STRENGTHS BASED MANAGEMENT OF SOCIAL CHANGE WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON TRANSITION COUNTRIES

Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina, shares a common heritage and a common history of change within this European region that has affected the lives of the people in many ways. Coping with change has never been easy for individuals, groups, communities and nations. The societies and nations are expected to become resilient and meet the ever growing needs, aspirations, and expectations of its people while continuing to develop a future that is peaceful and hope fulfilling.
The Solution Societies

This conference for the first time pilots and urges the use of the metaphor of ‘the solution societies’ rather than ‘problem societies’ and offers a rather modest but robust agenda around which a number of papers, ideas and narratives from across the world are invited.

Sarajevo Conversations 2011

What would be known as the ‘Sarajevo Conversations—2011 will be the precursor for a progressive conversation of positive people, positive change and positive societies within the region and elsewhere in the world.

We invite you to take part and shape this event –

This first International Conference on Strengths Based Management of Social Change to be held in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, envisions productive discourse and conversations around

- Role of youth in national development
- Entrepreneurship development
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Governance and people strengthening practices
- Volunteers for development

We are hoping that experts from around the world would consider this as an opportunity to talk about their work and participants would have opportunity to learn and network for future development. The Conference is set for transformational dialogue and metalogue and to build a truly learning society. The road that societies need to take to reach the ever growing demands of its people for peaceful and hope fulfilling, designs, structures, governance and institutions is bound to be a phenomenal challenge.

Cutting the ties with processes of central control in institutional politics, economics and people governance and to move into empowering of individuals, groups, communities, smaller
organizations and businesses, the conference believes, is ripe with surmountable contests.

Successes stories and narrative accounts from around the world, how some societies fared well and continue to build supportive ethos to bring about attitudinal change in the context of massive changes that they have gone through, would be of great interest to this conference. We believe such accounts, papers academic and practitioner perspectives will generate parallel thinking and assist in building a parallel processes for collaborative working around the world.

**How has the world responded so far?**

**How has the region responded so far?**

**The World of Transition Societies**

What strengths based accounts exist of transitions around the world?

To understand best practice in transition, the conference invites case studies from countries that have transformed from previously distinctive political orientations.

For example Nepal, Sri Lanka and Malaysia in Asia, Turkey Middle East and parts of Africa have a boutique of ideas to showcase some important strides amidst the political changes and continuing social impacts. Similarly countries like India, Australia, to name a few have demonstrated experience of how they fared the global recession at individual and group levels as businesses did not give up but flourished even during the global recession. How do they do it?
The Conference believes that central to the process of development in all societies is its youth that takes pride in their nations and their immediate environment. A culture that allows for enterprising young adults to partake in the economic processes and a country and its leadership interested in empowering these processes.

**Conference Sub themes**

Given a variety of approaches to management of social change and nation building, papers around transformational change at the level of individuals, groups, and the collective psyche; moving from resilience to hope building and reviewing practicing skills to enhance in each of these areas are central to the themes of this conference.

This conference clearly is an opportunity for addressing them from a number of perspectives. Viewed from a Strengths based practices SbPs, presentations at the conference will focus on the inherent strengths of individuals, groups and organizations. We are looking for empowering alternatives to traditional methods with individuals, group or organizational work. We wish to see strategies that facilitate change by assisting to look at / what has worked? What does not work? And what might work presently making it important for those who facilitate and those desiring change to be integral to this process of change.

Some of the illustrative topics are listed below:

- Cross-cultural patterns of transformational change management building and working with resilience;
- Dealing trends and changes in demographics within regions due to transmigration: skilled migration: Alternate developments: consolidation of Human Resources for national development
- Entrepreneurship development: small and medium business leadership development
- Mentoring the youth: building tomorrows leadership in all spheres of nation building; Indigenous people and heritage enterprises: strengthening resilience through e-communities and use of information technology
- Interventions in the youth sector human services sector, social care, the soft sector vulnerable sections, marginalized populations; children; gender issues; youth and frail aged in adverse circumstances
- Best practices in helping individuals in crisis; in empowering communities facing crisis and disasters; Asset-based community development
- Evidence based management of Public and Corporate services; creating efficient user pay systems

**Who will be at the conference?**

The range of applied, clinical, scientific, legal, social, managerial and practice and policy issues that will be addressed in the conference program make it directly relevant to a whole range of people that include managers, project managers, CEOs in the corporate and the government on one hand and the Management academies, Universities, management students, managers, psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, rehabilitation consultants, and psychotherapists, Health and medical specialists: cultural anthropologists, youth workers, NGO activists, community and humanitarian workers; spiritual leaders; emergency service and disaster workers, defense, police: justice and legal professionals, policy makers and finally media of Television and Print that as high potential for bringing about attitudinal change in the society.
CALL FOR PAPERS and POSTERS

Those wishing to present papers/posters/pre conference and post conference workshops are kindly requested to upload in plain text format either by directly typing or cut and paste previously typed abstracts. The abstract can not exceed 250 words and online submission is available on the website. www.strengthsbasedpractice.com.au

The last date for abstracts is

30 April 2011

Correspondence on ideas for presentation is encouraged and can be sent to dr.venkat.pulla@gmail.com

There is a week’s turnaround for replies as presentation ideas are also refereed to select committee members.

Review Process:

The abstract will be reviewed by members of the programme committee for editorial purposes, for suggesting modifications, where necessary and final acceptance.

