GLOBAL COOPERATION NEWSLETTER
April 2010

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2010 Joint World Conference on Social Work and Social Development: The Agenda

Registrations have hit 2,500 which exceed the expectations of the Hong Kong hosts and the conference owners - International Association of Schools of Social Work, International Federation of Social Workers and ICSW.

Discussion is now occurring with speakers who are preparing their papers. The conference includes important reflections as well as looking to the future. A speaker from Uruguay will reflect on neo-liberalism as it impacted on Latin America and damaged social inclusion. China is intriguing to many of us so this will be the opportunity to hear of developments in that country which has a vast and expanding welfare sector. There is much, much more that you can see on the conference website.

ICSW acknowledges the contribution of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland to enable key civil society participants from Africa and South Asia to attend the conference.

The idea of the joint world conference has been a success. It has placed great demands on the secretariats of IASSW, ICSW and IFSW but it is bringing together some of the most influential people in social welfare, social work and social development.

Visit the website to see what you will be missing if you do not register and attend www.swsd2010.org.

After the conference concludes on 14th June the ICSW General Assembly meets. The day after (15th June) the newly elected Board of ICSW meets.

South-South Cooperation: The Same Old Game or a New Paradigm?

The International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC-IG) has launched its new Poverty in Focus magazine which presents eleven innovative articles discussing the current state-of-art of South-South Cooperation, perspectives for the future and their development impact and the growing presence of the emerging countries in the international cooperation scenario. A central issue raised in the magazine is whether South-South cooperation represents a chance for re-shaping the cooperation practice and discourse, putting at the centre the development needs and challenges of the countries in our developing world.

Download the magazine at: **http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCPovertyInFocus20.pdf**.

Featured articles:

- How did we get here? The pathways of South-South Cooperation, by Michelle Morais de Sá e Silva
- In Between a Rock and Hard Place: LDCs in a G20 World, by Paul Ladd
- South-South Cooperation: Potential Benefits for the Least Developed Countries, by Kamal Malhotra

- Post-Liberal Regionalism: S-S Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean, by Antonio Sanahuja's
- The Challenges Confronting South-South Trade, by Aileen Kwa
- South-South Cooperation: Moving Towards a new Aid Dynamic, by Penny Davies
- Beyond Best Practices, by Francisco Simplico
- IBSA: South-South Cooperation or Trilateral Diplomacy in World Affairs? by Daniel Flemes
- South-South Relations: Sino-African Engagement and Cooperation, by Hayley Herman
- South-South Cooperation in Post-Conflict Sierra Leone, by Herbert McLeod and Fatmata Sesay Kebbay
- South-South Cooperation: The Same Old Game or a New Paradigm? by Melissa Andrade.

Why does the USA spend so much more on health than other countries?

This submission by the OECD to the US Senate Select Committee on Aging is a very clear and insightful discussion on the financing of US health care. While we all know that American health care is expensive this paper adds to our understanding of why. The paper discusses why the government spends more on health than nearly anything else; and why this level of spending is nothing to do with ageing and health status. It identifies key cost drivers including the cost of same-day surgery which is high and growing rapidly. Pharmaceutical prices are 30-50% higher than in the rest of the OECD and hospital services are particularly expensive. Physicians are paid significantly more than in other countries. Administrative costs are high. www.oecd.org/dataoecd/5/34/43800977.pdf

UN Civil Society Network

UN Under-Secretary-General Sha Zukang (keynote speaker in Hong Kong) has advised ICSW that the NGO Branch of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) is responding to the need to engage with NGOs worldwide on a wide range of issues on the United Nation's development agenda. To help this engagement UNDESA has created a knowledge-based, open networking platform called **CSO Net - the Civil Society Network.** The aim is to: share and promote best practices in the field of economic and social development; establish innovative and collaborative development solutions; facilitate partnerships among the users of the portal; and promote interactive discussions through online forums on issues of immediate relevance to the UN's agenda. This portal can be accessed at http://www.un.org/ecosoc/csonet.

International Social Work (ISW) Journal

Sage publications have sent ICSW, a partner in the ISW journal, the results for 2009. Downloads reached 113,841, up 18% from 2008. This compares favourably with the average number (90,000) of downloads for SAGE social work and social policy journals. The most-downloaded article in 2009 was Cree, V.E. 'Confronting sex trafficking: lessons from history' (published Nov 2008) with 1,671 full-text downloads. The number of registrants for the "tables of content alert" reached 4,545 by the end of 2009. You can sign up for this service by going to: http://isw.sagepub.com/current.dtl.
The most-cited article published since 2002 is Hare, I. 'Defining social work for the 21st century - The International Federation of Social Workers' revised definition of social work' (published in 2004) with 20 citations.
On circulation, consortia access increased to 1,784 institutions in 2009, there were 476 traditional library subscriptions in 2009. Developing world sales mean that 3,500 institutions have access to ISW at no or low cost.
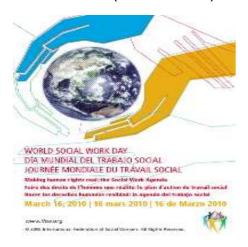
World Bank Social Development Notes

The World Bank has a series of interesting short papers on various social development subjects. Recent ones include: *Forced displacement* and *Making societies more resilient to violence – a conceptual framework for the conflict, crime and violence agenda*. More information at
http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTSOCIALDEVELOPMENT/0,,contentMDK:22291659~menuPK:1304620~pagePK:210058~piPK:210062~theSitePK:244363,00.html.

