

# There can be no sustainable development without support to families

¿Is 2014 as the right time to face it?

Voice of the Family in Africa (VOFA)  
International Federation for Family Development (IFFD)  
Strathmore University Law School

**Africa Preparatory Conference 2014**

“Confronting family poverty and social exclusion;  
ensuring work-family balance;  
advancing social integration  
and intergenerational solidarity in Africa”

Nairobi, 23-24 January 2014



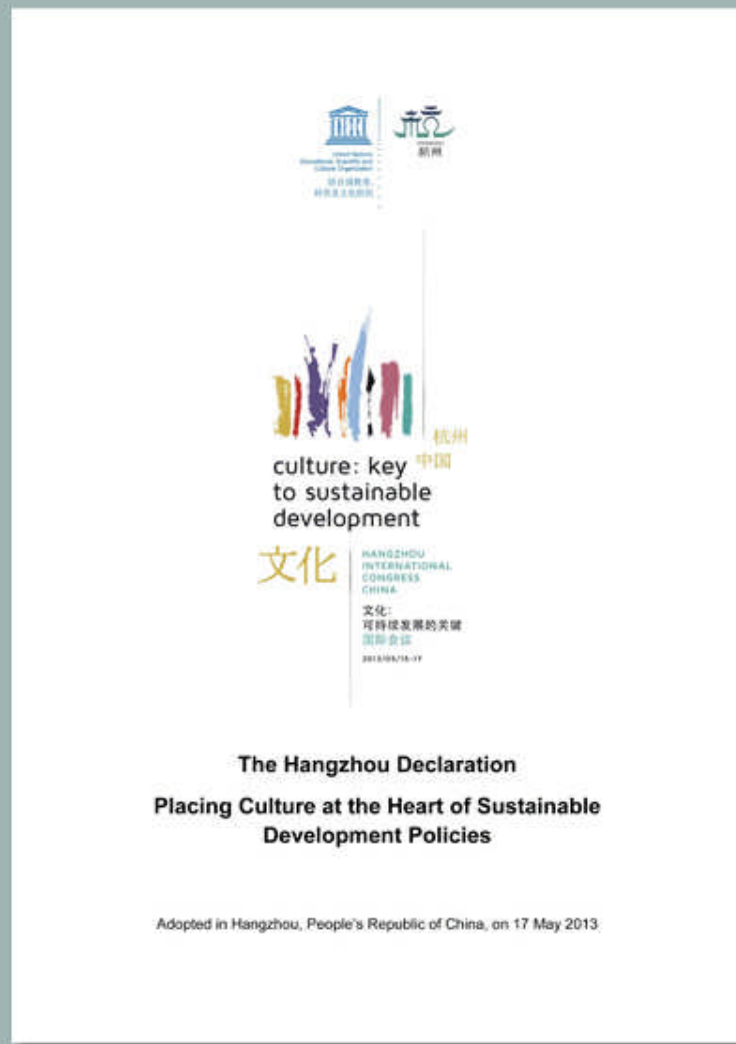


**“Meeting the needs  
of the present  
without compromising  
the ability of  
future generations  
to meet their own needs.”**



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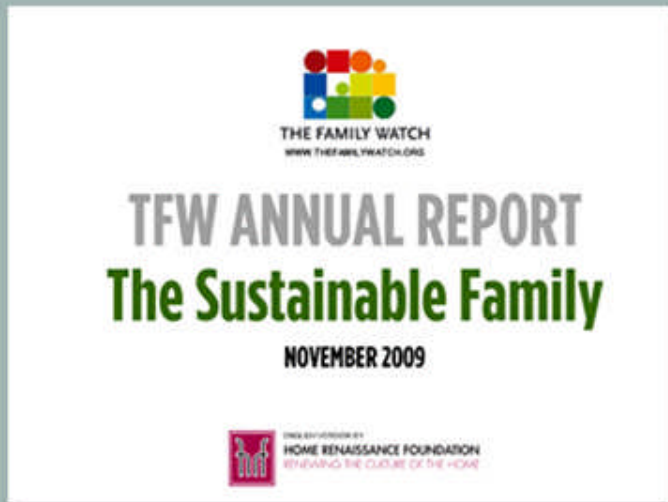


“There is an urgent need for new approaches, to be defined and measured in a way which accounts for the broader picture of human progress.”

