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Soroptimist International



South East Asia Pacific

ACN 147 990 627



SOROPTIMISTS
EMPOWER CHANGE

SPAN

Soroptimist Programme Action News

Welcome to the July 2025 edition of the Programme Action News

To translate this eSPAN 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](#).

FROM OUR PROGRAMME CONVENOR



In this July issue we reflect, and learn new things:

- Clubs sharing impacts of their projects - thank you
- Clubs demonstrating ways to 'beat plastic pollution'
- Clubs making videos for SI President's "Save Mother Earth"
- Clubs applying for Brilliant Futures grants - ask for programme help
- Clubs considering SI Foundation grants
- International report cards on Gender Gap full report

[HERE](#) and see a short summary of our SISEAP countries [HERE](#). The winner for our SEAP region is....**New Zealand** [here](#) see [HERE](#)

- Women, Climate and Justice - register for ICJ [HERE](#), 23 July The Hague time, watch on UN webTV
- Sustainable Communities SDG 11 - snapshot 2024 [HERE](#), How to do SDG's locally.
- SDG report card 14 July 2025 [HERE](#)
- What is a Universal Periodic Review? Every country asks NGO's for a report card. Draft for indigenous and children rights [HERE](#). Have your say, 6 roundtables over next 6 months for civil society - all welcome online
- Soroptimist International South East Asia Pacific - Gynae Cancer self-check [HERE](#), take your results to a doctor
- Update on New Zealand Ovarian Cancer (report) [HERE](#)
- SIGBI asks for Gender Impact Assessment on projects [HERE](#)
- Commonwealth Women focus on science and food security for vulnerable communities [HERE](#), our case studies [HERE](#)
- UNHRC Volker Turk is a gender champion [HERE](#)
- UN Rapporteur draft response from SI Australia to child trafficking, sexual abuse and cyber harm [HERE](#). Previous joint report from Soroptimist SISWP [HERE](#)

Although we learned about 4 major indicators during June and July, women's health is inextricably linked to economic security, education and women's advocacy through participation and policy. In SISEAP, we are proud to be part of UNESCAP, ASEAN, Commonwealth, Indo-Pacific and Pasifika networks, singing the same tunes as our sisters - maybe with different words. We keep learning from each other.

Dr Donnell Davis

Programme Convenor 2024-2026

programme.donnell@siseap.org



SISEAP Federation Public Speaking Competition

Has your club nominated to participate in this Federation activity? Empower our youth to raise their voices, present bold ideas and solutions for a sustainable future. Nominate now!

This year's theme, "**Empowered Voices, Sustainable Choices**," encourages young people to explore how individuals and communities can make informed, ethical, and bold decisions that support a more sustainable and equitable future. The categories are:

12 years -15 years

16 years - 19 years

This is the last chance to express your club's interest in taking part in this Federation initiative. Please **complete by the 24th July**.

[READ THE FULL GUIDELINES DOCUMENT](#)



Promote SISEAP's 2024 Impact

SISEAP has created graphical promotional images to help clubs promote impactful grassroots project work in 2025. Use these images at events, on social media, and in print to highlight our contributions toward empowering women and girls.

[VIEW & DOWNLOAD](#)

[Have you explored the updated Programme Members website page. All the information you will need is contained here.](#)

Quick Links

There are now dedicated articles to assist members in all aspects of programme. Use the quick links to quickly jump to the page.

Programme Reporting Database



Programme Downloads



Brilliant Futures Fund



CSW Information



Programme Committee



Best Practice Awards



Goals & Objectives



Join

PROGRAMME TEAM

FEDERATION POSITIONS
FOR 2026-2028

[More Information SISEAP website](#)

