INVESTING IN WOMEN & GIRLS

EVERY YEAR, 10 MILLION GIRLS BECOME CHILD BRIDES

Learn how innovative partnerships are creating positive change for adolescent girls and putting a stop to harmful practices like child marriage.

Microfinance: Gaining access to financial resources
Geena Davis: Eliminating gender stereotypes in the media
Education now: Engaging girls through STEM education
In September 14, 2011, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton chaired a roundtable discussion at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) High-Level Policy Dialogue on Women and the Economy in San Francisco, California. Hosted by the United States, hundreds of private sector leaders and government officials gathered that week to discuss the inclusion of women as an economic growth strategy and to recommend concrete policy measures to increase women’s economic participation worldwide.

The inclusion of women “The big challenge we face in these early years of 21st century is how to grow our economies and ensure shared prosperity for all nations and all people. We want to give every one of our citizens, men and women alike, young and old alike, greater opportunity to find work, to earn and spend money, to pursue happiness, ultimately to live up to their own God-given potential.”

That is a clear and simple vision to state. But to make it real, to achieve the economic expansion we all seek, we need to unlock a vital source of growth that can power our economies in the decades to come. And that vital source of growth is women.

Government economic models are struggling in every corner of the world, none of us can afford to prop-up the burdens facing women in the workforce. Because, by increasing women’s participation in the economy and enhancing their efficiency and productivity, we can bring about a substantive impact on the competitiveness and growth of our economies. When economies have a chance to participate in the economic life of a nation, we can all become more than we could contribute to the global GDP. And the gap between the developed and the developing economies would narrow significantly as productivity rates in economies from Haiti to Papua New Guinea.

But that great dream can not be realized by ignoring the edges of reform. Nor, cautiousness be secured through any singular commitment on the part of us. It requires, rather, a fundamental transformation, a paradigm shift in how governments make and enforce laws and policies, how businesses and governments invest, how people have choices in the marketplace.

Women are an economic, and technological, and social, and human resource. They are members of every family, the source of a powerful ripple effect that helps entire communities. When they participate in the economy, they have the means to save money, to give them access to small business loans. They succeed because they keep their kids in school by paying their mothers the means to pay tuition. They succeed because their savings keep entire villages alive during times of drought and skyrocketing food prices. And when you invest in a maternal health program, to save the lives of mothers and newborns, you’re also rescuing the root of her family from the impoverished petty that often follows the death of a mother in already poor communities.

So in every country where CARE works, we see that when you empower a girl or a woman, you don’t just help her; you create a powerful ripple effect that helps entire communities. With the world’s population stretching towards 7 billion by the end of the year, we simply cannot afford to keep girls and women on the sidelines anymore. The strength, ingenuity, and generosity of people like Peninah needs to be nurtured, everyone’s self benefit.

Be a voice that ends violence and hunger in women’s lives. Join us and help women thrive.

The source of a powerful ripple effect

Mathare is one of Nairobi’s worst slums. A crowded neighborhood of makeshift shacks connected by muddy and unpaved roads, the neighborhood always hangs thick in the air.

Life is hard for everyone in Mathare, but it’s hardest for young girls who are often expected to look after school or other relatives and end up walking the slum’s dangerous streets to sell anything they can earn money for their families, and even their own needs. Against all odds, many still manage to succeed in lifting themselves out of the grim circumstances into which they were born. One act of generosity—one open door—can help these smart, determined girls not only change their own lives for the better, but lead others to better lives as well.

One such young leader is Peninah Mihaya Muriuki. As a child, she vowed that the only job she could ever have were to sell dagal bracelet or work as a prostitute. Determined from a very early age not to settle for a life she didn’t want, Peninah poured all her energy into her education. In her gut, she knew what study after study has shown: that education is a pathway to empowerment.

Unable to afford secondary school tuition, she found a scholarship offer from a school three hours from her home. There was only one catch: the scholarship was for basketball—a sport she had never played. Undeterred, Peninah taught herself to play in the month before school started. As usual, Peninah didn’t just get by. She excelled. She became a star player who eventually got a basketball scholarship to college. In 2006, she made Kenya’s national basketball team. More importantly, she became a lawyer and went on to found Safe Spaces, a sports leadership organization helping young girls from Nairobi’s poorest slums. The people who offered Peninah a basketball scholarship didn’t just open a door for Peninah. They opened doors for the hundreds of young girls Peninah now helps every day.

Helping hundreds The story of how helping Peninah ended up helping hundreds of other people is remarkable, but it’s hardly one of a kind. Economic empowerment programs like CARE’s Village Savings & Loan Associations don’t succeed because they teach millions of women to better manage their money and give them access to small business loans. They succeed because they keep girls in school by paying their mothers the means to pay tuition. They succeed because their savings keep entire villages alive during times of drought and skyrocketing food prices. And when you invest in a maternal health program, to save the lives of mothers and newborns, you’re also rescuing the root of her family from the impoverished petty that often follows the death of a mother in already poor communities.

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Dr. Auma Obama is technical advisor to the President of the Ford Foundation, a Voice for Change Initiative, which uses sports to help young girls from Nairobi’s poorest slums. The people who offered Peninah a basketball scholarship didn’t just open a door for Peninah. They opened doors for the hundreds of young girls Peninah now helps every day.

A woman multiplies the impact of the family, of the community, of the nation. And the construction of a strong community...
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AFFECTS 1 IN 4 WOMEN IN THEIR LIFETIME

It shouldn’t be a secret.

Visit PURPLEPURSE.COM
Start talking about domestic violence

With PurplePurse.com, The Allstate Foundation is determined to raise awareness about domestic violence. Designed to be as engaging as a fashion magazine, PurplePurse.com brings you easy-to-use and important information about how to spot abuse, what to say to help a friend in need and where to turn for more guidance and resources.

An Allstate Foundation Project
A global plan to eliminate mother-to-child transmission

**Question:** How can we eliminate new HIV infections among children by 2015?

**Answer:** By making sure all women have access to antenatal care and treatment.

In developed countries, voluntary testing and access to antiretroviral therapy has virtually eliminated mother-to-child transmission of HIV. Yet in Africa, one thousand babies are born HIV-positive every day. A new global plan, launched at the United Nations in June of this year, aims to eliminate new HIV infections among children by 2015.

Current approaches to preventing mother-to-child transmission are 98 percent effective.

In Malawi, 60 percent of people living with HIV are women, putting pregnant women at risk of transmitting the virus to their unborn children. But for Agness Mkweu this was not an option.