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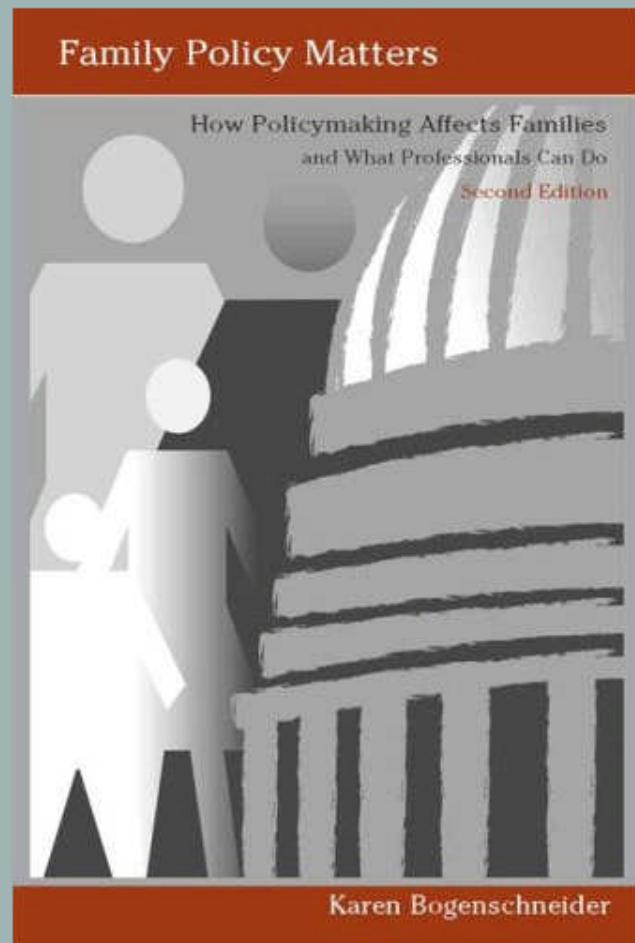
“Family structure and family process matters: evidence shows that outcomes for both children and adults are not equal regardless of family background, and public policy should reflect this.”



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**“The family is the most powerful, the most humane and, by far, the most economical system known for building competence and character’. Still, families do better in a supportive policy environment.”**

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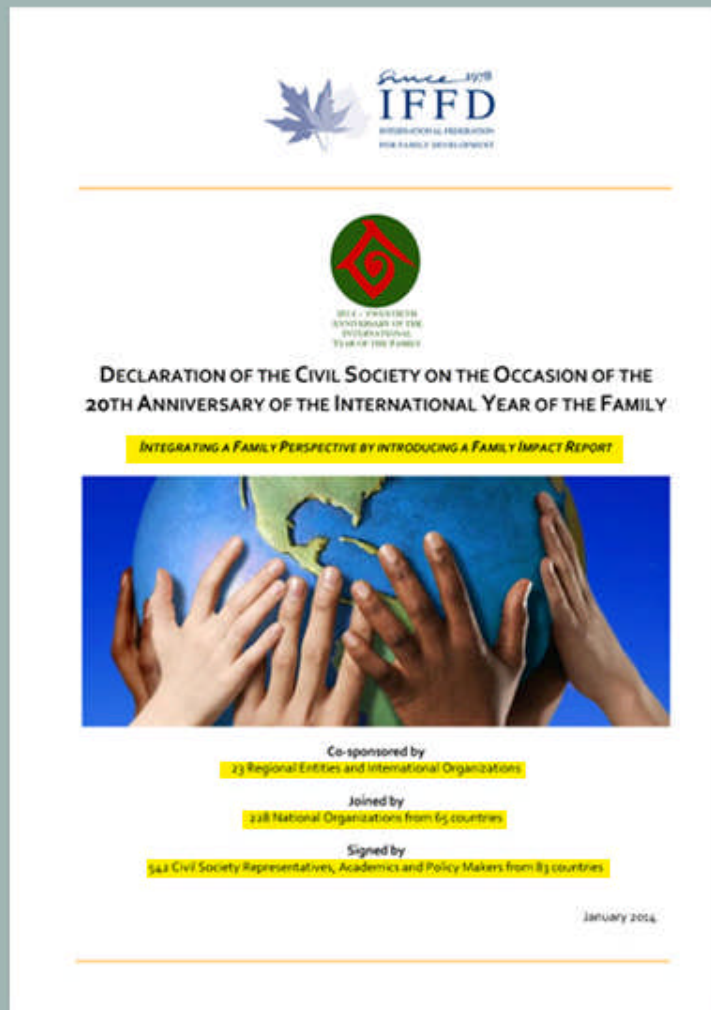




