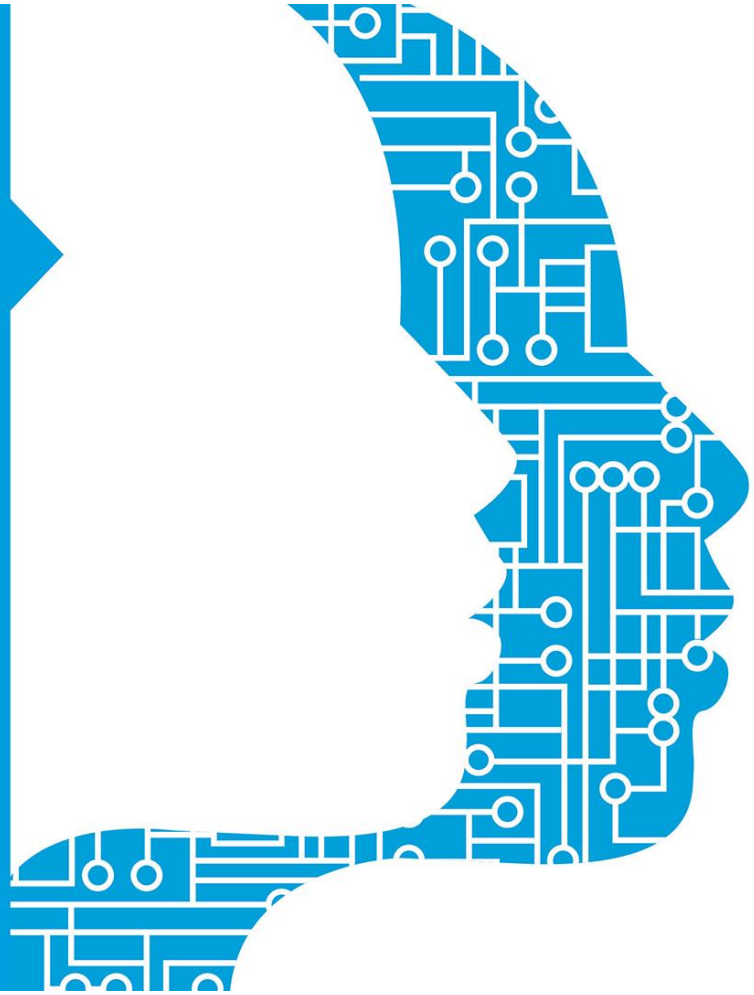
an ITU initiative

International Girls in ICT Day

Expand horizons, change attitudes



#GirlsinICT
itu.int/girlsinict

TOOLKIT

Organizing a Girls in ICT Day virtual event

On Girls in ICT Day 2020, we encourage you to focus your activities around social media outreach and virtual events, rather than live gatherings. This is a unique opportunity to demonstrate the power of technology.

- ✓ Share your virtual celebrations, photos, testimonials and discussions through digital platforms such as TikTok, Zoom, Skype, Jabber, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Facetime, Snapchat and many more.
- ✓ Spark the interest of girls to join your virtual celebration. Be specific, creative, and innovative.
- ✓ Allow your audience to understand the objective of your activity and the expected outcomes.

The following are suggestions to help you kickstart the organization of your Girls in ICT Day virtual celebration. We encourage you to continue your contribution to this global effort by organizing an inspiring event to celebrate the Day on 23 April 2020 and beyond.

1. Online training on coding

2. Web-based Robotics training

3. Virtual Hackathon

4. Mobile application building

5. STEAM Learning

6. Online Blogging competition

7. Live Dialogues

8. E-mentoring

9. Technology for Good online innovation challenge

1. Online training on Coding

What

Introduce girls to coding and programming. Coding can be a creative tool to have fun while learning new things and exploring new ideas. Provide them with skills and abilities like problem-solving, logic, imagination, communication skills, collaboration, brainstorming, multitasking and design skills.

How

Make use of online coding trainings such as: Code.org, Codeacademy, Khan Academy, Mozilla Webmaker, edX and Made with Code. Some are free of charge.

A success story

In Liberia, the Ministry of Gender and Development in collaboration with the United Nations Mission in Liberia and iLab Liberia organized a training for girls on programming with Python, developing mobile apps, and more. Take inspiration from this on-site event and use your creativity to transform it into a valuable virtual activity. More information on this event can be found here.

2. Web-based Robotics Trainings

What

Organize an online workshop on robotics to provide girls with a fantastic opportunity to experience “building the future”. Teach them how to write and run simple robotics programming to carry out tasks such as movement, LED display and many more.

How

Employ resources like the robotics online courses found on platforms such as Coursera for Top-Notch Robotics Programs Online, Udemy for Niche Robotics Courses, FutureLearn, MIT OpenCourseWare (OCW) and more.

A success story

In Malta, the Malta Information Technology Agency organized an event where girls had the opportunity to learn basic robotics programming using LEGO Mindstorm NXT. Take inspiration from this on-site event and use your creativity to transform it into a valuable virtual activity. More information on this event can be found here.

3. Virtual Hackathon

What

Organize a virtual hackathon grouping girls in teams competing to create the most innovative ideas and concepts to innovate on a theme or improve upon an existing project. Connecting remotely will provide the opportunity to participate from any location, showcase their skills, and have fun while being innovative and creative.

How

Create your own online platform or use existing platforms like those offered by companies such as Agorize and HackerEarth. Take inspiration from what other organizations such as HackBrightAcademy and Hack like a girl have created for virtual hackathons.

