1. OUR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

In Country Work

The CSO consortium in Mozambique carried out a gender analysis of the education sector COVID-19 Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery Strategy (2020-2029) and COVID-19 Response Plan. A booklet was produced on best practices for initiatives to keep girls in schools in the context of COVID-19.

In Chad, an awareness campaign was launched by the CSO consortium at the Ministry of National Education and Civic Promotion (MENPC) in March.

GCI project inception workshops have taken place in Sierra Leone and Niger.

Launch of the Gender Equality in Education Snapshot (GES) Toolkit. It provides a unique and user-friendly way for education stakeholders to rapidly assess gender equality in and through education. The tool will be piloted by LEGs in GCI countries in 2022.

In-person GRESP workshop held in Dakar in September, bringing together 34 CSO representatives and young feminist activists from 11 French-speaking countries.

Training of Facilitators Workshop held in December on Gender Transformative Leadership. Trained facilitators to train staff from eight MoEs in 2022.

First ever literature review on social norms and girls’ education in the GCI countries published. A policy brief in English, French and Portuguese is forthcoming.

Implementation of “whole of school approach” to ending SRGBV in Sierra Leone with UNICEF Sierra Leone and ODI.

EiE GenKit piloted in IDP camps in Uganda and South Sudan with Plan International.

Research and publications

First ever technical note on girls’ education, empowerment and FGM launched by UNGEI and UNICEF.

Feminist youth-led statement of recommendations calling for gender transformative education to advance climate justice.

New research with Malala Fund and UNESCO, calling for gender transformative education to advance climate justice.

Launch of the 4UWHYHUJRQJ1HPLQW education zine by Transform Education.

New policy note summarizing the learnings from a Whole School Approach minimum standards pilot programme to prevent SRGBV in Zimbabwe.

Launch of a case study collection documenting lessons from programmatic approaches to the gender-related impacts of COVID-19 on education.

A practical, practitioner-developed action guide on gender in education in emergencies, the EiE-GenKit, developed by ECW, INEE and UNGEI.

Unique collaboration with Transform Education, independent gender experts, UNICEF and Plan International on new research.

Launch of the first ever young feminist education zine by Transform Education.

New policy note summarizing the learnings from a Whole School Approach minimum standards pilot programme to prevent SRGBV in Zimbabwe.

Advocacy, solidarity and knowledge sharing

UNGEI hosted or co-hosted 7 side events to the Global Education Summit, ensuring our most pressing priorities on gender equality and education were at the forefront of this important global platform.

UNGEI hosted a total of 16 webinars and events in 2021, on themes including social norms, girls’ education, SRGBV and gender transformative education.

UNGEI mobilized partners to develop a position statement on Afghanistan, calling for the protection of girls’ education and upholding human rights. The statement was endorsed by 15 organizations.

Closed-door advocacy to strengthen gender-responsiveness in responses to Haiti earthquake, Afghanistan and the implementation of GPE’s new operating model.
Secretariat function, branding and communications

Agreement of the UNGEI team to strive to be a feminist organization, with feminist principles that guide the way we work.

Strong progress in:
• achieving work-life balance
• better communication
• more empathetic work culture

Collaboration between consultants to develop a set of principles to ensure fair, transparent recruitment practices, in keeping with feminist principles.

New, anti-racist, guidelines around the use of imagery and photography in our external communications and social media.

New website and rebrand launched at the start of 2021. Exciting new partnership with feminist illustrator, Aurélia Durand, will launch new artwork in 2022. See below for a teaser of what’s to come!

Since the launch of the new website, ungei.org has seen 118,000 new users from around the world. The Knowledge Hub and Blog are the website’s most popular destinations.

Live streaming of events on social media led to our largest ever event on International Day of the Girl.

Successful piloting of ad campaigns via our social media channels has delivered strong audience re-sharing and engagement with our “Step Outside the Gender Box” campaign.

Young feminist mobilizing

UNGEI partnered with Gender at Work to launch Feminist School, an experiential and action-based programme for 26 young feminist participants from the partnership.

UNGEI implemented a new best practice to fund the connectivity, expertise and time of young feminist activists. Over 50 young feminists were supported to participate in speaking opportunities, working groups and consultations in 2021.

TransformEducation, a young feminist coalition hosted by UNGEI, secured their first funded partnership. In collaboration with Plan International, they launched a campaign “Education Shifts Power” which targeted the G7, GPE replenishment and COP 26.

Gender, education and disability

A two-part learning series on inclusive education for girls with disabilities, supporting dissemination of new research from Sightsavers, Humanity and Inclusion, and UNICEF, with a focus on the WCA region.

UNGEI, Leonard Cheshire, Sightsavers, VSO, Light for the World, and Commonwealth Children and Youth with Disability Network (CCYDN) launched an advocacy campaign, including in the lead up to the G7 and GPE summit. We launched an advocacy brief highlighting existing research and case studies, and created a video series to amplify the voices and experiences of youth activists and girls with disabilities.

2. WHAT WE ARE STILL WORKING TO ACHIEVE

Progress on supporting girls’ education and gender equality in education in Afghanistan.

Funding to continue our SRGBV portfolio and institutionalization of a permanent desk for gender equality in education in emergencies.

A comprehensive uptake and utilization of GRESP tools and methodology.
3. NEW PROGRAMMING ALERT!

Starting in 2022...

* First multi-country programme on addressing harmful gender norms in classrooms through play-based curricula.

* Young Feminist Fund! What do young feminist activists want? They told us and we listened. In 2022, we’ll be launching a fund to support regular operating costs of young feminist networks around the world who work for gender equality in education.

* Feminist School for education CSOs: Building gender capacity for on-the-ground education programmers so that their work becomes more gender-responsive.

* Phase 2 of social norms and girls’ education research in GCI countries. The research will explore the structural determinants and Niger. Seeking research partners in West and Central Africa!

* Co-authorship on reports on FCDO’s two targets on girls’ education (announced in 2021) (with Transform Education, UNESCO Institute for Statistics and the Global Education Monitoring Report).

* Multi-phase, multi-country research on gender, education and disability with Leonard Cheshire and World Bank IEI. A learner-focused survey will capture new data and evidence. Comprehensive (paid) consultation with youth activists with disabilities.

* Launch of e-course training materials on SRGBV and delivery of training to MoE staff in Mozambique, in partnership with IIEP.

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