



**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF
SOCIAL WORKERS ASIA PACIFIC REGION
(IFSW-AP)**

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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS ASIA PACIFIC REGION (IFSW-AP) NEWSLETTER

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Summary Report of the 27th Asia Pacific Regional Conference

"The Sustainable Development Goals Halfway Point: Social Work's Contributions to Social Development."



The Asia Pacific Regional Conference, which was organized and hosted by The Philippines Association of Social Workers, Inc, successfully held in Cebu city, The Philippines from November 5 to 7, 2023, under the theme "The Sustainable Development Goals Halfway Point: Social Work's Contributions to Social Development." featured active discussions on sustainable development goals, perspectives, and the role of the social work profession. Over 1,000 participants from the host country and 18 member-nations of the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) engaged in dialogue through various sessions.

While the world has reached the midpoint of the SDGs, only 15% of the targets are on track, with many regressing. Challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, and conflicts are exacerbating impacts on food security, health, education, the environment, and peace. Nations face unique

obstacles, including conceptual barriers, lack of government prioritization, resource shortages, and data accessibility issues, underscoring the urgent need for social work's involvement in addressing these global challenges.

Social workers and their organizations are urged to intensify SDG implementation at the local level, focusing on reaching marginalized communities, fostering partnerships, and advocating for policy changes. The significance of social work to SDGs is evident, with 117 out of 169 targets aligning with social work practices, emphasizing the profession's pivotal role in achieving comprehensive and inclusive SDGs. It is clear that the role of social workers is key at any level of practice and they are in the best position to influence decision-making related to SDGs and other relevant concerns. Their training and understanding of ground realities can provide realistic and effective inputs for planning strategies and other strategic data needed for SDG implementation. Furthermore, the effectiveness of social work intervention can be enhanced by transformational leadership, where visionary leadership inspires and motivates individuals, teams, and organizations to advocate for systemic change and policy reforms aligned with SDG objectives.





Addressing disability issues, SDGs serve as a framework to guide all stakeholders at regional, national, and local community levels toward the achievement of disability-inclusive sustainable development. Key actions encouraged include mainstreaming disability in SDG implementation at all levels, ensuring the inclusion of persons with disabilities and their representatives in decision-making processes and policy implementation, empowering persons with disabilities and their families for self-advocacy, and providing resources, information, and support to enable them to effectively express their needs, rights, and concerns.



To advance towards achieving the SDGs, it has been emphasized that social workers could make a more critical contribution to society by facilitating sustainable social outcomes that enable people and their communities to reach their potential. The roles of social workers and other service professionals could be further strengthened to serve as Partnership builders (developing and implementing policies and programs, and establishing links with

professional and community groups); Innovators (stimulating mindset changes); Capacity builders, educators, trainers, and mentors; SDG Champions (linking global goals with national, local, and community realities and responses); Human rights defenders (advocating for social justice, gender equality, and child protection); Empowered social workers; and Researchers (implementing related work with evidence-based approaches).



Additionally, a variety of proposed strategies aimed at expediting the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been proposed. These strategies encompass the integration of SDGs into social work education, harnessing the potential of digital technology to enhance access and communication, fostering partnerships with the private sector to secure financing, and localizing SDGs to facilitate swift and effective implementation at the grassroots level. These initiatives collectively reflect a concerted effort to accelerate progress towards achieving the SDGs and address pressing global challenges through comprehensive and innovative approaches.

Highlighting the fundamental principles of "Leave no one behind" and "Unity in diversity," the conference brings to the forefront the crucial significance of partnership across global, national, and local spheres as the cornerstone for achieving success in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This emphasis underscores the imperative need for collaboration and cooperation among diverse stakeholders to ensure inclusivity and equitable progress towards realizing the SDGs' objectives on a comprehensive scale.

The IFSW-Asia Pacific Regional General Meeting

The IFSW-Asia Pacific Regional General Meeting took place on November 7, 2023, in Cebu City, Philippines, with representatives from 11 member countries and 2 observers from Indonesia and New Zealand.

A significant commission report presented was the disbandment of the Human Rights Commission due to a lack of clarity and direction. However, the Global Executive Committee will redefine its purpose for further discussion. Additionally, plans to enhance IFSW's presence at the UN and expand membership, with a focus on commemorating ESCAP's 80th anniversary and participating in high-level UN forums, were highlighted.