Agness Mkweu, 38, is an expert in what it takes to have children. As a mother of five, there’s not a lot she doesn’t know about being pregnant, giving birth and being a mother. But nothing could prepare her for the news she received that day. She found out she was pregnant with her sixth child. Agness was told she was HIV-positive, in front of a room full of people. She was shocked and confused. Knowing very little about HIV, she left the clinic feeling worse about the fate of her unborn child.

Luckily for Agness, her local clinic had a prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) program available that she was able to enroll in. In attending her prenatal clinic, she crossed a job shadow for mothers2mothers (M2M), an NGO that works to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV and supports a network of peer mentors to provide care and emotional support to pregnant women and their children.

“Getting a second chance at life means being able to share the love of moms helping moms,” says Karen Walrond, one of the bloggers, who was along on a health and family care visit when the mother tested positive for HIV, along with two of her children. This was certainly distressing, but “I also see it as an opportunity,” says Walrond. “Once they found out, then something positive could come out of it.”

As Walrond and her fellow bloggers shared their experiences, the Kenyan mothers became more than statistic or case studies. To those who followed the blogs, they became friends of friends, creating a worldwide family of support, emotional as well as financial. “We are all family on this earth,” says Walrond, “and we need to take care of each other.”

It’s easy to help reach the goals of the global plan, without going to Africa. The organization (RED) partners with familiar brands to see that a portion of their profits go directly to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis—simply choosing a product from the (RED) logo puts much-needed funds where they are most needed.

**Getting a second chance at life**

**Question:** What can be done to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV? In low- and middle-income countries, few women are receiving services to protect themselves or their children from HIV. Women in high-income countries, where women do have access to family planning, have seen significant new HIV infections in children almost vanish. This inequality must change. The life of a child and a mother are in the hands of a policy -maker, doctor, politician or the police of where she or he is born.

Without access to services, as many as 40 percent of children born to HIV-positive mothers will be born HIV-positive. Without access to care and treatment, about one third of children born with HIV will die before their third birthday; 50 percent by the age of two years, and 70 percent by five years. This is morally wrong.

In June of this year UNAIDS and our partners launched the Global Plan to end new HIV infections among children by 2015. The plan will focus on 21 priority countries which are home to nearly 40 percent of pregnant women living with HIV. The plan will engage leaders, encourage strong governmental commitment, provide funding and ensure adequate supplies.

This will use extraordinary leadership and personal and professionally driven engagement in our collective goals and a realisation that new generation born free from HIV.

**Collective hope**

A young woman has been walking for an hour under the intense heat of the mid-day sun. She is seven months pregnant with her fifth child, yet she has never seen a health clinic or a health attendant. The health clinic is any kilometer away from her village in Africa, but she decided yesterday that she needed to make this visit. That little baby can and must be born healthy. That little baby is not only her baby, she is around the world, united in the shared experience of living with HIV. She is not the only one.

In low- and middle-income countries, NGOs and others by reaffirming their commitment and smart investments and save lives.

We joined UNAIDS, PEPFAR, governments, foundations, corporations and thousands of people to build a global plan to eliminate new HIV infections among children by 2015.

In the heat of the mid-day sun, she is seven months pregnant with her fifth child. Agness Mkweu, an HIV-positive woman whose own baby was born HIV-free.

Moms on the other side of the world are helping too. For the first time, all the world’s governments, faith leaders and the private sector shared their experiences, the power of moms. mothers2mothers. One of the most effective means of getting beyond these obstacles is calling on the power of moms. mothers2mothers helps bring HIV-positive pregnant women knowledge on how they can stay healthy and their babies can be born HIV-free.

The heart of the plan is making sure all women have access to HIV prevention and treatment.

Together with her new job, this was a life-changing experience for Agness. In fact, she was so happy she named her daughter “Mwai” which means chance, as it was because of her that Agness got a second chance at life.

лерна s2mothers has given me strength to get on with my life and I have been empowered to think further and get involved in something. I am really happy to be a part of such an action-oriented programme. We use what we have, HIV-positive women. It is a simple way of reaching big goals.”

Since joining m2m Agness has gone back to school and is currently studying HIV/AIDS management.

“It was still fragile and raw. As Walrond*

*Support from mothers2mothers group to Agness Mkweu in Malawi, photo credit:坝

*Geting a second chance at life
Inexpensive interventions

Fifteen percent of all pregnancies—nine out of seven women—experience complications ranging from pre eclampsia to cesarean births.

Cause for concern in the United States, these issues often become deadly in areas lacking essentials such as transportation, sterilization and secured blood supplies.

The U.N. Millennium Development Goals为了 tackle the challenge to reduce the maternal mortality rate by three-quarters. While progress is too slowly for the 2015 target, midwife training among limited health facilities and securing blood supplies, such as transportation, sterilization and supportive programs such as prenatal care texts.

“Africa has just started in the last few years,” said Mary Beth Powers, chief of Save the Children’s GoodGoes.org campaign. “That’s been a huge improvement and it’s widely available in most countries where we are front-line health workers.”

Sanitation

Simple hand washing remains a challenge. In low-income settings, hand washing with soap is an estimated 80% to 90% lower than in high-income settings. Often associated with hookworms, sanitation-related maternal deaths trigger a $15 billion loss in productivity.

Health & Nutrition; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene at World Vision said, “It’s far more of the world’s poor who actually lack access to sanitation.”

Vaccine concerns

The loss of lives due to vaccine-preventable concerns continues to frustrate advocates. Currently, maternal and newborn tetanus are endemic in 11 countries. To approximate 20 cents a dose, the vaccine proves one of the most cost-efficient efforts.

“Women give birth at home on a dirt floor and the umbilical cord is cut with a knife that hasn’t been sterilized, that can lead to tetanus death,” Powers said. “And yet, there is this inexpensive, wonderful intervention.”

Go to ShotatLife.org to learn more.

Your voice, your time and your support can change a child’s life forever.

These children seem a world away, but they aren’t much different than the children in our own lives.

By giving them access to childhood vaccines, we can give them a shot at childhood experiences that Americans routinely celebrate—and a lifetime of immunity from deadly disease.

Want to see how your voice changed a child’s life?

http://www.1shotafterlife.org/
When U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said, "violence against women is not cultural. It's criminal," she spoke of crimes committed against more than half of the world's female population. Six out of ten women experience some form of physical and/or sexual violence worldwide. Girls and women suffer sexual violence, often at the hands of people they think they can trust," Michelle Bachelet, executive director of UN Women said. "This is a global pandemic.”

