



## **2018 Global Conference: Environmental Sustainability and Community Development**

This joint Global social work and social development conference was held in July 2018 over four days in the RDS, Ballsbridge, Dublin. The conference was organised on behalf of the International Federation of Social Workers, the International Association of Schools of Social Work, the International Council on Social Welfare. It was a tremendous success with over 2,200 delegates from 101 countries participating.

The conference Organising Committee worked together in an effective, friendly and cooperative spirit for four years to prepare it. The Committee had members from IASW, NUIG, TCD, UCC, UCD, EAPN (European Anti-Poverty Network) and MCI, the professional conference organiser.

Approximately 1334 papers covering 15 themes were accepted from 77 countries including 96 from Ireland and 1100 posters were accepted (from 2,526 submitted). Over the four days, ten keynote speakers participated and there were 76 workshops, 44 Symposia, 1132 Oral Presentations, and 1018 Poster presentations. A highlight of the conference was the participation of groups representing users of social work services.

Eleven diverse Field Visits were arranged, including one to Belfast. These proved very successful.

We were most grateful for the sponsorship given by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, Tusla, The Probation Service and Fáilte Ireland.

John Brennan,  
Chair, Organising Committee