EDITOR’S NOTE

Dear Readers,

I am Ying Hooi, from Universiti Malaya. I have been following the ISTR for some years, and it is an absolute pleasure to welcome you to the September edition of the Asia Pacific Third-Sector Researchers Network Newsletter.

I would like to introduce you to the Malaysian CSO-SDG Alliance, the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia secretariat on SDGs (APPGM-SDGs). Since the adoption of SDGs in Malaysia, the government of Malaysia has submitted two Voluntary National Review in 2017 and 2021. Set up as early as 2015, the Alliance plays a significant role in this journey of SDGs in Malaysia. Their work and impacts will be explored further under the “In the Spotlight” section.

I would also like to remind you of the upcoming ISTR Asia-Pacific Regional Conference, 7-9 December 2022, held in Sabah, Malaysia.

Enjoy this edition!

Ying Hooi  
Department of International and Strategic Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Universiti Malaya  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
In Spotlight: Malaysian CSO-SDG Alliance
Ying Hooi

The Malaysian CSO-SDG Alliance (hereafter, Alliance) was established in late 2015 right after the United Nations launched the SDGs. Between 2015-2019, the Alliance was a loose coalition of organizations that served as a coordinating network of CSOs, academic institutions, and think-tanks on SDGs. They made direct representation to the Economic Planning Unit (EPU) under the Prime Minister’s Department. The Alliance’s main role was policy advocacy in which it has been active in providing input to the government (amongst others), as well as contributing to the formulation of the SDG Roadmap and the National Voluntary Review (2017 and 2021).

Since October 2019, the Alliance has played a major role in the establishment of the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM) in the Parliament, with SDGs being the first of such groups in the form of APPGM-SDG. Comprising parliamentarians, academics, civil society activists, and solution providers, APPGM-SDG is a bipartisan initiative driven to implement the SDGs in Parliamentary constituencies. The SDGs are implemented through the analysis of issues and possible solutions, policy research, and facilitating multi-stakeholder partnerships – Including raising awareness and building capacity at the local level. Currently, the Alliance has 73 organisations.

Some of the key advocacy strategies by the Alliance include the localisation of SDGs, and multi-stakeholder engagement and participation (government, parliament, civil society, academia, the private sector, and grassroots communities). In addition to having a strong local presence, the Alliance is also visible at the international level. For instance, through the participation of the Alliance via the APPGM-SDG team at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF). The team is in a unique position to link the grassroots to the global, and the global to the grassroots.

There are five approaches to localising SDGs. These include: Grounded research methodology through field study; SDG solution projects; Capacity building for civil service and local leaders on SDG matters; Impact evaluation; and Policy dialogues and advocacy at the macro-level on SDGs with members of parliaments and agencies for long-term changes.

The alliance recognises the challenges in public awareness and education on SDG matters. As a consequence, MySDG Academy was established as a training arm of the Alliance in building the capacity of CSOs and district-level government agencies. Amongst the courses offered are basic courses on SDGs, building inclusive communities, as well as regional capacity building for CSOs and local community leaders.

More information can be found on the APPGM-SDG website.
Nonprofit Advocacy in Russia’s Regions

Ulla Pape and Yulia Skokova

Abstract: How do nonprofit organizations (NPOs) engage in advocacy in closed political regimes? This article studies nonprofit advocacy in Russia by focusing on strategies and explanatory factors. We argue that Russian NPOs rely on collaborative rather than confrontational strategies. They use official channels, personal contact with state officials, strategies for resource exchange and evidence-based advocacy. Based on empirical research in eight regions, we show that nonprofit advocacy depends on both external (contextual) and internal (organizational) factors. NPOs have greater opportunity to engage in advocacy when the subnational institutional context and the policy field allow for their active participation in policy formation and implementation. Moreover, NPOs are more successful in their advocacy when they strategically use their capabilities (e.g., knowledge, expertise and skills) and emphasize mutual trust, loyalty and readiness to compromise. Our findings point to the relevance of collaborative forms of advocacy, particularly in constrained political environments such as Russia.

