

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S MONTH FESTIVAL

MARCH. 31, 2022
2PM - 4PM EAT


VIRTUAL EVENT

She
LEADS

 **PLAN**
INTERNATIONAL


ROZARIA
MEMORIAL TRUST

CYPAN
COMMONWEALTH YOUTH PEACE
AMBASSADORS NETWORK

 Youth
VIBES
Afrika


GENDER EQUAL TRUTH

GIMAC Young Women Network International Women's month Festival

Theme: Gender equality
today for a sustainable
tomorrow.”

Date: 31st March 2022
2.00- 4.30 PM EAT

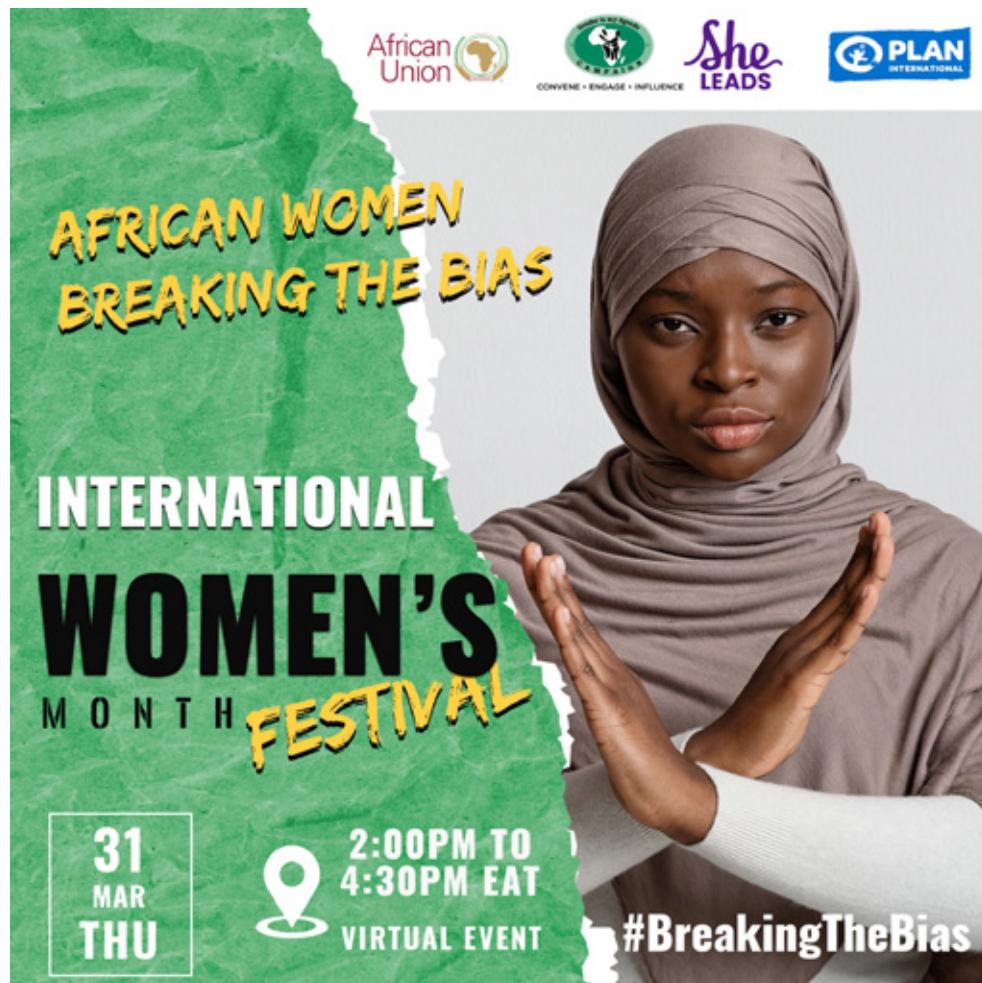
Background Information

GIMAC Young Women Network (GYWN) is a young people's network formed in 2018 from the mother network Gender is My Agenda Campaign Network (GIMAC). A network of over fifty-five civil society organisations promoting gender equality and accountability for women's rights. GIMAC was established during the transformation of OAU to ensure women are part of, and benefit from, the transformation process. Since the official launch in 2002, the network holds bi-annual CSOs meeting at the margins of the AU Summit of Head of States and Governments engage the AU Member States on African women's rights, issues, and concerns. The network further monitors Member States commitments as outlined in relevant legal instruments concerning the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA) by actively working with the AU.

