



International Day of the Girl 2022

11 October

OUR TIME IS NOW—OUR RIGHTS, OUR FUTURE

Concept Note

In 2022, we commemorate the **10th anniversary** of the **International Day of the Girl (IDG)**. In these last 10 years, there has been increased attention on issues that matter to girls amongst governments, policymakers and the general public, and more opportunities for girls to have their voices heard on the global stage. Yet, investments in girls' rights remain limited and girls continue to confront a myriad of challenges to fulfilling their potential; made worse by concurrent crises of climate change, COVID-19 and humanitarian conflict and crisis. Girls around the world continue to face unprecedented challenges to their education, their physical and mental wellness, and the protections needed for a life without violence. COVID-19 has worsened existing burdens on girls around the world and worn away important gains made over the last decade.

With adversity, however, comes **resourcefulness, creativity, tenacity, and resilience**. The world's 600 million adolescent girls have shown time and time again that given the skills and the opportunities, they can be the **changemakers** driving progress in their communities, building back stronger for all, including women, boys and men.

Girls are ready for a decade of acceleration forward. It is time for us all to stand accountable – with and for girls – and to invest in a future that believes in their agency, leadership and potential.

A call to action

From October 2022 — October 2023, we will collectively call for greater attention, investment and action on:

- **Letting girls lead** by putting girls in the forefront of change efforts, hearing their voices, responding to their asks, and welcoming them in decision-making spaces.
- **Resources for girls**, including the networks and organizations that support their education and prioritize their mental and physical well-being.
- **Strengthening services for girls** at all times but especially in crisis response and recovery

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

- **Share human interest stories / blogs / videos** of girl changemakers, and the inspiring networks and organizations that are resourcing girls, letting girls lead and strengthening services for girls. Let's collectively amplify their leadership, actions and impact to inspire others.
- **Engage government officials, policy makers and stakeholders** to make more targeted investments that tackle inequalities experienced by girls, especially while accessing mental health and psychosocial support services in the face of conflict, forced migration, natural disasters and the effects of climate change
- **Engage key female influencers** across industries to be the face of change we want girls to see as possible. Role models speak a thousand words. Let's change the global conversation and public perception of girl leaders.
- **Amplify your commitment** to raising awareness about and addressing factors that hold girls in your country/region back

Hashtags

#DayoftheGirl #IDG2022

Background

On December 19, 2011, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution to declare October 11 as the International Day of the Girl Child, to recognize girls' rights and the unique challenges girls face around the world. The International Day of the Girl Child focuses attention on the need to address the challenges girls face and to promote girls' empowerment and the fulfilment of their human rights. International days and weeks are occasions to educate the public on issues of concern, to mobilize political will and resources to address global problems, and to celebrate and reinforce achievements of humanity.

This year's International Day of the Girl on 11 October 2022, marks the 10th anniversary of this UN special observance. It is an opportunity to galvanize the international community, not only to

celebrate the advances we have seen in girls' rights over the last decade, but also to take stock of where we must do more and renew our commitment.

It is an occasion to allow us to put the voices of girls and young women at the center, providing space for them to lead the discussions and share with decision-makers their key messages for change.

For more information, please contact

Joy Lynn Alegarbes, Lead Coordinator for International Day of the Girl

jlalegarbes@unicef.org

Fareena Alam, Lead Communication Specialist, Gender Equality, UNICEF Headquarter

farealam@unicef.org