

Empowering Women, Children & Youth

Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF) Fondation Sommet Mondial des Femmes (FSMF)



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WWSF - 2023 ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

Message from WWSF Founder & President, Maria Elfriede (Elly) Pradervand



In 2023, WWSF continued most of its annual empowerment programs for women's and children's rights while developing related "Leadership Training Forums for

women and youth: *leading from the heart to serve humanity"*. Adding a spiritual dimension to advance the realization of the UN Sustainable Development Goals - Agenda 2030 is a learning process about how we are going to end the ongoing dangerous wars, deal with climate change, reduce increasing poverty and Human Rights violations in many parts of the world.

We thank our Board members, sponsors, staff, consultants, interns and volunteers for their valuable support and commitment to WWSF during 2023.

WWSF Motto: "Always remembering that our actions make no sense if they do not change lives in communities and knowing that at the end, they are the real actors of change in their countries."

Below we share highlights of our 2023 activities.



2023 - 11 Activity Reports

 "WWSF Prize for women's creativity in rural life" with 10 Prizewinners honored on International Day of Rural Women - 15 October 2023



Below you find the profiles of the Prizewinners in 2023. You can read more about them on our website <u>www.woman.ch</u>. You also find our list of all names and countries of the **486** prizewinners honored to-date (1993- 2023).



Press Release - 1 October 2023 Presenting 10 Laureates receiving the annual WWSF-Prize for Women's Creativity in Rural Life



486 Prizes awarded to-date (1994-2023) - US\$ 1000 per prizewinner - honoring creativity, courage & compassion and help advance the quality of life in rural communities. Local Award celebrations are held on International Day of Rural Women - 15 October 2023 (see Poster attached p. 9)

Empowered rural women can change the world & help realize the UN Sustainable Development Goals - Agenda 2023





Meet the 10 prizewinners

Presentation of the first 5 Laureates receiving the 2023 WWSF-Prize for women's creativity in rural life



1) MADJALIA SEYNOU, 38, from Burkina Faso (now living in the USA)

AN EXCEPTIONAL AND HIGHLY CREATIVE CONTRIBUTION TOENDING RURAL POVERTY

The activities of FARM SAHEL, the organization created by MADJALIA SEYNOU, originally from Burkina Faso, focus on the end goals of improving food security and soil fertility, with an sed, participatory methods. The activities address climate change

and promote regenerative farming practices in Burkina-Faso. It aims at giving women farmers the tools that will enable them to both feed their families and sell produce to generate income, thus enabling them to send their children to school, hence increasing access to quality education, especially for girls. Madjalia has created 10 cooperatives, worked with 31 communities, and supported well over 1000 women in improving their farming and increasing their harvests by over 50%. Her work constitutes a tremendous contribution to ending rural poverty and empowering the poorest of the poor.

Her contributions impact the realization of various SDG targets.





2) ESTHER LUPAFYA, 65, Ekwendeni, MALAWI

A RELENTLESS CRUSADER FOR THE POOREST OF THE POOR

The achievements of Esther Lupafya are exceptional, and she has influenced in a very positive manner the lives of an estimated 20'000 poor farmers. She has helped them improve their farming techniques and hence boost soil productivity in an amazing manner, therefore greatly improving the production of food and the health of innumerable families. She has consistently supported greater gender equality in an extremely male dominated society.

A nurse by training, Esther was for many years head of the Maternal and Child Health unit at Ekwendeni hospital, a position that naturally enabled her to realize the importance of good nutrition on health, especially as many children were suffering from serious malnutrition. She is currently Executive Director of a non-profit she founded in 2017, the Soils, Food and Healthy Communities organization (SFHC). It is run by a board of local farmers experienced in agroecological farming methods. This NGO has helped hundreds of villages representing thousands of rural households improve their food security, nutrition, sustainable land management and gender equality. One especially exciting project of SFHC has been the

establishment of a community seed bank so that families have access to a wide range of indigenous and local varieties of seeds to improve dietary diversity and nutrition. She helps families improve soil fertility via compost production and agroforestry.

Above all, Esther has been relentless in ensuring that her work remains focused on the most vulnerable households of Malawi. As a very large percentage of the poor rural women are illiterate, she found a highly original way of overcoming this obstacle by teaching the women health promoting songs. To summarize, Esther Lupafya is a truly exceptional individual who has demonstrated outstanding courage, creativity and perseverance in rural life while making a profound and lasting impact on her community.

Her contribution impacts the realization of various SDG targets.





3) MABEL IFEOMA ONWUKA, 50, NIGERIA

<u>A PASSION FOR TEACHING NEW SKILLS</u> <u>TO RURAL WOMEN</u>

An Associate professor specialized in soil chemistry, University of Agriculture. UMUDIKE, Abia State, Ifeoma's passion for adding value to humanity made her volunteer to enhance the lives of rural women farmers and girls by training them in using waste organic materials, compost, and biochar (a soil condition) to improve soil nutrients and crop yields. She managed to translate complex

research results into simple practical terms that made meaning to mostly women farmers.

She of course spoke in the local Igbo language. She came up with a low-cost pyrolysis unit which she trained rural women to fabricate and use, not just for their farm but also for sale, to increase the very modest income of their families. To date, Mrs. Onwuka has never received any reward in recognition of her pioneering work. She not only trains the farmers but evaluates the results of their progress in adopting novel technologies. Mrs. Onwuka is very passionate about empowering and building the capacity of rural women and girls. Apart from the technical training on improving their agricultural techniques, she has also helped build their capacity in leadership skills, their rights as women & other important social issues.

Her contribution impacts the realization of various SDG targets.





