



HOME ECONOMICS NEWS

February 2020

Publication of the International Federation for Home Economics

XXIV IFHE WORLD CONGRESS



EARLY BIRD
REGISTRATION ENDS
April 10

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IN THIS ISSUE: START INTO 2020 WITH THEMES FEMINIZED HOMELESSNESS & FOOD WASTE

You might be surprised to see the first 2020 Newsletter being published in February already. But with the Annual Meeting in March just around the corner and early bird registration for **XXVI IFHE World Congress** ending soon (see page 5), this seemed just the right moment to highlight the Federation's strong start into 2020.

IFHE members took the opportunity to advance two themes from the unique knowledge base of home economists: Read about the IFHE statement on **alleviation of feminized homelessness** to the 58. UN Commission for Social Development (page 2) and about our members' first-hand impressions of attending the event (page 3). Another highlight is the launch of a new best practice poster on the **reduction of food waste** (page 4)

In this issue, also learn about an **online teacher educators' forum** (page 5) and how to follow **IFHE at social media** (page 6). Enjoy reading.

IFHE ADVOCATES FINANCIAL POLICY REFORM TO ALLEVIATE FEMINIZED HOMELESSNESS



Follow the [UN website](#) for all events and publications on the 58. session that took place in February 2020

Homelessness: World Home Economics Day theme 2020

Log in to the member area to find useful material to prepare your WHED celebrations.

IFHE officials attended the United Nations 58th Session of the Commission for Social Development to advocate social protection for all against homelessness. [Read a summary of the IFHE position by Peggy O'NEIL, Canada.](#)

Homes are environments where individuals reach their full potential, live a life of dignity, and develop and express their global interdependence. The commercialization and privatization of customary land in the Global South disadvantages women, renders them homeless and interrupts their livelihoods. IFHE welcomed the opportunity to work together with the United Nations Commission for Social Development (CSoCD) on the 2020 priority theme "Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness".

IFHE representatives asked United Nations affiliated financial institutions to review and reform signatory eligibility and compliance policies in order to strengthen and uphold provisions to mitigate feminized homelessness in the Global South. In personal wealth management and income tax reduction planning, individuals can help by making sure fund companies in their portfolios comply with social sustainability standards.

Impact of housing on women and families

"Engaging in this international forum is important for IFHE because of the impact that housing has on women, families, and our future. That's why we are here at the UN this week," said Dr. Sandra Poirier, Professional Home Economist and Professor, Middle Tennessee State University, USA.

Evidence and experience indicate that one of the most significant inequalities and pressing challenges to addressing homelessness and ensuring social protection for all manifest in one of the world's poorest and most vulnerable populations, women in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Economic agreements between governments and international investors denationalize and privatize land historically controlled by customary law in which women had shared use of property and natural resources for the respective purposes of building basic homes and subsistence livelihoods. The social obligations and communal arrangements under customary tenure have been particularly important for women who are more dependent upon them in order to use the land and control assets such as livestock and crops to generate income with which to build basic homes and subsistence livelihoods.

Advocating for financial policy reform

The most important social protection measure against feminized homelessness in the Global South is international financial policy reform in combination with action by investment and financial groups committed to social sustainability. International, economic policies must be reviewed and revised to explicitly include resettlement, rehabilitation, restitution, and resolution requirements of



investors participating in and enjoying the benefits of United Nations-affiliated credentials for sustainable asset management.

“Women’s land rights are essential to human progress. *Everyone* needs a place to create a life—to flourish,” said Dr. Peggy O’Neil, Professional Home Economist and Adjunct Research Professor, Brescia College University, Canada.

IMPRESSIONS FROM THE UN: OUR WORK IS IMPORTANT TO ATTAIN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

IFHE invited members who had contributed to the official written statement for the Commission for Social Development to represent the Federation at the Commission's session February 2020. Read the impressions they share with us.

