

Girls in ICT Toolkit

Organising Girls in ICT
events & year-long activities

#GirlsInICT

itu.int/girlsinict





Girls in ICT Day, launched by ITU in 2011, is a global initiative celebrated every year on the 4th Thursday of April. It serves as a powerful platform to inspire girls and young women to explore STEM and ICT careers, transforming them into active contributors to the digital society, economy, and ecosystem.

As we journey toward **digital inclusion** and **equity for all girls and young women** around the globe, we invite ITU members, partners, and stakeholders to stand with us in advancing this initiative. Let's build a future where every girl and young woman has the opportunity and support to become a leader in the digital world. Jointly, we can spark a global movement.

We call on you to join ITU in this effort and make a difference by:

- ✓ **Organise** dynamic events and initiatives that foster the educational and socio-economic empowerment of girls and young women through the transformative power of technology.
- ✓ **Engage** and ignite the curiosity of young girls by being **bold, specific, and innovative** in your physical and/or virtual celebrations. Communicate clearly your goals and the tangible outcomes of your activities.
- ✓ **Submit** your event details and photos to the **Girls in ICT Day Events Map** [on ITU Online Portal](#) to amplify the global impact of your efforts.
- ✓ **Share** your Girls in ICT Day event/s celebrations and related activities held throughout the year, including photos, testimonials, and insights across platforms and tag ITU the social media platforms such as: [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#), and more.

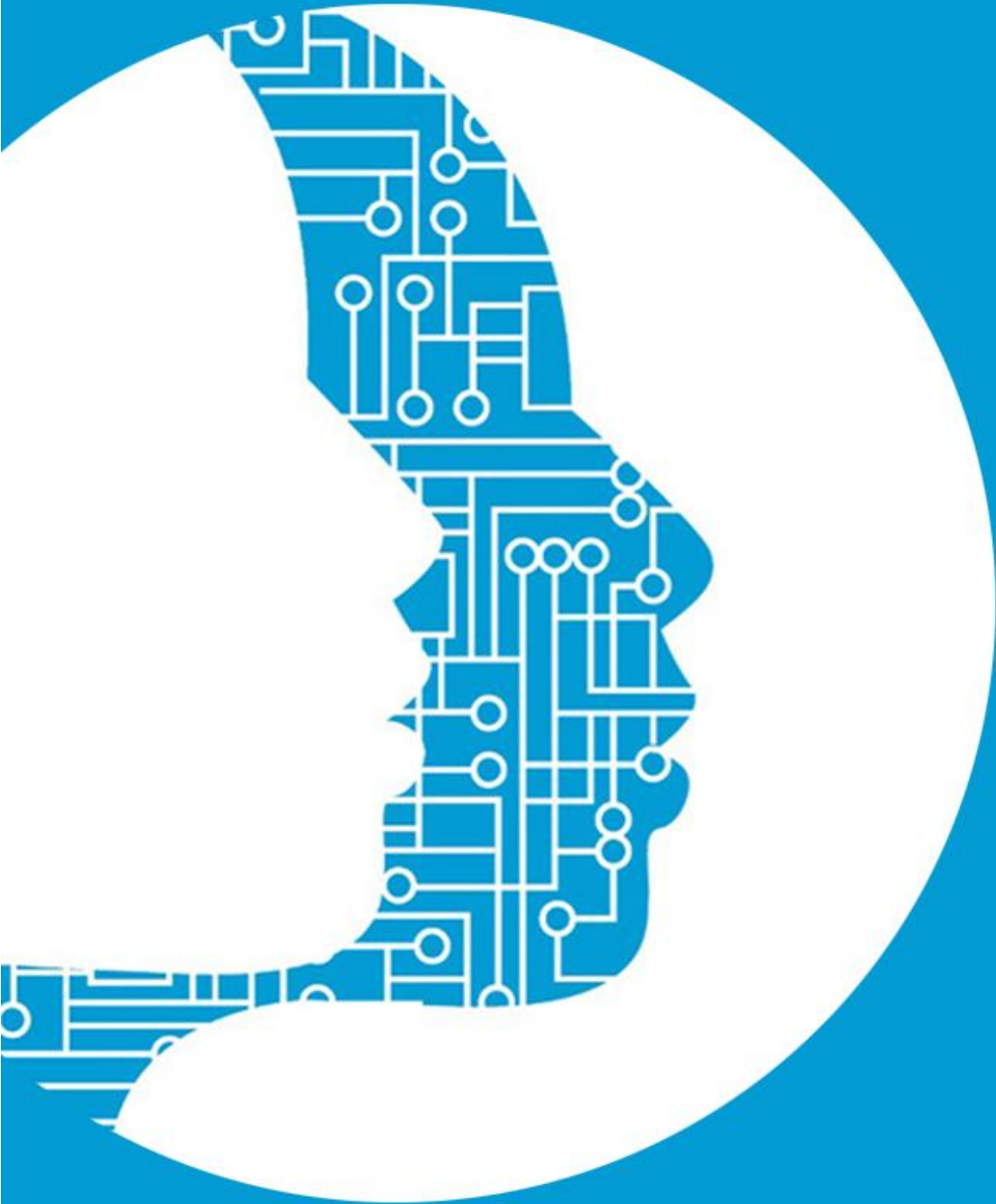
The organisers can use this toolkit as a guide to design both onsite and virtual events that celebrate Girls in ICT Day, while developing related year-long activities.

