

 MEMBERS LOGIN

Soroptimist



International

Federation of the

South West Pacific



I hope those of you who are attending the SI Convention in Kuala Lumpur, are looking forward to it as much as I am and I hope to catch up with many of you there.

I understand that almost 260 members from SISWP have registered for the SI Convention in Kuala Lumpur and maybe there might be some late registrants from SISWP since I received the numbers of attendees. The majority of SISWP registrants come from 6 of our countries, Malaysia of course and the close countries of Singapore and Thailand but New Zealand, Fijian and Australian members are participating in numbers. Sadly 4 of our countries are unable to attend the convention so for the next significant gathering in 2021 for our centenary we should organise some fundraising so that the members for our developing nations with low GDP can be helped to attend. Watch this space!

The convention is going to be extremely interesting. You may or may not know that an African Federation is in the wings and 70 members from this emerging federation are attending the convention. The majority of these African sisters come from Kenya (17) Nigeria (14) and South Africa (14) and smaller numbers from 7 other countries in Africa. Make sure you interact with the members from Africa and find out about their projects, perhaps some of which we in more affluent countries could help them with. A hand across the Federations helps both the donor and the recipient. Just think about the visits that could be done to see first-hand the projects that you have helped to achieve for the improvement of women's lives in another country. Our visits to previous quadrennial projects has been an eye opener for those of us who have been able to attend.

Some significant UN days for July/August

18 July - Nelson Mandela International Day

Nelson Mandela International Day, also known as Mandela Day, is held on July 18 each year. The day remembers Mandela's achievements in working towards conflict resolution, democracy, human rights, peace, and reconciliation.

It seems appropriate that Nelson Mandela Day is the date of the Soroptimist International AGM where no doubt the African Federation will be discussed.

30 July -International Day of Friendship

The General Assembly (GA) in its resolution of 1998 proclaimed the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001–2010), recognising that enormous harm and suffering are caused to children through different forms of violence. The International Day of Friendship was proclaimed in 2011 by the GA believing that friendship between peoples, countries, cultures and individuals can inspire peace efforts and build bridges between communities.

30 July – World Day against Trafficking in Persons

Human trafficking is a crime that exploits women, children and men for numerous purposes including forced labour and sex. Every country in the world is affected by human trafficking, whether as a country of origin, transit, or destination for victims. Traffickers the world over continue to target women and girls. Trafficking happens all around us as the share of persons trafficked within their own country has doubled in recent years to 58 per cent of all detected victims, according to a 2018 UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Global Report on Trafficking in Persons .

9 August - International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

It is estimated that there are 370 million indigenous people in the world, living across 90 countries, making up less than 5% of the world population but accounting for 15% of the poorest. They speak an overwhelming majority of the world's estimated 7,000 languages and represent 5,000 different cultures. Indigenous peoples, despite their cultural differences, share common problems related to the protection and preservation of their rights as distinct peoples. They have more in common with other indigenous populations, than with the dominant societies in which they live. The international community now recognizes that special measures are required to protect their rights and maintain their distinct cultures and way of life. The GA proclaimed this year 2019 as the International Year of Indigenous Languages.

12 August - International Youth Day

12 August was first designated International Youth Day by the UN General Assembly in 1999 and is an annual celebration of the role of young women and men as essential partners in change, and an opportunity to raise awareness of challenges and problems facing the world's youth. There are 1.8 billion young people between the ages of 10 and 24 in the world. 1 in 10 of the world's children live in conflict zones and 24 million of them are out of school. Political instability, labour market challenges and limited space for political and civic participation have led to increasing isolation of youth in societies. This year's theme for International Youth Day is "Transforming Education" and highlights efforts to make education more inclusive and accessible for all young people. Education being Goal 4 of the 2030 Agenda/SDGs

Quality education plays a key role in youth development and comprehensive youth development benefits society.

Catherine Evans

Programme Director

2019-2020

Consultative Status of Women (CSW)

Programme Director and the Programme team is please to announce that nominations are now open for SISWP members to nominate for the fully funded delegates position to CSW 64, and also nominations for the self funded positions to CSW 64.

CSW 64 will be very exciting as it is the 25th anniversary since Beijing this year it is CSW64 / Beijing+25 (2020), visit this website for more information.

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw64-2020>



CSW64 / Beijing+25 (2020) will be held 9 - 20th of March 2020 in New York. The successful fully funded Delegate will be funded to attend the 1st week of the Commission. Self Funded Delegates may attend the 2 weeks.

You can nominate by following these two links.

[Fully funded Application Nomination to CSW64](#)

[Self Funded Application Nomination to CSW64](#)

There is also a link to the application forms from the SISWP website downloads area. Log on and click [HERE](#).

