



GLOBAL COOPERATION NEWSLETTER **May 2010**

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2010 Joint World Conference on social work and social development: *The Agenda*

ICSW, IASSW and IFSW are working together not only on the conference but also on building the social work and social development *Agenda* for the next decade. The action *Agenda* for social work and social development for the next decade aims to create synergies in civil society to create a global agenda for people-centred sustainable social development.

ICSW has prepared three policy papers. The briefs are:

The global financial crisis,

The social protection floor initiative, and

Human trafficking

Available from the ICSW website under 'Coming Global Events':

<http://www.icsw.org/globalev/globalev.htm>.

The International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) is contributing three papers to *The Agenda* process. They are:

Service user/consumer involvement and social work,

Poverty eradication: the role of social work, and

Ageing and older adults.

Available from: <http://www.ifsw.org/p38001915.html>.

The International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW) has prepared three papers on:

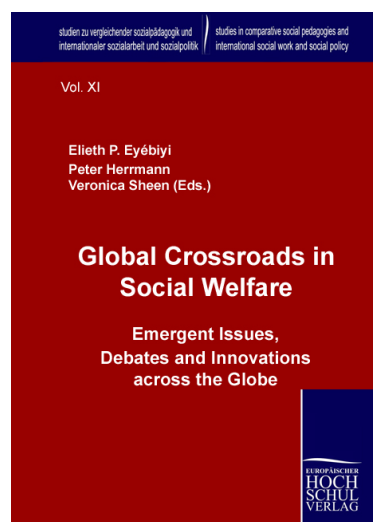
Youth issues and social work,

Disability and mental health, and

Disaster interventions.

Available from: http://www.iassw-aiets.org/conference_guestbook.php.

New book - Global crossroads in social welfare: emergent issues, debates and innovations across the globe



This new volume brings together a cross-section of papers presented at the 33rd International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW) conference in Tours, France, in July 2008. The volume provides a window into the conference themes through original papers by individuals working across disparate national settings as well as commentaries from the editors. It offers great insight into the multiplicity of ways that nations and communities are responding to the challenges of globalisation as well as internal demands for greater social justice and equality mechanisms for civil society. To obtain the book go to www.socialcomparison.org and click "volumes" or Amazon.

http://www.amazon.de/Global-Crossroads-Social-Welfare-Innovations/dp/3941482777/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books-intl-de&qid=1274360393&sr=1-1.

The book will also be available to Hong Kong conference participants for half the retail price and will be on display at the ICSW stand at the conference. For further information contact the editors: eelieth@yahoo.fr, herrmann@esosoc.eu, or vsheen@fastmail.com.au.

Civil Society Statement to the 2009 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting

The Commonwealth Foundation is distributing the Port of Spain Civil Society Statement to the 2009 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting. The statement can be obtained by visiting:

http://www.cfc2010.org/downloads/CPF_2009_Final_Statement.pdf.

The Port of Spain Statement is a powerful document that can help the whole Commonwealth work toward a more transparent and sustainable future. Further information can be obtained from Marcie Shaoul, Communications Manager, Commonwealth Foundation: m.shaoul@commonwealth.int.

The 2010 edition of the African Economic Outlook (AEO)



The *2010 African Economic Outlook* was launched at the African Development Bank's annual meeting in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire on 24th May 2010. This year's edition finds the continent reeling from the effects of the world's deepest and most widespread recession in half a century. Many countries are at risk of falling far off track to achieving the Millennium Development Goal of halving extreme poverty and hunger by 2015. The good news is that the region has proved remarkably resilient to the downturn. Average growth is expected to rebound in 2010 and 2011, although the recession will leave its mark. The *2010 African Economic Outlook* is online at: <http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en/>.

Has the IMF abandoned neo-liberalism?

<http://www.soas.ac.uk/cdpr/publications/dv/file58920.pdf>

In this neat two-pager, Terry McKinley, Director of the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London concludes that: "despite having recently raised expectations about reforms in its fundamental policy stance, the IMF remains a long way from jettisoning the neoliberal underpinnings of its governing macroeconomic framework".

Cluster munitions

The UK has become the 32nd country to ratify the Convention on Cluster Munitions (see <http://www.clusterconvention.org/>). The instrument of ratification was deposited at the UN in New York on 4th May 2010. The treaty will now enter into force for the UK on 1 November 2010. The Convention is recognised as one of the most significant disarmament treaties of recent years, prohibiting the use, production, transfer and stockpiling of cluster munitions. The Cluster Munitions (Prohibitions) Act 2010 (http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2010/ukpga_20100011_en_1) which received Royal Assent on 25 March 2010, implements the UK's international obligations under the treaty.

