



Graduate Women
International (GWI)

Press Release

Graduate Women International (GWI) reaffirms commitment with Girls CHARGE to reach more than 15 million girls by 2019

Geneva, Switzerland, 28 September 2015-- Graduate Women International (GWI) and other Collaborative Harnessing Ambition & Resources for Girls' Education (Girls' CHARGE) partners will join former Prime Minister of Australia Julia Gillard during the [Accelerating Progress in Girls' Education](#) event hosted by the Center for Universal Education at Brookings and the Clinton Foundation's No Ceilings: The Full Participation Project on September 29, 2015 in New York. GWI reaffirms its strong commitment as a partner in Girls' CHARGE, a global initiative addressing girls' education challenges and a community for sharing best practice, research, lessons learned, and monitoring and evaluation models.

The meeting takes place within the context of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA70), where the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 are adopted and states commit to action the goals over the next fifteen years. In order to fulfil [SDG goals 4 and 5](#) GWI calls for governments worldwide to ascertain clearly designated financing for education resources, free access to secondary school for all girls, and quality training for teachers, to enable quality learning and smooth transitions for girls and women beyond secondary schooling.

President of GWI, Catherine Bell, comments: "GWI has a long history of advancing women's education and as we strengthen girls' education efforts, we look forward to working with Girls' CHARGE to overcome barriers together, and in particular by championing local level leadership for girls' education".

The event will include a discussion with authors Gene Sperling, former National Economic Adviser to President Clinton and President Obama, and Rebecca Winthrop, senior fellow and director of the Center for Universal Education at Brookings. A second panel discussion with Ms. Catherine Bell and other CHARGE partners will explore innovative models for cultivating local level leadership in girls' education, a crucial element for accelerating progress.

Graduate Women International (GWI) is a membership-based international NGO based in Geneva, Switzerland, with presence in over 60 countries. Founded in 1919, GWI is the leading girls' and women's global organisation advocating for women's rights, equality and empowerment through access to quality education and training up to the highest levels. GWI is in special consultative status with ECOSOC and is an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO and ILO.

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