August 4, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

Subject: Call for collaborative research proposal on international social work education in Asia

The Asian Research Institute for International Social Work (ARIISW), Shukutoku University, would like to invite joint institutions/researchers to an international social work education research project, which aims to reveal the actual situation of international social work education and investigate the development of a relevant curriculum in collaboration with institutions and researchers in Asian countries. If you are interested in this endeavour, kindly fill out the attached application/proposal form and send it to Professor Noriko Totsuka (asiainst@soc.shukutoku.ac.jp), Director of ARIISW, by 15 September 2023.

Notification of decision: The proposal review committee, independent of Professor Totsuka, will inform about the official notification by 20 October 2023. The applicants will be chosen by a fair and impartial committee and no information will be provided regarding the selection procedure.

Refer to these points for further information:

1. Project Title: Joint Research Study on the (Re)Construction of International Social Work Education in Asia

2. Expected collaborators for the pilot study: Institutions/researchers from the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Mongolia who are interested in promoting international social work education and conducting joint research with ARIISW.

3. Period: 1 July 2023–31 March 2028 (applications will be determined by the end of 2023 in principle).

4. Anticipated collaborative projects:

・Roles and responsibilities will be negotiated in advance between the selected researchers and ARIISW.

・Collection and analysis of the actual situation and difficulties in international social work education (collaboratively with ARIISW).

・Interviews with teaching staff on international social work education (majorly by ARIISW).

・Sharing and disseminating findings in international forums and publications (in collaboration with ARIISW).

\*This preliminary study will be developed and re-planned throughout the research process. Any requests will be implemented by mutual agreement on a case-by-case basis.

5. Research ethics and informed consent: This project has been approved by the research ethics committee at Shukutoku University (Approval number: 2023-202). If any portion of the research is conducted independently by the joint researchers/institutions in their home country, the joint researchers/institutions must review the requirements for research ethics review and take appropriate action. In principle, participation in this research project is based on the institutions’/researchers’ free will, and they will not be disadvantaged if they withdraw at any point.

6. Presentation and publication of findings: If this project is successful, proceedings, articles and/or books will be published. The complimentary copies of the publications based on the project’s findings will be distributed free of charge to collaborators after publication. Credits of authors/presenters at any form of presentation/publication based on the findings of this project shall be considered on a case-by-case basis, and prior approval will be obtained based on discussions with the joint researchers/institutions. If collaborator(s) wish to give an independent presentation or publish any manuscripts using data obtained directly from this research, especially if multiple collaborators work in the same country, they must notify ARIISW in advance; this is to prevent conflicts of interest among the stakeholders.

7. This project is supported by the JSPS KAKENHI Number 23H00900.

8. Honorarium: JPY[25,000](about:blank) (approximately US$173 as of 4 July 2023) for interim reports and JPY50,000 (approximately US$345) for final products will be paid after the acceptance by ARIISW. The interim reports and final products are expected to be published in 2025 and 2028, respectively.

Yours sincerely,

Masateru Higashida and Kana Matsuo

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| Application Form for  Joint Research Study on the (Re)Construction of  International Social Work Education in Asia  ARIISW, Shukutoku University  Based on your current knowledge, please describe each of the following points regarding international social work (ISW) education in 100–200 words.  1. The current status of ISW-related subjects at your university and/or country and plans for related subjects/courses at your university in the future.  2. Analysis of textbooks and reference materials: data collection and content analysis of ISW-related books and materials available to students at your university (ARIISW can provide technical support for the analysis).  \*Please include the following information: 1) the expected number of relevant books/materials; 2) themes and/or areas; 3) languages used (local, English or other); 4) place of original publication.  \*Kindly describe the appropriate methods of analysis in the context of your country, for example, content analysis of the available data, and qualitative content analysis of local texts.  3. Content analysis of ISW-related curricula focusing on the content and origins: data collection of ISW-related curricula in your country and/or at your university (ARIISW can co-conduct the international comparison analysis).  \*Please include the information on related subjects: 1) subject title(s), 2) the number of students who take classes per year and 3) themes and areas involved.  \*Please inform us of the possibility of sharing the curricula with ARIISW.  \*If appropriate, describe the method of analysing the data in your country. Our intention is not only to analyse the content but also the roots of the knowledge.  4. The possibility of conducting preliminary studies on the implementation experiences of the ISW-related subjects. Through educational experiences, this goal is to reveal the nature and fundamental perspective of ISW-related subjects.  \*Would it be possible for ARIISW to jointly conduct observations and pre-/post-interviews regarding teaching ISW-related subjects at your university?  5. Other proposals or suggestions (if appropriate) |
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Applicant’s Name and title:

Affiliation (Name and Postal Address):

Email address:

Signature

Date: