



WHEC Update

Briefing of worldwide activity of the Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC)

October 2026; Vol. 21. No. 10

Lessons From The Field

On 24 October 2026, our initiative <http://www.WomensHealthSection.com> celebrates its 24th Anniversary. We thank our physician's board for their dedication and expertise to make it a success. Keep your Projects/Programs coming. We love to hear about it and discuss it in our publications. Several tools exist to help education and health stakeholders, including civil society actors, take steps to hold service providers accountable and improve education services oversight and delivery. Currently, we are serving in 227 countries and territories and about 14 million visitors every year.

Quality education and universal health care are the most important investments that any country can make for its future and for its people. Investing in health and education is, investing in people, and investing in our collective future. If harnessed properly, the digital revolution can be one of the most powerful tools for ensuring quality education for all, and transform the way teachers teach and learners learn.

Future of health and education sectors is digital, in each and every country, rich and poor alike.

In view of the scale of today's global challenges and the great potential of science, technology and innovation to deliver responses, it is necessary to mobilize financial and knowledge resources from governments, businesses, academia and civil societies. It is essential to accelerate and achieve all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 Agenda. Both public and private sectors play important roles in financing, research, and development.

In order to democratize digitalization and its benefits for public and social value, Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC), believes that a dedicated place is needed in the United Nations to develop and refine appropriate norms, policies and pilots; promote future-ready human capabilities; and mobilize financing for public innovation ecosystems, for [Education and Health Initiatives](#) to succeed. Openness in science is an essential component of the scientific process. When Open-science, artificial intelligence and big data management meet the social reality of human cooperation and governance, it becomes more sustainable, and help to close digital divide.

We must implement comprehensive and inclusive policies, change our way of thinking, and prioritize efforts to eliminate poverty and bridge the digital divide. It is crucial for governments to integrate social, economic, and environmental policies to promote social justice.

Our efforts: <http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/cme/>

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and UN's 2030 Agenda is attainable provided countries of North and South work together. "Health for All" and "Education for All" are expressions of the UN commitment to health and education.³ The healthy future of society depends on the health of today's children and their mothers, who are guardians of that future. Because the SDGs are inseparably linked, they must be achieved concurrently.

Openness in science is an essential component of the scientific process. When Open-science, artificial intelligence (AI) and big data management meet the social reality of human cooperation and governance, it becomes more sustainable, and help to close digital divide.

Our Collective Advocacy and The Global Platform!

Rita Luthra, MD



Your Questions, Our Reply

Can social justice and digital transformation improve access to essential services for vulnerable communities, creating opportunities for everyone? What are the Women's Health and Education Center's efforts for building the capacity-to-care?

Our Partners and Community Voices: Education & Health are the best building blocks to eliminate poverty and hunger in rich and poor countries alike. Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC) aims to bring the global discussion on social and economic inclusion of marginalized peoples, with special focus on women, girls, minorities and migrants. Thus, it promotes North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation as a strategy to develop capacity of institutions. Relevance, anticipation and effectiveness are among the prime goals of the WHEC's Chair Program for Education and Health, launched in 2025, in collaboration with UNESCO and The University of Pittsburgh (USA), which is one of this NGO's most intersectoral programs.

WHEC focuses on the importance of supporting those countries and communities that host large number of refugees, promoting the inclusion of refugees in host communities, ensuring the involvement of development actors from an early stage, and developing a 'whole-of-society' approach to refugee responses. The four key objectives of this Written Statement are to:

1. Ease the pressures on host countries and communities;
2. Enhance refugee self-reliance;
3. Expand third-country solutions; and
4. Support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity.

Social justice requires healthcare, education, food, water, housing, employment, social protection, and digital technologies, so that no one is left behind. WHEC's initiatives with UN, WHO and UNESCO aim to address the underlying causes of poverty and inequality, in a world where it is estimated that more than 600 million people still live in extreme poverty.

WHEC with its partners and UN System, has been actively involved and initiated, for more than two decades, the practical application of the Sustainable Development Goals Framework, in many countries. We must implement comprehensive and inclusive policies, change our way of thinking, and prioritize efforts to eliminate poverty and bridge the digital divide. It is crucial for governments to integrate social, economic, and environmental policies to promote social justice.

