



Converging
PROFESSIONAL WISDOM
 FOR Family Well-Being

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Message by Mrs. Patricia CHU, Chairperson of CIFA



With the announcement made by the World Meteorological Organisation that June 2024 was the hottest June on record for the globe, Hong Kong is experiencing the hottest June in Hong Kong since record begun in 1884. We have also heard about extreme weather involving heavy rainfall causing flooding and landslides in different parts of Asia, killing people and affecting the life and livelihood of millions of people. Climate Change is one of the four mega trends, together with Demographic Changes, Urbanisation & Migration, and New Technologies, all of which are impacting the family as promulgated by the United Nations in the commemoration of the 30th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family (IYF+30). All those working with families are concerned about these and have to work hard together to meet these challenges.

CIFA is proud to have been involved, in response to the call of the United Nations to celebrate IYF+30 at local, regional and international levels. The quarter has been a very busy one in which the CIFA Council steered the various committees/working groups in planning and implementing various initiatives to celebrate IYF+30.

In this issue, there are reports on activities including the Wofoo 3A Project 2024, the Family We-Time Campaign, and the attendance by Prof. Vivian Lo, representing CIFA at the Expert Group Meeting on Family and Climate Change in New York upon the invitation by the United Nations.

There is an announcement on the Asian Family Summit 2024 to be held at the University of Hong Kong on 27-29 December with the theme on "Towards A Better Tomorrow For Families: Partnership, Collaboration & Action for Sustainable Development", with keynote and plenary presentations on the four mega trends as mentioned above.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the CIFA Council members, committees and working groups, as well as our associates in the government, private, academic/professional, and civil society sectors for their cooperation, support and contribution to enable CIFA, this regional platform, to grow from strength to strength in advancing family well-being!

Wofoo 3A Project 2024

This year, we are pleased to receive a total of 23 submissions covering a wide range of topics from 4 countries/ regions including China, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Taiwan. The Screening Committee has gone through the vetting process with 16 projects shortlisted to enter the Second Round Adjudication. The first round result, in order according to date of submission, has been uploaded onto the CIFA website at <http://cifa-net.org/content.aspx?urlkey=2KDnyzaA38YbymmW> on 7 June, 2024. Details are as follows:

	Region	Name of Organisation	Project Name
1	Hong Kong	The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong	Amazing Start
2	Hong Kong	TWGHs Ho Yuk Ching Educational Psychology Service Centre (Sha Tin), The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong Community and Creative Learning Centre, St. James' Settlement Youth Services	"Strategic Work in Parent Education in Mental Health" Program at Hong Kong Primary Schools: Enhancing Child and Parent Well-being
3	Hong Kong	Heep Hong Society	Project P.S.I Parental Stress Intervention
4	Hong Kong	Grace Port - Caritas Miscarriage Support Centre	Caritas Jockey Club Perinatal Bereavement Care Project
5	Hong Kong	Caritas Hong Kong	Caritas Jockey Club Project on Family Solidarity and Mental Wellness
6	Hong Kong	Caritas Integrated Family Service Centre - Shaukeiwan	Caritas Jockey Club Project on Marital Relationship Enrichment – Intimacy Channel
7	Hong Kong	Caritas Jockey Club Project Cedar - Social and Emotional Support Service for Men	HEarSay
8	Singapore	Epworth Community Services	Trauma-Focused Intervention for Foster Families
9	Hong Kong	Hong Kong Christian Service	Empowering SEN Families - Paradigm Shift from Traditional SEN Rehabilitation Service towards Trans-disciplinary Collaboration
10	Taiwan	Child Welfare League Foundation	"Together, We Grow!" The Collective Well-Being Service
11	China	Shanghai Social Worker Agency For Public Affairs	Fun Together - A Family Growth Project with Nature Education

	Region	Name of Organisation	Project Name
12	Hong Kong	Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association Social Service Centre	The Jockey Club Kinship Support Project
13	Hong Kong	Urban Renewal Authority, Wofoo Social Enterprises	Upcycling Project - Transforming Home Spaces through Decluttering and Customized Furniture
14	Singapore	TOUCH Community Services	Project 1,2,3!
15	Hong Kong	New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association	Jockey Club Embracing H.O.P.E.S. Project
16	Singapore	Singapore Children's Society	KidzLive: I Can Protect Myself

Same as last 2 rounds of Wofoo 3A Projects, a Resource Person has been assigned for each shortlisted team to facilitate their preparation of the 2nd round submission and the Interview Session.

Important Dates:

Action	Date
Deadline for Submission of Projects for Second Round Adjudication	2 August 2024
Second Round Adjudication Interview	12-13 September 2024
Announcement of Second Round Adjudication Results	27 September 2024
Final Round Adjudication (in Hong Kong)	28 December 2024
Award Presentation Ceremony at the Gala Dinner (in Hong Kong)	29 December 2024
Final Round Adjudication (in Hong Kong)	28 December 2024
Award Presentation Ceremony & Gala Dinner (in Hong Kong)	29 December 2024

The 3A Project Judging Manual has been updated to meet some of the changes such as a new award namely "Harmony & Abundance" has been added to high-light the importance of family functioning cultivation.

