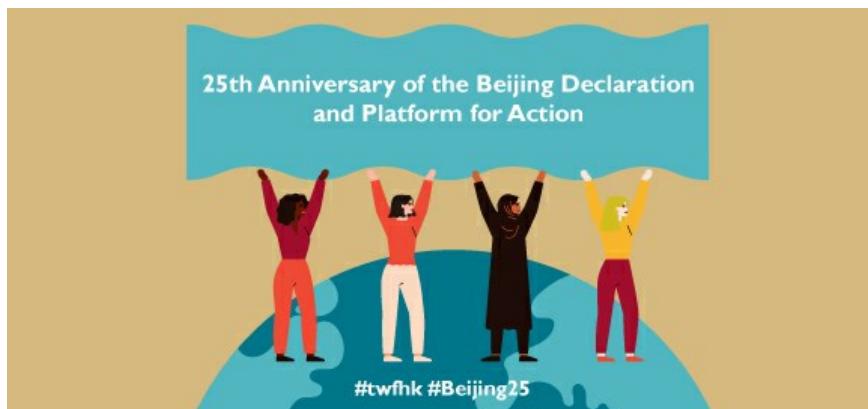




Dear TWF friends



Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action +25

"We must resist all challenges to the hard-won affirmation of what we know: that women's rights are human rights – in their universality and indivisibility, and for all women, in their full and free diversity." - Michelle Bachelet, United Nations Commissioner for Human Rights

Last Friday marked the 25th Anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPFA) –the most comprehensive and progressive blueprint for the rights of women and girls around the world. How much have we progressed since then?

There have been significant global shifts towards closing the gender gap since 1995. Political representation is on the rise. We have seen improvements in education with estimates that, in this area, it will take only 12 years to reach gender parity, with health and survival close to parity as well. Child marriages are declining and we have witnessed half of the countries where female genital mutilation is 'endemic' introduce legislation to outlaw the practice. The #MeToo movement changed the conversation around sexual harassment and rape, and continues to unite and empower women around the world. Many organisations are taking action on the gender pay gap, with some countries such as the UK, enforcing legislation around the issue.

[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](#)

UPCOMING EVENT

SAVE THE DATE

THE WOMEN'S FOUNDATION
GALA DINNER 2020

Thursday November 5, 2020

TITLE SPONSOR
Bloomberg
ASSOCIATE SPONSOR
CATHAY PACIFIC

Gala Dinner 2020 - Save The Date

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

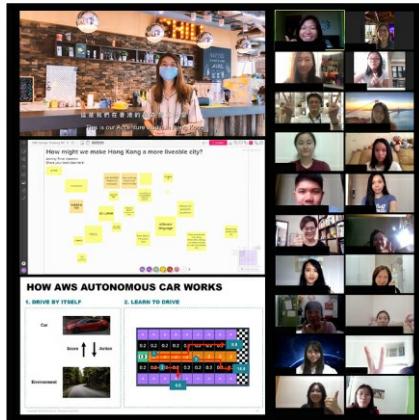
TWF is monitoring the COVID-19 situation closely. The format of the programme is being carefully designed to keep our guests safe, which remains our priority. We will update you on the format of our event in due course.

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

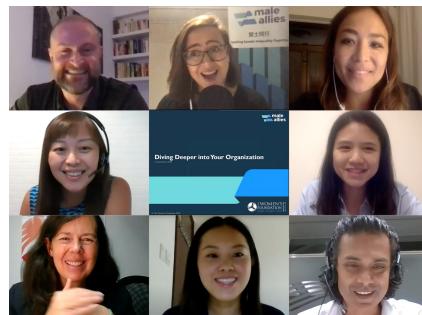


Girls Go Tech Programme x Accenture Innovative Experience Virtual Workshop

On August 28, GGT participants joined a virtual workshop co-organised by Accenture. They had a virtual studio tour of the Accenture creative workplace and engaged in team activities that helped them understand design thinking and how machine learning is being used in self-driving cars. Christina Wong, Managing Director of Accenture, shared experiences from her career journey in the tech industry and emphasised the importance of being curious and continuous learning. Huge thanks to Accenture and their volunteers for hosting the workshop!

