

Voices of Hope



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FAWE at a Glance

FAWE and GIZ Signs an Agreement

GIZ and FAWE have entered into an agreement for the German Backup Initiative - Education in Africa project. The project is co-financed by NORAD, INTEL Foundation to support FAWE's 9th General Assembly to be held this August in Nairobi. The General Assembly will provide the platform for FAWE to:

- Celebrate its milestones and identify opportunities to strengthen FAWE's engagement in the promotion of girls and women's education in Africa for 2015 and beyond;
- Provide a forum for inter-generational discussion, and layout strategies for handing over the leadership of FAWE to the youth;
- Review FAWE's operational structure and establish partnership strategies in the context of the new Strategic Plan (2013-2017) to ensure FAWE's sustainability;
- Disseminate research on FAWE's perspectives on gender dynamics in education; and
- Showcase one of their key success interventions that has encouraged the participation and the excellent performance of girls in science & technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects.

FAWE Meets the Rwanda Minister for Education



From left: Ms. Roman Degefa, FAWE Ethiopia National Coordinator, Ms. Eugenie Mukanohelie FAWE Rwanda National Coordinator, Rwanda Minister for Education, Hon. My Vincent Biruta and FAWE Board Chair Ms. Aicha Bah Diallo

FAWE Board Chair Ms. Aicha Bah Diallo held a meeting the Rwanda Minister for Education, Hon. My Vincent Biruta in May, 2014. The Minister reiterated his continuous support for FAWE's initiative to educate girls in Rwanda and promised to do this both during his official term in government office and beyond. "I resonate with FAWE's mission not just because I am a father but because FAWE has proven over time to be extremely valuable in supporting the government's education agenda in Rwanda," he added.

FAWE and MCF in Vancouver



The MCF scholars dramatize their experience in joining the program

The Regional Coordinator of The MasterCard Foundation (MCF) Scholars Program at FAWE, Chilade-Waria attended the 2014 Scholars Convening Meeting at the University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver this May. The MCF Scholars Convening brought together fully funded academically talented youth from Sub-Saharan Africa to explore what it means "to give back" and go back to Africa upon

completion of their studies.

The Convening offered an important opportunity for developing student leadership, developing professional understanding and creating high-value relationships among The MasterCard Foundation Scholars, the MasterCard Foundation, and MasterCard Foundation Institutions such as UBC and FAWE. Under the theme *Transformative Leadership*, a core value that continues to shape the program, the Scholars and the partner institutions participated in vibrant, passionate and informative discourse and sought ways to be nurtured effective change-makers in their communities as they move forward in their studies and out into the world.

FAWE Chair visits Rwanda

FAWE Regional Secretariate Board Chair (left) Ms Aicha Bah Diallo visited the FAWE Rwanda chapter.

The team discussed development issues at the RS office and the Rwanda Chapter. With her are the M&E Program Officer, Paul Kagumba, and National Coordinator, Eugenie Mukanohelie. The team agreed to strengthen the relationship between the regional secretariat and national chapters.



FAWE staff Interviewed on CCTV

Martha Muhwezi, Senior Programme Officer was live on CCTV News during the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict held in ExCel, London on 10 -13 June 2014. She talked about gender based violence in relation to Sexual Violence in War Summit which commanded a lot of social media attention.

Foreign Secretary, Mr William Hague co-chaired the summit with Angelina Jolie, Special Envoy for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. The Summit brought together over 100 countries and over 900 experts, NGOs, conflict survivors, faith leaders, and international organisations that share a commitment to end sexual violence in conflict areas. Martha emphasised the need to protect survivors of sexual crimes and improve in the way such cases are handled to avoid shaming them.

“Most of these victims never get justice and the manner in which the media reports the issues is also of great concern as it might have a great negative impact on the victims,” She added.

The summit aimed to: shatter the culture of impunity, take practical steps, support survivors, and produce a seismic shift in attitudes. This is because the numbers of the victims around the world is alarming; 150 million women and girls and 70 million men and boys are raped during conflict in the world annually.

FAWE proposes staff exchange programme

FAWE proposes staff exchange programme across five different African countries (South Sudan, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia and Uganda). The programme will focus on skills sharing and capacity development in programming, resource mobilization and management, gender mainstreaming, advocacy and policy analysis, as well as financial management within the participating countries. The program will promote regional integration and enable a greater understanding on common gender concerns in the African context. FAWE Regional Secretariat will coordinate the program by identifying the capacity gaps, available resources, and deployment of the required skills within the partner countries. The exchange programme will involve actual staff exchange and job-

swaps to aid tapping of relevant skills and expertise of the identified organizations. The staff will be provided with an opportunity to undertake another organization’s activities and job context. Such programs will be used to facilitate expertise and knowledge exchange, whereby individuals with different capabilities and skills will share these with others. This program will enhance societal attitudes, skills, knowledge, and innovative skills, which will be useful for FAWE’s organizational and national growth, development and conflict resolution.