These events could include workshops focused on software product development, coding clubs, virtual reality showcases, mentoring sessions, live dialogues, and other activities aimed at celebrating Girls in ICT Day!

Together, let's create a lasting impact. Join us today and help make every day a celebration of Girls in ICT!

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Organise empowerment events for young girls

What

Creating a supportive and equitable environment is key to unlocking opportunities and fostering growth. To encourage more girls and young women to pursue ICT careers, it's crucial that they feel confident and supported in their abilities. Events focused on teaching and showcasing emerging technologies can inspire them to explore ICT professions aligned with their interests, while also highlighting the importance of inclusion and equity in the digital ecosystem.

How

Plan the event by setting clear objectives, designing an engaging agenda with ICT-focused workshops and speakers, and promoting the event through educational institutions and social media. Organise logistics, collaborate with local NGOs and experts in ICT and gender, and conduct post-event follow-up activities to measure impact and ensure sustainability.

A success story

In Angola, the roundtable, with more than 500 participants, was a first-of-its-kind initiative, creating a platform for collaboration and networking. It laid the foundation for ongoing discussions on gender inclusion in ICT, encouraging young women to pursue leadership roles in the digital economy.

More information can be found [here](#).



Web-based robotics training

What

Online robotics workshops provide girls and young women with an exciting opportunity to explore how technology can help them 'build the future.' By organizing such workshops, you facilitate the learning of fundamental robotics programming skills, empowering participants to perform tasks such as controlling movements, programming LED displays, and much more.

How

You can find out more about robotics online courses on [Coursera for Top-Notch Robotics Programs Online](#), [Udemy for Niche Robotics Courses](#), [FutureLearn](#), [MIT OpenCourseWare \(OCW\)](#) and more.

A success story

Women in Technology in Nigeria (WITIN) organised a hybrid event where girls had the opportunity to learn basic robotics programming. In addition to web-based robotics training, participants developed leadership skills and explored mobile applications and digital storytelling. This initiative successfully empowered nearly 5,000 girls from public schools and underserved communities in Nigeria, serving as inspiration for your own robotics workshops and events.

More information can be found [here](#).



Online blogging competition

What

Host an online blogging competition for girls and young women! Blogging provides a powerful platform for showcasing and enhancing their knowledge and skills in technology, while simultaneously improving their writing and communication abilities.

How

Blogging tools that you can use to organise an online blogging competition are WordPress, Tumblr and Blogger, among others. To organise your competition, consider using popular blogging platforms such as WordPress, Tumblr, and Blogger, among others. Complement the competition with interactive hands-on workshops focused on designing simple user interfaces (UI/UX) using tools like Canva, Vista Create, or PowerPoint. These sessions can help participants create visually appealing blog layouts and build confidence in digital design.

A success story

In Guyana, Girls in Tech, in collaboration with Sites Builders, organised a blogging competition titled 'We Can Tech It.' Girls first attended sessions on blog writing, then shared their own blog posts tackling current issues in their communities. Each blog proposed how a tech-based solution could help address the problem. This initiative empowered girls to think critically, express themselves and apply technology creatively. Use this inspiring example as a model -and bring your own creative twist to build an exciting virtual experience for your community!

More information can be found [here](#).



Coding clubs

What

Coding Clubs offer workshops specifically designed for girls, providing a supportive space for learning, networking, and applying creativity. These workshops aim to spark an interest in technology and help build digital skills in a fun, collaborative environment. Participants explore key topics such as coding, Internet navigation, empowering them to confidently embrace technology.