In the Global Agenda and Updates, there was a reaffirmation of the commitment to engage with UN Human Rights despite the pause in the Human Rights Commission. The importance of ongoing collaboration on social and educational issues, to be discussed further at the next Global General Meeting, was emphasized. Regarding the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, Palestine, efforts to issue relevant statements will continue, aiming for alignment across IFSW regions. Moreover, the launch of the Global Agenda theme for World Social Work Day 2024, "Buen Vivir," focusing on Shared Future for Transformative Change, was reported. It was also announced that the Sri Lankan Association of Social Workers will host the next Conference in Colombo, Sri Lanka.



During the presentation session of country member reports, each representative shared significant updates and initiatives. China discussed recent engagements, including a gathering in Shenzhen to address social work issues. Hong Kong reported the establishment of new chapters focusing on mental health and ethnically diverse social work, along with initiatives such as a hotline support, podcasts, and collaborations with neighborhood centers. India announced an upcoming international conference in Chennai in February 2024. Japan highlighted efforts to address child abuse, enhance support systems, and advocate for children's rights through collaboration with agencies and system improvements. Malaysia outlined initiatives such as curriculum mapping, addressing migration-related issues, and promoting indigenous knowledge in social work practice. New Zealand highlighted achievements such as the ratification on pay equity against male-dominated professions and plans for its 60th anniversary, with a focus on indigenous social work. South Korea addressed issues tackled by the KASW's new executive committee and plans to raise awareness of social work in the upcoming general election. And Thailand provided updates on collaborations with UNICEF and the organization of World Social Work Day 2023.



Pre-conference Workshop



The Pre-conference Workshop entitled "Disaster Preparedness, Mitigation, and Rehabilitation: Social Work Perspective"

The Pre-conference Workshop entitled "Disaster Preparedness, Mitigation, and Rehabilitation: Social Work Perspective" took place on November 4, 2023, in Cebu City, Philippines, gathering 70 delegates from more than 15 IFSW-AP country members. The session commenced with an introduction by the IFSW-AP Vice President, followed by a welcome message from the PASWI National President, and a speech by the workshop Chairperson and Moderator. This was succeeded by presentations from three distinguished speakers representing Indonesia, Japan, and the Philippines, respectively, who delved into social work interventions in disaster relief efforts across different nations.



Following a short break, the delegates participated in group discussions for approximately 30 minutes. They addressed questions concerning the value, role, and significance of social work in disaster relief efforts, as well as the critical competencies required by social workers in this field. Additionally, they discussed how IFSW-AP could offer support for such endeavors, shared knowledge and skills acquired during the workshop applicable to their workplaces, and exchanged any other relevant thoughts for discussion and sharing.

Subsequently, each group presented its views and recommendations, with the moderator, Rose Henderson, summarizing their points and concluding the workshop.

Message from the President

IFSW-AP Conference an extraordinary success in the Philippines



As President, I would like to thank PASWI for hosting the 27th Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in Cebu City, Philippines in November 2023.

In particular, I would like to thank President Rosauro Luntayao and Eva Ponce de Leon and the PASWI Board of Directors for accepting IFSW-AP's conference proposal and making the conference a success. I would also like to express my sincere thanks to Joachim Mumba, President of IFSW, and Pascal Rudin for their participations. Theme was "The Sustainable Development Goals Halfway Point: Social Work's Contributions to Social Development".

The conference also provided delegates with new knowledge, skills, and attitudes. Most important of all was the view that leaders are made, not born. This requires new insights into communication skills, networking skills, leadership, initiative, innovation, and critical competencies.

The SDGs were discussed extensively and intensively, which satisfied the participants and fulfilled their expectations. They also recognized that given the current situation for the Asia-Pacific region in which we live, efforts will be needed to achieve any of the 17 SDGs agendas for 2030.

Happy World Social Work Day 2024!

I am grateful and proud to be a member of IFSW and to see the efforts of those involved in social work for social justice, peace and equality in India. Also, I understand that their activities contribute significantly to social development from Asia-Pacific to the world.

World Social Work Day will be held on March 19, 2024. This year's theme is "Buen Vivir: A Shared Future for Transformative Change," rooted in the Global Agenda and emphasizing the need for social workers



Machiko OHARA Ph.D.
President of the International Federation of Social Workers Asia Pacific Region

to adopt innovative community-driven approaches rooted in indigenous wisdom and harmonious coexistence with nature.

