


[EVENTS](#) | [PROGRAMMES](#) | [CEO BLOG](#)

Dear TWF friends

As you may know, the Hong Kong Stock Exchange launched a public consultation in July to seek views and comments on proposed changes to the Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting Guide. The changes aim to strengthen ESG disclosure requirements and encourage HK issuers to formulate policies, measure relevant data, monitor progress and report to investors and other stakeholders on their work in this area, in line with international developments on ESG reporting. If passed, issuers will be required to state in their annual report for financial years starting on or after January 1, 2016 whether they have complied with the comply or explain provisions set out in the ESG Guide for the relevant financial year. The deadline for submissions is this Friday September 18 and we strongly encourage you to participate in the consultation exercise! Click [here](#) to submit your response using the HKEx Questionnaire.

From TWF's perspective, we are heartened that issuers are being directed to enhance their disclosure around their Employment and Labour Standards and Supply Chain Management since both of these areas significantly impact women.

In the case of the former, while we are delighted that issuers are being encouraged to conduct a gender analysis on their workforce, employee turnover rate and training opportunities, we would like to see a requirement on issuers to disclose whether they have conducted a gender analysis on compensation levels given the significant gender gap in pay that persists in Hong Kong. Given the importance of recruiting and retaining women in the workforce, we would also urge HKEx to consider upgrading the current requirement to report on gender breakdowns from voluntary reporting to a mandatory requirement.

In terms of supply chain management, we are delighted that companies are being encouraged to disclose their policies for managing the geographical, environmental and social risks of their supply chain but we would also urge the Exchange to consider in future including a requirement to report on policies and practices used to promote economic inclusion when selecting suppliers, in line with the Global Reporting Initiative, the international benchmark for voluntary sustainability reporting. Forms of economic inclusion include suppliers owned by women, suppliers owned or staffed by members of vulnerable, marginalised or under-represented groups, and small and medium sized suppliers. This type of reporting would give a clearer picture of whether and how companies in Hong Kong are embracing supplier diversity. This is important because research shows that supplier diversity offers growth opportunities for minority-owned (including women-owned) businesses and drives sustainable social and economic benefits for targeted communities. Supplier diversity programmes can also help issuers to connect with a major component of their customer base, access new business opportunities, create a more agile supply chain and contribute to the sustainability of the communities in which they operate.

In case it's helpful, you can find a copy of TWF's submission [here](#).

Warm regards

Su-Mei Thompson
 CEO, The Women's Foundation

TWF PROGRAMME UPDATES



CUHK Seminar Showcasing TWF

We are delighted that TWF's [Financial Literacy Programme](#) was showcased in a CUHK Seminar on Service Reflection on Collaborative Project Innovation. TWF's Rita Ching outlined the innovative design, collaborative aspects and impact of the Programme to an audience comprising CUHK faculty, students and alumni. Rita and Monica Yau of CUHK also discussed the key programme-related issues facing social workers and NGOs today.



Introducing the TWF ANZ Accelerator Programme for Women Entrepreneurs

We are excited to be launching our new TWF ANZ Accelerator Programme for Women Entrepreneurs tonight at a reception hosted by ANZ Global CEO Mike Smith. To access Mike's interview with Bloomberg this morning on the Accelerator Programme, click [here](#). Click [here](#) to read the press release on the launch.

IN THE COMMUNITY

GOLDMAN SACHS 2016 RETURNSHIP® PROGRAM

APPLY NOW



Goldman Sachs 2016 Returnship® Program

The Goldman Sachs 2016 Returnship® Program is a 10-week paid program that enables experienced professionals who have taken a career break an opportunity to restart their careers. You can learn more about the Program at the Information Session on Thursday, October 8, 10.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m. at 59/F Cheung Kong Center, 2 Queen's Road Central. To register, email [Goldman Sachs Hong Kong Returnship® Program](mailto:Goldman.Sachs.Hong.Kong.Returnship@Program) with a short summary of your prior experience.

Registration deadline September 30. To apply for the Returnship program, click [here](#).
Application deadline Friday, October 16.

UPCOMING EVENTS



TWF + COCOON PITCH NIGHT

WOMEN
ENTREPRENEURS
EDITION



CoCoon Pitch Night X TWF: Women Entrepreneurs Edition

DATE: Thursday, September 24, 2015

TIME: 6.30 – 9.00 p.m.

VENUE: CoCoon, 3/F Citicorp Centre, 18 Whitfield Road, Tin Hau

ABOUT THE EVENT: Six start-ups with female founders, CEOs, CTOs or COOs will present at our CoCoon/TWF Pitch Night. Click [here](#) for more information.



Gala Dinner 2015

DATE: Thursday, October 29, 2015

TIME: 7.30 – 11.00 p.m.

VENUE: The Conrad Hotel, Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Admiralty

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Madeline Di Nonno, CEO of the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media

For inquiries regarding sponsorship and table/ticket sales, click [here](#) or contact Jessica.Boyle@twfhk.org

EXTERNAL EVENTS

TWF is delighted to be supporting the following events:

SEPTEMBER 21: Kellogg-HKUST Executive MBA Program - [An Inspirational Evening with Our Female Alumni](#)

SEPTEMBER 22-23: Garden of Hope's [Conference on Human Rights & Dignity of Asian Girls](#)

NOVEMBER 6: AMCHAM 12th Annual [Women of Influence Conference and Awards](#)

NOVEMBER 9-12: Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and Smith College [Leadership Program for Women](#)

WHAT WE'RE READING

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

- [Report Finds Most Nations Hinder Women](#) (NY Times)
- [Liberal Leadership: Malcolm Turnbull Must Bring Women Forward](#) (The Sydney Morning Herald)
- [Are College Lectures Unfair?](#) (NY Times)
- [Women CEOs In Social Enterprises Earn 29% Less Than Their Male Counterparts](#) (LSE Business Review)
- [Drive For Women's Empowerment: Mumbai's All-Female Taxi Firm](#) (The Guardian)

9A Chun Wo Commercial Centre, 23-29 Wing Wo Street, Sheung Wan
E: info@twfhk.org | W: twfhk.org | T: +852-2592-8265 | F: +852-2592-8264

You received this e-mail because you subscribed to The Women's Foundation database.
To unsubscribe, please click [here](#).

