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Accelerate Action on Board Gender Diversity



Dear TWF Friends,

Company boards are facing unprecedented challenges: geopolitical risks, human capital shifts and rapid acceleration of technology and digitisation. Navigating these complexities meaningfully and urgently requires the full spectrum of talent available.

This is why last week TWF and 30% Club Hong Kong called on companies to set meaningful targets and take concrete steps to achieve greater gender parity on boards during its 10th Anniversary 30% Club HK Boardroom Forum.

Since the founding of the 30% Club Hong Kong in 2013, the number of women holding board seats on Hang Seng Index (HSI) companies has only modestly increased from 10.5% to 18.9%. And whilst Hong Kong has undergone key reforms by HKEX including that will eliminate single-gender boards for all listed companies, Hong Kong still lags far behind other leading financial centres. The UK and US have achieved over 30% women's representation on corporate boards, with 40.5% and 32.6% respectively. In Asia Pacific, women currently hold 38.1% of board positions in Australia, 29.7% in Malaysia, and 21.5% in Singapore.

Read More

UPCOMING EVENT



Gala Dinner 2023 - Save the Date!

We are excited to be hosting our in-person Gala Dinner sponsored by Title Sponsor, **Bloomberg**, on November 2, 2023, at The Ritz-Carlton Hong Kong. We hope you can mark this special occasion in your calendar. More details to follow!

For information on sponsorship opportunities, please contact Phoebe.Ho@twfhk.org or Development@twfhk.org.

PROGRAMME UPDATES



Call for Applications: Join our Mentoring Programme for Women Leaders!

TWF is launching the 15th year of the highly acclaimed best-in-class Mentoring Programme for Women Leaders. In this year-long programme, high-potential female protégés will be paired with senior women leaders across different sectors and organisations to develop inclusive leaders and build an ecosystem of gender advocates. By participating in our Programme, you'll gain valuable insights and knowledge on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, build your confidence and expand your network of likeminded women who are eager to give back to the Hong Kong community.

Learn more about the Mentoring Programme for Women Leaders curriculum and its benefits **here**.

<u>Register now</u> and join us in a community of inspiring female leaders!

English for Good

Our English for Good Initiative was launched in May to support students from underprivileged backgrounds to learn English and enhance their employability skills. Twenty-five secondary school girls were paired with corporate partner and TWF volunteers who serve as both their tutors and mentors. They meet on a regular basis and have all built meaningful connections with each other. Over the summer, the students will be work shadowing with their tutors / mentors. Huge thanks to Clifford Chance, Linklaters and Steelcase for supporting the Initiative.





TEEN for Good

TWF's TEEN for Good Initiative has been going for a year already and we are delighted to have received encouraging feedback from the 25 pairs of students and our TEEN tutors. According to results from our survey, most students highly rate their tutors' performance and the Initiative. The majority agreed that the Initiative has improved their academic results and has lessened the financial pressure their parents had towards their studies. Our TEEN tutors were also satisfied with the Initiative and enjoyed the meaningful relationships with their students. A big thanks to Manulife and the COVID fund donors for their support.

Girls Go Tech: Teacher Workshop

On June 27, we collaborated with AiTLE to co-host a Generative AI workshop for over 50 teachers. The workshop aimed to help educators understand how to better utilise generative AI platforms to enhance teaching and learning efficiency. Teachers learned how to use AI for generating study material, completing administrative tasks, and evaluating student assessments. Various speakers showcased new education tools which empowered the teachers to incorporate generative AI into their curriculums to make a better learning experience for all. A big thank you to AiTLE for co-hosting the event.



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10th Anniversary 30% Club HK Boardroom Forum

Last week, we celebrated an important milestone at our 10th Anniversary 30% Club HK Boardroom Forum. A big thank you to our Lead Sponsor Standard Chartered Bank and Contributing Sponsors Baker McKenzie, DLA Piper, and KPMG. We also extend our sincere thanks to Citi and the Financial Times for supporting our panels. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to all our search firm partners, hosting partners, supporting organisations, and venue partner HKEX.