FROM SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL



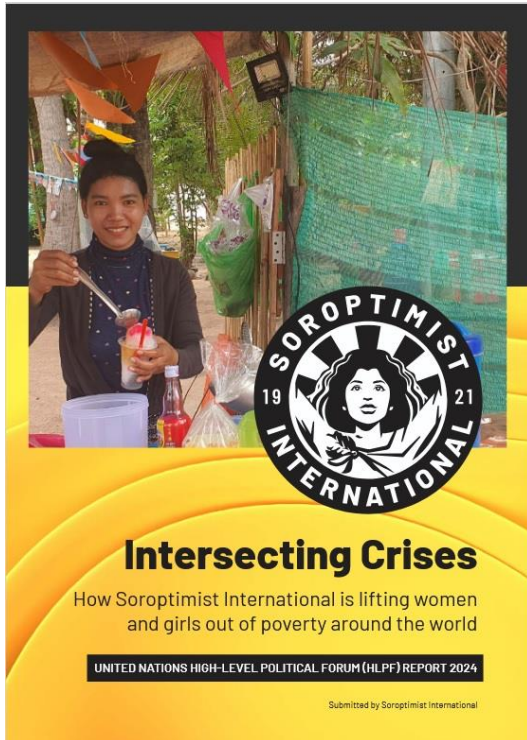
Showcase your Clubs Work: 'Soroptimist Action: Improving Our Environment'

SI President Siew Young calls on Soroptimists around the world to help create a powerful legacy by submitting short video clips of the environmental work they are doing. Whether it's tree planting, recycling drives, or renewable energy projects—every contribution counts. The best clips will be featured in a special SI climate action video to be shared on **24 October, the International Day of Climate Action**.

Full video guidelines and submission details are available on the Soroptimist International website www.soroptimistinternational.org. Let's unite for our planet and let the world see what Soroptimists can do! Information that explains this project and lists the guidelines for sending in video clips can be viewed [HERE](#).

SUBMIT YOUR CLUBS VIDEO BEFORE 31ST JULY , USE THE LINK TO UPLOAD

VIDEO SUBMISSIONS



Soroptimist International HLPF report to UN in July 2025

The HLPF report is an opportunity to showcase Soroptimist International projects from around the world to demonstrate their impact in advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We look at how projects run by Soroptimist International Federations, Unions, Regions, Clubs and Soroptimist International Foundation are addressing critical issues to advance the SDGs. This year, SDG 5 on gender equality will have its own session on Tuesday July 15 starting at 10 a.m. New York time. To attend online the livestream link is [HERE](#) It is scheduled to be a three-hour meeting, ending at 1 p.m. It may be available later on UN web TV if you cannot listen to it live. More details on the session can be found [HERE](#)

SISEAP & SOROPTIMIST SISTERS CONTRIBUTIONS TO LASTING CHANGE

Soroptimist International Annual Report 2024

Soroptimist International is pleased to present their Annual Report for 2024. The report showcases the impactful and life changing work undertaken by Soroptimists commitment to grass roots project driven work which creates lasting change for women and girls. Contents include Finance, Global Impact, Youth Forum and Foundation work.

Soroptimist International Annual Report 2024



a global voice for women



[READ THE SI ANNUAL REPORT 2024](#)

FEDERATION PROJECTS

ROUND 9 CLOSING 31 JULY, APPLY NOW



Round 9 is now open & applications have been extended until the 31st July

Does your club have a project which requires funding? Consider applying now for funding of **up to \$10,000 AUD to bring your club project to life**. Read the guidelines document and the supporting documents and then make your application. Members of the Programme Team are ready to assist you in completing your application.

[READ GUIDELINES & APPLY HERE](#)



President's Special Appeal: "Myanmar Rising: Earthquake Response Fund"

We are proud to support the **Emergency Action Alliance**, a trusted collective of leading Australian aid organisations, who are working together to deliver fast, effective, and coordinated help on the ground in Myanmar.

All donations to this fund will go directly to the Emergency Action Alliance.

Every donation counts. Every act of kindness matters.

[**DONATE NOW**](#)

ADVOCACY WORK

SI Hobart Took Action Against Elder Abuse

SI Hobart takes very seriously the impact of elder abuse. As a club, we have become very aware of the prevalence of elder abuse within the community – particularly in the areas of physical, sexual, psychological, financial and emotional abuse. SI Hobart has a close association with COTA - Council of the Ageing. SI Hobart members and friends were able to participate in the Hobart 'Walk Against Elder Abuse' on 16 June 2025.



PROJECTS & APPEALS



Your contribution assists in clubs continuing their valuable grass roots project driven work to improve the lives of women and girls.

