

WHEN GENDER IS NO LONGER A SHACKLE

HER FUTURE HOLDS INFINITE POSSIBILITIES



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樂施會
OXFAM
Hong Kong

無窮世界
World
Without
Poverty

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Dear Oxfam Partners and Supporters,

The Christmas season is approaching --- a time that should be filled with peace, joy and togetherness. Yet the recent fire in Tai Po has left countless families without homes, bringing deep distress to the community. After careful consideration, we made the difficult decision to cancel this year's Oxfam Trailwalker, originally scheduled for late November 2025. This may have disappointed our dedicated walkers. But we believed it was essential to allow government and emergency services to focus fully on critical relief efforts. In solidarity, we have directed all public donations and suitable supplies from the Oxfam Trailwalker event to support households affected by the Tai Po Fire. We have provided them with immediate emergency cash assistance and are coordinating post-disaster recovery and psychological support through our partners. We hope to carry forward the Trailwalker's spirit to all whose lives were disrupted. The road to recovery is tough, but by walking it together, we will overcome.

Besides the Oxfam Trailwalker, we were inspired this past October by over 300 participants of the "Oxfam Tower Run" in Macau. Each step they climbed was not only a personal achievement but also a powerful gesture of hope for left-behind children in Chinese Mainland. Every stride made a difference.

At the same time, I wish to reaffirm Oxfam's unwavering commitment to advancing gender equality and social justice. Gender inequality is one of the key drivers of global poverty, and as part of the international community, Hong Kong is not exempted. Many women here—especially grassroots women, single mothers, and elderly women—still face unequal pay for equal work, shoulder heavy unpaid caregiving responsibilities, and endure invisible discrimination in the workplace and society. These structural inequalities trap women in cycles of poverty.

Advancing gender equality is key to ending poverty. This is no longer a distant idea - it's about reshaping power structures and societal values. Oxfam holds this belief at its core, actively working with both global and local women's organizations to help women access resources, build sustainable livelihoods, and speak up in their communities.

Thank you for standing with us, especially during such challenging times. Every bit of your support creates a lasting force that drives us toward a more just and equitable world.

Wishing you good health and a hopeful New Year!

With warm regards,

H. Tang.

Henry Tang
Director General



ENDING DISCRIMINATION:

A FRESH START FOR GENDER JUSTICE



Across the globe, women and girls continue to face persistent gender discrimination and injustice. Whether at home, in the workplace, or in their communities, they endure violence, abuse, and systemic bias. Barriers to education, income, and leadership opportunities prevent them from reaching their full potential. This widespread gender inequality is not only a root cause of poverty—it also strips women and girls of their basic human rights.

Recent statistics from international organizations reveal how deeply embedded this inequality is:

- Women earn 20% less than men on average—across all regions and industries. (International Labour Organization, 2024)
- Of the 739 million illiterate adults worldwide, nearly two-thirds are women—a ratio that hasn't changed in 20 years. (UNESCO, 2025)
- 172 countries have laws that economically discriminate against women; 18 of them legally allow husbands to stop their wives from working. (World Bank, 2024)
- 1 in 3 women and girls has experienced violence or abuse in her lifetime. (World Health Organization, 2024)
- Around 19% of girls are married before the age of 18. (UNICEF, 2025)
- Women make up only 27% of parliamentarians worldwide. (Inter-Parliamentary Union, 2025)

Back in 2020, Oxfam's report "Time to Care" highlighted the unfair treatment of women in today's economic systems. Women globally spend a staggering 12.5 billion hours each day on unpaid care work—cooking, cleaning, and caring for children and the elderly. If measured in economic terms, this work contributes at least USD10.8 trillion annually—more than three times the value of the global tech industry. Yet these caregivers often have little access to education, struggle to earn a decent living, and lack a voice in society, trapping them at the bottom of the economic ladder. With global populations growing and aging, both paid and unpaid caregivers will face increasing pressure in the coming decade.

Oxfam firmly believes that without gender equality, social justice cannot be achieved. That's why we work hand-in-hand with gender justice advocates and grassroots women's organizations to break down barriers and empower women to claim their rights—especially their rights to bodily autonomy and health. In this issue of Oxfam Express, you will see how Oxfam is making tireless efforts to advance gender justice through livelihood programs and emergency response initiatives around the world.

