

EVENTS | PROGRAMMES | CEO BLOG

Dear Lisa

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has just committed US\$80 million over the next three years to close the gender data gap.

US\$80 million is a lot of money to spend on research but when you consider that data isn't currently available to establish the baseline for 80% of the indicators of the UN's Sustainability Development Goal #5 to achieve gender parity and empower all women and girls - it's clear we have a major problem which the Foundation is helping to address.

The dearth of data makes it difficult to set policies and gauge progress, preventing governments and organisations from taking measurable steps to empower women and improve lives. Access to more data, of better quality and greater frequency, provides governments with a huge opportunity to be responsive to their communities and to provide services that meet the needs of the people using those services.

At TWF, we applaud the Gates Foundation for their strong commitment to a research-based approach to solving some of the world's biggest challenges. In Hong Kong, despite the HK Administration's introduction of gender mainstreaming for various policy areas in 2002 and the network of Gender Focal Points that now exist within Government departments to assist in promoting gender mainstreaming initiatives in their respective areas, official gender-segregated data which is currently available is inconsistent and incomplete.

What this means is critical gaps in data regarding teen pregnancies, household spending on childcare and elderly care, disabled persons, and the relationship between perpetrators of domestic violence and their victims, making it more difficult for effective policies and programmes to be developed in these areas. We hope the influence of organisations such as the Gates Foundation will inspire a more rigorous gender-based approach to critical data collection, policy and programme formulation, execution and evaluation here in Hong Kong.

After all, as Melanne Vermeer, the former U.S. ambassador-at-large for global women's issues, put it, "Data not only measures progress, it inspires it...To achieve the progress we seek and to make the best decisions we can, we need to ensure that women are counted in all that we do. Nothing less than our collective prosperity and security is at stake."

Warm regards

Su-Mei Thompson
 CEO, The Women's Foundation

UPCOMING EVENTS

SECRETS TO SUCCESS SPEAKER SERIES

**Secrets to Success by Helen Zhu,
 Head of China Equities, BlackRock**

TWF is delighted to present the next event in our not-to-be missed Secrets to Success series featuring outstanding female leaders sharing their firsthand experience, insights and advice. Helen will talk about her professional journey which spans senior roles at ABN AMRO, Goldman Sachs and BlackRock, and her tips for balancing a busy career while raising four young children.

DATE: Thursday, June 2, 2016

TIME: 12.00 - 2.00 p.m.

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

[Register Now](#)

TWF TALK BY

COMMANDER
 BELINDA WOOD



**Breakfast with Belinda Wood,
 Commander of the Royal Australian Navy**

TWF and CBA invite you to breakfast with Belinda Wood, commander of the HMAS Anzac, the lead ship of the Royal Australian Navy's Anzac class frigates. Belinda will discuss how capability and teamwork, not gender, are the foundation to success and talk about her career journey.

DATE: Monday, June 6, 2016

TIME: 8.00 - 9.30 a.m.

VENUE: CBA Innovation Lab, L13 One Exchange Square, 8 Connaught Place, Central

[Register Now](#)

MENTORING PROGRAMME

CORPORATE PARTNERS
INFO SESSION



Mentoring Programme Prospective Corporate Partners Breakfast

TWF's acclaimed Mentoring Programme has been working to develop the female talent pipeline in HK for the last seven years. To find out how our 30+ corporate partners are supporting our efforts and the benefits they derive from their involvement, join our Information Session for prospective and existing corporate partners!

DATE: Wednesday, June 8, 2016

TIME: 7.45 - 9:30 a.m.

VENUE: Clifford Chance, 27/F Jardine House, 1 Connaught Place, Central

RSVP: By COB Friday, June 3 to

mentoring@twfhk.org

TWF PROGRAMME UPDATES



Girls Go Tech: Goldman Sachs Community Teamworks Coding Day

TWF partnered with Goldman Sachs' Community TeamWorks Programme to host 2 coding days in May for a total of 40 girls from Holy Trinity College, HKMA K S Lo College and Pope Paul VI College. Many thanks to the enthusiastic GS volunteers who led the interactive workshops which provided the girls with an introduction to coding using Scratch and Minecraft and basic Robotics and Electronics.



Mentoring Programme Leadership Training

Last week, BRIDGE Partnership facilitated a second Leadership Training session for Mentoring Programme participants. Mentors and protégées alike were inspired to see, hear and speak with others in a more meaningful way. Participants also gained a better understanding of themselves as leaders. Many thanks to Google for hosting the event.



TWF Deputy CEO invited as a guest speaker by Education Bureau

Last Friday, TWF Deputy CEO - Rita Ching, was invited to speak at a teacher seminar for over 60 teachers organised by the Education Bureau. Drawing on TWF's research and community programmes, Rita shared her insights and TWF's experience of running gender education programmes for HK teens.

