

Dear TWF friends



Developments Impacting Women & Girls

"Achieving gender equality is about disrupting the status quo - not negotiating it." — Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women

We hope you all are staying safe and keeping your spirits high while we continue to weather through this latest outbreak of COVID-19.

From norm-shattering speeches to new research and economic well-being, here are a few highlights of developments around gender equality:

Calling out systems of abuse: US Congresswoman, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, made international headlines in her response to Congressman Ted Yoho using verbally abusive language about her and offering an unconvincing apology afterwards. She eloquently used this incident to highlight the culture "of accepting a violence and violent language against women, [and] an entire structure of power that supports that." She carefully deconstructs commonly held excuses given by individuals who use this language to shield them from taking responsibility and the critical role language plays in shaping our attitudes towards women. Watch her speech in full [here](#). The Congresswoman's speech resonates with us at TWF, and we know there is work to do here to eliminate harmful attitudes and language that demean and diminish women's equal value. We have addressed various aspects of this issue through our campaigns and incorporate discussions among our Male Allies to better understand biases and micro-aggressions.

 [Read More](#)

DONATE TO TWF



The COVID-19 pandemic is not only having a profound impact on our health, but also on our society. Women will continue to be disproportionately impacted by this crisis as we move towards recovery efforts – from large numbers of redundancies in female-dominated sectors to facing increased risks of domestic abuse and other forms of gender-based violence.

At TWF, we are committed to working with you all in forging a path forward that is equal – for men and women, boys and girls. As we build our new normal, it's more vital than ever that gender equality, diversity and the needs of our most vulnerable are kept in mind.

We would ask you to consider donating a portion of your HK\$10,000 Cash Payout to support our critical work. Help us as we continue to empower and improve the lives of women and girls in Hong Kong.

[Make your donation here](#)



Gala Dinner 2020 - Save The Date

On November 5, we will be hosting our Annual Gala Dinner – be sure to Save the Date!

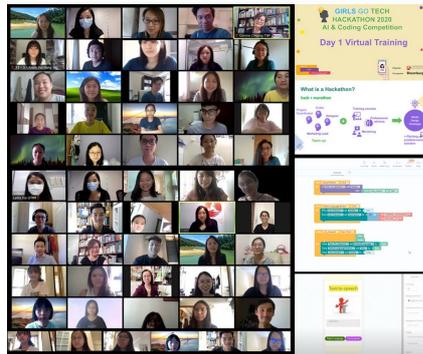
TWF is monitoring the COVID-19 situation closely. The format of the programme is being carefully designed to keep our guests safe, which remains our priority. We will update you on the format of our event in due course.

Whatever the situation, whatever the format – let’s come together for a gender equal Hong Kong.

We look forward to celebrating with you.

[Contact us for corporate sponsorship opportunities here](#)

TWF PROGRAMME UPDATES



Girls Go Tech Programme - Hackathon 2020 AI & Coding Competition

On July 29, we kicked off our first GGT virtual Hackathon, co-organised by Bloomberg. 60 GGT participants and 15 Bloomberg volunteers joined virtual training sessions to understand coding and AI better and used Thinkable to create mobile apps. Volunteers shared their career experience and worked with participants to take a pre-selected series of online courses to prepare for the competition. A heartfelt thank you to Bloomberg and their passionate volunteers!

How Does Gender Equality Feature in Building Our New Normal?

Yesterday, TWF hosted a virtual session on "How does gender equality feature in building our new normal?" as part of our post event series for our International Women’s Day Lunch, sponsored by Swire Group and Swire Properties.

Featuring Fiona Nott | TWF and Olivia Wong | Swire, and moderated by Inti Tam | TWF, the speakers overviewed the ways in which women have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, shared policies and practices on how to build a gender-inclusive workplace under the current environment, and discussed the importance of prioritising gender equality and diversity as we shape our new normal.



TWF's Mentoring Programme - Info Sessions and Last Corporate Partner Spots!

The 12th year of our flagship Mentoring Programme for Women Leaders will start over the summer. Every year, this best in class programme matches 50 high potential, aspiring female leaders with 50 successful, senior executive women. If your organisation is committed to diversity, working hard to develop a pipeline of women leaders, and would be interested in becoming a corporate partner of the programme, please get in touch; there are limited spots left, at mentoring@twfhk.org.

