



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSISTANTS SOCIAUX
FEDERACIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE TRABAJADORES SOCIALES

IFSW Europe e.V. | WORK PROGRAMME 2015-2016

This work programme is presented under the following broad subheadings adopted by the 2013 IFSW Europe e.V. Delegates Meeting:

- > **Visibility and Voice**
- > **Membership development**
- > **Services for members**

The document “**Executive Members Work Portfolio**” identifies the executive member who has lead responsibility for designated areas of the work programme. The executive member/leader may establish a team if s/he considers this to be necessary to complete the task.

“**Principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility and respect for diversities are central to social work.**” (IFSW Definition of Social Work) and constitute the basis for all actions performed by the executive committee of IFSW Europe e.V. in the different areas of the work programme.



WORK PROGRAMME 2015-2016

1 | COMMUNICATION

- > Honorary Secretary
- > Designer
- > Emailing members with information and updates on actions
- > Google group account (executive members)
- > Skype meetings
- > Blog
- > Facebook
- > Website
- > ESW - European Social Worker – newsletter
- > IFSW Europe – News
- > Media work productions
- > Power point presentations
- > Production of papers with guidelines to help the integration of new executive members and delegates from members organisations
- > Connecting members project
- > Press and press release strategy

DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

IMPROVING WAYS OF COMMUNICATION

IFSW Europe is a well established, regulated and registered organisation. However further capacity building is required to improve communication with members (inward) and to develop our marketing and lobbying/communication with partner organisations (outward).

ACTIONS

- > Integration of new executive members
- > Continue working with the designer to develop IFSW Europe's promotional material, brand and message to the wider social work community and other key stakeholders, as described on her work programme
- > Publish regular update and progress reports on IFSW Europe's Blog and Facebook
- > ESW – Produce 2 editions a year
- > IFSW Europe – News - to publish periodically
- > Review and where necessary revise Executive Members Work Portfolio throughout the year.
- > Connecting members project-to review and update the members of the Executive designated to link with individual member organisations and contacts in countries not currently represented.
- > Paper: Communication values with guidelines to executive committee members to be revised and re-issued.
- > Paper: Requirements for hosting the Annual Delegates Meeting to be revised periodically
- > Website: to continue updating the website directly by the communication team
- > To prepare a video message for WSWD 2016



WORK PROGRAMME 2015-2016

> Organization of Delegates Meetings

DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

- > To update the lists of contacts (members organizations, associations of social workers, partners, media, etc.) and make this available to members
- > Dissemination of IFSW Europe publications among members, partners and media

2 | FINANCES

ACTIONS

- > Appointment of the Honorary Treasurer of IFSW Europe
- > Finances and Legal Body maintenance
- > To review the 5 year Budget
- > To issue guidance concerning the reimbursement of expenditure incurred by executive members carrying out official duties
- > To publish rules and an application form for delegates applying for assistance to attend the Delegates Meeting 2015
- > Updates on membership status

3 | MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

ACTIONS

- > To continue the review of membership in IFSW
- > “Networking with”:
 - Developing relations with countries with no member and re-establishing relations with former members



WORK PROGRAMME 2015-2016

DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

4 | IFSW EUROPEAN CONFERENCE 2017

ACTIONS

> To continue the organization process of the IFSW European Conference 2017 in Reykjavík, Iceland from 28 to 30 May 2017, in partnership with the Icelandic Association of Social Workers

5 | ENSACT

European Network for Social ACTION

ACTIONS

> To continue to participate in ENSACT meetings and encourage our members and the wider social work community to contribute information about new initiatives and service developments to the European Observatory for the Global Agenda

6 | EU ISSUES AND

SOCIAL PLATFORM,
The European Social Platform

VISIBILITY AND VOICE

IFSW Europe is working to ensure that the voice of social workers is more prominent in Europe and national campaigns concerning the importance of maintaining the commitment within the EU to address poverty and exclusion and recognise the avoidable suffering and greater expenditure in the long term that will result from failure to do so. This must go hand in hand with addressing the operational needs for good quality and standards in social work practice, including human rights, ethics, professional role, training and qualifications, as well as organisational, contextual and conditional issues related to social work practice.

ACTIONS

> To maintain our organisational membership of the European Social Platform and continue networking with colleagues from other Social Platform organisations to raise IFSW's profile and contribute a social work perspective to the issues they are pursuing



WORK PROGRAMME 2015-2016

DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

- > To designate members to join the team representing IFSW at meetings of the Social Platform's Steering Group and Task Forces and with those organisations we have formal links with
- > To support our Brussels based representative, Dalé Kabasinskaitė and effectively engage with the Platform, other key organisations and officials and politicians in the European Commission and Parliament
- > To continue to support the Platform's action to secure the exemption of social care services from the scope of the proposed EU/US TTIP agreements
- > To pass on information about issues relevant to social work being pursued by the Social Platform to our members and where appropriate encourage them to link with the national members of Social Platform networks in their own countries to lobby their MEP's and Heads of State for the changes required
- > To promote engagement with prospective members of the EU particularly those countries where HR abuse is condoned by the authorities and encourage dialogue about how this can be tackled constructively

7 | EAPN,

European Anti-Poverty Network

ACTIONS

- > To maintain and develop our organisational membership of EAPN through:
 - Actively contributing to capacity building and campaigning and lobbying activities at a European level
 - Passing on info about EAPN's lobbying activities, and publications to our members