Our Global Reach and Strategic Plan 2025 – 2030

Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC) has expanded and deepened partnerships with UN System, especially with World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), governments, civil society, private sectors and United Nations partners to increase its global reach. Work on gender equality and affordable access to higher education and quality health services is of utmost importance. To address this, our focus will be on expanding The UNESCO Chair Program. Initiatives will be planned, developed and implemented to improve, monitor and mitigate opportunities towards equal access to quality education and income inequalities for women, girls and minorities.

As a multistakeholder and intergenerational platform for collective action for gender equality, our global initiatives will be asset to Commission for Social Development (CSocD). Generation Equality fosters strong alliances across sectors and in-between stakeholders. Young people see Generational Equality as an opportunity to connect with stakeholders, who share their goals, however their meaningful engagement is yet to be achieved. More systematic means of tracking financial investment is also needed.



81 United Nations General Assembly (UNGA81)

Virtual Side Event

23rd September 2026;
10 am to 11:30 am(EST, NY time)

Open Science: As Open As Possible *for* Health Development

Sponsor: Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC)

<http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/whhec/unga.php3>

Concept Note

Open science has the potential of making the scientific process more transparent, inclusive and democratic. Our recommendations provides an internationally agreed definition, as well as a set of shared values and guiding principles for open science. It also identifies a set of actions conducive to a fair and equitable operationalization of open science, with a special focus on improving maternal and child mortality and morbidity. Of all the health statistics monitored by the World Health Organization (WHO), maternal mortality and morbidity (both physical and mental), shows the largest discrepancy, between developed and developing countries. Artificial Intelligence (AI) has the potential to revolutionize healthcare. Within obstetrics and gynecology, it has proven to be useful for diagnostic and outcome predictions, particularly within maternal-child health and reproductive health research. AI also has been used to harness the massive data sets produced by surgery, particularly robotic-assisted surgery, which are difficult to interpret with traditional statistical methods.

Every day, at least 700 women and girls die, one every 2 minutes, due to complications of pregnancy and childbirth. And hundreds more have short- and long-term disabilities, 90% of these deaths and disabilities occur in the developing countries.

<http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/documents/UNGA81-Concept=Note.pdf>

Our Collective Advocacy

<http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/cme/>

It asks UN Member States to:

1. Promote a shared understanding of open science and set out diverse paths to achieving it.
2. Invest in infrastructure and activities that contribute to open science.
3. Invest in training, education, digital literacy and capacity building to support open science.
4. Foster a culture of open science and standardization of data collection and interpretation.
5. Extra emphasis should be on the explainability of AI models to optimize their acceptance, as partners in patient care, and to ensure patient and physicians safety, within medical and surgical clinical practice.



United Nations at a Glance

South Africa became UN Member State on 7 November 1945. In 1961, the **Union of Africa** changed its name to **South Africa**



South Africa, officially the **Republic of South Africa (RSA)**, is the southmost country in Africa. Its nine provinces are bounded to the south by 2,798 kilometers (1,739 miles) of coastline that stretches along the South Atlantic and Indian Ocean; to the north by neighboring countries of Namibia, Botswana, and Zimbabwe; to the east and northeast by Mozambique and Eswatini; and it encloses Lesotho. Capital: Pretoria; Largest city: Johannesburg; Official languages: English and 12 African languages; Ethnic groups: Black 82%, white 8%; Religions: 86% Christianity, 8% traditional faiths;

Government: Unitary parliamentary republic with an executive presidency; Population: 63,015,904 (2024); currency: South African rand (ZAR).

Archeological findings suggest that various hominid species existed in South Africa about 2.5 million years ago, and modern humans inhabited the region over 100,000 years ago. In 1652, the Dutch established the first European settlement at Table Bay, Dutch Cape Colony. Conflict over resources between South Africa's indigenous Khoisan people and Dutch settlers began in the 17th century and continued for centuries. Great Britain occupied Cape Town between 1795 and 1803 to prevent it from falling under the control of the French First Republic, which had invaded the Low Countries. British immigration to South Africa began around 1818, subsequently culminating in the arrival of the 1820 Settlers. On 31 May 1961, the country became a republic following a referendum (only open to white voters) which narrowly passed. Apartheid became increasingly controversial and several countries began to boycott business with the South African government because of racial policies.