Info Sessions:

If you want to learn more about being a participant of the Programme, please sign up for one of our Information Sessions. Attendance at one session is a compulsory component of the application process. Please register for ONE session only.

[Sign up here](#)

#TECHFORGOD



Help Us Support Underprivileged Families

As we are facing the third wave of COVID-19 cases, making sure underprivileged students, in particular girls, have equal access to the technology they need to support their education during uncertain times continues to be a priority.

In collaboration with The Hong Kong Association for Computer Education (HKACE), TWF intends to donate 500 much needed second-hand portable devices to underprivileged families to enable their children to have access to online classes, schoolwork, tools, and resources.

We have delivered over 400 computers to families in need, but we need your help to give devices to our last few families. Please consider joining this vital project for our community by donating 25-50 laptops, iPads or tablets; or by helping us [cover](#) the costs for coordination of this outreach project.

Visit [here](#) for more information. Kindly contact Connie.Cheung@twfhk.org or Deanie.Chiu@twfhk.org with any questions.

TAKE ACTION THIS SUMMER!

Over the next six weeks, TWF will feature one action each Connect to inspire you to engage in gender equality this summer.



Call Out Sexism and Harassment

Language that demeans or diminishes women reinforces unequal power structures in society and perpetuates gender inequality. This type of language towards women, such as inappropriate jokes or unwanted sexual comments, is highly prevalent. [Research](#) has found that over a quarter of men worldwide think telling jokes or stories of a sexual nature at work is acceptable. According to a [report](#) by the Women's Coalition on Equal Opportunities, over 40% of women have experienced sexual harassment in Hong Kong. During the pandemic, women working remotely have become more vulnerable to bullying and harassment as work-from-home arrangements can [stifle](#) sexual harassment complaints.

If you witness sexism or harassment, call out the offender in a safe and respectful manner. By quickly identifying and calling out inappropriate behaviour, whether in the workplace, on the streets, at home or online, you can disrupt the status quo and help create a safer environment for women and girls. Check out our [#MakePeopleCount campaign website](#) to learn more about the issue!



Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women Online

Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women Online is a free-to-access online program designed to help women grow their business skills through practical education and training. The courses are suitable for any woman looking to take their business skills to the next level. This world-class collection of courses covers a full range of topics from the fundamentals of finance and marketing, to leadership style, funding, and negotiations. The course can be accessed at www.coursera.org/launch/10000women, and further detail about the 10,000 Women program can be found on the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women webpage.

[Sign up now!](#)

WHAT WE'RE READING

Gender Equality

- [被隱形的女性：她們24小時全年無休工作，卻只能在貧困與過勞中掙扎](#) (天下雜誌)
- [Hong Kong elections: the shameful absence of women from politics](#) (SCMP)
- [Hong Kong TVB cooking show under fire for basically saying women belong in the kitchen](#) (Coconut)
- [Women leaders outperformed in virus crisis, says ECB's Lagarde](#) (FT)
- [WhereIsMyName: Afghan women campaign for the right to reveal their name](#) (BBC)
- [Why imposter syndrome hits women and women of colour harder](#) (BBC)
- [Pregnancy stereotypes can put women in physical danger at work, study finds](#) (Fortune)
- [Drop the 'girl power' shtick when marketing women's sport](#) (Campaign Asia)

Sexual Violence & Harassment

- [Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Democrats Condemn Sexist Culture, 'Violent Language Against Women' on House Floor](#) (Time)
- [COVID-19 pandemic leads to rise in violence against women and girls in Asia Pacific, new report shows](#) (ABC)
- ['Black and White' campaign highlights femicide in Turkey](#) (BBC)

Masculinity

- [Inside the 'man box': how rigid ideas of 'manning up' harm young men and those around them](#) (The Conversation)
- [For women in sports media, dealing with toxic masculinity is far from new](#) (Washington Post)

Summer Picks

- [蜜雪兒·歐巴馬將帶領聽眾，進行最真誠的自我對話與探索](#) (WOMANY)
- [Replenish and reset with restorative yoga](#) (Wellbeing Magazine)
- [Seven Ways to Cope with Uncertainty](#) (Greater Good Magazine)
- [Create A Mental Health Shelf – And 8 Other Tips To Calm Anxious Kids](#) (Huffpost)
- [Falling Together - Rebecca Solnit](#) (OnBeing Podcast)
- [Why There's Never Been a Better Time for Reinvention](#) (Thrive Global)

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