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Soroptimist



International

Federation of the

South West Pacific



SPAN

Soroptimist Programme Action News

Welcome to the October 2021 edition of the Programme Action News

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

FROM OUR PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

The champagne has been sipped, the candles lit, the speeches over and the cake eaten. We have turned 100 years of age and we are now in our next century. What an amazing 100 years our organisation has had and many women and children enjoy better lives thanks to our club members.

The virtual celebration reminded us of the truly international nature of our organisation and it was great to see the faces of sisters we had met in the past but not seen in person for a very long time. Friendships, whether at club or international levels, are one of the strengths of our organisation as is the diversity of cultures and faith. We are united by a shared passion to improve the lives of women and girls regardless of where they live. This makes us an organisation of greater inner strength as witnessed by resilience among clubs in the face of a pandemic.

This is not to say that we can become complacent. That old adage, "If you always do what you have

always done, you will always get what you have always got" is very true. The world faces challenges and has to adapt to survive and so must we. Organisations such as ours face challenges. Challenges may be in membership, the use of technology or from a world appearing to become increasingly isolationist or from a pushback on the space for civil society.

We need to be adaptable and willing to, at the very least, consider change. Perhaps we need to adopt more partnerships with other clubs or organisations. Perhaps we need to re-examine our projects or decide to become more effective advocates. We need to be willing to look at the benefits of changes in our structures and processes. We need to be positive in our approach and focus on the potential being achieved without a loss of past achievements.

It is not up to the Board or the Directors. It is not up to committee convenors or your club executive. It is up to each club member to accept the challenges and work to turn them into opportunities to fulfil our mission. I look forward to our brilliant future!

Di Lockwood

Programme Director

Soroptimist International of the South West Pacific

swpprogramme2020@siswp.org

ADVOCACY WORK



What are priorities in your country?

What are clubs doing in advocacy?

Advocating on behalf of women is a core Soroptimist function.

The Programme team would be pleased to hear what your club is doing?



SI of Jakarta is proud to present a webinar

"Raising Awareness of the Consequences of Child Brides in Indonesia"

Date: Monday 25 October 2021

Time: 3pm (WIB - Western Indonesia Time)

[REGISTER HERE](#)

PROGRAMME REPORTING DATABASE

Final date for re-using rejected reports is 31 October



Soroptimist  International
Federation of the South West Pacific

Women Inspiring Action, Transforming Lives

A login form on a yellow background. At the top center is the Soroptimist International logo. Below it is a white rectangular box containing two input fields: 'Username' and 'Password'. To the right of the password field is a blue circular button with a white right-pointing arrow. Below the white box is a small yellow question mark icon.

Having problems with the Programme Database?

If you have any issues logging in to the SISWP Programme Database, please contact Di Lockwood, Programme Director swpprogramme2020@siswp.org.

BEST PRACTICE AWARDS



Programme of Service

Best Practice Nomination forms are currently being revised. Information will be available in January 2022.



Opening Doors to a Bright Future
is the Soroptimist International (SI) President's Appeal 2021-2023



Founded in 2007 by Jenni Lipa, with the goal of providing access to clean water in rural villages around Siem Reap in the North West of Cambodia, CCDO understands the importance of facilitating access to clean drinking water, good nutrition and health, and quality education, fundamental foundations for an equal, sustainable future.”

“Federations, we are excited to announce the first project “Education and Learning in Cambodia throughout the life course” taking place within the Federation of the South West Pacific, in the South East Asia Nation of Cambodia, and partnering with the Cambodian Community Dream Organization (CCDO). [\(from the SI website\)](#)

UN SDG WORK

SI and the UN

NEW YORK



News from the 88th session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, 21st September 2021 by Berthe De Vos, SI UN Representative in Geneva.

[Click here](#)

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR THE UNITED NATIONS?

Read SI Advisor Advocacy, Pat Black's Blog which explains the key points of the United Nations Secretary-General's recent report, which was the key topic of discussion at this year's United Nations General Assembly (14-30 September).

[Click here](#)



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS 2021



Blog by Frances Zainoeddin, SI UN Representative, New York.