We invite you to join us in building a fairer, more just world for everyone.

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Nearly
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1/3 women
has experienced
violence or abuse



19% of girls
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age 18

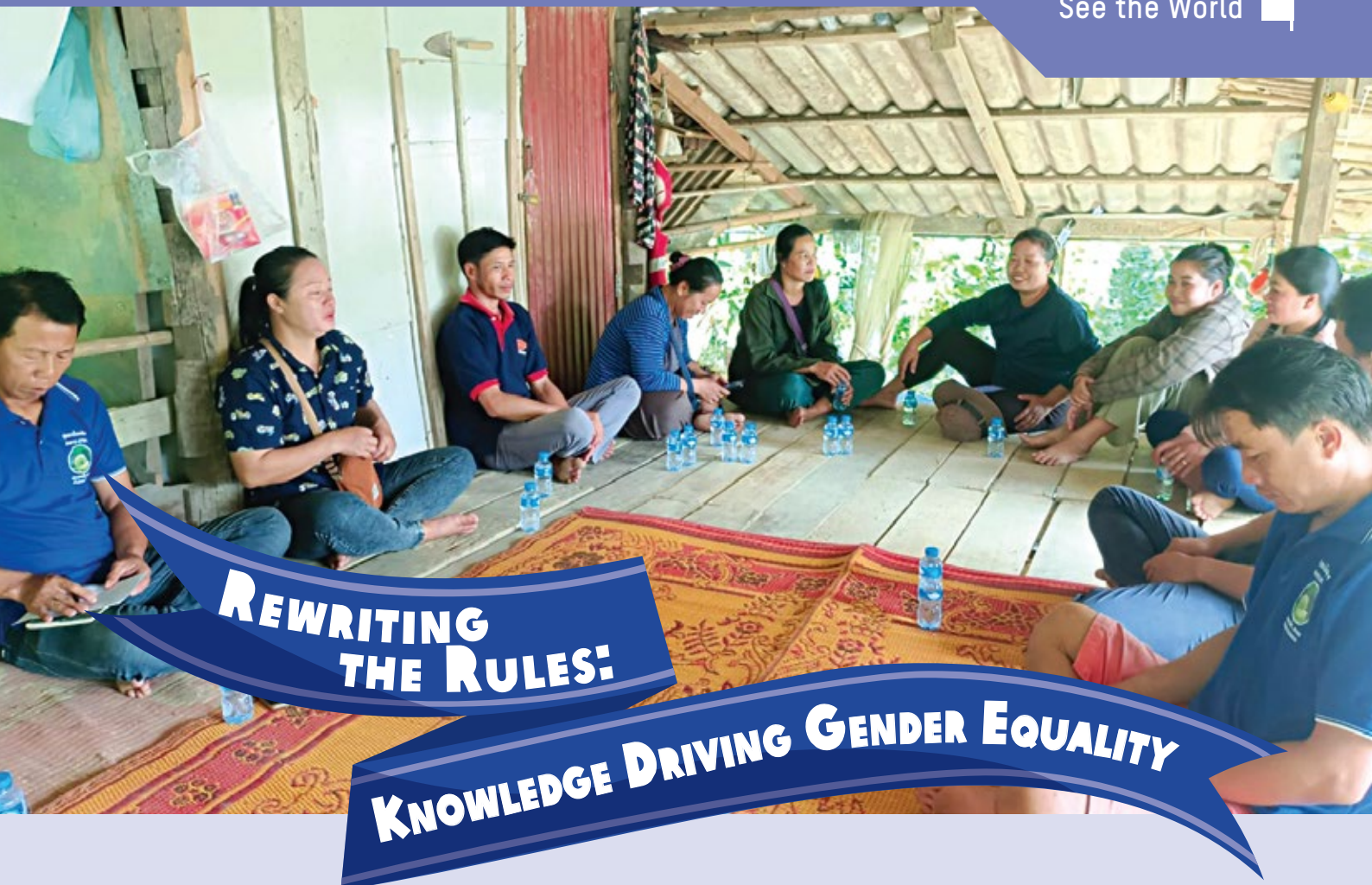


172 countries
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Women hold only
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global parliaments





While the world grapples with trade wars and global economic uncertainties, have you considered the women in rural Laos many of whom cannot open a bank account or apply for a loan to grow their agricultural businesses? These women are the silent engines of agriculture, planting, harvesting, and sustaining their families and communities. Yet, despite their vital roles, they remain excluded from the very economic systems that could help them thrive.

