

Having difficulty viewing or reading this email? [View this email in your browser](#)

Welcome to the January 2024 edition of the Programme Action News

To translate this Bulletin into Chinese, Khmer, Thai, Indonesian, or Malay, please use the 'View this email in your browser' link above, and click the translate button.

To access all links and stories, [please log in to the website with your member details](#).



Welcome to 2024 - the year with more!

Thank you for all your efforts in 2023 with the impressive projects and activities we get to see in your reports. Some clubs have not reported at all so that means our Programme team has more webinar training to do. However kudos to you all, as we realize how much impact we can substantiate for our countries, our communities, our women.

I wish to share international good news stories, because all we hear and see the bad ones in the media. 66 good stories [HERE](#). To see how far we have come look at HR75 (human rights for all since 1948), and in last 3 years much progress on human and environmental rights for future generations [HERE](#).

The UN Secretary General gave a report card on 2023 [HERE](#) as we bounce back from covid and climate catastrophes. But the results are variable on conflict, compassion, conservation and cost of living. (Davos)[HERE](#). The status of women has improved since covid.

We are proud to revisit 2023 **Federation wide** initiatives that showcase your work: (on our website)

- January **Education Day** Webinar SDG4 projects: migration drivers – Youth education – slavery risks
- March IWD - CSW67 – **Digital Democracy for Disasters**: UN parallel & webinar with recommendations for all Soroptimists
- UNDRR – **women's roles in Asia Pacific climate disasters** - Stakeholder review
- March UNESCAP: **SDG roundtables** Cities, Communities, infrastructure innovation, renewable energy, partnerships

- June **Environment month**, Oceans, climate, air, land, rivers, **Prevent Plastic Pollution** webinar
- July SI Conference Dublin – **Be the Change: Women Leading Climate Action** – 2 workshops, recommendations
- Impact assessment planning 2027 conference proposal – 2 reports
- September **Cyber security** paper - How to protect yourself, 11 things to recover from identity theft
- **2 Federation Programme Training** webinars (one led by Malaysia)
- **Living with Nature** Art Competition - Announcing winners - what creativity!
- October - **STEM Geek-Girls** Day of the Girl Child webinar
- November - December **Visible and Vocal** – 12 year old speaking for SI
- **16 Days** Eliminate Violence Against Women **TFVAW** – Social media campaign with daily messages
- Human Rights 75th anniversary .

2024 is shaping up to be a special year as we plan for the **May 3-5 Federation Conference** at the Gold Coast Australia. Early bird registration [HERE](#). I encourage you to consider a small donation so we can partially subsidize those from other countries. Accommodation ranges from shared cabin in a caravan park to resorts.

The cost-of-living is impacting our clubs, and your donations for our own SISEAP grants are down while soroptimists continue to give to other NGOs (who may not even acknowledge our involvement). Your generous gifts become invisible and not traceable, perhaps your local partnerships grow stronger. In the meantime, your **donations to Brilliant Futures Fund** directly support our Federation's Soroptimist projects - so we can see the impact quarterly.

I am excited about 2024 and hope your adventures being shaped by your planning sessions with your members are exciting you as well.

Dr Donnell Davis

Programme Convenor 2022-2024 (new email address)

siseaprogramme@siswp.org

Creative Arts Competition

Following on from the very successful Living with Nature Art competition from 2023. In 2024 the Federation will be running a Creative Arts Competition, this competition has been expanded to now include, Art, Video and Poetry. Toolkit will be available for download in January, visit the Programme website area.

Get involved! Art has the power to create change, to foster new initiatives and provide a lens on climate which we may not otherwise see. This creative art competition provides

students with a voice to create that change. By participating in this Federation wide competition, your club will foster new partnerships, raise awareness to the vision and mission of Soroptimist International and the work your club performs in your community.

Drawing by Eshal Naeem aged 11, from last years competition.

Toolkit is now available [HERE](#).

Key Dates

1 February 2024 - Competition launches

7 April 2024 - Club / Regional competition closes

15 May 2024 - Club / Regional winners art work to be received at HQ

20 May 2024 - Closing date to send club /regional winners art work to HQ

5 June 2024 - Announcement of Winners

Information regarding the two successful projects, which were recipients of Round 6 funding can be found on the SISEAP website [HERE](#)

SI Morton North Murik Lakes Seeds of Friendship Community Garden and **SI Joondalup East Timor '24**. Along with updates from the previous winners of the funding.

The Brilliant Futures Fund relies on the generosity of its members and friends for donations, without continued support SISEAP does not have the funds to continue with Round 7 of funding. Your donations **ARE** making a difference to women and girls. Read about the projects [HERE](#) and see how having a financial stream to implement these quality projects, makes all the difference.

The image above, is of the women benefiting from the Stitching Dreams Project located in Hornsby Sydney. **Give generously to provide new pathways to women.**

SI Foundation

With a focus on education, poverty prevention and human rights, striving to foster positive change and create a more inclusive world. Delivering short,

medium and long-term projects internationally for women and girls.

For further information, click [HERE](#).

Best Practice Award nominations are now Open!

The work undertaken by clubs changes the lives of women and girls across our Federation. Nominate your project now for recognition of the valuable work you have undertaken, share your work with clubs throughout the Federation. Ensure that your project has been submitted to the programme database but not yet been formally approved, you can still submit for a Best Practice Award, just complete not available for the approval number. Be inspired by 2023 Best Practice Projects

Applications open the 1st of December, form can be accessed [HERE](#).

