

HK WOMEN PROFESSIONALS & ENTREPRENEURS ASSOCIATION (HKWPEA)
(General Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council granted in 2001)

Quadrennial Report 2021-2024 to UN for renewing the General Consultative Status (649 words)

Field 1 – A basic introduction to the organization

Established in 1996, HK Women Professionals and Entrepreneurs Association (HKWPEA) is a non-profit organization founded by a group of women professionals and entrepreneurs based in HK SAR of China (HKSAR).

(32 words)

Field 2 – Aims and purposes of your organization

HKWPEA aims to develop a strong supportive network, to create practical and innovative learning and business opportunities for members and public, and to promote high professional standards. HKWPEA also conducts workshops, seminars, international events and mission visits to foster relationships with its counterparts in Mainland China and overseas. Ranking high in HKWPEA's agenda is to respond to the government on policy consultations of community interest.

(65 words)

Field 3 – Any changes with a significant impact

No

(1 word)

Field 4 – Your contribution to the work of the UN

As an ECOSOC-accredited organization, HKWPEA advances sustainable development across economic, social, and environmental dimensions. Our mission highlights women's role in impactful, sustainable collaboration that benefits the broader community through leadership, innovation, and nurturing.

Leadership Training: In 2022, we supported HKUST's Women in Business Project Leadership Program, focusing on the UN's ESG initiatives and 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Environmental: In 2023, we launched a 12-month Carbon Neutrality Campaign, promoting practical, sustainable low-carbon living in clothing, food, housing, and transportation through public education and social mobilization.

Innovation & Technology: Our I&T Committee explores emerging tech via online talks on AI, Biotech, and Digital Transformation, plus visits to leading and unicorn technology companies.

(110 words)

Field 5 – The participation of your organization in meetings of the UN

Ten members attended the UN's 59th Commission for Social Development (CSocD59) virtual events on 8-9 Feb 2021, themed "Socially just transition towards sustainable development: the role of digital technologies on social development and well-being." A key takeaway was the pandemic has made our world more digital, worsening the digital divide.

We invited members to join the UN Online Event 2022 ECOSOC Partnership Forum on 2 Feb 2022 and the UN "Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all - our responsibility, our opportunity" in May 2022.

HKWPEA was one of four NGOs in HK shortlisted to deliver an Oral Statement on China (including HK) Human Rights UPR (Universal Periodic Review) Debate at the 56th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council. Our then President attended the event in Geneva in July 2024.

(133 words)

Field 6 – Cooperation of your organization with UN bodies

In 2023 we met with the Regional Private Partnerships & Philanthropy Officer (APAC) of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Ms. Karien Jeekel, for exchange.

We continue as a supporting organization to Say Yes To Breastfeeding Campaign by the HK Committee for UNICEF over the years.

46 words

Field 7 – Your initiatives taken in support of the SDGs

(1) Good Health and Well Being

HKWPEA advocates green living, submitting response papers on climate risk disclosure and plastic waste policies. In 2022, we organized health seminars, gaining 1,800 supporters. We engaged in health conferences to promote community well-being.

Funded by the HK Government's Environmental and Conservation Fund, we launched the 2023 ECF Carbon Neutrality Campaign. This 18-month initiative encouraged individuals and organizations to adopt sustainable, low-carbon lifestyles and operating models, fostering collaboration for a greener future.

(72 words)

(2) Reduced Inequalities

In 2021, HKWPEA mentored young women at HKUST Women In Business, guiding project implementation. Our "Stand By Me" initiative supported youth lacking confidence and direction, while our Leadership Training Programme for underprivileged youngsters continued despite COVID lockdowns.

(37 words)

(3) Gender Equalities

In 2021, HKWPEA supported JCI-HK Jayceettes' "Care & Dare 2021: Stand by Moms, Always (敢想敢做 2021: 媽媽愛挑戰之伴妳同行)" Project to raise awareness of the immense pressure working mothers faced post-CoVID sacrificing career or double-shifting. The initiative urged government, businesses, and families to foster a more caring, supportive environment for mothers.

(48 words)

(4) Quality Education

(0 words)

(4) Sustainable cities and communities

In 2023, addressing HK Carbon Neutrality Vision 2050, HKWPEA launched a 12-month carbon neutrality campaign, funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund, promoting awareness and behavioral change. We surpassed KPIs with 13,000 registrations and 4,000 attendees across seminars, visits, and recruitment talks.

(44 words)

Field 8 – Any additional information you want to share

For societal-economic impact work, HKWPEA responded to 5 important consultation papers in 2021: management and disclosure of climate change risks by fund managers, study of waste disposal - charging of municipal solid waste, producer responsibility scheme on plastic beverage containers, corporate governance code in HK Stock Exchange Listing Rules and regulation of disposable plastic tableware, which all aligned to our work focuses.

(61 words)