Although the issue affects women and girls globally, it remains extremely underreported in the developing world. A World Health Organization study found the prevalence of violence against women varied greatly by location, from 5 percent in urban Japan to 71 percent in rural Ethiopia. Boys are also at risk, although the rates are lower.

Common sense solutions simply prevent violence from making huge differences. Providing additional lighting in your neighborhood and at your workplace increases your sense of safety for pedestrians in congested areas and reduces the potential for harm. Parenting and early childhood education programs can also help break the cycle by establishing policies for law enforcement spread efforts into the remote areas where crimes occur and work with the justice system ensures that perpetrators are punished.

"Prevention is a huge part of this battle," said Brooks. "We must do more to prevent violence, but it's so fundamental to social change that we need to start at the root of the problem. Violence against women is as much a social issue as it is a legal one. The root of the problem is poverty, as well as cultural attitudes and values that perpetuate the violence. She cites efforts in Tanzania, where the Tanzanian government was the first country in Africa to take a national study of violence against children with a focus on girls, supports implementation of evidence-based prevention programs and services for survivors of sexual violence, she cites efforts in Tanzania as a recent success. The newly released Government of Tanzania national survey on violence against children brought together government ministers, children’s organizations and other community groups to commit to a national action plan to reduce violence against children and support survivors. "A lot of people feel as though this is too serious to deal with, but actually, it's a growing body of evidence shows that there are strategies for preventing and things and that people do as a result of the amount of violence," she said.

She has dreams in mind of growing up and having children of her own. She walks to school each day—a long walk on some-

DON'T MISS!
• Sexual violence against girls is one of the most intractable problems. It contributes to spread of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, to teenage pregnancy, to young mothers dying in childbirth, and to children being born orphaned and highly vulnerable. It under-

mines overall economic development of countries, because girls who are protected and edu-

cated contribute disproportionately back to their communities and societies, advancing overall economic growth, but girls who are sexually violated are more likely to drop out of school. It is a linchpin to all these problems. There are studies and data dem-

onstrating all of this.

A tolerated injustice is ever more and the sim-

ple fact that sexual violence against girls is a gross injustice and human rights violation. Although reported to sexual violence, girls are more likely to engage in substance abuse and high risk sexual behaviors, to suffer from depression, and to commit suicide. They have been sent down a distorted life path that they may never recover from. In some places, it takes their lives.

We would never tolerate this if it were happening to our own daughters and our own daughters, Now. But the world tolerates this happening to tens of millions girls annually, most of whom haven't even reached their 15th birthday.

Agent of change Ending sexual violence against girls must be pursued as a national priority in countries throughout the world. This is why we formed Together For Girls. As progress is made, you’ll see more girls reaching their dreams of growing up and having children of their own ages 10 to 14 who are in school are five times more likely to die in childbirth than girls their age ages 20 to 24.

She is a child growing up in Tanzania. She loves stories and songs. She likes to dance. Her favorite food is viliambo, especially in the afterschool after school. She dreams of growing up and having children of her own. She walks to school each day—a long walk on some-

She has dreams and is a child in danger.

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Partners against sexual violence

Sexual violence is a global human rights violation. Together for Girls represents the first global effort to correct this destructive social pattern. Ten international organizations from the public, private and nonprofit sectors – including five UN agencies led by UNICEF, the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, BD and other partners – are working to mitigate the devastating health and human consequences of gender-based violence.

Together for Girls addresses the systemic and societal foundations of sexual violence against children by supporting governments and civil society to implement national surveys, mobilize prevention and protection programs and change social norms through broad-based advocacy.

Research indicates that sexual violence against girls is a direct and indirect driver of HIV/AIDS spread and other adverse health and social consequences. Fortunately, positive actions are being taken. Legal and policy reforms and improved services for children who experience sexual violence support the ultimate goal to end this global outrage.

Named one of the World’s Most Admired Companies1 and one of the World’s Most Ethical Companies2, BD is dedicated to serving the global community’s most important health needs.

BD – Helping all people live healthy lives.

1FORBES, March 2011. 2Ethisphere™ Magazine, April 2011.

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This practice is a gross violation of human rights, and a major challenge in the fight against poverty and ill-health. I don’t think enough people know that. I didn’t know it! When I first learned that 10 million girls are married under the age of 18, I thought my life would be completely ruined. “Child marriage occurs because we don’t allow it. Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a disempowered girl and the life of a married woman. Cultural ties Although many governments—including India where an estimated 5 percent of child marriages take place—currently outlaw such practices, many countries recognize, overlook instead of challenging them. The practice can indeed end. We need to enlist the support of local and community leaders working for peace and social justice until they persuade all those who don’t.” UNICEF to give strength to families. “It’s a wrong, and then work together to change it.” Tutu said.

Child marriage affects 10 million girls More than a third of child brides are considered like adult marriage. Desmond Tutu, ceo of the elders in Delhi, India. "It influences children’s and the life of a married woman. Cultural ties Although many governments—including India where an estimated 5 percent of child marriages take place—currently outlaw such practices, many countries recognize, overlook instead of challenging them. The practice can indeed end. We need to enlist the support of local and community leaders working for peace and social justice until they persuade all those who don’t.” UNICEF to give strength to families. “It’s a wrong, and then work together to change it.” Tutu said.

Child marriage hinders the achievement of 6 of the 8 Millennium Development Goals. Girls are deprived of their rights,” said UNICEF Child Protection Specialist Suleyman Bay. “It influences children’s and the life of a married woman. Cultural ties Although many governments—including India where an estimated 5 percent of child marriages take place—currently outlaw such practices, many countries recognize, overlook instead of challenging them. The practice can indeed end. We need to enlist the support of local and community leaders working for peace and social justice until they persuade all those who don’t.” UNICEF to give strength to families. “It’s a wrong, and then work together to change it.” Tutu said.

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Girls will marry before they turn 15 in the developing world. New support measures are saving girls. Babalu, 15, lives with her family in a small village in rural Rajasthan. She was 15 when her community decided she should be married. "I did not want to get married," she said. "I thought my life would be completely ruined.” Child marriage is illegal in India, but in poor regions, such as the north-western state of Rajasthan, it is common. Girls are often married by age 16—or often setting up a lifetime of health and social problems for these young women and their children. A disempowered girl "Child marriage against child rights," said UNICEF Child Protection Specialist Suleyman Bay. “It influences children’s and the life of a married woman. Cultural ties Although many governments—including India where an estimated 5 percent of child marriages take place—currently outlaw such practices, many countries recognize, overlook instead of challenging them. The practice can indeed end. We need to enlist the support of local and community leaders working for peace and social justice until they persuade all those who don’t.” UNICEF to give strength to families. “It’s a wrong, and then work together to change it.” Tutu said.