II Contents

1. Nonprofit Advocacy in Russia’s Regions
   Ulla Pape, and Yulia Skokova

2. Intergroup Contacts in Civil Society Organizations and Trust: How Neighbourhood Diversity Moderates the Role of Intergroup Contacts
   Susanne Lundasen

   Yok-Fong Paat

4. The Consumption Power of the Powerless: The Yellow Economy in Hong Kong
   Debby Sze Wan Chan
   Inna Bell

6. The Game of Influence: Policy Professional Capital in Civil Society
   Joanna Mellquist

Nonprofit Management and Leadership, Volume 33, Issue 1
I Selected Abstract

Institutional Logics and the Multiorganizational Governance Arrangements of Humanitarian INGOs
Jonathan Beagles

Abstract: Governance within the growing number of multiorganizational international nongovernmental organization (INGO) families in the humanitarian sector is challenging. Ideas are evolving about what the objectives of humanitarian INGOs should be, what the most appropriate means of achieving these objectives are, and how best to demonstrate effectiveness and integrity to others. Within this context, scholars observe that choices in governance approaches are driven largely by internal politics within the bounds of legitimacy, leading some to refer to INGOs as principled-instrumentalists. However, we know little about the principles bounding these instrumental choices. Drawing from an institutional logics perspective, this paper compares the multiorganizational governance arrangements of 40 humanitarian INGO families with the values they espouse in their statements of values, principles, or beliefs. The idea being that these statements of values can serve as a window into the logics guiding organizational decision-making and provide the basis for how power is enacted and strategies chosen within these social settings. These findings have the potential to help leaders of multisite nonprofits make sense of the ways changing values, beliefs, and logics are prompting their organizations to reconsider how they balance inherent management tensions.

II Contents

1. Examining the Relationship Between Board Member Selection Criteria and Board Boundary Spanning Into Internal, Upward, and Outward Accountability Environments
   Christopher Cody, Kara Lawrence, Christopher Prentice, and Richard Clerkin
2. These Are The People In Your Neighbourhood: Community Logics and Board Gender Composition in United Ways
   Lauren Dula

3. Improving Non-Profit Succession Management For Leadership Continuity: A Shared Leadership Approach
   Nils Geib, and Silke Boengik

4. Responsible Leadership, Organizational Commitment, and Work Engagement: The Mediator Role of Organizational Identification
   Jorge Gomes, Tania Marques, and Constanca Cabral

5. The Effect of Servant Leadership On Employees’ Extra-Role Behaviours in NPOs: The Role of Work Engagement
   Mohammed Aboramadan, Zeeshan Hamid, Yasi Kundi, and Eissa Hamalawi

6. Institutional Logics and the Multiorganization Governance Arrangements of Humanitarian INGOs
   Jonathan Beagles

7. Giving and Going: US Congregational Participation In Disaster Response
   Beth Gazley, Brad Fulton, Wesley Zebrowski, and David King

8. Pecking Order Theory and Church Debt Financing: Evidence From The United Methodist Church
   Min Su, Wenli Yan, and Nicholas Harvey

   Qinag Dong, Jiahuan Lu, Cheon Lee
Publications | News | Reports in the Sector

An Editor’s Swansong: A Reflection on Voluntas

Taco Brandsen and Ruth Simsa

Of the journals in the civil society and non-profit field, Voluntas is the most diverse, both thematically and geographically. That is something for the journal’s community to be proud of. In that sense, the journal is a good reflection of ISTR itself. Diversity also makes strategic sense: journals with a broader profile are more likely to be resilient, because they are less invested in the fortunes of one particular subfield.

Having said that, a hard challenge for us has been to realise more geographical diversity within the journal. The majority of published manuscripts are still from Europe and the US (albeit with more spread within those regions). It’s not for lack of trying, because we have tried various means of involving underrepresented scholars, such as mentoring and regional issues. The problem is that these are often time-intensive and incidental. The forces determining the extent and nature of civil society research run deep. The fact that China has figured much more prominently in the journal, in the way that it has, obviously has more to do with investment, performance targets and geopolitics than with anything the journal has done. The support with regard to language services, time and training that scholars from some countries get, and others don’t, is probably a decisive factor. Still, small wins have been achieved. They have helped us move slowly but steadily in the right direction, a movement that the new editorial team may be able to speed up.

Politically, the context in which the journal operates is now very different from when it was founded in 1990. Back then, civil society research benefitted from a general optimism about the future of democracy. Now authoritarianism is back on the rise, even in what were once considered reliable democracies. As academics, we’re fascinated by the rapid decline of seemingly solid institutions. As citizens, we’re mortified.

Is this a cause for pessimism, from the perspective of a journal on civil society? Yes, but only up to a point. The trend may weaken our field, because authoritarian leaders and regimes are rarely enamoured of social science education and research. Several colleagues have been directly under threat. But the same developments have also created a new vibrancy in civil society, on all sides of the political spectrum – some of them promising, some of them very scare, depending on where you stand.

