



3 NOVEMBER 2018

## AIPH/COA COMMUNITY GARDEN OFFICIALLY OPENS FOR 2018 TAICHUNG WORLD FLORA EXPO

The AIPH/COA Community Garden at the 2018 Taichung World Expo opened with grand ceremony on 2nd November. AIPH President, Mr Bernard Oosterom, as well as the Mayor of Taichung, an Officer of the COA and an Officer of the Taichung Horticultural Trades Association (TFDA), each gave a speech to launch the event.

First speaker, Mr Bernard Oosterom of AIPH, was honoured to attend the occasion. In summary, he presented this key message:

“As the ‘worlds champion for the power of plants’, AIPH strongly believes that cities across the globe need to re-discover the best relationship between green, nature and people (GNP). The theme of this Expo, to re-discover GNP, is perfectly in-line with everything we try to promote from AIPH. Taichung has set its sights on leading the world in city greening and, with this Expo, has sought to transform lives. Taichung is an inspiration to cities across the globe who will want to follow in your footsteps. You can be proud of your horticulture industry and its association - TFDA. I encourage every citizen of Taichung, and citizens of the world, to come to this Flora Expo over the next six months and experience, for themselves, this once-in-a-lifetime event. The lessons from this Expo matter for every city and you can be proud of your city today.”

The Taichung Expo is an AIPH-Approved A2/B1 category event which gained approval status in 2014. Since then, the organising committee, supported and monitored by AIPH, have worked assiduously to bring the sixty-hectare Flora spectacular to life. AIPH and the COA, have jointly created a ‘Community Garden’, within this vast area, to demonstrate how green spaces in cities improve the environment, social life and health of urban communities.

The 2018 Taichung World Flora Expo runs for six months (3rd November 2018 – 24th April 2019) and expects to host over eight million visitors from around the world. For further information visit <https://2018floraexpo.tw/En> .

ENDS.

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**Notes for Editors:**

International Association of Horticultural Producers (AIPH)

Since 1948, AIPH has united horticultural producers in an international community that thrives to this day. Much has changed in that time. Technologies advanced, cities rose from the ground, and we have become more connected than ever. As a result, our essential bond with nature has been weakened. AIPH strives to reignite and uphold an appreciation of plants that we believe is a basic human instinct. We support the work of grower associations globally and together we champion a prosperous industry, growing plants that enhance lives, advance societies and sustain our planet, for this generation and the next.