A success story

A Girls in ICT Caribbean Hackathon took place in Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad, St. Vincent, Guyana and Tobago. The girls were empowered with hands-on experience on the use of technology to build innovative products. Take inspiration from this on-site event and use your creativity to transform it into a successful virtual activity. More details on this event can be found here

4. Mobile Application Building

What

Teach girls to build mobile applications thus empowering them to move from technology consumption to technology creation. These skills can offer them the opportunity to create exciting solutions to achieve social impact for their communities by using technology.

How

Use online tools such as: AppShed, App Inventor and App Inventor 2,Ratchet, LiveCode and many more. They can allow everyone, including children, to build fully functional apps for smartphones and tablets. Some are free of charge.

A success story

The United Arab Emirates Higher Colleges of Technology hosted a series of events targeted to their female students to experience technology in a highly interactive, fun and experiential manner. Among other, students acquire skills to build mobile applications and later showcase them. Innovate and transform this idea into a successful virtual GICT Day celebration! Read more details here.

5. STEAM LEARNING

What

Create exciting and engaging STE**A**M (Science, Technology, Engineering, **Art** and Math) activities! Encourage girls to use their interest in technology to express their creativity and artistic talent. Integrating various education subjects can be very enriching for learners.

How

Organize activities such a short-video creation and digital artworks. Make use of online tools such as: GIMP, Inkscape, Scribus, Avidemux, Corel Draw, Glogster and more.

A success story

In Nigeria, the W.TEC Girls Technology Camp created a programme for girls aimed at developing an early interest in technology. Some activities included the creation of digital artwork using Corel Draw and the creation of short movies using Microsoft Movie Maker. Revamp this idea into a virtual event with the use of educational tools such as Google Classroom or Seesaw. More details on this event can be found here.

6. Online Blogging Competition

What

Conduct an online blogging competition for girls! Blogging can be a good platform for girls to demonstrate and improve their knowledge and skills on technology topics while improving their talent in writing.

How

Employ user-friendly online blogging tools to help you organize a blogging competition: WordPress, Tumblr, Blogger, etc.

A success story

G-Hackademy in collaboration with Equal Access Nepal and the Nepal Telecommunications Authority organized a Blogathon for girls. They learned how to write blogs and their main components while sharing their ideas on the role of ICTs in empowering women. Take inspiration from this on-site event and transform it into an exciting virtual activity. More details here.

7. Live Dialogues

What

Organize a web dialogue to engage with your audience without having to leave their homes. Invite subject matter experts, role models and inspiring young girls to provide their perspective on the importance of fostering gender diversity in technical fields, the challenges faced, and the role that ICT professionals and organizations can play in overcoming some of these challenges.

How

Depending on the size of your audience; screen-sharing functionality; costs and other, choose the right platform (i.e. Zoom, Cisco Webex, Google Hangouts, Skype, Livestorm, etc.). Promote your event and share information on how to join live and follow the discussions.

A success story

The ITU Area Office for CIS organized a Regional Videoconference Seminar on the occasion of the International Girls in ICT Day in 2019. The webinar had an attendance of 60 on-site participants and 50 remote participants, from several countries across the region. For more details click here. We invite you to innovate and make your event virtual!

8. E-mentoring

What

Provide a unique opportunity for girls to virtually meet successful women in tech who can provide advice, encourage them to build their confidence and knowledge, and inspire them to identify and embrace their aspirations for careers that incorporate their personal interest and skills in ICTs.

How

With the help of teleconferencing platforms, organize virtual mentorship programmes with female role models as an effective way to inspire girls to pursue careers in ICT.

A success story

In Jamaica, Youth Can Do IT (YCDI) Women in IT launched a mentoring programme for girls and young women. This program allows mentees to meet their mentors and be supported by a networking community, that encourages them to take a proactive approach to fulfill their goals and dreams. More details can be found here.

9. Technology for Social Good innovation challenges

What

Technology for Social Good innovation challenges can spark girls' creativity, provide team-working, hands-on experience, and the opportunity to be part of a supportive ecosystem that applies the female perspective to the problems and solutions of their community.

How

Launch challenges for different categories related to the SDGs and invite girls to design technological solutions to these challenges. To make this more interesting and collaborative, challenges can be tackled in teams and team members can be in different regions. Take inspiration from online platforms such as Innocentive and Agorize.

A success story

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Gender Center – Center for Equity and Equality of the Government of the Republika Srpska organized a challenge for girls to provide creative technological solutions to problems in their local communities. More details on this event here.

International Girls in ICT Day 2020

We encourage you to continue your contribution to this global effort by organizing an inspiring event to celebrate the International Girls in ICT Day. Remember, your efforts will contribute to bridging the gender divide in the ICT sector and achieving women empowerment globally while accelerating progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

Maximize the use of technology to increase the outreach of your event, give girls and young women their own voice and connect girls across your country and beyond!

Visit www.itu.int/girlsinICT to get more updates on Girls in ICT Day 2020 global events.

It is important to note, however, that while technology and specifically the Internet can provide many benefits and endless supply of knowledge and information, it may pose many risks and harm, especially where children are concerned. In order to safeguard the interactions of the girls participating in your events, we invite you to consult the Guidelines for Child Online Protection (COP), prepared by ITU and COP partners for a safer and more secure cyber world.

Don't forget to share your activities using the **#GirlsinICT** hashtag, engage with us on Facebook, and submit your event to the Girls in ICT Day Events Map on the Portal, we will continue to map your virtual celebrations!