



Asia Pacific Third-Sector Researchers Network Newsletter

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EDITOR'S NOTE

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Greetings from the Jodhpur, Thar Desert, India!

I welcome you all to another exciting edition of the newsletter. My name is Farhat Naz, and I am thrilled to pen down this editor note from the Thar desert, India.

Being in the Thar desert, local communities face major water scarcity and crisis with the climate change and desertification. However, with the support of civil society working amongst the local communities, the communities develop agency to revive traditional water bodies and combat climate change with community led initiatives. Thereby, making us realise that Civil Society has such a greater role to play when it comes to climate change and water justice.

In the spotlight section, we talk about Centre for Social Impact and Philanthropy (CSIP) at

Ashoka University, India. Although being a very young centre, it is an academic centre that with research and the production of knowledge, offers a space and special programs to develop leadership, and aims to support and strengthen civil society in India.

In addition, we have selected two articles, one from Third Sector Review and, other from Journal of Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly. Both the articles, using case study, cover civil society from a Global South perspective.

Hope to see many of you at 2022 Montreal conference, it's just round the corner next month. I would also like to remind all if you for our upcoming ISTR Asia-Pacific Regional Conference, 7 – 9 December 2022, to be held at Sabah, Malaysia. Hope many of you could join us there too. Please visit [here](#) to get more details.

Happy reading and stay safe and well!

Farhat

In Spotlight:

Centre for Social Impact and Philanthropy (CSIP)

By Farhat Naz and Linda van der Wijk

The Centre for Social Impact and Philanthropy (CSIP) is relatively young but dynamic, it was established in 2016, at Ashoka University in Delhi, India. It is an academic centre that with research and the production of knowledge, offers a space and special programs to develop leadership, and aims to support and strengthen civil society in India. CSIP considers civil society to have a role in the cultural, economic, social, and political spheres and to support this the centre has set four main goals for itself:

- Informing sector strategy and debate through credible, accessible data and knowledge products
- Facilitating development of coherence, norms, vision, voice, and collaboration by convening platforms and networks
- Raising sector ambition, sustainability, and talent availability through capacity and leadership development
- Enhancing sector credibility by driving evidence-based discourse, legitimacy, transparency, and accountability standards

With these goals CSIP aims to fill what they have identified as the three major gaps in the third sector support system; a lack of knowledge to facilitate decision making and debate, a lack of networks to facilitate dialogue, advocacy and collective action, and a lack of capabilities to build, lead and govern third sector organizations in the global South.

Some of the research reports published by CSIP include *The Impact of COVID-19 on India's Nonprofit Organisations: A Snapshot Report*, generated twice, in June 2020 and in June 2021, but also *The State of the Support Ecosystem*, and *Regulatory Frameworks for India's Voluntary Sector: Global and Cross-sectoral Review of Initiatives and Practices*.

To highlight just two of the research reports by CSIP:

- The *Advocacy, Rights, and Civil Society* report, one of the first published by the centre, examines the challenges for and coping mechanisms of the third sector, and then especially rights and advocacy, based organizations in India.
- Published in 2021, the *Report on Tax Incentives for Philanthropic Giving: A Study of Twelve Countries* compares tax incentives in the USA, Mexico, Brazil, the UK, France,

Norway, South Africa, China, South Korea, Bangladesh, Singapore, and India and examines the influence tax incentives have on charitable giving in these countries.

All of CSIP's Research Reports can be downloaded [here](#). More information can be found on CSIP's [website](#).

Core Academic Journals

Third Sector Review, Volume 27, Issue 2

I Selected Abstract

Designing and Implementing a Dynamic Performance Management System in the Third Sector

Ettore de Lacerda Arpini and Camila Costa Dutra

Abstract: The purpose of this reserach paper is to report on a project to design a performance management system that incorporates qualitative and quantitative aspects of third sector performance and to validate it in practice. The design / methodological approach consisted of adapting Bititci's (2000) model to the third sector. A mixed-method approach was employed to design a Dynamic Performance Management System, through using comparative analysis to combine features of some of the most common performance measurement techniques in the third sector. The proposed model was then deployed at a large organization in the international development sector. After a year in use, a survey was conducted to assess staff perception. The results indicate that third sector organizations can take advantage of dynamic performance management by implementing a system that relies on Business Intelligence as a platform to integrate the Theory of Change and the Balanced Scorecard frameworks. The implementation of the system was well-received by high-level managers, providing strategic insights and fostering data-driven decision-making. Other staff members, however, did not seem to appreciate the system as much because it did not affect their work directly. Research limitations/implications: The theoretical framework designed in this study was only partially validated, because it was employed in only one third sector organization. Originality/value – This study adapted Bititci's (2000) Dynamic Performance Measurement System's model into the non-profit context, providing a framework to assess third sector performance management techniques. By implementing the model, this study also benefits practitioners.