4) ANNE BOUCARD, 54, FRANCE

<u>ENABLING THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO GET</u> <u>ACQUAINTED WITH AND BETTER</u> <u>UNDERSTAND THE ACTIVITY OF FARMERS</u>

Anne Boucard has many times been acknowledged as an exceptional farmer, in great part because she managed to harness internet to promote the cause of farmers. At a time when the immense challenges of the rural sector are little known and "Agri bashing" a favorite practice in some circles,

Anne Boucard has shown that a modern farmer is not a claustrophobic individual enclosed between his stables and his barns with a few fields forming the extent of his vision of the world, but can be a very active personality in their community.

Anne for instance played a key role in her community in the fight against cancer. She met her husband, François Boucard, a farmer in Bournois in the Doubs region of France. She impelled her husband to introduce improvements in the field of animal well-being with the introduction of automatic milking machines or soft technologies in animal prophylaxis, introducing for instance essential oils or the practice of energy treatments (e.g., Reiki).

She has had major responsibilities in the field of agriculture, and because of her numerous commitments in this field she was nominated a Knight of Agricultural Merit in 2018. Her ethics can be summarized in two words: generosity, solidarity. She has really enabled the spirit of solidarity to prosper in the field of agriculture.

Health reasons have forced her very recently to interrupt her activity as a farmer, but her legacy in the field of social communication will survive for a long time.

Her contribution impacts the realization of various SDG targets.





5) MARIA EVA SOTO, 59, ARGENTINA

A TIRELESS FIGHTER FOR THE INDIGENOUS RIGHTS OF HER NATIVE PEOPLE, THE AVA GUARANI, THEIR LANDS, THEIR CULTURE AND LANGUAGE

Born in a family of nine siblings, she had to fight to go to school (her parents fearing that schooling would make her loose her cultural identity), ending up with a degree in Guarani culture and linguistic revitalization. After the reform of the National Constitution 1994, the pre-existing indigenous organizations resumed their activities. Maria Eva

was active in getting the women together. However, the continuous violation of indigenous

rights and the non-compliance of the laws protecting them decided Maria Eva to get involved in the struggle for their lands, which they had never been able to recover since ... the Conquest centuries before!

With the support of ENDEPA, an institution accompanying the Guarani people, Maria became a leader in the recovering of the stolen lands. The state finally made the commitment to return 11'000 hectares.

Other fights in recovering land rights continued, and many other struggles were to follow, including the struggle for intercultural bilingual education which she undertook for many years with the collaboration of the young people.

Maria is also an active environmental defender, protector of the bush (KAA) and water. She participated in denouncing deforestation and the illegal logging of native forests and river pollution, a process in which she fearlessly confronted large companies. For her people the forests are not only sacred but also the source of precious medicinal plants. She is also active in encouraging the harvesting of rainwater and the installation of cisterns.

She collaborates actively with numerous women's groups. Maria Eva is also considered a spiritual leader in her community. Her key values are love, respect and solidarity, the fundamental values of the Guarani people. Her greatest achievements might well be in the transmission of this knowledge and the Guarani language. Her main dream is that, together with her Guarani sisters, they will be able to stand on their own two feet and gain access to decent living conditions with the education of their young people.

Her contribution impacts the realization of various SDG targets.





Meet 5 other Prizewinners below



We are pleased to present the <u>5 additional laureates in 2023</u>, selected and awarded in Tamilnadu, India, via a WWSF partnership arrangement with the JAI JAGAT Movement & CESCI (Centre for the Experience of Socio-Cultural Interaction) in Tamilnadu, India, to receive the

2023 Prize for Women's creativity in rural life.

Below you find photos of the 5 additional laureates at the Award ceremony in India (holding their Prize certificates) and surrounded by local village children.



In this photo, you see <u>Sivarani from Tamil Nadu</u> receiving her WWSF - "Women's Creativity in Rural Life Prize" (holding her certificate) Memento and cash prize. She is flanked by the President of CESCI, S.C. Behar and Gandhian leader, Rajneesh Kumar. The woman in the green sari on the left was the Co-Leader of Ekta Mahila March, Ms. Kasturi.





In this photo you see <u>Ashitha Ash from Kerala</u>, receiving her "Women's Creativity in Rural Life Prize" in company with the same people whose names are given above.

This is Lakshmi Unnikrishnan, an indigenous woman from Kerala receiving her "Women's Creativity in Rural Life Prize".





In this photo you will see <u>Bhagyalakshmi.</u> <u>fromTamil Nadu</u>, receiving her "Women's Creativity in Rural Life Prize" with the same people whose names are given above.

In this photo you will see <u>Sucila Pandian. from</u> <u>Tamil Nādu</u>, receiving her "Women's Creativity in Rural Life Prize" with the same people whose names are given above.









VOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED ON SUNDAY, 19TH FEBRUARY 2023 TO THE



MAJA KOENE AWARDS' 23

FOR OUSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL ACTION, JOURNALISM AND PEACE BUILDING

EMM/WWSF AWARDS' 23

FOR WOMEN CREATIVITY IN RURAL LIFE

3 to 6 PM – Award Function & Book Release 7 to 7:30 PM – Theater of Transformation by Rama Mani 7:30 to 9 PM – Theater Performance by Ekta Kala Manch

Address:

