



Update from the Global Social Service Workforce Alliance

## Celebrating World Social Work Day

Marked annually on the third Tuesday of March, World Social Work Day will be celebrated this year on **March 17, 2020**. The day is an opportunity to celebrate achievements made possible by social workers globally, as well as advocate for greater planning, development and support to this vital workforce. This year's theme is "Promoting the Importance of Human Relationships."

[Download the poster and advocacy materials](#), [review the list of events](#) planned globally and

share with us your event plans so that we can share them widely in a dedicated email message on World Social Work Day. The Alliance will also be releasing the key messages developed the Alliance's Advocacy and Outreach Interest Group for increasing funding and support from donors and policymakers, media and the general public, and others working with social services.



## Upcoming E-updates

The Alliance will soon be posting several job and consultancy opportunities. We will also be sending a dedicated email on World Social Work Day. Please keep an eye out for these messages.



**Welcome New Members**

## Member Contributions

### Blog: Achieving Equal Rights for Women and Girls

In celebration of International Women's Day on March 8, we share this past blog on why the [Global Goals Require Gender Equality and a Strong Social Service Workforce](#).

Molly Fitzgerald at Plan International advocates that a stronger workforce is better equipped to address and advance the Sustainable Development Goal agenda, including SDG5 dedicated to ending discrimination against women and girls. SDG 5 sets specific targets around social welfare including: the protection against violence and harmful practices including child, early and forced marriage; assurances for access to sexual and reproductive health services; and equal and full participation in economic, political and public life. These inequalities also place a heavy burden on the social service workforce. Yet, as vital members of the community, social service workforce help women and girls recognize and fully achieve equal rights. [Read how](#).



### New Interest Group on Supervision

The Alliance's new Interest Group on Supervision held an initial planning call last week to begin narrowing down specific topics for further discussion and work. Members interested in sharing expertise, learning from colleagues, contributing resources and participating in group discussion calls on the topic of supervision are invited to join. There are currently 50 members. Call notes, survey and future call dates will be shared with group members. It is necessary to first register as a member of the Alliance to be able to join the group. [Learn more about Alliance interest groups and the Interest Group on Supervision](#).

## Share Input into Global Surveys

### IASSW Census

The International Association of Schools of Social Work is seeking input into the census of schools of social work from

The Alliance network has surpassed 2,500 members across 141 countries. [Invite a colleague to join](#).



### International Events and Global Observances

Read how cadres of the social service workforce are celebrated for their work in these areas, then make local plans to celebrate their achievements:

**March 17**

[World Social Work Day](#)

**April 7**

[World Health Day / World Health Worker Week](#)

**May 15**

[International Day of Families](#)



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several countries without responses. If you have contacts within these countries who could provide input on local social work degree programs, please encourage them to respond to the [online survey](#) by March 31.

Countries with no or few responses include: Afghanistan; Algeria; Andorra; Antigua and Barbuda; Azerbaijan; Bahamas; Bahrain; Belarus; Bhutan; Brunei; Burkina Faso; Cambodia; Cameroon; Cape Verde; Central African Republic; Chad; Comoros; Congo; Congo, Republic of; Cuba; Djibouti; Dominica; Dominican Republic; El Salvador; Equatorial Guinea; Eritrea; Fiji; Gabon; Gambia; Georgia; Grenada; Guinea; Haiti; Honduras; Iraq; Ivory Coast; Jamaica; Kazakhstan; Kuwait; Laos; Liberia; Liechtenstein; Luxembourg; Madagascar; Maldives; Malawi; Malta; Mali; Marshall Islands; Mauritania; Mauritius; Micronesia; Moldova; Monaco; Montenegro; Morocco; Mozambique; Nauru; Niger; North Korea; Oman; Palau; Palestine; Papua New Guinea; Qatar; Saint Kitts and Nevis; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent & the Grenadines; Samoa; San Marino; Sao Tome and Principe; Saudi Arabia; Seychelles; Sierra Leone; Sint Maarten; Solomon Islands; South Korea; South Sudan; Sudan; Suriname; Syria; Tajikistan; Thailand; Timor-Leste; Togo; Tonga; Tunisia; Turkmenistan; Tuvalu; Uzbekistan; Vanuatu; Vietnam

## ChildHub Learning Needs Survey

The Child Protection Hub of South East Europe is seeking responses to their Learning Needs Survey as they seek to determine needs and interest in future courses. The survey consists of seven brief questions and can be provided online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XNLFRRB>.