II Contents

1. Bringing Proceedings Against Trustees of Australian Charitable Trusts: The Standing of Objects
Hui Jing
2. Sustainability Issues for Social Enterprises: An Examination of Economic, Community and Financial Performance Factors
Justin Ira G. Ong and Jackson Juatco Tan
3. Book Review: Breeze, B. 2021. In Defence of Philanthropy, Newcastle-on-Tyne: Agenda Publishing.
John Godfrey

Journal of Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly, Volume 51, Issue 3 I Selected Abstract

Mapping Civil Society in the Digital Age: Critical Reflections From a Project Based in the Global South

Megan LePere-Schloop, Susan Ape, Peter Adjei-Bamfo, Sandy Zook, and Justive Bawole

Abstract: Initiatives to map nonprofit organizations encompass efforts to define the boundaries of the sector and understand its scope and scale. As new technologies make it possible to digitize and analyze information in new ways, further questions about mapping civil society emerge. We integrate nonprofit scholarship, critical work on computational methods, and reflection on our experiences using machine learning to map nongovernmental organizations in Ghana, to develop a critical framework for mapping civil society in the digital age. The issues we raise about computational methods are embedded within greater concerns about the taken-for-granted assumptions in mapping civil society, and mapping as a tool to control, manage, and manipulate civil society. We are particularly attentive to the power within mapping as a mode of knowledge production.

II Contents

1. Toward a Typology of Critical Nonprofit Studies: A Literature Review
Tracy Coule, Jennifer Dodge, and Angela Eikenberry

2. Nonprofit Segregation: The Exclusion and Impact of White Nonprofit Networks
Stephen Danley and Brandi Blessett
3. Informal Volunteering, Inequality and Illegitimacy
John Dean
4. Project-Think and the Fragmentation and Defragmentation of Civil Society in Egypt, Palestine and Turkey
Gizem Zencirci and Catherine Herrold
5. “Where My Gays At?” The Status of LGBTQ People and Queer Theory in Nonprofit Research
Seth Meyer, Elizabeth Dale and Kareem Willis
6. The Hybridization of Meaningful Nonprofit Work: An Explanatory Study on the Effects of Marketization on Nonprofit Manager’s Sense of Meaningfulness in Work
Billie Sandberg and Robbie Robichau
7. NGO Roles and Anticipated Outcomes in Environmental Participatory Progress: A Typology
Itay Greenspan, Galit Cohen-Blankshtain, and Yinnon Geva
8. Half a Century of NVSQ: Thematic Stability Across Years and Editors
Chul Hee Kang, Young Min Baek, and Erin Hea-Jin Kim
9. Growing up Nonprofit Predictors of Early-Stage Nonprofit Formalization
Elizabeth Searing and Jesse Lecy
10. Book Review: ‘Home-schooling the Right: How Conservative Education Activism Erodes the State by Brown, H.
Roseanne Mirabella

Publications | News | Reports in the Sector

Voluntary Action History Society 7th International Conference

Wednesday, July 13, 2022

Over three days there will be a series of papers and specialist panels. There will also be a fiendishly difficult voluntary action quiz; an outing to Royal Albert Dock with the opportunity to visit the International Slavery Museum; and a conference dinner with jazz band held in the University's iconic Victoria Gallery and Museum. The conference will close with a plenary session which will review the current state of our field and challenges to its future.

The conference will provide an opportunity for researchers from different backgrounds, different disciplines and different countries to share knowledge of sources, methodologies and findings of research on voluntary action. It will also provide an opportunity for socialising with other delegates in an open and friendly environment.

Non-Members: If you wish to join VAHS go to <http://www.vahs.org.uk/membership/>

Against NGOs: A Critical Perspective on Civil Society, Management and Development

[Nidhi Srinivas](#)

What would development look like if its practitioners and scholars were 'against NGOs,' challenging common sense about them? This book presents a critical perspective on NGOs, describing how they emerged as key agents of development over time. Through an interpretative history based on Gramscian concepts it shows how civil society organizations were gradually enlisted in development as non-state technocratic actors. The book argues that management studies and development studies emerged as commonsensical explanations for capitalist crises. Each offered complementary solutions to balance the needs of capital and society, in particular historical circumstances. These solutions also situated civil society as agents of development and vectors of management. Against NGOs fills a gap within the literature of management and development studies through its original discussion of their historical interconnections and shared themes. The book raises provocative questions on what forms of knowledge-politics can respond productively to the crises of our contemporary moment. Please visit [here](#) to get more details about this book.

Call for Papers

2022 Australasian AID Conference

28 – 30 November 2022

After a break in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Australasian Aid Conference ('AAC') returns in 2022. Having been held in February in previous years, the conference will be shifted to the end of the year permanently. The 2022 Australasian AID Conference will be held on the 28 – 30 November, in partnership with The Asia Foundation.