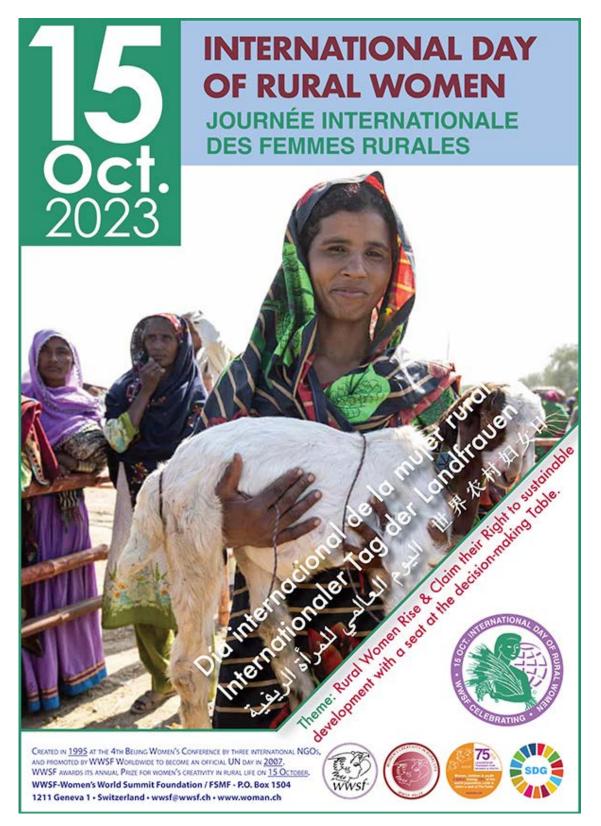
CESCI – Centre for Experiencing Socio Cultural Interaction Natham Road, Majagram, Kadavur, Chathirapatti Post, Madurai – 625 OI4, Tamilnadu, South India. Phone: (+ 00 91) 8525835218

WWSF will continue its annual Prize program in 2024 as life for women in rural communities in too many countries is still a major challenge when it comes to advancing their basic human right to land entitlements, clean drinking water, adequate nutrition, housing and basic education, access to credit and equality and leadership skills. *"If rural women do not co-lead with their elected leaders in their rural communities, they will remain beggars in the corridors of power forever".*

2) 15 October 2023 - International Day of Rural Women

(Created in 1995 at the Beijing 4th UN Women's Conference by WWSF & NGO Partners, was declared a UN Official Annual Day of Rural Women in 2007).

Our annual Campaign posters offer a reminder that the world community, including world leaders and Duty Bearers, need to support and empower rural women and youth in their capacity to mobilize their communities to end poverty and hunger and help achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals - Agenda 2030.





International

Rural Women's Day

International Day of Rural Women - 15 October

is an opportunity to showcasing women's efforts and results in pushing collectively for change, especially in communities where climate change is challenging their survival.

Objectives of the International Day of Rural Women - 15 October:

• **Mobilizing** relevant NGOs and grassroots women's groups and organizations, government networks and international institutions, as well as the media, to mark the Day by sharing transformative and courageous action by rural women. The FAO has recently developed partnership programs with local/national women's groups to ensure more success in ending poverty and hunger in rural areas.

• **Raising awareness** of rural women's participation in the development processes with a focus on their needs and rights, highlighting their contributions to sustainable development, household Food security, safeguarding traditional knowledge biodiversity, leadership & peace building.

• **Sensitizing the public** at large and lobbying governments on the crucial role rural women play in climate change management and prioritizing action for their support.

(cont.d)

• Encouraging local and national initiatives to create partnerships with the WWSF Prize program and the annual World Day 15 October to draw attention to the hardships of most rural women's lives around the world.



the

TALK

Agenda SDG 2030 3) 19 Days of Activism for the prevention of violence & abuse against children and youth 1-19 November 2023 (Kit available online)

WWSF updated the 2023 edition of the annual 19 Days Campaign Kit, including news, statistics and ideas for action. We also added **personal Messages to World Leaders and Prime Ministers**,

reminding them of their obligation to better protect children and youth from increasing abuse & violence against them in too many countries. A world fit for children and youth must become a priority. We thank all our partners for sending us their interesting activity reports, and using the poster to remind the world that children are children not criminals.



Days of activism for prevention of abuse and violence against children/youth Jours d'activisme pour la prévention des abus/violence envers enfants/jeunes Días de activismo para la prevencíon del abuso/violencia contra los niños/jóvenes Tage Aktivismus Prävention von Missbrauch/Gewalt gegen Kinder/Jugendliche



Kit Edition 2023

1-19 November

Activism Days Activism November

19 Days Activism Kit 1-19 November 2023 Prevention of Violence & Abuse against Children & Youth

The "WWSF Walk your Talk Campaign" is about accelerating action for the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals - UN Agenda 2030 -Target #16.2 - to urgently implement the promises made to the Children & Youth of the world.



woman.ch WWSF Children / Youth Section #EndViolence #19DaysWWSF

Why do these issues still exist today? Why, in this modern world, do we find ourselves still fighting for basic rights for children in 2023?

With the introduction of the 19 Days campaign, WWSF started a dynamic way to draw attention to increase not only civil society activities, but also to increase action by Governments. How can we hold our Leaders to account is the question we must ask ourselves today and begin to strategize new ways to influence progress.

We wish to thank our registered members and partners who sent us their activity reports, which are always a gift to read, and which we mentioned in our official annual WWSF Activity Report, submitted to the Swiss government, and published on our website. <u>www.woman.ch</u>

For 2023, we decided to give visibility to children from around the world reminding world leaders to "Walk their Talk" when it comes to implementing the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. (most signed-on UN Convention to-date).

The **annual Prevention Kit, 1-19 November,** provides 19 themes and ideas for action to use, craft powerful advocacy help realize the end of violence and abuse against children and youth.