Once again, we would like to take this opportunity to convey our heartfelt thanks to Dr. Joseph Lee of Wofoo Social Enterprises, the Title sponsor of 3A Project for the continued support to allow the 3A project to be conducted. We will try our best to facilitating cross regional/organisational collaboration to further promote family well-being in Asia and beyond.

CIFA Presence at Expert Group Meeting – Families and Climate Change in New York

15 -16 May 2024



30th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family
United Nations Headquarters
New York
Wednesday, 15 of May, 2024



Upon the invitation from the Focal Point on the Family, Professor Vivian Lou, representing CIFA, participated in the Expert Group Meeting (EGM) themed on Families and Climate Change organised by Department of Economics and Social Affairs, United Nation.

During the session titled "International Forum on IYF+30 Achievements and Future Directions," Professor Lou delivered a comprehensive presentation, highlighting efforts and key thematic activities undertaken by CIFA to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family (IYF+30) through proactive engagement of various sectors across Asia, emphasising the significance of family well-being. One of the most significant event was the Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Demographic Changes-Ageing of Population in Asia co-organised with the Centre for Family and Population Research (National University of Singapore), the Sau Po Centre on Ageing (University of Hong Kong), and the Focal Point on the Family (United Nations) held on 30 November and 1 December 2023 at the University of Hong Kong, A Report has been subsequently published and uploaded onto the UN website (QR code provided below). Another significant

activity was the regional campaign on "Family We-Time" promoting the importance of spending quality time together with families for building family resilience, with active participation from families in 18 countries/regions in Asia. She presented a short video showing glimpses of the campaign and the photo-collage adopting the emblem of the IYF. Professor Lou concluded her presentation by promoting the Asia Family Summit 2024, scheduled for December 27-29, 2024, in Hong Kong. Her presentation was well received and highly commended by international participants, including representatives from Malaysia, Qatar, the International Federation for Family Development, the Netherlands, the Philippines, and various civil society representatives.

In the subsequent sessions of the Expert Group Meeting (EGM), speakers and attendees explored themes related to climate change and family well-being at macro, meso, and micro levels. The discussions encompassed a wide range of topics, such as climate change and demographic trends, perspectives on climate change and the family, intergenerational viewpoints on climate change, migration and urbanisation due to climate change, the impact of new technologies on climate change, and the way forward for IYF+30, highlighting the role of various stakeholders including governments, academia, civil society, families, and households.

Mrs. Renata Kaczmarek from Division for Inclusive Social Development (DISD), Department of Economic and Social Development (DESA), United Nations, concluded the EGM by summarising the topics discussed, emphasising the diversity and complexity of climate change and family well-being issues. She advocated for the continued importance of research in areas related to ethics, family policies, and potential controversies surrounding the definition of the family.

It was the first time CIFA is represented at UN in person, a formal recognition of CIFA being an organisation granted Consultative Status by ECOSOC. It provided an excellent opportunity to establish closer links with experts from different parts of the world.

Report on Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Demographic Changes - Ageing of Population in Asia on UN website: <https://social.desa.un.org/issues/family/events/expert-group-meeting-on-demographic-change-ageing-of-population-in-asia>



"Family We-time" Campaign

Collection of Photography / Colouring Works

"Family We-time" Campaign: In celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family (IYF+30), aims to promote family values and the importance of spending quality time and happy moments together with families for building family resilience, especially in the post-pandemic era, while celebrating IYF+30 in 2024 as promulgated by United Nations (UN). The Campaign is initiated, organised and coordinated by Consortium of Institutes on Family in the Asian Region (CIFA) in collaboration with like-minded organisations in Asia, including Child Welfare League Foundation, Lawrence S. Ting School, Douaikai And Aikawa Welfare Association, Buddhist Tzu Chi Charity Foundation, Caritas Hong Kong and The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association Of Hong Kong, to advance family well-being.

The theme of this Campaign is **"Family daily: Spending quality time together in Clothing, Food & Nutrition, Living & Environment and Travelling & Leisure"**. The Campaign hopes to convey positive family messages and generate positive energy among families through providing a platform for participants from Asian countries/regions to participate in family photography/ coloring from January to May 2024. The campaign website had attracted over 16,000 visitors, and over 5,000 participants had submitted the photography/ colouring works.

"Family We-time" Photo Collage cum Online Gallery Presentation Ceremony

In Commemoration of the International Day of Families (IDF)

On May 15th, 2024, CIFA and Child Welfare League Foundation held the Online Presentation Ceremony for the "Family We-time" Campaign. This event coincided with the observance of the International Day of Families and the 30th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family (IYF+30). The photography/ colouring works collected were presented as a well-designed photo collage in a Family We-Time Online Gallery at <https://familywetime.children.org.tw/en/gallery> and the UN's official website on IYF+30, as well as during the Online Presentation Ceremony, with a view to promote the messages of spending quality time with families in different aspects of life.

