**Item 7 - DRAFT IFSW Europe Workplan 2025-2027 V2**

**To be finalised after discussion on 5 October 2025**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Strategic theme | Action | Who  | By When |
| 1. **BUILDING STRONGER MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS**

**Strategic aim:** **To support member associations to grow, support each other and achieve their objectives, in line with our common ethics and values.** | * Implement the *Strengthening Social Work and IFSW* *in Europe* project

Key elements:* Engage members through webinars, social media and other online platforms (e.g. padlets)
* Trial new approaches to support and inclusion within 25/26.
* Write up final report on approaches and implementation for adoption in DM 2026
* Develop and deliver webinars and other online meetings later in 2026 to disseminate, publicise and promote approaches and position of IFSWE in providing support and solidarity.
* Commence evaluation of the project end 2026

**Supporting members under duress*** Develop more consistent processes and best practices for responding to calls for support, learning, intervention (etc) from members and engaging wider membership in mutual support and solidarity within the ‘*Strengthening social work*…’ project.
 | Led by Executive, Coordinator Jill Childs, involving members | Quarterly updates to IFSW GlobalMilestone report: DM 2026 |
| **2. INFLUENCING EUROPEAN AND NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK POLICIES** **Strategic aim: To influence and shape social work and social policies across Europe through promotion of our common ethics, values and knowledge through producing research, policy papers, webinars and other resources.** | **Responsive project*** Plan future strategic direction for project outputs in management meeting of consortium leads end Oct 2025 Lisbon to include:
	+ Agreeing development/ production/application of implementation tools and methods
	+ Exploring options for funding for implementation through IFSW E and partners (through grant and/or commissioned implementation activities within services etc)
	+ Developing networks of supporters/allies for Responsive approaches
	+ Ensure use of all Responsive funding to achieve above aims by end January 2025

**Cocoso project*** Increase IFSW E executive visibility within and support to the project
* Plan for involvement of IFSW E in delivering training and development inputs to candidates.

