



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
FOR HOME ECONOMICS

ANNUAL REPORT 2011

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1. Report by IFHE President Dr. Geraldene HODELIN, Jamaica

1.1 Manifold sociopolitical engagement of the IFHE on an international level

The year 2011 was marked by the realisation of the IFHE Strategy Plan. On different levels as well as through different measures sub-goals of the IFHE Strategy Plan were reached, thus making an important contribution to the entire concept of the IFHE Strategy Plan.

In particular, the following steps were made:

- Active contribution of the IFHE during the United Nations congress and of the Community of Non-Government Organisations / UN DPI/NGO conference in Bonn, September 2011.
- Publication of the IFHE Position Statements with regard to the UN Millennium Goals (UN MDGs) in June 2011.
- Preparation of the programme of the XXII. IFHE World Congress in Melbourne, Australia in July 2012.
- Realisation of an International Symposium of the IFHE with the subject "Ageing - Changes and Challenges in Society and Households".
- Planning of the IFHE Campaign for the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family 2012 – 2014.
- Participation in the IFHE Regional Conferences in Brazil, Botswana and the Philippines.

1.2 International workshop within the framework of the UN DPI/NGO conference

Within the framework of the 64th UN DPI/NGO conference, the IFHE conducted a workshop with the subject "Realising sustainable lifestyles: Empower Families and Households as sustainable Consumers and Producers". The IFHE pointed out that families and households play a central role in the realisation of sustainable lifestyles. The results of the workshop, in which more than 50 people from different countries participated, were formulated in stipulations:

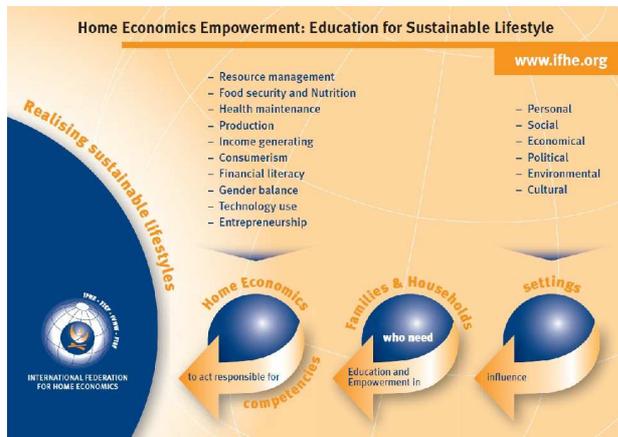
The IFHE stipulated:

- Social and economic surrounding conditions which enable families to live a sustainable lifestyle.
- Encouraging the awareness for the fact that families are the central actors for sustainable societies.
- More efforts for establishing Home Economics education as the key subject for the encouragement of competences for sustainable lifestyles, in the economic as well as in the social and ecological sense.
- Securing the equality of men and women and enabling women to participate in the progress in the UN MDGs.

In addition to the workshop, the IFHE presented an exhibition on the subject "Home Economics promoting Sustainable Lifestyles" during the three-day conference.

A stipulation of the IFHE was included in the resolution of the UN DPI/NGO conference.

In order to illustrate the position of the IFHE, a graphical illustration was developed and published as a postcard.



1.3 Publication of the IFHE Position Statements to the UN MDGs

In the scope of the IFHE Strategy Concept, the IFHE Position Statements to the UN MDGs were completed and published according to the decision of the IFHE Executive Committee and the IFHE Council delegates in the reporting period. The publication took place electronically as well as in a printed version as a brochure (<http://www.ifhe.org/ifhe-statements.html>).

These statements offer background information on the connection between the UN MDGs and the different special fields of Home Economics for members of the IFHE as well as external experts in Home Economics.

They have a special significance for socio-political discussion and special interest groups of Home Economics.

1.4 Preparation of the XXII. IFHE World Congress

The IFHE World Congress 2012 with the subject “**Global Well-being**“ takes place in Melbourne, Australia, in July 2012. In the reporting period, more than 600 congress contributions on science, education and practice were handed in by experts. The guest speakers for the plenum talks were enrolled; Dr. Vandana SHIVA, India, and bearer of the alternative Nobel Prize will open the congress as guest of honour. A panel discussion with experts from five regions of the world on the subject of “**Contributions of Home Economics to the UN Millennium Goals**” was planned. The programme of the congress will be published in May 2012.

