GLOBAL AGENDA FOR SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

IASSW, IFSW, ICSW REPORT: THEME ONE (2020-2022)

Ubuntu: Strengthening Social Solidarity and Global Connectedness

Preamble: Ubuntu has been popularised across the world by Nelson Mandela and is generally interpreted as meaning 'I am because we are'. A word, concept and philosophy that resonates with the social work and social development perspectives of the interconnectedness of all peoples and their environments. Ubuntu also highlights indigenous knowledge and wisdom and we invite all nations and populations to use an equivalent word or concept that speaks to your culture in promoting this theme: 'Ubuntu: I am because we are'.

We invite inputs from IASSW, IFSW and ICSW for the regional reports on the Ubuntu theme (2020-2022) for the Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development. Connect with your regional facilitator/coordinator to hear what events are planned collectively for the region. Individual submissions to the regional facilitator/coordinator are also welcomed:

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North America and Caribbean Region: Darla Coffey   dcoffey@cswe.org
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Data must be collected and reported on the following questions:

1. How do the principles of Ubuntu impact on social work and social development professionals' thinking and actions to facilitate social transformation?
2. How has Ubuntu been applied over the past two years to maximise inclusivity and linking the active participation of all voices, particularly those often marginalised in activities and programmes in social work practice, education, and social development?
3. What are we learning from the use of the principles of Ubuntu to connect indigenous / local populations with a global world?

REGIONAL PROCEDURES

Regions will decide on their approach and event(s) to collect data on the progress made with implementing Ubuntu over the past two years. In principle, the overarching approach is to be as inclusive as possible to represent the social work educators, partitioners, and policy makers as best as possible across the region and sub-regions.

The regional reports are a collective effort on regional level by IASSW, IFSW and ICSW to plan the data collection approach and event(s). The facilitator/coordinator will be the person that makes sure that the data is collected, documented, and submitted to the Global Agenda Taskforce.

The emphasis of the regional reports is on determining the **progress** that has been made in social work practice, education, and policy thus far one Ubuntu in strengthening social solidarity and connecting in the region and globally. The Ubuntu theme is ongoing and integrated in the second and forthcoming themes of the Global Agenda. Hence, the emphasis is on progress made.

STRUCTURE OF REGIONAL REPORTS

The regional reports must be brief and only 3 – 5 pages; in Arial, 11 font, single spacing.

The format should include:

Region:

Data collection method(s):

Responses to questions: [See full questions above; the following headings are more brief versions (which could be even reduced more by regions, as long as the content covers the questions).]

- Impact of principles of Ubuntu on social work and social development professionals' thinking and actions to facilitate social transformation.
- Application of Ubuntu to maximise inclusivity and active participation in activities and programmes in social work practice, education, and social development.

- Lessons learnt from the use of the principles of Ubuntu to connect indigenous / local populations with a global world.

Conclusion(s) [In a nutshell, what stands out in the region on theme one]

Recommendation(s) [Based on the experience, suggestion for reporting on the next GA theme]

Coordinator and core organising team: [Name and global body]

Date:

Timeline for regional reports

Data collection should be completed by the first week in June to enable submission to the Global Agenda Taskforce by 10 June 2022:

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On behalf of the Global Agenda Task Force [IASSW; IFSW; ICSW]

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