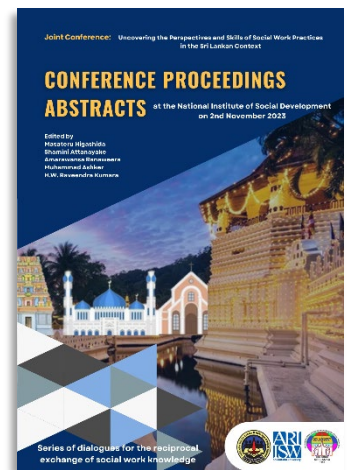


An exchange of practical experiences in Sri Lanka: International implications

A conference entitled ‘Uncovering the Perspectives and Skills of Social Work Practices in the Sri Lankan Context (Series of dialogues for the reciprocal exchange of social work knowledge)’ was held at the National Institute of Social Development (NISD) in Sri Lanka on 2 November 2023¹, jointly organised by the NISD, the Sri Lankan Association of Professional Social Workers (SLAPSW) and ARIISW. The aim was to exchange the experiences of social work practitioners and to explore their international implications for alternative social work knowledge. Approximately forty participants (plus 25 remote participants) attended the conference facilitated by Dr M. Ashker from NISD, with opening remarks by the Additional General Director Ms S. Attanayake and a remote message from Prof Totsuka of ARIISW. Following this, the keynote speeches were delivered by SLAPSW’s Previous President, Mr A. Ranaweera and Ms Attanayake. Eleven individual oral presentations then followed in two concurrent sessions.

In the afternoon, a dialogue session on practice knowledge was facilitated by Mr Ranaweera and Dr Higashida, mainly targeting social work practitioners. The findings of this conference include engaging narratives that may differ from mainstream social work discourse and will be documented in the future with relevant stakeholders.



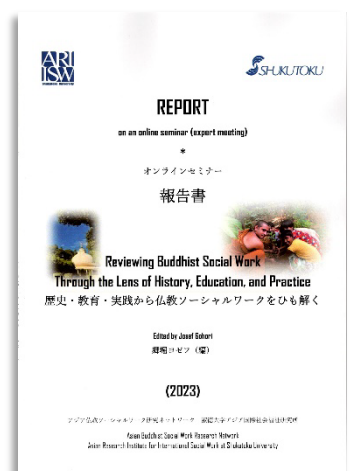
The Report and Brief Notes on Buddhist Social Work

The report of the online seminar, entitled ‘Reviewing Buddhist Social Work through the Lens of History, Education and Practice’, held on 25 January 2023, has been published². This research activity was triggered by the study, ‘A Comprehensive Study on the Potential of Buddhism in Asian Social Work’ (A MEXT-supported programme, 2015-2019). Future research will need to examine the history, practice and educational aspects of the social work activities provided by monks, temples and organisations in different countries. The current report has been amassed from presentations from Sri Lanka, which was one of the first countries to attempt to compile such research findings.

In addition, research findings on Buddhist social work in Asia have been published as a short report in an international journal³.

◆ News from the ARIISW can be found on the following website.

<https://www.shukutoku.ac.jp/en/about/facilities/asiancenter.html>



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² <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PxmdRdkWMYb-UdzsvFLDfdxwZJhq7Kke?usp=sharing>

³ <https://doi.org/10.1111/aswp.12298>