



IFUW Update – 2 April 2014



*Okayama Branch of Japanese Federation of University Women
on International Women's Day, 8 March 2014*

International Federation of University Women news

IFUW webinars

As part of our drive to provide value and services, IFUW is offering a series of webinars to its members. A webinar is a presentation which is given over the internet and which allows a presenter to present to a group of people over a large geographical area. The audience logs onto the hosting site at the presentation time to view a live presentation. The audience can ask questions in real-time through an instant messaging tool or e-mail. Sign up today for a webinar about IFUW Day, advocacy, membership capacity building or creating a website. If you wish to participate, please contact [Caroline Staffell](#) for more information.

National Federation and Association (NFA) news

Ireland & Northern Ireland

The [Irish Federation of University Women](#) (IrFUW) will celebrate IFUW Day on 24 May 2014 with a seminar in Dublin. Speaker Frédérique Vallières will address "Women's role in achieving a sustainable future through Education," a paper she presented at the IFUW Conference in Istanbul in August 2013. Her research focuses on the education of young girls as a means to combat early marriage in the Maasai of Tanzania. Frédérique contends that education is now seen as one way to provide a sustainable economic future for the young women.

Japan

March saw the end of Japanese school year, and the first two students completed the [Disaster Fund scholarship programme](#). The programme was established by the [Japanese Federation of University Women](#) (JAUW) following the 2011 tsunami. The Disaster Fund assists students who have lost their parents due to the tsunami to finish secondary school. Currently, there are 12 students on the Disaster Fund scholarship programme. JAUW would like to express its sincere gratitude for IFUW's generous support which made it possible to help more students than previously planned.

To mark International Women's Day, the Okayama Branch of the [Japanese Federation of University Women](#) (JAUW) organised a lecture and a parade on 8 March. The speaker was former ambassador to

Morocco and JAUW member Haruko Hirose. After the lecture, the participants took to the main shopping street with a banner which says "Equality for women is progress for all."

Spain

To celebrate International Women's Day, the Marbella Branch of [Spanish Federation of University Women](#) organised an event in which several short United Nations documentaries on leadership, empowerment, lifelong education and equality of women were shown. Immediately afterwards, Mr Carlos Jimenez Renjifo of United Nations Regional Information Centre for Western Europe (UNRIC) moderated a roundtable in which the documentary topics were discussed interactively with the audience.

Read more in Spanish: asociacionamum.blogspot.com.es

Advocacy

Mothers matter for girls in science

Manjit Dosanjh, IFUW representative to the United Nations and scientist, writes about the important role of mothers and fathers in encouraging their daughters to pursue science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) fields. [Read full article](#). [Join the discussion on LinkedIn](#). Read IFUW's STEM brochure [Women in science: a necessity?](#)

Universal Periodic Review (UPR)

What have other governments said about human rights in your country? What has your government committed to do on access to education for girls and women? The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a United Nations mechanism intended to promote and improve human rights in all countries. IFUW national federations and associations (NFAs) can monitor their governments' public promises and advocate to see them fulfilled. Read an [introduction to UPR](#), [UPR for newcomers](#) as well as a timetable of [milestones for NFAs](#) to advocate on UPR. **The UPR is an ongoing cycle and any time is a good time get involved.** Please contact [Nina Joyce](#) for information on how to proceed.

Conference

The **Women Advancement Forum** aims to create an advanced platform for the formulation of strategic and realistic approaches to women's socio-economic and political advancement and emancipation. Participants will be drawn from business, politics, advocacy groups, and African women in Diaspora amongst others. [Read more](#)

Job Opportunities

Do you know of a job opportunity? Please share with the IFUW network and email us at [ifuw\(at\)ifuw.org](mailto:ifuw(at)ifuw.org)

Education in Conflict, Crisis Specialist, Access to Education in Conflict Environments Project, MSI, United States [Read more](#)

Expert in Media Regulation and Journalism Ethics, Internews Europe, Europe or Middle East [Read more](#)
Civil Society Specialist, Civil Society Support Program, MSI, Ethiopia [Read more](#)

Other information and events

April 24	Girls in ICT Day
April 28-30	Pan-African Conference on Tackling Inequalities , Accra
May 9-11	Meet and Greet the University Women of Europe , Amsterdam
May 23-24	SAAWG national conference

May 25-29 [Women Advancement Forum](#), Gambia
June 1 [IFUW Day](#) (IFUW member login required)
August 17-22 [Women's World Congress](#), Hyderabad
September 5-7 [UNITAR-Yale Conference](#)
September 27-Oct 1 3rd Forum on NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO, Bulgaria

Did you know?

IFUW President Catherine Bell's speech on violence against women in a panel at the Commission on the Status of Women is online. Please login to the members section to [read the speech](#). Tell us something that we don't know about IFUW! Email us at [ifuw\(at\)ifuw.org](mailto:ifuw(at)ifuw.org)



Empowering women and girls through lifelong education for leadership, decision-making and peace. IFUW is in special consultative status with ECOSOC and is an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO.

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