As in previous years, the aim of AAC2022 is to bring together researches from across Australia, the Pacific, Asia and beyond who are working on aid and international development policy to share insights, promote collaboration, and support development in the research community. With more than 650 people registering in 2020, the AAC has established itself as Australia's premier aid and development conference.

The AAC will be a blended conference, with both livestreaming and opportunities for online presentation. The main emphasis will be on in-person participation and presentations, with all the opportunities for interaction and networking thereby afforded. Calls for papers and panels are now open, with key dates as follows:

- **15 July** – Early-bed registrations open.
- **14 August** – Submission deadline.
- **9 September** – Acceptance notification.
- **30 September** – Program release.

See [here](#) for more information on how to submit.

Resilient Urban Communities Conference

06 – 08 December 2022

Resilient Urban Communities ('RUC') is a collaborative African-German research project that addresses select Sustainable Development Goals ('SDGs'), specifically SDGs 4 and 11; Quality education and sustainable cities and communities, respectively.

As the complexities of urban life in Africa grow, social enterprises, communities as well as local leaders are at the forefront of finding sustainable solutions to poverty and inadequate housing, hunger and health, clean water, energy, environmental degradation and climate change, and infrastructure among others. Such challenges are tackled by activists, non-profit organizations,

and social enterprises partnering with governments and the private sector to ensure inclusive, equitable, and sustainable communities.

The project is a means of exploring supportive and hindering ecosystem factors and enterprise characteristics typical in marginalized urban neighbourhoods. The lessons learned will be summarized in a handbook meant to guide city officials, promoting agencies, and SE leaders. It will also broaden interest in, and approaches to, research and dissemination of knowledge in areas encompassing good governance in SE, NPO and local government; Particularly with regard to how urban supply systems and infrastructure can be improved to better livelihoods of communities living in African megacities. Key dates are as follows:

- **03 August 2022** – Deadline for abstract submissions.
- **03 September 2022** – Notification of acceptance or rejection to authors.
- **03 October 2022** – Deadline for acceptance of presentation videos deadline.
- **6-8 December 2022** – RUC conference and seminars.

See [here](#) for more information.

ISTR Asia-Pacific Regional Conference

7 – 9 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. Such crises have had variable effects on third sector organisations and civil society in particular, with reports of constrained resources, outmoded communication or collaboration technologies and passive responses. Yet, civil society survives and thrives as it develops community crises responses, forms networks of mutual aid, mobilises action and innovates to achieve new outcomes.

However, crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, are felt unequally across generations, socio-economic structures and in different regions. Civil society is instrumental for the mitigation of the worst effects of these impacts, to advocate for democratic solutions, mobilise and connect communities and highlight and work against discriminations.

Research is important in learning, publicising and developing innovations, yet the crisis has disrupted the lives of researchers who are family members, teachers, and civil society members as well. Papers that present innovations in method, theory and practice are welcomed. Papers which conform to the streams found [here](#), are particularly welcomed. Key dates are as follows:

- **01 September 2022** – Deadline for abstract submissions.

- **03 October 2022** – Notification of acceptance or rejection to authors.
- **31 October 2022** – Deadline for presenter conference registration.
- **30 November 2022** – Deadline for final submission of papers.
- **7-9 December 2022** – Start of conference.

See [here](#) for more information.

Job Vacancy

Australia Research Associate in Social Psychology
University of Western Australia
Application Closing Date: 11 July 2022

Germany Post-Doctoral Research / Fixed-Term Lecturer Post
University of Tübingen
Application Closing Date: 30 June 2022
Position Enquiries: martin.seeleib-kaiser@uni-tuebingen.de

Hong Kong Vice-Chancellor Early Career Professorships
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Application Closing Date: 30 September 2022

Post-Doctoral Fellow in Migration and Cross-Cultural Family Studies
University of Hong Kong
Application Closing Date: 3 June 2022

Research Assistant in Social Work and Social Administration
University of Hong Kong
Application Closing Date: 30 June 2022

Assistant Lecturer in Social Work and Social Administration
University of Hong Kong
Application Closing Date: 30 June 2022

Sweden PhD Position in Economic History
Lund University
Application Closing Date: 04 July 2022
Position Enquiries: ingrid.van_dijk@ekh.lu.se

Senior Lecturer in Service Studies in Tourism and Hospitality
Lund University

Application Closing Date: 14 August 2022

PhD Position in Measuring the Quality of Regional and National
Consumer Price Indices

University of Southampton

Application Closing Date: 31 August 2022

United States Lecturer in Art History
University of California, Irvine

Application Closing Date: 02 July 2022

Dean of the School of Social Work
University of Illinois

Application Closing Date: 01 July 2022

Position Enquiries: IllinoisSocialWorkDean@wittkieber.com

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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.