



# Safe For Her! HER INTERNET BIANNUAL NEWSLETTER



It is midpoint of yet another year (2023) and we would like to take this opportunity to give you a recap on what has transpired so far.

Here's a little sneak-peak. We recently concluded Internet Safety Month in June, which we kicked off with training workshop on Online Safety and Security (Cohort 2).

#### **SPOTLIGHT:**

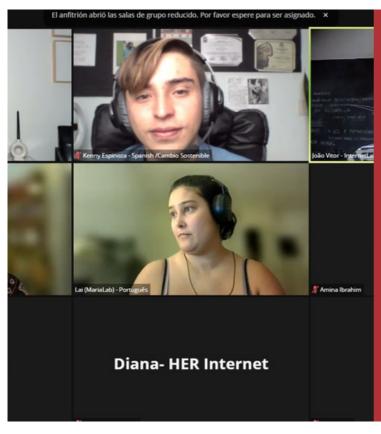
- Strategic Communications Workshop Series for GIF partners.
- CNN engagement on How Does Your Gender Affect Your Life Online.
- International Women's Day 2023.
- #CSW67 side event: We, Women, Web Activists.
- Intersectional Feminist Activism in the Digital Era.
- International Girls in ICT Day 2023.
- Internet Safety Month 2023.

Recent statistics indicate that more than 90% of all cyber-attacks today begin with phishing attempts and such incidents are anticipated to increase in sophistication in the near future.

On that account, we amplify our call for both individual and collective understanding, responsibility and daily action towards the utilization of best digital safety practices.

It's our hope that you find this digest both informative and enjoyable to read. And, we stay grateful to everyone that continues to support our work always.





## STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP SERIES FOR GREATER INTERNET FREEDOM (GIF) CONSORTIUM PARTNERS.

From 23 to 25 January 2023, we took part in a 3-day virtual interactive Strategic Communications Workshop Series for Greater Internet Freedom (GIF) partners that was organized by Internews together with Data4Change. This event aimed at knowledge sharing among the participants on adaptation of new skills and building on existing strengths in advancing internet freedoms across the globe through strategic communication goals, audience mapping, tailoring communication to respective needs and motivations of their audiences among other topics.

### CNN SYSTEMS ERROR DIALOGUE INTERROGATES HOW GENDER AFFECTS YOUR LIFE ONLINE.

Our Anchor at HER Internet, Sandra Kwikiriza joined Seyi Akiwowo (Glitch), Nina Jankowicz (Centre for Information Resilience), Jac sm Kee (Numun Fund) in an enlightening online conversation hosted by Eliza Anyangwe (CNN's Gender #AsEquals team) on "how does your gender affect your life online?" on Thursday 9 February 2023 following the 'Systems Error' investigative series.

To read more on this; <a href="https://edition.cnn.com/2023/02/07/world/as-equals-systems-error-launch-intl-cmd/index.html">https://edition.cnn.com/2023/02/07/world/as-equals-systems-error-launch-intl-cmd/index.html</a>





#### WORKSHOP ON ADVOCACY STRATEGIES FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOs) AND WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS (WHRDs) IN UGANDA.

We attended a workshop on Advocacy Strategies for CSOs and WHRDs partners that was hosted by Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET) in Kampala on Thursday 9th February 2023 under their #FemTech project. This initiative aimed at empowering WHRDs with skills on how to fully engage, participate, survive and thrive in the digital world.



#### #IWD2023: "DigitALL: **Innovation And Technology** For Gender Equality".

"... women's exclusion from the digital world has shaved \$1 trillion from the gross domestic product of low and middle income countries in the last decade -a loss that will grow to \$1.5 trillion by 2025 without action. Reversing this trend will require tackling the problem of online violence..."

-Statement by UN Women,



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In light of #IWD2023 global theme "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality", we conducted our traditional first week-long online drive with reflections, insights and recommendations from our resources on how to address online violence and widening digital gender divide. We also engaged in a special edition of #WomenSpeaking episode on Civic Space TV to celebrate Ugandan womxn breaking barriers in tech. Catch up with this conversation here;

https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=sjxaTQlwoHq

#### #CSW67 SIDE EVENT: WE, WOMEN, WEB ACTIVISTS.

We were delighted to participate at a virtual side event #CSW67 NGO Forum that was hosted by Initiative Sankofa d'Afrique de l'Ouest (ISDAO) in collaboration with UHAI-EASHRI titled "WE, WOMEN, WEB ACTIVISTS -Principles, Outcomes, and Perspectives of Feminist Digital Activism for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls" on Friday 10 March 2023. Part of the discussion tackled emerging and new online strategies to foster inclusion and engagement of all womxn amidst the limited digital literacy and access in West, East and Central Africa.





#### CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT ON **GENDER RESPONSIVE COMMUNICATION FOR POLICY** DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES.

On 14th and 15th March 2023, we partook in a knowledge and skills enhancement training on Gender Responsive Communication for Policy Development Processes held by Uganda Women's Network (UWONET) Secretariat in Kampala. The two days' workshop directed attention to the importance of effective messaging, communication framework and guidelines on narratives in ensuring a progressive women's rights agenda.





#### UGANDA SOCIAL MEDIA CONVENTION 2023 #SMC2023.

We attended the annual Uganda Social Media Convention #SMC2023 organized by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Uganda country office at MCI Media Hub in Kampala on Thursday 23rd March 2023. Themed Social Media, AI and the Future of Governance, the aim of this conference was to convene various key stakeholders from the government, civil society, academia and media to take part in deep dive engagements on the relevance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and social media by highlighting the opportunities, challenges and impacts with consideration of how information is accessed and processed. For a recap on this event and previous editions, please visit; https://socialmedia.ug/

#### INTERSECTIONAL FEMINIST ACTIVISM IN THE DIGITAL ERA: A PAN AFRICAN INTERSECTIONAL FEMINIST PERSPECTIVE.

On Thursday 13 April 2023, Akiina Mama wa Afrika convened a virtual engagement titled Intersectional Feminist Activism in The Digital Era: A Pan African Intersectional Feminist Perspective #FeministDigitalActivism. The panelists at this webinar; Hon. Neema Lulangira, Kalevera Imungu, Jaimee Kokonya and Moderator-Sandra Kwikiriza interrogated the obstacles and strategies to remedy the adversities within the current state of steering intersectional pan African feminism within digital spaces.





### INTERNATIONAL GIRLS IN ICT DAY 2023: DIGITAL SAFETY TRAINING ON CIRCUMVENTION TECHNIQUES.

Under this year's theme "Digital skills for all", HER Internet engaged with 20 womxn in a virtual Digital Safety Training on Circumvention Techniques on Wednesday 19th April 2023 ahead of the International Girls in ICT Day with support from the Tor Project team. The goal of this workshop was to check in on the digital safety of the participants, share a recap on the circumvention tools and introduce the Snowflake proxy.





#### **INTERNET SAFETY MONTH 2023.**

Under #BeInternetAwesome, we kicked off Internet Safety Month with a training workshop on Online Safety and Security (Cohort 2) for 20 womxn at our office premises in Kampala on Tuesday 30 May 2023 with support from the Tor Project team. Along with the participants, we explored timely conversations packaged through different sessions on digital safety tips, mitigation of cyber threats and circumvention techniques. These defined the purpose of this one-day event to address the digital security gaps of the participants both as individuals and organizations to prevent certain extreme risks and levels of insecurity in the future.

# Thank you for catching up with us! Now, feel free to hit us up and let's chat. Enjoy a great rest of the year!



