

# 1 | Recognition

The UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) decided during its 2011 substantive session to confirm the previous recommendation of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to upgrade **the consultative status of the International Federation for Family Development, from especial to general**. General consultative status is reserved for large international NGOs whose area of work cover most of the issues on the agenda of ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies. These tend to be fairly large, established international NGOs with a broad geographical reach.

Since then, IFFD has been fully participating in the UN system, taking advantage of this status to show the importance of implementing a family perspective in national legislations, in two steps:

NOW

2015-2018

**Contribution to provide evidence on the social role of the family in the elaboration and dissemination of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, signed by all Heads of State in September, 2015.**

- » **Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work** through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies.
- » **The promotion of shared responsibility** within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.
- » **The project SDGs&Families, promoted by IFFD**, participated by the UN and UNICEF, and integrated by some of the main experts worldwide, is another outstanding result of our work during this time.

2011-2015

**Contribution to the preparations and celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family (2014).**

» **IFFD actively promoted the objectives of the anniversary**, mobilizing support for its declaration and organizing a number of awareness-raising events throughout the year. [Report of the UN Secretary-General, 18 November 2014 - A/70/61-E/2015/3]

# 3 | Figures



# 4 | Projects

- 1 SDGs&Families**

**Objective:** Assess how family policies can contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.

**Partners:** UNICEF, UN-DESA, Fundación Bancaria "la Caixa", Stiftung Maienburg, 6 global experts.

**Status:** In progress since 2016. Presentation and dissemination of results by May 2018 at the UN Headquarters.
- 2 Inclusive Cities for Sustainable Families**

**Objective:** Contribute to modern cities resiliency and strength, so that families can find a proper place to live in them.

**Partners:** Veneto Region, ELISAN European Local Inclusion & Social Action Network, City of Marseille.

**Status:** In progress since 2017. Initial meeting at UN Headquarters in New York (2017) and Focus Group in Veneto Region (2018).
- 3 FamiliesAndSocieties**

**Objective:** Explore the growing complexity of family configurations and transitions across and within European societies and examine their implications for children, women and men with respect to inequalities in life chances, intergenerational relations and care arrangements.

**Partners:** European Commission, 25 academic partners and 3 transnational civil society actor partners, including IFFD.

**Status:** Completed in 2017. 2 side-events and 2 statements at the United Nations Headquarters. 79 working papers, 80 articles, 7 book chapters and 1 book and 4 online databases.
- 4 Declaration of the Civil Society on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family**

**Objective:** Include the basic contents of UN resolutions about the International Year of the Family and share the main recommendations of different Expert Group Meetings.

**Partners:** 27 international entities and over 542 civil society representatives from 285 national organizations, it was also signed by elected officials, academics and individuals.

**Status:** Completed in 2015. Presentation of the Declaration during the celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family at the UN Headquarters.

## 2 | Recommendations

As included in UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/72/145, 19 December 2017.

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 develop strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening national capacities.

Encourages Member States to promote **work-family balance as conducive to the well-being of children**, the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

Further encourages Member States to **provide universal and gender-sensitive social protection systems**, which are key to ensuring poverty reduction.

Encourages greater collaboration between the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the United Nations entities, agencies, funds and programmes, as well as other relevant intergovernmental and **non-governmental organizations active in the family field**.

Calls upon Member States and agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, **in consultation with civil society and other relevant stakeholders**, to continue providing information on their activities.

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Invites Member States to **invest in a variety of family-oriented policies and programmes**, as important tools for, inter alia, fighting poverty, social exclusion and inequality, promoting work-family balance and gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Also encourages Member States to invest in family policies and programmes that promote strong intergenerational interactions, such as **intergenerational living arrangements and parenting education**.

Encourages Governments to support the United Nations **trust fund on family activities**.

Requests the **focal point on the family** of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to enhance collaboration with the regional commissions, funds and programmes.

Requests the Secretary-General to **submit a report to the General Assembly** at its seventy-fourth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year.

## 6 | Reputation



**Daniela Bas**  
Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development  
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

“

*I am aware that IFFD organizes side events of the Commission which help raise awareness of the importance of family policies to achieve a number of development goals, and I have had the privilege of participating in some of these events”.*

“

*Thank you for gathering civil society support expressed in the Declaration on the occasion of the anniversary and countless raise awareness events held by IFFD and its affiliate organizations throughout the world”.*



**Renata Kaczmarek**  
United Nations Focal Point on the Family

## 7 | More information

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# Report on Advocacy Work in International Institutions

MAY 2011 - APRIL 2018



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