Our Asia-Pacific region for the region faces multidimensional crises, including violent conflict, environmental degradation, persistent poverty and political disparity. This reality requires social work to evolve and adopt innovative and transformative approaches that are community-driven and imbued with indigenous wisdom. The principles of Buen Vivir emphasize that true well-being is achievable when communities live in harmony with nature and work together for balanced development.

This indigenous philosophy emphasizes the importance of interconnectedness, reciprocity, correspondence, and complementarity in human relationships and ties with nature. We for the Asia-Pacific region respect that philosophy and seek to uphold these principles to foster an eco-social global that thrives on inclusion, respect, mutual understanding, and the defense of human rights.

We, in IFSW-AP believe in recognizing and showcasing each other's strength, celebrating unity through diversity, interconnectedness across borders, and more importantly, the ties that bring us are stronger than those that wish to tear us apart.

As we gather today, let us once again prove that there is strength in numbers, and as Social Workers on the world, we are strong, united and determined.

World Social Work Day events will take place in various countries. Through this event, I hope to see more social work transformation and development in the future.

Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training

The Updated Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training: The New Chapter In Social Work Profession

The International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW) and the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) have been announcing the launch of the Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training in 2019. For the past years between 2004 and 2019, the lengthy document was used as a reference for guiding the contents of social work education for the member countries.

The updated Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training is a product of the extensive global consultation that lasted for more than 18 months and included a wide range of social work academics, practitioners and experts by experience across 125 countries, represented by 5 Regional Associations and approximately 400 Universities and Further Education Organisations. In addition, members of the joint task force facilitated two international seminars involving service user representatives.

The consultation, analysis and development of the document was co-ordinated by a joint task group comprising the IASSW's Global Standards Taskforce and IFSW Global Education Commission. The task group was chaired by Professor Dixon Sookraj and Professor Vasilios Ioakimidis. The updated Global Standards were approved by the membership of IASSW and IFSW through the biennial General Meetings of the two organisations in the period June – July 2020.

Rationale for change and aims of the new Standards

The social work education and practice landscape has changed significantly since



Mariko Kimura, Ph.D.

Regional Education Commissioner,
Past President of IFAP, and Vice President of IFSW
President, AISW : Association for International
Social Work

2004, when the first version of the standards was launched. The adoption of a new Global Definition of Social Work (2014), the publication of the updated Global Social Work Statement of Ethical Principles (2018), and the new Global Agenda (2020) require that the Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training document also reflects broader changes and recent developments in global social work. These developments also include social work's role in supporting bottom up development to meet the aspirations of the SDGs, ensuring countries that are new to social work have global peers to support the advancement of social work education free from colonial influences and creating platforms for Indigenous and local approaches to shape curricula and relevant courses.

The specific aims of the new Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training are:

- Ensure consistency in the provision of social work education while appreciating and valuing diversity, equity and inclusion.
- Ensure that Social Work education adheres to the values and policies of the profession as articulated by the IASSW and IFSW.
- Support and safeguard staff, students

and service users involved in the education process.

- Ensure that the next generation of social workers have access to excellent quality learning opportunities that also incorporate social work knowledge deriving from research, experience, policy and practice.
- Nurture a spirit of collaboration and knowledge transfer between different social work schools and between social work education, practice and research.
- Support social work schools to become thriving, well-resourced, inclusive and participatory teaching and learning environments.

(For further details of the document, please check the IFSW and IASSW website.)

Some of the dilemmas, issues and debates contained in the GS document include as follows--First, universality vs. diversity; oppressive political structures vs. educators/students in protective roles; the impact of colonialism vs. different approaches to service user engagement; and interpretations of issues of equality and oppression. lack of resources; diversity of epistemological approaches (interdisciplinary relationships, health, social science versus biological psychology debates, school formats, etc.); degree of control by relevant institutions; The underlying curriculum; differences in the subject selection trends of educational institutions depending on the region, etc. are assumed.

On the other hand, there are common philosophies and elements at the global level regarding social work education and practice. Human rights, for example, they should be expressed as global standards. These include the current situation in which the historical, social/cultural, economic, and political backgrounds of SW practices are diverse across countries and around the world; diversity in practice; diversity in mechanisms and resources; and diversity in the degree of professional development and evolution, and so on.