1.5 Symposium on the subject “Ageing”

Within the framework of the IFHE Annual Leadership Meeting in Mainz, Germany, an international symposium on the subject of “Ageing – Changes and Challenges in Society and Households” was conducted. Scientists presented developments and insights from different points of view.

Prof. Dr. LANG pointed out the positive developments with regard to the longer life span of people and explained how spending this longer phase of life in good health can be achieved. This leads to new potentials for society.

Dr. PFAU reported on a European study which examined the consumer habits of senior citizens in different life situations. Following the plenum talks, special problems in the following sectors were discussed with experts by the participants:

- Social settings and services.
- Residential institutions.
- Nutrition in old age and health.

Based on the résumé of the symposium, among others, an international project for the scientific examination of the life situation of senior citizens and their demands was started. The project will be conducted in Japan, India, Swaziland, Germany and Guyana.

1.6 Planning of the IFHE Campaign 2012 - 2014 on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family 2014

On the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family 2014, the IFHE is planning an international campaign for the time span July 2012 till December 2014. In the report period, a competition for a subject of the campaign was declared. The board of directors chose the subject "Fortification of single persons, families and communities through Home Economics" for the campaign.

The goals of the campaign are:

- Making a contribution to the goals of the UN on occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family.
- Creating awareness for the challenges to families on an international, national, regional and local level.
- Improving the quality of life of families and communities of persons.

As a co-initiator of the International Year of the Families in 1994, the IFHE sees itself in the joint responsibility to help the goals and activities of the United Nations on the 20th anniversary to be successful!

The concept of the campaign was completed. The information packs, position papers and stimuli for the member organisations will be developed further until the summer of 2012.

1.7 International cooperation

In the committee meetings of the NGOs with the UN in New York, Vienna and Geneva as well as the UN agencies UNESCO in Paris and FAO in Rome, the IFHE was represented by its representatives.

In the report period, the IFHE became a member of the Alliance for Health Promotion in Geneva and of the Alliance for Clean Cookstoves.

The employees of the IFHE Office got involved in the preparations for the 64th UN DPI/NGO conference in Bonn in September 2011.

In the reporting year the IFHE continued the financial support of the project of the Tanzania Home Economics Association "Family Care for AIDS orphans". The children are thus enabled to receive school education.

1.8 Regular federation work

- One Issue of the scientific e-journal *International Journal of Home Economics (IJHE)* was published in the year 2011, as well as four IFHE Newsletters with current reports on the work of the federation in all areas and the cooperation with the UN Agencies.
- The concept for the support of Home Economics federations and disaster areas was developed further and will be presented to the IFHE Council in 2012.
- According to the decision and votes of the IFHE Council in the year of 2010, the changed constitution and the changed Executive Committee were registered at the court of the city of Bonn.
- Public Relations
 1. In the year 2011 the IFHE Information Flyer was revised and published.
 2. The group of Young Professionals developed a postcard for enhanced public relations.
 3. A poster and a postcard for public relations for the IFHE Congress 2012 were developed and distributed worldwide.
 4. A special logo for IFHE Members was developed!
 5. Four press releases were published:
 - i. International Women's Day
 - ii. World Home Economics Day
 - iii. International Day of Families
 - iv. World Population Day.
 6. A special web page with professional contributions for the different fields of Home Economics was conceived and prepared. On occasion of the IFHE Council it will be presented to the public.
 7. The web presence of the IFHE was updated.
 8. The invitation and registration for the XXII. IFHE World Congress in 2012 were published.
 9. The IFHE Executive Committee issued a prize for special benefits for the IFHE and Home Economics respectively in the reporting year. Four persons were nominated.

2. Activities in the IFHE Regions

2.1 Region of Africa

The delegates of the Region of Africa had issued invitations to the 5th Regional Conference Africa in September 2011 in Botswana. The subject of the conference is “The Family in the Changing World: Challenges and Opportunities”.

