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EVENTS | PROGRAMMES | CEO BLOG

Dear TWF friends,

Whew – what a week in UK politics with Theresa May's gamble resulting in the Conservative Party losing its majority. Pundits are now betting on how long Mrs May can continue to hold on to power. Whatever happens to Mrs May, from a gender perspective, this was a truly historic election and very good news for female representation. 208 women MPs were elected versus 191 in 2015, women now make up 32% of the total number of UK MPs and women lead or co-lead most of the major UK political parties including the Conservatives, the Scottish National Party, the Democratic Unionist Party, Plaid Cymru, the Green Party and the Women's Equality Party.

Meanwhile, back home in Hong Kong, the Government has faced a barrage of bad press recently with the release of several troubling reports:

\* According to the latest Census & Statistics report [<http://www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp459.jsp?productCode=BI120096>], Hong Kong's household income inequality rose to a record high last year. The department attributed this to the effects of a rapidly ageing population and an increase in the number of non-working elderly people. However, some NGOs like SoCo have blamed the widening gap on the fact that Hong Kong's low-income families have been unable to benefit from the economic growth and amassing of wealth in the city in recent years. The report was also the subject of an at times heated discussion on this morning's RTHK BackChat. Tune in [here](#).

\* A new report by the Hong Kong Paediatric Society and the HK Paediatric Foundation [[http://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/tc/edu-system/primary-secondary/applicable-to-primary-secondary/sbss/school-based-curriculum-primary/2016\\_cllc.pdf](http://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/tc/edu-system/primary-secondary/applicable-to-primary-secondary/sbss/school-based-curriculum-primary/2016_cllc.pdf)] claims that the city's young people are increasingly unhappy after enduring two decades of "ineffective ad hoc and remedial government strategies" on youth mental health. The report found that the number of children and adolescents being treated for mental illness in public hospitals more than doubled between 2011 and 2016.

\* A study [<http://hongkongvision.org.hk/en/researchreport/aginginplace/>] by think tank, Hong Kong Vision, highlights deficiencies in community services and support for elderly people and their carers. The study found that elderly people have to wait an average of 10 months to receive home care or centre-based care services – with many services including meal deliveries not available on Sundays and public holidays. The report also suggested the Government could be doing more to help family members caring for elderly people navigate long working hours, rising monthly expenses and shrinking incomes especially if they had quit their jobs to become full time carers.

The incoming administration clearly has its work cut out if we are to heal societal rifts and relieve the pressure particularly on lower income families. NGOs like TWF can only do so much through our programmes and limited resources – we need systematic change and the Government to allocate appropriate funding and resources to tackle the root causes, not just the symptoms.

Finally, a big thank you to everyone who wrote in in response to last week's Connect to share their comments on Uber and Hong Kong. The situation has also attracted a lot of media attention following the government's announcement last week that it will not be reforming the taxi licensing system, with Alex Lo [<http://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/article/2097883/time-get-board-sharing-economy>] and Jake van der Kamp [<http://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/article/2097782/uber-issue-about-politics-not-about-defying-regulation>] both devoting column inches to this in the SCMP over the last few days. For anyone looking for a more comprehensive overview, take a look at David Webb's typically incisive account of HK's road cartels [<https://webb-site.com/articles/roadcartels.asp>].

Warm regards

Su-Mei Thompson  
CEO, The Women's Foundation

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Facebook & Instagram Ad Tools Workshop**

## FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM AD TOOLS WORKSHOP

#SHEMEANSBUSINESS HONG KONG

#SheMeansBusiness



### for Female Entrepreneurs

TWF is delighted to support Facebook's upcoming workshop to help female business owners amplify their reach and find new customers. The interactive workshop will offer suggestions for how female entrepreneurs can grow their businesses using the latest cutting edge online resources and creative ideas.

**DATE:** Thursday, June 22, 2017

**TIME:** Networking & reg 6.30 – 7.00pm / Workshop 7.00-9.00 p.m

**VENUE:** Metta, 21/F California Tower, Lan Kwai Fong, Central

Register [here](#).

## SECRETS TO SUCCESS

NATASHA D'SOUZA



### Natasha D'Souza Shares Her Secrets to Success!

TWF is delighted to present the next session in our not-to-be-missed Secrets to Success series featuring outstanding female leaders sharing their first-hand experience, insights and advice from their own leadership journey. We are looking forward to hearing from Natasha D'Souza, a business journalist, strategist and speaker/presenter focused on startups, technology and innovation in emerging markets.

**DATE:** Wednesday, June 21, 2017

**TIME:** 12:30–2.00 p.m., registration from 12.00 p.m.

**VENUE:** 8/F, KPMG, Prince's Building, Central

**TICKET:** HK\$200pp. A light lunch will be available.

All proceeds will go to The Women's Foundation Cambridge Scholarship Scheme which sends deserving Hong Kong students to pursue the M Phil in Multi-disciplinary Gender Studies. Register [here](#).

## TWF PROGRAMME UPDATES



### Girls Go Tech Programme Update

Last week, TWF organised a Teacher Workshop for around 70 teachers at Tack Ching Girls' Secondary School. Connie Cheung, TWF's Senior Programme Manager, shared the highlights of our recent STEM research and how opportunities in the STEM field are impacting women's empowerment and economic development. BSD Code & Design Academy demonstrated how to incorporate free app Schoology to create, manage and share teaching resources with the teachers present enjoying a hands-on trial.



