AFRICA SUMMIT ON WOMEN AND GIRLS IN TECHNOLOGY

October 9-11, 2018
Accra, Ghana.

SESSIONS AND WORKSHOPS DESCRIPTIONS

Session Descriptions

THEME	DESCRIPTION
LEADERSHIP IN TECH POLICY	This session will engage leading women in tech policy in respective countries, regionally or globally — in government, private sector, and civil society — inviting them to reflect on their professional journeys, how they advocate for gender-responsiveness within their positions, and to consider challenges faced and lessons learned to share with aspiring tech policy professionals.
WOMEN ADVANCING STEAMD (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics and Design)	This session will feature inspirational women charting the path in STEAMD, but also those drawn from humanities and other non-STEAMD backgrounds on how the latter also matters in the STEAMD discourse. Speakers will be drawn from various fields, including health, and education, and will be invited to reflect on their journeys, triumphs and tribulations — and how to involve more women and girls in STEAMD, with an eye to the role of the public sector in advancing this aim.

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POLICY ENGAGEMENT: THE WHAT, WHY AND HOW	What is policy anyway? Why does it matter? How are entrepreneurs, digital and gender rights groups, and even individuals engaging in policy dialogues? How can civil society organisations and entrepreneurs collaborate on reforming ICT policies in their respective countries? What are some of the strategies that show promise? What does success look like?
WOMEN AND THE WEB	This session will bring together women from across the continent who have been leveraging the web to speak truth to power, and will give them a platform to speak openly and honestly about their passion and drive, as well as challenges to and strategies for encouraging more women to claim the web for civic, political and socio-economic empowerment.
INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FOR WOMEN IN TECH (POLICY, ADVOCACY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP)	This session will engage representatives from Multilateral Development Banks and international/digital development organisations, in a preliminary discussion on how they support women in tech —be it in entrepreneurship, advocacy or work in policy. A 'world cafe' session will follow, where each representative will host a roundtable for further discussion on their approach to work, with an option to rotate every 20/30 minutes.

In addition to the five themes, there will be a series of hands-on workshop tracks, designed with the theme of "build" in mind! They will be running throughout the three days, with the third day alloted for more in-depth work that builds on Day 1 and Day 2.

- The first track, **Build the Network,** will train participants on how to build, run, and manage a community network. There will also be a practical workshop on the how-tos of setting up, building, and running infrastructure around community networks.
- The second track, **Build the Movement**, will focus on policy, advocacy, and campaigning tools and tactics to advance digital gender equality, and will look at techniques for fundraising and pitching ideas and projects.
- The third track, **Build the Content Base,** will be all about content, safety and security. There will be a Wikipedia edit-a-thon that will take participants from the basics of Wikipedia, to creating content and editing on the platform. There will also be roundtables and digital security and safety workshops.

The Summit will brings practitioners, policymakers from across the continent to discuss timely topics, share ideas, build on their range of skills — from technology to policy and anywhere in between — and for peer-to-peer networking with new faces. We hope that the conversations, discussions and learnings will continue beyond the Summit.

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