



IFUW Day 2014: Education for girls and women in detention, displacement and refugee camps

Ideas for action for national federations and associations (NFAs)

Learn

Profile of girl and women prisoners in [COUNTRY NAME]: How many women prisoners are there in your country? What percentage of the total prisoner numbers are they? For what reasons are they detained? Do they disproportionately represent a particular socio-economic group, ethnicity, religion or nationality? If so, why? How old are they? What is their educational level or skills training?

Prison conditions for girls and women in [COUNTRY NAME]: Are girls and women at risk of violence or exploitation? Are girls and women imprisoned further from home and families than male prisoners? Do they receive fewer visits than male prisoners? Do they share sanitation facilities with male prisoners? Are they guarded by male guards, even in the sanitation facilities? Do they report extreme mental distress due to imprisonment? Do they have a history of mental illness?

Do girl and women prisoners have a means to earn money, both during and after detention? Do they have access to education, medical care and sanitation? Are they permitted outings or visitors?

IFUW Mission

How is IFUW's mission pertinent to the education needs of girls and women detained in [COUNTRY NAME]:

Do a high percentage of female detainees present specific health challenges, e.g. lack of sanitary facilities, extreme mental distress due to separation from children, HIV/AIDS?

Are a high percentage illiterate?

Have offenders experienced violence and exploitation before prison? Are they aware of their human and legal rights?

What are their employment skills? What are their arithmetic skills? Do they possess financial management skills? Do they know their property and financial rights?

Advocate

Lobby your government. Write to your ministers of health and justice. Argue that the proportion of girls and women in prison is so small that the expense of education is minimal compared to the benefits. Feel free to use the [Policy Update](#) and [fact sheet](#) as resources.

Educate. Organise seminars and speaker panels at universities, religious centres, prisons political centres. Invite local politicians, teachers, professors, religious leaders, police and justice workers, prison workers and media. Provide [fact sheets](#) and a petition which calls for education for girls and women in prison, detention and refugee camps. Ask participants to write to your government and to sign the petition.

Share with IFUW members

Publish your successes and challenges on our website and social media. Tell us about girl and women detainees in your country. Do you have a best practice case that other NFAs can benefit from? Please

share it with other IFUW members. Send us your photos and stories and/or post directly on our social media sites (links below).



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.

International Federation of University Women

10, rue du Lac, CH-1207 Geneva, Switzerland; Tel: (+41 22) 731 23 80; Fax: (+41 22) 738 04 40

E-mail: ifuw@ifuw.org Website: <http://www.ifuw.org>