The GIMAC Young Women Network joins the rest of the world in celebrating international Women's day under the theme “Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow” and also observing the whole of March as international women's month. This year's theme seeks to recognize the contribution of women and girls around the world, who are leading change and breaking the biases that hold women from achieving their full potential. In line with that, the young women network will be holding a young people's virtual concert to bring young people together to continue to advocate against the numerous biases women face.

About She Leads

GIMAC Young Women Network with support from Plan International is also currently running a five-year project dubbed She Leads. The project will be running from 2021- 2025 across seven countries in Africa namely: Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya, Ghana, Mali, Sierra Leone, Liberia. The project aims to achieve three key outcomes key among them being; ‘African leaders, (influential, religious and traditional figures, celebrities, African online influencers) and the media are playing active role in creating positive culture for girl's activism’ Through this Festival, GIMAC Young Women Network will bring together African Leaders, media influencers, traditional leaders and all gender activists to celebrate women and continue to advocate against gender biases.



Mode of Engagement

Online festival and creative exhibitions

There has been an increase in webinar fatigue among young people. As a result, the GIMAC Young Women Network is looking to have a more vibrant and youthful engagement online in the form of a Musical Festival/Concert and creative engagement.

Planned Activities

African Music and Spoken Word - This Session will use music, poetry and spoken word to highlight the success of African Young women and bring to attention issues affecting women and slowing down their empowerment across the six thematic areas of Peace and Security, Health, Education, Economic Empowerment, Human Rights and Governance.

The music will also help break the ice and allow young people to express themselves freely. Post-Pandemic, Young people are dealing with a lot of mental health issues as a result of things like job loss among many other losses brought by the pandemic. Having a music session will also allow them to relax and catch a break.

Poetry and Spoken Word - The festival will use poetry and spoken word to advocate against ill traditional practices that promote Child Marriages in Africa. This session will seek to extend ongoing conversations around child marriages in the region, offering a platform for new and emerging poets to share their sentiments on this topical issue. This will also be a complimentary to "REGAI DZIVE SHIRI" child marriage campaign being spearhead by Women Excel Trust a member of GIMAC youth from Zimbabwe.

Gender Equality works exhibition - This session will showcase the work girls and young women across the continent have done in promoting gender equality within their communities, nations at the regional level.

Art Gallery - This session will also showcase art works of different artists who use their creativity to advocate for gender equality such as paintings and drawings

Profiling of young Women - A week prior to the celebration, the network will profile young women and celebrate their contribution to gender equality.

Social Media Twitter Chat/Twitter Space to build momentum for the event. This will be shared through social media under the hashtag #Breakingthebias

14h00-14h15 - Feel Good African Music Session by DJ Mimi	
<div>Moderator</div> <div>14:15 14:30</div>	<div>Abigael Laikarnue Kou Freeman: Welcome Remarks</div> <div>Ms. Helen Kezie Nwoha, Chairperson, GIMAC Network and Executive Director, Women's International Peace Centre Mr. Sam Norgah, Director, Plan International African Union Liaison Office Dr. Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda, African Union Goodwill Ambassador on Ending Child Marriage and Chief Executive, Rozaria Memorial Trust Keynote Address Ms. Chido Mpemba, Special Envoy on Youth, African Union Commission</div>
Youth Showcase of Gender Equality advocacy works/ projects/campaigns:	
<div>Moderator</div> <div>14:15 14:30</div>	<div>Christine Odera, CYPAN</div> <div>Peace and Security, Economic Empowerment, Human Rights, Governance, Health, Climate Change, Education</div>
Panel: Reflections on strategies to support young people's efforts in breaking the gender bias	
<div>Moderator</div> <div>14:15 14:30</div>	<div>Melissa Kubvoruno, Rozaria Memorial Trust</div> <div>Hon. Neema Lugangira; Member of Parliament, Tanzania Ms. Caroline Ariba; Journalist, Uganda Ms. Ohenewa Francesca; S2C Ambassador, Ghana Ms. Meron Anteneh; Youth Advocate Ethiopia Chief Bushu; Chief Shamua District, Zimbabwe</div>
15h40 -15h50	Sharing recommendations from discussion and commitment from stakeholders
15h50 -16h30	Closing Session: Music and Spoken Word performances