Link to the 19 Days Kit:

https://www.woman.ch/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/2023_KIT_19_D_UPDATE_EP-FINAL_01.09_II.pdf

Link to the UN Convention:

https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-rights-child

UN Sustainable Development Goal Target # 16.2

"End abuse, exploitation, trafficking, and all forms of violence against and torture of children »

2023 registered 19 Days Campaign Partners (27 countries) who sent us brief reports of their annual activities

Afghanista	n	
	-	Peace Window Weekly
	-	Cooperation for Peace and Development (CPD)
Argentina		
-	-	Profesionales Latinoamericanos Contra El Abuso de Poder
Benin		
	-	ONG Women be Free
Canada		
	-	Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, Toronto
Cameroon		
	-	Global Unity of Greater Impact (G.U.F.G.I.)
	-	AGUI Foundation (AGFO)
	-	Inclusive Action for Peace and Development in Africa
	-	Organisation de jeunes qui luttent contre les vbg, la protection des enfants et les jeunes,
		et aussi l'environnement
	_	Youth and Child's Care Coalition
	_	Le Cavoah-CAM
	_	Centre D'ACCUEIL et de volontariat pour orphelins, abandonnes et handicapes du
		Cameroun « CAVOAH-cam
	_	Collectif des Femmes pour la protection de l'environnement et de l'Enfant (COFEPRE)
	-	
	-	Growing Together
	-	Avenir pour Tous asbl
	-	Inclusive Action. for Peace and Development in Africa
	-	Hope for All (AHFA)
	-	Hope for Children-H4C
Croatia		
_	-	Ombudsman for Children
France		
	-	ONG Samba Mwanas Libreville - Association (Bordeaux)
	-	ASU MONDE et le Collectif Festisol de Sevran, France - Congo
Gambia		
	-	Gambia Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women & Children
		(GAMCOTRAP)
Ghana		
	-	Defence for Children International
Greece		
	-	The Smile of the Child, Athens
India		
	-	UDISHA
	-	Navjyoti India Foundation
	-	People's Cultural Centre (PECUC) ODISHA
	-	Xondhan Foundation, Assam
	-	Open Learning Systems, India
	-	Bhagidari Jan Sahyog Samiti
	-	Creation of a Circle of compassion by an Academician
Iraq		
	-	UR Organization for woman and child cutler
Kenya		
-	-	Village of Hope Community Based organisation
Malawi		
	-	Youth Net and Counselling - YONECO

Mexico		
	-	Sistema para el Desarrollo de la Familia (SDIF) Amate y Cuidate, A.C. Tijuana
Mauritius		
	-	Halley Movement Coalition
Nepal		
	-	Children, Women in Social Service and Human Rights (CWISH)
	-	Action on Disability Rights and Development
Nigeria		
•	-	Haven Initiative, Ibadan
	-	HOSEC Foundation
	-	People Environment and Sustainability Foundation (PEAS FOUNDATION)
	_	Treasure Builder Foundation, Oyo State
	-	Child Protection Network, Oyo State
	_	Beau Haven Farms
	-	Clipeg Solutions
	-	Hope for Second Chance Foundation
		Child Advocacy Rehabilitation and Education, Mowe, Orgun State
	-	Purple Admiral Foundation for Community Development
	-	
	-	Justice Development and Peace
	-	Children Forum Network
	-	Soul House, Ibadan
	-	Civil Society Coalition, Nigeria
	-	Smiles Africa Intl. Youth Development Initiative Saiydi
	-	Humanitarian and Development Organization
Poland		
	-	Pro Drugie Foundation
Puerto Ricc)	
	-	Nuestra Escuela, INC.
	-	UNESCO Chair for Peace Education, University of Puerto Rico
RDC		
	-	Actions communautaires pour le droits de de la Femme (ACODEFEM)
	-	Coordination pour le Développement de la Femme Rurale, CODEFER
	-	Union for promotion (protection Human Rights & the Environment (UPDDHE/GL, Goma
	-	Organisation non gouvernementale - Ouvre pour les Amis chrétiens
Romania		
	-	International Federation of Educative Communities - FICE
	-	Scoala Gimnaziala Nr. 1 Dochia - Dorofteil Ecaterina
	-	Scoala Gimnaziala Gheorghe Bibescu - Balaci Maria
	-	Scoala Gimnaziala Alexandru Vlahuta - Nistor Laura
	-	Liceul Technologic Dumitru Dumitrescu Buftea
	-	MIHAI EMINESCU", Highschool, Barlad
Senegal		
	-	ONG ALPHADEV
	-	Éducation Santé en milieu rural, Dakar
Sierra Leon	e	
0.0	-	Girl Child Network
Uganda		
ogunuu	_	Amani Initiative
	-	
	-	United Youth of God Association (U-YOGA Uganda) Youth for Life Liganda
United Stat	-	Youth for Life Uganda
United Stat	.es (
	-	Child Advocacy Center of Rutherford County, Inc.
	-	Child Advocacy Center, Inc. Fayetteville
	-	Plitt County Coalition against human trafficking

Below, WWSF shares an excerpt from the 11th edition of the <u>FICE</u> -<u>Romania 2023 activity report on their organization</u> and <u>implementation of the 19 Days campaign for prevention of abuse and</u> <u>violence against children and youth.</u> (10 October to 19 November 2023)

"Their Agenda of events included topical themes such as:

- "Teachers, parents, and local authorities partners in the protection and promotion of children's rights"
- "Preventing and combating domestic violence a prerequisite for harmonious child development".

"19 days of activism. Prevention of abuse and violence against children and young people", Inter-institutional cooperation in solving cases of abuse, neglect, trafficking, migration and repatriation".

- "Prevention of juvenile delinquency.
- "Child abuse, neglect and exploitation, a legal approach from the perspective of the Romanian Police.
- "Conceptual clarifications on the prevention of child victimization.
- "National mechanism for the identification and referral of victims of trafficking in human being.
- "Code of good practice for social workers.
- "Perspectives on the system of social assistance services in local communities.
- "Independent living and community integration of young people in the special protection system and people with disabilities.

