

**Brief Notes of the Meeting of the  
Steering Committee on the Child Development Fund (SCCDF)  
held on 11 December 2019 (Wednesday)  
in Room 1019, 10/F, West Wing, Central Government Offices, Tamar**

**Attendance**

Ms CHANG King-yiu	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare	(Chairperson)
-------------------	--	---------------

Ms Karin ANN

Dr Jason CHAN

Dr Stephen CHEUNG

Ms CHIU Kit-wa

Ms Amy FUNG

Mr Rex IP

Ms Iris LAM

Mr WONG Kam-leung

Dr Odalia WONG

Miss Mandy WU

Mrs Helen KWOK	Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Youth and Corrections)	(AD(YC))
----------------	--	----------

Mr Andrew TSANG	Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare)1	(Secretary)
-----------------	---	-------------

**In Attendance**

Mr David LEUNG	Deputy Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare)1	(DS(W)1)
----------------	--	----------

Ms Rebecca CHEUNG	Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare)1C	
-------------------	--	--

Ms Connie YIP	Deputy Public Relations Director (Child Development Fund)	
---------------	---	--

Mr Joseph YU                      Senior Executive Officer (Welfare)1

For Agenda Item 1 only

Professor Edward                  Professor, Department of Applied Social  
CHAN                                  Sciences, The Hong Kong Polytechnic  
University (PolyU)

Dr LO Tsz-fung, Ruby          Senior Research Assistant, Department of  
Applied Social Sciences, PolyU

**Absent with Apologies**

Dr Kevin LAU

Miss Elizabeth LAW

Mr LO Kin-hei

**Agenda Item (1) : Further Study on the Long Term Development of Child  
Development Fund (CDF) Project Participants  
[SCCDF Paper 3/2019]**

The Consulting Team (CT) briefed Members on the draft final report of the “Further Study on the Long Term Development of CDF Project Participants” (the “Further Study”). Members noted that the key findings of the Further Study were as follows –

- (a) Personal Development Plan (PDP): The CDF participants had greater motivation to study, higher academic expectations, better mental health and reported higher levels of planning to accomplish goals and fewer problematic behaviours than the non-participants. For CDF participants who had completed their studies, more of them had attended a sub-degree or above course and had obtained professional qualifications when compared to non-CDF-participants.
- (b) Mentorship Programme: The CDF participants received higher levels of social support from family, friends, and significant others; and displayed higher levels of positive exploration of and commitment to their future education and career than the non-CDF-participants. Some CDF participants said their mentors had a profound impact on improving their manner and personal character. Most of the

mentors pointed out that the CDF participants became more mature and confident.

- (c) Targeted Savings: The amount of savings of the non-student CDF participants was significantly higher than that of non-student non-CDF-participants. Some of the CDF participants indicated that the Targeted Savings had nurtured their savings habits in an effective way and they had learnt how to spend wisely to increase their savings.

2. Regarding the long-term overall impact of the CDF projects, the CT reported that the CDF participants had a higher level of emotional functioning, a higher level of interest in their work, a higher monthly salary for those who had completed their studies, more perseverance for long-term goals for those who had completed their studies, more courage and better mood regarding their future education and career, and improved poverty situations four to seven years after the participants had completed their participation in the CDF projects.

3. Based on the findings of the Study, the CT made a few recommendations which included formulating tailor-made programmes for younger and elder participants, sharing good practices in organising mentorship through workshops, and promoting interactions among CDF participants in different batches.

4. Members generally agreed to the findings and the recommendations of the Further Study. In reply to Members' enquiries, the CT made the following clarifications –

- (a) The results of the Further Study had demonstrated that each of the three key components of the CDF projects was essential and highly complementary to each other, and each had its unique longer-term positive impacts on the CDF participants;
- (b) As compared to non-CDF-participants, more CDF participants found their jobs interesting or very interesting and had more positive feelings about their future career. Irrespective of the job nature of the non-student CDF participants, this might be a major contributing factor for their relative success in their careers. In view of the small sample size of the Further Study, it was not possible to conduct a statistical analysis on the job nature of CDF participants; and
- (c) The Further Study focussed on analysing the long-term developments and psychological well-being of the CDF participants. It was not the intention to analyse and compare the performance of participants from different NGO operators. It was recommended

that workshops could be arranged for CDF operators to share their good practices in running the CDF projects and learn from other operators' successful experience.

5. The following suggestions were made at the meeting –

- (a) The CT was suggested to elaborate in the final report its recommendation about formulating tailor-made programmes for younger and elder participants. The CT was also advised to focus on the impact of the CDF on alleviation of intergenerational poverty and the empowerment of the CDF participants to strive for their future;
- (b) To strengthen the conclusion of the Further Study, the CT was suggested to elaborate on the interrelation between different components of the conceptual framework for the CDF projects that may be inferred from the results of the Further Study; and
- (c) There was also a suggestion that infographics for dummies showing the key findings of the Further Study might be prepared for to the consumption of the CDF stakeholders, such as schools, mentors, etc.

6. Members noted that the CT would further fine-tune the draft final report with the benefit of the comments received at the meeting. Members further noted that a press release might be arranged upon the finalisation of the final report of the Further Study.

**Agenda Item (2) : Progress update of the Child Development Fund Projects**  
**[SCCDF Paper 4/2019]**

7. Members were briefed on the progress of the CDF projects and the performance of the fifth batch of CDF projects run by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and the second batch of school-based projects which were completed in 2018.

8. Members noted that the operators generally demonstrated their abilities to implement CDF projects according to the stipulated requirements in respect of matching of mentors and donations, implementation of targeted savings programmes and personal development plans, and provision of training programmes for project participants during the project period. A vast majority of the CDF participants were able to sustain and complete the two-year targeted savings programmes.

9. Members noted that the performance for CDF operators, irrespective of whether the operators were NGOs or schools, was generally effective, and the Government would continue to roll out new CDF projects through NGOs and schools in future.

Labour and Welfare Bureau  
February 2020