



Women of Uganda Network WOUNGNET

Transformations in the use of the Internet

Milton Aineruhanga
Sr. Program Officer – Technical Support



About Us

Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET) is a non-governmental organisation initiated in May 2000 by several women's organisations in Uganda to develop the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) among women as tools to share information and address issues collectively.



The Mission

WOUNGNET's mission is to promote and support the use of ICTs by women and women organisations in Uganda, so that they can take advantage of the opportunities presented by ICTs in order to effectively address national and local problems of sustainable development.



The Programs

WOUNET activities are carried out under three major program areas:

- 1. Information Sharing and Networking**
- 2. Technical Support**
- 3. Gender and ICT Policy Advocacy**



Information Sharing and Networking

This program aims at providing relevant information to rural and urban women and supporting the sharing of experiences for purposes of improving quality of lives.

Information sharing and networking is conducted in a variety of ways including through electronic mailing lists, a monthly electronic newsletter with updates on the activities of WOUNGNET members and the secretariat, the WOUNGNET website www.wougnet.org, a print newsletter, as well as online and face-to-face workshops. The secretariat also houses a Resource Centre with a variety of information on ICT for development.



Technical Support

The objective of this program is to promote and support the strategic and innovative application of ICTs. This program supports women and women organisations to access, utilise and apply ICTs in addressing their development problems.

Under this program, WOUNGNET activities may be categorised in 4 areas; Access to Technology, ICT Training, and Tech Support all geared at enabling WOUNGNET members to identify and strategically apply appropriate technologies.



Gender and ICT Policy Advocacy

The program aims at effectively influencing the formulation and implementation of gender sensitive ICT policies and programs, in collaboration with members and partners. Activities are geared towards addressing gender concerns within the ICT Policies and programs.

Activities include building the capacity of policy makers, ICT experts and the media to articulate gender issues in the on-going ICT policy processes, advocating for gender sensitive ICT policy processes, documenting ICT initiatives from a gender perspective, and assessing the implementation of ICT policies.



Transformation in using the Internet

Working with particularly the rural communities, originally started out introducing them to the internet as a source for information for whatever they needed; markets for their products, improved farming practices etc.

Development of Web 2.0 tools have seen a transformation from seeking information to contributing content to the web through blogs, photo and video sharing, social networking, microblogging etc



Transformation...

Improving connectivity means that new technologies can quickly reach rural communities, but then you face new challenges with regard to relevance. Is a woman going to tweet about going to the well for water or a farmer have time to post a video of weeding his garden?

Creating a balance where developments in technology continue to meet user needs



Thank you for your attention!

**For more information about WOUNGNET, visit:
<http://www.wougnet.org>**

Or email: info@wougnet.org