



ASASWEI  
**CONFERENCE '23**

**3<sup>ND</sup> CALL FOR PAPERS**

Abstract submission closures: 27 July 2023

[www.asaswei.org.za](http://www.asaswei.org.za)

**THE CONFERENCE THEME**

**— ADVANCING SOCIAL WORK PRAXIS THROUGH  
STRENGTHENED MULTI-SECTORAL RESPONSES TO ADVERSITY,  
VULNERABILITY AND TRAUMA**

**Elangeni Hotel, Durban. Dates ( 27-29 th September 2023)**



## BACKGROUND

The world increasingly witnesses adverse events ranging from natural disasters, pandemics, and wars that result in trauma and displacement of many people. Recent events in the local and global contexts such as the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes, political conflicts, and wars that lead to economic decline and psychosocial vulnerability and trauma have ravaged the world. Interventions to assist vulnerable groups have been less effective due to several factors such as limited financial resources, bureaucratic processes, professional boundaries, and ineffective inter-disciplinary collaboration. Effectively intervening in these societal conditions requires collaborative, multi-sectoral efforts, in which the social work profession plays a crucial role. Although vulnerability is more pronounced in underdeveloped countries, the need for developing decolonial and indigenised interventions that are context relevant, responsive, and appropriate is of significant importance for the global South. This conference invites researchers, educators, practitioners and students to share, discuss and deliberate about ideas and evidence that will advance social work and interdisciplinary research, theory, and praxis to address the multiple adversities facing society in the 21st century and fulfil of the aims of the Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development - "Co-Building a New Eco-Social World: Leaving no One Behind"

In this way the conference follows a truly **UBUNTU** spirit - supporting each other and working together towards a sustainable, just, healthy, and peaceful world.





## **THEMES AND SUB THEMES:**

- THEME 1:** Promoting stakeholder partnerships that protect, support and enhance resilience during adverse events and trauma.
- SUB 1.1** The role of psychosocial services during adverse events and resultant trauma from a Human rights perspective.
- SUB 1.2** The protection of physical and psychological health and wellbeing of children, people with disabilities, and older people through fostering safe, sustainable, and inclusive living spaces.
- SUB 1.3** Empowering and protecting homeless people against vulnerability and exploitation.
- SUB 1.4** Advocating for and reducing the vulnerabilities of undocumented migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and LGBTQI+ populations.
- THEME 2:** Building sustainable, resilient, and self-reliant communities through indigenous modalities, inter-sectoral collaborations, and partnerships.
- SUB 2.1** Supporting families in mitigating vulnerabilities.
- SUB 2.2** Strengthening community support structures to mitigate the impact of adverse events.
- SUB 2.3** Strengthening indigenous economic empowerment structures in responding during and after adverse situations.

- SUB 2.4 Strengthening religious and spiritual structures in responding during and after adverse events.
- SUB 2.5 Offence prevention and promotion of safer spaces through partnerships with community structures.
- SUB 2.6 Multi-sectoral strategies for mental health and substance abuse prevention and intervention.
- SUB 2.7 Social entrepreneurship, technology innovations and strategies for youth empowerment and skills development.





**THEME 3:**

Strategies toward the normative development of society

**SUB 3.1**

Promoting egalitarianism in intimate and other relationships as responses to Gender-based violence and femicide.

**SUB 3.2**

Promoting positive role models in gender relational contexts.

**SUB 3.3**

Guiding families through life stage transitions and adversity.

**SUB 3.4**

Multisector responses to young people and teenage pregnancy

**THEME 4:**

Quality management and enhancement of social services

**SUB 4.1**

The ethics of multi-sectoral practices of the new eco-social world order

**SUB 4.2**

Building professional capacity in social service professions through supervision, support, and development.

**SUB 4.3**

Capacity building in new fields of social service such as environmental justice, climate change, green/eco-social work, inter- and trans-disciplinary interventions

**SUB 4.4**

Advancing Decolonial and Afrocentric education, research, and practice



SUB 4.5

Transforming social and healthcare services through capacity building and adoption of information technology

SUB 4.6

Supporting the mental wellbeing of social service professionals working with adversity under adverse conditions.

**Closing date for submissions: 27 July 2023.**

Submission address: All submissions must be done online at:  
<https://asaswei.org.za/abstracts>

Follow the instructions for online submission of abstracts.  
**Abstract length must be 150 words.**

Papers must ideally be based on solid research. Research reports based on empirical research will receive preference. Conceptual papers must be based on solid desktop research. Abstracts must indicate how they fit the specific theme indicated in the submission.

### **Registration Detail:**

Registration Fee: **R3200**

Early Bird Registration Fee: **R2800 (closes: 21 July)**

Student Registration Fee: **R750**

NPO Registration Fee: **R2500**

NPO Early Bird Registration Fee: **R2000**

International Registration Fee: **R4750**

International Early Bird Registration: **R3750**

**Registrations opens: 30 May 2023**

**Early Bird Registration closes: 21 July 2023**

**Registration Closes: 18 August 2023**

**Gala dinner: R750**

**CPD certificates: R350**

**The price for virtual attendance: R2200**

