



Sensitisation on Gender Issues in Science & Technology



By
Dr. Moji Edema
AD, Gender, CEGIST

What are the issues relating to gender?

- **In sub-Saharan Africa, 24 million girls can't afford to go to school.**
- **38% of women have no formal education**
- **A girl may marry as young as 13 and has a one in 22 chance of dying in childbirth.**
- **One in six of her children will die before the age of five.**
- **Marital rape is not considered a crime.**

In Science and Technology?

- Secondary level-5% are female
- Tertiary level-15% are female
 - Over-representation in arts and education
 - Under-representation in science and engineering
- Teaching
 - Higher representation at lower levels
 - Lower representation at tertiary levels



6/5/2012

IWD 2012

FUTA staff statistics by category and sex (February, 2012)

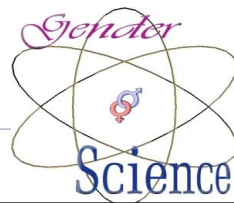
S/N	Staff category	Male	Female	Total	Male-female ratio
1	Academic	499	102	601	5 to 1
2	Admin and technical staff	444	275	719	2 to 1
3	Junior staff	501	276	777	2 to 1
4	Students	9158	2923	12,081	3 to 1

6/5/2012

IWD 2012

Is there a glass ceiling?

- There appears to be a strong yet invisible glass ceiling that is preventing women from achieving the top decision-making positions in all professions.
- It is clear women are not making sufficient progress in breaking it, cracking it, or even raising it significantly



6/5/2012

IWD 2012

Re-dress strategies

- Strengthen legislation and regulations on affirmative actions
- Implement equal opportunity and affirmative action policies
- Implement quotas in training programmes, selection and promotion processes
- Create women only opportunities
 - The Elsevier Foundation, the TWOWS Awards for Young Women Scientists

6/5/2012

IWD 2012

Female only opportunities...

- Faculty for the future fellowship **Schlumberger**
- L'ORÉAL-UNESCO for women in science
- AWARD fellowship



6/5/2012

IWD 2012

What are we doing in FUTA?

- identifying gender related problems and providing platforms to adequately address the problems
- educating and sensitizing relevant stakeholders on the global trends in gender issues especially in the area of science and technology
- collaborating with relevant organs within and outside the university to ensure positive attitude towards the promotion of gender equity
- promoting gender equity and entrepreneurship in science and technology

6/5/2012

IWD 2012

Some of our collaborators...

- **Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD):** popularising science among females at all levels



OWSD



- **Ministry of environment:** role of women in environmental sanitation
- **Ministry of agriculture:** training of community women in kenaf production and food processing

6/5/2012

IWD 2012

Today's programme...

- **International Women's Day** has been observed since in the early 1900's, a time of great expansion and turbulence in the industrialized world that saw booming population growth and the rise of radical ideologies.
- **1908:** Great unrest and critical debate was occurring amongst women. Women's oppression and inequality was spurring women to become more vocal and active in campaigning for change.
 - 15,000 women marched through New York City demanding shorter hours, better pay and voting rights.
- **1909:** the first National Woman's Day (NWD) was observed across the United States on 28 February. Women continued to celebrate NWD on the last Sunday of February until 1913.

6/5/2012

IWD 2012

Copenhagen declaration

- **1910: a second International Conference of Working Women was held in Copenhagen. A woman, Clara Zetkin, tabled the idea of an International Women's Day.**
 - She proposed that every year in every country there should be a celebration on the same day - a *Women's Day* - to press for their demands. The conference of over 100 women from 17 countries, representing unions, socialist parties, working women's clubs, and including the first three women elected to the Finnish parliament, greeted Zetkin's suggestion with unanimous approval and thus International Women's Day was the result.

6/5/2012

IWD 2012

March 8.....

- **1913: On the eve of World War I campaigning for peace, Russian women observed their first International Women's Day on the last Sunday in February 1913.**
- **Later that year, following discussions, International Women's Day was transferred to 8 March and this day has remained the global date for International Women's Day ever since.**

6/5/2012

IWD 2012

1918 - 1999

- **Since its birth in the socialist movement, International Women's Day has grown to become a global day of recognition and celebration across developed and developing countries alike. For decades, IWD has grown from strength to strength annually. For many years the United Nations has held an annual IWD conference to coordinate international efforts for women's rights and participation in social, political and economic processes**

6/5/2012

IWD 2012

2000 and beyond

- **IWD is now an official holiday in many countries including: Burkina Faso, China (for women only), Cuba, Georgia, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar (for women only), Mongolia, Nepal (for women only), Russia, Uganda, Ukraine, Vietnam and Zambia.**

6/5/2012

IWD 2012



6/5/2012

IWD 2012



6/5/2012

IWD 2012



IWD as a strategy for gender balance...

- **The tone and nature of IWD has, for the past few years, moved from being a reminder about the negatives to a celebration of the positives**
 - **Great improvements have been made though the IWD platform**
 - **Women can work and have a family, women have real choices**

6/5/2012

IWD 2012

Concluding remarks

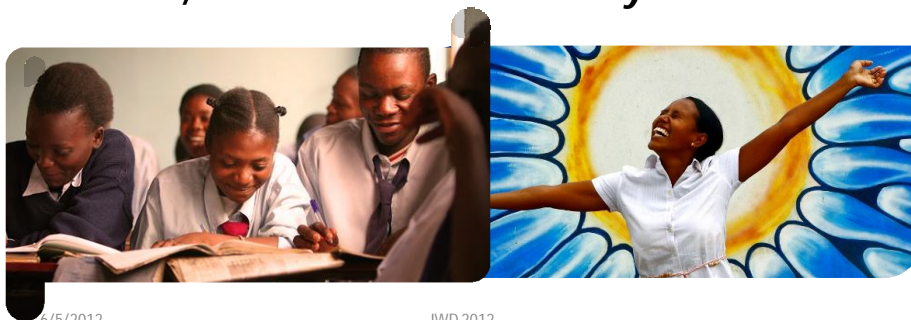
- Science has developed better with the slight increase in women participation due to their precision and creativity in scientific research
- There is an urgent need to build a critical mass of women scientists who will be agents of change in their environments
- Governments of developing countries need to formulate practical and implementable policies to promote affirmative action that will ensure equity for women in science

6/5/2012

IWD 2012

Words on marble.....

- Investing in girls and women will prevent inter-generational cycles of poverty and yield high economic and societal returns. —*Ban Ki-Moon, United Nations Secretary-General*



6/5/2012

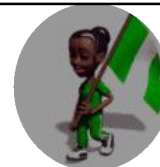
IWD 2012

Need to talk to someone?

- twowsfuta@yahoo.com
- futagender@yahoo.com
- gender_cegist@futa.edu.ng
- Phone: 08160368454
- Phone: 08089816937
- www.internationalwomensday.com
- <http://www.aauw.org/learn/research/whysofew.cfm>
- <http://awardfellowships.org/>

6/5/2012

IWD 2012



THANK YOU



6/5/2012

IWD 2012