Presenters Notified – 30 May 2011

A member of the programme will notify prospective presenter of final acceptance by latest by mid April, 2011

Finalised Presentations – 8th August, 2011

All accepted papers/posters/multi media presentations must reach the conference Secretariat by e-mail or CD on or before

Formatting for Posters

For poster presentation, formatting instructions will be sent after the presenter has been notified of acceptance of the abstract.

Entrepreneurship, Leadership and Micro Business Development

Assets Based Community Development

Opportunities for Pre Conference and Post Conference ideas are open.

Proposals are sought for 1 to 2 days and half day pre conferences. Specialist training proposals for a week prior to the conference are also welcome. Opportunities exists for Experts from India, Malaysia, Australia and several other parts of the world to undertake field visits and engage in key conversations with influential business leaders, Senior Bureaucrats and the elected political leaders within the region in Sarajevo, Belgrade, Zagreb and Podgorica and other important cities in Europe. An opportunity for presenting ideas and experience of entrepreneurship, and building the economy and human infrastructures.
International Advisory Committee (Program and Organisation)

Dr. Piotr Salustowicz, Professor at the University of Applied Sciences, Bielefeld, Germany and Professor at the Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Warsaw.

Ms. Nuna Zvizdić, Indigenous elder, Australia, Managing Director, Marumali

Dr. Dora Marinova, Professor of Sustainability Curtin University Sustainability Policy (CUSP) Institute, WA

Dr Dean Ajdukovic, Professor of Psychology, Department of Psychology and Head of the Chair of Social Psychology, University of Zagreb, Croatia

Dr Susan Young, Discipline Chair, Social Work and Social Policy, University of Western Australia

Mrs. Senada Softic Telalovic, World Congress of Bosnian Diaspora

Dr Michael Clark
Director, Center for Strength-Based Strategies, USA

Pamela Trotman, Member AASW

Northern Territory, Australia

Dr Nebojša Petrović, Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Belgrade, Serbia.

John Dommert
CEO, Connecting Home Organisation, Victoria, Australia

Dr Bala Raju Nikku
Director, Nepal School of Social Work, Nepal

Jasna Zecevic
Director, Vive Žene, Tuzla, BiH

Prof. Ranaweera Amaravamsa, Head of Department of Social Work, National Institute of Social Development, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Dr Marina Ajdukovic.
Professor, Department of Social Work, Faculty of Law University of Zagreb

Richard Hill, Director, MindScience Institute., Australia

Prof Lesley Chenoweth, School of Human Services & Social Work, Griffith University, Australia

Dr Mercuito M. Motshedi
School of Social Sciences

North West University (Mafikeng Campus), South Africa

Dr. Margaret McKenzie, Head of Department ,Department of Social Work and Community Development University of Otago, New Zealand

Dr. Sarah Buila
Program Director and Assistant Professor, School of Social Work, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, USA

Dr Dinka Corkalo, Professor of Psychology, Department of Psychology, University of Zagreb, Croatia

Peter Binyon
President, Brisbane Institute of Strengths Based Practice

Dragan Bombek
Brisbane Institute of Strengths Based Practice

Stefan Bakaj, Member, Brisbane Institute of Strengths Based Practice

Dr Venkat Pulla
Director of the Conference

Diren@strengthsbasedpractice.com.au

Youth Advisory Committee!

Nensi Hadzic – Faculty of Psychology, University of Sarajevo

Local Organising Committee and Logistics

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION
Deadline: 30 April 2011

Firstly you must register with the submission system
By creating a user ID and password unique to you,
you must create a new identity with this submission system.

Once registered as a user you will be able to log in as REGISTERED
USERS with your email address and the password that you have
created. If you have forgotten your password. The system will be
able to reach you with the registered password.
Contact us if you have a problem or wish to withdraw a
submission: dr.venkat.pulla@gmail.com

The submission system is powered by Oxford Abstracts
Abstract & paper management  http://www.oxfordabstracts.com

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<th>Registration fee</th>
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<th>Reduced fee</th>
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Suggested Accommodations

Radon Plaza Hotel, the most luxury Hotel in BiH was opened in the middle of September. This new business five star Hotel operates in the building of "Avaz Business Centre" in the street Džemala Bijeđića 185.

Radon Plaza Hotel has on disposal 120 luxury equipped rooms - 82 King size bedrooms and 35 double rooms with separated beds. Radon Plaza Hotel is located five minutes away from Sarajevo International Airport and ten minutes from Sarajevo city center, what it makes perfect choice for staying.

Radon Plaza Hotel is the venue of the Conference

The “Hollywood” Hotel is situated in the center of Ilidža, a green oasis of Sarajevo, near the Sarajevo International Airport and the springs of river Bosnia, a unique jewel of genuine nature. Rooms and suits (200) are very spacious and luxurious. Satellite and local TV stations, Pay TV - (movies, games, chess...), direct phone dialling, mini bar, wireless Internet connection.

Hotel Grand Sarajevo is a modern 3 star hotel. Located in the center near of the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Olympic Hall Zetra and cultural - sports and exhibition center "Skenderija". We are located just 3 km from Bascarsija (historic town) and 10 km from the International Airport Sarajevo.

Hotel Hecco DeLux - is located in street Ferhadija 2 in a very city center of Sarajevo, so there is no distance among hotel and cultural-historical and business part of Sarajevo. It’s placed on top four floors of the only sky rise which is located on main walking area. Building by its self has special cultural and historical heritage and it’s under the protection of Institute for protection cultural monuments.

Hotel Radon Plaza 97,00 EUR per night per room services BB
Hotel Hollywood 77,00 EUR per night per room services BB
Grand Hotel 57,00 EUR per night per room services BB
Banana City Hotel 20,00 EUR per person, breakfast included