



# 28th Asia Pacific Social Work Regional Conference IFSW-AP & APASWE

Social Work Responses to Climate Change  
and Other Environmental Issues

18<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025



Bandaranayke Memorial International Conference  
Hall, Colombo, Sri Lanka &  
Taj Samudhra Hotel, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Organized by  
Sri Lanka Association of Professional Social  
Workers (SLAPSW)  
Collaboration with  
National Institute of Social Development (NISD)

Website: [www.slapswpa.lk](http://www.slapswpa.lk)  
Conference website:  
<https://ifswapap2025.slapsw.lk>

28TH ASIA PACIFIC SOCIAL WORK REGIONAL CONFERENCE

## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Join us at the Asia Pacific Conference on Social Work: Social Work Responses to Climate Change and Other Environmental Issues, held at the prestigious BMICH and Taj Samudra Hotel in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from November 18-21, 2025.



This conference brings together social work professionals, academics, and advocates from across the Asia-Pacific region to explore and address the pressing challenges posed by climate change and environmental degradation. Through a series of keynote presentations, panel discussions, and interactive workshops, participants will engage with innovative approaches and best practices in integrating environmental issues into social work practice.

This International Conference offers a unique opportunity to network with peers, share experiences, and gain valuable insights into how social workers can contribute to creating sustainable, resilient communities. Don't miss this chance to be part of a transformative dialogue on the intersection of social work and environmental justice.

30 minutes away from the conference inauguration - BMICH  
10-15 minute away from the Hotel Taj Samudra  
(From any hotel you are staying at that we have mentioned)



## PARTICIPATING IN THE APSWC 2025 OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES

- **Networking with Professionals:** Connect with social work practitioners, academics, and advocates from across the Asia-Pacific region, building a network of contacts and collaborators.
- **Learning and Development:** Gain insights from leading experts on innovative approaches and best practices in addressing climate change and environmental issues within the field of social work.
- **Skill Enhancement:** Participate in workshops and panel discussions that provide practical skills and knowledge, enhancing your ability to integrate environmental concerns into social work practice.
- **Global Perspectives:** Explore diverse perspectives and strategies from various countries, enriching your understanding of global challenges and solutions in social work.
- **Contributing to the Field:** Share your experiences and research, contributing to the broader conversation on the role of social work in addressing environmental and climate challenges.
- **Professional Recognition:** Presenting at the conference can enhance your professional profile and provide recognition for your work in the field.
- **Cultural Exchange:** Experience the rich cultural heritage of Sri Lanka and engage in cross-cultural exchanges with peers from different backgrounds.

## CONFERENCE SUB THEMES

- Social Work Ethics in Community Resilience Building
- Climate Change & Environmental Justice-Impact of Climate Related Extreme Weather Events on Vulnerable Communities and their Livelihoods
- Rights in the Climate Crisis: Social Work's Role in Environmental Justice
- Policy Advocacy and Legislative Action
- Cross-Sector Collaboration for Sustainable Solutions
- Education and Awareness Campaigns
- Cultural Competence and Indigenous Perspectives in Climate Actions
- Youth Engagement and Intergenerational Equity
- Empowering Hope: Psychosocial Interventions for Climate-Anxious Communities
- Wellness in Crisis: Integrating Health and Psychosocial Support for Climate-Affected Communities
- Disaster Response and Recovery
- Social work in Economic Crisis

## CALL FOR PAPERS

We are calling for papers to bring together novel solutions to development issues through social work and social development practices related to the above sub themes. All kinds of innovations will be considered, whether theoretical, social, technological, policy, practice-based, or organizational and are of local relevance and/or have the potential for large-scale replication. Lessons learned from implementing evidence-based solutions, interdisciplinary approaches, and critiques of current solutions also will be considered on approval of abstracts.

## GUIDELINES FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

We are now receiving abstract submissions. To apply, please fill out the following Abstract Submission Form.

Abstract Submission Link: [Click Here](#)  
or Link : <https://forms.gle/FEVNqeiKUAjHeTfn7> .

Abstract submissions should include the following:  
Title of the presentation, Name and affiliation of the author(s), 3-5 keywords

The abstract body (300 words) should follow as much as possible the below structure:

- Background/Context
- Research objective
- Methodology
- Main results and/or implications for social work education, practice and/or research
- Conclusion
- For more details visit the conference website: <https://ifswapap2025.slapsw.lk>



IMPORTANT DAYS

- **Call for Papers (Abstracts): 5 January 2025**
- **Deadline for Submission of Abstracts: 30 April 2025**
- **Announcement of Accepted Abstracts: 15 August 2025**
- **Deadline of the earlybird registration: 25th March 2025**
- **Deadline of the final registration: 5th October 2025**

FOR QUERIES: CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

Phone: +94772361190/+94702690666  
Email: socialworkerspa.lk@gmail.com/  
a.shamini@yahoo.com  
Website: www.slapsw.lk

Conference Venue - Hotel Taj Samudra

CONFERENCE ACCOMMODATION

Taj Samudra-Colombo (Conferance Venue)

(https://www.tajhotels.com/en-in/hotels/taj-samudra-Colombo)

No 25 Galle Face Center Road, Colombo 30000  
Phone: 0112 446 622  
• Single room (USD-120-130)  
• Double room (USD 135-145)

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

| Categories                       | Early bird Registration * | Regular Registration |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Non IFSW-AP or APASWE members    | USD 475                   | USD 500              |
| Members of IFSW-AP or APASWE     | USD 400                   | USD 450              |
| Developing countries Non-members | USD 300                   | USD 350              |
| Developing countries members     | USD 200                   | USD 250              |
| Students - Foreign               | USD 125                   | USD 150              |
| Local Participants               | LKR 15, 000               | LKR 18, 000          |
| SLAPSW members                   | LKR 10, 000               | LKR 12, 000          |
| Student Local                    | LKR 5, 000                | LKR 7, 000           |

\*Early Bird End Date : 25th March 2025

Inclusion : Conference registration fee, conference kit and conference meals.

Account Name - Sri Lanka Association of Professional Social Workers

Account Number - 93708994

Bank - Bank of Ceylon (7010)

Branch - Kollupitiya Super Grade (034)

Swift Code - BCEYKLXL

Galle Face Hotel (https://www.gallefacehotel.com)  
3, 2 Galle Rd, Colombo 00300  
Phone: 0117 541 010  
• Single room (with BF USD 145)  
• Double room (with BF USD 160)

Cinnamon Grand Colombo (https://www.cinnamonhotels.com/cinnamongrandcolombo)  
77 Galle Rd, Colombo 00300  
Phone:+94 11 2 497 361 / +94 77 3 956 326  
• Single room (USD 135-140)  
• Double room (USD 135-145)

Hotel Cinnamon Red, Colombo (https://www.cinnamonhotels.com/cinnamonredcolombo)  
59, Ananda Coomaraswamy Mawatha, Colombo-03  
Phone: 0112 145 145  
• Single room (USD 80-100)  
• Double room (USD 80-120)

Renuka City Hotel (https://www.renukacityhotel.com)  
q No : 328, Galle Road, Kollupitiya, Colombo 04, Sri Lanka , Phone: 0112 573 598  
• Single room (USD 53-68)  
• Double room (USD 53-85)

Granbell Hotel Colombo (https://granbellhotel.lk)  
282/5, Kollupitiya Road, Kollupitiya, Colombo -03, Phone: 0112 397 397  
• Single room (USD 80-101)  
• Double room (USD 110-131)

Marino Beach, Colombo (https://www.marinobeach.com)  
590 Marine Drive, Colombo 00300  
Phone: 0112 375 375  
• Single room (USD 80- 92)  
• Double room (USD 80-120)

Budget Accommodation facilities (Government)

Sri Lanka Foundation  
N0: 100 Independence Square, Colombo  
+94 -11 3071209 / +94 -11 268458  
Fax: +94 -11 2679686  
Email: bdu@slf.lk  
• Single room (with BF USD 33)  
• Double room (with BF USD 45)

Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA)

No: 28/10, Malalasekara Mawatha, Colombo 07, Sri Lanka.  
Email: info@slida.gov.lk  
Phone:+94-11-5980200  
• Single room (with BF USD 45)

SUMMARY PROGRAMME (tentative)

DAY 01 : 18 NOVEMBER 2025

1.30PM TO 4.30 PM - INAUGURAL CEREMONY

Venue: Lotus Hall, Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo -07





DAY 02: 19<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

**VENUE: HOTEL TAJ SAMUDRA, NO. 25 GALLE  
FACE CENTER RD., COLOMBO- 03**

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM: Registration  
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM: Welcome and Introduction to  
Keynote Speaker by President of SLAPSW  
9:30 AM – 10:15 AM: Keynote Address: "The Role  
of Social Work in Environmental Justice and  
Resilience"  
10:15 AM – 10:30 AM: Tea/Coffee Break and  
Annual General Meeting of IFSW - AP & APSWE

**MORNING SESSIONS (10:30 AM – 12:30 PM)**

- **Hall A: Session 1:** Community Resilience  
Building
- **Hall B: Session 2:** Environmental Justice and  
Equity
- **Hall C: Session 3:** Policy Advocacy and  
Legislative Action

**12:30 PM – 1:30 PM: LUNCH BREAK**

**AFTERNOON SESSIONS (1:30 PM – 4:00 PM)**

- **Hall A: Session 4:** Psychosocial Support and  
Climate Anxiety
  - **Hall B: Session 5:** Cross-Sector Collaboration
  - **Hall C: Session 6:** Education and Awareness  
Campaigns
- 4:00 PM – 4:15 PM: Tea/Coffee Break

**7:00 PM onwards: Gala Dinner at Taj Samudra  
Hotel**



DAY 3: 20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM: Registration  
8:30 AM – 9:00 AM: Free Paper Sessions  
**(Hall A, B, C)**  
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM: Tea/Coffee & Networking