### Mentoring Circle on EQ

Last week, Mentoring Programme protégés, Soraya Raccah and Althea Yung, organised a peer-to-peer session on the importance of Emotional Intelligence and Digital Emotional Intelligence. Many thanks to supporting mentors, Joanne Gray and Ann Chu, for sharing their insights. Thanks also to Google for hosting the session.

### Lunch with Ben Way, CEO of Macquarie



### Group Asia

Thank you to the 30 male leaders who attended last Wednesday's lunch with Ben Way, CEO of Macquarie Group Asia and the AmCham 2016 Champion for the Advancement of Women. Ben gave a powerful account of why helping to level the playing field for women is important to him personally and as a business leader. Thank you again to Ben and Macquarie for hosting.



### TWF's Unconscious Gender Bias Best Practice Guide Launch

Yesterday saw the launch of our latest Best Practice Guide on Success Markers for Effective Unconscious Bias Strategies. After a presentation of the guide by Zoe Henham - TWF HRAC Co-Chair, the audience of around 80 people enjoyed break-out discussions facilitated by Susan Hutchison, Claire Goodchild, Paul Choi, Gulnar Vaswani and Su-Mei Thompson. Many thanks to State Street for hosting and thank you to Zoe, the facilitators and attendees. For a copy of the guide, please contact [Lisa.Moore@twfhk.org](mailto:Lisa.Moore@twfhk.org).

## SHE OBJECTS UPDATE



### The Objects Screening at BAML

A big thank you to Bank of America Merrill Lynch (BAML) for hosting a well-attended screening for staff of She Objects last Thursday. The screening was followed by a lively audience Q&A and panel discussion moderated by Sonali Kumar - BAML and featuring Nicola Fan - She Objects film director, Raj Singhal - BAML and Su-Mei Thompson - TWF CEO. To arrange a screening for your company, women's network, school or university, please email [Sarah.AbbottLadner@twfhk.org](mailto:Sarah.AbbottLadner@twfhk.org).

## TWF IN THE SPOTLIGHT



### UBS Hong Kong Community and Philanthropy Talk 2017

Last Wednesday, Jo Hayes, TWF's Pipeline Initiatives Director, joined fellow panellists Binod Chaudhary - Chaudhary Group, Agnes K. Y. Tai - KELY Support Group and Olivier Audemars - Audemars Piguet, for a lively discussion moderated by Christina Tung, on what happens when Philanthropic Foundations meet Frontline NGOs.

### TWF CEO at the JESSICA Leaders Forum



Last Friday, TWF CEO Su-Mei Thompson spoke on a panel on Work-Life Balance at the JESSICA Leaders Forum, alongside Nicole Denholder - CEO/Next Chapter and Winnie Tam - former Chairwoman/Hong Kong Bar Association. The panel was moderated by Scarlett Oi-lan Pong - Chairman/The League of Health Professionals of Hong Kong. Many thanks to JESSICA for organising such an inspiring well-curated event.

## IN THE COMMUNITY

### Telstra Business Woman in Asia Award 2017

Telstra is inviting nominations for the second annual Telstra Business Woman in Asia Award. Award winners and finalists join a vibrant alumni community of like-minded women helping to build stronger, more productive and more relevant business communities across Asia. If you know successful and inspiring business women in Asia, help Telstra recognise them by making a nomination. Go to the [TBWA website](http://Telstrabusinesswomensawards.com/nominate) to find out more.

### BNP Paribas Returnship Programme

TWF is delighted to support BNP Paribas' Global Markets Returnship Programme in Hong Kong. The programme is aimed at providing women with a meaningful career pathway back to work and ultimately to improve the gender balance in this area of the financial services industry. For more information and to apply, please visit this [link](#).



### HeforShe Workshop From Wishes to Practices

TWF is delighted to support the French Chamber's HeforShe workshop on June 22. The workshop will be led by Alessandro Paparelli, Vice President of HR of Kering APAC, who will share Kering's practical experiences in empowering diversity within the organisation. To register, please click [here](#).

## OPENINGS AT TWF

### Networks Manager Opening!

TWF is looking to hire a dynamic Networks Manager to develop and support our expanding circle of influencer networks including the 30% Club HK, TWF Male Allies and Chief Executive Women. Please click [here](#) for the job description and help us spread the word! Applications should be received by June 30.

## WHAT WE'RE READING

### **Our top picks for recommended reading and listening on the key trends and breaking stories about women and gender:**

- [How Crowdfunding is Opening the Doors for Women Entrepreneurs in Hong Kong and beyond](#) (Forbes)
- [Egypt women: Where tampons may cause a security alert](#) (BBC)
- [Freshening Up the Olympics. Sorry, Men's Weight Lifters.](#) (NY Times)
- [Women Are Judged Whether They Take Maternity Leave Or Not](#) (TIME)
- [We don't just need more black women in movies. We need intersectionality, now -Thandie Newton](#) (Guardian)
- [Snow White actress Chloë Grace Moretz calls out her own movie promos for fat-shaming](#) (Washington Post)
- [Magazine aims to introduce positive image of Afghan women](#) (Al Jazeera)

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