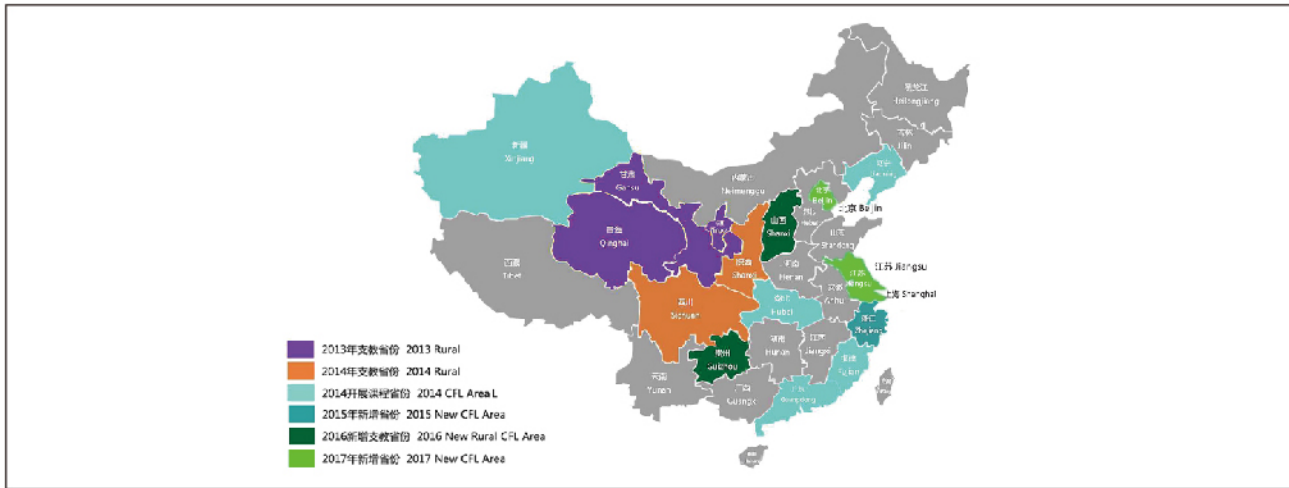


Caring for Life Education (CFL)

2017 Annual Report





Caring for Life Education (CFL)

ACTAsia's Caring for Life (CFL) Education programme has continued to thrive throughout 2017. The number of children we've reached, the programme's scope, its recognition and prospects have all grown and improved. ACTAsia was proud to receive two awards in recognition of CFL over the course of the year:

- The Next Generation Award at the 10th Asia for Animals conference on Changing Human Behaviour in Kathmandu, Nepal, December 2017
- Best Charity Partner for the Caring for Life Education programme, awarded to ACTAsia by the Shenzhen Youth Development Foundation



Students and schools

To date, CFL has reached more than 65,000 students through 130 schools. In 2017, 41 primary schools and a total of over 20,000 students took part in our CFL Education programme, while ACTAsia volunteers made regular visits to 16 kindergartens. A particularly important addition were six schools, where only migrant workers' children attend in the areas of Shanghai (3), Kunshan (1) and Beijing (2).

In addition to kindergartens and primary schools, CFL Education reached 20 community centres and 225 children in areas including Shenzhen, Zhuhai and Zhongshan.





Educators

In 2017, part of the teacher training course was made available online in order to reach the high demand for resources. Potential CFL educators must first complete this component as well as a series of lessons in class, before attending a qualifying face-to-face workshop. Achievements for 2017 alone include:



- trained 517 CFL Educators
- almost 1,700 qualified school teachers have been trained to-date
- ACTAsia held 15 teacher training workshops
- a CFL Education training centre was established at MJ Cultural Park in Shanghai, which offers teachers the opportunity to learn about the natural environment, cultural activities, art and recycling. An existing facility at the Grand Windmill Farm in Zhongshan continues to offer courses related to animal welfare and the environment.





Curriculum

Two documents were finalised for use in CFL Education. The Curriculum Framework and Guidelines is targeted at the education authorities, explaining the rationale behind CFL education, while the Curriculum Standard provides useful information and details for the teachers looking to incorporate CFL education into their school timetable.

The lesson plans for Year 2 were published in Chinese. The Year 4 curriculum has also been translated and adapted into Chinese, and Year 5 has been completed in English.



Rural areas and summer camps

ACTAsia collaborated with 18 volunteer CFL Educators and other organisations, such as Siyu Harmony Company and Joy Caring Centre, to build on previous visits to parts of rural China and its left-behind children.

During the summer camps, a CFL Education course ran at 13 schools, reaching a total of 552 left-behind children (ages 7-15 years), at a modest cost of 6.50EUR per student. In 2016, the total stood at eight schools and 447 students. The areas visited in 2017 were Guizhou, Sichuan and Shanxi. Restricted access to the locations, limited infrastructure on site and poverty in those areas posed challenges to ACTAsia staff and volunteers, but with help from



the local communities, all programmes were a positive success.

In cooperation with Siyu Harmony Company, ACTAsia reached an additional nine schools totalling almost 500 children in rural China. On Children's Day, ACTAsia's CFL Education Manager, Isobel Zhang, was invited by the Tongwei Foundation to give a talk on psychology and CFL at a primary school in Gansu province.

