A Program Factsheet

February 2021

THE PROBLEM

African women, young women and girls still don’t have enough support and involvement in important decision-making processes that impact them. Despite progress, gender equality in Africa tends to be limited to narratives, and solutions are designed and presented by non-African practitioners and leaders. African voices - entrepreneurs, leaders, advocates, artists - are seldom at the center of the conversation, even in the situations that will take to transform gender equality on the African continent.

Furthermore, the voices of women and girls from Francophone sub-Saharan Africa are even more often forgotten or marginalized in international spaces or processes, as English remains dominant in pan-African and global women’s rights spaces. French-speaking African women’s rights activists, organizations, and movements consistently see their inclusion and participation challenged, be it because of language, travel difficulties, lack of resources and even access to information.

HOW WE’RE SOLVING THE PROBLEM

To ensure that the voices and ideas of African, particularly French-speaking women, young women and girls are amplified and listened to at the global level, Batonga has launched two initiatives: Nos Voix Comptent and Conversations for Africa.

The “Nos Voix Comptent” Initiative

The initiative is a partnership between Batonga, the XOESE Fund for Francophone Women, and the Global Fund for Women. Our goal is the improved inclusion and participation of Francophone African women’s rights activists, organizations, and movements in the Generation Equality Forum.

The initiative seeks to ensure that the voices of Francophone women’s rights and youth organizations are heard at the Forum. Specifically, the initiative seeks to:

- Inform francophone women’s rights groups about the Generation Equality Forum’s process and agenda;
- Collect data to amplify women and young women’s needs and priorities through in person and online consultations;
- Make concrete demands to Forum organizers to ensure full participation and inclusion of francophone activists.

OUR IMPACT

Additionally, the total number of registrants reached 2,978. The common reasons for non-attending registrants as reasons they had to cancel their participation. The webinars were rewatched 74 times on our website.

How to get involved:

For more information about our Amplifying Women’s Voices program, please contact us at info@batongafoundation.org.

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