Attending the United Nations and participating in discussions to make the world a better place has been on my “bucket list” ever since I left the Middle East where I worked for Zayed University, United Arab Emirates. The opportunity was afforded to me this year by developing a statement on homelessness with a colleague from Kentucky, Dr. Maryann Remsen. After submitting the statement, we were asked to attend the United Nations 58th Commission for Social Development in February 2020, by the International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE). For me, it was definitely a career highlight that accentuates many of the values and attitudes that I have acquired and developed throughout my working life in this discipline. I met many humanitarians from every continent who were engaged in making social change in their regions. Additionally, I was pleasantly surprised to see many young people in attendance who were eager to begin learning the history and the process required to make positive change in the future. I am excited to begin partnering with other Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO’s) so that we may strengthen our efforts in solving many of the global social issues (Sandra POIRIER, USA).



Participants S. POIRIER, M. REMSEN,
P. O’NEIL, G. HUSTVEDT (photo: G.
HUSTVEDT)

Being at the United Nations for this timely, important Commission provided clarity and inspiration for me. I met people from all four hemispheres of the globe, all of whom, one way or another, affirmed that our work as home economists is of paramount importance in the attainment of the Goals for Sustainable Development. Home economists have a unique knowledge base and skill set which is needed in virtually every continent in order to realize our collective dreams of a better world. This purpose combined with my colleagues' brilliance and ability have inspired me to increase my research and practice contributions to our profession at home and internationally (Peggy O'NEIL, Canada).

Attending the 58th Session of the Commission for Social Development afforded me the opportunity to meet, relate, and interact with individuals from Non-Governmental Organizations from many parts of the globe on the priority theme of housing and social protection systems to address homeless. From this experience, I was able to develop connections with two panelists with whom I will continue to do further study and research on homelessness as it effects populations in the United States. Being at the United Nations and meeting NGO's from other countries was truly the highlight of my professional career. I value the personal and professional opportunities that result of being a part of IFHE and look forward to future opportunities and experiences (Mary Ann REMSEN, USA).

REDUCING FOOD WASTE: BEST PRACTICE TIPS TO PROMOTE THE RESPONSIBLE USE OF HOUSEHOLD RESOURCES

Read about the latest addition to the IFHE publication series on sustainable use of household technology and resources & download material from the website.

Did you know? 1/3 of food produced for human consumption worldwide gets lost or wasted every year. This is how the new best practice tips how to manage food and food waste catch the readers' attention. The poster was developed by experts of the IFHE Programme Committee Household Technology & Sustainability and presents the complex topic of food waste in a condensed way, explaining food waste in developing and industrialized countries and offering abundant tips how to use food sustainably in one's home.

The poster is only the latest addition to previously published best practice tips on cooking, drying, storage & refrigeration and other all daily chores that have a significant impact on the sustainable use of household technology and resources. All nine best practice posters and tips are based on peer-reviewed scientific literature. To better transport their complex message, they have now been revised and given a new design with help of our "virtual intern" Seunghee Lee who has a MFA in Environmental Graphic Design and lives in El Paso, USA.

All posters are available for free download in English, Arabic and German and at the IFHE website. Please feel free to use and share them.





EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - ONLINE FORUM

Global Online Forum

Access the forum [here](#) (contact: esdinnovateteam@gmail.com)

A free online forum discusses education's role in achieving the global Sustainable Development Goals with a focus on educational themes and teaching about current threats to global sustainability.

The Online Global Forum on Education for Sustainability (ESD) brings together voices from the Global South with those from the Global North to discuss current educational topics and major threats to global sustainability as well as education's role in achieving the global Sustainable Development Goals. It puts focus on educational themes (e.g. systems thinking, pedagogy) and teaching about current threats to sustainability (e.g. climate change, social inequity).

New thematic units will be posted to the forum 10 times per year. Each unit will include videos or live discussion and practical topics how to integrate sustainability into existing teacher-preparation courses and good practices. All videos, materials, and resources are available at no cost (see link left hand side).

XXVI WORLD CONGRESS: EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION ENDS SOON



Make sure to benefit from reduced fees by registering until 10. April 2020! Submissions promise an exceptionally broad range of perspectives on the Congress theme *Home Economics: Soaring Toward Sustainable Development*.

