



Graduate Women International

Empowering women & girls through lifelong education

## GWI UPDATE – 22 June 2022



Click [HERE](#) to access the social media campaign for World Day Against Child Labour 2022

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### — Graduate Women International (GWI) News —

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#### **GWI marks three Days of Observance**

In the past few weeks, the world witnessed three important Days of Observance, World Day Against Child Labour on 12 June, International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict on 19 June and World Refugee Day on 20 June. While the days have passed, it is important to continue to raise awareness about the critical barriers to girls' education throughout the year. It should be remembered, for example, that today 1 out of every 10 children are involved in child labour. Furthermore, an estimated 1 in 3 children in child labour are out of school. Children are especially vulnerable to injuries in their early developmental years and around 22,000 child laborers are killed at work each year. Specially to mark World Day Against Child Labour, GWI issued a press release on the importance of social protection systems to prevent child labour. **GWI invites you to access the press release [HERE](#).**

Likewise, societies must remember the struggles of women and girls in conflict zones that extend beyond International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict. This includes the fact that currently there are 39 million girls around the world that are out of school because of conflict. On top of these numbers, 97% of survivors reporting conflict-related sexual violence since 2021 are women and girls.

The world must also remember that beyond World Refugee Day, there remain 79.5 million people who have been displaced, half of which are women and girls. Moreover, only about 25% of refugee girls attend secondary school. So, as time moves on and the recent Days of Observance become more distant, it is important to remember that these issues are more than just titles for significant days of the year, they are factual issues that real women and girls are facing around the globe. It is never too late to be an advocate. **To share the GWI social media posts for these recent Days of Observance,**

click [HERE](#). Follow GWI on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#) for more posts on the Days of Observance.

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## — GWI Member News —

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### **Menstrual Hygiene Day 2022 celebration event sees great turn out!**

On Menstrual Hygiene Day, 28 May 2022, GWI and Indian Federation of University Women's Association (IFUWA) co-hosted an impactful webinar event with Vatsalya Foundation on "Changing scene of Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) in developing countries: Efforts and Experiences". The webinar featured subject matter experts and showcased lived experiences and life changing stories that improved the health, independence, and emotional strength of women. Removing the stigma around menstruation and providing women and girls with access to the necessary MHM products were highlighted topics of discussion. There were nearly 1600 attendees at the event! **GWI congratulates IFUWA on such a great turn out!** Specially to mark Menstrual Hygiene Day, GWI created an infographic. **GWI invites you to access the infographic [HERE](#).**

### **GWI Young Member Network (YMN) President's Letter**

"May was a super busy month with our dedicated efforts for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Workshop. Congratulations to those of you who were working towards becoming a Certified GWI SDGs Ambassador. Your Certificate of Completion is on the way! Hurray!!!", says GWI YMN President, Sudha Strivastava. **Click [HERE](#) to read her full letter and to learn more about upcoming events, awards and more!**

### **Ghana Association of University Women (GAUW) hosts an inspirational event**

On 1 June 2022, Mrs. Mildred Asmah, Interim President of GAUW, hosted an exceptionally inspirational webinar event on "Women empowerment through transformational leadership". The webinar featured expert guest speakers Professor K.T. Ouduro from the University of Cape Coast, Dr. Ernestina Novieto from the University of Ghana and Dr. Renee A. S. Morhe Kwame Nkrumah from the University of Science and Technology. The guest speakers shared their knowledge on how leading innovation and change can be used as a tool for women's empowerment as well as team building and emotional intelligence. **GWI congratulates GAUW on this informative event!**

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## — GWI at the United Nations —

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### **GWI submits Human Rights Council 50<sup>th</sup> session statement on MHM to achieve the SDGs**

The 50th session of the Human Rights Council is currently taking place at the United Nations Geneva from 13 June to 08 July 2022. As an NGO in special consultative status to the UN, GWI has submitted a new written statement to HRC50 titled "Addressing Menstrual Hygiene Insecurity (MHI) as a preventable barrier to women and girls' education worldwide and the importance of Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) for the achievement of SDGs". **Click [HERE](#) to read this important statement with recommendations to the 50<sup>th</sup> Council to improve MHM for women worldwide.**

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## —Give the gift of education —

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### **Teachers for Rural Futures (TFRF) Programme Update Report**

Give the gift of education to young women by contributing to our TFRF Programme, which directly supports young women from rural Uganda to obtain their teaching degree. This GWI programme aims, no matter the challenges, to increase the number of female teachers in rural Uganda. These new teachers will be mentors and positive influencers for school-aged girls to remain in school. GWI recently published a programme update report on GlobalGiving titled “Teacher’s Student Practice Made Possible by Donors”. **To read the full report [click HERE](#).** To contribute to GWI’s work towards safe access to quality education and to raise awareness about the gender barriers in education post COVID-19 please [click HERE](#).

**Teacher's Student Practice Made Possible by Donors**  
By Stacy Dry Lara & Alexa Grace - GWI Executive Director & Programme Officer



*TFRF programme young women beneficiaries*

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## — Did you know? —

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Did you know that GWI maintains special relations with UNESCO? Since its founding, UNESCO has sought to collaborate with nongovernmental organisations (NGOs), which are fundamental civil society partners for the implementation of the Organisation’s activities and programmes. Over the years, UNESCO has built up a valuable network of cooperation with NGOs having an expertise in its fields of competence, i.e., education, science, social and human sciences, culture, communication and information. Currently, UNESCO is enjoying official partnerships with 401 NGOs and 33 foundations and similar institutions. GWI is one of UNESCO’s official partners.

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## —Dates and events worth noting —

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13 June-8 July	50 <sup>th</sup> session Human Rights Council, Geneva
15 July	Youth Skills Day, Global
30 July	International Day for the Elimination of Trafficking in Persons, Global
31 July	Pan-African Women’s Day, Global
9 August	International Day of Indigenous Peoples, Global
20-23 August	100th Anniversary Jubilee - Graduate Women's Association, Austria, GWI members

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## 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 since 1947 and is an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO and ILO.

### **Graduate Women International**

7-9, Chemin de Balxert, CH-1291, Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland  
E-mail: [gwi@graduatewomen.org](mailto:gwi@graduatewomen.org) Website: [www.graduatewomen.org](http://www.graduatewomen.org)

