (and actions) of social work educators (and students) to overcome these obstacles and foster Social Solidarity?
 - How can social work education teach and foster Social Solidarity despite restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic?
- The three country reports (20 min each) will be followed by discussion and Q & A (30 min)

References

- IASSW, ICSW & IFSW (2020) *Press Release – Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development*, International Association of Schools of Social Work, International Council for Social Welfare & International Federation of Social Workers.
- IASSW, ICSW & IFSW (2020) *Strengthening the Global Agenda 2020-2030 during the Global Pandemic Crisis and Beyond: Revised Global Consultation*, International Association of Schools of Social Work, International Council for Social Welfare & International Federation of Social Workers.

COUNTRY REPORT: KOREA

Jung-won Lim

Kangnam University

Dr. Jung-won Lim is a Professor at the College of Social Welfare, Kangnam University. She is also the Director of the university's Institute of Research on Future Welfare Convergence and the Executive Director of the Korean Psycho-Oncology Society. Formerly, she worked at Case Western Reserve University as an Assistant Professor and as a Research Fellow at the City of Hope National Medical Center. Her research interests are cancer survivorship and welfare technology.

COUNTRY REPORT: JAPAN

Junko Wake

Tokyo Metropolitan University

Dr. Junko Wake is a Professor at Tokyo Metropolitan University. She is Vice President of the Japanese Association of Social Work Education and the National Representative for Japan to the Board of IASSW. She also serves as Vice President of the Japanese Society for the Study of Social Welfare and on the Board of the Japanese Society for the Study of Social Work. Her areas of interest are social work with the elderly and international social work.

COUNTRY REPORT: CHINA

Joshua Shen

Shanghai Normal University

Dr. Joshua Shen is an Associate Professor and the Director of the Master of Social Work Program at Shanghai Normal University. He is the Deputy Director and Secretary-General of the Social Work Supervision Committee of the China Association of Social Work Education and the Director of the Social Work Ethics Committee of the Shanghai Association of Social Workers. His research interests focus on social work ethics and social work supervision.

DISCUSSION AND Q & A

Takashi Fujioka

Japan College of Social Work

APASWE Treasurer

Viktor Virag

Nagasaki International University

APASWE Board Member

FOUR ISSUES IN THE WEBINAR

- How do we define Social Solidarity in East Asia (China, Korea, and Japan)?
- What are the obstacles to Social Solidarity in East Asia (generally and during the COVID-19 pandemic)?
- What are the roles (and actions) of social work educators (and students) to overcome these obstacles and foster Social Solidarity?
- How can social work education teach and foster Social Solidarity despite restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic?

CONCLUDING COMMENTS AND CLOSING REMARKS

Zulkarnain Hatta

Lincoln University College

APASWE President