In Laos, only 32% of women have access to a bank account. Cultural norms often force them to take loans under their husbands' names, stripping them of financial autonomy. Without land or a steady income as collateral, smallholder farmers, many of them women, are largely invisible to commercial banks. Around 70% report that their loan applications were rejected, highlighting entrenched barriers to trade finance.

Beyond financial tools, women also face limited access to technical training, financial literacy, and decision-making power. To break these barriers, Oxfam launched the Empowering Women-Led Agriculture for Sustainable Livelihoods project aiming to transform the lives of 200 women into leaders and entrepreneurs.



The initiative offers entrepreneurship workshops, mentorship to refine business strategies, seed grants to launch agricultural ventures and connections to business networks to showcase their products. Among 26 women entrepreneurs, nearly 90% improved their ability to develop business plans after training. They gained confidence in financial management, pitching their ideas, and designing climate-resilient agribusiness models for sustainable agriculture.

Thirteen outstanding finalists received grant awards totaling USD49,000 (approximately HK\$380,000) to launch a new generation of women-led enterprises in areas such as greenhouse vegetable farming, herbal tea production, and integrated organic pig raising. The project also trains participants to become trainers themselves, empowering them to pass on knowledge and inspire more women to become entrepreneurs, driving a women-led economy and fostering self-reliance.

This is just the beginning of rewriting the rules, when women in Laos are free from restrictive cultural norms and given equal access to financial tools, they can shape their own futures with dignity and determination.



EMPOWERMENT IN THE MARKETPLACE!

BAZAARS SUPPORTING WOMEN CAREGIVERS

According to Oxfam's Hong Kong Poverty Report 2024, homemaker is the second-highest proportion among the overall economically inactive impoverished population, accounting for 17.7% (176,400). Many face employment barriers due to caregiving responsibilities, while the mainstream job market offers few flexible working options. In the context of Hong Kong's recent economic slowdown and government cuts to social welfare, community markets may offer a promising path for grassroots individuals who are willing and able to rejoin the workforce.



Last year, Oxfam and its partner, the Tung Chung Community Development Alliance, organized 10 community bazaars, attracting over 300 stalls. The initiative also launched pilot programs in Yuen Long, Tin Shui Wai, and Tuen Mun, offering free entrepreneurship training for participating women. During these market sessions, each vendor earned an average of HK\$985, with 36% making over HK\$1,000 in a single session—and some even reaching HK\$2,000 or more. These figures show that market-based entrepreneurship has real income potential.



Ms. Shek couldn't take on a regular job because she needed to care for her mother-in-law. In her spare time, she started sewing small accessories. One day, she made a hair tie for a loved one, and it unexpectedly received lots of praise. That moment made her realize that her craft not only helped relieve stress, but also allowed her to share warmth and care with others.

The local bazaars gave her a platform to sell her handmade creations. She believes these bazaars offer a low-barrier way to start a business, allowing her to "set up a stall with minimal cost and flexible hours." It's a chance to earn some income while showcasing her talents.

Another vendor, Penny, also started her market journey while juggling caregiving duties at home. She got involved through a social welfare organization's event and discovered that her hobbies and skills could actually become a source of income. The bazaar gave her a space to connect with neighbors, gain recognition, and most importantly, "build her own social identity" as a homemaker. What makes her happy is the support she receives from her family—they even help out at the market.



SEEDS OF HOPE



WOMEN BRINGING LIFE TO DRY LANDS

Codonopsis, a traditional Chinese medicinal herb often found in many households, has become more than just a health booster for the impoverished farmers of Nuanshui Village in Wushan County, Gansu Province. With support from Oxfam, it is now a lifeline for improving their livelihoods.

Located at an altitude of 2,600 meters, Nuanshui Village faces harsh challenges due to its remote location and limited resources. Many villagers have had to leave home to find work elsewhere, leaving behind the elderly, women, and other vulnerable groups. These women shoulder the responsibility of caring for their families but struggle to find stable sources of income.