Male Allies: Diving Deeper into Your Organisation

On September 3, over 100 participants joined our Male Allies Initiative Launch: Diving Deeper into Your Organisation. Thank you to our speakers Rebecca Fok and Susane Yan for sharing their experiences as Female Allies, and to our MALC co-chairs Adrian Warr and Suresh Balaji for their humorous PSA on the '5 Male Allies you Really Don't Want to Be'. We are very much looking forward to starting cycle three with you!



#TECHFORGOOD



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.

BEIJING DECLARATION AND PLATFORM FOR ACTION: IN FOCUS

For the next month, to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action – the most progressive blueprint for the rights of women and girls around the world – we will feature one key focus area each week and note how it informs TWF's work.



Women in Power and Decision-making

Equal representation at senior levels of decision-making matters. In business, there is overwhelming evidence that greater board gender diversity improves governance, decision-making, and the bottom line. In policy-making, women's representation helps advance gender equality and affects the range of policy issues discussed.

Despite this, women are under-represented in leadership positions around the globe, and Hong Kong is no exception. As at July 2020, percentage of women on Hang Seng Index (HSI) boards is 13.7%, putting us behind other countries in the region including Malaysia (23.7%), Singapore (16.2%) and India (17%). Among these companies, there are only 16 female executive directors and 1 female CEO.

To increase representation, we need to ensure equal access and participation at all levels of decision-making and this is core to TWF's work. We founded the 30% Club Hong Kong Chapter in 2013, which works with chairpersons, nominating committees, investors and others to increase the number of women appointed to listed boards. Two years ago, we launched a Boardroom Series for Women Leaders to build the pipeline of board-ready women, connecting highly qualified women to the right people and positions, and providing the skills necessary for the transition to the boardrooms of NGOs, schools, advisory bodies and companies. Our Mentoring Programme, Reverse Mentoring Pilot and Male Allies Initiative all also work to address key issues preventing women from entering into senior leadership roles.

Given the vast changes wrought by COVID-19, there is no more critical time than now to have gender diverse leadership, which will equip us with the effective decision making and the diversity of perspectives needed to lead us through these challenging times ahead.

OPENING AT TWF

Senior Programme Officer / Programme Officer Opening

TWF is seeking a full-time Senior Programme Officer / Programme Officer to join its rapidly growing and dynamic team to plan and manage its innovative and impactful community programmes. Applications should be received by **September 22**.

[Apply Now](#)

WHAT WE'RE READING

Gender Equality

- [Power Shortage](#) (The Atlantic)
- [On the 25th anniversary of landmark Beijing Declaration on women's rights, UN Women calls for accelerating its unfinished business](#) (UN Women)
- [Covid-19 toll on Hong Kong working mothers exposes childcare gaps](#) (SCMP)
- [Boys being groomed online to hate women, British author warns](#) (Reuters)
- [17 Famous Female Scientists Who Helped Change the World](#) (Global Citizen)
- [Women are losing out in coronavirus job cuts](#) (Guardian)
- [COVID-19 will widen poverty gap between women and men, new UN Women and UNDP data shows](#) (UNDP)
- [Some good news about gender equality that you may have missed](#) (UN Women)
- [Armenia's Women Tech Trailblazers Are Forging New Horizons](#) (Forbes)
- [What we can learn from 5 innovations helping women during COVID-19](#) (WEF)

- [Afghan gov't to allow mother's name to be printed on national IDs](#) (Aljazeera)
- [Empathy has a gender bias — Here's how we can close the gap](#) (NBC)
- [First woman to take out Royal Academy of Engineering Prize](#) (Women's Agenda)

Sexual Violence

- [廣西大學推女生安全攻略「三不露」連細肩帶都不能穿：防產生誘惑](#) (聯合新聞網)
- [Chinese professor investigated by Singapore university over sexual harassment claims](#) (SCMP)
- ['No options' for El Salvador's pregnant girls raped in lockdown](#) (Daily Mail)

Masculinity

- [How Technology Inspired Feminism and Transformed Masculinity](#) (One Zero)

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