FICE Romania organized, in the Great Hall of the National Children's Palace in Bucharest, the event "International Day of Nonviolence in Schools".



Excerpt from the 2023 FICE report:

"Our fantastic children expressed their joy, hope and confidence in a violence-free school environment through themed artistic moments, so that the whole educational process can ensure their harmonious development. At the end, the children were awarded.

"The events were intended to be a key tool in contributing to the achievement of the **SDG Goal #16.2 by 2030**:

"End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against children, and addressed, through the materials presented, the direction of prevention of violence and abuse against children and young people, with impact in different spheres of society".

"The event was attended by specialists from the child protection system, education, health, police, public authorities, non-governmental organisations / psychologists, sociologists, social workers, police, journalists, representatives of local and central public authorities, etc."

"EXAMPLE OF GOOD PRACTICES

International Day for Tolerance in an 8th grade class

"Motto: "Tolerance is the art of being happy among people" - Pauline Vaillancour

This activity responds to children's need to develop skills in constructive approaches, negotiation, and conflict resolution.

We live in a world where rediscovering the idea of tolerance and respect is more necessary than ever. The children we educate, and raise will only be protected from violence if these concepts become aspirations for them.

The activity aims to familiarise students with the significance of 16 November, the International Day for Tolerance, which is marked annually to urge humanity to mutual understanding and respect, dialogue and cooperation between cultures, civilisations, and peoples, to discourage extremist attitudes dominated by violence and hatred.

It is also a day to remind humanity that intolerance breeds violence and to urge communities to live in peace and respect.

To prevent and raise awareness among students about the effects of violent behaviour in schools and to form a conscious and sustainable civic attitude towards this social phenomenon, so that they become better, more tolerant, and more responsible.

The aim of this activity was to promote a healthy concept of respect, cooperation, understanding, selfrespect and respect for others, respect for decisions, through the adoption of positive behaviours by the students of the class, which will allow them to reintegrate into society more easily. And the aim of this activity was to develop children's ability to tolerate each other regardless of religion, ethnicity, social and material position through activities that stimulate creativity, originality, socialization, and competition. To be tolerant is to be a pacifist."

"VALUES AND ATTITUDES PROMOTED

- Respect and trust in oneself and others
- Recognition of the uniqueness of each person
- Receptiveness to the emotions of others"

"ASSERTIVE COMMUNICATION

- concept = to communicate at a calm & firm pace one's wants & needs so as not to hurt the other.
- Teachers distributed post-it notes to children asking them to write down their needs in relation to their peers in a tree drawn on a school flipchart."

"EXPECTED RESULTS

Initiating students in the development and implementation of information, awareness, and prevention activities

- Improving the voluntary involvement of parents and the motivation of pupils in the fight against violence
- Decrease parents' tolerance of violence from pre-school to pre-adolescent age
- Raising children's awareness of appropriate behaviour in abusive situations
- defining and knowing the forms of violence that can occur among pupils
- Identifying the underlying causes of these behaviours
- Raising awareness of direct and indirect beneficiaries about bullying
- Awareness of the negative effects of psychoactive substance use
- Defining and understanding noti ons such as tolerance, responsibility, collaboration
- Developing the moral attitudes necessary for living together in the community
- Preventing all forms of violence for a harmonious and safe school environment
- Understanding the difference between bullying and violence."

"CONCLUSION

- Following the activities, it was possible to observe a major interest of children/young people to get involved in stopping violence and the use of prohibited substances.
- We believe that the objectives were achieved, as all the activities were interactive, aimed at developing key skills of critical thinking, problem solving, decision making, creativity, negotiation, empathy.
- The activities carried out contributed equally to the improvement and expansion of key **digital**, **social**, **and civic**, **as well as personal skills**.
- Therefore, the campaign proved to be a real help in shaping and shaping the educational profile of children/young people in Romania.
- All those involved showed empathy and a keen interest in helping victims of violence. They were committed to demonstrate a pro-active attitude, to report any violence they might witness and to support abused children.
- The children/young people showed great seriousness in their approach to this campaign and expressed their willingness to repeat such actions.
- As a result, we aim to carry out more anti-violence actions and to involve more and more pupils and teachers in future editions of the campaign. In this way we hope to contribute to the global campaign to end violence against children and young people by 2030."

"We are convinced that young children learn "power" from adults (making adults primarily and ultimately responsible for committing acts of violence) and we hope that meetings will be held every year to see the concrete results achieved.

"The year 2030 is an ambitious milestone on the road to reducing/eradicating violence against children and young people. Perhaps this milestone will be reached at the end of the decade (by remaining optimistic and joining forces), or perhaps it will be reached later. What is important, however, is that we work passionately for the benefit of tomorrow's generation and strive by our own example, to become a driving force for changing a destructive mentality."

President of FICE Romania, Prof. Toma Mareş National campaign coordinators, Prof. Manuela Stan Dr. Eugen Simio

4) WWSF - CALL TO ACTION

19 Nov. 2023

WORLD DAY Prevention of violence against children & youth - SDG Target # 16.2

In synergy with Universal Children's Day **Respect for Children's Rights**





Mitgefühls Orculos de Cont

Journée Mondiale prévention violence envers les enfants Journee Mondrale Prevention Violence enversies ema Día Mundial Preventión del violencia contra los Niños Welttag Vorbeugung von Gewalt an Kindern

- You are invited to use this poster to publish your activity and move others to join you. Share with us your plans and posters to help realize the UN SDG Target # 16.2: « End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children by 2030 »
- Endorsement from the late Revered Desmond Tutu, Archbishop Emeritus and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate "I support the World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse – 19 November. Tragically thousands of children are abused daily, often by those closest to them. I endorse this campaign enthusiastically and hope that many more will offer their support." (2005)
- · (UN stats) "1 in 10 children is sexually abused before the age of 18
- · In 2022 NCMEC's CyberTipline received more than 32 million reports of suspected child sexual exploitation
- Violence against children affects more than 1 billion children around the world & costs societies up to USS 7 trillion a year
- SDG Target 16.2 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is to "end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against, and torture of, children"
- Every five minutes, a child dies as a result of violence.
- · Only 14% of the world's children are legally protected from corporal punishment.