The multiple and overlapping crises have spurred the emergence of new types of movements and organisations. Voluntas is well-placed to capture these exciting new developments. Civil society research is more relevant now than it has been at any point in the journal’s history.
Westpac Scholars, 2022 Social Change Fellowship, Australia

An advocate for an encompassing and inclusive performing arts sector, a social entrepreneur seeking to reduce recidivism through fitness, and the founder of a national gift delivery service employing women experiencing homelessness due to domestic violence are among ten people from across Australia who have been awarded a 2022 Westpac Social Change Fellowship.

Valued up to $50,000, the Fellowship will give each recipient the chance to turn their attention to themselves. Each Fellowship Scholar will spend the next twelve months focused on personal and professional development to enhance their own leadership capabilities. Each recipient will design their own fellowship plan, while Westpac provides them the opportunity to connect and learn from leading experts and entrepreneurs locally and internationally. They will participate in a bespoke Leadership Development Program to strengthen their networks and to help them become more adaptive leaders.

The ten Social Change Fellows will also become lifelong members of the Westpac 100 Scholars Network (W100). Some of the recipients of the 2022 Social Change Fellowship include:

- Bronwyn Bate – Founder and CEO, Mettle Women Inc.
- Joe Kwon – Founder, Convict Fitness and Conflict Pathways.
- Geoffrey Smith – CEO, Australian Spatial Analytics.
- Cessalee Smith-Stovall – Founder and CEO, Stage A Change.
- Dr Tiffany De Sousa Machado – Founder and CEO, The Village Foundation.

To read more about the 2022 Social Change Fellows, please visit [here](#).

2022 Third Sector Awards, Australia

The Third Sector Awards is an Australian award which celebrates and recognizes the best NFP practices nationally. The Award gives an opportunity for voluntary organizations of all sizes as well as the people who work for them, to celebrate their work and the real difference they make to society. Whether it is supporting beneficiaries, raising awareness of crucial issues, or driving best practice amongst their peers, the vital contributions of charities cannot be overstated.

Ten social change-makers were announced as winners at the 2022 Third Sector Awards. The Awards were put together in partnership with the Centre for Social Impact, with an unbiased and objective point of reference. Nominees were judged primarily based on their social impact, outcomes measurements, social innovations, collaborations, leadership, and systems thinking. Some of the recipients of the 2022 Third Sector Awards include:
• Lance Kawaguchi – Cure Brain Cancer Foundation (CEO of the Year);
• Melanie Raymond – Youth Projects (Board Director of the Year);
• Jada Mundine – 3Bridges Community (Young Leader of the Year);
• Rachel Foster – Housing Trust (Campaign Marketing of the Year);
• OCI Foundation Limited (Emerging NFP of the Year);

To read more about the 2022 Third Sector Awards, please visit here.

Australia and New Zealand Third Sector Research (ANZSTR)

15th Biennial ANZSTR Research Conference

17 to 19 November 2022

ANZSTR invites all people to participate in the 15th Biennial Australian and New Zealand Third Sector Research Conference on 17–19 November 2022. Hosted at the University of Western Australia in Perth, Australia the Conference will discuss a variety of themes, including:

• The third sector and neoliberal policy agendas;
• Advocacy and the third sector;
• The role and contribution of volunteers;
• Philanthropy; a force for good or ill; and
• Regulation and accountability in the third sector.

This is a critical time for the survival and sustainable capacity of charities, grassroots organisations, not-for-profits, NGOs, and civil society organisations, what is referred to as the Third Sector. It is a time of great social and economic upheaval in which the role of the third sector in pursuing the public good is vital. This conference will provide an opportunity to hear about (and report upon) the work that organisations are doing on the frontline of service provision from the grassroots to the national and international levels.

Participants will hear from those with lived experience, scholars and practitioners and discuss how they are operating in a constrained advocacy environment; how important they are for democracy and how resources are being allocated and fought for within the many objectives of the lively and important third sector in Australia and New Zealand. The conference seeks to tease out what is unique about the ways the third sector pursues public good.

For more information, please visit here.
Sustainable Development Efforts in Times of Crises

9th ICSD Asia Pacific Biennial Conference

29 November to 01 December 2022

The Ninth ICSD Asia Pacific Biennial conference provides a unique opportunity to researchers, practitioners and policy makers to reflect upon the role of the stakeholder of development such as community-based organizations, non-government organizations, the private sector, and the government, in navigating through the turbulent times that many Asian societies are facing. It is proposed – as a consequence of disparity between progress in SDGs – that infrastructure and technological advancements are not driven from the grassroots in an inclusive manner. There is a large number of SDGs which Asia Pacific economies are not on track to achieving or are regressing. It is evident current efforts to achieve SDGs and create inclusive communities are inadequate; the status quo is untenable: innovative approaches to accelerate achievements of SDGs are necessary.