SI Sigatoka Fiji, have been active in raising awareness to Domestic Violence, this increased advocacy was immediately after the death of a women from DV. SI Sigatoka was able to write up a editorial for the Fijian Times, about awareness to Domestic Violence and actions to be undertaken by members of the public if they become aware or witness DV.

CSW68

Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific, will be presenting a in person topic session at CSW68. The parallel event will be held on Wednesday **13 March 2024**, 8.30am New York Time. Sydney time for this will be Wednesday 13th March 2024 at 11.30pm.

Topic - Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific (SISEAP)

Educate Empower Enable - Feminist Financial Freedom

Financial security is a pathway to empowerment to move from a position of stress and anxiety.

More information to follow on if the session can be live streamed.

The **Commission for Social Development 62** in February 2024, has welcomed Soroptimist input [HERE](#) We will work towards a cohesive message and update in the next newsletter. SDG 1 poverty, 10 inequalities, 17 partnerships. These themes are everywhere in 2024. Also in February, we should be represented at **UNESCAP APSDF12 in Bangkok** to participate in roundtables for reviewing progress and innovation for **SDG 1 (poverty), 2 (food), 13 (climate), 16 (good governance), 17 (partnership)**.

There is more practical application and policy development for the Asia Pacific Region with opportunities for partnerships with kindred spirits.

Please contact siseaprogramme@siswp.org if you wish to participate online or in person.

**What are priorities in your country?
What are Clubs doing in advocacy?**

There is a cheat sheet on how to write to your politician, partner, sponsor,

Advocacy or Activism - that is the question

International Women's Day, **March 8 2024**, Be prepared, order your Soroptimist International branded IWD ribbons for members and guests for your IWD events. The ribbons come folded and with a pin, ready for use at \$1.70 per ribbon.

Purchase and sell to raise club funds.

[Pre order now](#)

International Day of Education, January 24th

Soroptimists will be creators of change. Members understand that Education is the primary source of change. **SI Mandurah** members understand the importance of students having the necessary school equipment to prepare students for success,. this project has provided - 52 Backpacks, Lunch Boxes, Water Bottles and Library Bags ready to be delivered next

week to OVIS COMMUNITY SERVICES along with complete book lists. A BIG thank you to the MANDURAH COMMUNITY for their support.

It's a small Soroptimist world! **SI Melbourne** hosted a Christmas party which was attended by two students from Kenya, Lucy and Pauliney and wait, Lucy calls her Aunty Vicki and we all have a chat to Vicki in Nairobi, who is a member of Soroptimist International Nairobi Central.

Continuing on with another Education project - Every year **SI Adelaide** donates stationery packs to Talking Realities, an amazing flexible education program for young parents returning to study, following the birth of their baby, enabling young mum to complete their SACE, enrolled in TAFE and other study.

This year some funds were raised through their **Steptober Walking Challenge** and this year, South Pacific School Aid partnered with them and donated stationery items, additional to the stationary items were USBs and gift cards to cover other expenses, here's to a successful 2024 for the students at Talking Realities.

Images below, are from the members in Mongolia, as they went about raising awareness for the 16 Days of Activism.

The Mongolian government in 2017 made changes to The Law to Combat Domestic Violence. Prior to the amended 2017 law, domestic violence could not incur criminal punishment. According to The Asia Foundation, the current scheme under the amended law provides that the first act of domestic violence evokes fines and administrative action such as a warning, but a second offense carries criminal sanctions, in a Joint Statement of the United Nations stating that "[i]n the first seven months of 2022, 6,263 domestic violence cases were reported to the police, a 19 per cent increase from the previous year.", The Joint Statement suggests an upturn in domestic violence cases during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. This information suggests that the ongoing awareness and training about Domestic Violence and the support of shelters continues.

Did you know that all SISEAP members have VIEW access to the SISEAP Programme Reporting Database. That's right, you can log on and explore all reports across the Federation

submitted and approved on the database.

Login details are:

Username: SWP5004

Password: Member21

Latest Tip Sheet covers how to work through the process of **SAVING** your report to the database, what to look out for and knowing if your report has saved. Read the Tip Sheet [HERE](#).

The Programme Team are busy clearing the backlog of programme reports submitted during December, when clubs leave it to the last minute to submit their work for the year, this imposes a huge resource issue for the programme team, who have committed themselves to a huge work load over the Christmas/New Year period.

Having problems with the Programme Database?

If you have any issues logging in to the SISEAP Programme Database please contact Programme Convenor, swpPZC1@siswp.org or your zone coordinators.

UN Days and their links can now be found on our Members Programme Page on the website [HERE](#). Pauline Glover, Zone Coordinator 3 is writing stories on a few of our special days that also go to our Facebook.

January

24 Jan - [International Day of Education \(A/RES/73/25\)](#)

26 Jan - [International Day of Clean Energy \(A/RES/77/327\)](#)

Be the Change

A reminder to report your work as soon as you have completed it. The Programme team love hearing and promoting Club's advocacy and project work. It also helps provide ideas to other Clubs in the Federation.

Downloading and printing eSPAN

If you would like to download copies of eSPAN to print, go to the [SISEAP website](#) and log in using your member login. Go to the **'Members Area'** in yellow

at the top left of screen. Or if you are already logged in, [click this link](#). Here you can access all previous copies of archived eSPAN Newsletters.

Copy for the February 2024 eSPAN edition is required by Monday 6 February 2024. Please email your submissions to swpprogramme2020@siswp.org. Thank you.



Copyright © 2021 Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific, All rights reserved.
This email was sent to all Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific Clubs

Our mailing address is:

Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific
PO Box 1400
STRAWBERRY HILLS, NSW 2012
Australia
[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