Women's World Summit Foundation / Fondation Sommet Mondial des Femmes - www.woman.ch

Create your Circle of compassion

https://www.woman.ch/19-days-of-activism-prevention-kit/training-workshops-creating-community-circles-of-compassion/

SUSTAINABLE

GOALS







It takes compassion to end violence against children & youth. The SDG Target # 16.2 needs our commitment!



Every year since 2000, WWSF calls on world leaders, organizations, and civil society actors, partners and friends around the world to mark the "<u>World Day</u> for Prevention of violence and abuse against children and youth – 19 <u>November</u> with messages and concrete actions to finally deliver "A WORLD FIT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH" and speed up urgent prevention and better protection of violence against children and youth around the world. When will governments hold Internet providers responsible for their online publishing of millions of harmful images of children being abused for sexual

WWSF invites its network and via social media alerts to use the campaign poster, add your name, logo and program of action on it, and increase civil society.

consumption and entertainment?

With every 5 minutes a child is dying as a result of violence around the world. We need to mobilize not only governments, but also all citizens – **including children and youth** – to commit to the full implementation of children's right to dignity, non-violence and protection of their innocence.

WWSF created and inaugurated this World Day in the year 2000 with endorsements from many dignitaries, including from former UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, Paulo Sergio Pinheiro, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Queen Rania of Jordan, Jean Zermatten and Prof. Yang-hee Lee, both former Chairs of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Marta Santos Pais, former Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on violence against children; Najat Maalla M'jid, former UN Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, to mention some of them.



5) WWSF Community Circles of Compassion

A strategy to create a world fit for children & youth

"Every 5 Minutes a child dies as a result of violence". Join the transformation and create change.

2023 Membership registrations:

- Scoala Gimnaziala nr. 1 Bragadiru, Romania
- Jam Jam Charity, South Africa
- Taia Development Program-TDP, Sierra Leone
- L'Atelier du Son Libre, Switzerland

Let's empower the world compassionately!

Participate in implementing the UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) **Target # 16.2 – Agenda 2030** "End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children".

WWSF proposes to families, diverse networks, clubs, and groups to consider creating **Community circles** of compassion to meet, discuss, learn and help implement strong prevention measures to end persistent violence and abuse against children and youth and increase the protection of their rights.

Guidelines on how to create a Circle of compassion:

- Invite your friends, family & partners; create a special circle center a space where you can put photos, flowers, candles, whatever your culture uses to celebrate a special time of relationships
- Introduce "What are community circles of compassion" with a brief explanation of the SDGs Agenda 2030, and the SDG Goal # 16 and its Target # 16.2
- Begin with a period of silent reflection
- One person speaks at a time use a talking peace if necessary
- Speak from the heart and from your own experience
- Listen for wisdom with compassion and with discernment instead of judgment
- Invite silence and reflection when needed, in you, and in the Circle
- Take responsibility for your experience and your impact on the Circle
- Make decisions, whenever possible, by consensus and write them down
- Encourage and welcome diverse points of view
- Agree to hold the tension, instead of rushing in to fix things
- Keep the confidence of Circle discussions; respect the trust relationship about what is shared
- · Feel free to add other guidelines should Circle members find it useful to do so
- Close with fixing the date for your next meeting

For more information and instructions, visit our website:

https://www.woman.ch/19-days-of-activism-prevention-kit/training-workshops-creating-community-circles-of-compassion/

Every Circle is autonomous in its function. The only request is (which is implicit when adopting the name **"WWSF Circle of Compassion"** to respect the guidelines, as well as the vision and objectives, which gave birth to them – <u>creating a world free of violence - leaving no one behind.</u>



WWSF 19 Days Campaign for the prevention of violence and abuse against Children & Youth <u>1-19 November 2023</u>

Join & share the 19 Days Campaign 1-19 Nov. 2023 - WWSF Children & Youth are waiting for change ! Let's walk the talk !

