WeDeliverPeriod | the Permanent Missions of Senegal, Uganda, and Canada | UNFPA

SAVE THE DATE

Achieving menstrual equity and keeping girls in school:
Raising awareness and improving access to feminine hygiene products

An event to raise awareness, share best practices and support work that addresses menstrual health management globally.

Commemorating Universal Children's Day
Friday, November 22, 2019 | Time: 11.30 am – 1.00 p.m.
Where: United Nations Secretariat Building | Conference Room 12
RSVP: https://wedeliverperiodeventatun.eventbrite.com
by Friday, November 15, 2019
Menstrual health is a global health challenge that remains neglected, though its impact has a proven effect on girls’ access to education and economic empowerment. Millions of girls and women around the world live in poverty due to cultural and economic factors partly related to Menstrual Health Management (MHM). There are direct linkages between factors that prevent girls and women from participating on a level playing field and experiencing the possibility of upward social and economic mobility. An example of such a factor is not just access to education but the ability to remain in school until graduation to earn certification. A vicious cycle of poverty can be exemplified in inadequate access to hygiene products. For instance, according to UNESCO one in ten girls across sub-Saharan Africa misses school due to menstruation and then eventually drops out. A case-study of an East-African country by Oxford University found that where sanitary pads or puberty education are not provided, absenteeism among girls is 17% higher than in schools where girls have access to pads, education or both. Similar challenges face girls in other countries around the world.

Menstrual health is an issue to be addressed under Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 and is key to achieving all six objectives of Goal 6. The survival, health and well-being of adolescents and women are essential to ending extreme poverty, promoting development and achieving the SDGs. Therefore, this event will focus on: 1) Current challenges faced by countries around the globe in effectively addressing MHM; 2) Best practices and lessons learned from MHM strategies currently undertaken in different countries; 3) Opportunities to support academia, civil society organizations, nonprofits and non-governmental organizations engaged in addressing MHM.

WeDeliverPeriod is a philanthropic initiative supporting menstrual equity globally. We fund promising organizations, initiatives and researchers tackling global period poverty. Toward achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, this fund supports the following Sustainable Development Goals: quality education, gender equality, and clean water and sanitation, among others. Currently, we raise funds to support Knickers for New Life in Uganda and have partnered with US-based nonprofit and business leaders to support the menstrual health management of girls and/or women transitioning out of sex trafficking, homelessness and/or incarceration. The 2020 WeDeliverPeriod Fund will broaden the impact of work to support and celebrate the dignity of girls and women around the world. WeDeliverPeriod is teaming up with the Missions of Senegal, Uganda, and Canada, and UNFPA in New York to organize an event commemorating the anniversary of Universal Children’s Day to raise awareness to ensure more girls experience the dignity they deserve, remain in school, and are less vulnerable to poor health and safety outcomes.