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## Resources

Check out these new resources from across the network that have recently been added to our online library:

### Workforce Planning Resources

[The Social Service Workforce in the East Asia and Pacific Region: A multi-country review](#)

The purpose of the multi-country review, undertaken by UNICEF East Asia and the Pacific Regional Office and the

Global Social Service Workforce Alliance, is to provide an overview of the current status of social service workforces in the region and to identify good and promising practices for workforce strengthening, in order to inform advocacy, legal, policy and strategy development, and investment. The report presents the size, scope and structure of the social service



workforce, efforts to strengthen the workforce through policy development, legislative reform, professionalization, education and training, and steps to strengthen the child protection system in 15 countries in East Asia and the Pacific: in-depth review - Cambodia, Indonesia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam; desk review - Fiji, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, and Vanuatu. The report highlights the unique aspects of each country's workforce, identifies progress, challenges and gaps, and presents factors that countries may consider when engaging in social service workforce strengthening.

### [ASEAN Regional Workshop on Social Service Workforce Strengthening](#)

An overview of global standards, current status of social work, legislation and policies that exist, financial needs and a declaration for next steps.

## Supervision and Mentoring Resources

### [Child Protection Case Management Supervision and Coaching Training Package](#)

This package of tools is intended to increase case management supervisors' confidence, capacity and support to caseworkers to provide safe, ethical and competent case management services to vulnerable children and their families. It has been developed over two years through several country pilots and includes videos, a fact sheet, facilitator's guide and several modules of learning.

### [M'Lop Tapang Staff Supervision Policy and Guidelines](#)

M'Lop Tapang recognizes that supervision is an essential component of quality social work services for children and families. This document is intended to define supervision that is available and ensure it is available to all social service workers for professional development, training and quality purposes.

#### [A Manual for Comprehensive Supportive Supervision and Mentoring on HIV and AIDS Health Services](#)

This manual is intended to define supportive supervision and mentoring, offer guidelines for setting up a national supportive supervision system and the structure of the system, and detail the mentoring process in the context of HIV and AIDS service delivery.

#### [Building a Model and Framework for Child Welfare Supervision](#)

Tasked with examining the responsibilities and needs of supervisory staff to develop an organizational framework to support effective child welfare supervision, authors developed this resource as a roadmap for agency leaders as they think through ways to build and sustain effective child welfare supervision in their agencies.

#### [Standards for Employers of Social Workers in England and Supervision Framework](#)

These standards and the framework set out the shared core expectations of employers which will enable social workers in all employment settings to work effectively. The Standards and Framework build upon existing tools and are intended to inform the revised inspection frameworks that will be aligned to this developing approach to public service regulation.

#### [Strengthening Child Welfare Supervision](#)

This article highlights the steps four states within the United States have taken in supporting their supervisory staff and shares direct interviews with supervisors.

## **Child Protection Resources**

#### [What Works to Prevent Sexual Abuse Against Children](#)

Response and support services including services by social service workers for counseling, foster care and child protection, are among the main success factors in preventing and addressing all forms of violence against children, including sexual abuse, as this review shows.

[Humanitarian - Development Nexus and Child Protection:  
Sharing responsibility for children's protection – addressing  
risks and vulnerabilities through cohesive partnerships](#)

This paper reviews some of the challenges we can expect to face in the near future from conflict, extreme weather events, poverty and population growth and suggests that humanitarian response alone will be unable to sufficiently meet those challenges. It looks at the history of the "nexus" concept and presents ways in which this approach can strengthen and transform humanitarian child protection.

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