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Inclusive Radio Programming in Malawi

Building more inclusive societies cannot be done without leveraging the existing capacities of youth. IREX supports this process through leadership programs such as the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders (YALI), through which diverse young Fellows from across the continent receive internships and mentorship opportunities to enrich their skills, foster ideas, and expand their networks. **Marshall Dyton of Malawi (2015 Fellow)** is a prime example of the maxim "Be the change you want to see."

Through YALI, Marshall, editor-in-chief of Malawi's first online Muslim publication, was placed in an internship opportunity at a community radio station in Zimbabwe. Eager to learn about how to produce radio broadcasts, Marshall recognized the power of radio and the critical role it can play in education and informing marginalized rural communities. After the completion of his internship, Marshall put his newfound skills to use and engaged communities on the negative impact of child marriage on education for women and girls. He organized a radio talk show that brought together chiefs, religious leaders, girls, women, and men to confront child marriage and to discuss the importance of education for girls.

The show was broadcast live for two hours and reached an estimated 3 million listeners on national radio. The aim was to increase awareness within Muslim communities in Malawi about education, the misinterpretation of religious text, and why communities must confront embedded cultural values that lead to child marriage. ***"Radio allows for debates and discussions to be open and transparent, and can be a critical tool for building consensus among communities and citizens,"*** Marshall said.



As a result of the talk show, the Muslim Association of Malawi, who attended the event, agreed to open new offices in rural areas where communities can access up-to-date information about education and scholarship opportunities for girls.

Inspired by the success of his radio show, Marshall's new dream is to start a community radio station run by youth from diverse religious backgrounds. He believes that one way to tackle challenges faced by marginalized communities and women in Malawi is to discuss these issues in an open forum. By including youth to help generate locally driven solutions, young people like Marshall are helping to catalyze a generation of positive change makers.

Graphic: Courtesy of IREX



New Guidance for Developing Gender-Responsive Education Plans

Earlier this year, The Global Partnership for Education and United Nations Girls' Education Initiative released the [Guidance for Developing Gender-Responsive Education Sector Plans](#) toolkit. This toolkit comes as a response to the 2000 Education for All Framework for Action which states, "gender-based discrimination remains one of the most intractable constraints to realizing the right to education. Without overcoming this obstacle, Education for All cannot be achieved." This toolkit "supports practitioners to refresh their knowledge of gender equality, to identify, better understand and respond effectively to gender issues in education. The guidance goes beyond girls' education, to consider gender equality more broadly, in curricula, textbooks, assessment, teacher education and more." Gender equity in education goes beyond girls' education and enrollment parity. "Research shows that gender equality and girls' education has a dramatic and positive impact not only on the girls themselves, but on their families, communities and society more broadly." This is more proof that inclusion makes sense not just for those who are traditionally excluded, but for society as a whole.

The toolkit is aimed at a broad range of actors in the education sector, from country-level education ministry officials to international donors and NGOs, who fund and implement education programs. Made up of 10 different modules, the toolkit is broken up into four different sections: gender framework (module 1), gender analysis (2–5), plan preparation (6–9) and plan appraisal (10). These modules employ similar themes that will be found in the TAAP Toolkit modules, such as an analysis of the enabling environment, stakeholder analysis and participation, targeted strategies and interventions, and monitoring and evaluation of programs to support equality.

Sakil Malik, World Learning’s Vice President of Global Education, sees the *Guidance* toolkit as a promising tool for the future of education work around the world, noting, “Education programs have come a long way, but it is quite vital that equity and equality are considered in curriculum development, assessments, and professional development of teachers and administrators. This tool may help program development and management professionals to apply such strategies for better impact.”

The authors of the toolkit acknowledge the importance of intersecting identities, noting that “considering gender in combination with the larger matrix of factors that can result in disadvantage and exclusion. It is important to ask which girls and boys are most excluded from education in each local context, and where combinations of factors such as poverty, ethnicity, disability or rural location may be having a particularly pronounced effect. The focus on gender modelled here is both important in itself and valuable as an example of how other forms of disadvantages can be examined and addressed.” Indeed!

Photo: Courtesy of GPE/Chantal Rigaud

The Roadmap for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies

A Call to Action to Change our World

18 July 2017
Consultation Draft for the
High-level Political Forum

Delivering the 2030 Agenda
commitment to peaceful, just
and inclusive societies

Roadmap for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies

The Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies – a group of UN member states, international organizations, global partnerships, and other partners supported by the Center on International Cooperation at New York University (NYU) – will launch a [Roadmap for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies: A Call to Action to Change our World](#) at the UN General Assembly in September.

The governments of Brazil, Sierra Leone, and Switzerland convened the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies to fulfill the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that all people should live in peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence, and developed the Roadmap to strengthen the nexus between SDG16 (the main goal for fostering peaceful, just and inclusive societies) and goals that address the root causes of insecurity, injustice and exclusion. According to the Roadmap report, 36 targets from seven other SDGs directly measure an aspect of peace,

inclusion, or access to justice, with only a third of these found in SDG16.

The Roadmap's targets for peaceful, just and inclusive societies adapt and incorporate the "SDG16+" targets, and include: 1) Strengthen the case for the universality of the SDGs; 2) Emphasize factors that entrench inequality between and within countries; 3) Place a gender and human rights perspective at the heart of efforts to achieve peace, justice and inclusion; and 4) Underline the need for international cooperation to deliver the 40% of the SDG16+ targets that have a global or regional dimension. The Roadmap targets were built on the understanding that the Agenda 2030 targets for peaceful, just and inclusive societies will not be delivered without an integrated approach, strengthened strategy and increased political commitment.

The roadmap identifies nine catalytic actions that have the potential to turn the ambition of SDG16+ into reality: 1 - Scale up violence prevention for women, children, and for vulnerable groups; 2 - Build safe, inclusive and resilient cities; 3 - Targeted prevention for countries and communities most likely to be left behind; 4 - Increase justice and legal empowerment; 5 - Commitment to open and responsive government; 6 - Reduce corruption and illicit flows; 7 - Legal identity and birth registration for all; 8- Empower people as agents of change, and 9 - Respect all human rights and promote gender equality. Stay tuned!

Photo: Courtesy of Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies

This Week's TAAP Staff Picks:

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