To celebrate the 2023 International Day of the Girl, GWI asked students from its Teachers For Rural Futures programme, “What does the International Day of the Girl mean to you?” Their meaningful insights add to the Day’s celebrations.

Teachers for Rural Futures Student Teacher Insights

“The International Day of the Girl ensures that every girl has equal opportunities to thrive and fulfil her potential regardless of her background or circumstance. It is crucial that we continue promoting policies and programmes that support girl’s education, that is how we can build a more equitable and inclusive world for future generations.”

“Education is important for girls as it promotes gender equality by challenging harmful gender norms and discriminatory practices, amplifying girls’ voices and ensure that their perspectives are heard and valued.”

“By investing in girls’ rights, we are investing in the potential of half of the world’s population. This day serves as a reminder of the ongoing work needed to break down barriers, challenge stereotypes, and create a world where every girl can achieve her full potential.”

“The day puts forth the need to address the challenges that girls face and promote girl child empowerment. More effort should be doubled in investing in quality education for girls, strengthening legal frameworks to protect their rights, providing access to healthcare and reproductive services, and fostering an environment where girls can freely express themselves.”

“According to me, International Day of Girl Child is a celebration that reminds girls world wide of the abilities and powers that they possess and the protection they deserve in all corners of life.”

GWI Teachers for Rural Futures Programme

The GWI Teachers for Rural Futures programme, created in 2015, is increasing access to and completion of quality secondary education for girls in rural Northern and Eastern Uganda through teacher training and development at Makerere University in Kampala. The project is increasing the number of local female role models and mentors for younger girls making it more likely they will remain in school.