Babalu's father, Ruma Ram, said community pressure led the family to agree to the early marriage. But new support structures for adolescents are arriving in Rajasthan. Babalu's aunt Durga—a village health-care worker—is part of a program supported by the European Commission and UNICEF to give strength to families who decide not to marry their daughters young. "When discussing these issues, we are not here to lecture but to support (community) in finding solutions to these problems," said European Commission Representative to India Danielle Timalsina. Through such discussions, Mr. Ram became convinced that it was in his family's best interest to let Babalu continue her studies. "I get out of the house, I attend Panga's meetings," he said. "I now realize that one should not get married so soon.”

Inspiring others Babalu is grateful for her father's change of heart. She says she would have killed herself if she had been forced to marry. "It is a new world, they have to save others from the fate we avoided. Her example has already inspired wider change. Hearing about Babalu, five girls in nearby villages stopped their own marriages. And Babalu now committed to standing up for girls who refuse marriage. "I will not let any young girls marry," she said. "I will take legal action. I want to become somebody.”
We support the campaign to end child marriage.

You can too.

Visit GirlsNotBrides.org
Community

Creating a Global Community

Question: How can you create sustainable change?

Answer: Invest in women.

Although women are the most marginalized by poverty, experience has proven that women are also an excellent investment in the fight for sustainable change. Research shows that when a woman is able to contribute to her family’s income, the majority of her earnings go toward creating a better future for herself and her children. And yet, women in the developing world continue to face significant barriers to accessing the financial resources they need to start businesses and independently participate in their local economies. Decades of hard work have shown that there is no silver bullet for enabling women to realize their full potential. But one thing is certain, it is a collective problem. Secretary of State Clinton, during a recent talk at the APEC global conference, referenced the 21st century as the “Participation Age,” and cited figures indicating that unlocking the potential of women by increasing their gross gap could lead to a 36 percent increase in per capita incomes by the year 2020. “When it comes to the future of the world, we can’t afford to leave women behind,” Clinton said.

A productive partnership

Whether we realize it or not, we all have a relationship with people living in poverty all over the world. Often this relationship is fueled by third party stories telling with the intention of eliciting guilt and resulting in a disconnected donor-recipient relationship. There is a growing movement, however, to make this relationship a productive partnership. A partnership that validates the dignity of everyone involved by going beyond the numbers and statistics and concentrating on the stories of real people. This partnership is fueled more by mutual respect than guilt, and allows people who are otherwise incredibly isolated, especially women, to tell their own story about their desire to work hard and change their lives for the better.

Global dreamers

Zongty is a traditional Cambodian silk weaver, a craft that has been passed down by the women of her family for generations. But the world is changing, and Zongty held big dreams for her daughter. Like millions of other women in the world, it is not easy to access the financial resources to start or grow a business, and craft a better future for oneself and one’s children. Through the power of the internet, and with the help of a local microfinance institution, Zongty was able to share her story with a global community of online micro-lenders who could contribute as little as $10 each to invest in Zongty’s dream. Three years later, Zongty beams with pride when she tells about the opportunity her two daughters have because she was able to grow her business and pay for their college education.

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Zongty’s dreams for a better future are breaking the chain of hunger and poverty lands—we don’t have a person to waste. A productive partnership is born. This is the virtuous cycle of a connected and empowered world.

Help a self-starter like Magalis get started.

We’re Kiva and we are not just a charity.

We are in the business of connecting people, through the power of micro-lending, to create opportunities that alleviate poverty.

That means with a $25 loan, you help a woman like Magalis start a business that can grow her financial security, her confidence, and her ability to create a brighter future for her family. And when she is successful, you can get paid back.

Lend it again and the change continues.

Help her get started today.

Learn how at Kiva.org/women
**Transformation in Nepal**

Mandira Bote lives in Sarlahi, near the Bagmati River in southern Nepal. She and others in her community belong to a marginalized, nearly extinct caste of landless fishermen.

Mandira grew up knowing she would probably not ever get an educa-
tion. Any money for school was always spent on the boys.

Yet Mandira still dreamed of going to school and becoming a teacher.

The women in her community suffered greatly. Their husbands drank away their earnings, leaving the women to feed their children by working in a nearby quarry, crush-
ing stones. Their huts were small, and leaky. The women tried to raise animals, but didn’t know how, and their hard-earned money was lost when the animals died.

The goat project

In Nepal, as in other parts of the developing world, a majority of women work in agriculture. Yet, they have lower incomes, are less likely to own their own land, and have less access to credit.

If women had the same access to resources as men, accord-
ing to a UN report, they could increase yields on their farms 20-30 percent.

In 2004, the women of Sarlahi formed an organization that offered hardy livestock to improve nutrition and create income. It also provided valuable agri-cultural training for those willing to work hard.

The women trained for months on how to work together, save money, and care for the animals.

Today, several years into the women’s goat project, Mandira dreams boldly in front of a com-

**Empower rural women, change the world**

This is a story that can change the world. It begins with a woman, like Mandira. She lives in northern Cameroon on the edge of the desert where families struggle to feed themselves. Her family owns two acres of land and she has the impossible task of pro-
ducing enough food to nourish her family all year round. When the first rains come—she hungers, she loses her hard work when the harvest comes—she cannot feed her family, her husband or herself.

Now imagine with us that this story can be different. There’s another woman who lives in northern Cameroon. She runs a community garden, along with other women in her village. Knowing that failed com-
munities like hers are prone to drought, the U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) helped set up village gardens so that families can pool resources dur-
ing the lean season instead of depending on outside help. WFP empowered women by teaching them about food storage manage-
ment and accounting. There are now 500 gardens and 15 percent of them are managed by women.

A cycle of hunger broken and a community made stronger and more resilient, all because of empowered rural women. When you empower a woman, you feed her family, and strengthen her community. With your help we can change the world.

**INVEST.**

Visit Heifer.org/Women
Taking measures to stop a silent killer

Preeti Gupta lives in rural India, 15 km outside the city of Agra, where the dustyst roads of her village are filled with children playing, bullhorns pulling bucket carts and motorbikes zipping by.

When you think of one of the most dangerous activities for a woman in a developing country, does preparing a meal for her family come to mind?

