



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA  
PERMANENT MISSION  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK



UNITED NATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC  
AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS



## THE ROLE OF FAMILY SCIENCE IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### HOW FAMILY SCIENTISTS ARE HELPING TO OVERCOME INEQUALITIES, ACCELERATE THE RECOVERY FROM THE PANDEMIC AND FULLY IMPLEMENT THE 2030 AGENDA

Thursday, February 9th, 2022, 1:15pm – 2:30pm – UN Headquarters NYC, Conference Room 5

Co-organized by the International Federation for Family Development and the United Nations DESA Division for Inclusive Social Development, with the collaboration of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Slovenia to the UN

#### 61ST SESSION OF THE COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

[WWW.FAMILYPERSPECTIVE.ORG/IFFD-BRIEFING-9-FEBRUARY-2023/](http://WWW.FAMILYPERSPECTIVE.ORG/IFFD-BRIEFING-9-FEBRUARY-2023/)

#CSOCD #IFFDBRIEFING #IFFDAWARDS

Family science – the scientific study of families and close interpersonal relationships – is key to understanding all types of families and how family relationships affect us, our families, and society. Family science **research** shows us strategies to build strong relationships, ways to parent effectively, and so much more to support families' well-being, which creates a better society for everyone. It has become crucial to address the big societal issues of the 21st century.

A growing number of **academic departments and degree programs** in the United States and Canada are incorporating the term 'Family science' into their names. At least 165 university departments and academic programs currently use it.

Through their work across many careers, Family Science **scholars and professionals** create a better understanding of families, and they empower families to contribute to the well-being of their members and become actual development agents.

Their knowledge and expertise means they are uniquely **qualified for many types of jobs** working to better understand, strengthen, and empower families, such as family services, social services, early childhood education, university teaching, family science research, parenting education, youth programs, family therapy support services, divorce mediation, abuse protection services, family policy analysis, child welfare advocacy, public health programs and services, NGO leadership, global family programs, international human rights advocacy, immigration and migrant family services, program evaluation and assessment, media and technology services.

By bringing the links between families, Family Science and the creation of full and productive employment and decent work, as proposed by the Priority Topic of this year's Commission for Social Development (CSocD61), we expect to provide new **advice to governments, civil society, academia, schools, employers and other stakeholders** on how to best prepare young people to be able to reduce inequalities while we recover from the pandemic and increase our efforts to reach the Sustainable Development Goals, as expressed by goals 5, 8 and 10.

To this end, we will not only count on an **expert** to deliver a keynote speech on how family scientists make an impact in society, but also on **young students and professionals** who are oriented into this field and who will be part of an interactive discussion on the topic.

The IFFD Briefing will also host the **2023 IFFD Awards Ceremony**. Since 2013, these Awards are presented every year during the Commission to national, regional or local governments recognized for the promotion of family perspective policies and for best appreciation and to persons or private entities for their contribution to promoting family values around the world. The awardees this year will be the government of Slovenia and the Brazilian Instituto de Desenvolvimento Familiar Chieko Nishimura.

**Slovenia** ranks among the top countries in the world for generosity to new parents. Mothers and fathers are entitled to 130 days of parental leave each (altogether 260 days). Parental leave is extended in the event of the birth of twins or more children at the same time, a prematurely born child, or a child who needs special care. The amount of parental benefit is equal to 100% of the basis and may not be more than 2.5 times the amount of the average monthly wage. More flexible forms of work, including the right to breastfeeding breaks, also contribute to facilitating the reconciliation of professional and family obligations.

The **Instituto de Desenvolvimento Familiar Chieko Nishimura** is a non-profit organization founded in April 2017 to serve Jacto Group employees and their families, as well as the ecosystem and the local community. The group is now present in more than 100 countries with high-technology products and innovative solutions for agriculture, while the Institute highlights the importance of the family as an agent of corporate social responsibility and strategic foundation for sustainable growth. They offer courses, workshops, lectures and meetings around topics related to couple relationships, parenting education, financial training, ethical principles and values, personal and socio-emotional development of men, women, children and adolescents.

## PROGRAMME

### WELCOMING REMARKS

**Nora Urrea**

Vice-president of the International Federation  
for Family Development,  
President of Family Enrichment USA

### KEYNOTE SPEECH

**Joseph Grzywacz**

Norejane Hendrickson Professor of Family and Child Sciences at Florida State University  
*How Do Family Scientists Make an Impact?*

### INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION WITH FAMILY SCIENCE YOUNG SCHOLARS AND PRACTITIONERS

**Francisca L. Tettevie**

Graduate Teaching Assistant  
Kansas State University  
Bachelor of Science in  
Family and Consumer Science  
University of Ghana

**Abigail T. Stephan**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
Institute for Engaged Aging  
College of Behavioral, Social  
and Health Sciences  
Clemson University

**Virginia Hernández**

Government Secretary of Youth  
State of Queretaro  
(Mexico)  
Bachelor of Laws  
Tecnológico de Monterrey

### MODERATOR

**Carlota Nalda Roca de Togores**

Degree in International Relations  
Universidad Rey Juan Carlos – Madrid

### IFFD FAMILY AWARDS CEREMONY

Introductory Remarks and Laudatio

**Dr. Sharifa Noaman Al Emadi**

PhD in Psychology and Counselling  
Exec. Director of Doha International Family Institute  
2018 IFFD Award

Introductory Remarks and Laudatio

**Nora Urrea**

Vice-president of the International Federation  
for Family Development,  
President of Family Enrichment USA

**To the Instituto de Desenvolvimento**

**Familiar Chieko Nishimura**

Acceptance and Appreciation

**Jorge Nishimura**

President, Instituto de  
Desenvolvimento Familiar Chieko Nishimura  
Administrative Board Member, Jacto Group Brazil

**To the government of**

**Slovenia**

Acceptance and Appreciation

**Sašo Furlan**

Ministry of Labour, Family,  
Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities  
of Slovenia

### CLOSING REMARKS

**Renata Kaczmarska**

Focal Point of the Family, United Nations Division for Inclusive Social Development  
at the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

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The International Federation for Family Development (IFFD) is a non-governmental, independent and non-profit umbrella organization that operates in 68 countries with the help of thousands of volunteers and benefits over 30,000 families annually through our parenting courses. Founded in 1978, it was granted in 2011 the reclassification of the consultative status at United Nations (ECOSOC) from special to general, reserved for large international NGOs whose area of work cover most of the issues on the agenda of ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies. The IFFD Briefing has been held at the UN Headquarters in New York since 2013 during the Session of the Commission for Social Development. The IFFD Family Awards are also presented during the event to the persons or territories distinguished by the promotion of family values. This programme is subject to change without prior notice. Updated 1/24/2023.

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