South Africa is considered one of the most economically unequal countries in the world. In 1990, the National Party government took the first step towards dismantling discrimination when it lifted the ban on the African National Congress (ANC) and other political organizations. It releases Nelson Mandela from prison after 27 years of serving a sentence for sabotage. South Africa held its first universal election in 1994, which the ANC won by an overwhelming majority. It has been in power since. The country rejoined the Commonwealth of Nations and became a member of the Southern African Development Community.

South Africa has been undergoing a period political and economic crisis since 2020 with some international institutions, businesses and political figures stating that the country could turn into a failed state due to high unemployment, low business investment, political corruption, and state capture.

South Africa is a nation of 64 million people as of 2025, of diverse origins, cultures, languages, and religions. It also hosts a sizeable refugee and asylum seeker population. The adult literacy rate in 2025 was 95%, This was the second-highest in Africa, behind only Seychelles. It has three-tier system of education in the form of universities, and universities of technology. Learners have 12 years of formal schooling, from grade 1 to 12. Grade R, or grade 0, is a pre-primary foundation year.

South Africa is the only African country to have successfully developed nuclear weapons. It has mixed economy and is recognized as the most industrialized, technologically advanced and diversified economy in the African continent.

Details: <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/member-states/south-africa>

Collaboration with World Health Organization (WHO)

WHO | South Africa



Health Situation

The Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) 2023 – 2027 for South Africa outlines the key priority areas targeted for support by the WHO over this period. The South African Government has prioritized the following: eliminating poverty and inequality and creating decent employment through inclusive economic growth, building human capabilities, enhancing the capacity of the State and promoting leadership and active citizenship throughout society. The focus of health is on improving the quality of life and productive capacity of South Africans. The expected key outcomes are universal health coverage for all South Africans, and improved life expectancy.

According to the 2018 General Household Survey, 20.2% of South Africans had inadequate or severely inadequate access to food. There are reported high levels of under-5-years old malnutrition at 16%, but at the same time, there was an increased incidence of adolescent girls' obesity. A total 27% of children under 5 were stunted in 2016, despite the child support grant which is set at below the food poverty line. Besides, a further 18% of eligible children do not benefit from the grant because they do not have birth certificates.

Health and Equity in South Africa: Progress and Challenges

HIV/AIDS: South Africa has the highest burden of HIV in the world with an estimated 7.5 million (12.5% of the general population) people living with HIV, which accounts for 20% of the global AIDS epidemic.

Tuberculosis: South Africa is one of the 30 high TB burden countries and remains on all three of the WHO global high burden country lists for TB, TB/HIV co-infection, and multidrug-resistant TB. These are the leading causes of death in South Africa. Controlling the AIDS and TB epidemics remains a significant priority for South African Government, as clearly articulated in National Development Plan 2030.



Malaria, Other Communicable Diseases

Malaria epidemic in three of the 9 provinces of South Africa, the rest of the country reporting imported cases. Approximately 12% of the national population is at risk.

Schistosomiasis, soil-transmitted helminths (STH), rabies and leprosy are the neglected tropical diseases of importance in South Africa.

Maternal, Infant and Child Health

Maternal mortality in South Africa decreased by close to 50% between 2007 and 2017 from 276 per 100,000 live births. The number of women delivering in health facilities attended by a skilled health professional increased from 83% in 1998 to 96% in 2017. The under-5 mortality rate and infant mortality rate declined from 12.9 to 9.5, and 36.5 to 27.5 per 1,000 live births respectively between 2009 and 2019.