CSW 64 takes place twenty-five years after the Fourth World Conference on Women, which met in Beijing, China, and adopted the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995). It also takes place five years after the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The main focus of the session will be on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the 23rd special session of the General Assembly (which conducted a five year review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action). The review will include an assessment of current challenges that affect the implementation of the Platform for Action and the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and its contribution towards the full realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

UN member states in the Asia Pacific region have begun their review and appraisal of the outcome of the FWCW and will submit their national reports to the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP). ESCAP will convene the Asia-Pacific regional intergovernmental

meeting on Beijing + 25 in Bangkok in November 2019.

You can read the Asia Pacific NGO Caucus Beijing + 25 Report on the SISWP Website downloads area. Included here is also the NGO Main Guide 2019 Supplement. Along with these reports are also reports from Australia. [Read them here](#) (you will need to be logged onto the siswp website to view)

Having the opportunity to win a scholarship as the SISWP funded delegate to CSW is a very exciting opportunity and adventure. It is well timed that Kimberly Berem who was the winner of the SISWP scholarship to attend CSW63, has submitted her report. Please take the time to read [Kimberly's report](#). This report is also available from the SISWP website.



UN SDG Work

How does your country compare in the World Ranking for women in parliament? The following data has been shortened from the list prepared by the National Parliaments by 1st February 2019. 193 countries are classified by descending order of the percentage of women in the lower or single House. Comparative data on the world and regional averages as well as data concerning the two regional parliamentary assemblies elected by direct suffrage can be found on separate pages. The top 5 are listed and then the SWP Countries. How does your country compare?

Rank	Country	Lower or single House				Upper House or Senate			
		Elections	Seats*	Women	% W	Elections	Seats*	Women	% W
1	Rwanda	03.09.2018	80	49	61.30%	26.09.2011	26	10	38.50%
2	Cuba	11.03.2018	605	322	53.20%	---	---	---	---
3	Bolivia	12.10.2011	130	69	53.10%	12.10.2011	36	17	47.20%

		4	4						
4	Mexico	01.07.2018	500	241	48.20%	01.07.2018	128	63	49.20%
5	Sweden	09.09.2018	349	165	47.30%	---	---	---	---
39	United Kingdom	08.06.2017	650	208	32.00%	N.A.	789	208	26.40%
48	Australia	02.07.2016	150	45	30.00%	02.07.2016	76	30	39.50%
80	Singapore	11.09.2015	100	23	23.00%	---	---	---	---
101	Cambodia	29.07.2018	125	25	20.00%	25.02.2018	62	11	17.70%
106	Fiji	14.11.2018	51	10	19.60%	---	---	---	---
140	Malaysia	09.05.2018	222	32	14.40%	N.A.	67	13	19.40%
181	Thailand	07.08.2014	240	13	5.40%	---	---	---	---
187	Solomon Islands	19.11.2014	49	1	2.00%	---	---	---	---
190	Papua New Guinea	24.06.2017	106	0	0.00%	---	---	---	---
190	Vanuatu	22.01.2016	52	0	0.00%	---	---	---	---

High Level Political Forum (HLPF) July 2019



You may recall in the June eSPAN edition, we highlighted the Soroptimist International HLPF report, which was being compiled for this UN Session - The seventh session of the **UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF 2019)** will take place under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Council (**ECOSOC**). The session will take place from Tuesday, 9 July, to Monday, 15 July 2019, HLPF 2019 will address the theme, 'Empowering people and ensuring

inclusiveness and equality'. It will conduct an in-depth review of SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 13 (climate action) and SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions), in addition to SDG 17 (partnerships for the Goals) which is reviewed each year.

Forty-seven countries will conduct **Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) for HLPF 2019**. The following SWP countries will conduct VNRs for the first time in 2019: Cambodia, Fiji, Mongolia, Nauru, New Zealand, Tonga, Vanuatu. If your country is submitting their VNR, make sure you access this information.

It appears that **Child Poverty** is one of the biggest challenges.

"More than half of the world's poorest people are children, even though they (children) represent only 30 percent of the world's total population" and the results only consider children living in established households.

Building on new modeling methods developed by **World Data Lab**, it is now possible to provide preliminary estimates of poverty trends in every country of the world disaggregated by age. Of the world's 2.3 billion children (those less than 18 years of age), 301 million live on less than \$1.90/day in 2011 PPP. This means that 13 percent of the world's children are very poor—compared to 6 percent of adults. See [Full Report here](#)

SANCTUARY: Shelter for Women

Imagine having to flee your home, the place you and your children felt safe in, where once was laughter and love, is now only despair and fright. Through Domestic Violence and or Natural Disasters such as Cyclones and Floods, this is all too common for some Fijian Women. Replace this despair and unknown with relief and hope when a Fijian woman with her children turn the handle on the Sanctuary Shelter for Women home and enter into a home where they know they have sanctuary, a space where their children can begin to laugh again, where they know they will receive support and training, where they have hope and a future.

This will be a reality very soon. The SISWP Sanctuary:Shelter for Women home has now commenced the building phase. Surveying and ground work has completed and the building phase has began.