Mentoring Programme: Leader's Letter

Our 22/23 Mentoring Programme cohort had their final Inclusive Leadership Curriculum session - Leader's Letter on June 14. We had the privilege of listening to three speakers who shared their stories, advice, and wisdom with us. We extend our gratitude to our wonderful speakers Ulrike Klemm (20/21 cohort), Alex Barnes (Male Ally), Shirman Lai (19/20 cohort) for their support and involvement in our work at TWF. Thank you IBM for hosting!



IN THE SPOTLIGHT



TWF COO Delivers Talk for ACS Seminar Series

On June 21, TWF's COO Maria Chau delivered a talk on financial resilience as part of Asian Charity
Services' IGNITE seminar series targeting NGO professionals. She used 4Hs (How) to explain how to strengthen an organisation's financial health to build resilience. Her talk covered different aspects of building financial resilience including how to forecast and monitor financial performance and how to identify unexpected events that affect financial performance.

JOB OPENINGS

Programme Officer/Senior Officer, Pipeline Initiatives

TWF is seeking a full-time Programme Officer / Senior Officer to join its dynamic team. This is an exciting opportunity to help amplify TWF's voice in the community and contribute to a range of programmes and initiatives that support the development of the pipeline of female talent.

Apply now!

Programme Assistant Manager/Manager, Community Programmes

TWF is seeking a full-time Programme Assistant Manager/ Manager to join its dynamic team. This is an exciting opportunity to help amplify TWF's voice in the community and contribute to a range of programmes making an impact across Hong Kong.

Apply now!

SUPPORT TWF!

Join TWF's Fundraising Committee - Applications Open Now!

TWF is assembling a Fundraising Committee to help amplify TWF's voice in the community and contribute to a range of fundraising activities. We're looking for dedicated, gender equality champions who can support our key fundraising events, support our campaigns and engage with our broader community! If you are interested in being part of this tight-knit community of dedicated, gender equality advocates and making a meaningful impact in the lives of women and girls in Hong Kong, please send a short email introducing yourself and sharing why you might be interested in support, to talent@twfhk.org.

For more information on TWF's Fundraising Committee, click here.

IN THE COMMUNITY



StartMeUp HK Festival - LOUDER Connect Summit

TWF is pleased to support LOUDER Connect, a summit on November 9 that aims to unravel the complex dynamic of women and funding, as part of the StartMeUp Festival HK. The summit is focused on identifying the reasons behind funding disparities faced by female-led businesses and developing actionable strategies. The ultimate goal is to close the funding gap and empower female entrepreneurs by creating a more inclusive and dynamic investment landscape.

Learn more

Moms4Moms Fellowship Programme

TWF is delighted to support the Hong Kong Momtrepreneurs' Moms4Moms Fellowship Programme. In its fourth cohort, this women's empowerment programme teaches mothers hard and soft skills related to motherhood and entrepreneurship. Each fellow will be paired with a mentor to guide her on this learning journey. The 9-month-long programme will run from September to May, and lessons will primarily be conducted in English, supplemented with Cantonese.





SUMMER RECOMMENDATIONS

Books

The Cost of Living by Deborah Levy

Mouths of Rain by Briona Simone Jones

Girl Decoded by Rana el Kaliouby

Women Who Chase Butterflies by Louisa Wong

Podcasts

Hanging in the Imbalance

Students from HKU and HKUST explore the multitude of gender issues in Hong Kong, including gender identity, women in STEM, workplace gender discrimination, and more

Head Over Heels

Hosted by Maggy Wang, a young Malaysian woman, it documents the experiences of an Asian woman living in modern society

Events

<u>CameraWomen: Films by Women Cinematographers 持攝影機的女人: 女性電影攝影師作品</u> (June 14 - Sept 23)

Women Direct. Korean Indies! – Korean Women Independent Film Series 2023 韓女獨有戲:韓國女性獨立電影系列 2023 (June 29 - Aug 13)

Transgender and Non-Binary Athletes Redefining the Game 跨性別與非二元性別運動員的經歷 (July 8)

ON OUR RADAR

The Good

• Norway Plans to Mandate 40% Quota for Women on Company Boards (Bloomberg)

The Challenging

• Another 131 years to close global gender gap, World Economic Forum report finds (SCMP)

The Unexpected

• The Problem With Splitting Parental Leave Down the Middle (The Atlantic)

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