While the focus of this conference is on Asia, these problems are shared by economies beyond Asia. Hence, researchers from across the globe are invited to present their research. The hosts invited researchers –seasoned and those in their early career (including graduate students and practitioners) to submit papers which showcase their research in different themes. The hosts are excited to see a wide range of papers which encompass applied research, practice research, and theoretical advances and innovative explorations in all aspects of this field.

The conference will be held 29 November to 01 December. Conference steams include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Policy and Program Responses to Crises;
- Inequality and Poverty Eradication;
- Digitalization and Social Development;
- Health Security and Promotion;
- Role of CSOs, Community in Turbulent Times; and
- Conflict Avoidance and Peace Settlements.

For more information, and to register for the conference, please visit here.
ISTR Asia-Pacific Regional Conference

07 to 09 December 2022

Since 2020, the world has been marked by dramatic dislocations and disruptions including the Covid-19 pandemic and political changes across the region and globally. These crises have had variable effects on third sector organisations and civil society in particular, with reports of constrained resources, outmoded communication/collaboration technologies and passive responses. Yet, civil society survives and thrives as it actively develops community crises responses, forms networks of mutual aid, mobilises action and innovates to achieve new outcomes.

The Covid-19 pandemic has infiltrated all walks of life and the effects on civil society and the third sector have varied between nations and across different segments of society. These include the mobilisation of volunteers, but also the recognition that volunteering has changed, as have the ways of recruiting, managing and supporting them. Funding has been disrupted in all sectors, with philanthropy stretched to deal with urgent issues, government funding demanded by all but limited, low donations, often due to the disruption of fundraising events. More positively, extensive use of communication technologies have allowed for innovations, although it has also highlighted the digital divide. Post-crisis life therefore presents opportunities to rebuild, and innovate and we invite papers that reflect on these changes and the ‘new normal’ that can guide third sector organisations in the future.

The conference will span from 07 to 09 December. It will be hosted by Universiti Malaysia Sabah. For any questions, and for more information, please visit here.

Lester M. Salamon Emerging Scholar Dissertation Award Winner

12 October 2022

Social innovation is of importance as a new means to tackle challenging social problems. Non-profit organizations are said to possess a set of characteristics which contribute to their higher potential for social innovation production and development, as compared with other actors. However, not all non-profits are equally innovative and not all NPOs need to be innovative at all. The dissertation investigates this puzzle: if not all NPOs are innovative, then which factors make some non-profits more likely to produce social innovations than others?

Join us for a conversation with Irina Krasnopol’skaya, recipient of the 2022 Lester M. Salamon Emerging Scholar Dissertation Award, and Phillip Erpf about her award-winning research. To reveal the determinants of social innovativeness of non-profits, Irina will distinguish several
traits detaching social innovation from similar concepts and clarify its definition. In addition, Irina will argue that existing metrics of social innovation do not create a generalized image of social innovation prevalence, with determinants being primarily of qualitative nature, hardly comparable, non-representative, and non-replicable. This dissertation contributes to better understanding of the social innovation theoretical concept and its uniform characteristics, and opens up applicability of qualitative instrument to identify socially innovative NPOs through a survey.

For more information, and to register for the event, please visit here.

**Seventy-Five Years of Grassroots Intervention That Made A Difference**

Neelima Khetan, Vikram Mehta, and Jayapadma V

ISTR Member Neelima Khetan with her co-editors Vikram Singh Mehta and Jayapadma R V have released their book "Anchoring Change : Seventy-Five Years of Grassroots Intervention That Made a Difference". From the publisher's website:

All too often, the focus of conversation in India is on our failure as a socio-economic polity. We despair about our inability to realize our full potential as a country: we find fault with our political system, the leadership, the state of our institutions, the economic model and much else. What we do not do is reflect on the micro successes and the many examples of hugely impactful interventions that have shifted the needle of society in positive directions. We do not ask the questions: what were the ingredients of these successes? Are they scalable? Are there learnings from these that could be applicable elsewhere in India, and might these learnings provide the guts for a new developmental model?

*Anchoring Change* attempts to answer these (and other) such questions, through accounts of organizations from across India, spanning the seventy-five years since independence. The idea is to revisit these examples of civic action and explore their relevance for the future of India. The book has two objectives: to shift the conversation from failures to successes; and to distil from these successes relevant design principles that might have wide relevance to create an alternative, grassroots-based, sustainable development model.