Has your **CLUB** donated to this Federation Project? Have you donated to the project? Your generosity is now required more than ever.

Your donation how ever small is worthwhile. I would like to be able to announce by the September edition of eSPAN that SISWP has been able to raise **\$20,000** to complete this home.

[DONATE HERE](#)

SWP PROGRAMME REPORTING DATABASE



And the blue ribbon is presented to **SI George Town**, they were the first club to submit a report to the Programme Database having submitted 5 reports to date, congratulations. We encourage all clubs and regions to visit the database and begin to enter your reports. Remember also that you are our eyes, whilst the database is in maintenance stage for 3 months we need many reports to be submitted so that you can report to us any issues you may be experiencing. Already some clubs have picked up some typo errors and a process error, we thank you for assisting us.

Each club, region and national representative was sent a email with your personal login details and password, along with the high level overview help document. If your club has not received this please contact your zone coordinator for assistance and it will be resent to you.

To log onto the database follow the link from the SISWP website, under the Members Area or click on this link here <http://117.53.46.139/siswp>

Soroptimist Makmur-Indonesia Tsunami Earthquake Appeal

Read a recent report from Isla Winarto, Project Director on the progress on the Indonesia Earthquake Recovery through Water, Shelter and Capacity Building Project in Rembitan, Lombok.

This is the third progress report on the subject project, outlining work carried out by the SI Jakarta (SIJ) Project team in May-June, 2019. The report is based on information and first-hand experience obtained by the Project Director and Project Manager, both of whom made two visits each to the project site in Lombok in the period outlined above.

The Construction of the Village Well:

In March 2019, Phase 1 work commenced in the Rebuk Satu village in Rembitan, Central Lombok – the site for SIJ's Women, Water and Leadership Project, funded through SI. This village is home to 31 families (approx. 124 people). In the initial phase, the Contractor used scientific equipment to test a number of possible locations for the well, before settling on one area where there was a minimum amount of hard rock underground.

In mid-April, 2019, the digging of the well reached 75m, at which point the water flow was tested over a period of 2-3 weeks. During this time, the water flow proved to be irregular. Therefore, in mid-May, a decision was made by the Contractor to continue drilling further, to a depth of 82m. At this new level, the water flow was further trailed and has been carefully monitored over May-June, 2019. It is agreed that the water flow from the deeper well is sufficient for the villagers' use in their daily routine. A 1HP pump will be installed to draw water up from the well.

Your **DONATIONS** are making a difference. You can make your [DONATION HERE](#)
[Please read the full report here.](#)

Around the Federation

Report from Zareena Bi

SI Fiji applied to the Federation's Disaster Fund, for Disaster Management water project after the cyclone & flooding during 2018. It is a Disaster Management water project in a flood prone area. The funding purchased 3 x 5,300 litre tanks for the Lovu seaside area of Lautoka.

The Amount received from SISWP Disaster Fund = \$4020 FJD

Two water tanks have been facilitated at the cost of \$2,440 FJD. Zareena notes that SI Fiji had to re-look at the area identified since the initial site was within communities. The tanks have been placed at schools within the same communities as these schools are the evacuation centres during disasters. It is easier to work with the school heads and they have assured that they will take care of the tanks and communities will have access to these tanks.

We have identified the site for the 3rd tank and will update once this is facilitated.
Photos are attached of the 2 tanks that have facilitated Regards Zareena



SI Bangkok - Flower Power Fundraising Gala

SI Bangkok held their Flower Power fundraising gala at the Sheraton Grande Sukhumvit, this event was a great success, with over 250 people attending the annual charity event.

This year more money than previously was raised through event ticket sales, raffle tickets and generous sponsors!! The funds raised will be channelled to the main projects: the Phayao Nursing School and the Tree Planting & Plastic Free SIB- A Climate Change Initiative.

It was a fun evening with a sumptuous buffet, several games and activities, prize giveaways, dance and music by Cora and The Boys band. A heartfelt thank you goes out to the supportive sponsors for their generosity.



Soroptimist International Phnom Penh in Partnership

Environmental Project to distribute Solar Lamps. Phnom Penh visited a remote area school to distribute study materials and solar lamps.

50 students received solar lamps and study materials to 60 students. Thanks to all partners especially to SI Karratha, SI Hellena, Norton University, Ms. Pheara, and Ms. Veasna who contributes to this amazing mission to improve the lives of women and girls in Cambodia



SI Ulaanbaatar - World Environmental Day Celebration.

For the World Environment Day on 5 June, SI Ulaanbaatar Club members planted 30 trees at the "Magic Land" Child Protection and Development Center which is being built within the Magic Mongolia project by

Lantuun Dohio NGO. The purpose of the project is to create a safe haven for children in need of protection from abuse, neglect, and exploitation



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Educate, Empower, Enable



Copy for the August 2019 eSPAN edition is required by 5th of August 2019 to
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