

Graduate Women International (GWI)

Presentation to GWI NFA Presidents and CIRs

Phase I: Research on the Implementation of SDG 4 in Participating Countries

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SDG 4: Inclusive, Equal and Quality Education for All



- Senegal
- Rwanda
- Ghana
- Zambia
- South Africa
- Kenya
- Uganda
- Sierra Leone
- Nigeria
- Democratic Republic of the Congo

Brief Background

- Pandemic has set women's and girls' rights to education back by 20 years
- UN call to action to accelerate the accomplishment of the SDGs
- GWI's understanding that graduate women have many resources to offer towards this end – academic background, range of skills and competencies, analytical thinking, critical decision –making abilities, strong work ethic, relevant work experiences and personal commitment to SDG 4.

Brief Background

- GWI's decision- announced at Town Hall in July 2021 – to undertake an Organizational Development process to determine if and how headquarters and its NFAs could become a valued and integral part of this acceleration of work in that would be carried out by UN agencies and Government designated agencies.
- And, whether we could receive funding for our NFAs and GWI headquarters to work in partnership with UN agencies and government focal points
- We believed that both possibilities were a high probability
- After the Town Hall meeting we asked you our NFAs to select a representative for your NFA to serve on the Steering Committee

Brief Background

- You sent us the names of your representatives and We have had 47 people serving on the Steering Committee
- Steering Committee members along with the GWI Board members have been working diligently since October 2021
- We have six groups of Steering Committee members representing GWI regions.
- Today's meeting is for GWI's Africa Group.
- The Steering Committee has now completed Phase I of its work. There are four Phases to this Organizational Development process.

Purpose of Today's Meeting

- To remind you that GWI has undertaken this process on your behalf
- To report back to NFA leadership on activities undertaken during this Phase of work – reporting back being a central part of all Organizational Development processes.
- To present the research on the implementation of SDG 4 in each of the ten African Countries that Steering Committee members have worked hard to complete, on time.
- Based on this research to begin a discussion with you how your NFA can contribute the skills, competencies and experiences towards the worldwide acceleration of SDG4.
- And, based on our collective progress so far, whether your NFA commits to moving ahead in this process.

Phase I Work

- In order to reach our goal for GWI Headquarters and NFAs to become a valuable and integral part of global SDG implementation, we need to understand the current state of implementation in our NFA countries.
- Steering Committee members researched the following:
 - Which UN agencies were working on SDG implementation in each of our NFA countries OR where there were no UN agencies which Government designated agency was responsible for SDG implementation
 - What are the current areas of focus or priority
 - What the goals for these priority areas
 - In completing these goals what are the current capacity (additional help) needs of UN agencies and government focal points
 - Based on these identified needs, a preliminary quick assessment of which of these needs their respective NFA could respond to

General Comment and Analysis

- None of the researched countries are on track to accomplish the SDGs by 2030.
- The research shows that in these countries, the accomplishment of SDG 4 must be preceded by addressing primary human development issues that impact inclusive, quality and equal education. These issues are provision of adequate Basic Social Services, Improving Personal Protection, Building Community Resilience, Creating Peace and Cohesive Communities and Inclusive Economic Growth.
- Interestingly enough, a cross-cutting analysis of all ten countries has yielded the need for additional help (capacity) in these six areas:
 - 1) Awareness- Building about the SDGs
 - 2) Outreach to hard – to – reach populations
 - 3) Community Dialogue to disseminate information, discuss issues and empower community residents to become change agents, *etc.*
 - 4) Training and Support to conduct UN – designed workshops on Primary Care, Importance of Education, Human Rights, training teachers and students in online learning, upgrading curricula, mentoring students and parents, participation in democratic processes, conflict resolution mechanisms, women’s entrepreneurship and careers for youth, *etc.*
 - 5) Help in developing multi- sectoral policies so that there is policy coherence
 - 6) Collection of good data

Together these activities comprise the localization of SDGs which has repeatedly been identified as a vitally important factor in the accomplishment of SDGs.

We believe that GWI’s graduate women (given their skills and competencies) are more than capable of responding to these capacity needs with support and training from GWI headquarters

UN Capacity Needs

Localization
of the SDGs

Awareness
– building

Data

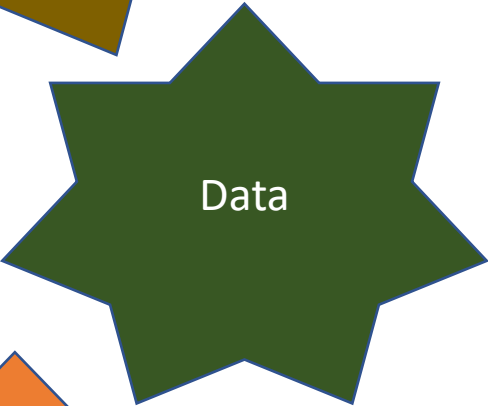
SDG 4
SDGs are
Indivisible &
require a
multi-
sectoral
approach

Outreach

Policy
Revision/
Development

Training and
support

Culturally
Sensitive
Community
Dialogue



SDG 4- Inclusive, Equal and Quality Education for All

Improve Primary Medical Care, Sexual and Reproductive Health, Nutrition, WASH, Family Planning, New- Born Health,

Basic Social Services

Network of community-based services, government – sponsored that protect women, youth and children, including refugees in all settings

Improved Protective systems and services

Multi- Sectoral approach to community development that strengthens communities and helps them create the sustained ability to withstand, adapt to, and recover from adversity.