The XXVI IFHE World Congress is hosted by IFHE-US and Family and Consumer Sciences colleagues from across the United States. They are excited to be our host and invested time and efforts to make this Congress an attractive event.

Plans include a pre-Congress for educators, plenary speakers, research presentations, exhibits, opening and closing ceremonies, a welcome dinner, home visits, and a banquet. An exciting new element at this Congress is the Learning Day on the Move, which incorporates educational & technical excursions in and around Atlanta, including the University of Georgia-Athens. Lunch and dinner are included. Also consider the exciting pre and post Congress tours.

Our hotel has another meeting scheduled just before Congress, so there are limited rooms available before August 2. The good news is there are rooms available after August 8 so you can explore Atlanta and the nearby areas. Make your hotel reservations now. Your credit card won't be charged until you arrive. Contact the organizers if you want a room on July 31 and August 1 in order to attend pre-Congress tours and they will try to assist you.

Also just posted on the Congress website are airline discount offers from Delta and United. These may be more economical but do check other options too. Finally, for those planning to submit a full paper (based on previously accepted abstract) for review, the deadline is extended until April 13, 2020.

See the Congress website for details. Looking forward to seeing you in Atlanta!

NEWS FROM THE REGIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOLLOW US! IFHE TAKES FIRST STEPS AT FACEBOOK & CO

LinkedIn

@ifhehomeec

Facebook

@ifhehomeec

Instagram

@ifhe_homeec

Twitter

@ifhe_homeec

To be honest, "first steps" isn't quite correct when describing IFHE social media activities. Forward-thinking IFHE members have seen the potential of communication via social media already in 2014 and set up a twitter account that today has almost 1.900 followers.

These are numbers that the newest additions to IFHE's social media presence still need to reach. End 2019, a Facebook account was set up as well as a company page at LinkedIn and in early 2020, an Instagram account followed. The IFHE Office with help of intern Sandhya Khadka aims to regularly post news to increase the Federation's visibility and hopefully reach out to a new audience.

And you can help us to do so! Please follow, like our posts and most of all: send pictures and news of your home economics activities so we can share them with a global community.



IFHE SCHOLARSHIP 2020 HOLDER



(picture: G. MIFETU)

We are happy to announce the first IFHE Scholarship holder, Gloria Makafui MIFETU. The scholarship supports qualified Home Economics students to gain international exposure and advance at international platforms. Candidates submitted a concept how to advance home economics.

Gloria MIFETU is a graduate assistant at the School of Fashion Design and Merchandizing, Kent State University, USA. She grew up in Ghana where she obtained a Bachelor in Home Economics Education at Winneba University before she moved to the US to continue her Masters in Fashion Industry Studies.

Gloria worked as a costume designer and pattern maker for a manufacturer in Ghana. Her project concept to advance home economics at an international level holds the interesting title "Home Economics - only for women?". Through the scholarship, Gloria obtains a two-year IFHE membership and reimbursement of travel costs to IFHE events.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020

Published by the International
Federation for Home Economics
(IFHE)

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10th-19th February

**United Nations Commission for Social Development
58th Session**
New York, United States

4th-6th March

**International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE)
Annual Meeting**
Bonn, Germany

9th-20th March

**United Nations Commission on the Status of Women
64th Session (Beijing +25)**
New York, United Nations

8th-9th May

**Latvia University of Agriculture/Institute of Education and Home Economics
13. Scientific Conference (REEP)**
Jelgava, Latvia

19th-22nd July

**Brazilian Society for Human Ecology (SABEH)
XXXIV International Conference**
Pernambuco, Brazil

2nd-8th August

**International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE)
XXIV IFHE World Congress**
Atlanta, Georgia, USA

28th-30th September

**Home Economics Institute of Australia
National Conference**
Brisbane, Australia

12th-13th November

**Home Renaissance Foundation
5th International Conference**
London, United Kingdom

Next Issue:
JUNE 2020

Please submit information and
articles by 15 May 2020 to the IFHE
Office Bonn, Germany