



Announcement and Invitation to Participate Online

GLU Asia Alumni Workshop, 1-3 November 2022

“The implications of the pandemic in the world of work: Expanding social protection and public services to protect workers and peoples in times of crises”

Dear GLU Alumni,

In August 2016, the GLU Asia Alumni held the first Asia Regional Global Labour University (GLU) Alumni Workshop at the University of the Philippines in Quezon City, Philippines with the theme *Confronting Precarious Work in Asia: The Role of Labour Market Institutions and Trade Unions*. This year, with the support of the GLU, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Nepal Office, and the UNI Global Union Asia & Pacific, we are pleased to announce the holding of the second GLU Asia Alumni Workshop in Kathmandu, Nepal on 1-3 November 2022.

With the theme *“The implications of the pandemic in the world of work: Expanding social protection and public services to protect workers and peoples in times of crises”*, this workshop will be held in a hybrid format, both in-person and online via a video conference platform (e.g., Zoom). In light of this, we invite all Alumni GLU, not only in Asia, to participate in the workshop online. All GLU Alumni from Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Australia, Latin America, Europe and North America are welcome to participate. There will be expert resource persons, speaking online and in-person, and we are exploring possibilities for more interactive digital experience of participants during the workshop.

About the 2022 GLU Asia Alumni Workshop

Since our last workshop in 2016, the world has witnessed significant and dramatic changes in the world of work, the most notable of which have been facilitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020, the pandemic put the world’s economies to a halt, resulting in massive job and work-hours losses. It exposed and exacerbated the weaknesses of health systems and social protection schemes all over the world, including Asia. In particular, the working class has been hit hard by the health and economic crisis brought about by the pandemic. About 95% of the world’s population belongs to the working population and the poor who need social protection and access to quality public services to prevent them from falling deeper into poverty. Today, countries in Asia are still reeling from the economic and social impacts of the pandemic.

The workshop aims to:

1. Discuss the implications of the pandemic in the world of work and how social protection and public services can protect workers and peoples in times of crises.
2. Examine the role of various social security systems in Asia in addressing workers’ social protection needs, and the role of trade unions in strengthening social protection for various groups of workers (e.g., migrant workers, women workers, informal sector workers, digital platform workers).
3. Highlight the importance of expanded public services as an effective response to the health and economic crisis brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

4. Further discuss and strengthen the role of the GLU Asia Alumni in knowledge sharing and in building solidarity with workers and trade unions in the region.

There are four major tracks of the workshop:

Track 1: Implications of the pandemic in the world of work and responses of governments and trade unions

Track 2: The role of social protection in times of crisis: Government and trade union initiatives

Track 3: The future is public: Expanding public services during the pandemic and in a post-pandemic world

Track 4: Addressing the impact of the pandemic on vulnerable groups of workers (women, informal workers, platform workers, and migrant workers): The role of collective representation, social protection, and public services

We see the workshop as a venue to discuss in detail how the pandemic impacted workers and their families, the policy responses of governments and trade union actions in the area of social protection and public services and recommend ways forward.

If you would like to participate in the GLU Asia Alumni workshop, kindly register at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEqfu2rqzouGtd54GHdTZIXjtwAMt8H04Lw>

The workshop programme is provided in this link: [2022 GLU Asia Conference Program - Google Drive](#)

In case you have questions concerning the workshop, please email Tilak Jang Khadka or Verna Viajar at gluasia2022alumni@gmail.com.

Please feel free to share this Invitation with other GLU Alumni around the world. We look forward to seeing you online.

Thank you very much.

The Organizing Committee of the 2022 GLU Asia Alumni Workshop

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