**MORNING SESSIONS (9:30 AM – 12:30 PM)**

- **Hall A: Session 7:** Disaster Response and  
Recovery
- **Hall B: Session 8:** Green Social Work Practices
- **Hall C: Session 9:** Youth Engagement and  
Intergenerational Equity

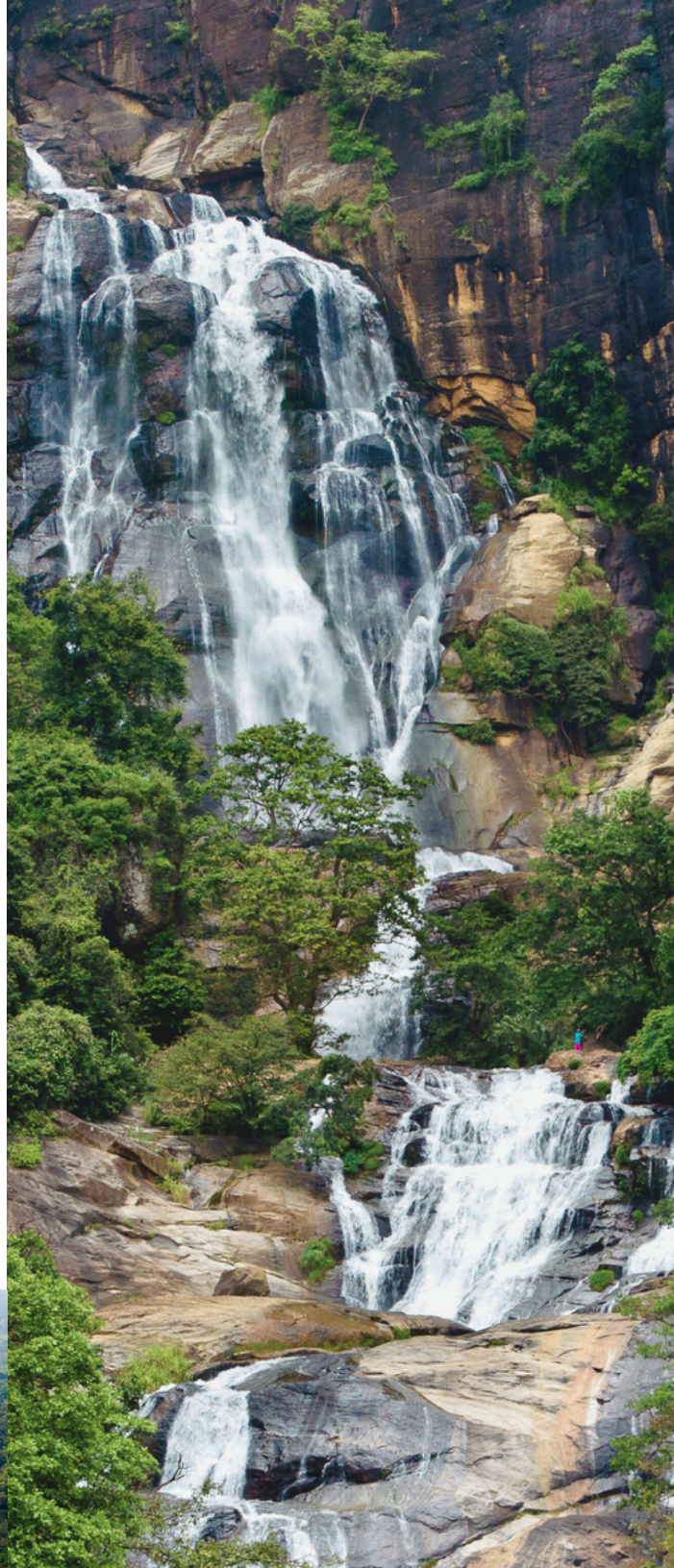
**12:30 PM – 1:30 PM: LUNCH BREAK**

**AFTERNOON SESSIONS (1:30 PM – 3:00 PM)**

- **Hall A: Session 10:** Cultural Competence and  
Indigenous Perspectives
- **Hall B: Session 11:** Culturally Adapted  
Environmental Interventions
- **Hall C: Session 12:** Promoting Indigenous-Led  
Conservation Efforts

**3:00 PM – 3:15 PM: Tea/Coffee Break**

**3:15 PM – 5:00 PM: Announcement of next  
hosting country and closing ceremony**



DAY 4: 21<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2025

**7:00 AM–12.30 PM: Study tour to Kandy**

**STUDY TOUR (KANDY VISIT)**

A Study Tour Committee will be formed to  
organize a post conference study tour for the  
delegates. Social work academics, social  
workers, and volunteers will be accompanying  
the delegates to selected agencies which  
provide specialized services and for ancient  
historical places where delegates will have an  
opportunity to learn about Sri Lankan  
heritages.

**A separate fee of 60 USD for the Study Tour is  
payable at conference registration. To facilitate  
planning, please confirm your participation in  
advance**