In the socio-political and cultural climates of the world mentioned above, each region asserts its orientation and at the same

time aims for ideas related to social work educational reform, which are described below:

- Understand the negative influences and consequences of colonialism and imperialism on the development of SW.
- Understand the increasing number of common issues nationally, regionally, and globally, and challenges affecting SW education and practice
 - In particular, awareness and development are occurring based on sustainable development, climate change, and the UN's SDGs goals.
 - There are circumstances leading to the specialization (majors) and decentralization of education and practical curricula.

Social work education that reflects social changes including globalization and advances in science and technology

Due to changes in globalization, various electronic technologies, and ways of transmitting knowledge, methods of social work practice, education, and data accumulation are evolving, and the meaning of sharing these technologies around the world is being recognized around the world. It has reached this point.

An even bigger influence is that awareness of human rights, changes in the relationship in social work with the parties (service users) that social work had previously treated include self-determination, and awareness of rights have led to a process of reconsidering the nature of social work. This has also influenced and led to the formation of today's GS documents for social work education and professional training.

Sociopolitical background

In the Asia-Pacific region, social problems have become more apparent due to industrialization and social changes, and the role of social workers has begun to be recognized that require policies and systemic changes in social services by the government. In recent years there has been a movement toward the development of social worker registration systems in some countries in Asia.

Several Asian countries have established qualification systems that include national exams for social workers. In Japan, a quarter of a century has already passed since 1987, when the system of social workers and the profession of certified care workers were established. Mental health social workers qualification system was created later. Revisions to the system are carried out regularly, and these revisions place emphasis on domestic social changes, and secondarily, the global context. The qualification system for certified care workers in Japan for instance, which was created at the same time when the certified system of social workers came into being, can be said to have been greatly influenced by the socio-political and economic context.

Involvement of service users in social work education

Several factors that have contributed to the changes that are taking place on the new trends of social work education standards. One of these factors include the involvement of service users. Service users are now recognized as experts with lived experience. This is not something that has just started; it has been an issue that has existed since the 1970s. In a way that we are familiar with, people with disabilities had a strong meaning of demonstrating their independence to service providers through the opportunity for people with disabilities to hire their own care providers.

Participation of the immigrants with service development in the super global cities in Europe and social work undertakings

The other factor that we see is in the world's super-global cities (big cities in the world where multicultural trends are promoted) tend to become even more multicultural (Casal, 2022). In these cities, elderly people, who are originally treated as migrant workers and those who have become citizens of these cities who have diverse cultural backgrounds participate in the planning and operation of services themselves, feedback not only their own

intentions but also their life experiences as parties involved in the direction of new services. There is a trend towards increasing the number of individuals and service providers (WHO Regional Office for Europe, 2018).

The above trends also apply to social work education, as the educational environment of global society demands that the creation of services is multifaceted and receptive to diverse resources and actors. This indicates that there is a tendency of major cities around the world to anticipate "glocal" trend (a term coined by European researchers to describe the state of European cities, combining the words local and global; Lions, Dominelli et al., 2017). It reflects the future situation, and it can be said that Japan is also required to take measures that anticipate and prepare for the future.

Challenges in further advancing Global Standards in social work education in Japan

In the Global Standards document for social work, the section on social work seen from the background and situation is listed as "contents that should be included in educational programs". The items below are considered to be critical that require further development.

- Considers a critical understanding of how structural deficiencies, discrimination, oppression, and social, political, environmental, and economic injustices impact human development at all levels, including globally. There must be.
- Knowledge of how traditions, culture, beliefs, religion, and customs influence human development across disabilities, including how they may serve as resources or barriers to growth.
- Knowledge of human rights, social movements, and their interrelationships with issues related to class, gender, ethnicity/race.
- Focus on structural issues affecting marginalized, vulnerable and minority populations. (IASSW-IFSW,2020).

The above items are considered to be an item that asks whether the elements of Japan's social work curriculum match the

content proposed by GS.

Issues related to colonialism and imperialism and development of indigenous curriculum development

Due to the influence of colonialism and imperialism, Western social work theory and practice methods were introduced irrespective of the socio-cultural soil of different regions (for example, Africa), and their legacies and aftereffects are still being used today in various ways in social work. Social work research literature and researchers have noted and criticized that social work education is also affected (Gray, Coates, & Bird, Eds, 2006; Pauer, 2012; Cox & Pawel, 2005; Martinez, 2020).

