Notes on Contributors

Norhainah C. Abdul Aziz

Norhainah C. Abdul Aziz is a registered social worker from the Philippines. She passed the 2012 Philippines Licensure Examinations for Social Workers at the top of her batch, ranking first among the thousand examinees that year. After getting her master's degree in Advanced Development in Social Work under the Erasmus Mundus scholarship, she went back to the Philippines and worked as a humanitarian worker in Post-conflict Marawi City offering psychosocial support to internally displaced individuals, families, and communities. She subsequently returned to the academia and is currently working as an Assistant Professor at the Mindanao State University-Marawi, where she teaches undergraduate students of the Social Work Programme.

Aleksandra Belina

Aleksandra Belina is a PhD student in Sociology at the Institute of Sociology of the University of Warsaw. She has been working with non-governmental organizations since 2009. Her major research interests include the third sector in Central Europe, non-governmental management, academic activism, scholarships, and volunteering. She is currently a coordinator of the My Scholarship program at the Good Network Foundation in Warsaw.

Matthew William Biddle

From Montréal, Canada, Matthew William Biddle graduated from McGill University with a BSW before continuing to complete a master's degree in Advanced Social Work Practice through the Erasmus Mundus programme. Matthew has worked extensively with grassroot and community organisations, predominantly in the Montréal area. This has permitted Matthew to gain valuable experience working with a variety of communities ranging from adults with mental health struggles, LGBTQ+ youth, to Aboriginals experiencing homelessness.

Hue Thi Minh Dao

Hue Dao has been working in the Non-Governmental sector in Vietnam for over 10 years. Her professional experience includes disability inclusion, community development, and eye health. Hue has an interest in and a passion for research, counselling, and training. She holds a master's degree in Advanced Development in Social Work (ADVANCES-2016).

John Ddembe

John Ddembe graduated from the University of Lincoln (UK), receiving M.A. degrees in Advanced Social Work and Development Studies. He has led various teams in the implementation of numerous community-related projects in long-term sustainable community development for over 12 years. Currently based in Kampala, Uganda, he has conducted needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation, social research, tracer and ethnographic studies in Uganda, Kenya and Somalia. A dedicated social researcher, social worker and/or humanitarian through and through, he enjoys sports and reading.

Bessie Gebarski

Bessie Gebarski is an experienced child protection social worker practicing in South Australia's statutory agency in a quality assurance role. She holds a master's degree in Social and Political Science from the Silesian University (Poland), as well as a master's degree in Social Work from Flinders University (Australia). In her spare time, she explores the role of poetry and humour in social work practice. Her research interests include the Capabilities Approach, as well as intuition and professional expertise in social work assessment.

Agnieszka Naumiuk

Agnieszka Naumiuk is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Education of the University of Warsaw. Her fields of interest include social pedagogy, democratic institutions and educational practices, adults learning through informal and non-formal education methods, social activism, the NGO sector and its role in social assistance, inclusive challenges and practices in social education, relations between social pedagogy with social work, inclusion and social integration, empowerment, education and engagement of groups and individuals at risk of exclusion. She is the coordinator of the ADVANCES program in Poland, and the author of 4 books and 40 articles on social pedagogy and social work.

Articles connected with the Erasmus Mundus ADVANCES Program:

Rasell, M., Join-Lambert, H., Naumiuk, A., Pinto, C., Uggerhoj, L., Walker, J. (2019). *Diversity, dialogue, and identity in designing globally relevant social work education,* Social Work Education. DOI: 10.1080/02615479.2019.1570108

Naumiuk, A., Rasell, M., Uggerhoj, L. (2021). When Europe's East, West, North and South Meet: Learning from Cross-Country Collaboration in Creating an International Social Work Master Programme. In: W. Lorenz, Z. Havrdová, O. Matousek, (Eds.), *European Social Work after 1989* (pp. 119–133). East-West Exchanges Between Universal Principles and Cultural Sensitivity. Springer.

Benard Ogwok

Benard Ogwok is a trained social worker with a dual focus on mental health and psychosocial support for older people and children. He has an extensive experience in both emergency and development program interventions. Ogwok currently works for TPO Uganda as a Project Coordinator. He was awarded an Erasmus Mundus Scholarship (2017–2019). His hobbies include jogging, football, and praying.

George Sichone

George Sichone is a graduate from the Universities of Warsaw, Aalborg, Lincoln, Paris, and Lisbon, where he studied Advanced Development in Social Work through the European Commission Scholarship. Prior to assuming this academic career, George held the position of a Technical Specialist in the World Bank Funded Results Based Financing in Health through the Zambia Ministry of Health, where he contributed to the improvement in the delivery and utilization of Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) services. After obtaining his bachelor's degree in Social Work at the University of Zambia, he worked for Kara Counselling were he provided psychosocial and therapeutic assistance, and supported the health and wellbeing of children, caregivers, and people affected by, infected or living with HIV/AIDS in Zambia.

Jeany Rose P. Teguihanon

Jeany Rose P. Teguihanon is a humanitarian and development worker currently based in the Philippines. She was awarded a master's degree in Advanced Development in Social Work under the Erasmus Mundus Programme in 2017. She worked as a Gender-based Violence Programme Analyst at the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), providing humanitarian support to women, girls, men, and boys to post-conflict Marawi City from 2018 to 2019. She is currently working as a Social Welfare Officer IV at the Department of Social Welfare and Development, working closely with other government agencies and the private sector to ensure the continued delivery of programs and services to communities.

Tinatin Tsertsvadze

Tinatin Tsertsvadze is a professional social worker who holds a joint master's degree in Advanced Development in Social Work from the universities in the UK, Denmark, Portugal, Poland, and France. She has a strong research experience and

interest in the areas of international social work, civil society, civic participation, social activism, and advocacy in Post Socialist countries. Tinatin conducted field studies in Denmark, Poland and Georgia as part of various educational programs and professional collaborations. In Poland, she specifically explored the cases of activism and advocacy-oriented practices in selected Polish civil society organizations as part of her thesis, presented and defended in 2018 in Paris. Tinatin currently works for the Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (TSU) and UNICEF Georgia.

BinBin Wang

Binbin Wang is currently in charge of communication and research at the Dongguan Dazhong Social Work Service Center, a local social work service organization in Dongguan, China. Before joining the ADVANCES program, Binbin practiced as a frontline social worker in child and elderly services. Some of her other experience include volunteering for the EVS program in Wroclaw, Poland, and managing NGO partnerships in a corporate foundation in Beijing, China. As of late, she has been using her rich experience in social work services to promote innovative approaches to, and practice research on social work.