Cooking shouldn’t kill, but 2 million people around the world die each year from diseases caused by toxic smoke emitted from rudimentary cookstoves and open fires. These victims are part of the nearly 3 billion people who rely on solid fuel for cooking every day. When burned, these fuels fill households with gases that cause chronic diseases such as cancer, lung disease, pneumonia and tuberculosis.

Women and children bear the brunt of the disease, illness and death associated with household air pollution, which the World Health Organization classifies as the fifth biggest health risk in the developing countries. Before women and girls can even begin cooking, however, many of them spend hours a day, sometimes at great risk to their personal safety, searching for fuel.

Clean cooking

The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves was launched last year to save lives, improve livelihoods, empower women and combat climate change by creating a thriving global market for clean cookstoves and fuels. The alliance is an innovative public-private partnership led by the United Nations Foundation with an ambitious goal: 100 million women entrepreneurs by 2020. In India, specifically, the solar-cooker is an example of how the company is deploying innovations to help make a difference in women’s lives. There are many programs within the 5 By 20 that are being developed to help serve women and barriers to women’s success by increasing access to learning, business skills training, and networks of peers or mentors. Each of them receiving support from these programs touches the company in some way—from marketing efforts in Kenya to shopkeepers in India to recovering collectors in Brazil. As 5 By 20 empowers women economically, it also empowers their families and communities, turning dreams into realities.

Ruchika Misra
editorial@mediaplanet.com

Taking measures to stop a silent killer

What was your original motivation for wanting to work for peace?

I was brought up in a war-torn nation and all I wanted was peace. I wasn’t sure how to go about doing it. I felt I had to do something to help ease the pain and suffering of the people who had suffered so much. I started working with little girls in the community, moving on to working with ex-child soldiers, then to working with women in internally displaced shelters, and then later, on to peacebuilding. I had to do something to ease some of the pain and suffering. It was coming out of some of the anger that I felt—just not sitting back and complaining and crying.

What inspired you to get involved in the women and girls movement?

I had worked with grassroots organizations in Ethiopia and overall, I have come to realize that women and girls suffer in much the same way. They are dealt with very similarly to social problems whether they are working in Afghanistan or Brooklyn. When women fight to be involved in processes they do not ask for changes that address their own “special interests.” Rather, they fight for things that strengthen whole communities: food, shelter, clean water, education, access to healthcare.

Women live and work at the center of the lives of children, families, communities that bind communities together. And so when you strengthen women, you strengthen the community.

Children were virtually dying from hunger. Kids would be sitting outside different embassies just looking and imagining that someone would give them food. Or you would see mothers bringing their babies and just leaving them there to die, hoping that people would come and pick up their kids. I actually remember allowing them to die. I felt—not just sitting back and complaining and crying.

I felt I had to do something to help ease the pain and suffering of the people who had suffered so much. I started working with little girls in the community, moving on to working with ex-child soldiers, then to working with women in internally displaced shelters, and then later, on to peacebuilding. I had to do something to ease some of the pain and suffering. It was coming out of some of the anger that I felt—just not sitting back and complaining and crying.

What inspired you to get involved in the women and girls movement?

I grew up during the Iran-Iraq war, and as a very young age, I learned that many neglect to see the value of women in war—not only as victims but also as the major agents who keep life going.

I later moved to the United States and founded Women for Women International because of the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina. I realized that the pattern of only seeing war from the male perspective remained consistent and so very limiting when seeking positive solutions for sustainable peace.

Since ever, I have decided to empower women to speak up. Through a sponsorship program at Women for Women Internationa, a war survivor is connected to an American woman for a year to exchange support. We also focus on providing opportunities for women to earn a sustainable income as they try to rebuild their lives and support their families.

On the journey, I learned thatwomen received 40 percent more money than men in their family (who were left to raise the children) and there isn’t a more efficient way to do things. They work hard, they work for us in conflict and post-conflict countries. They are our hope for peace.
Your ob-gyn is your partner in health.

Ob-gyns are dedicated to helping you have a healthy and successful pregnancy and a positive birth experience. We provide comprehensive health care and see you through every phase of life—from adolescence, through the reproductive years, and into menopause and beyond.

We’re here to keep you healthy for a lifetime.

www.acog.org
A vision for her village

There was something about Sopatt’s crooked toothed smile and her mischievous look that stood out immediately. Some special spark. We were in Cambodia interviewing girls for 10x10, a film and social action campaign about the power of educating girls in poor countries. We had arrived at Sopatt’s school with Room to Read, an NGO that is improving literacy for children and helping girls in the developing world stay in school. For weeks we had been asking girls across the country about the challenges they face. About their hopes and dreams. About a single wish. Sopatt thought for a minute. “A box of books for the villagers.” That was her wish. As in “you can have one wish. ANY wish”—and that was her answer.

As we said goodbye to her parents, Sopatt and I lagged behind, giggling nonstop as we slipped and sloshed our way across the muddy walls of the rice fields. She held my hand the entire way. I thought, “now what?”

But already we were scheming to make this girl’s simple wish come true. A few weeks later, home in Los Angeles, a simple message arrived from Room to Read: I am happy to inform you about Sopatt’s case… that we delivered books to her school library. How I wish I had been there to see her smile that day.

Martha Adams
Producer, 10x10act.org

Empowering women through clean technology

Eden Full, 20, knows first-hand how clean technology can make a difference in people’s lives. Frustrated by the inefficiency of solar panels, Eden invented SunSaluter, a solar panel that rotates with the sun, increasing efficiency by 40 percent. Last summer, Eden traveled to Kenya and installed her new system in two villages without access to electricity. Just a few days before, a woman collecting firewood at night had been killed by a buffalo. Eden’s solar technology is now changing lives with its ability to power the villages at night. "A box of books for the villagers. That was her wish. As in ‘you can have one wish. ANY wish’—and that was her answer.

and that was her answer. Here we were in one of Cambodia’s poorest provinces, and Sopatt, the teenage daughter of poor rice farmers, tells us that she dreams of books?! She has never known life with a desk lamp, let alone electricity or running water. Just getting to school requires trudging a mile through knee-high murky waters filled with leeches. Her family struggles to feed their children. They live a stark, difficult life. And yet, Sopatt dreams of books for her village.

Family pride

She told us how she races home from school each day, rushing to finish her chores so there’s time to read to her mom, not from books but from old scraps of magazines and newspapers. So we followed her home through the rice paddies to meet her proud parents. They beamed with pride at their daughter, the student. The reader.

A wish come true

As we sat down for breakfast, Sopatt and I dug into some bowls of rice, and her mom said, “You can have one wish. ANY wish”—and that was her answer.