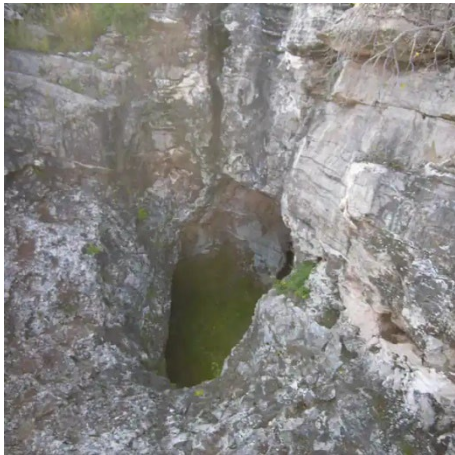
Strategic Priorities: 1) Health systems for UHC; 2) Addressing burden of disease; 3) Emergency preparedness and response; 4 Partnerships, research and innovation.

Details: <https://www.afro.who.int/countries/south-africa>



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Collaboration with UNESCO

South Africa is UNESCO Member States since 1994



Fossil Hominid Sites of South Africa

The Taung Skull Fossil Site, part of the extension to the site inscribed in 1999, is the place where in 1924 the celebrated Taung Skull – a specimen of the species *Australopithecus africanus* – was found. Makapan Valley, also in the stie, features in its many archaeological caves traces of human occupation and evolution dating back some 3.3 million years. The area contains essential elements that define the origin and evolution of humanity. Fossils found there have enabled the identification of several specimens of early hominids, more particularly of *Paranthropus*, dating back between 4.5 million and 2.5 million years ago, as well as evidence of domestication of fire 1.8 million to 1 million years ago. The undulating landscape containing fossil hominid sites of South Africa comprises dolomitic limestone

ridges with rocky outcrops and valley grassland, wooded along watercourses and in areas of natural springs. Most sites are in Caves or are associated with rocky out crops or water sources.



Human Rights, Liberation and Reconciliation: Nelson Mandela Legacy Sites.

The serial property represents the legacy of the South African struggle for human rights, liberation and reconciliation. It consists of 14 component parts located around the country; all related to South Africa's political history in the 20th century. The parts include the Union Buildings (Pretoria), now the official seat of government; the Sharpeville Sites, commemorating the massacre of 69 people protesting the unjust Pass Law; and The Great Place at Mqkehezweni, a site symbolic of traditional leadership where Nelson Mandela lives as a young man. These places reflect key events linked to the long struggle against the apartheid state; Mandela's influence in promoting understanding and forgiveness; and belief systems based on philosophies of non-racialism, Pan-Africanism and ubuntu, a concept that implies

humanity is not solely embedded in an individual.



Academic workshop on Driving Intercultural Outcomes through Digital literacy and Competence

With digital mediums assuming and increasing pervasive role in our lives, impacting peace and cohesion withing communities, this workshop addressed the need for digital engagements that support respectful and inclusive interaction. UNESCO, data shows that some 67% of internet users have experienced online hate speech, underlining the scale of the challenges faced. By examining how key intercultural competences, such as Ubuntu, Critical Reasoning, Perspective-Taking, Emotional Intelligence, Multilingualism, Social

Responsibility, Adaptability/Openness, and Respect for Diversity, can be embedded into digital literacy framework. Workshop aims to explore the strategies and practical methodologies.

Details: <https://www.unesco.org/en/countries/za>

Education-for-All and Health-for-all

Bulletin Board

Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

*Adopted at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015
.....Continued The Sustainable Development Goals*

Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

Systemic issues continues

Data, monitoring and accountability

17.18 By 2020 enhance capacity building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.

17.19 By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries.

Means of implementation and the Global Partnership

60. We reaffirm our strong commitment to the full implementation of this new Agenda. We recognize that we will not be able to achieve our ambitious Goals and targets without a revitalized and enhanced Global Partnership and comparably ambitious means of implementation. The revitalized Global Partnership will facilitate an intensive global engagement in support of implementation of all the goals and targets, bringing together Governments, civil society, the private sector, the United Nations system and other actors and mobilizing all available resources.

61. The Agenda's Goals and targets deal with the means required to realize our collective ambitions. The means of implementation targets under each SDG and Goal 17, which are referred to above, are key to realizing our Agenda and are of equal importance with the other Goals and targets. We shall accord them equal priority in our implementation efforts and in the global indicator framework for monitoring our progress.

