

Joint Campaign Proposal

Girls in School; Girls with Dignity: Our commitment during the 16 Days and beyond:

Inter-religious coalition's project in the frame of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence 2015

An inter-religious coalition of faith based organizations¹, is targeting the 16 Days of Activism to mobilize their constituencies in ending gender injustice and violence against girls and women around this year's theme of "From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Make Education Safe for All!". Motivation for change and power for action is unleashed through a positive vision. For us, this vision is rooted in our faith. We are committed to contribute to the campaign by focusing on:

- The connection between early and forced marriage with the lack of access to education.
- The involvement of faith leaders in all planned initiatives
- The importance of schools as spaces for protection and awareness-raising among girls and their families.
- The key role played by informal spaces of education, such as the community elders' influence, the rites of passage and the community based socialization processes.
- The issue of sexual and reproductive health for girls related to VAWG and women's and girls' empowerment.

Thanks to the support of UNFPA, debates, workshops, podcasts (video project) and awareness-raising actions will take place in two countries: Zimbabwe and Indonesia during the 16 Days Campaign. We are developing communication tools, strong and powerful, creative and inspiring amplifying the voices and experiences of girls and women in these countries and reaching out to girls and their families, to teachers and educators, to faith communities and societies at large, to religious and political leaders:

Considering the nature of our constituencies, the role of faith and religious beliefs and practices is crucial in overcoming VAW and gender inequalities. In this context, the coalition has identified the following priorities:

- Sexual and reproductive health for girls as crucial in relation to VAW and women's empowerment.
- Connection between child, early and forced marriage and lack of access or lack of adequate conditions to pursue education.

¹ The Anglican Communion (AC), Islamic Relief (IRW), Lutheran World Federation (LWF), , Mission 21, World Council Churches (WCC), World Communion of Reformed Church, the Young Women Christian Association (YWCA), and other LWF/WCC member churches and ecumenical partners including Church of Sweden and Fin Church Aid

- Importance of schools as protection spaces.
- Need for gender justice awareness- raising among girls and their families.
- Recognition and inclusion of important roles played by informal education processes including rites of passage and other gender and sexual socializing processes imbibed in culture and religion.

1. Main resources that structure the Campaign's web platform

- 1.1 Collection of sacred narratives from both the Islamic and Christian traditions on protection and empowerment of women and girls.
- 1.2 Existing initiatives to overcome VAWG within concerned organizations E.G: Thursdays in Black (TiB)², No Xcuse campaign³, Imams against Domestic Violence, LWF Gender Justice Policy, We Will Speak Out coalition, scholarships for women's theological education.
- 1.3 Prayers of lament, confession and blessing regarding the girl child during the 16 Days campaign.
- 1.4 Videos and affirmations of faith leaders committed with gender justice for wider and sustainable impact.

2. Methodology

The Coalition highlights the importance of taking an interreligious perspective. There is also a clear intention of linking the Campaign with the United Nations Human Rights mechanisms and Treaty Bodies such as CEDAW, UPR, UNSCR1325 and the Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal 5, and the existing platforms, i.e. UN Women and UNFPA. The social media are used as tools to maximizing the impact and to create a space for global participation.

Besides the Web platform, which is the main vehicle to raise awareness at an international level, the Coalition has focused on supporting two regional experiences in contexts where early marriage and access to education for girls are problematic. The choice of Zimbabwe and Indonesia as the contexts to develop these experiences respond to two main criteria: The first one is the fact that most of the Coalition members have constituencies (churches, implementation partners or networks) in these two countries. The second one is (for Indonesia) the possibility of addressing these issues involving both the Muslim and the Christian communities.

Among the concrete implementation strategies where financial support and partnership is needed are:

² This initiative was born during the WCC's Ecumenical Decade of Churches in Solidarity with Women (1988-1998), which was an ecumenical response to the UN Decade for Women (1976-1985). The TiB campaign was inspired by many global movements of women against rape and violence especially by groups known as the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo in Argentina and the Women in Black in Israel.. The initiative was revitalized at the WCC 10th Assembly in 2013 in Busan as a continued peaceful protest against rape and violence <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/thursdays-in-black-zero-tolerance-for-violence-against-women>

³ This Campaign was launched by the YWCA in 2014 to portray young women around the world who told their stories in short videos and the excuses or justification for the violence they were subjected to. WCC and LWF joined this campaign in 2014 to mark the 16 Days of Activism. For more details please visit: <http://www.worldywca.org/noXcuses/>

- 2.1 To design an effective media campaign targeting faith-based leaders and communities raising awareness on the 16 Days theme for 2015 (25 November to 10 December 2015). The website that will result from this project: www.genderjustice-interfaith.net offers a series of videos, reflections, stories and resources to be used by groups, churches or activists with a women's human rights perspective.
- 2.2 To strengthen and disseminate interfaith initiatives of protection of women and girls in contexts where they are in a situation of vulnerability. In the case of Zimbabwe (please see project attached), the strategies range from sensitizing the church leaders, the schools communities and the families in three rural areas to offering concrete protection measures to girls at risk (Hotline, pastors and teachers trained to address the situation). In Indonesia, the activities include Christian-Muslim workshops with women and church leaders to reflect and raise awareness on the issue of early marriage.
- 2.3 To interact with Diplomatic Missions in Geneva and with UN Agencies in Geneva and New York through two side-events (during CEDAW session 63 in February 2016 - with the involvement of OHCHR- and during CSW 60 in March 2016). The Campaign will be shared as a best practice example on how faith can be integrated to the efforts to mobilize local stakeholders and to prevent the misuse of religion to endorse harmful practices for women and girls.

3. Budget

	ITEM	AMOUNT IN USD
DEVELOPING A WEB PLATFORM FOR THE CAMPAIGN AND BEYOND (BY CONSULTANT IN GENEVA)	Developing and implementing a concept for the visual communication of the 16 Days of Activism	1,003
	Research and Production of material: - Texts: writing, editing, translating resources. - Images: shooting, resizing, touch up	1,504
	Videos: shooting, post-production, mastering, editing existing material, 16 clips / 60-180 sec. each	1,104
	Domain name / one year	4,715
	Hosting / one year	15
	Interface Design for all site graphics and 21 page layouts including flash animation design, Spry Assets (Menu Bar Horizontal, Menu Bar Vertical, Accordion, Collapsible Panels, Tabbed Panels, div. Effects)	150
	Programming, hosting setup, database setup, application design and testing, launching, technical project management	3,511
	Website maintenance for 6 months (11.12.2015 – 11.06.2016)	3,210
PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION IN ZIMBABWE	Hotline service ECONET WIRELESS during a pilot period of 5 months	1,204
	Hotline service ECONET WIRELESS during a pilot period of 5 months	1,500
	Travel costs to Mberengwa (4 staff persons from Harare and 2 from Bulawayo)	300
	Travel costs to Manama (Matabeleland) 4 staff persons from Harare and 2 from Mataga.	450
	Food (100 people @ \$5 per plate-Mberengwa)	500
	200 T-Shirts with the Campaign slogan and hotline phone number (CM Fashions)	1,000
	Printed Awareness material (Printforce quotation)	1,430
	5 Church Leadership workshops (50 participants per workshop)	800
	6 Meetings with Congregations minimum of 100+ participants	600
Train of trainers for 5 Teachers, 5 Non-teaching staff, 24 prefects (12 girls and 12 boys) and 5 School committee members of 6 schools.	1,000	

TOTAL REQUESTED TO UNFPA IN USD	23,996
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