Building Community Resilience

Reduction of violence, armed conflicts and improvement of personal security,

Guarantee of rights (economic, social, cultural)

Development of civil society monitoring capacities.

Peaceful and cohesive society

inclusive economic growth driven by agricultural transformation, economic diversification open to innovations and the promotion of youth and women's entrepreneurship

Inclusive Economic Growth

Capacity Needs for Basic Social Services

1. Primary Medical Care, 2. Sexual and Reproductive Health, 3. Nutrition, 4. WASH, 5. Family Planning, 6. New-Born Health, 7. Housing, 8. Social Safety Nets consequential to Disasters, Pandemics, Climate Change

- Outreach to vulnerable populations to inform them about the availability of services and how to access them
- Awareness – Building about social systems and services and how to navigate them
- Conducting UN – designed Community Workshops on the significance of Healthcare, Nutrition, WASH, Family Planning and New – Born Health in building strong families
- Community –based Support for and Mentoring for women and girls
- Collect data on population to ensure that all vulnerable populations receive basic social services.

Capacity Needs for Improved Protective Systems and Services

Network of community-based services, government – sponsored that protect women, youth and children, including refugees in all settings

- Create awareness of community –based services available to women, girls, youth and refugees that will protect them from prejudice and harm

- **Conduct dialogue at community and household level on practices that will prevent GBV, sexual violence, teenage pregnancy, child marriage, vulnerable children, child trafficking, child labor, and juvenile justice and prejudice**

- Create awareness of justice system and how to navigate the system – liaise between victims of violence and community services and the justice system to facilitate good outcomes for victims

Increase Advocacy for UN Agreements and Conventions ratified by country government, including those relating to violence against women and children.

Capacity Needs for Building Community Resilience

Multi- Sectoral approach to community development that strengthens communities and helps them create the sustained ability to withstand, adapt to, and recover from adversity.

**Create awareness about the SDGs and how they relate to communities
Teach and empower community members to become change agents in the implementation of SDGs**

- **Create awareness and share information on human rights and the urgency for citizen engagement in decision making processes.**
- **Conduct community dialogue of how critically important decisions can be shaped and how communities coalesce around good decisions in their own enlightened self interest.**

- **Within communities promote the importance of Education and Training – decent work, Literacy and Numeracy, Technical Training, and Early Childhood learning.**
- **Help develop content and curricula**
- **Train teachers in content and pedagogical skills,**
- **Support teachers in online teaching and students in online learning**
- **Develop Integration of Global Citizenship in education curriculum**
- **Collect data to identify children and adults who are being left behind**

- **Help create and teach plan to take action to mitigate the risks from environmental, climate change and natural disasters to. increase the pace of recovery from destructive events, and adapt to changing environments**

Capacity Needs for Peace and Cohesive Societies

Reduction of violence, armed conflicts and improvement of personal security,

Guarantee of rights (economic, social, cultural)

Development of civil society monitoring capacities.

- Create awareness of human rights and democratic solutions-empowerment of local populations
- Teach communities how to participate in democratic processes
- Help develop institutional frameworks and policies for peace, citizen's voices and participation for social cohesion
- At community level promote UN conflict resolution mechanisms.
- Replicate UN –designed workshops on conflict resolution
- Create local platforms for peaceful dialogue.
- Strengthen civil society organizations to pre-emptively manage crisis situations at community levels
- Develop early warning systems to alert communities to potential for conflicts
- Expand public awareness of the indispensable role of women in peace security

Promote positive traditional and cultural values as vectors of change in the behavior of populations in areas highly affected by conflict and gender-based violence as well as the marginalization of certain communities

Capacity Needs for Inclusive Economic Growth

Inclusive economic growth driven by agricultural transformation, economic diversification open to innovations and the promotion of youth and women's entrepreneurship

- **Promote awareness of agricultural development and the UN's efforts to develop policies and structures that will benefit Youth and Women.**
 - **Create awareness of UN's efforts to create financially beneficial relationships between small agricultural producers and private sector operators**
 - **Disseminate information and access to information and decision-making opportunities (particularly to women) on land tenure, knowledge of improved agricultural practices.**
 - **Conduct community dialogues on climate change mitigation, preservation of biodiversity, limiting environmental degradation, and agricultural transformation that preserves the land and its resources**
 - **Advocate for UN-supported employment policies and a regulatory environment conducive to economic recovery and decent work. Review policies for necessary changes**
- Conduct UN – designed workshops on entrepreneurship for women and Youth, career discussions, vocational skills development and business innovation and general job preparedness based on country's macroeconomic plans**

Next Step in OD Process

For GWI Headquarters:

- Envisioning an organization that produce a different type of work and will work in closer proximity with its NFAs than ever before
- Understanding how organizational prerequisites for the work ahead
- Understanding the responsibility of closely partnering with UN and global decision-makers and global funders – change in stakeholders

For NFAs:

- Discussing internally how NFA can make a sustained commitment to working with UN agencies and global decision-makers
- Understanding responsibility for deliverables that are funded by global funders
- Understanding responsibility for evolving relationship, communications and contact with GWI