To address this, Oxfam's partner, Gansu Green Camel Bell Environment Protection and Development Center, launched a climate-adaptive livelihood project earlier this year. After thorough field research, they distributed over 1,700 kilograms of codonopsis seedlings to more than 100 households. Although the summer brought severe drought, causing concern among the farmers, timely rainfall revived their hopes. One of the women farmers, Qiuguo, expressed her relief as she watched the seedlings sprout, saying, "If the harvest goes well and the codonopsis sells at a good price, it can support my child's education and help my husband—who was injured while working away from home—get better rehabilitation."

In addition, Oxfam's partner invited an expert from Gansu Agricultural University to teach farmers how to grow codonopsis, including techniques for drought resistance, seedling protection, and green pest control. Based on current growth conditions, farmers are expected to see a nearly 20% increase in income this year. Oxfam also hopes to help them explore more sales channels in the future, turning this high-value crop into a sustainable source of income.

This medicinal field represents more than just this year's harvest—it's a symbol of hope planted by the hands of women for their families. One small codonopsis seedling warms numerous hearts of Nuanshui's farmers.





GRACE UNDER FIRE

PRESERVING DIGNITY IN WARTIME



While there are signs that the conflict in Gaza is beginning to de-escalate, the path to lasting peace remains long and uncertain. Oxfam and its partners are supporting 1.1 million civilians with essentials like clean water, food, and hygiene supplies, including reusable period underwear for women and girls to meet critical needs that are too often overlooked.

"I just want to live like you. Like every woman—having privacy and space for myself and my daughter." Marva's simple wish is now out of reach. Since the conflict began, she and her four children have been moving from one shelter to another constantly worried about their safety and struggling to manage her daughter's menstrual health needs. In the chaos of war, basic supplies and private spaces are scarce. Even when they manage to find sanitary pads or underwear, there's often no safe or private place to change or wash them. "The classrooms and shelters are overcrowded. Washing areas are exposed to everyone," Marva shared, heartbroken.

In a situation of displacement and collapsing healthcare, many women are forced to use scraps during their periods, risking infections, shame and discomfort due to a lack of privacy. To help, Oxfam is distributing reusable period underwear made from breathable, quick-drying fabric, similar to sportswear so women and girls can wash and dry them discreetly without fear of judgment or harassment.

"It's a small comfort in a very hard time." Marva said. Her message, like many in Gaza. We want this war to end. To return to stability. To regain peace.



24/25

Annual Report



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR



WORKED IN **23** COUNTRIES AND REGIONS



WORKED WITH **183** PARTNER ORGANISATIONS



SUPPORTED **259** PROJECTS



SUPPORTED **2,800,000** PEOPLE IN POOR COMMUNITIES



SPENT **HK\$160,100,000** TO FIGHT POVERTY THROUGH OUR PROGRAMMES

FOCUS AREAS



SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS IN JUST ECONOMIES

Oxfam implements development programmes in economically disadvantaged areas where our support helps improve communities' well-being – especially by strengthening their livelihoods.



CLIMATE JUSTICE

Oxfam supports community-led climate solutions and works with vulnerable groups affected by the climate crisis to strengthen their resilience.



GENDER JUSTICE

Oxfam works with women and their allies to tackle gender inequality, end violence, and transform systems that perpetuate poverty and discrimination. We recognise and support women's leadership in community actions.



HUMANITARIAN RELIEF

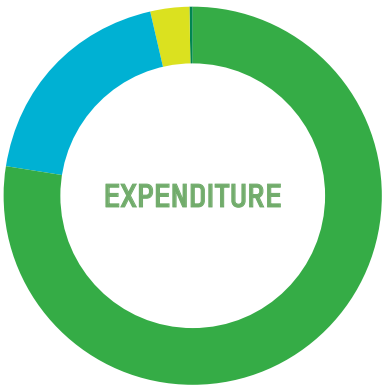
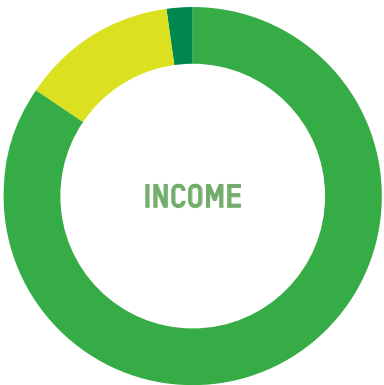
Oxfam works with partners and communities to deliver humanitarian aid, protect basic rights, and support disaster preparedness, risk reduction, and early recovery.



