



Serving Humanity to reach the SDG Agenda 2030



WWSF Newsletter July / August 2024

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

Dear Colleagues, Partners and Friends,

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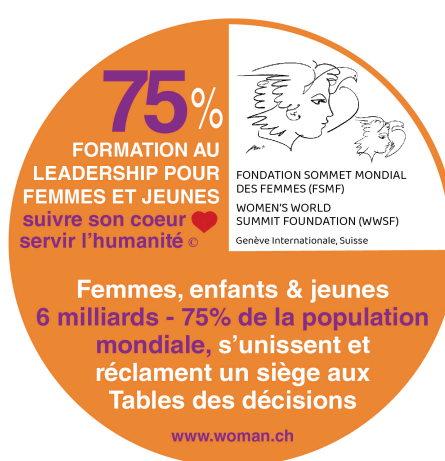
1. Introduction

We hope that you are doing well during these challenging times. We share with you our upcoming events and invite you to stay invested in our common vision for a more just and peaceful world. We wish to share with you "A Path for Solutions" excerpt of the Human Rights Vision Statement no. 7 by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights www.ohchr.org

Excerpt :

Solution N° 7 : **"It is time to go beyond voice: youth and children must be included meaningfully in decision-making and we must act on behalf of future generations. The need to hear from young people, both nationally and internationally, is well acknowledged."**

WWSF is developing its Leadership Training Forums for women and youth: leading from the heart to serve humanity" and we will send you the link to our upcoming Zoom event in due time. Looking forward to your participation. Thank you for joining the WWSF 75% Campaign Leadership Training for Woman and Youth : <https://www.woman.ch/welcome/75-campaign-registration/>



International Day of Rural Women - 15 October 2024

15

Oct.

2024

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF RURAL WOMEN

Honoring SEWA Association (India - www.sewa.org) grassroots members for their creativity in producing and promoting solar lanterns for rural communities to provide basic energy needs (lighting) of rural homes.

WWSF Annual empowerment poster with our message overleaf.

Created in 1995 at the Beijing 4th World Women's Conference by international NGOs and promoted by WWSF which resulted in becoming an official UN Day in 2007. WWSF awards its annual Prize for Women's Creativity in Rural Life on 15 October.

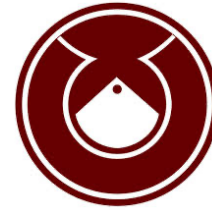
WWSF - Women's World Summit Foundation
FSMF - P.O. Box 1504 - 1211 Geneva 1 - Switzerland
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Journée internationale des femmes rurales
Día internacional de la mujer rural
Internationaler Tag der Landfrauen
اليوم العالمي للمرأة الريفية

Rural Women Rise & participate in advancing the realization of the UN Sustainable Development Goals Agenda 2030, with a Seat at the Table.

Shining a light on India's poor!

WWSF - Women's World Summit Foundation shares on the International Day the "Green Livelihoods Campaign" - 'Hariyali', a project initiated by Ela Bhatt's Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA), which helps give some of India's poorest women access to affordable energy.



Ela Bhatt with members of the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) Photo: The Elders | Tom Pietrasik

William French, Head of International Media at The Elders <https://theelders.org/what-we-do>, explains why it has had such a big impact on their lives, writing for The Skoll World Forum and Reuters

Excerpt: 19 March 2015

“Till now we always lived in darkness. Now I have a solar lantern, it has brought brightness and light to us. Our hearts and minds are now bright. We see hope in the future.” – Fulaba, a weaver from the village of Khombhali in the Kutch deserts of North Gujarat.

India is an increasingly dynamic player in the modern digital economy, but many thousands of poor and rural communities still have their lives and work dictated by the rhythms of the sun and the moon. A lack of access to affordable energy means sundown equals shutdown, a loss of productivity, efficiency and valuable income.

“No light means we cannot continue to work after sunset. This means less income, and often we cannot afford to eat on the next day”, in the words of - Santokben, an artisan from the village of Bakutra in Gujarat.

To break this cycle, the grassroots trade union SEWA has been working since 2009 to promote its “Green Livelihoods Campaign” – known as “Hariyali” in the local language – to provide cheap access to sustainable energy across India. SEWA, founded in 1972 by Elder Ela Bhatt, has argued for decades that access to energy is vital in emancipating communities and especially women who are otherwise marginalized both economically and politically.

“The Hariyali Campaign has been structured to deliver Energy Access, financial inclusion and gender empowerment for SEWA’s members,” said Ela Bhatt. “The key to success was in building a model which is sustainable, replicable and scalable.”

In practice, portable solar LED lanterns and clean cooking stoves are provided to SEWA members, paid for by instalments. SEWA has negotiated an unsecured bank loan of Rs 250 million (\$4.2 million) from an Indian private bank to provide this service to its members.