United Nations Social Work Day

Right to left: Helen Clark (head of the UN Development Programme), Gary Bailey (Commissioner of the IFSW Policy Advocacy and Representation Commission), Fiona Robertson (IFSW Treasurer)

Helen Clark of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) called on social workers to speak up and get involved with the UN agendas and to challenge inequality and injustice.

'There are so many complementarities and synergies between the UN agenda and the work of social workers; we must find better ways to work together', said Helen Clark, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the third most senior person in the UN structure and the most senior woman. She was speaking to 400 social workers and social work students at the annual UN Social Work Day on 29 March 2010.

Helen Clark urged social workers and their organisations to become more involved in advocacy, campaigning to challenge inequality and injustice. 'It is clear that no change in the world is likely to happen by relying on governments alone. The UN has to actively link with the movers and shakers who make things happen, including the professionals on the ground. This must include the social workers who are working at local community level.

Helen Clark referred to the huge challenges facing the world to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. There have been improvements but the world is a long way from achieving these goals. She commented that social workers are playing a major role in supporting work to achieve the MDGs.

The session was opened by Christian Rollet (ICSW President), David N Jones (IFSW President) and Helle Strauss (Secretary, IASSW).

They spoke about the determination of the three global organisations to work in partnership to ensure that the messages from social work and social development practice are brought together to develop a new social agenda for the next decade.

On the days before UN Social Work Day the Presidents and Executive Directors of IASSW, IFSW and ICSW met to plan the 2010 conference in Hong Kong and the 2012 joint world conference in Stockholm. Already the call for bids for the 2014 conference is underway - bids close in May. The three organisations are committed to "The Agenda" process which starts in Hong Kong. ICSW's key agenda is the Social Protection Floor Initiative.

International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC-IG) publications

Low-Cost technologies toward achieving the Millennium Development Goals: the case of rainwater harvesting, by Christian Lehmann, Raquel Tsukada and Acácio Lourete, highlights the contribution of a low-cost water supply strategy for a number of the MDGs. Available from: http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCPolicyResearchBrief12.pdf.

Green jobs for the poor: why a Public Employment approach is needed now, prepared by Maikel Lieuw-Kie-Song and Radhika Lal. This one-pager outlines an economic rationale for promoting types of "green jobs" and the case for adopting a "public employment" approach in this regard. http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCOnePager105.pdf.

[Trends in South-South Cooperation](http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCOnePager103.pdf), by Michelle L. Chang discusses the trends and pressing issues in the context of South-South Cooperation and one pagers.
http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCOnePager103.pdf.

[Sustainable Agriculture: way out of food poverty,](http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCOnePager104.pdf) by Tuya Altangerel highlights lessons from various developing countries. http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCOnePager104.pdf.

Assessing Administrative Capacity and Costs of Cash Transfer Schemes in Zambia
Author: Dennis Kaputo Chiwele Series: Country Study # 20
Download: http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCCountryStudy20.pdf

Book: Collection of "One Pagers". Author: International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (IPC-IG)
Series: One Pagers. Download: http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCOnePagerBook.pdf.
In response to popular demand, the IPC prepared this book which contains the ninety-nine 'One Pagers' produced by the Centre. http://www.ipc-undp.org.

UNRISD Papers
Migration and Poverty: Linkages, Knowledge Gaps and Policy Implications.
This paper explores the links between migration and poverty and their implications for social policy. It argues that research on linkages between migration and poverty can, and should, start with knowledge about poverty itself: what it is, what causes it, what reduces it, poor people's agency as well as constraints, and so on. Cut and paste URL-
http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BF3C2/setLanguageCookie?OpenAgent&langcode=en&url=/80256B3C005BCCF9/search/82DCDCF510459B36C12575F400474040?OpenDocument

Claiming and Framing in the Making of Care Policies: The Recognition and Redistribution of Care. This paper seeks to understand how care policies are shaped. It looks at the dynamic between how constituencies make care claims and the ways in which care policies are constructed and delivered in different national, regional and historical contexts. The focus is mainly on child care policies for working parents in Europe, but the purview also includes policies for disabled people and unpaid carers. Cut and paste URL-
http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BF3C2/setLanguageCookie?OpenAgent&langcode=en&url=/80256B3C005BCCF9/search/3142494FBCFE632FC12575F50029211D?OpenDocument

Business, Corporate Responsibility, and Poverty
This paper was prepared by Michael Blowfield, Senior Research Fellow at Oxford University's Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, Teaching Fellow in corporate responsibility at London Business School, and Visiting Professor in corporate responsibility at Middlesex University Business School. Cut and paste URL-
http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BF3C2/setLanguageCookie?OpenAgent&langcode=en&url=/80256B3C005BCCF9/search/2E9F30F0CB36323BC12575E000295B2F?OpenDocument

The Least Developed Countries Report 2009
The UNCTAD Civil Society Outreach Team has released the UNCTAD LDC report 2009, or follow the link:
http://www.unctad.org/Templates/WebFlyer.asp?intItemID=4955&lang=1.

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ICSW C/- MOVISIE Netherlands Centre for Social Development
PO Box 19129
3501 DC Utrecht
Netherlands
Website www.icsw.org Email: icsw@icsw.org
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