



GWI Update – 16 December 2015



Members of the Turkish Association of University Women (TAUW) at their bi-annual meeting

Graduate Women International news

Teachers for Rural Futures: Benadet's Story Part One

Benadet's family is from a village in Eastern Uganda, the second child from a family of five children. Her mother is a primary teacher and her father is a tailor, and resources at home are stretched. As one of the few girls to complete secondary education in her area, Benadet's dream was to go on to university to qualify as a much-needed woman secondary school teacher, but it looked like her dream would end there. Providing for Benadet to study at the top university in Uganda, Makerere, and the additional expenses of accommodation, travel, and study materials would be impossible without help. Read Part Two of Benadet's story next week!

Graduate Women International is directly addressing the shortfall of women teachers in Uganda. Our project aims to support 50 young women from rural areas in the country to become qualified secondary school teachers and ambassadors for girls' education. This will provide access to quality education for 2000 children per year and vital role models to improve girls' enrolment. [Donate now.](#) Find out more about the project [here.](#)

GWI member news

Turkish Association of University Women holds bi-annual meeting and presents GWI Manifestos

The Turkish Association of University Women (TAUW) held their bi-annual meeting with members from 22 branches in November 2015. TAUW's President Professor Dr Gaye Erbatur presented the [GW Manifestos](#) to TAUW members and guests from the local public, translated and printed as a small handbook in order to be accessible and useful in the Turkish context. These are highly appreciated by active members as a resource and a tool for advocating, presenting to potential partners, stakeholders and donors. The Manifestos indicate GWI's and TAUW's position on advocacy issues related to the empowerment of women and girls through education up to the highest levels. [Read the GWI manifestos here.](#)

Advocacy

United Nations High-Level Meeting - World Summit on the Information Society - WSIS+10

Among women around the world, only 34% have Internet access. With rapid growth, Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), and equal access to these tools have been recognised as critical drivers to

achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). GWI actively seeks the greater participation of [girls and women in ICT](#) fields, and for [creative use of technology in non-traditional education](#). On 15-26 December 2015, an in-depth discussion on achieving the SDGs through Bridging the Digital Divide will take place during a United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting in New York, the [World Summit Information Society outcomes review \(WSIS+10\)](#). Attended by high-level representatives from governments, civil society and the private sector, this meeting will address potential ICT gaps, challenges and areas for continued focus.

Prizes and Awards

2016 UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence

UNESCO invites governmental and non-governmental entities, civil society actors and individuals to propose candidates for the 2016 UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence. Its purpose is to reward individuals, institutions and other entities or non-governmental organisations that have made exceptional contributions and demonstrated leadership in the promotion of tolerance and non-violence. In recognition of a lifelong devotion to communal harmony and peace, the Prize bears the name of its benefactor Madanjeet Singh, who was a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador, Indian artist, writer and diplomat. The closing date for submissions is **29 February 2016** at midnight. The nomination form can be downloaded [here](#).

Give the gift of education

Do you know a graduate woman who would like to join the leading women's international organisation that works to empower girls and women through access to lifelong, quality education and training? [Give the gift of membership](#) to join a global community of over 23,000 members in more than 100 countries, either as a GWI independent member or national member of one of over 60 National Federations and Associations (NFAs).

Other information and events

December	15 - 26	United Nations High Level Meeting on WSIS+10 New York, USA
January	27	Free from Fear, Free from Pain- Eliminating FGM in Europe Brussels, Belgium
March	09 - 11	Future Sense - Universities Shaping the New Era Canberra, Australia
April	07 - 08	Bricks and Clicks for Europe Galway, Ireland
June	14 - 17	Missing and Marginalised Conference University of Waterloo, Canada
June	24 - 27	University Women of Europe AGM and Conference Winchester, UK
June	28 - July 1	12th International Conference, ISTR , Stockholm, Sweden
August 21 - 23 (2016)		GWI General Assembly, Cape Town, South Africa (members only)
August 24 - 26 (2016)		GWI Triennial Conference, Cape Town, South Africa (open to the public)

Follow us on social media!



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

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