How

Start with interactive lessons that teach coding step-by-step, covering basics like search engine use and simple challenges. As participants progress, guide them to build projects like coding programmes or AI chatbots addressing social issues. To strengthen facilitation skills and knowledge, explore resources like [How to Code](#), [Harvard](#) or [Coursera](#) courses. Encourage teamwork and real-world applications to strengthen both technical and problem-solving skills.

A success story

In Switzerland, the Coding Club initiative has empowered young girls by combining engaging activities with foundational tech knowledge. Through hands-on experiences, the project nurtures curiosity, digital literacy, and problem-solving skills, preparing girls to become the next generation of innovators in the tech world.

More information can be found [here](#).



Use of social media to inspire

What

A social media campaign is a powerful tool to raise awareness about the importance of providing educational opportunities to engage girls and young women in the ICT sector. By showcasing inspiring role models and challenging harmful stereotypes, such campaigns can motivate girls and young women to pursue studies and careers in technology, while also breaking down societal barriers.

How

Leverage popular social media platforms to create and share compelling content. Organise interactive contests with attractive prizes to boost engagement and participation. Teach participants how to design digital posters or create short videos using tools like [Adobe InDesign](#), [Adobe Premier Pro](#) or [CapCut](#).

A success story

The She's My ICT Champion Reel Contest by the Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority (ECTEL) is a great example. Participants created one-minute reels highlighting ICT role models and top entries were awarded prizes - showcasing creativity while promoting representations of girls and young women in tech.

More information can be found [here](#).



Live dialogues

What

A live dialogue offers an excellent opportunity to engage your audience on key topics from your event's agenda—entirely remotely. You can invite subject matter experts, role models, and inspiring girls and young women to share their insights on promoting diversity in technical fields, the challenges they face, and the vital role ICT professionals and organizations play in overcoming these barriers.

How

To organise a live dialogue, start by identifying relevant topics that resonate for your target audience. Choose an online platform that suits your needs - consider factors such as audience size, screen-sharing functionalities, costs and ease of access. Platforms such as [Zoom](#), [Cisco Webex](#), [Microsoft Teams](#), [Livestorm](#), among others, are excellent options.

Encourage interaction by allowing participants to ask questions and join the conversation -many may feel more confident doing so in a virtual setting. Promote your event widely through social media, mailing lists, and community networks, and provide clear instructions on how to join live and follow the discussions.

A success story

On International Girls in ICT Day 2024, the ITU Office for Europe hosted a live virtual dialogue that brought together influential leaders, experts, and emerging professionals to explore the theme of leadership in the digital age. The event featured insightful discussions highlighting women's experiences in digital leadership, career advancement and transformation in the ICT sector. Explore the recorded sessions and agenda for key insights, and let this inspire you to host your own innovative, engaging virtual dialogue!

More information can be found [here](#).



Mentoring

What

Mentorship programmes with women role models are an effective way to inspire girls to pursue careers in ICT. By organizing mentorship programmes, you can provide girls with the essential foundation of confidence, courage, and support, to join professional paths related to ICTs.

How

Match mentors and mentees based on shared preferences such as language, region, and interests. Mentors should be experienced professionals in ICT-related fields, committed to nurturing leadership skills in the next generation of women in tech. Mentees are typically girls or young women with an interest for the ICT -related fields. It is recommended to organise different online sessions (minimum four) and use an agreed online platform for this purpose. These sessions can focus on technical development, career guidance, leadership, or personal growth.

A success story

The e-mentoring programme of the EQUALS Her Digital Skills has empowered over 500 young women from more than 15 countries to develop essential soft skills and receive professional mentorship. The programme connects participants with mentors, guiding them through eight-week cycles, focusing on topics such as time management, teamwork, and leadership. Weekly exchanges provide meaningful, two-way learning experiences. Upon successful completion, both mentors and mentees receive a certificate of completion, reinforcing their commitment and supporting long-term personal and professional development.

More information can be found [here](#).



We encourage you to continue your contribution to this global effort by organising year-long programmes and activities, in addition to 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.

Maximise the use of technology to increase the outreach of your event! Visit www.itu.int/girlsinICT to get more updates on Girls in ICT Day global events.

Don't forget to share your activities using the **#GirlsInICT** hashtag and submit your event to the **Girls in ICT Day Events Map** [on ITU Online Portal](#), we will publish your celebrations!

The organisers can use this toolkit as a guide to design both onsite and virtual events that jointly celebrate Girls in ICT Day, while developing related year-long activities. These events could include workshops focused on software product development, coding clubs, virtual reality showcases, mentoring sessions, live dialogues, and other activities aimed at celebrating Girls in ICT Day!