IN THE COMMUNITY



Women of Hope Awards Honours Anson Chan

On May 19, TWF's Honorary Patron - Anson Chan, received the Power and Influence award at the 3rd Annual Women of Hope Awards organised by the HK Adventist Hospital Foundation. She was one of eight award winners who are championing social justice for women, children and the community, or otherwise creating, inspiring and offering hope.



Dr Ron Brown on How To Unleash Your Power and Leadership

Last Monday, TWF and AAJA presented a talk by Dr Ron Brown AKA the Career Whisperer and renowned expert in leadership development. Many thanks to Dr Ron Brown



for his inspirational talk, Bloomberg's Angie Lau for moderating, Upper House for hosting and Isabella Wren for their support.



Leading Women in Wine

Last Wednesday, TWF partnered with California Wine Institute, Visit California and Meiburg Wine Media to host an entertaining panel discussion featuring some of the most influential women in the global wine industry. Thank you to EY for hosting and Meiburg Wine Media for all their support for the event which raised HK\$20,000 for TWF's community programmes.



Breaking Barriers: Protect, Advance, Empower

Last Thursday, TWF CEO - Su-Mei Thompson, moderated a well-received lunchtime panel discussion at the FCC hosted by Hogan Lovells. Panellists included HKU President - Peter Mathieson, US Consul General - Clifford Hart, ESF Chief Executive - Belinda Greer, Head of Legal for Liberty Asia - Archana Kotecha and Associate General Counsel and Director at BAML - Heather McCann.



WEN: Third CIRCLE for Female Entrepreneurs

Last Thursday, The Women Entrepreneurs Network (WEN) hosted its third CIRCLE for 60 women entrepreneurs at the Ivey Business School. Facilitators included experienced business owners, Joanna Hotung, Lori Granito, Cheryl Raper, Ana Treier, Suzanne Liu and Elizabeth Thomson. Visit WEN's [Facebook](#) for the next series of CIRCLES and Ready Set Go sessions starting in September.



Catch She Objects' Talented Young Songwriter & Singer, Anna Lo!

Catch TWF She Objects' theme song composer and talented young singer - Anna Lo in three upcoming shows:

JUNE 2-4: [Hong Kong Sinfonietta: The Passage Beyond in Concert](#)

JUNE 17-19: [Requiem HK](#)

AUGUST 22-23: [Beyond Good Music @ The Fringe](#)



AICD: International Foundations of Directorship Programme

The AICD is offering a scholarship for a TWF supporter to participate in their [International Foundations of Directorship Programme](#). If you are interested in applying for the scholarship, please send your CV and cover letter (500 words maximum) to rhogan@aicd.com.au.

EXTERNAL EVENTS

TWF is delighted to be supporting the following events:

JUNE 6-11: LAWASIA will host their [6th Family Law & Children's Rights Conference](#) focusing on a range of cross border family law and children's rights issues including surrogacy, the interaction of secular family law systems and religion, impact of ADR of children, ethical issues for family lawyers and dealing with modern family concepts across jurisdictions.

JUNE 8: The British Chamber of Commerce will present a [fireside chat with 100 Women in](#)

[Hedge Funds CEO - Amanda Pullinger](#), as part of its Inspirational Women series. The discussion will be moderated by TWF Honorary Treasurer - Michelle Paisley.

JUNE 8: AmCham [screening of Miss Representation](#) which looks at how mainstream media is contributing to the under-representation of women in positions of power and influence in America.

TWF Fundraising Initiatives - We Would Love Your Support!



TWF is seeking volunteers for our first ever flag day!

TWF is looking for energetic volunteers to help out at our first ever Flag Day on Wednesday, July 20 from 7 a.m. - 12 p.m. in the New Territories. Besides street sales, TWF will also be selling Gold flags in our corporate partners' offices. Please click [here](#) to volunteer or email flagday@twfhk.org to reserve an allocation of Gold flags!



To raise funds for our programmes, TWF is selling pins, specially designed for TWF by Michelle Lai - MISCHA founder. The beautiful black and gold enamelled pins featuring MISCHA's signature design can be purchased at TWF and partner events for HK\$50. We are looking for volunteers to help us with selling pins within their organisations and networks. Please contact Stephanie Ko at stephanie.ko@twfhk.org to find out more.

WHAT WE'RE READING

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

- [How To Build A Society Of Equally Involved Parents](#) (The Atlantic)
- [Workplace Equality Depends On Men Embracing Flexible Hours](#) (The Guardian)
- [Closing The Gender Gap: Financial Life Planning For Women](#) (The Huffington Post)
- [Pornography Is More Than Just Sexual Fantasy. It's Cultural Violence.](#) (The Washington Post)
- [Should Hong Kong Introduce A Quota To Achieve Better Gender Representation On Corporate Boards?](#) (SCMP)
- Lean In founder, Sheryl Sandberg delivered an [inspiring commencement speech about resilience](#) at UC Berkeley (Facebook)

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

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