Evaluation

The ongoing evaluation of Caring for Life Education through the year has yielded impressive and reassuring results. Carried out as independent research by an academic professor, the evaluation is proof of how humane education makes children kinder and more compassionate, while reducing aggression and disruptive behaviours. The results from three years of research were completed in 2017, and can be found [HERE](#).

A relationship is beginning to develop between ACTAsia and Professor You Xilin, renowned education expert of the Shaanxi Normal University General Education Research Center. A keen promoter of CFL Education, he has fully endorsed new research into our humane education programme.

Development

ACTAsia's Isobel Zhang gave a talk titled The Importance of Empathy in Hangzhou, to approximately 200 parents and children, who gathered at the Zhejiang Science and Technology Museum. Isobel frequently gives such talks at various organisations and companies, including in 2017 Jiayin college for left-behind children, and Shenzhen Gongming Subdistrict Office.

Professor Ma of political science and public administration at Shenzhen University is a consultant to CFL Education in China. Building on his beliefs that empowering young people with empathy should be an important breakthrough in the content of moral education, he published an instruction manual to be taught to children in schools, titled Learning to be Friendly: Empathy and Responsibility Development.





Isobel also participated in the 2017 annual meeting of the National Moral Education Academic Committee, held in Confucius's hometown Qufu (Shandong Province). The meeting included discussion with Tan Bao Bao, the director of the National Committee of Moral Education.



CEO Pei Su gave talks on Parent Power - The importance of Caring for Life School Education in Shanghai, where there were 70-80 participants, including 1881 Club, and the Rotary Club. At a talk in Suzhou University of Science and Technology there were 40-50 participants.

ACTAsia participated in Mattel's Barbie Run events in Shanghai and Guangzhou, with volunteers joining the run and the Shanghai office staff manning a booth to promote CFL Education.

Pei also gave a talk at the Hong Qiao International School in the run up to the Driven by Love art exhibition, which offered both parents and children interactive experiences while connecting art with the values of CFL Education.

A car boot sale was organised at the MJ Cultural Park in Shanghai to encourage recycling, and sellers donated a portion of their proceeds to support ACTAsia's educational work.

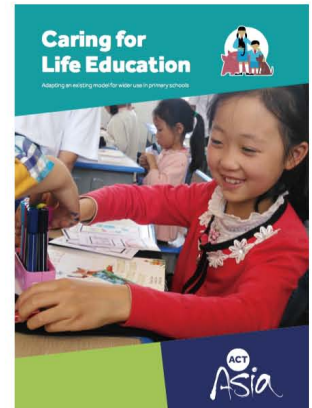


Overseas expansion

In 2017, ACTAsia published a how-to manual to introduce the CFL Education model used in China. 'Caring for Life Education-Adapting an existing model for wider use in primary schools' is a guide on how to make existing CFL resources suitable for use in other Asian countries.

ACTAsia attended the Asia for Animals conference in Kathmandu (Nepal) in December, and ran a workshop on CFL Education for 40 participants. The CFL Education Guide was introduced here, and there was considerable interest shown by participants from Nepal and Pakistan, to be followed up this coming year.

A new relationship was established with Yinghua Academy in the USA, a Chinese immersion school interested in introducing the CFL Education curriculum. Teacher training and implementation of the curriculum are expected to begin in 2018.



In conclusion

In total for 2017, CFL reached over 20,000 children, 41 schools, 16 kindergartens, 20 community centres and 517 educators through holding 15 teacher training workshops.

2017 has been a resounding success for ACTAsia's Caring for Life Education programme. We continue to expand and embed our work to promote caring and compassionate societies in Asian countries, and commit to building on our achievements in 2018.

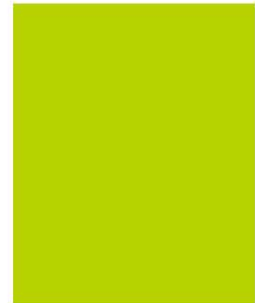
ACTAsia recent awards to-date

- 2016 Chinese Government on Urbanization - Top 10 most influential organisations in China
- 2016 CEVA - ACTAsia as Charity Team of the Year
- 2016 Dalang, Shenzhen - Best and most innovative Community Project
- 2017 Shenzhen Youth Development Foundation Awards - Best Charity Partner for CFL
- 2017 CEVA - International Cat Care award for Pei's overall commitment to animal welfare
- 2017 Asia for Animals - Next Generation award at the 10th AfA conference in Kathmandu Nepal, for CFL Education

Presentations to-date

- 2015 Association for Professional Humane Education conference
- Green Templeton Human Welfare Conference 2015 (May 1-2): Human Welfare in Conflict
<http://hwc.gtc.ox.ac.uk>
- CHEW Conference 2016 on 20/21 May at Green Templeton College, University of Oxford.
Visible and Invisible Challenges: Transformations in contemporary China.
<https://chewoxford.wordpress.com>
- The 4th Kobe International Conference on the Care for All Creatures 2015
http://knots.or.jp/corporation/2014/11/icac-kobe2015_outline-e/





PayPal



To find out more, and to donate,
please go to **www.ACTAsia.org**
Contact us at **info@actasia.org**

11/06/2018