



MEDIA PACK

FAQ

What is Graduate Women International?

Graduate Women International (GWI) is a membership-based international nongovernmental organisation (NGO) based in Geneva, Switzerland, with some 20,000 members in over 80 countries.

Founded in 1919, GWI is the leading girls' and women's global organisation advocating for women's rights, equality and empowerment through access to quality education and training up to the highest levels.

What does GWI do?

GWI provides a global voice for women graduates, working for the adoption and implementation of international agreements that will protect and benefit all girls and women, notably to address barriers to access to quality education up to the highest levels.

GWI advocates at grassroots level with local communities, at national level with decision-makers such as government officials and other key influencers, and at international level through human rights mechanisms such as the Human Rights Council (HRC) in Geneva, the Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York.

GWI develops, implements, monitors and evaluates projects that aim to increase gender equality in education and drive the empowerment of girls' and women's through access to and completion of quality, lifelong education.

GWI is a member of the Collaborative for Harnessing Ambition and Resources for Girls' Education (CHARGE) convened by the [Center for Universal Education](#) (CUE) at the Brookings Institution and the [No Ceilings Initiative](#) at the Clinton Foundation.

Our projects that support this initiative are:

Teachers for Rural Futures

This project will support 50 young women from rural Uganda to become qualified secondary school teachers and ambassadors for girls' education. 50 trained teachers would mean a positive impact on

up to 11,500 students per annum. We are currently sponsoring five girls. This is a programme that can be extended into other countries.

GWI's *Girls' Choices* workshops

The GWI *Girls' Choices* project is a workshop and mentoring programme to support girls to complete secondary school and transition to tertiary education or work, through workshops and mentoring. To date, the workshops have been run in six countries, positively impacting on the lives of over 450 girls.

The *Girls' Choices for Careers* mobile application

GWI has partnered with Orange Device Group to develop the *Girls' Choices for Careers* mobile app. This app will provide girls with a fun, interactive online tool to explore careers and identify those that match their skills and interests. As the app will be free for download, it is expected to reach some 300,000 girls. Following the launch in Q4 2016 in Rwanda, the app will be rolled out regionally.

What do the GWI member organisations do?

The member organisations of GWI are active in the following fields: literacy and financial literacy, skills training, mentoring, scholarships and fellowships. Annually over USD 2.5 million is distributed to support scholars across the world. The member organisations also advocate in favour of girls' and women's rights, notably to address barriers to education.

Can you give an example of a grass roots project?

Every year a cycle of grassroots projects called Bina Roy Partners in Development programme is run, with the support of the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund, a funding body that grew out of GWI, and other members, which spans projects such as financial literacy for market women, health education for mothers, and vocational skills for young women.

What is the GWI Conference?

The GWI Triennial Conference, which is held every three years, offers interdisciplinary seminars and workshops, and provides opportunities for networking and international friendship. This year is the 32nd Triennial Conference. The 2016 conference title is: **'At the crossroads of education, gender and human rights.'** The four strands of the conference focus on: complexity in education, the impact of new technologies on education, human rights and education, and violence and access to education.

Contact details

For more information on the conference and to register, please visit www.gwiconference.org

Learn about our [grants & fellowships](#) and our [advocacy work](#).

Follow us on [Facebook](#) (our post reach is over 2,000 every week)

[LinkedIn](#) (we have almost 400 members) and [Twitter \(@GradWomen\)](#) (we have over 1000 followers)

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