6) WWSF Social Media Alerts, presenting the daily 19 Campaign Themes

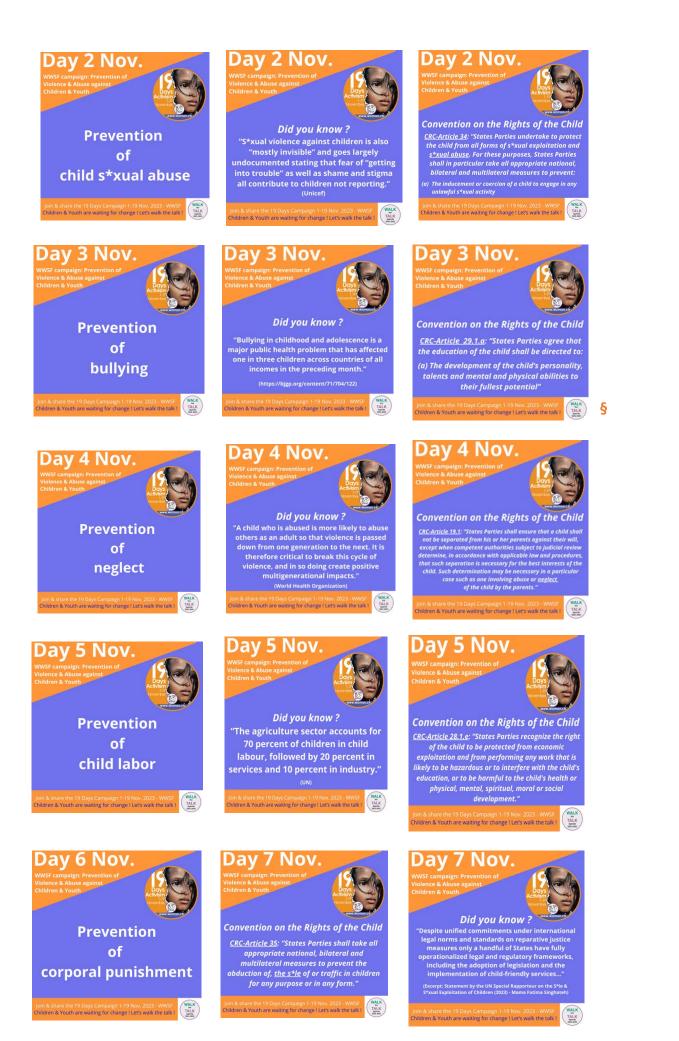
WWSF shares on LinkedIn, FB, Twitter & Instagram with the aim to increase outreach and draw urgent attention for urgent prevention measures of abuse and violence against children and youth still increasing in today's world.

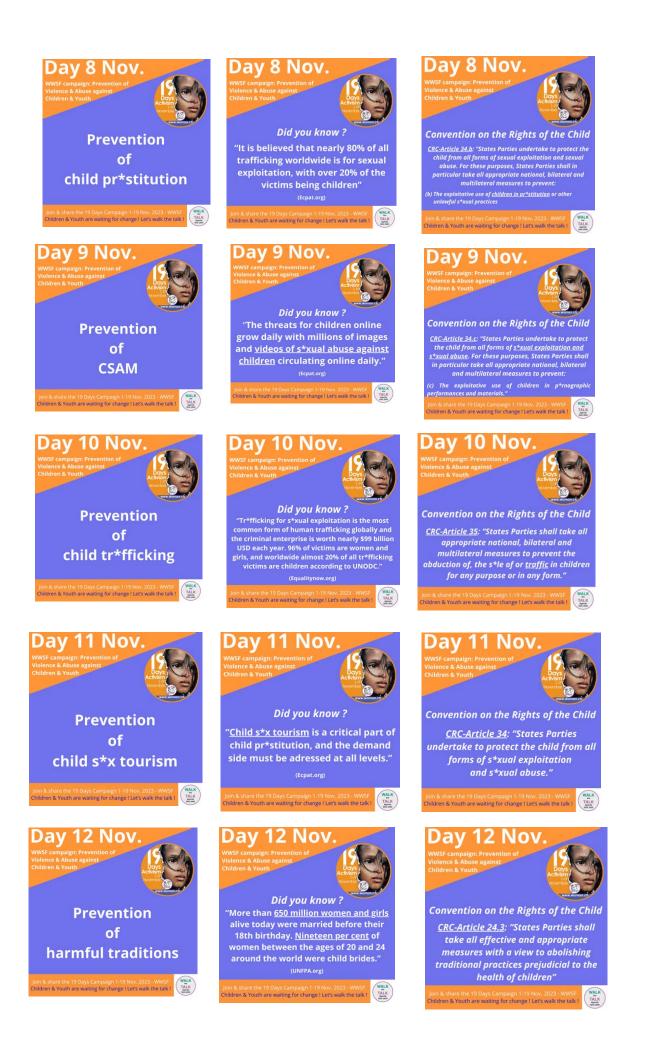
Some of our partners are creating their own social media outreach and use children to share the messages to adults and Duty bearers.

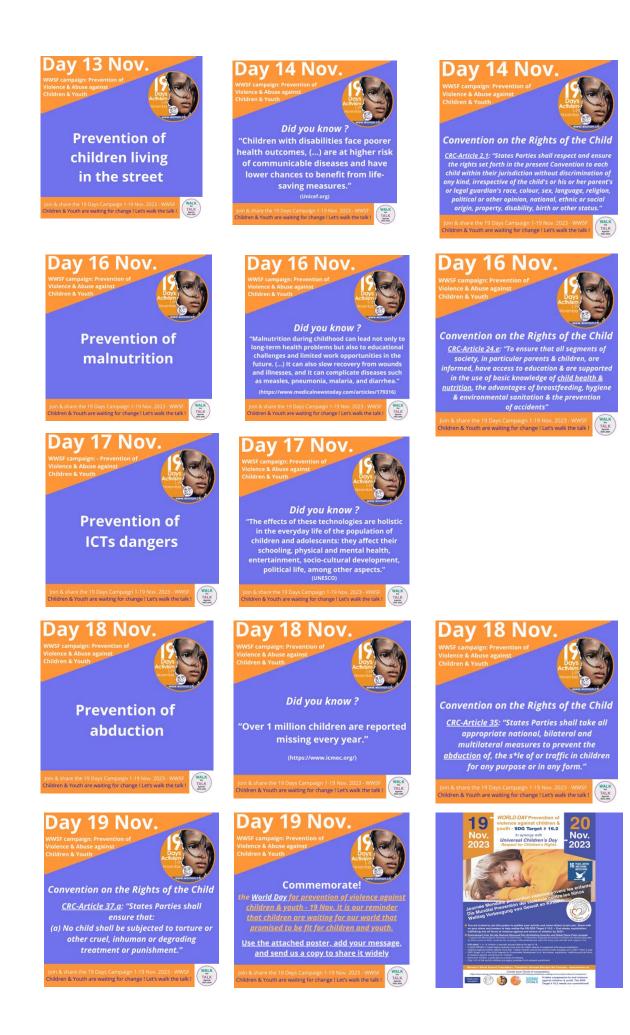
We thank all our partner organizations that participated that empower networks, NGOs and Duty Bearers for urgent action

Examples











7) White Ribbon - Swiss Campaign (Ruban Blanc)

Brief update: The Geneva Campaign committee has decided to put the program on hold till further notice regarding the creation of a "Geneva Women's Rights Center" has become functional.