Regarding this, discussions have become more active in various regions since the 2020s, such as initiatives tailored to local communities, critical social work education, and which academic field social work should be placed in. In Africa, there is a movement in some schools to call for change by presenting a scale for evaluating the current situation and content of educational institutions and educators regarding the items indicated by GS and efforts to adopt indigenous curricula and textbooks (Discussion through IFSW Ed Comission, 2022).

Movements of young social workers in Europe and Africa—Trying to fill the gaps between the present social work training system and the send of the young people

There are other issues besides this. One is the content of social work practical education. At IFSW Europe, young social workers (social workers who have not received university education for many years) organized a group and conducted a survey on the state of social work education (IFSW Europe, 2021). According to the descriptive answers, some of the answers included that social work training does not have the kind of worksite that they expect, and that the training requirements for students are not conducive to their post-graduation work. It is being sent. Students expect that the practical experience they receive during their degree will provide them with background

knowledge and experience for their post-graduation jobs. In this sense, having a quality that prepares students for work will be a motivation for students entering the field of practical education. It has also been reported that some European countries do not have a sufficiently developed system for practical education (IFSW Europe, 2021).

Next, there are the challenges of practical training in a globalized, multicultural context. Under these circumstances, the question is whether many social workers, who have received training in professional training systems that reflect Japan's systems and culture for example, can adequately respond to the needs of service users of diverse cultures. arise.

This is an issue related to the nature of the curriculum. Regarding curriculum development, there have been two main types of subject settings to date: preparing subjects specialized for subjects with specific needs, or providing universal subjects with general-purpose curriculum content. It's here. Rather than creating a multicultural curriculum, the author's idea is to add versatility to the traditional social work curriculum and foster the ability for students to flexibly engage in diverse practices without hesitation. I think this is important.

Critical social work concepts that are re-discovered

The urgent need and challenge in Japanese social work education is the need for developing cultural competency among social workers to work with multicultural population in the changing society. In 2022, with some social work colleagues, the author has published "Understanding International Social Work: Theory and Practice for Success in the World" (Chuo Hoki, co-editor, 2022, by Springer Press) and "Remaking Social Work for the New Global Era". The author had the other opportunity to write a chapter with Japanese and Singaporean social work colleagues (Virag, Tan, Kimura, et al., 2022, same as the above book). In a chapter of this book, key words from an interview with a Singaporean social worker stated which had important meaning, that should apply to any

social work beyond cultures and time, which means universal implications. The interviews extracted the qualities of social workers in the global era from the voices of social workers in the field. In addition to so-called multicultural social work competencies ranging from micro to meso-macro, this social worker also mentioned social workers' qualities as human beings. Similar references can be found in international social work texts, where these two qualities are "humility" and "tenacity". At the same time, it is necessary to train students and social workers in multicultural response based on their knowledge and to develop the ability to accept different cultures, both as individuals and as a system. The elements contained in the two keywords related to people who have developed social skills can be said to be common elements required of all social workers who deal with multiculturalism in the global era.

Keywords used in interviews with Singaporean social workers have important meaning. The meaning of the words extracted from the voices of social workers in Singapore in the field and the qualities in the above studies appear to highlight what is common, indispensable, and shared in the global era. In addition to so-called multicultural social work competencies ranging from micro to meso-macro, the above two terms stress the unique qualities that social workers agree to hold as human beings.

It is necessary to train students and social workers in multicultural response based on their knowledge and to develop the ability to accept different cultures, both as individuals and as a system.

Social work challenges in the glocal society

The new movement toward changes in social work curriculum development, education, and training in the new Global Standard has just begun. "Glocal" social changes are also having an impact on social work education in Japan. We should draw attention to the fact that we are in a situation where we cannot stand by and watch. This revised GS document not only addresses the involvement of educational institutions and

teachers, but also includes feedback on the curriculum from the perspective of students and social workers from professional organizations, and the involvement of service users in education. The outcome of the application of this document should be able to tell in the future to come by evaluating the efforts of those who are involved. Furthermore, social work education around the world is undergoing changes, including active efforts by countries that have been exposed to the influence of colonialism over their long history to reconsider their own education practices.

