



IFUW Africa Policy Seminar, 26 March 2015 Nairobi, Kenya

Perspectives on Women's Education for Entrepreneurship in Africa

Date: 26 March 2015

Time: 18:00 – 21:30 (panel event followed by reception)

Venue: Windsor Golf Hotel & Country Club, Kigwa Road, Nairobi, Kenya

Aim: Highlight the challenges and opportunities facing potential and actual African women entrepreneurs and business leaders, and how education and training can help tackle economic and socio-cultural barriers thereto.

Objectives:

- Establish a dialogue among speakers and participants on the theme of the seminar
- Demonstrate the need for a strong education and its impact on the advancement not only for girls and women, but also society, business and the economy with reference to successful policies
- Highlight the barriers to entrepreneurship and leadership for women across the region
- Raise awareness of the value of continuing education and vocational and professional training programmes to encourage and support women entrepreneurs
- Outline the benefits of increasing girls' and women's participation rates in innovation related industries including information and communication technologies (ICTs) and science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM)
- Highlight the work of IFUW, UN Women, ILO and the roles of civil society, community engagement, business and government in promoting women entrepreneurship

The seminar will include discussion on:

- Business skills and financial literacy education and training for girls and women
- The role of technology in facilitating economic participation: Best practices/case studies on what framework has worked in Africa to empower more women entrepreneurs
- African women leaders: challenges and progress
- The roles of civil society, policymakers, government and business in supporting women entrepreneurs

Programme

18:00	Welcome	Danièle Castle, Executive Director, IFUW
18:10	Panel speakers remarks	Jane Maigua, National Programme Co-ordinator (NPC) - International Labour Organisation Women Entrepreneurship Development project, Kenya Judith Owigar, Co-Founder and Operations Director, AkiraChix Joy Mukanyange, Rwandan Association of University Women (RAUW), former Ambassador of the Republic of Rwanda to the Republic of Kenya Florence Butegwa (tbc), Senior Regional Advisor, Leadership and Governance, UN Women Eastern and Southern Africa
19:10	Discussion	Moderator: Danièle Castle
19:50	Final reflections	
20:00	Reception	
21:30	Close	

Speaker Focuses:

Jane Maigua: *Building national infrastructure to support women entrepreneurs*

Judith Owigar: *Empowering African women through technology*

Joy Mukanyange: *Devising professional and vocational education and training to prepare women leaders*

Florence Butegwa: *Regional challenges for African women entrepreneurs and solutions for success*