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

INCOME	HK\$'000
Public fundraising	170,403
Institutional fundraising	26,239
Others	4,411
TOTAL INCOME	201,053
EXPENDITURE	HK\$'000
Programmes	160,100
Fundraising and marketing	39,119
Management and administration	6,833
Others	266
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	206,318
DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR	(5,265)



PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE BY EXTERNAL CHANGE GOALS

EXPENDITURE	HK\$'000
Sustainable Livelihoods in Just Economies	68,224
Gender Justice	15,706
Climate Justice	30,099
Humanitarian Relief	46,071
TOTAL	160,100



These financial highlights are based on Oxfam Hong Kong’s financial accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025. The full audited financial statements by KPMG are available on our website, www.oxfam.org.hk.



A HEARTWARMING REUNION WITH OUR DONORS

On September 20, we enjoyed a truly meaningful afternoon with Oxfam Partners. Our Hong Kong team shared some exciting updates on Oxfam's local efforts to fight poverty and support families in need.

We were touched by the stories of Emily and Jacky, two devoted mothers raising children with special educational needs.

Feeling inspired, everyone joined a fun bamboo fan-making workshop, turning moments of mindfulness into beautiful keepsakes to take home.

We are so thankful to every Oxfam Partner for walking this journey with us and helping us keep moving forward in our mission to create a fairer and more caring community.

Your monthly donation makes a real difference.

OXFAM BELIEVES THAT GENDER JUSTICE IS THE KEY TO BUILDING A FAIR AND EQUAL WORLD FOR EVERYONE.



With your ongoing support, we can:

Help girls access education and reach their full potential

Empower women to take charge of their lives and create change

Provide emergency aid when women and girls need it most



Join us as an Oxfam Partner and help create a future where fairness and justice are for all.



To join, call Oxfam at 3120 5000 to speak with our Donor Services team, or scan the QR code. Thank you for standing with us. Together, we can bring hope to those who need it most.



USE YOUR TALENTS TO HELP END POVERTY

There are many ways to support Oxfam's poverty alleviation efforts. Young musician Brandon Lam chose to use his unique gift to make an impact — he organized a solo fundraising concert for Oxfam, turning his performance into a meaningful act of giving.

A Concert of Love and Hope

After months of planning, the concert successfully took place on Saturday, July 19, 2025. It marked a new and inspiring chapter in Oxfam's mission to fight poverty. For Brandon, the most meaningful part of the event was turning every note into a gesture of kindness.

"Growing up in prosperous Hong Kong, I believe giving back to society is important and worthwhile. I am proud to finally achieve that goal by using my talent to help others," Brandon shared. He deeply supports Oxfam's commitment to raising awareness about poverty and admires how every donation is used wisely. All proceeds from the concert were donated to Oxfam's poverty relief programs around the world.

Brandon knows that no one can end poverty alone. He encourages everyone to come together and contribute to making lasting change.



Here are some fundraising ideas you can try:

- charity dinners / party gifts • music concerts / live performances • hunger banquet
- book fairs / art exhibitions • charity sales / auctions • sports events • fun fair

For inquiries, please call us at 3120 5222 or email helen.yu@oxfam.org.hk

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS (in alphabetical order)

Companies/organisations that organised beneficiary events to support Oxfam's work

Macau

Banco Comercial de Macau, S.A. (Main Branch)
Banco Comercial de Macau, S.A. (Prince Flower City Branch)
Bank of China (Hoi Keng Tin Branch)
Bank of China (Nova Grand Branch)
Bank of China (Villa de Mer Branch)
Koi Kei Bakery
Nike Factory Store - Taipa
Premier School Affiliated to Hou Kong Middle School
Pui Ching Middle School Macau (Horta e Costa)
Zhong Yuen Scientific Research

Companies/organisations with an Oxfam donation box

Macau

Banco Comercial de Macau, S.A. (Main Branch)
Banco Comercial de Macau, S.A. (Prince Flower City Branch)
Banco Comercial de Macau, S.A. (Toi San Branch)
Royal Supermarket Company Limited (Shop Venceslau de Luen San)
Royal Supermarket Company Limited (Shop Venceslau de Morais)