62. This Agenda, including the SDGs, can be met within the framework of revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, supported by the concrete policies and actions outlined in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda supports, complements and helps contextualize the 2030 Agenda's means of implementation targets. These related to domestic public resources, domestic and international private business and finance, international development cooperation, international trade as an engine for development, debt and debt sustainability, addressing systemic issues and science, technology, innovation and capacity building, and data, monitoring and follow up.

To be continued.....



Collaboration with UN University (UNU)

UNU-WIDER (World Institute for Development Economics Research)

Expert Series on Health Economics

Understanding and Characterizing the Service Sector in South Africa: An Update

This paper examines the services sector's contribution to the South African economy and the extent to which the sector can drive structural transformation. The South African economy has continued along a path of tertiarization and can be classified as a de facto services-based economy.

Relatively high-productivity modern services activities, including financial, business, and communication services, have become increasingly important. The paper applies subnational economic complexity analysis and shows that at the district level; higher levels of economic complexity are associated with higher levels of economic development.

The most complex industries fall within the modern services sector, and the industry space analysis shows that these complex industries are clustered and highly connected. The most complex district economies are those orientated towards these modern services activities. Complex manufacturing activities are also present within these complex district economies, pointing to a degree of interdependence between activities across these two key sectors.

The role of manufacturing-led structural transformation as a pathway to higher levels of economic development has recently come into question. In light of the diminishing potential for manufacturing-led growth, the role of the services sector as an alternative engine of economic growth warrants further consideration. The South Africa experience offers valuable insights in this regard, demonstrating that services can effectively drive economic development. South Asia's, particularly India's emergence as a prominent services exporter is the result of effective market integration, a skilled labor force, and enabling institutional and infrastructural environments.

The services sector of South Africa already contributes significantly to the country's economy. Evidence from South Asia suggests that the sector can drive structural transformation, making it an important factor in South Africa's economic trajectory. However, the heterogeneity of the sector necessitates a nuanced policy approach, as modern, high-productivity services contrast substantively with traditional, lower-productivity segments. While industrial policy has begun to acknowledge the strategic importance of services, this recognition has yet to translate into adequate policy support or targeted incentives, despite the sector accounting for approximately two-thirds of national GDP. Furthermore, the strong interdependencies between services and manufacturing underscore the sector's broader economic significance. It is thus critical to gain a detailed understanding of the size and shape of South Africa's services sector. While policy efforts promoting manufacturing-led industrialization and economic diversification are key to driving economic growth and shifting an economy to higher income levels, a multi-pronged industrial policy approach that features services is an essential additional element to the policy toolkit. This multifaceted approach is necessary given how the global economy has evolved, and how services have become increasingly tradable as new technologies have emerged.

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Details of the paper can be accessed from the link of UNU-WIDER on CME Page
<http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/cme/>

Two Articles of Highest Impact, September 2026

Editors' Choice – Journal Club Discussions

Fully open-access with no article-processing charges

Our friendship has no boundaries. We welcome your contributions.

1. **Artificial Intelligence Literacy in Education and Health Sectors;** [AI-Literacy-in-Education-and-Health-Sectors.pdf](#)

<http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/health/AI-Literacy-in-Education-and-Health-Sectors.pdf>

WHEC Publications. Funding: WHEC Global Initiatives are funded by a grant from an anonymous donor. Join us at WHEC Global Health Line for discussion and contributions.

2. **Human Trafficking and Exploitation;**

<http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/vaw/vaw014.php3>

WHEC Publications. Funding: WHEC Global Initiatives are funded by a grant from an anonymous donor. Join us at WHEC Global Health Line for discussion and contributions.

***Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (World Health Organization)
PMNCH Member***

Worldwide service is provided by [the WHEC Global Health Line](#)

81st Session of The General Assembly (2026 – 2027)



General Debate of 81st General Assembly

The debate of the 81st session will open on Tuesday, 2nd September, continue through 28 September.

The Theme for the general debate of the 81st session of the General Assembly is “

<https://gadebate.un.org/en>

[General Debate](#) | [General Debate \(un.org\)](#)

<https://unfoundation.org/unga81/>

Selection and Appointment of the Next Secretary General of the United Nations

The United Nations itself is one part of the UN System. Cooperation between the UN and other entities of the UN System is essential in order to achieve the purposes of the organization laid out in the UN Charter. Since its Charter was written, the UN has been mandated to do new work which was not envisioned at the time of its creation. The Organization has set goals to build a more sustainable world, and it has agreed to collective action to slow down climate change. As the problems facing humanity have grown, the work of the United Nations has also grown. The United Nations coordinates its work with the funds, programs, specialized agencies and other organizations of the UN System.

