WHY THE GLOBAL GIRLS’ SUMMIT?

FRAGILE ACHIEVEMENTS, BUT A CERTAIN AWARENESS

Girls and young women around the world continue to face multiple challenges of exclusion, discrimination and violence, accentuated by harmful socio-cultural practices, beliefs, behaviors and norms, despite their fundamental contributions being recognized.

The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the vulnerability of girls and weakened their achievements. The pandemic has generated a deep crisis at all levels, economically weakening the layers of society and reinforcing gender inequalities.

GIRLS AND YOUNG PEOPLE COMMITTED TO EQUALITY

The transformation of systems and instruments that legitimize gender inequalities is more than ever a challenge for sustainable and inclusive development.

In this context, girls and young people have demonstrated everywhere that they know how to create and seize opportunities and that they are agents of change and a solution for Equality.

More than ever, it is important to recognize their perspectives, to value and connect their contributions for appropriate political, social and economic responses that bring about lasting change.

A MULTI-ACTOR AND GENERATIONAL DIALOGUE TO CONSOLIDATE COMMITMENTS

The 2021 Global Girls’ Summit is in line with the Generation Equality Summit, but this time with a specific focus on girls. Through this summit, the aim is to offer high-level collective expression spaces with and for girls where their voices can be heard to bring about root changes in society.
THE SUMMIT’S AXES

اقل: GIRLS AND YOUTH FROM AFRICA AND THE WORLD: SOLUTIONS FOR EQUALITY!

The summit will create forums for discussion and sharing on the perspectives of young girls from Africa and around the world in their daily struggle for equality. It will make it possible to demonstrate the contribution of young people in the promotion of equality and will identify the levers for scaling up all these social innovations initiated in various ways.

OBJECTIVES

- PROMOTE EXCHANGES BETWEEN GIRLS
  from Africa and around the world on issues that affect their lives and their engagement in a safe and secure space on the topic of gender equality

- ENGAGE POLICY
  makers to strengthen their action for gender equality worldwide, more particularly in Africa, through the implementation of inclusive and concrete actions of profound changes in the political, economic and cultural spheres.

- STRENGTHEN THE COMMITMENT OF STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS
  for the promotion of equality for girls in all areas of professional, economic, social and political life.
**GIRLS IN A VIRTUAL WORLD**

It will be about exploring the opportunities and risks associated with the virtual and connected space, which is becoming essential in the lives of girls and young people around the world. Global Girls Report 2021 will be the starting point for dialogue with girls about their lives online.

**PARIS, AND AFTER?**

To create a framework for exchanges around the commitments made by States and Civil Society Organizations during the Generation Equality Forum organized in Paris from June 30 to July 2, 2021. The summit will therefore be a space for dialogue with decision-makers to discuss in depth the Paris commitments, more specifically on the concerns of girls and the protection of children, and to launch a call for the acceleration of actions for changes for gender equality.

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**THE SUMMIT’S PRINCIPLES**

- The pillars of the ‘Girls Get Equal campaign’: power, freedom and representation. The summit will be based on the three demands of the Girls Get Equal campaign with a view to strengthening the achievements and soliciting new demands;

- Girls and young people are at the heart of the design and animation of the event. The summit will focus on the creation of content by young people to influence decision-makers. A call for content will be launched in order to collect the best proposals for the organization of the summit;

- The diversity of participants and speakers: all continents will be represented, as well as all categories of girls and women of all ages, from rural and urban areas around the world, disabled or not. Emphasis will be placed on the diversity of stakeholders from Togo, who will come from all regions, all environments (rural or urban) with varying levels of education and social rank;

- The promotion of multi-stakeholder, intergenerational dialogue and exchanges with African & international decision-makers on major themes that concern girls in favor of equality;

- The commitment of African decision-makers for more investments and new actions to unleash the power and leadership of girls will be sought.
WHERE & WHEN?

The Summit is scheduled for **October 21 and 22, 2021**, and the event will be both virtual and face-to-face from Lomé (Togo).

PARTICIPANTS

The participants will be mainly young people, especially girls, about fifty and their chaperone from the countries of Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas. Also expected are: leaders, influencers, political and traditional decisions makers at national, regional and international level as well as the media, for a total of about 100 participants.

Arrangements will be made according to the official recommendations in force upstream for the setting of the event adapted for the physical distancing required. With regard to the arrival of international participants in Togo, official measures, including the presentation of covid-19 test results and any other regulatory provisions, will be respected as well as Plan International travel restriction guidelines.

PARTNERS

To succeed in this ambitious bet, the event will be placed under the high patronage of the African Union and/or ECOWAS and under the presidency of the Republic of Togo, subject to formal confirmation of the respective institutions.

The Summit will be organized in symbiosis with young committed leaders and their organizations and movements at the international, regional and Togolese levels.

Given the scale of the event, special support is requested from state institutions, private institutions, civil society organizations, etc. to accompany this unique experience.
OUR COMMITMENTS

GENDER EQUALITY AND INCLUSION

At Plan International, we fight gender-based discrimination and human rights violations, including gender-based violence and other forms of exclusion. We also fight against stereotypes and unequal power relations between women, men, boys and girls to promote gender equality, girls' rights and inclusion.

We foster an organizational culture that embraces and illustrates our commitment to gender equality, girls' rights and inclusion, while helping our teams adopt good practices, a positive attitude, and the principles of gender equality and inclusion. We are also working to ensure that all partners and service providers who engage with Plan International adhere to this declaration and apply it.

FIGHTING COVID-19

In order to effectively fight against COVID-19, the summit will be organized in strict compliance with the barrier measures by: The control of compliance with the barrier measures including the systematic washing of hands with soap and water before access to the meeting room, during breaks and at the exit; regular use of hydroalcoholic gel; the mandatory and correct wearing of masks and the physical distancing of participants.
There are bibs for participants who do not have them. Similarly, a handwashing device will be available at the entrance of the rooms to ensure regular hand washing. Finally, hydroalcoholic gel will be available in the room for regular hand disinfection.

THE SAFEGUARDING OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

At Plan International, children and young people, particularly those who are excluded and vulnerable and girls, are at the heart of our interventions.
We are fully committed to safeguarding all children and young people from all forms of violence in a gender-sensitive manner. We take very seriously our responsibility and obligation to ensure that everyone, as an organization, and anyone representing us, cannot in any way harm, abuse or commit acts of violence against children or young people, or expose them to such risks. We take positive measures to prevent anyone who may pose a risk to children and youth from joining us and take severe measures against any employee, associate or visitor who commits an act of violence against a child or youth.
We ensure that everyone who works with us or engages with us understands their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and is supported in carrying them out.

For any concerns, please contact the following details

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