

GIRLS EDUCATION OUR PROGRESS

Education is a human right but it is still beyond the reach of many, especially the girl child. Girls often have limited control over their future as early marriage is a reality for many girls and the onset of pregnancy always results in girls halting their education. They are often discriminated against in terms of the quality of the schools they are sent to and parents, guardians or spouses are not willing to invest much in their education.

The future of girls and the society will be better secured if quality education is ensured, because women are the heart of all societies, whether at home or at work, they nurture and are very influential people in the lives of their children and children under their care. Girls who are educated are in a better position to groom their children in the future and these children are the future of any society. Therefore, educating girls is one of the most important investments that any country can make into its own future and progress.

Education has a profound influence on girls and women and their ability to claim their rights and achieve status in society, such as economic independence and political representation.

Being educated can make an enormous difference to a woman's chances of finding well-paid work, raising a healthy and wealthy family and preventing the spread of diseases. For example, an educated woman is more likely to have her children immunized against childhood diseases.

For girls to enroll in school, be retained in school and learn effectively, all girls need the support of their parents/guardian, community and government to provide adequate financial support and to set up policies that will favour the education of the girl child. Further actions include;

- Enabling ministries of education to provide leadership and capacity to promote girl child education and improve the education sector plans to improve girl's access to quality education.
- Making education free and safe for all and providing an environment that is conducive for learning.
- Strengthening girls/women's participation in all educational policy, planning and budgeting processes.

- Advance life opportunities for all girls by ensuring that national plans (especially educational plans) include providing the right levels of basic and post-basic education for girls.
- Employment of qualified teachers including training and retraining of teachers and providing a socially conducive environment that promotes girls' learning.

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