I thought, “now what?”

But already we were scheming to make this girl’s simple wish come true. A few weeks later, home in Los Angeles, a simple message arrived from Room to Read: I am happy to inform you about Sopatt’s case… that we delivered books to her school library. How I wish I had been there to see her smile that day.

Martha Adams
Producer, 10x10act.org

Eden is from Canada, an Ashoka Youth Venture, 10x10 Youth Social Entrepreneur, Finalist in the Staples Social Entrepreneurship competition, seeking to empower women in the world’s tech leaders at the Techonomy conference in November.
Unleash the girl effect

H

I’m Juliet. I’m a 15-year-old girl from Rwanda, a beautiful country where there are many girls just like me with great hopes, dreams and aspirations for the future. Too often in developing countries, girls are not even counted as part of the population. We are seen. And too often, the developed world looks at us as if we are only invisible victims. Truth is, we are actually the invisible solution to ending global poverty. But everyone knows it yet, so we need people to “make noise” for us and we need to learn to “make noise” for ourselves.

This is why I was excited to have the opportunity to speak at this year’s Clinton Global Initiative meeting in New York City—a 17-year-old girl from Rwanda on a global stage… no wonder I was excited! I made noise for girls on a global stage—New York City—a 17-year-old girl from Rwanda—a magazine for girls, by girls just like me... "Girls Not Brides." He stood to announce this new incredible global partnership to end child marriage—"Girls Not Brides." He reminded people that too often child marriage is hidden behind a statistic, but in reality it’s about people—about women and girls.

A world of difference

I was there not only as a speaker, but in reality it’s not about a figure, it’s about a vision for oneself. This is key: I want people to understand that as girls, we are the solution that hasn’t been tried yet but could actually work, but I also want people to realize that while interventions on our behalf is critical, it should be considered a bonus. We need to pave our own way as well. Change starts with a girl.

We have a name for this girl in Rwanda, she is called “nyampinga.” This is key: I want people to understand that as girls, we are the invisible solution to ending global poverty. But everyone knows it yet, so we need people to “make noise” for us and we need to learn to “make noise” for ourselves.

Making noise for girls—page from Juliet’s diary. Juliet attended the 2011 Clinton Global Initiative—a preeminent gathering of heads of state, private sector and civil society, and had the opportunity to educate girls’ voices and connect into larger causes. When young people see that their ideas and entrepreneurship can have impact on others, they are transformed. The more leaders she enables, the more Talia achieves her dreams of changing the world.

Bill Clinton himself pointed out that the role of women and girls is critical. Archbishop Desmond Tutu was there to announce this new incredible global partnership to end child marriage—“Girls Not Brides.” He reminded people that too often child marriage is hidden behind a statistic, but in reality it’s about people—about women and girls. The role of women and girls is critical. Archbishop Desmond Tutu was there to announce this new incredible global partnership to end child marriage—"Girls Not Brides." He reminded people that too often child marriage is hidden behind a statistic, but in reality it’s about people—about women and girls.

I went for it. They both represent women who actually managed to climb over the first barrier facing girls: the need to dream and have a vision for oneself.

A world of difference

I was there not only as a speaker, but also as a reporter for a new magazine that will soon be coming out in Rwanda—a magazine for girls by girls. I interviewed an amazing couple, Peter and Jennifer Buffett, who actually managed to have impact on others, they are transformed. The more leaders she enables, the more Talia achieves her dreams of changing the world.

I’m excited! I made noise for girls and gave a voice to millions of girls just like me... "Girls Not Brides." He stood to announce this new incredible global partnership to end child marriage—"Girls Not Brides." He reminded people that too often child marriage is hidden behind a statistic, but in reality it’s about people—about women and girls. The role of women and girls is critical. Archbishop Desmond Tutu was there to announce this new incredible global partnership to end child marriage—"Girls Not Brides." He reminded people that too often child marriage is hidden behind a statistic, but in reality it’s about people—about women and girls.

I want girls to know they can do that. A world of difference. I want girls to know they can do that. A world of difference.

Juliet Musabeyezu

Education: Currently attending Harvard University studying human developmental and regenerative biology.

Passion: Juliet is motivated to empower adolescent girls and is determined to be a strong advocate for girls and their potential to shape their own future, families and communities.

Why every leader’s goal should be to cultivate more leaders

In 2005, at age 16, Talia Lemson had her first idea: she would mobilize kids in Illinois to track or treat space for change to help victims of Hurricane Katrina. With a start from Youth Venture, Talia and her team eventually mobilized 12 million young people and over $44,000 in future earnings on average. The idea has potential to be replicated in every country—and in the entire youth population. In 2010 in Lake Tahoe, the most well-known tech conference, 16-year-old Talia’s big idea has evolved into something much bigger: what if we could mobilize, not only to take part in a cause, but also to unlock within themselves the power and ideas for changing their own lives and the world? Through Youth Venture platform, random.org, she is supporting young people everywhere to start their own social enterprises and connect into larger causes.

When young people see that their ideas and entrepreneurship can have impact on others, they are transformed. The more leaders she enables, the more Talia achieves her dreams of changing the world.

Girls are 50 percent of the youth population (aged 15-24) of the developing world. In India, adolescent pregnancy costs the economy $110 billion over the span of an average lifetime. That’s about the same amount as all of the world’s 2009 development aid. Girls are 50 percent of the youth population (aged 15-24) of the developing world. In India, adolescent pregnancy costs the economy $110 billion over the span of an average lifetime. That’s about the same amount as all of the world’s 2009 development aid.
Governmental, business, and society leaders are responding to the growing recognition of the detrimental impact that gender-based inequalities have on economic development, public health, and health creation of a stable society.

The trend of increasing economic investment in programs to address inequalities and improve the condition of women and girls is necessary, existing and consumable. It suggests how to achieve a holistic view that can lead to health improvement and a better quality of life for women and girls. It also suggests the implementation of a policy that can lead to economic change.

In 2010, Vital Voices Global Partnership, the women's foundation for women, and the U.S. State Department launched the Global Partnership for Women: Our Engagement and boys in the conversation.

**In short,** how can we achieve gender equality among girls and boys in the conversation?

* **Achieving true gender equality:** comes from changing human behavior and gender equitable attitudes. To achieve gender equality, men and boys must take the lead in ensuring successful and sustainable transformation of gender norms through collaborative action.