Black Sea policies

Democracy and good governance in the Black Sea Region

The fourth policy report of the Commission on the Black Sea on 'Democracy and Good Governance in the Black Sea Region' by Franz-Lothar Altmann, Johanna Deimel and Armando Garcia Schmidt has been released. Available from: <http://www.blackseacom.eu/policy-reports/>.

The authors assess the quality of the existing democratic institutions and identify common structures in the political and societal development of the Black Sea region by comparing ten countries: Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey, Greece (the consolidated west and south of the region); Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Moldova (the conflict-ridden states); and Russia and Ukraine. Based on this cross-national comparison the authors present a series of policy recommendations touching upon state aid and civil society support inter alia.

A 2020 vision for the Black Sea

The Commission has sought in this vision document to promote an inclusive strategy taking into account the needs, priorities and interests of all stakeholders in four essential areas: peace and security, economic development and welfare, democratic institutions and good governance and, finally, regional cooperation. The Commission has come to an understanding that the region's future lies in further democratisation and economic integration with the wider world. On civil society the Commission says: "The involvement of civil society in policy making and their linkages in relation to good governance should be encouraged. Efforts should also be made to facilitate cooperation between civil society organisations in Black Sea countries including the conflict regions. Business organisations such as chambers of commerce, employers' organisations and trade unions should also be encouraged to talk to one another in order to find and propose regional solutions for common problems".

The Commission on the Black Sea is a civil society initiative, jointly developed and launched in 2009 by the Bertelsmann Stiftung, Gütersloh; the Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation (BST - GMFUS), Bucharest; the Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey (TEPAV), Ankara; and the International Centre for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS), Athens. Among members of the Commission on the Black Sea are a former vice prime minister, former ministers, current and former parliamentarians, public intellectuals and scholars from the whole Black Sea region, the European Union and the United States.

New online directory of civil society organizations (CSOs)

The UN Civil Society and Outreach Unit have launched a new online directory of civil society organizations (CSOs). CSOs work in various fields of social development: poverty eradication, social integration, employment, youth, ageing, health, family, disability, indigenous peoples and cooperatives. The Directory is available online at: <http://social.un.org/ngodirectory> and will be available in a CD-ROM

format soon. For further information contact Mr. Amine Lamrabet at lamrabet@un.org.

New publications from the World Institute for Development Economics Research (UN WIDER)

Southern engines of global growth

Edited by Amelia U. Santos-Paulino and Guanghua Wan

http://www.wider.unu.edu/publications/books-and-journals/2010/en_GB/Southern-Engines-of-Global-Growth/.

The poor under globalization in Asia, Latin America and Africa

Edited by Machiko Nissanke and Erik Thorbecke

http://www.wider.unu.edu/publications/books-and-journals/2010/en_GB/poor-under-globalization-asia/.

World Development Special Issue: Globalization, poverty, and inequality in Latin America (forthcoming)

Guest Editors: Machiko Nissanke and Erik Thorbeck

http://www.wider.unu.edu/publications/books-and-journals/2010/en_GB/wd38_6/.

WIDER Working Papers

Urbanization and the South Asian enigma: a case study of India

Basudeb Guha-Khasnobis and K. S. James

http://www.wider.unu.edu/publications/working-papers/2010/en_GB/wp2010-37/.

The (evolving) role of agriculture in poverty reduction: an empirical perspective

Luc Christiaensen, Lionel Demery, and Jesper Kuhl

<http://ideas.repec.org/p/unu/wpaper/wp2010-36.html>.

Drivers of poverty reduction in lagging regions: evidence from rural Western China

Luc Christiaensen, Lei Pan, and Sangui Wang

<http://ideas.repec.org/p/unu/wpaper/wp2010-35.html>.

A model of destructive entrepreneurship

Sameeksha Desai, Zoltan Acs, and Utz Weitzel

<http://ideas.repec.org/p/unu/wpaper/wp2010-34.html>.

UNU Policy Briefs

Linking globalization to poverty in Asia, Latin America and Africa

Machiko Nissanke and Erik Thorbecke

<http://ideas.repec.org/p/unu/wpaper/pb2010-03.html>.

Promoting entrepreneurship in developing countries: policy challenges

Wim Naudé

<http://ideas.repec.org/p/unu/wpaper/pb2010-04.html>.

Information on all of WIDER's publications is available the WIDER website:

<http://www.wider.unu.edu/publications/>.

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