

## **Project Summary**

Project Name and Code:	Women Going Hand In Hand—Shamshuipo Community Inclusion Project (0024-10)
Organiser:	Hong Kong Federation of Women’s Centres
Grant Amount:	HK\$750,000
Project Duration:	July 2008 to June 2011
Target Groups:	Women, youth, needy families of different background from the district (such as elderly people, low income families etc.)
Target Area:	Shamshuipo

## **Project Highlights**

### (i) Objectives

1. To set up a “Good Neighbours Action Team” to unite local women, new arrival women, the young and elderly people so that their concerted strength could be channelled to support needy children and needy families while community resources could be combined to support these families so all could live up to the mutual support spirit as a community.
2. To collaborate with social service organisations both inside and outside of the Shamshuipo District to provide support and assistance to families in need via various channels so the family could stay afloat on the strength of the community.
3. To provide a platform for discovering the talents of new arrival women in Hong Kong and encourage them to become instructors to pass on folk wisdom in everyday live so as to promote development for individual’s strength in dealing with daily living and to provide the opportunities for individuals to exhibit the true self.
4. To drive for social participation by women both local and newly arrived so they would join in the district and become “action takers” promoting changes for the community.
5. To facilitate interchange and mutual support among families of different background to help achieve community inclusion.
6. To reinforce and develop the “Good Neighbours Action Team” into the driving force behind and the platform for long term changes in the community.

### (ii) Strategies

1. The Project employs as its strategy to dually develop a “bonding capital” and a “bridging capital” at the same time.
2. The Project emphasises that participation by all individuals be strengthened through “action” so as to bring about continual effect for the Project.
3. The project is strength-based in terms of intervention and organisation so as to dig deep into the potential strength of individuals and to provide opportunities for them to make full use of their strength.

4. The Project would bring in people of different age groups and diverse background both from inside and outside of the district to bring about community inclusion.

(iii) Expected Outcomes and Performance Indicators

1. To facilitate the turning of women and young people into “agents” and “action takers” in promoting changes for the community.
2. To keep families in the community afloat on the strength of the community.
3. To build long term and lasting support networks to enhance the resilience of the community.
4. To break down barriers along cultural differences for the building up of an inclusive community.
5. To help turn Shamshuipo into a revitalised and vibrant community. With women and the young participating and being the driving force behind their roles as the “action takers”, the strength of various groupings of people in the community would be put to use, their respective needs fulfilled and the spirit of mutual help built.
6. With interactions within the community, participants from both inside and outside of the district would be benefitting from the project at the same time; and in the long run, this would help build up and accumulate social assets for the community.

**Brief Description of Programmes**

1. Mutual Support Network: Community Tutors Training, Sharing Session for Community Tutors, After School Care Classes, Women Self Reliance Training, Good Neighbours Action Team.
2. Mutual Understanding Inclusion Network: Life Wisdom Workshop, Peers Network
3. Walk Along Volunteers Network: Love Our Neighbourhood Action Point, Publication of the “Walk Along Collected Works”

**Unique Features and Areas of Innovation**

1. The project recognises the functions of both the “bonding capital” and the “bridging capital” at the same time, thus weaving out a vibrant community network.
2. Individuals in the community could feel the meaning of life while help different groupings of people in the same community exhibit and promote their respective strength. In other words, “the ones being helped” could also become “the ones offering help” and the “action takers” wherein individual’s talents are put to use and community development is enhanced.
3. The Project covers the individual, the social grouping and community levels to reach firstly the goal to enhance the abilities of the individual, and then to promote interactions within the community, followed by developing social assets as the base to strengthen the vibrancy of the community.
4. This is a cross-generational and cross-cultural project, bringing in participants from both inside and outside of the community to build a community of inclusion.