World Social Work Day Special Edition E-Update

Make plans to recognize & advocate for the social service workforce

Join in activities, celebrate accomplishments and advocate for greater support on World Social Work Day, March 15, and throughout the month of March. In many countries, March is Social Work Month — an entire month dedicated to recognizing the essential role of this frontline workforce in meeting the unique needs of children, families, vulnerable adults and communities across the globe.

World Social Work Day was launched by the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) in 1983 and other social service organizations have since joined as partners and advocates. It is celebrated annually on the second Tuesday in March. For our network, we encourage you to celebrate and recognize all social service workers.

2022 Theme

This year’s theme: ‘Co-building a New Eco-Social World: Leaving No One Behind’ coincides with the theme of the People’s Summit, of which the Global Social Service Workforce Alliance is a
confidence for all people and the sustainability of the planet.

In the build-up to this summit, this year’s World Social Work Day 2022 will be a key opportunity to bring together all social work networks and the communities they work with to start to give voice to the values and principles which will enable all people to have their dignity respected as part of this vision of a new eco-social world.

Learn more about the People’s Summit and how to submit your contribution to the discussion.

World Social Work Day/Month Events

The Alliance has curated a list of events happening across the globe in celebration of World Social Work Day/Month. Continue to check the World Social Work Day page of our website for new listings. Have an event that is not listed? Please contact our Communication and Advocacy Manager.

[WEBINAR] Effective Deployment of Social Service Workers in Schools and Health Care Facilities | 15 March, 8-9:30am (EDT)

The Global Social Service Workforce Alliance will be co-hosting a webinar with USAID on World Social Work Day titled: Effective Deployment of Social Service Workers in Schools and Health Care Facilities. Through a panel of global and country-level speakers, we will 1) examine the diverse roles of social service workers located in schools and health care facilities; 2) exchange learning on how the social service workforce can work most effectively when located in such community settings; and 3) provide recommended strategies and interventions for strengthening the social service workforce within such settings.

During the webinar, the Alliance will also be releasing our latest technical note, developed in collaboration with UNICEF, on the essential role and function of social service workers in schools.

Learn more and register.

British Association of Social Work: World Social Work Month

BASW national teams will each be leading a week of events and activities throughout the month of March. Continue checking their event listing for

Social Work England will be featuring an exclusive mix of renowned speakers, panel discussions and workshops from 14 to 18 March. Learn more.

No-one Left Behind: Climate Change and Social Work | 10 March 2022, 12:00-1:30pm (UTC)

The British Association of Social Work will host this session to look at the impact of climate change for social work at a local and international level. Learn more and register.

Social Work Day at the UN: Moving Toward Food Security for All: The Role of Social Work | 15 March 2022, 12-2pm (EDT)

This Zoom event is hosted by Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service, Rutgers University School of Social Work and Monmouth University School of Social Work. Learn more and register.

World Social Work Day: An International Commemoration | 15 March 2022, 9:30am-12pm (GMT)

This joint webinar is hosted by the following partners: International Association of the Schools of Social Work (IASSW), The University of Edinburgh (Scotland), Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Kerala, India), University of Johannesburg (South Africa), Makerere University (Uganda), and the Association of the Schools of Social Work in Africa (ASSWA). Learn more and register.

Exploring the Intersection Between the SDGs, Social Work and the New Eco-social World | 15 March 2022, 8-9pm (AEDT)

This online event, hosted by the Australian Association of Social Workers, will feature a 60-minute panel that will explore social work practice in the emerging consciousness of sustainability, ecoism and people. It features distinguished panelists from the International Federation of Social Workers. Learn more and register.

IPAN World Social Work day: Transforming Today for a Better Tomorrow | 15 March, 1-2:30 (EDT)

In this webinar, hosted by the International Parent Advocacy Network, speakers from Canada,
to its original values: social justice, empowerment and hope. Learn more and register.

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**Social Work and the Family: Co-Building a new Eco-social World | 15 March, 2-5pm (MYT)**

The Malaysian Association of Social Workers will hold a forum to bring together professionals to discuss challenges and gaps and propose solutions to ensure the family remains the eco-system to ensure total well-being of the family. Learn more and register.

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**International Conference on Social Work & Sciences - Towards One Health & Sustainable Development 2022 | 13th, 15th and 20th March 2022**

Sri Holistic Health Foundation India (SHHFI) will host the ‘International Conference on Social Work & Sciences – Towards One Health & Sustainable Development 2022’ as part of Social Work Month, Social Work Week & Social Work Day. Learn more and register.

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**East Africa Social Work Regional Resource Center Online Celebration | 15 March 2022, 11:30am-1:30pm (CAT)**

The East Africa Social Work Regional Resource Center will be holding an online celebration via Zoom. They are also looking for submissions in 50 words or fewer on the theme: ‘What does an Eco-Social World: Leaving No One Behind mean to you?’ that will be published on their website and social media. Learn more.

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**Positioning Social Work in an Eco-Social World: Building New Partnerships and Alliances | 16 March 2022, 11am-4pm (GMT)**

By focusing on partnerships and alliances, the 2022 celebration of World Social Work Day at the United Nations in Geneva will contribute to the conversation on the values and proposals of different groups and communities for building a new eco-social world. At the heart of the discussion will be the transformative potential of social work in striving towards a new eco-social world that is inclusive of all people. The event is open to international civil servants, social workers, students and interested individuals. Participation is free of charge. Learn more and
Advocacy Materials

Be sure to advocate for greater support of and funding for the social service workforce on World Social Work Day as well as in the months and years to come. The Alliance has numerous tools and resource to assist in all of your advocacy efforts. The following advocacy materials, specific to World Social Work Day/Month, are also available.

IFSW Poster
The global poster from IFSW with this year’s theme is available in 55+ languages. All are welcome to co-brand the poster by adding their logo alongside the IFSW logo. Access the poster.

National Association of Social Workers Toolkit
The National Association of Social Workers in the United States has developed a toolkit of materials for Social Work Month, including social media posts, proclamations for sign on, a sample press release and a sample letter to the editor. Use the items in the toolkit to celebrate and advocate for all social service workers.

If your association or organization is developing materials, please contact our Communication and Advocacy Manager.

Other ways to get involved

Donate to the Alliance
With your support, the Global Social Service Workforce Alliance can continue to bring attention to and build support for the social service workforce and provide the knowledge, evidence and tools necessary for a well-supported workforce. Donate today!

Follow Us
Throughout March we will be sharing event updates, advocacy messages and other material on our website and on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter. Follow and use these hashtags to join in the conversation: #WSWD2022, #NewEcoSocialWorld and #leavesnoonebehind.

Share Content
Are you planning an event or developing promotional materials? Let us know so we can share widely with this network. We are also anxious to receive updates following events to share messages, photos and outcomes. Highlights from prior years can be viewed on our website.

Encourage colleagues to become Alliance members
Increasing and diversifying our membership allows us to continue to build a movement to strengthen and advocate for the social service workforce.
Join the Alliance

Not yet a member of the Alliance? We have over 3,000 members across nearly 150 countries who have joined us to support the work of strengthening the social service workforce. Register to become a member.