The International Day of Older Persons, observed around the world on 1 October, is usually a time to celebrate older persons, their contributions to their families, their communities and to the national economy. While many older persons lead healthy active lives, have a roof over their head and do not have to worry about

their next meal, many are in need of help and care. Some, especially older women, have suffered a lifetime of discrimination in terms of little education resulting in few opportunities to participate in the formal labour force, leading to few savings and assets to help them with old age. In a number of countries, women do not have property rights when their husbands die. Sadly, women are left further and further behind. [Click here](#)

PARIS

EDUCATION IN A DIGITAL WORLD

Blog by Evelyne Para, SI UN Representative at UNESCO.

Earlier this month, International Literacy Day 2021 was celebrated by UNESCO under the theme 'Literacy for a human-centered recovery: Narrowing the digital divide'.

A year and a half after the start of THE COVID-19 pandemic, with nearly half of the world's students still affected by partial or full school closures, literacy progress remains hampered and fractures in education have been redoubled by the digital divide. Therefore, it was important to insist on the need to reconsider literacy in our increasingly digitally mediated world, where new information and communication technologies have transformed our ways of living, working, learning, and socialising. [Click here](#)



UN DAYS



October

- 15 Oct [International Day of Rural Women](#)
- 16 Oct [World Food Day](#)
- 17 Oct [International Day for the Eradication of Poverty](#)
- 24 Oct [United Nations Day](#)

November

- 05 Nov [World Tsunami Awareness Day](#)
- 06 Nov [International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict](#)
- 10 Nov [World Science Day for Peace and Development](#)
- 16 Nov [International Day for Tolerance](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

SISWP is pleased to announce that it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ActionAid Vanuatu to support and enable the adoption of Women I Tok Tok Tugeta

Sisters' Savings and Loan Scheme to empower women in villages to borrow interest free money to set up or strengthen their livelihoods, food security or any activity that they are doing to bridge the gaps within their families. [Read more](#)

International Day of the Girl Child

Nearly 1 in 4 girls aged 15–19 globally are not in education, employment or training, compared to 1 in 10 boys.

Every year on the 11th October we celebrate the day of the Girl Child. This years' theme is "Digital Generation. Our Generation". This theme was chosen because the gender gap is in so many areas.

Check out "Investing in the pathways to employment", a report initiated and coordinated by the GenderSmart team and UNICEF, in partnerships with VOLTA. It provides practical insights for individuals and organisations to help adolescent girls and young women in low and middle-income countries. The analysis presented in this report lays out six core investment themes and examples of investable opportunities. [Read more](#)

The Programme of Service team are keen to hear about your work in this area!

AROUND THE FEDERATION

SI Bangsar has developed a series of webinars to raise awareness, provide knowledge to cope with challenges faced by teenagers, cyber safety, bullying, teenage pregnancy & baby dumping.



Winning the SISWP Brilliant Futures Fund award has helped SI Bangsar create a Teenage Survival Kit. The added financial boost saved them precious time which they utilised in developing content

SI Carnarvon

The club celebrated the 100th birthday of Soroptimist International by donating and planting 100 trees. Carnarvon is approximately 900 km north of Perth and though on the coast is an arid region of Western Australia. The club approached the Carnarvon Golf Club which has a very active grounds committee which was in the process of greening their fairways and looking for ways to expand the wind breaks.

The trees were sourced locally so that they are suitable to the area. They needed to be able to survive with low rainfall and be salt tolerant. They were also to provide a safe habitat for wildlife and shade and wind breaks for golfers.



SI Ba



The club celebrated the centenary in style. Apart from relishing the opportunity for 30 members to gather in person, lighting 4 candles and cutting a cake, the members distributed vegetables and fruit bearing trees to a special school and children's parents. Children were taught how to plant and over 600 trees have been planted. Over 130 Sandalwood trees have been given to other people and organisations and 100 sanitary packs were given to Golden Age home and the HART home for single mothers.

To cap it off they inducted 8 members with another 11 still to be inducted.

What a great celebration.

Downloading and printing eSPAN

If you would like to download copies of eSPAN to print, go to the [SISWP 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 DEADLINES

Copy for the November 2021 eSPAN edition is required by 8 November 2021. Please email your submissions to swpasstprogramdirector1@siswp.org. Thank you.



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This email was sent to all Soroptimist International of the South West Pacific Clubs

Our mailing address is:

Soroptimist International South West Pacific

PO Box 1400

STRAWBERRY HILLS, NSW 2012

Australia

ABN: 35 147 990 627

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