1. Start young—pre-school education should promote equality between girls and boys in and involves parents.
2. Transform school curricula to challenge stereotypes and acknowledges differences.
3. Support girls’ and boys’ participation in the creation of policies to improve education.
4. Make schools safe for girls and boys.
5. Launch campaigns that challenge discrimination and engage men and boys.
6. Pass laws that enable both partners to take an active part in raising children.
7. Enforce legislation to end violence against women and girls.
8. Legislate for equal opportunities.


**Next steps:**

1. **Not only men:** shall keep up the momentum at all those in the highest levels of government (parliaments now while those still new), as well as to the labor in remote villages, in order more understand that progress for women is progress for society, and their society, and their community.

2. In this context, we also have to work directly with and advocate for survivors of violence in India, Shakti Vahini, ensuring the voice of power, women from around the world, help ensure that important legislation on women and girls, and help shape a generation of men and women.

3. We must continue hailing corporate leaders who promote gender equality in the workplace—although the business success of these companies are proving to be mismatched.

**Powerful opportunity**

Consistent and concrete action on gender equality is key to ensuring that women and girls achieve their goals. However, this is a complex challenge facing societies, including both men and women. To achieve this, we must continue to support and advocate for survivors of violence in India, Shakti Vahini, ensuring the voice of power, women from around the world, help ensure that important legislation on women and girls, and help shape a generation of men and women.

**Conclusion:**

We need to continue supporting and advocating for a generations-long effort to achieve gender equality in the workplace, although the business success of these companies are proving to be mismatched.

**Shakti Vahini’s greatest strength is in its cooperation with law enforcement. The organization assists the police with the rescue of trafficking victims and engages with civil society leaders to build better social norms.**

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Question 1: What is the biggest challenge facing women and girls around the world?

Women and girls face many challenges, but the most significant is having their voices heard when decisions are made about them. We work with many organizations that listen to women and girls in developing the programs addressing their most urgent health challenges. A powerful voice is Sarah Omega’s, a Kenyan community educator and maternal health advocate who raises awareness of fistula, an injury resulting from severe complications of childbirth. In sharing her own story about her restored life following fistula surgery, Sarah Omega speaks for millions of other women whose voices have not yet been heard.

Question 2: What influence do women and girls have in creating social change?

When women and girls join together, they have the power to transform their communities and their lives. Women and girls are both influential in, and essential to, creating social change. Research has proven that when women have the opportunity to earn an income, the majority of their earnings go toward improving their children’s futures. We see the same cycle at Kiva. Women get access to a small loan never before available to them. They start a business, and for the first time can contribute to the family’s income. Now they have a newfound voice in how the money is spent, and most of the time it is to send their children, often their daughters, to school. The cycle of change begins.

Question 3: What can readers do to advance the women and girls movement?

There has never been a better time to get involved. The Million Men Challenge is a goal of achieving a one-million-member strong movement of Americans committed to helping mothers and children around the world. You do not have to be a mom to get involved. You can support this movement by making this world a better place for all, including girls and women.

Women work two-thirds of the world’s working hours and produce half of the world’s food. Yet, they earn only 10 percent of the world’s income and own less than one percent of the world’s property. Among the poorest and most at risk, women and girls encounter an uphill struggle to realize their human rights to equality and dignity.

One of the staunchest challenges facing girls and leading to a lifetime of marginalization and poverty in child marriage. Nearly 10 million girls are married every year—a practice that robs them of their childhood, denies their rights to health, education, and security, and closes off countless life opportunities.

In many countries around the world, we have seen that when girls are given an education, access to information and reproductive health care, and the tools to lead, they emerge as leaders in their communities. Girls who delay marriage and childbearing and stay in school increase their earning power and are more likely to invest in their families. Girls who have more opportunities are also more likely to be involved in local civic life and to lead efforts that create social change. But in order to change others’ lives for the better, women and girls need to be able to have agency and control over their own lives.

Letting your elected officials know that you believe we should continue to support HIV prevention, access to health services, and empowerment programs for girls is critical. Donating to Girls’ Not Brides or any NGO partner is a great way to support girls programming, even if it’s just a few dollars.

Supporting the campaign to end child marriage is a very targeted way to make a big difference in millions of girls’ lives, directing them from poverty and marginalization to paths that offer them education, health, security, and the opportunity to build better futures for themselves and their children.

Organizations supporting the women and girls movement:

- **ONE**: We’re not asking for your money. We’re asking for your voice. www.ONE.org
- **Aid to Africa**: A unique alliance of US charities making a difference in Africa. Our African Girls Education Fund helps girls get to school and succeed in life. www.aidforafrica.org/girls
- **Global Fund for Women**: Advancing women’s human rights since 1990. www.globalfundforwomen.org
- **Save the Children**: Creating lasting change for children in need in the United States and around the world. www.savethechildren.org
- **Pathfinder International**: An innovative, private-voice partnership led by the UN Foundation to save lives, improve livelihood, empower women and combat climate change by creating a thriving global market for clean household cooking solutions. www.pathfinder.org
- **Kiva**: An ordinary act of kindness will make an extraordinary difference in the world.

By giving to Global Impact and its 50 U.S.-based international charities through your workplace giving campaign, you can still make a real difference in the lives of individuals and communities in need.

From education and healthcare to programs for women and children, we ensure that your donation goes to the international causes that matter most to you.

www.charity.org

We're not asking for your money. We're asking for your voice. www.ONE.org

Aid to Africa

Creating lasting change for children in need in the United States and around the world.

www.savethechildren.org

Pathfinder International

A global leader in reproductive health programs that expand opportunities for women, men, and young people in developing countries or more than 50 years.

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Domestic violence is a complex issue that affects people from all walks of life. Survivors suffer both physical and mental abuse.

“...It’s okay to talk about domestic and financial abuse—in fact, please do.”

Michele Mayes, Allstate executive vice president and general counsel

Addressing challenges Survivors of domestic violence need specialized tools and strategies to address financial challenges and plan for safe, secure futures. However, few resources exist to assist survivors with the economic challenges they face.

“...we are working to convey the message that it’s okay to talk about domestic and financial abuse—in fact, please do.”

Nellie_Nitram

Lucky Ones: Mimi Littleuck pictured in a refuge with her family. Her grinding battles have yielded a good outcome.

Domestic violence is a national crisis that threatens the safety and security of survivors and their families, communities and businesses. All cultural, religious, socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds are affected by domestic violence.

The financial impact of domestic violence can last for 10-20 years while the survivor works to repair or build credit, build assets and secure housing. childcare and transportation. Fifty-seven percent of cities in the domestic violence against women and children as the top cause of homelessness.

