2020

WOMEN & GIRLS SUMMIT AFRICA

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June 9-12 2020 Durban, South Africa
AFRICA'S REGIONAL SUMMIT ON WOMEN & GIRLS

This transformational annual event will create a group of change agents, passionate about driving and implementing actions that will help countries in Africa across the development continuum. It will also serve as the foundation for the birth of new, impactful initiatives and institutions focused on addressing the challenges of women and girls thereby addressing the sustainable development goals (SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5& 8).

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The Women and Girls Summit (WAGS), which will take place at the international conference center, Durban, South Africa from June 9-12, 2020, aims to prepare women of today and tomorrow to take on key leadership roles in all areas and across all industries to ensure that Africa realizes its full potential. This annual summit will offer unique opportunities for participants to network with leaders and key influencers from across the world. It will provide a platform for dialogue and knowledge-sharing and will serve as the birth place for initiatives and institutions that will address the many challenges of women and girls in Africa.

The Women and Girls Summit fosters crucial dialogue that will lead to the development of initiatives, programs and institutions that can address the challenges of women and girls in Africa. The summit will also offer a mentorship platform and skills-building workshops.

The summit provides an annual platform for women to voice their concerns and develop solutions to manage economic, societal and cultural challenges. Issues ranging from education to sexual and reproductive health, gender-based violence to developing socially responsible enterprises will be discussed through stimulating, thought-provoking debates, TEDx-like talks, and workshop sessions.

The largest gathering of women & girls in Africa
WAGS 2020
EMPOWERING WOMEN AND GIRLS

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As Africa faces the next decade, full of economic potential and promise, the role of the African woman will become even more crucial to achieve robust economic growth and drive access to universal health and education for people across the continent. Economic and social prosperity cannot be attained if African women are left behind. It is therefore essential to immediately harness their power, intelligence, energy, and skills to lead the continent into the next decade and set it on par with other thriving economies around the world.
Every day, across the African continent, women strive to develop and maintain sustainable livelhoods for themselves and their families. They run small businesses, secure microloans to start new businesses, and engage in all types of activities to put food on their tables, send their children to school, and pay for healthcare. It is a well-known fact that despite the sometimes male-dominated nature of many African societies, women play a strong role in helping their families stay out of poverty. They often represent a steady and reliable source of income for their households.

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Addressing SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 8

Five Summit Tracks

- Health
- Education
- The Economy
- Safety & Security
- Climate Change

1500 Delegates

250 Speakers

75 Invited Countries

65 Panel Sessions
Healthier women contribute to better-educated and more productive societies.

Ensuring women’s control over their own fertility can boost the pace of economic growth and development.

Maternal health is crucial to the health and economic well-being of subsequent generations.

Healthy Women = Healthy Societies
Having more girls in school increases a country’s GDP.

If 10 percent more adolescent girls attend school, a country’s GDP increases by an average of 3 percent.

More school for girls = greater earnings: An extra year of secondary school for girls can increase their future earnings by 10-20%.

Education saves lives: A child whose mother can read is 50 percent more likely to live past age five.

Increasing educational attainment of women and girls contributes to women’s economic empowerment and more inclusive economic growth.
Women’s economic empowerment is central to realizing women’s rights and gender equality.

Empowering women in the economy and closing gender gaps in the world of work are key to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals.

Women’s economic equality is good for business. Companies greatly benefit from increasing employment and leadership opportunities for women, which is shown to increase organizational effectiveness and growth.
Violence against women and girls is a serious problem and there is a need to continually be on guard against violence. Violence can come in a number of ways, places and forms. Including but not limited to: Domestic violence, assault, workplace harassment, dating violence, violence against children, financial control and neglect. Various forms of violence against women and girls are often perpetuated and hidden by systems, culture and social norms. Violence against women and girls is also heightened in environments of war, disaster and humanitarian crises. Addressing these issues will be critical to ensuring the empowerment of women and girls in Africa.
In most poor communities, women play roles as providers and work in agriculture or other informal sectors, and they collect food, water, and fuel.

As a result, women often have invaluable knowledge about adapting to environmental changes. When women are included equally with men in disaster preparedness training, their survival rates improve. Relief efforts regularly shortchange female health needs, such as obstetrical care.

Involving women in decision-making about climate change solutions is key to effectively addressing climate change.
FIVE SUMMIT LEVERS FOR CHANGE

5 CROSS-CUTTING LEVERS FOR CHANGE

1. TECHNOLOGY
2. MALE-ENGAGEMENT
3. ACTION & IMPACT
4. YOUTH LEADERSHIP
5. POLICY
FIVE SUMMIT TRACKS

01 HEALTH

02 EDUCATION

03 THE ECONOMY

04 SAFETY & SECURITY

05 CLIMATE CHANGE
WAGS 2020

DURBAN SOUTH AFRICA
JUNE 9-12

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