The result has been electrifying – in the most literal sense. In the words of Kapilaben, a widow and small farmer from the Gujarat village of Rasnol: “When my husband died, I had to bring up three daughters. Life was dark as we had no electricity, and everything felt hopeless. How do I cope? Thanks to ‘Hariyali’ I now have a solar lantern and a cooking stove. Now I do all the work, send my three daughters to school and am now a grassroots leader at SEWA!”

Underlining the complex nature of its work in a country as vast and diverse as India, SEWA has identified three major challenges which highlight the importance of listening to local communities and learning from their own needs and experiences. It aims to raise awareness, for example of how to use more efficient and

healthy cooking stoves; to determine availability so the right sort of stove is delivered to the right people (i.e. the stove made for the South Indian population who mainly eat rice isn't suited to those who eat roti in North and Central India); and guarantee affordability by closely working with local communities and financing partners. SEWA has also developed "Project Urja" to provide solar lights to women's self-help groups across the deprived Bihar-Munger region using a special "energy loan product" in cooperation with India's Ministry of Rural Development.

For Ela Bhatt, this is a shining example of how innovation and cooperation can transform lives and raise communities out of poverty. "At SEWA we are looking forward to a bright future where all our existing, as well as new members, make use of energy technology and improve their lives."

WWSF - Women's World Summit Foundation Call to action! - We all have a role to play!

We share below 2 other Days on 18 November - which focus on prevention of sexual abuse against children in Europe and around the world.

19
Nov.
2024

WWSF WORLD DAY
**PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE
AGAINST CHILDREN & YOUTH**
Launched in 2000 for a world fit for children
*In synergy with 20 November, Universal Children's Day,
respect for Children's Rights
&
18 November, European Day on the Protection of
Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse*

20
Nov.
2024

**JOURNÉE MONDIALE DE PRÉVENTION
CONTRE LA VIOLENCE ENVERS LES ENFANTS
DÍA MUNDIAL PREVENCIÓN DEL VIOLENCIA CONTRA LOS NIÑOS
WELTTAG VORBEUGUNG VON GEWALT AN KINDERN**



**YOU ARE INVITED TO USE THE POSTER & THE WWSF PREVENTION KIT
TO PREPARE YOUR ACTIVITIES AND MOVE OTHERS TO JOIN YOU!**

Share with us your plans and poster to help realize the SDG Target # 16.2: «End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children by 2030.»

18 NOVEMBER
European Day
on the Protection
of Children against
Sexual Exploitation
and Sexual Abuse

18 November - European Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation & Sexual Abuse, decided by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.
«The European Day promotes the ratification and implementation of the Lanzarote Convention - a unique legally-binding instrument that obliges states to criminalise all forms of sexual abuse of children and spells out the ways to fight it.» Council of Europe, Children's Rights
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/children/2023-edition>



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

- 19 Nov. WWSF World Day for Prevention of violence against children & youth (launched in 2000)
- 20 Nov. in synergy with the UN Universal Children's Day - promoting & respecting Children's Rights (unicef)
- 18 Nov. UN-Day for Prevention of and Healing from child sexual exploitation, abuse & violence (since 2022)

- 18 Nov. Council of Europe Day on Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation & Sexual Abuse (2023)

WWSF calls on all coalition members, partners, friends & new subscribers around the world to participate in **our original World Day - 19 November for prevention of violence and abuse against children & youth.**

We invite you to use our 2024 campaign poster, add your name and logo, promote participation in your communities & create our world to become fit for children and youth. With every 5 minutes a child dying because of violence around the world, we need to mobilize not only governments, but all civil society- adults, youth & children.

For those of you who are new to the **WWSF 19 November World Day**, please note that WWSF inaugurated the World Day in 2000 with endorsements from many dignitaries and experts from around the world. Every year, we prepare and propose a poster and our "19 Days Prevention Kit" for civil society actors and use the 19 themes & ideas for better prevention.

**WWSF is happy to also promote other World Days as we believe
"that together we must win this battle once & for all"**

- **18 Nov. 'Council of Europe Day'** www.coe.int/EndChildSexAbuseDay promoting the Lanzarote Convention, a unique legally binding instrument that obliges states to criminalise all forms of sexual abuse of children; and
- **18 Nov. 'UN Day for Prevention of and Healing from child sexual exploitation, abuse & violence'**. The dignity of children & their right to live free from sexual exploitation & abuse is placed as a priority of the SDG Agenda 2030
<https://www.un.org/en/observances/child-sexual-exploitation-prevention-and-healing-day>

WWSF proposes to use and share its annual campaign Kit "19 Days of activism for the prevention of violence & abuse against children & youth 1-19 November", presenting 19 themes with ideas for action for civil society and duty bearers. You can register here: **WWSF 19 Days Campaign** and send us via wdpca@wwsf.ch a copy of your program to share in our annual report.

