

# The Role of Families in the Future We Want

« Family as a School of Equality »

The Journalists and Writers Foundation (JWF)

JWF Women`s Platform



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# Outline



- Sustainable Development Goals
- Socialization and Families
- The Role of Family in the New Agenda
- Activities of JWF and Our Recommendations

# Sustainable Development Agenda Highlights the Following Issues

- Accessible and equal education for all
- Lifelong learning
- Gender equality
- Empowering women and girls
- Eliminating all forms of discrimination
- Children, youth and future generations

 Without distinction of any kind such as age, sex, disability, culture, race, ethnicity, origin, migratory status, religion or other status

# Family



- “Family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society”

*Resource: ECOSOC Resolution (E/RES/2014/8)*

# What is Socialization?



Transition from Socialization to  
Internalization

# What is the Role of Family ?



- Family is the source of socialization
- Important for children`s early care and their psychological development
- Beside other sources, gender equality is learned in family

# Family is Pivotal for the Post-2015 Agenda – I



- Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- Need self-motivation starting within the families
- Need a closer cooperation between local and international, public and private bodies

# Family is Pivotal for the Post-2015 Agenda – II

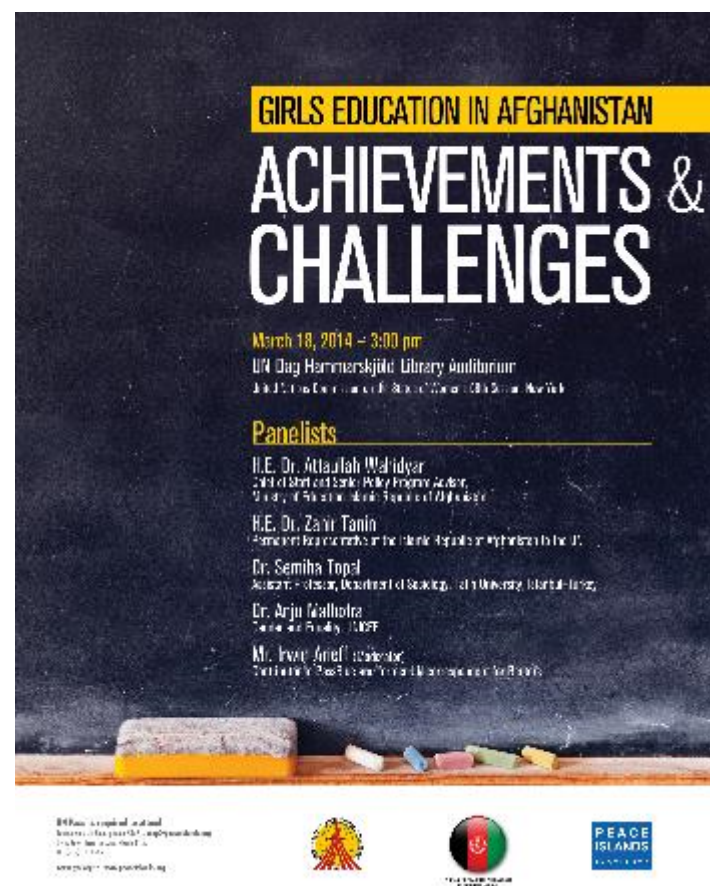


- Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- Beside many other factors effecting the socialization of the child
- Family is the first hand where the notion of equality be formed by the child




# Some Activities of JWF and its Women's Platform


- Active participation to CSW annual meetings since 2013
- Girls` Education in Afghanistan panels:
  - CSW 58 in New York
  - 26<sup>th</sup> Human Rights Council in Geneva



# Field Research and Need for Global Partnership



- JWF sponsored a field research in Afghanistan by Dr. Semiha Topal /Fatih University-Istanbul
- The opposition to women`s education in Afghanistan stems from
  - The structure of schooling in mixed-gendered settings
  - The requirement of commuting to the school, which causes a security threat for the girls and their families

 Global partnership with the active engagement of Governments, as well as civil society, the private sector and UN system

# JWF International Family Conferences **family**

- Held in every two years
- Academic gathering
- Third and last conference held in November 2014
- Interdisciplinary and cross-national collaboration to family issues
- Last conference: Participants from 13 different countries



# FAMILY CONFERENCE III – INTERNATIONAL FAMILY POLICIES

## 29-30 November 2014, Istanbul

### FINAL DECLARATION



- On the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family designated by the United Nations, the Journalists and Writers Foundation Women's Platform organised the International Family Conference III –International Family Policies on 29-30 November 2014, with contributions of 17 speakers from 13 different countries, which dealt with family and law, family and work, family and poverty through regional practices, underlined by the presentations.
- Recognizing the family as a natural and fundamental group unit of societies (E/RES/2014/8), we welcome all the preparations and celebrations happening around the world for this Anniversary. With the spirit of being part of it,
- Stressing that equality between men and women, especially women's equal participation in employment, shared parental responsibility and respect to the rights of children should be the essentials of family policies,
- Acknowledging the evidence that family policies and laws are more effective when targeting the family unit rather than each one of its members; that balancing work and family life helps parents to be co-responsible in their tasks; and that empowering families is essential to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty,
- Convinced that civil society has a significant role in promoting human rights, assessing family policies and supporting families, we urge governments to consider these recommendations:
  1. Family policies should always take into consideration the empowerment of women within the family, especially in their integration to the labour market.
  2. Make sure that the law always respects the rights of every member of the family to be part of the decision process within the family.
  3. Respect every nation's peculiarities as long as they don't violate the international conventions and treaties; and promote mutual understanding between different societies.
  4. Make sure that reproductive technologies do not violate the basic rights of all parts involved.
  5. Never force women to make a choice between work and family commitments; therefore consider the cost of maternal leave and in-kind services and tax benefits as investment for the society.
  6. Build a legal framework in which the private sector doesn't get extra cost when their staff receives maternal leave, and the woman has the guarantee to keeping her job.
  7. Ensure the universal accessibility and quality of early child education.
  8. Ensure that young generations get the skills to find a way to integrate into society and start a family through a proper job.
  9. Ensure that families are not replaced in their duties, but supported and made accountable for the help they get from society.
  10. Mainstream the family in the sustainable development agenda, and take into account that the achievement of the new Development Goals depends on how well families are empowered to contribute to their achievement.

# Conclusion



- Mainstreaming and promoting the empowerment of families for the new Agenda
- Important for families and family-oriented policies: human rights and fundamental freedoms
- Essentials of learning of equality in the family
- Requirement: a common intent at national, regional and international level including state participation and civil society

Thank you...

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