



Celebrating the International Day of Women and Girls in Science

STEM4GIRLS 2017

When: Saturday, 11 February, 2017- All day

Where: Bindura University of Science Education, FSE Complex, Zimbabwe

Theme: STEM4Girls 2017

Background

Africa needs science and science needs women and girls. But the low number of girls studying STEM related subjects and subsequent challenges they face upon entry into scientific fields is a known global challenge that has been attributed to gender socialisation. In early childhood, girls are discouraged from playing with machines, which are seen as suitable for boys only (*Sagebiel, F., 2007*). At an early age, boys are exposed to tools and bolts and nuts, introduced to technical and scientific terms and elements and encouraged to venture in STEM, while Girls learn to act in a gender “*appropriate*” manner. But as they grow older, Girls are often confronted with realities of life and stereotypes in their families, schools and even communities that challenge their ideals and they become hesitant to deviate into male dominated spaces. Humanity cannot afford to ignore half of its creative genius. The deficit in ‘technical socialization’, safe learning spaces and limited access to role models leads girls to avoid STEM professions, even when they have an affinity for related subjects at high school level. We must inspire girls and young women by offering mentoring opportunities to be coached by young women scientists to assist in their career development. Zimbabwe cannot afford to be left behind. So join UNESCO and Bindura University of Science Education to ‘de-stereotype’.

Why STEM4Girls Saturday?

The STEM4Girls Saturday is an inaugural girls and young women event aimed at inspiring and motivating young girls to pursue careers in STEM by giving them practical insights into the wonderful opportunities available from studying STEM.

Target Group:

The event targets 100 girls and 20 female teachers drawn from the following schools:

- Chipindura High School
- Chiwaridzo High School
- Chipadze High School
- HermannGmeiner High School
- Bradley High School
- Shashi View Primary School
- Bindura Primary School

Modality of Action:

The proposed “STEM 4 Girls” event will feature a combination of fun engaging hands-on activities, career talks and competitions, mentoring, networking and building lasting connections.

Proposed event will include, but not limited to:

- Career Talks,
- Pi (π) Party (Maths for seniors), Mathematics Puzzles and games for Primary girls,
- Engineering maze
- Your Environment your responsibility
- Tour of Physics and Computer Sciences laboratories
- Technovation Challenge Launch

Activities will be captured on video and Facebook and disseminated through YouTube, photo gallery, print media and schools activities. **Detailed Programme attached.**

Expected Outcome:

- Primary and Secondary school Girls in Zimbabwe in general and Mashonaland Central Province in particular would be exposed to the world of science and inspired and motivated to venture into science, technology engineering and mathematics (STEM) related careers.
- The touch and feel experience would demystify science for young girls and encourage them to be advocates for STEM
- Girls and Women would have signed the L’Oréal-UNESCO FWIS 2017 manifesto for International day for Women and Girls in Science.



WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Celebrating International Day of Women and Girls in Science

STEM4GIRLS 2017

VENUE: BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION

B19: FACULTY OF SCIENCE COMPLEX

DATE: SATURDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2017

TIME: 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Event Facilitator (MC): Mrs. D. Murasi

TIME	EVENT		Facilitator	
0830 - 0900	Arrival and Registration		Secretariat	
0900 - 0910	Prayer and Devotion		Rev. PUM Mlambo	
0910 - 0920	Introductions and welcome remarks		BUSE	
0920 - 0935	Brief Overview of the International Day for Women and Girls in Science		Mrs. U. Chipunza	
0935 - 1015	Guest of Honour		Prof E. Mwenje, Vice Chancellor BUSE	
	International Day for Women and Girls in Science 2017 <i>Message from Director General of UNESCO –Ms. Irina Bokova</i>		Vice Chancellor BUSE	
1015 - 1035	Health break + Snack on the Bus to Astra Campus			
1035 - 1135	Learn first-hand Science with the Rocking Scientist		Lab Techs	
1135 - 1155	Career Exploration on the bus		Mrs. T. Mukabeta	
1155 - 1300	Career Talk (High School)		Instructions for S*: • <i>Speakers are limited to 10 minutes</i> • <i>Reflections</i>	
	S1: Engineering	S2: Maths and Technology		Tech Exploration (Primary School) Inside a Computer <i>With Ma'am Alice</i>
	S3: Science	S4: Career Connections		My first Code <i>With Ma'am Tarie</i>
	STEM Career Video (20 minutes)			
1300 - 1315	Technovation Challenge 2017 Overview and Launch		Mrs. U. Chipunza	
1315 - 1325	Closing Remarks		BUSE	
1325 - 1330	Vote of Thanks		<i>STEM Girl</i>	
1300 - 1335	Group Photo and Net-weaving		All	
1335 - 1430	LUNCH and Departure		All	

Celebration co-organised by UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa, Harare, Zimbabwe and Bindura University of Science Education