**“This report highlights the extent to which family breakdown has contributed to the feminization of poverty and the fact that family structure matters in the long term fight against poverty, in particular child poverty.”**

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2 goals for 2014:

- > Family Perspective
- >> Family Impact Report

More information at  
[www.family2014.org](http://www.family2014.org)

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## INTEGRATING A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE BY INTRODUCING A FAMILY IMPACT REPORT



DECLARATION OF THE CIVIL SOCIETY ON THE OCCASION OF THE  
20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY

INTEGRATING A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE BY INTRODUCING A FAMILY IMPACT REPORT



23 Regional Entities and International Organizations

228 National Organizations from 65 countries

Co-sponsored by  
23 Regional Entities and International Organizations

542 Civil Society Representatives, Academics and Policy Makers from 83 countries

January 2014

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Nairobi, 23-24 January 2014 • 9





**General Assembly  
Economic and Social Council**

Distr.: General  
3 December 2013

Original: English

**Preparations for and observance of the twentieth  
anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2014**

**Report of the Secretary-General**

46. The International Federation for Family Development organized a side-event, on 12 February 2013, in the context of the fifty-first session of the Commission for Social Development, entitled “Towards 2014: promoting the empowerment of families”,<sup>6</sup> as well as several awareness-raising meetings in Europe, South America and Africa.

68. As noted in previous reports on family issues, the Millennium Development Goals, especially those relating to poverty, education and the reduction of maternal mortality are difficult to achieve unless the strategies to achieve them focus on the family. Women, children and youth are among the major priorities for the United Nations and will remain a top priority in the post-2015 development strategy. Adding families to this agenda would be a step forward in the direction of empowerment and reduction of inequality and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development goals.



## General Assembly

Distr.: Limited  
29 October 2013

Original: English

*Recognizing* that the family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children and that children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, **should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding.**

1. *Encourages* Governments to continue to make every possible effort to realize the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes and **to integrate a family perspective into national policymaking;**

2. *Decides* to devote one plenary meeting during the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, in 2014, to the observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, in order **to discuss the role of family-oriented policies in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;**

9. *Urges* Member States to create a conducive environment to strengthen and support all families, recognizing that equality between women and men and respect for all the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all family members are essential to family well-being and to society at large, noting the importance of reconciliation of work and family life and **recognizing the principle of shared parental responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child;**

## Family Impact Report · Principles

1. Support and supplement family functioning.
2. Encourage and reinforce commitment.
3. Recognize interdependence.
4. Encourage individuals to collaborate.
5. Take into account effects on different types of families.
6. Include families in need or vulnerable to breakdown.

## Family Impact Report · Principles

1. Collecting, interviewing, reviewing, consulting.
2. Identifying how it supports families or doesn't.
3. Doing research.
4. Meant to be nonpartisan and build consensus.
5. Not to plan for the sake of planning, but for acting.
6. Discussing, disseminating and assessing implementation.



# 2014



## 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY

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### RAISE AWARENESS MEETINGS

- Lagos, 25 September 2013
- Santiago de Chile, 26 August 2013
- New York, 16 May 2013
- Brussels, 15 May 2013
- Warsaw, 3-4 April 2013
- New York, 12 February 2013
- Brussels, 5 June 2012

### REGIONAL EXPERT GROUP MEETINGS

- Doha, 2-3 June 2013
- Brussels, 6-8 June 2012

### UN BACKGROUND

- Twentieth Anniversary [2014]
- Tenth Anniversary [2004]
- International Year [1994]
- International Day
- General Assembly Resolution [2013]
- ECOSOC Resolution [2013]
- General Assembly Resolution [2012]
- General Assembly Resolution [2006]



The twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family (2014) offers an opportunity to refocus on the role of families in development; take stock of recent trends in family policy development; share good practices in family policy making; review challenges faced by families worldwide and recommend solutions. The preparations for the this anniversary will include:

- International and regional expert group meetings gathering family experts and practitioners.
  - Research activities, including background papers.
  - Exchange of good practices in family policy.
  - Observances of the International Days of Families focusing on the themes for the twentieth anniversary.
  - Side events at the Commission for Social Development.
  - Government, civil society, academic and private sector initiatives at the national level.
- Findings and recommendations from these activities are to guide future action in effective family policy design, monitoring and implementation.

[More information...](#)

**More information at  
[www.family2014.org](http://www.family2014.org)**

News and good practices



*Since* 1978

**IFFD**

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

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