Many experts in Home Economics participated in the conference and presented their research reports and “Best Practices”.

A new member group was established in Egypt through increased public relations.

The South African Association of Family Ecology and Consumer Science conducted its 10th Annual Conference on the subject of “Creating new Identities” in March 2011 in Pretoria.

More than 300 participants from different regions of the world took part in the different tutorials and workshops of the conference.

The 6th Regional Conference Africa will be conducted by the South African Federation for Family and Consumer Research in 2013.

The members in Nigeria conducted a congress on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of their founding.

2.2 Region of the Americas (North and South America)

A new web page for the Region of the Americas was established.

Conferences were conducted in the Caribbean and in Brazil, in which members from other regions took part as well.

The IFHE President participated in both conferences and gave a presentation on special subjects.

The members in the Caribbean published a chronicle on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of their existence and presented their ***Professional Certification Programme***.

On the occasion of the Home Economics Conference in Brazil the IFHE President presented a talk and introduced the International Expert Network of the IFHE.

Several committee activities were realised in the USA:

- The IFHE US Development Committee conducted a cultural event with great success.
- A meeting for the further development of the “Disaster Development Plan” was conducted.
- The preparations for the IFHE Council in Canada 2014 were promoted further!

2.3 Region of Asia

The Japan Society of Home Economics has more than 3,000 members. They offer lectures and tutorials for their members. The publication of the scientific journal on various subjects in Home Economics is essential. An assembly of the members takes place once a year.

The Korean Home Economics Association has more than 2,700 members. They also publish a journal on subjects related to Home Economics.

The Philippine Home Economics Association has made a new strategic line-up and is organised more regionally than centrally. Different workshops and tutorials were conducted by the Association.

The 16th International ARAHE Regional Conference Asia was successfully conducted by the Philippine Home Economics Association in July 2011. The subject was: "The Home Economists: Towards A More Sustained, Commitment-Based, Family-Focused, Perspective In Addressing Global Issues".

2.4 Region of Europe

The members of the Region of Europe founded a European Association for Home Economics (EAHE) in the year 2010.

The structure of contributions was decided in the report period. A plan of action was approved.

A discussion platform for the members in Europe was established on the IFHE web page.

The European Association for Home Economics offered a sponsorship award for student members. This award was issued and granted in the report period.

Within the framework of the cooperation with INGO, a statement on the subject "Nutrition and Health for Elderly People" was developed for the "Council of Europe" by the IFHE.

The IFHE Members in Germany conducted an international conference day on the subject of "Migration and integration – cultural diversity in the fields of action of Home Economics – demands and chances". More, than 90 people participated in the meeting.

The IFHE Section in Austria conducted an international conference on the question "Future of Home Economics?".

2.5 Region of Pacific

In the IFHE Pacific Region, the preparations for the XXII. IFHE World Congress were carried on.

The requirements for the online procedure for the submission of the congress contributions and registration were established.

The participation in the IFHE Congress was promoted during the member meetings of the Home Economics associations.

3. Report on IFHE Committee Work

3.1 Think Tank

The project for the “Re-Branding Process for Home Economics” will be realised by the IFHE Think Tank. The submitted questionnaires have been evaluated by experts in the report period. First suggestions for the re-branding process will be devised. The results are scheduled to be presented on the occasion of the XXII. IFHE World Congress in 2012.

3.2 Research Committee

The committee of experts undertook the screening and evaluation of the scientific XXII. IFHE World Congress in 2012. More than 400 had been submitted on the basis of “Call for Papers”. Along with the evaluation, they were also allocated to the different congress events.

3.3 Young Professionals Network

The YPN network prepared the video contributions for a comprehensive digital presentation within the framework of the XXII. IFHE World Congress in 2012. The Chair and Vice-Chairs of the YPN undertook the coordination and prepared the combination of all contributions.

3.4 Programme Committee of Home Economics Policies in Education and Training (PC HEPET)

The PC HEPET conducted the evaluation of the questionnaires for the determination of current occupational courses of study in the sector of Home Economics in schools and universities as well as of Home Economics curricula in schools providing general education.

