Wikigender

Findings from online discussions

“Engaging Men and Boys in Transforming Discriminatory Social Norms”
Some background on Wikigender

- Wikigender was started in 2008 with support from Sweden, Norway and Finland.

- **Objective**: to create a space online where initiatives, articles, ideas, media and data on gender equality could be shared and discussed.

- **Rationale**: there was a demand to add more voices to the discussion on gender equality. Web 2.0 was then available to provide this.
The road from 2008-2012

Main lesson: “If you build it, they will not come”

In the last 4 years: created a few effective programs:

1) Partnerships
2) The Community Portal
3) Social media strategy
4) Wikigender Connect
5) The Wikigender University Program
6) Online discussions
Global Reach

As of October 2012 Wikigender has reached:

802,000 unique visitors since January 2010
50,000 per month (as of October)

from every country in the world

...representing governments, international organisations, civil society, interested citizens…
### Country / Territory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Country / Territory</th>
<th>Visits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
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<td>2.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
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1,871 visits from India in January 2012

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<td>3. Karnataka</td>
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<td>4. Tamil Nadu</td>
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<td>5. Andhra Pradesh</td>
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<td>6. Uttar Pradesh</td>
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<td>7. Kerala</td>
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<td>8. West Bengal</td>
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<td>9. Gujarat</td>
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<td>10. Punjab</td>
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6,098 visits from India in October 2012

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<td>2. Maharashtra</td>
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<td>3. Karnataka</td>
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<td>4. Tamil Nadu</td>
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<td>5. Punjab</td>
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<td>9. Gujarat</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Kerala</td>
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Online discussions

1. Women and ICT: How can access to ICTs promote opportunities for women and girls? How can social networks foster gender equality?

2. Equal rights to resources: the key to empowering rural women. But what's stopping it?

3. How can gender equality be better integrated into climate change policies and programmes in order to ensure sustainable development?

4. "Engaging Men and Boys in Transforming Discriminatory Social Norms“

Why these?
How can access to ICTs promote opportunities for women and girls? How can social networks foster gender equality?

TEST (no partner, no strategic link)

19 comments
How can access to ICTs promote opportunities for women and girls? How can social networks foster gender equality?

Challenges:
- Involve women and girls in the early design and deployment stages of new technologies
- Build the skills and capacity of women
- Technological issue of “access” in developing countries (insufficient bandwidth)
- Adverse effects that social media can have (e.g. bullying)

Enablers:
- ICTs and social networks are powerful vehicles of information that can mobilise and sensitise the masses
- Mobile phones as enablers to lift women out of poverty
- Career advancement (LinkedIn, etc.)
Equal rights to resources: the key to empowering rural women. But what's stopping it?

- For CSW session Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Government of Kenya
- Landportal (content and dissemination partner)

26 comments
Rural Women
Equal rights to resources: the key to empowering rural women. But what's stopping it?

Key obstacles:
- Social and cultural norms and practices (early marriage, access to resources, inheritance rights…)
- Laws and implementation (gap between legislation and reality)
- Data issues (lack of quality/gender-disaggregated data, esp. rural areas)

Enablers:
- Raise awareness
- Capacity building
- Lessons from the ground
- Engaging men (as equal partners to women)
- Data analysis (data quality/coverage, quantitative/qualitative…)

OECD Development Centre
How can gender equality be better integrated into climate change policies and programmes in order to ensure sustainable development?

Strategic partner - Gendernet
Presented at the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Gendernet meeting as an introduction to the 14 June workshop on gender equality, climate change and green growth

22 comments
Climate change issues
Climate change: How can gender equality be better integrated into climate change policies and programmes in order to ensure sustainable development?

- Embed a gender equality perspective in climate change Rio+20
- Connect the local to the global and scale up successful projects
- Draw on women’s expert knowledge of ecosystems
- Address unpaid work and time poverty
- Improve women’s access to and control over productive resources
- Address persistent discriminatory social norms that affect women’s social and economic status
- Acknowledge the gendered impact of disasters
Engaging Men and Boys in Transforming Discriminatory Social Norms

Partnership: Sonke Gender Justice Network, Men for Gender Equality Sweden (Män för Jämställdhet), the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Workshop: seminar on “Measuring progress towards gender equality: where do we stand?”

56 comments!!
(the last one from UNFPA - keep it open due to hurricane sandy!)
Wordle analysis on engaging men and boys
Key Issues

- The power of men to change
- Rethinking ideas of masculinity
- Educating society (both women and men) about gender equality and its benefits
- Recognising the need for an equal share of responsibilities at home
- Engaging men and boys in preventing or ending violence against women and girls
- Examining how gender relations are affected by conflict
- Education from an early age is critical
Engaging Men and Boys in Transforming Discriminatory Social Norms

Challenges:
- Discussion on engaging men and boys still ‘embryonic’ and need more support from different actors, incl. governments, donors, development practitioners and feminist studies
- Reduce gender stereotypes and discriminatory social norms

Enablers:
- More gender-transformative approaches are used
- Programmes for young boys such as peer education, non-formal learning methods, workshops and discussion groups
- Technology and social media tools
- Leadership models and men volunteering to train other men
- Reflexions on new ideas of masculinity are taking place
What next?

- Continue to build on online discussions to engage in a dialogue around the world; use Wikigender in SIGI regional workshops
- Strengthen existing Wikigender partnerships and collaborate on joint events/seminars
- Expand the social media strategy to bring more users to contribute to Wikigender
- Continue with the Community Portal, Wikigender Connect and the Wikigender University Program
- Start some regional networks? Wikigender in Spanish could be a start.
Online Discussion

ENGAGING MEN AND BOYS TO TRANSFORM DISCRIMINATORY SOCIAL NORMS

The above discussion is now closed.

We will present the main outcomes of the discussion at the seminar “Measuring progress towards gender equality: where do we stand?” on 13 November in Stockholm.

Stay tuned on Wikigender for the upcoming report! In the meantime, we invite you to continue the dialogue by creating articles relating to the above discussion. You can also still access the comments.

RECENT COMMENTS

Alan_D_Berkowitz: Without a doubt, our task as men committed to ending Gender Violence should be to transform...