Our website provides information to those who wish to follow-up on the campaign.



2022 Report: Swiss White Ribbon Campaign, a national movement for the Elimination of violence against women and youth by 2030.

During the pandemic our secretariat remained inactive due to declining participation of volunteers and national actors, and to restrictions of public interaction.





Kit d'outils 365 Jours d'Activisme pour l'élimination de la violence envers les femmes et les jeunes »

disponible en ligne sur notre site www.ruban-blanc.ch



8) Brief Update: <u>75%: Leadership Training</u> <u>for Women & Youth: leading from</u> <u>the heart ♥ to serve humanity.</u>

(still on the drawing board)

In 2023, WWSF continued

its research and studies and modified its 75% logo by adding a subtitle to frame our Training Forums with a context of our approach and ensure that women, children and youth have a voice in cocreating with elected leaders the future we want & the UN we need.



Women, children & youth 6 billion strong, 75% of the world population, unite & claim a seat at the decision-making Table

www.woman.ch

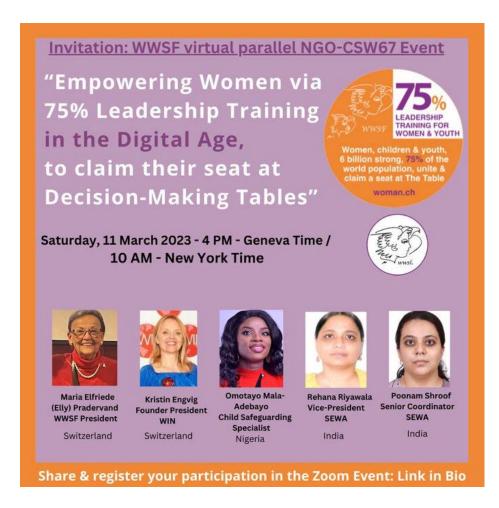
WWSF is focusing on collecting solutions for the most urgent problems facing humanity today, environmentally, physically, economically and spiritually, and promote *"how to lead from the heart*"

🚩 to serve humanity.

Did Albert Einstein not say "the problems that exist in the world today cannot be solved by the level of thinking that created them."

So we need to promote the level of heart energy to transcend our war cultures, create and invest on peacebuilding nations for a world that works for All. We will invite great visionaries who can guide us to transform our broken global leadership crises into a paradigm where change-making for the general Common Good becomes the norm.

In 2023, WWSF participated for the second time with the NGO-CSW-NY committee, that organizes the annual NGO-CSW Parallel Zoom events to bridge the gap between global civil society and grassroots organizations, and the official UN Commission on the Status of Women processes in New York every year. To follow our video-filmed presentation with our invited speakers, visit our **You Tube link :** <u>https://youtu.be/0 LqsIfENrA?si=Yt-I4dGZAPX7u1-j</u>



The official 2023 Commission on the Status of Women session (CSW67) annual event themes included:

- **Priority theme:** Innovation and technological change, and education **in the digital age** for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls
- **Review theme:** Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls

 CSW67 agreed conclusions : https://www.undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=E%2FCN.6%2F2023%2FL3

Representatives of Member States, UN entities, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) were invited to contribute to the conclusions of the sessions.

Thanks to the **NGO-CSW-NY Committee** NY, over 700 NGOs participated in sharing their work and ideas to achieve gender equality and the rights and empowerment of women and girls.

9) WWSF speaker at the Geneva "WIN conference: Women pioneering Global Harmony - 11 May 2023" at the UN

WWSF Speaker (Elly Pradervand) shared her ideas for **the 75% campaign Leadership Training for Women and Youth,** and how to turn the world around for the general Common Good for All, including women, children and youth (75% of the world's population who claim a seat at the Decision-making Table.) https://youtu.be/Tg_8nfAqUkk?si=jbqPbx0S9AwJqTGG&t=28

10) WWSF participation in several NGO Working groups

Committee on Ageing

The Committee continues to advocate a UN Convention on the Rights of Older Persons and to raise awareness of the need for older persons to achieve equality and empowerment through technology.

NGO Working Group on Human Rights Education and Learning

WWSF co-signed several joint statements by the Working Group to the Human Rights Council, which have highlighted the dramatic impact of the economic downturn due to the pandemic on the right to education of children and young people, particularly the underprivileged.

• Working Group on Violence against Children

Under the leadership of Child Rights Connect, an NGO based in Geneva. Attending group discussions and sharing ideas for action to help create a world fit for children & youth, promised in 1990 at the UN World Summit-New York.

11) List of 2023 WWSF Board Members

- Maria Elfriede (Elly) PRADERVAND, WWSF Founder/President & CEO 3, Blvd. James Fazy, 1201 Geneva, Switzerland Mobile: 079 476 17 84 / Email: <u>elly.pradervand@wwsf.ch</u> Web site : <u>www.woman.ch</u> - UN Consultative status (since 1995)
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 Email: gulzar.samji@shaw.ca
- Jyoti MACWAN, WWSF Member, Secretary General of the Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) Reception Centre - Opp. Lok Manya Tilak, Baugh, Bhadra, 380001 Ahmedabad, India - Tel.: 0091 79 25506441/444/477 Website: <u>http://www.sewa.org</u> / Email: icenet.co.in



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