

AUSTRALIA INDIA COUNCIL PROJECT

Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia

&

Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous)

Project on

“Developing a Health Care Practice Model for Indian Social Work”

Supported by

*Australia India Council, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia
Government*

Principal Participants:

1. Dr Helen Cleak, Associate Professor, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia
2. Dr Anish K.R., Head of the Department, Department of Social Work, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous), Kochi, India

This project will develop the skills, knowledge and experience of leaders in social work education and practice in India. It supports and enhances leadership capacity through focused training of health care practitioners and academics to address the development of appropriate social work health care interventions in Kochi, India. Health experts have identified three significant health issues: Oncology, cardiovascular disease, and family violence as the most pressing service/skills and training deficits in health social workers employed in hospitals across India. The program will focus on the enhancement of leadership and educational capacity, using best practice principles for working in acute/subacute care settings, using the input of social workers from the Princess Alexandra Hospital and academics from QUT who have expertise in health curriculum. This project will also develop core health care curriculum for programs at the Rajagiri College to ensure the future training of health social workers.

Outputs:

1. The development of training tools that will be delivered to Indian social work practitioners at a workshop in November, 2018.
2. Indian social workers will develop skills and knowledge to work in an Indian hospital setting
3. The model to be used will build a pool of competent trainers to educate future social work practitioners.

Project Outlay: AUD 88468.00

**UGC DAAD PROJECT BASED PERSONNEL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME
(PPP 2018-19)**

Project title: Culturally Competent Practice with Refugees and Migrants in India and Germany: Implications for Social Work Education

Indian Project Leader	German Project Leader
Dr. Anish K.R, Assistant Professor & Head of the Department Department of Social Work Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous)	Dr. Monika Pfaller-Rott Senior Researcher Department of Social Work Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt

Social work education has a pivotal role in building, cultural competence of students, to engage with clients of diverse backgrounds. The need for developing an all-encompassing curriculum in this regard is an established fact (CSWE, 2008). The context of increasing number of migrants and refugees in Germany, and interstate migration from multicultural background in India, calls for establishment of a culturally sensitive social work practice model for working with refugees and migrants. This would facilitate their social integration and enhance their social capital. Little is documented about the role of social work education, in the enhancement of cultural competence of social work trainees. This study attempts to explore the social work curriculum, social work education and practice in India and Germany in relation to:

- Current curriculum coverage concerning building up of cultural competence of the social work trainees,
- Perceived skills and knowledge in intercultural practice among practitioners and social work trainees
- Confidence in intercultural practice among the trainees and practitioners
- Examples of demonstrated competence in intercultural practice
- Current methodologies for training for intercultural practice

The project would further explore the possibilities of:

- Development of a model curriculum for training social work students for intercultural practice.
- Develop a continuing education program for social work practitioners to develop and foster skills and confidence in intercultural social work practice with migrants and refugees.
- Development and standardization of cultural competence indicators for intercultural practice education and practice in social work.
- Enable social workers (students, practitioners, researchers) to practice cross-cultural cooperation by:
 - o Demonstration of intercultural research competence
 - o Working in Cross-cultural research teams