Role of the United Nations Secretary General:

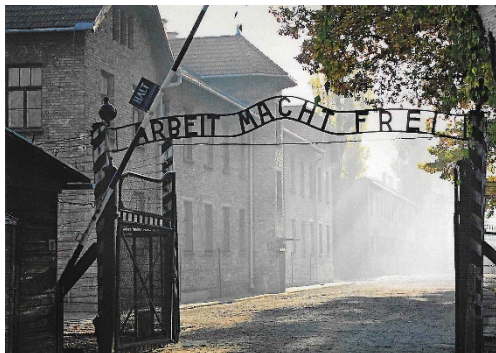
Equal part diplomat and advocate, civil servant and CEO, the Secretary-General is symbol of the United Nations ideals and a spokesperson for the interests of the world's peoples, in particular the poor and vulnerable among them.

The current Secretary-General, and the ninth occupant of the post, is Mr. António Guterres of Portugal, who took office on 1 January 2017. One of the most vital roles played by the Secretary-General is the use of their “good offices” – steps taken publicly and in private, drawing upon their independence, impartially and integrity, to prevent international disputes from arising, escalating and spreading.



From Editor's Desk

WHEC Projects under Development



Auschwitz – Entrance Gate

“A warning to all people of the dangers of hatred, bigotry, racism, and prejudice.”

What Was The Holocaust?: (1933 – 1945)

The Holocaust has had a profound impact on International Human Rights Law, resulting in the United Nations' adoption of foundational documents in 1948: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and Convention on the Prevention and

Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

Nazi Racism and Exclusion:

The Holocaust was the State-Sponsored, ideologically-driven persecution and murder of 6 million Jews across Europe and half a million Roma and Sinti by Nazi Germany (1933-1945) and other racist states. Nazi ideology built upon pre-existing antisemitism and antigypsyism. Some local people collaborated willingly. Others assisted the victimized. Most were witnesses and silent. Nazi racism demanded the forced sterilization of Germans of African descent, the murder of Germans with disabilities and Soviet prisoners of war, and the enslavement of Slavs. The Nazis criminalized all they deemed as regime opponents, including homosexuals, political dissenters, and Jehovah's Witnesses. But in Nazi imagination, Jews loomed as the primary threat to their new world order. The Nazi government enacted its racist antisemitic agenda, and after 1941, embarked upon murdering every Jewish child, woman, and man.

Jews had lived as a minority in Europe for two thousand years before Hitler and his Nazi Party came to power in Germany in 1933. Jewish people were diverse, maintaining Jewish and national identities. Some were pious, some secular; some were poor, some working class, and other middle class. After the Nazi regime took control, all Jews caught in their web were at risk. By 1945, 6 million – two-third of Europe's prewar Jewish population – were annihilated, and the life and culture that had existed for millennia irrevocably ruptured. The same fate was true for the many Roma and Sinti communities, whom the Nazis persecuted, murdering some 500,000 – a quarter of Europe's Roma and Sinti population.

Why were Jews targeted for persecution and annihilation?

Hitler and the Nazis were rabid antisemites who falsely claimed that German Jews had betrayed Germany during World War I and were responsible for its defeat. The Nazi ideology was also based on a racist ideology whose goal was the elimination of Jews and other undesirable groups from German Society. The Nazis also held Jews responsible for Germany's economic misery during the depression of the late 1920s and early 1930s.

The hatred of Jews has a long history in European society. Exterminations and expulsions marred the history of almost every country in Europe in the middle ages and even in the modern era. This was based on the depiction of Jews as “Christ-killers” by Christian authorities and persistence of antisemitic stereotypes in art and literature. During the 19th century, religious Jew-hatred combined with beliefs about racial difference and superiority that focused on “blood” rather than belief to produce modern antisemitism. Some scholars have argued that the Nazi were an expression of a particularly German form of antisemitism and was the basis of their appeal. Others have argued that Germans became antisemitic after the Nazis took power and took control of education, broadcasting and the media.