In solidarity: Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF) Geneva, Switzerland - www.woman.ch Convener of the 19 Days campaign & World Day for prevention of violence against children & youth 19 November, since 2000.

**FSMF - Fondation Sommet Mondial des femmes - Appel à
l'action**

**Commémorez les Journées Intl. pour l'élimination
de la violence envers enfants et jeunes**



YOU ARE INVITED TO USE THE POSTER & THE WWSF PREVENTION KIT TO PREPARE YOUR ACTIVITIES AND MOVE OTHERS TO JOIN YOU!

Share with us your plans and poster to help realize the SDG Target # 16.2: «End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children by 2030.»



Women's World Summit Foundation - Children section
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www.woman.ch

- **19 nov.** FSMF Journée mondiale pour la prévention de la violence à l'égard des enfants et des jeunes (depuis 2000)
- **20 nov.** En synergie avec la Journée mondiale de l'enfance - promotion des droits de l'enfant (Unicef)
- **18 nov.** ONU-Journée prévention et guérison de l'exploitation sexuelle des enfants, abus et violence (depuis 2022)
- **18 nov.** Journée européenne pour la protection des enfants contre l'exploitation et les abus sexuels (depuis 2023)

La FSMF appelle tous les membres de la coalition, les partenaires, les amis et les nouveaux abonnés à travers le monde à participer à **notre Journée mondiale initiale**, le 19 novembre, pour la prévention de la violence et des abus envers les enfants et les jeunes.

Nous vous invitons à utiliser l'affiche de la campagne 2024, à y ajouter votre nom et votre logo, à promouvoir la participation dans vos communautés et à faire en sorte que notre monde soit digne des enfants et des jeunes. Alors que toutes les 5 minutes, un enfant meurt à cause de la violence dans le monde, nous devons mobiliser non seulement les gouvernements, mais aussi l'ensemble de la société civile -adultes, jeunes et enfants.

FSMF a inauguré la Journée mondiale en 2000 avec le soutien de nombreux dignitaires et experts du monde entier. Chaque année, nous préparons et proposons une affiche et notre «Kit de prévention 19 jours» pour les acteurs de la société civile afin d'utiliser les 19 thèmes et les idées proposés pour une meilleure prévention.

Nous sommes heureux de promouvoir les nouvelles Journées mondiales car nous devons gagner la bataille ensemble

- **18 Nov. "Journée du Conseil de l'Europe"** www.coe.int/EndChildSexAbuseDay pour promouvoir la Convention de Lanzarote, un instrument juridiquement contraignant qui oblige les États membres de l'Union européenne à respecter les droits de l'homme.
- **18 nov. Journée des Nations unies pour la prévention et la guérison de l'exploitation, des abus et de la violence sexuels envers les enfants**". La dignité des enfants et leur droit de vivre à l'abri de l'exploitation et des abus sexuels sont considérés comme une priorité du programme de développement durable de l'ONU. <https://www.un.org/en/observances/child-sexual-exploitation-prevention-and-healing-day>

Nous proposons d'utiliser et de partager notre Kit de campagne annuel "19 jours d'activisme pour la prévention de la violence et des abus envers les enfants et les jeunes du 1er au 19 novembre", qui présente 19 thèmes avec des idées d'action. Vous pouvez vous inscrire ici : **FSMF Campagne 19 jours** et nous envoyer à wdpca@wwsf.ch une copie de votre programme et affiche, que nous publierons dans notre rapport annuel.

In partnership and solidarity,

Maria Elfriede (Elly) Pradervand, Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF) - President / CEO in collaboration with our campaign team and sponsors - www.woman.ch - wdpca@wwsf.ch - Tel: +41 (0) 22 738 66 19.

About us: WWSF, created in 1991 in International Geneva, Switzerland, as a not-for-profit, humanitarian, international, lay organization for the realization of women's and children's rights and give a voice to women, children, and youth (75% of the world's population) claiming a seat at the table. WWSF mobilizes via its annual Campaigns, Round tables, World days, and Prize awards civil society actors to catalyze increased action for the general common Good and help reach the UN Sustainable Development Goals - Agenda 2030.

"Whatever you can do or dream you can begin it; Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it." - Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

To donate, IBAN Swiss Francs CH1900 7880 00050 701412 - IBAN US \$ CH8900 7880 00050 701413 - We thank you in advance for sharing, caring, and acting for a more peaceful world that works for all.

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WWSF - Women's World Summit Foundation

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