For more information, and to purchase the book, please visit here.
The Art and Science of Writing A Great Abstract

17 November

Academics, in addition to higher degree research students, who have placed specific focus on Southeast Asia at a tertiary institution are invited to an abstract writing workshop.

The event is hosted by the University of Sydney’s Southeast Asia Centre, and is designed to aid in the refinement and perfection of conference abstracts. The event will be hosted online (via zoom) on 17 November 2022 at 14:00 – 14:30 (AEDT). The deadline for applications is 06 November.

For more information, and to register for the event, please visit here.

Call for Papers and Contributions

Asia In Motion: Memory, Preservation, and Documentation

2023 AAS-in-Asia Conference

The humanities transcend time and space to reflect on – and explore – the existential aspects of human beings. Through the humanities, we pursue the value of human life. Since ancient times, humanistic studies in Asia have maintained a human-centered history engaging in mutual co-existence and co-prosperity although various communities have repeatedly faced competition and confrontation. The conference will focus on the study of historical and cultural phenomena in Asia with respect to ‘memory’, ‘preservation’ and ‘documentation’. Through these lenses, we intend to uncover the crisis inherent to the era of the fourth industrial revolution and discuss a future-oriented development of Asian studies while remembering and reflecting on the paths we have chosen for ourselves over the past centuries. From the perspective of Asian studies, we wish to engage with our participants on the humanistic values that can co-exist and co-prosper in today’s world in the face of international hegemony and environmental crises.

Proposals from scholars representing diverse disciplines, including humanistic disciplines, the social sciences, the arts (among others) are strongly welcomed. Proposals must be submitted by 31 October 2022 via the AAS electronic submission application.

For more information, please visit here.
Job Vacancy

China
Vice Principle
Shanghai American School
Application Closing Date: 10 October 2022

Denmark
Postdoctoral Position in Social Science
University of Copenhagen
Application Closing Date: 01 November 2022

Postdoctoral Position in Buddhism and Waste
University of Copenhagen
Application Closing Date: 25 November 2022

Germany
Post-Doctoral Researcher and Group Leader in law
University of Tubingen
Application Closing Date: 07 October 2022

Sweden
Senior Lecturer in Political Science
Uppsala University
Application Closing Date: 17 October 2022

United Kingdom
Research Assistant in Global Catastrophic Risk and Communication
University of Cambridge
Application Closing Date: 09 October 2022

Lecturer in Global Health
Queen Mary University
Application Closing Date: 10 October 2022

United States
Instructor in Human Resources and Labor Relations
Michigan State University
Application Closing Date: 27 July 2024
Assistant Professor in Urban and Regional Planning
Michigan State University
Application Closing Date: 28 July 2024

Contact Us
Regional Representatives

Adjunct Professor Carolyn CORDERY (Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand), iscarolyn.cordery@vuw.ac.nz
Professor Maria Faina DIOLA (University of the Philippines-Diliman, Quezon City), mldiola@up.edu.ph
Associate Professor Aya OKADA (Tohoku University, Miyagi), aya.okada.e3@tohoku.ac.jp
Associate Professor Yu ISHIDA (Miyagi University, Miyagi), ishiday@myu.ac.jp
Assistant Professor HAN Ling (Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong), linghan@cuhk.edu.hk
Professor CHIANG Min-Hsiu (National Chengchi University, Taipei), msjiangdr@gmail.com
Assistant Professor Cai QIHAI (Macau University of Science and Technology, Macau), qihaicai@gmail.com
Associate Professor WU Fengshhi (University of New South Wales, Sydney), fengshi.wu@unsw.edu.au
Assistant Professor LAI Weijun (Shenzhen University, Shenzhen), laiweijun.szu@hotmail.com
Professor JIA Xijin (Tsinghua University, Beijing), xijinj@tsinghua.edu.cn

Staff Members

Editor Fengshhi Wu
Associate Editor Qianjin Zhang istreatasia@istr.org
Assistant Editor Linda van der Wijk
Editorial Assistant Tahlia McKee
About Us

The Asia Pacific Third-Sector Researchers Network (formerly the East Asia Third-Sector Researchers Network) is an initiative first launched by the ISTR (International Society for Third-Sector Research) and the Centre for Social Innovation Studies in the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2016 to help scholars and students in East Asia and beyond to exchange information about publications, conferences and job vacancies in third-sector studies through this Newsletter. The scope of the Newsletter and the network has expanded to cover the entire Asia Pacific region since November 2018. Starting from January 2020, the School of Social Sciences, University of New South Wales, Sydney, has been the host of the Newsletter.