The ceremony began with a warm welcome speech from Mrs. Patricia Chu, the Chairperson of CIFA, and Prof. Joyce Feng, the Vice-Chairperson of CIFA and Executive Board of Child Welfare League Foundation, Taiwan. They emphasised the significance of the campaign and the importance of family well-being.

Three guest speakers were invited to share their perspectives on "Family We-time" in their respective regions. Prof. Tsai Pei-Yuen, Associate Professor at the Graduate Institute of Social Work, NCCU, Ms. Kikuchi Akiko, Chairman of Douaikai And Aikawa Welfare Association, and Ms. Alice Wan, Chief Director of Hong Kong Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association provided insights on the importance of spending quality time with families, especially in the post-pandemic era.

The highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of the well-designed photo collage featuring the family-themed works collected from the participating countries and regions, including Brunei, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, and Vietnam. The audience was guided through the collage and a short video which showcased the creativity and diversity of the submissions and the heartwarming moments captured by the families. The photo collage and the short video were showcased to promote the messages of spending quality time with families in different aspects of life. On the day of the Online Presentation Ceremony, around 50 participants attended the event.

The event concluded with a group photo of the officiating guests and the participants, celebrating the success of the "Family We-time" Campaign and the collective efforts of families across Asia to promote the well-being of families. Overall, the Online Presentation Ceremony for the "Family We-time" Campaign was a resounding success, demonstrating the commitment of CIFA and its collaborators to fostering stronger family bonds and celebrating the joy of spending quality time together.

Presentation at the 30th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family at the United Nations Headquarters in New York

On behalf of CIFA, Professor Vivian Lou took the opportunity to present the well-designed photo collage and the short video during her presentation at the Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Families and Climate Change organised by Department of Economics and Social Affairs, United Nation at New York on May 15, 2024 (details of the event can referred to p.4-5).

This platform at the United Nations provided an exceptional opportunity for the CIFA "Family We-time" Campaign to reach an international stage and showcase the collective efforts of Asian families to strengthen family bonds and resilience. The presentation at the IYF+30 event amplified the campaign's impact, ensuring that the valuable lessons and best practices from the Asian region could inspire families around the world to prioritise family well-being and create lasting memories together.

Conclusion

The campaign's success was further amplified when the photo collage and video were presented at the United Nations Headquarters in New York as part of the observance of the 2024 International Day of Families and the IYF+30 celebration. This allowed the campaign to reach a global audience and showcase the commitment of Asian families to strengthening family bonds and resilience, especially in the post-pandemic era.

Overall, the "Family We-time" Campaign was a collaborative effort by CIFA and its supporting organisations that effectively brought families together, celebrated their shared experiences, and promoted the importance of spending quality time with loved ones. The campaign's impact will continue to be felt as families across Asia are inspired to prioritise family well-being and create lasting memories together.



Asian Family Summit 2024

To echo the call from the United Nations to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family (IYF+30), a series of activities has been organised and coordinated by CIFA to call for collaborative efforts to raise awareness on the importance of the family as a basic social unit which plays a significant role in the sustainable development of society.

The Asian Family Summit (AFS) 2024 is the highlight event to wrap up the celebration in Asia, with the theme "Towards A Better Tomorrow for Families: Partnership, Collaboration & Action For Sustainable Development" against the backdrop of the four mega trends as promulgated by the United Nations, namely demographic changes, urbanisation and migration, new technologies and climate changes, all of which are impacting on the well-being of families.

This Summit is a joint effort of the co-organisers with the aim to provide an opportunity for like-minded people in the public, private, academic, professional sectors and civil society in Asia to share and exchange their insights and experience on the various topics, with a view to inform and advocate for evidence-based policy formulation, service development and good practice.

Co-organisers:

- The Consortium of Institutes on Family in the Asian Region (CIFA)
- The Social Welfare Department (SWD) of the HKSAR
- The Family Council (FC) of the HKSAR
- The Connecting Hearts
- The Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Hong Kong (FOSS/HKU)
- The Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS)

Date: 27-29 (Fri-Sun) December 2024

Venue: Grand Hall & Lecture Hall II, Lee Shau Kee Lecture Centre, LG/F, Centennial Campus, The University of Hong Kong

3-day Programme including:

- Opening & Closing Ceremony
- Dinner Reception for VIPs
- Keynote speeches
- Plenary Sessions
- Concurrent Sessions
- Poster Presentation & Exhibition
- Final Round Adjudication of Wofoo 3A Project 2024
- Gala Dinner & Wofoo 3A Project 2024 Award Presentation Ceremony
- Family Well-being Expo
- Post Summit workshops and agency visits

Website: To be launched in due course

Watch out for further details and make necessary plans to join this exciting event!