



FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND PSYCHOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

**THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORKERS,
MARCH 21ST, 2023**

AT

UNIVERSITY OF KISUBI, ENTEBBE

THEME: RESPECTING DIVERSITY THROUGH JOINT SOCIAL ACTION

Word from Head of Department

This year is unique to the University of Kisubi. Social workers from over ten universities celebrate this novel event. Unbelievable to host such event; as the theme of the year, I would like to give the meaning of diversity. Oxford Dictionary tells us that the word diversity refers to “a range of many people or things that are very different from each other”. This means the different qualities and experiences of each individual person which makes us able to offer different perspectives to the person next to us. This is the role of social worker to respect every human being and the surrounding.



We have lots of things that make a group of people diverse. *For example, imagine your own classmates at your university. Some are female or male. Your classmates are from different tribes or ethnicities, or different nationalities. Your classmates observe different religions. Your classmates' sexuality might be different to yours. The language might be different. Your classmate is coming from a different social or economic background. Your accent is sound different.*

Respect for diversity is on a core value for social workers. This is goes in line with appreciating diversity in our communities; of which include an understanding of our community in diverse contexts of its systems.

Privatsun Nkurabanka

Head of Department

Social Sciences

World Social work day celebration in Uganda

About NASWU

The National Association of Social Workers of Uganda (NASWU) brings together professional Social Workers in Uganda, Social Work Teaching Institutions and Social Work Agencies. It operates under the oversight of the Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development. NASWU's aim is to promote and facilitate social welfare and social development, promoting professional practice and shaping social policies while minimizing social risks and harm and ensuring delivery of high quality social services in Uganda <https://www.ifsw.org/uganda-association-pubshesannual-report/> NASWU is a member of the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) <https://www.ifsw.org/> and a member of Global Social Workforce Alliance

Background

The celebration is meant to support in strengthening the relationship between NASWU and her partners in Uganda and beyond. It is also a tool for developing connection with an audience through increased awareness.

Objectives

- Increase awareness of the need to pay more attention social work;
- To facilitate effective professional coverage and documentation of the World Social Work Day celebration in Uganda;
- To serve as a uniting factor for increased teamwork among stakeholders to continue working together even after the World Social Work Day celebration in Uganda.

Strategies

The following strategies will be used to achieve the objectives:

- Preparing a range of communications to various audiences – internal and external;
- Creating a timetable for release of messages during and after the event;
- Work with all participants to widely disseminate event information to the general public.

Target audiences

- Youth
- Students and social work teaching institutions
- Children
- Government
- National and International Partners
- Membership organizations/ professional bodies
- Parents
- Policy makers



Pre-preparation of the event as they are cleaning at Kasatiro village

Key messages

- Climate Change Prevention and Adaptation,
- Love and care for people and the planet, responsibilities and holistic rights,
- Respect, dignity, harmony and social justice,
- Diversity, belonging, reciprocity and equity,
- Ubuntu, togetherness, accountability and community,
- Solidarity, equality, inclusion and collaboration,
- Strengthening social welfare systems



Social workers collected garbage's and dumps in designated place

Channels of communication

- Press conference
- Television
- Newspapers
- Radio
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, WhatsApp)
- Videography
- Photography
- Live Streaming



The importance of diversity



- Diversity benefit at the workplace
- Diversity offers a variety of perspectives
- Diversity increases creativity
- Diversity increases productivity and collaboration
- You gain better engagement from your workforce



- Diversity & Inclusion
- To respect diversity in a school or work environment
- Learn something new from people that are different to you, don't shut it down
- Make sure you give everyone a chance to have an opinion
- Avoid using stereotypes and recognise and address your own bias
- Think about what you are saying
- Respect religious holidays or cultural events



Certificate of recognition to the best students from various universities

Cultural humility

It is very crucial to understand different cultures with their beliefs, individuals' experiences. Our understanding of cultural differences evolves through an ongoing learning process (Tervalon & Murray-Garcia, 1998). These require us to consider the context of social identity, history, individual, community experiences.



Cultural humility remain the ability to open to learning about other cultures while acknowledging one's own lack of competence and recognizing power dynamics that impact the relationship.



Within cultural humility, it is important to engage in continuous self-reflection, recognize the impact of power dynamics on individuals and communities, embrace “not knowing”, and commit to lifelong learning. This approach to diversity encourages a curious spirit and the ability to openly engage with others in the process of learning about a different culture.



Diversity of social workers student leaders from various universities

Cultural competence

This is the possessing of the skills and knowledge of a culture in order to effectively work with individual members of the culture. This includes an appreciation of cultural differences and the ability to effectively work with individuals. Instead, true cultural competence requires engaging in an ongoing process of learning about the experiences of other cultures (Tervalon & Murray-Garcia, 1998).



Students receiving certificates of recognition



Social workers day at University of Kisubi posing a group photo

TOP SKILLS IN 2023 FOR SOCIAL WORK

KNOWLEDGE OF SOCIAL WORK METHODOLOGIES

Social casework | Social group
work | Community organization |
Social work research | Social
welfare administration | Social
Action

PROGRAM DESIGN

BUDGETING

CRITICAL THINKING

PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS

TIME MANAGEMENT

EMPATHY

RISK MANAGEMENT

ADAPTABILITY

PATIENCE

TASK MANAGEMENT

NEGOTIATION SKILLS

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

DOCUMENTATION





National Association of Social Workers of Uganda (NASWU)
presents

World Social Work Day Conference

Main conference



University Of Kisubi
Entebbe



Tue, 21st March
7:00AM – 3:00PM



Theme: **Respecting diversity
through joint social action**

Fee:

UGX 30,000
For students

UGX 50,000
For out of school social workers

Supported by:



National Association of Social Workers of Uganda (NASWU)



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