

2025 Consolidate

It is with great joy that we come to publish the 13th volume of the ASWJ, the first of its volume in 2025. The new year had already begun with great challenges. Yet, we will continue to steadfast and address new problems as they emerge. The months ahead should set the momentum to work and excel, a calling to those who work in the human sectors. We will all continue to advocate for an increased commitment towards people's betterment through provisions of quality social services which will become the strong foundation of the ASEAN Social Cultural pillar, especially for the achievement of the ASEAN Enabling Masterplan 2025 for inclusive development in the region. Further, the recently held the 8th ASEAN Social Work Consortium conference hosted by the Philippines, hoisted the goal to "achieve a responsive and adaptive social worker" as the goal for the region. This goal is in line with The Ha Noi Declaration on Strengthening Social Work Towards a Cohesive and Responsive ASEAN Community, adopted at the 37th ASEAN Summit in 2020. The Vision and Objectives set in declaration cover two important points: *First*, Empower ASEAN citizens through inclusive, quality, and multidisciplinary social services. *Second*, strengthen social work as a profession to support a cohesive and responsive ASEAN community. Through the summit, countries bind commitment to elevating the role of social work across the region.

ASWJ shares the above-mentioned mission. This journal aims especially to represent ASEAN ideas and intervention models that set the benchmark for social work practice. ASEAN best practice can only be known by promoting them through journal articles. This volume exemplifies the courageous work of social workers and working models that demonstrate the level of sensitivity and professional judgments upheld by all social workers around the world. The models presented are also clearly shown that only through strong institutional capacity and professional competence human development and protection goals can effectively be met. Articles of this volume not only represent ingenuity of intervention models from ASEAN, India and America, all had epitomized the need to effectively work with children, students, family and women as special category. Readers of this volume will also be entertained by creative concepts developed and implemented in the contributed countries such as Circle Care (India), SMILE-Stress Management for Improved Living and Empowerment (the Philippines), Sekolah Perempuan Hebat (Indonesia), RIASEC-FIKR-Facet, Insight, Knowledge, Resilience. An innovative approach and analysis of a film on child Exploitation (Indonesia) is also worthy for reflective notes on human commons.

Looking forward, ASEAN will continue to develop an enabling environment for progress social inclusion in each respective country. This will be an important foundation, social integration and resilience within a country. It is imperative that we pay attention to ASEAN Socio-Cultural Blueprint 2025 as a working document. How these policy propositions still relate to today's conditions and what future aligned undertakings. We all still wish to create a working framework for a caring society that is supported by strong national social security plus a vast social services system that would cater to individuals and family circumstances. Readers of this volume will then appreciate the thoughtful research presentations that will inspire. Many of us will understand that good and innovative approaches will require real contributions from profession, policies and sufficient fundings. That is the reason government plays important roles in social services and social development.

In closing, we need to be reminded of the ever-growing complexity of social problems and thus the social services clients. Case management needs to be able to respond to compound personal deficiencies and family insecurity conditions. To further strengthen social work, ASWJ will continue to promote excellent work that has been achieved but equally giving attention towards growing complexity in social problems. In the future ASWJ will endeavor discussions on emerging conditions and vulnerability of families. If we look around, we witness family breakdowns that manifest in many forms of crisis. There was a period when member states must address problems related to extremism, terrorism and intolerance. These categories

of identity related problems may still be a threat to some degree. Today's problem is associated closely with unprecedented and immense pressure coming from social-economic disruptions and environmental degradation. So, let's all support ASWJ publication. We need to learn from and among peers in this profession and thus foster regional collaboration to achieve our common goals.

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