

**Brief Notes of the Meeting of the
Steering Committee on the Child Development Fund (SCCDF)
held on 24 November 2020 (Tuesday)
in Conference Room 7, G/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		
Mr Rex IP		
Ms Iris LAM		
Dr Kevin LAU		
Miss Elizabeth LAW		
Ms Joyce LEE		
Mr WONG Kam-leung		
Dr Odalia WONG		
Mrs Helen KWOK	Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Youth and Corrections)	(AD(YC))
Ms Annie KONG	Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Commission on Children)	(Secretary)

In Attendance

Mr David LEUNG	Deputy Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare)1	(DS(W)1)
Ms Terry CHEUNG	Chief Executive Officer (Commission on Children)	
Mr Joseph YU	Senior Executive Officer (Commission on Children)3	
Mr Jonathan NG	Senior Project Manager (Commission on Children)	

Absent with Apology

Mr LO Kin-hei

Miss Mandy WU

Agenda Item (1) : Update on the Train-the-trainer Programmes **[SCCDF Paper 1/2020]**

Members were updated on the train-the-trainer programmes for Child Development Fund (CDF) operators organised by the Social Welfare Department (SWD). The five train-the-trainer programmes organised for more than 170 CDF project staff since May 2019 included financial planning, positive counselling rules for happy childhood, goal setting and implementation of personal development plans, career/life planning and positive thinking. Members noted that these programmes were well received by the operators.

2. Members further noted that the SWD planned to organise three re-run and two new train-the-trainer programmes in 2021. To help mentors better support CDF participants, the topics of the two new programmes would be on establishment of good mentor-mentee relationship and effective engagement with mentees/parents.

3. A Member enquired about the participation rate of the train-the-trainer programmes and suggested SWD to consider extending these programmes to mentors. In response, the following replies were made at the meeting –

- (a) Each CDF operator was required to provide training programmes to CDF participants, their parents and mentors. There were currently thousands of mentors serving existing CDF projects. The train-the-trainer programmes aimed to provide CDF operators with expert knowledge for organising the aforementioned training programmes for CDF projects;
- (b) The train-the-trainer programmes were open to enrolment by operators of the 7th and 8th batches of NGO-run projects and the 5th and 6th batches of school-based projects. To facilitate effective discussion and sharing of feedbacks among participants, the size of each class was about 30. SWD would consider organising more classes of train-the-trainer programmes in future; and

- (c) SWD would explore organising online training programmes which were suitable for mentors.

Agenda Item (2) : Progress update on the Child Development Fund Projects
[SCCDF Paper 2/2020]

4. Members were briefed on the progress of CDF projects and the performance of the 3rd batch of school-based projects which were completed in 2019. Members were generally impressed by the performance of CDF projects and noted that the operators 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.

5. Members further noted that SWD had issued a “Guidebook on Good Practice for Implementing CDF Projects” to CDF operators on 31 December 2019 to pass on the precious experience and practice wisdom of past operators.

6. In view of the cancellation or suspension of group programmes and mass activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Members noted that SWD had adopted a flexible approach in monitoring the performance of CDF projects, such as extension of project period, delivery of outputs by alternative measures, etc.

7. The following comments/suggestions were made at the meeting –

- (a) Good practices of current operators in running CDF projects under the COVID-19 pandemic, such as tips on organising online activities, might be passed on to all operators;
- (b) SWD might consider conducting surveys or organising sharing sessions with CDF operators to gather their views on project implementation; and
- (c) For those operators whose mentors were recruited from churches, it was not easy for them to recruit mentors from the business sector. More support might be provided to these operators.

8. Members noted that SWD would arrange a sharing session with CDF operators to gather their views and would sustain the efforts of sharing good practice among the operators.

9. Members further noted that CDF's strategic partners had been providing support to CDF projects in the areas of mentor recruitment, organisation of work explorer programme for CDF participants to enhance their exposure to the business sector, etc. It was suggested that the guidebook on good practice could be shared with the strategic partners to facilitate continual improvement of CDF projects.

Labour and Welfare Bureau
December 2020