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Fostering Transformation: Collaborative Empowerment for Social Progress in Afghanistan

Introduction of ASO

The Afghanistan Social Workers Professional Organization (ASO) is a non-political, non-profit, and non-governmental organization established in 2018. ASO not only supports the development of social work but also works on poverty alleviation by providing resources for social well-being, social protection, promoting human rights, education, and health services.

Moreover, ASO works to support good governance and the rule of law in Afghan society. It was established by social work professionals and is led by Mr. Massoud Ayoubi, a professional social worker and former head of the social work and child welfare department at the Ministry of Labor & Social Affairs. ASO feels a responsibility to protect, promote, and maintain the safety and well-being of the public and social workers throughout Afghanistan.

ASO has offices in 7 regions across the country, including Kabul. The organization has 18 employees at headquarters and 3 employees in each regional office. Additionally, ASO has 175 professional members and over 205 Para-professional including social workers and other social service providers.

**Ikramuddin Sharifi
and Fardeen Yousofi
Affiliation: Massoud Ayoubi**

The organization operates based on core program principles or thematic areas, which include:

1. Driving Improvement
2. Developing a Strong Social Work Community
3. Providing Public Confidence
4. Poverty Reduction
5. Women Empowerment
6. Promoting Good Governance & Human Rights
7. Networking and Advocacy



ASO also holds memberships in various national and international networks such as CPAN (Child Protection Action Network), NACG-AFG (National Action and Coordination Group), and maintains contact with the South Asia Initiative to End Violence against Children (SAIEVAC) and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). These connections have provided ASO with exposure and opportunities to closely work towards improving the lifestyle of marginalized people.



"Empowering Change: Collaborative Initiatives in Afghanistan"

We are delighted to present a significant update on recent developments in Afghanistan, underscoring the pivotal role of social work in the nation's socio-economic fabric. Through a series of impactful initiatives, the Afghanistan Social Workers Organization (ASO) and the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) have embarked on a collaborative journey toward meaningful change.

IFSW's Collaborative Journey with ASO:

- Against the backdrop of Afghanistan's formidable challenges and the retraction of international support, ASO sought a strategic alliance with IFSW.

- A distinguished delegation, including Rory Truell (Secretary-General of IFSW), Ana Radulescu (Europe President and Global Vice President of IFSW), and Hamed Olamaee (International Officer of the Iranian Association of Social Workers), embarked on a purposeful visit to Afghanistan on January 25.

- This profound endeavor, endorsed by the Afghan government, facilitated crucial dialogues with diverse ministries to underscore social work's intrinsic role in propelling the nation's socio-economic fabric.

Celebrating Social Workers' Day: A Unified Vision:

- Amidst the formidable challenges and dynamic shifts, a ray of celebration shone brightly. ASO, in collaboration with IFSW delegates, marked an early observance of Global Social Workers Day on January 31, 2023, in Kabul.

- This commemorative event carried profound significance, echoing the steadfast dedication of Afghan social workers and their international recognition.

- The celebration resonated as a testament to ASO's readiness to contribute meaningfully and compassionately to the community, fortified by the robust support of IFSW.

Shaping a Legacy of Impact:

- This collaborative narrative weaves a tapestry of possibilities, uniting the expertise, vision, and dedication of ASO and IFSW, aligned with Afghanistan's resilient pursuit of progress.

- Together, we embark on a transformative journey, crafting a legacy of enduring impact and empowerment.

"Upcoming Event: SDGs Forum & International Empowerment Expo in Afghanistan"

The Afghanistan Social Workers Professional Organization (ASO) and The Afghanistan Women's Chamber of Commerce and Industries (AWCCI) are collaboratively organizing a groundbreaking event, the "SDGs Forum & International Empowerment Expo." This innovative event is dedicated to empowering and uplifting women entrepreneurs, showcasing their pioneering ventures, and aligning them with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The comprehensive program encompasses diverse activities such as the

SDGs Forum, Empowerment Expo, workshops, panel discussions, pitch contests, and cultural exhibitions. With a focus on fostering regional cooperation, promoting sustainability, empowering marginalized women and children, and recognizing outstanding contributions, the event aspires to catalyze positive social transformation, promote gender equality, and contribute to Afghanistan's sustainable development journey, all while highlighting the transformative potential of entrepreneurship.