By donating, you can ensure that even more transformative projects are funded and positive change continues. We are investing in our own projects in our own region.

Watch our video to see how the SISEAP Brilliant Futures Fund winners are shaping the future for women and girls in their communities. Their stories are a testament to the amazing work supported by your contributions.

[BFF GRANT WINNERS VIDEO](#)

[DONATE NOW](#)

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](#)



SOROPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL
FOUNDATION

During 2024 SISEAP members donated **\$9,623 to the SI Foundation**. Your contribution enables value club driven project work to be delivered.

UN DAYS

#EndHumanTrafficking

July 30th is World Day Against Trafficking in Persons. Trafficking in persons is a serious crime. Every year, thousands of men, women and children fall into the hands of traffickers, in their own countries and abroad. Raise awareness to exploitation of forced prostitution, forced labour, slavery and the removal of organs.

FREEDOM - how to spot modern slavery?

- F** for fear in their eyes
- R** for restricted movement or social interaction
- E** for evidence of physical abuse, duress
- E** for extremely long working hours for little or no pay
- D** for Documents of identity withheld by employer
- O** for other person speaks for them
- M** is for money withheld for an alleged debt

Read UN Special Rapporteurs report [HERE](#), including tech facilitated slavery rings. Previous SISWP report [HERE](#)



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

UN Day Against Nuclear Testing
29 August

[HERE](#)

[UN DAYS](#)



[SISEAP EVENTS HERE](#)

SI Convention 2027

30 September to 2 October 2027

Soroptimist International (SI) is excited to announce that the 2027 Soroptimist International Convention will be held in the stunning city of Prague, in the Czech Republic.

Hosted by Soroptimist International Europe (SIE), this highly anticipated event will bring together Soroptimists from around the world to re-connect, collaborate, and advance our global



**Soroptimist
International
Convention
2027
PRAGUE**



mission of achieving human rights and gender equality for all women and girls.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

SISEAP will be publishing a quarterly calendar, to view important dates for action and events, which can be viewed [HERE](#). The calendar is viewable from the front page of the SISEAP website, under the EVENTS tab.

AROUND THE FEDERATION

ENVIRONMENT MONTH

Thank you to all the clubs who utilized the Environment Toolkits to promote microplastics and its harmful effects on our environment. Congratulations to SI Bayside for the social media campaign, every day for the month they ran a new graphic and statement of how you can help reduce plastics. SI Mongolia's 4 clubs came together to produce canvas bags to reduce plastic shopping bags. SI Bangsar also ran a successful social media campaign and created a video. Iskandar Putri successfully planted mangrove to combat erosion, climate change, soil acidification. [HERE](#)



World Environment Month

#beatplasticpollution
 #WORLDENVIRONMENTMONTH
 #ECOFRIENDLYLIVING
 #GREENMONGOLIA
 #SOROPTIMISTFORCHANGE
 #SUSTAINABLEMONGOLIA
 #ZEROWASTELIFESTYLE



Soroptimist International
 South East Asia Pacific
 www.siseap.org

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT PLASTIC POLLUTION!

DURING THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT MONTH, SOROPTIMISTS OF MONGOLIA CHOSE TO REFUSE SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAGS AND CARRY THEIR OWN REUSABLE BAGS.



"SI Ulaanbaatar"



"SI Darkhan"



"SI Erdenet"



"SI Amgalan"



SIROM Sustainability Day 2025

In celebration of UN Environment Day, Soroptimist International Region of Malaysia (SIROM) together with Heineken Malaysia, Sokong by Malaysiakini, hosted **Sustainability**

Day 2025 at GCC Farm, Bentong. The event promoted eco-friendly practices through hands-on workshops on aquaponics farming and organic composting - practical, low-carbon solutions to food security and environmental challenges.

Aligned with the UN Environment Day theme “Our Land. Our Future. We Are #GenerationRestoration,” the initiative brought together community members, environmental advocates, and volunteers to inspire sustainable living.