Over $5.8 billion each year is spent on health-related costs of domestic violence.

Nearly 8 million days of paid work each year is lost due to domestic violence issues—the equivalent of more than $32,000 full-time jobs.

What are some of the long-term consequences of the ways that women and girls are often portrayed in TV and film?

We have amassed the largest body of research on gender prevalent in media and entertainment targeting children (11) and under spanning 40 years. To date, there has been no meaningful change. Today, still approximately a 3:1 ratio of male to female character. And, the female characters that are depicted, very often serve as eye candy. Female characters are six times as likely to be shown in sexually revealing clothing and three times as likely to be shown naked.

We judge our society in seeing ourselves reflected in the culture. I see myself; there I am, I must matter. But what messages are we both boys and girls getting about girls if girls are depicted in such a manner or simply not there at all? The message is that women are of lesser value and in our society is there less than that of men and boys’ value. And there is some thinking, because our kids are experiencing more and more about media than any other activity.

28, October 2011 • USA Today

“Here housing is normally the responsibility of men. Now she is president of the house.”

Aïsata Kanit, is president of a women’s group in Mali and she now supplies many other women farmers with high-yielding seeds. Her increased income allowed her to build a new house for her family.

“This has changed my status in the village,” said Kanit. “Here housing is normally the responsibility of men. Now she is president of the house.”

In key development areas such as combating maternal and child mortality, addressing climate change, promoting democracy and good governance, and coping with humanitarian disasters, women must be included in the development and planning processes. Implementation and beneficia
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Domestic violence is an urgent plea for these people. If it is the most critical thing I’ve seen in 22 years of field experience. Everyone I met had the same message: “Please tell the world for us that we need help and we are a new. We cannot last much longer.”

SAYS CARE Humanitarian Director Barbur Hicken

Humanitarian crisis The worst humanitarian crisis the world has seen this century continues to escalate in the Horn of Africa, where 12.3 million people are facing food crises and severe acute malnutrition.

“...the combined populations of New York city and Los Angeles are in need of immediate assistance due to the food crisis in the Horn of Africa. 80 percent are women and children without food, money, or their belongings.”

QUESTION: What can we do to decrease the instances of domestic violence?

Answer: By providing financial tools and strategies to ensure safe futures. Nearly one in four women experience domestic violence dur- ing their lifetime. But domestic violence victims frequently cite income, employ- ment and financial stability as the strongest, most immediate deterrents to leaving abusive situations. And research shows that linking financial knowledge and resources are the main rea- sons why victims of domestic violence remain or remain in relationships with their abusers.

The domination of a home, income, benefits and eco- nomic security behind as reasons that all victims of domestic violence must overcome, regardless of their education, job skills and personal earning potential. Personal finan- cial empowerment is imperative if they are to care for their families and live safe, secure lives.

“What many people don’t realize is that abuse can be financial in nature such as withholding banking information or control- ling a partner’s money or mis- using her financial identity and earning a person’s credit. This occurs just as frequently as physi- cal abuse,” says Michele Mayes, Allstate executive vice president and general counsel.

“I am, I must matter. But what message are we both boys and girls getting about girls if girls are depicted in such a manner or simply not there at all? The message is that women are of lesser value and in our society is there less than that of men and boys’ value. And there is some thinking, because our kids are experiencing more and more about media than any other activity.

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In this era of international reform and instability, high unemployment, and fiscal constrained, investing in women is not just the right thing to do; it’s an economic and security imperative.

In Mali, women do more than one-third of the farm work, and nearly 80 percent of the population is considered poor. Increasing opportunities for women can have a powerful impact on productivity and agricultural growth.

Aïsata Kanit is president of a women’s group in Mali and she now supplies many other women farmers with high-yielding seeds. Her increased income allowed her to build a new house for her family.

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dot becomes that women that women’s empowerment is not just a catchphrase, but a living, breathing commitment that infuses all of our DNA.
Despite improvements in some areas, U.S. students score in the middle of the pack on international science and math assessments, and girls and students of color—who make up more of the workforce in the future—remain underrepresented in STEM. It’s not a pretty picture, but thanks in part to the current administration’s launch of several major STEM education initiatives and to industry’s efforts in sending out an SOS to students and parents, STEM education has become a hot topic in education circles.

The largest employer of STEM professionals in the United States is the federal government, particularly the military. Because employees who are U.S. citizens—a requirement for projects requiring a security clearance—it is not surprising that the government has made STEM education a priority. While women have made dramatic progress in historically male fields like medicine and law, female employment remains low in certain STEM fields, especially at the upper levels of these professions. In 2014, AIP surveyed the leadership, the learning environment, and bias and found that women’s gap in STEM remains low in certain STEM fields, especially at the upper levels of these professions. In 2014, AIP surveyed women scientists whose advancements are reinventing what’s possible in the world of science, engineering and math. Our Fellowships allow these brilliant women to continue their research on a post-doctorate level. L’Oréal USA Fellowships For Women In Science recently announced their 2011 Fellows, and Trisha was selected from a pool of candidates by an interdisciplinary review panel and a distinguished jury of eminent scientists and engineers.

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In regard to how science is taught today, Trisha believes that we need a shift in curriculum, and notes that there were more mentors and science outreach available to middle school and high school students. She volunteers her time to speak to young students about her work, and is hopefully encouraging them to pursue careers in science.

Dr. Trisha Andrew
L’Oréal US Fellowships For Women In Science

“Women who are making what if’s... possible.”

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Cynthia Miller has been writing about the need for more American students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) for several years, and like many others who are passionate about solving this problem, she is convinced that we need to do much more. Science, engineering, and technology are vital to our economic growth and innovation, but growth and innovation both depend on a highly educated workforce.

Dr. Trisha Andrew is an organic chemist in the field of organic electronics. During college, Trisha realized that she loved Organic Chemistry, both for the everyday routine of a synthetic organic chemist and for the ability to logically explain natural phenomena based on the chemical reactivity of molecules.

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A child’s first

1,000
days

determine the course of her life.

Without the right **food and nutrients**, their little bodies and minds suffer life long damage. Common **childhood illnesses** that confine our kids to bed for a day or two can send **these children** to the grave.

But the opposite also holds true. Proper nutrition in the first 1,000 days can provide children born in the poorest communities with the best start in life.

Together, we can end the deaths of these children with simple, existing measures. Will we turn away? Or will we take responsibility for the consequences—and act?

Stand up for **child health now!**

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Act now – [www.childhealthnow.org](http://www.childhealthnow.org)