

Girls in ICT Day: Coding through Scratch Workshop

The story below is the description of one of the workshops organized in Geneva to celebrate Girls in ICT Day from the perspective of Rumbidzai Muyambo, a girl who had the opportunity to participate in one of the “Coding through Scratch” workshops (which took place at Institut Florimont in Geneva), assisting the ITU film crew, who filmed these activities, as part of her World of Work Week.

“On Wednesday afternoon, we arrived fashionably late at Institut Florimont. As we walked in to the fairly large room we heard the laughter and the excitement of the young girls. The fourteen girls in the classroom were drawn to their computers. They were too focused on their screens as they didn’t realize we were a tad bit late. Their interest in the workshop was extremely pleasant as they seemed very enthusiastic and enlightened. After a short chit-chat the camera crew began taking pictures of the girls while they were completing their workshop. The workshop was about coding and programming. Each girl independently used coding to enable the computer to perform different tasks that they wished to achieve. Each screen was uniquely different as each girl wished to achieve different things. When the camera crew finished taking pictures, interviews of the fourteen girls were held. Two girls were interviewed at a time. Most of the interviews were in French which I didn’t completely understand but fortunately there was one interview that was in English. When the two girls were interviewed they stated that ICT in general is a very important factor we women should start learning at a young age. They said it is essential and very beneficial that workshops like these are held. The two interviewees also stated that they enjoy learning coding and find it fascinating how technology has taken a huge role in our lives. They both wish to use coding and programming in the future. Thanks to the help of Girls in ICT the girls can see a bright future ahead.”

By Rumbidzai Muyambo: Rumbi is 16 years old. She was born on the 5th of December 1999. She is currently in Grade 11 at the British School of Geneva in Switzerland. She loves sciences and her best subjects are Physics, Mathematics and Biology. She wants to study Architecture and Graphic Design at University because she believes that the future will be ruled by technology and no one can escape it. She also believes that a girl can be anything they want to be if they put their mind to it. For extra curriculum activities, she loves Karate. She received her full colours and represented South Africa at the Commonwealth games.