WORK PROGRAMME 2015-2016

DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

- Encouraging our members to work more closely with EAPN's member organisations in their own countries

8 | FRA,

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights Platform

ACTIONS

- > To continue to be members of the Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP) and engage with other civil society organisations concerned about fundamental rights
- > To disseminate information about FRA's research and publications to our members and the wider social work community

9 | EURORDIS,

European Organisation of Rare Diseases

ACTIONS

- > To promote the contribution of social work and social care to the support of people suffering from rare diseases and their carers by:
 - Underpinning our partnership with EURORDIS with a joint Memorandum of Understanding
 - Contributing as Associate Partner to a European conference on rare diseases to be held in Edinburgh - 8th European Conference on Rare Diseases & Orphan Products (ECRD 2016) to be held at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC), Scotland from 26 to 28 May 2016



WORK PROGRAMME 2015-2016

DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

10 | EUROCHILD,

Network of organisations and individuals working in and across Europe to promote the rights and well-being of children and young people.

ACTIONS

> To apply for organisational membership of Eurochild to ensure that members are aware of and can contribute to campaigning and lobbying activities that aim to ensure that Europe maintains the commitment to de-institutionalisation and other measures necessary to ensure the health and well-being of all children

11 | THE SOCIAL WORK AND IDENTITY PROJECT

The project “Social Work Role and Identity Project” set out to establish an effective baseline understanding of the state of social work across Europe. The project is a regular exercise to help IFSW Europe to be informed and measure the progress of social work across the continent of Europe over years. The main approach is to collect the information through questionnaires focused on core information about the association, as well as themes like social work education, standards of practice and legal aspects of the profession

ACTIONS

> To continue collecting data and preparing reports



WORK PROGRAMME 2015-2016

12 | PROJECT: ECONOMIC CRISIS IN EUROPE

CHALLENGE AND RESPONSE OF SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION

The main aims of the project are:

- > To present information about “the response of social workers/social work organizations to the ongoing economic crisis at the national levels.
- > To discuss and decide on actions for social work organisations in an international level:
 - Exercise advocacy, empowerment and lobby at European level;
 - Support and engage with member organisations and social workers in countries most affected;
 - Express at high levels (governments, EU, etc.) the responsibility of social work profession for human rights and ethics by presenting alternative ways of dealing with the crisis and austerity.
- > To discuss and develop a working plan for the next years to respond to the effects of economic crisis.

DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

ACTIONS

- > To disseminate the Book with the results of the Stage II Project Report among members, partners and media
- > To continue the development of the link between the project and actions arising from the IFSW Global Agenda within the European Region



WORK PROGRAMME 2015-2016

13 | ENS4Care THEMATIC NETWORK

EVIDENCE BASED GUIDELINES FOR NURSING AND SOCIAL CARE ON THE DEPLOYMENT OF eHEALTH SERVICE

The main objective of the project is the development of evidence based guidelines for the implementation of eHealth services in nursing and social care, building on existing good practices amongst the participants of the Network, sharing and transferring knowledge across European regions.

The ultimate goal of ENS4Care is the establishment of a sustainable mechanism to support nursing and social care research in the field of ICT enabled integrated care.

DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

ACTIONS

- > To continue to actively contribute to the ENS4Care project coordinated by **EFN**, European Federation of Nurses by:
 - Disseminating the guidelines produced by the project to our members and the wider social work community utilising the European Social Work Research Observatory, conferences and other training events
 - Ensuring that the potential contribution of Information Communication Technology (ICT) and eHealth in supporting people challenged by illness or disability to live as independently as possible in the community is recognised
 - Promoting the development of "Social Prescribing" and other preventative approaches that realise the potential of telecare and other specialised equipment to enable people to live independently in their own homes
 - Exploring the scope for a bid for Horizon funds for a further joint project with EFN to develop more integrated social and healthcare services in the community

14 | TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL WORK IN NEW SOCIAL WORK COUNTRIES

ACTIONS

- > To support the development and build the capacity of professional networks in emerging countries



WORK PROGRAMME 2015-2016

DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

15 | PRIVATIZATION OF SOCIAL WORK SERVICES IN EUROPE

- > To set up a working group to consider the impact that the privatization of state provided social services has had on the quality of services provided and the implications of the current policy drive promoting the further development of such services rather than those provided directly by the state
- > To formulate an IFSW position paper and action plan on this issue

16 | WORLD SOCIAL WORK DAY 2016

ACTIONS

- > Call for Action in Europe
- > Publishing events and actions around Europe through our media tools (Blog and Facebook)
- > Video message from IFSW Europe

17 | RELATED WITH IFSW GLOBAL

ACTIONS

- > Global Agenda – European Representative
- > Executive Meeting, June 2016, Seoul, Korea
- > Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development, Seoul, Korea 27th-30th June 2016 - programme committee
- > Cooperation with IFSW Global on the Review of the Constitution



WORK PROGRAMME 2015-2016

18 | NETWORK FOR SOCIAL WORKERS IN EUROPE WORKING WITH REFUGEES

DEVELOPMENTS / ACTIONS

ACTIONS

- > To build a network for European social workers that are working with refugees, in order to share information on the refugee crisis
- > To promote the dignity and worth of peoples for the celebration of World Social Work Day 2016 in Europe, with a relevant focus on the situation of the refugees
- > To organize a Symposium on **Social Workers in Europe working with Refugees** during the IFSW European Conference 2017, to highlight the social workers' role in supporting refugees