Oxfam partners recruitment - Venue sponsors (Jun to Nov 2025)

Hong Kong

Fitfort Shopping Arcade
Link Asset Management Limited
PopCorn
The LOHAS

Macau

Banco Comercial de Macau, S.A. (Prince Flower City Branch)

Bank of China (Hoi Keng Tin Branch)

Instituto para os Assuntos Municipais

Macau Towerrun 2025

Major Sponsor

Koi Kei Bakery

Official Sponsor

Occasions Public Relations Macau Limited

Sponsor

Hou Chon Sports Club

Venue Sponsor

Macau Tower

Adventure Sponsor

Skypark Macau by AJ Hackett

Travel Sponsors

Artyzen Grand Lapa Macau

TurboJet

Official Licence

Asia-Pacific Vertical Marathon Association

Towerrunning World Association

Official Timekeeper

SEIKO

Long Term Telecom Partner

Companhia de Telecomunicações de Macau (CTM)

Official Mobile Media Partner

MOME Limited (Media & Marketing)

Long Term Partner

Banco Comercial de Macau, S.A.

Supporting Partners

AirFly

Amino Saurus Hong Kong

Dah Chong Hong Macau Logistics

Warehouse Company Limited

Dinner in the Sky Macau

iSport Sporting Goods Company Limited

Macau Artists Association

Macau International Association for the

Promotion of Culture, Recreation and

Sports

Macau Pageant Alliance

Meng Kei Macao

PizzaExpress Macau

Preparatory Office for the Organisation of

the Macau Competition Zone of the

15th National Games and the 12th

National Games for People with

Disabilities and the 9th National Special

Olympic Games

Royal Supermarket Company Limited

Vitasoy (Macau) Limited

VRun Life Runner

Media Partners

Exmoo News

FindMacau

Green Village Radio FM 99.5

Macau Live Streaming and Influencer

Association

MM Marketing Communications

Consulting Ltd.

New Macau

Event Ambassadors

Soh Wai Ching

Vivi Cheung

Oxfam Corporate Partners

Kidstation

Tencent Foundation

The "Star" Ferry

The Kowloon Motor Bus Co. (1933) Ltd.

Oxfam Trailwalker 2025

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Futu Securities International (Hong Kong)

Limited

Airline Partner

Cathay Pacific Airways Limited

Electricity Partner

CLP Power Hong Kong Limited

Tech & Telecom Partner

HKT

Drinking Water Partner

Nongfu Spring

Official Steamed Delights

Bao Dim Sin Seng

Official Business Partner

DCH Business Innovations

Official Hotel

Hong Kong Gold Coast Hotel

Sino Group

Official Energy Food

Nature's Village

Official Green Management Partner

SGS Hong Kong Ltd

Official Apparel

T8

Official Event Logistics

Uni-China Group

Venue Sponsor

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Other Sponsors

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Kong Yiu Man Charitable Foundation

Limited

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SEIKO - Thong Sia Watch Co., Ltd.

TamJai SamGor Mixian

Media Partner

Fitz

Sports Note

Sportsoho

Special Thanks

Run-Pic

Oxfam Trailwalker 2025 - Youth Edition

Supporting Organisation

Bright Future Charitable Foundation

Techronic Industries

OTW Event Ambassador

James Ng

OTW Promotion Ambassador

Raymond Wong

Renowned Athlete

Lisa Cheng

Schools that organised beneficiary events to support Oxfam's work

ESF Sha Tin College

Hong Kong 5-S Kindergarten &

International Child Care Centre

Jockey Club T1-I College

Jockey Club Tuen Mun Children & Youth

Integrated Services Centre

Oxfam Rice@Campus 2025

Buddhist Vip Kei Nam Memorial College

CCC Fong Yung Wah Secondary School

Christian & Missionary Alliance Sun Kei

Primary School

ELCHK Lutheran Academy

German Swiss International School

Ho Dao College (Sponsored By Sik Sik Yuen)

Ling Liang Church M H Lau Secondary

School

Lok Fu Rhenish Nursery

Tai Po Old Market Public School

(Plover Cove)

TWGHs Kwok Yat Wai College

YMCA Of Hong Kong Christian College

Others

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