



IFUW Update – 15 April 2015



UNESCO/Education for All has Global Monitoring Report 2000-2015 now available [to download](#).

International Federation of University Women news

IFUW publish new infographic on Gender Leadership

IFUW launched an infographic on gender and leadership at its *Communities for Action* workshop on 27 March 2015, in Nairobi, Kenya. Aimed at teenage girls, the infographic explores the notions of gender and leadership for girls and highlights related statistics which exemplify the importance of addressing gender stereotypes and barriers to girls' education, which hinder girls from reaching leadership positions.

Click [here](#) to download the infographic.



National Federation and Association (NFA) news

Ireland and Northern Ireland

Dr. Marion Gibson, President of the Irish Federation of University Women (IrFUW), was awarded the prestigious British Red Cross Badge of Honour in Recognition of Distinguished Service to the Red Cross on 28 March 2015. The Award marks Marion's ten year commitment as a member of the British Red Cross Psychological Support Team which works in conjunction with the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office Rapid Response Team on a global basis having been formed as a direct result of the Asian Tsunami in December 2004. Marion was one of the initial responders to Thailand and was involved in the setting up and continued development of this team.

Canada

Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) members Jeanne Sarson and Linda Macdonald have [published a report](#) on their advocacy activities at the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), which took place in March at the United Nations headquarters, in New York. Jeanne and Linda, long-time activists for the express recognition and criminalisation of non-state torture (NST), participated in several panels throughout CSW59, including organising a NST-specific event that gathered strong support. In November 2014, Jeanne and Linda successfully advocated for the inclusion of NST in the [list of recommendations](#) drafted by NGO CSW Geneva for the Beijing+20 regional discussion. For further information, please visit [Persons Against Non-State Torture](#) or email contact@nonstatetorture.org.

Advocacy

Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2000-2015

On 9 April IFUW participated in the official launch of Education for All "Global Monitoring Report 2000-2015" (EFA GMR), at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. The publication takes stock of the progress and challenges in the implementation of the six education goals, adopted in 2000 at the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal ("[The Dakar Framework](#)"). The

seminal event was opened by UNESCO Director-General, Irina Bokova, who was [keen to emphasise](#) the persisting, categorical need for more investment and commitment to lifelong education: “Despite not meeting the 2015 deadline, millions more children are in school. However, we need to see specific, well-funded strategies that prioritise the poorest – especially girls – [and] improve the quality of learning and reduce the literacy gap so that education becomes meaningful and universal.” While enrolment in lower secondary school has increased globally by 27% (and more than doubled in sub-Saharan Africa) since 2000, there are still [63 million](#) out-of-school adolescents worldwide. Marginalised children – including those from rural, migrant or weak socio-economic backgrounds – face substantial barriers in accessing and completing secondary education. Increasing the benchmark from universal primary education to universal secondary education is critical to ensure that all students have the foundation skills – including literacy and numeracy – to access the job market, become active citizens, and realise financial independence. Download the EFA GMR report [in full here](#).

Grants and Proposals

African Women’s Development Fund

The African Women’s Development Fund (AWDF) funds local, national, sub-regional and regional organisations in Africa working towards women’s empowerment. The AWDF will give **grants** for projects related to: Women’s Human Rights; Economic Empowerment and Livelihoods; Governance, Peace and Security; Reproductive Health and Rights; HIV/AIDS; and Arts, Culture and Sports. The AWDF makes grants in three cycles, March, August and November. Applications can be sent in at any time. For further information on eligibility requirements [click here](#).

Save the date!

Just over one week left until [Girls in ICT Day](#), which will be celebrated globally on 23 April. The international event encourages girls to study Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs), industries which are absolutely critical for innovation, economic growth and sustainable development. Main organiser of the event, the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), has launched a toolkit as part of the Girls in ICT Day, to provide ideas on how individuals and organisations can join the global movement! For further information [click here](#).

Other information and events

April 23	International Girls in Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) Day , global
May 14 – 16	2015 Global Summit of Women , Sao Paulo, Brazil
May 19-22	World Education Forum , Incheon, South Korea
May 29	University Women of Europe (UWE) Meet and Greet , London, United Kingdom
June 4–5	IFUW “Communities for Action” Capacity building Workshop, Sofia, Bulgaria
28 August – 1 September	UWE Conference “Networking as a Quality” , the Netherlands
August 21 – 23 (2016)	IFUW General Assembly, Cape Town, South Africa (members only)
August 24 – 26 (2016)	IFUW Triennial Conference, Cape Town, South Africa (open to the public)

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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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