One focal point of the work within the report period was the assessment of the presentation contributions that had been submitted in the education sector. The committee of experts conceived several congress events from the accepted contributions.

3.5 Programme Committee Textiles and Design

The committee assessed the submitted contributions for the textile exhibition for the XXII. IFHE World Congress 2012. A concept for the presentation of the chosen textile contributions was developed.

3.6 Programme Committee Outreach to Central and Eastern European Countries

The members of the committee maintain manifold contacts to experts at universities and institutions in Eastern European countries. They collaborate closely with other women’s organisations in Finland and other European countries.

Within the framework of a conference in Belarus on the subject of the development of rural areas the goals of the IFHE were presented and new contacts were established.

3.7 Programme Committee Household Technology and Sustainability (PC HT&S)

In the summer of 2011, the PC HT&S took part in the execution of an international conference on consumer behaviour in Bonn. The members of the PC HT&S presented their joint research results and the poster “Best Practise Cooking” developed from those results. This was presented internationally and made available worldwide to IFHE Members. The committee of experts developed a certificate for the identification of its “Best Practise Poster”.

The members of the committee worked on the evaluation of their research work on the subject of “Best Practise Dishwashing manual and machine”. This shall be presented at the IFHE Congress 2012 in the shape of a poster in the summer of 2012.

3.8 Programme Committee Consumers and Sustainable Development (PC C&SD)

The PC C&SD published a third phase of the e-book “Global Sustainable Development: A Challenge for Consumer Citizens”. This is a continuous project; professional contributions submitted for it were evaluated and published in an e-book on the internet.

The PC C&SD is planning several sessions at the IFHE World Congress in 2012. The professional contributions were analysed and assessed. Likewise, a workshop was prepared for the congress.

The 4th phase of the e-book will be developed on the basis of the congress contributions.

3.9 Programme Committee Institutional and Hospitality Management

Within the report period, the committee initiated an international project which is financially supported by the IFHE.

The research project is executed in Japan, India, Swaziland, Guyana and Germany. The goal of the project is to examine the special requirements concerning the supply and care of households with elderly inhabitants and to deduct recommendations for the training of experts to support the households.

4. Cooperation with Institutions of the United Nations

The IFHE is accredited to the United Nations (UN) and different UN agencies. The IFHE, represented through representatives, contributes its service to different committees of experts of the FAO, UNESCO, UNICEF and the networks of the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs).

4.1 IFHE and UNESCO

Three IFHE Representatives contributed their services to the following NGO committees in the year 2012: Education for all, human rights, bio-ethics in the health sector, cultural diversity, management of fresh water supplies, poverty reduction and equality of the sexes.

Important subjects in the year 2011 were:

- Occupational education.
- Intercultural competence.
- Sustainable development and climate change.
- Poverty reduction.

4.2 IFHE and FAO

The process of restructuring of the NGO networks has not been accomplished yet. One focal point of the engagement of the IFHE Representatives is the committee for food safety and nutrition.

Within the report period, the IFHE made a statement on the role of women in agricultural holdings – especially in developing countries.

4.3 IFHE and UN NGO committees

Two IFHE Representatives in New York engage themselves in the INGO activities and counselling of the UN Department of Public Information.

At the 64th DPI/NGO conference in Bonn, Germany, the IFHE was represented by 12 representatives from six countries, who also contributed to the workshop on the occasion of the conference with verbal contributions.

Four representatives of the IFHE are participants in the following NGO committees of experts:

- NGO Committee on the Status of Women (New York and Vienna),
- NGO Committee on the Status of the Family (New York and Vienna),
- NGO Committee on Ageing (New York and Vienna),
- The CONGO (New York and Vienna) and
- NGO Committee on Girls (New York).

They counsel statements support the lobbying work and participate in the preparations of conferences, that is, in the counselling of the programmes, the contributors and the accompanying workshops and exhibitions.

The completion of the IFHE Position Statements to the UN MDGs was contributed to the corresponding committees by the representatives.