[READ THE FULL REPORT](#)



SI Melba Support Girls in Sport

The Afghan Women's Organisation of Victoria (AWOV) have set up a volleyball team for junior girls from local Afghan families to join a local competition. The team was due to start their games in Dandenong in May and they needed sports tops with their name and number on them. SI Melba members felt it was important for the girls to be able to participate wearing similar sports gear to the other teams so a decision was endorsed by all members to cover the cost of the tops for the team and coaches. SI Melba presented them with their sports tops and watched them play, building on friendships, community and teamwork.

SI Gold Coast Provides a Scholarship for Continued Education

SI Gold Coast has partnered with the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation (QUATSIF) to provide a scholarship for a year 12 Aboriginal female student. Scholarships are available to support eligible Year 11 and 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander in Queensland with the cost of gaining their Queensland Certificate of

Education or Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement. Funding can cover compulsory school fees and uniform, subject and technology levies, textbooks, subject related excursions and camps and TAFE/VET costs. The scholarship is \$1000 per year per student. Students are nominated for the scholarship programme on the recommendations of local high schools, according to a set of strict criteria from QUATSIF.

SI Gold Coast reported that "*We did this as we recognize that the successful completion of schooling builds a foundation for future employment and a better quality of life for young people. We hope this will encourage our recipient to continue on to tertiary education.*"

PROGRAMME REPORTING DATABASE

July Tip

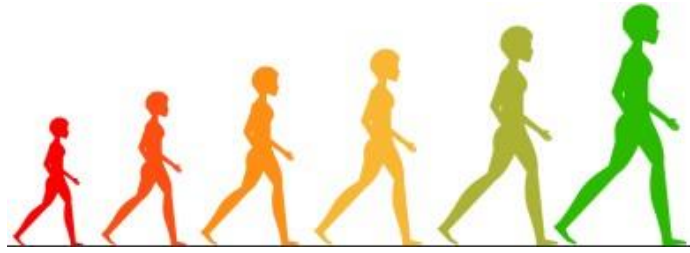
The programme database has a series of help documents that you can access by clicking on the ? symbol. The following information is from the Advocacy sheet:

Is your Action Advocacy or NOT?

The list below will assist you with your decision making when submitting an Advocacy Action to the SISEAP Programme Reporting Database.

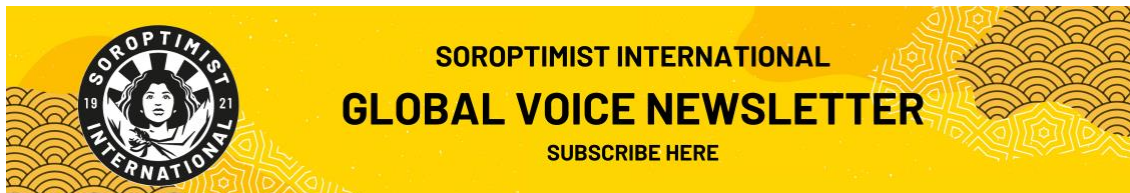
- A guest speaker on plastic waste? **NO**
- A public forum on a subject matter? **NO**
- A public forum on a subject matter which calls for action, and has a follow up with action? **YES**
- A display on the extent of mental health shortfalls in the local community in the local library? **NO**
- A petition organised by your club to prevent the sale of a local park? **YES**
- A letter from your club to the local paper urging businesses to not use plastic straws? **YES**
- More than half the members of the club sign a petition to advocate for change on a subject matter? **YES**
- The club holds a public meeting on the need for greater mental health funding and a delegation of attendees urging increased funding then meets with the local member? **YES**
- A submission to the government on an issue? **YES**
- A letter to a Sports Council urging permission for a girls team to play? **YES**
- Letters to individual MPs or government Ministers on a specific issue? **YES**

DID YOU KNOW?



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. Only documented and peer reviewed reports can be use as evidence for our UN reporting. We report on our 8 objectives and 17 SDGs, as well as find special items through words searches. You can search all that too, anytime.



SI Global Voice Newsletter

Stay connected and informed from Soroptimist International! Click on the image above to subscribe and receive the SI Global Voice monthly updates directly in your inbox. Don't miss out—subscribe today!

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 April 2025 eSPAN edition is required by **Friday 1 August 2025**. Please email your submissions to programme.donnell@siseap.org Thank you.



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