**Increasing policy impact of representatives/ regional commissioners*** Work with representatives and regional commissioners on enhancing influencing skills and preparing and planning for webinars and learning activities over coming year
 | Ruth AllenAna RadulescuNicolai PaulsenJill Childs Ruth AllenAna RadulescuHerbert PaulischinJohn BrennanRuth AllenRepresentatives | Project formal end – end February 2026Ongoing (post-February) implementation and dissemination activities Ongoing Nov 2025 |
| **3. PROMOTING SOCIAL WORK PRACTICES AND IDENTITY****Strategic aim: To celebrate, develop and defend social work practices and strengthening identity across Europe in alignment with our European and Global ethics, values and perspectives** | * Disseminate outputs and learning from Responsive
* Provide more social work practice and identity development opportunities/offers for social workers including with the input of the Representatives and Regional Commissioners
* Appoint UN Regional Commissioner as soon as possible, in partnership with the Global UN Commissioner and IFSW Global, to sustain social work presence and impact in UN Geneva.
* Reconvene the IFSW Europe Human Rights Network, build our focus on social work and human rights practice and set tangible actions/goals for the Network
 | Ruth AllenAna RadulescuNicolai PaulsenJill ChildsRuth AllenJill ChildsRepresentativesRuth AllenPriska FleischlinBernard MayakaEnric TorrasKristine Evertz | From January 2025 – December 2026Report to DM 2026By Dec 2025Nov 2025 |
| **4. SUPPORTING SOCIAL WORKERS’ WORKING CONDITIONS****Strategic aim: To promote better working conditions, protection of rights at work and organisational practices that sustain the workforce.** | * No concrete plans as yet
* Initiating discussion on possible next steps at the DM in Oslo 2025
 |  |  |
| **5. ADVOCATING FOR EUROPEAN SOCIAL WORK WITHIN EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL BODIES** **Strategic aim: To ensure social work perspectives and values have visibility and impact in key European institutions and systems, and ensure the voice of Europe is strong within IFSW Global.**  | * Provide one or two online skills and knowledge sessions in 2025/26 focused on *‘how to advocate successfully for social work and social workers and contribute effectively within European and Global institutions*’
* Review how the Representatives Meeting time is structured and how the work of representatives feeds back to member associations and social workers across Europe.
 | John BrennanRuth AllenRepresentatives and Regional CommissionersNew Social Workers Network John BrennanRuth AllenRepresentatives and Regional CommissionersNew Social Workers Network  | By March 2026Proposal to DM 2026 |
| **6. LOBBYING AND CAMPAIGNING** **Strategic aim: To speak out and be widely recognized as the ethical voice of European social work and social workers on matters of professional, social and political importance.** | * Develop and elucidate (write up) this strategic theme as cross cutting
* Identify one or two specific priority campaign and lobbying activities for 2025/26
* Ensure motions passed at the DM are acted upon
 | Ruth AllenExecutive groupExecutive group – following DMExecutive Group | By end November 2025By end November 2025By end January 2025 and reported at DM 2026 |
| **7. IMPROVING INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS****Strategic aim: To improve the regularity, impact and coherence of our communication and engagements activities amongst members and with our wider audiences.**  | An area for considerable development in the coming year and is high on the Executive’s priority list as timely, accessible communications are crucial for all our other projects. * Further develop content and dissemination of regular briefings for members and wider audience - by email, upload to the IFSW website and notification in IFSW bulletins
* Increase use of on consolidated Facebook Account
* *Open IFSW Europe LinkedIn account if possible*
* Increase social media usage across all platforms, monitoring reach and impact
* Use more online interactive tools to enable member engagement and networking with each other e.g. Padlet
* Work with New Social Workers Group on best ways to reach new and younger social workers and fulfil the ambitions of the network
 | Executive Group with social media lead appointedNew Social Workers group | Ongoing with report to next DM |
| **8. SECURING OUR FINANCES AND GROWTH****Strategic aim: To manage and increase our financial resources and diversify our income to sustain our ability to support and develop social work and social workers in Europe.** | * Through the *Strengthening Social work and IFSW E* project and other actions, promote benefits of IFSW E to social work associations across Europe, involving existing members, and seek to increase in paying membership.
* Increase capacity to apply for funding and grants and increase other income generation through training interested members in grant and funding bids and creating a bidding and fund raising ‘virtual team’ / pool of capable and motivated members
* Work specifically with the New Social Workers Network to build their capacity to gain funding
 | Executive group with active support of membersExecutive group with active support of members | Ongoing – report to DM 2025Initial training session online by end Nov 2025 |
| **9. DELIVERING THE IFSW EUROPE CONFERENCE** **Strategic aim: To showcase and explore the work of IFSW and of European social work through high profile, bi-annual IFSW Europe conferences, engaging diverse social workers, experts by experience and other allies.** | * Co-develop proposal to deliver the 2027 conference in Greece ( subject to vote in Oslo DM)
* Put in place a clear model (contract) for delivery of the conference with risk and surplus share between the host association and IFSW
* Promote the conference 2027 widely and consistently from 2026 onwards
* Plan early for future conferences (2029 and beyond)
 | Proposed host/sRuth Allen and Executive groupProposed host/sRuth Allen and Executive groupExecutive group and all membersExecutive group and all members | Oct 2025End Nov 2025OngoingReport to DM 2026 |
| **10. PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE AND SUPPORTING ALL GENERATIONS OF SOCIAL WORKERS**Strategic aim: To support and enable the involvement of next generation social workers and innovations within IFSW E and across the profession | * Establish regular liaison between the New Social Worker Network (NSWN) and the Executive to support and facilitate delivery of their work plan 25/26
* Include the NSWN in the Representatives Meetings for feedback and ongoing information sharing.
* Involve NSWN in ‘*Strengthening Social Work…’* Project.
* Use the members briefing and other IFSW E channels to disseminate updates about the NSWN.
* Work with the NSWN to develop their bidding and grant application capacity as part of IFSW E’s overall capacity building.
* Work with NSWN and the 2027 conference hosts to include NSW space/sub-conference and involve NSW in the conference development.
* Actively encourage involvement of NSWs in Delegates’ Meetings through funding from associations and use of IFSW central subsidy budget.
* Provide IFSW E budget of £3000.00 in 2026 for in person participation in relevant meetings/events.
 |  |  |