Nazi antisemitism as set out by Hitler in *Mein Kampf* and the propaganda of the Third Reich drew on all of these elements. The Holocaust was carried out by individuals from across Europe influenced by some or all of these beliefs.



Auschwitz – Gas Chamber and Cremation Building

What was the “Final Solution”?

The term “Final Solution to the Jewish Question” was a euphemism, used by Nazi Germany’s leaders. It referred to the mass murder of Europe’s Jews. It brought an end to policies aimed at encouraging or forcing Jews to leave the German Reich and other parts of Europe. Those policies were replaced by systematic annihilation. The Nazi leaders envisioned killing 11 million Jews as part of the “Final Solution.” They succeeded in murdering 6 million.

What Next? *This should never happen again.*

The Holocaust was the organized, systematic, persecution and murder of 6 million European Jews by the Nazi regime. To this day, it is one of the darkest chapters in human history, and it has had huge repercussions for European identity, values, and culture.

Promising Practices for Addressing Antisemitism through Education

Education is the first line of defense against hate and prejudice. Women’s Health and Education Center (WHEC) aims to provide guidance, a framework and a roadmap for educators, policymakers, curriculum developers to tackle antisemitism through education. Confronting this challenge is not only a matter of protecting those directly targeted, but of safeguarding the values of human rights, social cohesion and peace for all. At WHEC, we believe education must be at the center of this response. Prevention of discrimination, racism and antisemitism as a core priority and underlines the role of education in building inclusive, resilient societies.

Developing empathy and Deconstructing prejudice

Storytelling is a powerful teaching tool which allows learners to connect with lived experiences of the victims of prejudice. Use empathic curiosity. Positive attitude and values can be boosted by empathic curiosity – the interest in another person’s thoughts and feelings, especially when they differ from or oppose our own. As humans, we rely on empathy for better communication, as it enables us to connect with others emotionally while maintain a distinction between self and other.

Harnessing frontier technology for food security in Nigeria



Africa's most populous nation is making strides in agricultural innovation by leveraging satellite imagery, earth observation systems and remote sensing tools.

2024, Earth's hottest year on record, saw a spate of unrelenting droughts, storms and floods that made it better harder for small-scale and subsistence farmers worldwide. such challenges resonate particular with Nigeria, home to more than 200 million people. 70% of its rural population depends on agriculture for a living. As part of broader efforts

towards food security, the African nation has improved its capacities in agricultural monitoring, disease identification and yield prediction, especially since joining the CropWatch Innovation Cooperation Program – led by UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD), in 2021.

One of the main features of the program is the CropWatch cloud system, which provides real-time agro-climatic and agronomic assessments, including crop conditions, acreage, yield predictions as well as early warnings for pests and drought. With this customizable system, Nigeria can generate high-resolution crop indicators at both national and local levels without incurring hefty IT infrastructure costs.

Addressing West Africa's Shared Challenge

Through the partnership with Nigeria, the CropWatch program is expanding its impact across West Africa. The CropWatch program is more than a technological innovation -it is a testament to the power of collaboration in overcoming regional challenges. It is implemented in the context of the UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development, to which UN Trade and Development provides secretariat support. The program operates in partnership with the Alliance of International Science Organizations and the Aerospace Information Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. It works to bolster the global goal of zero hunger, by helping developing nations tap into frontier technologies for more sustainable and resilient agriculture.

17 African and Asian economies have benefited so far: Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Syria, Thailand, Lebanon, Mauritius, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Using Satellite Technology to Transform Agriculture in Developing Countries

Heavy rains and severe floods ravaged Nigeria, damaging thousands of hectares of land. The country's annual maize and rice production fell by an estimated 12% and 21% respectively. With such destructive weather events on the rise globally, Nigeria – home to more than 200 million people – is turning to technology to better prepare its farmers and agricultural sector. It has found satellite-based crop monitoring solutions particularly useful.

Enhancing Agricultural Resilience for Self-sufficiency

Another country that is part of the program is Mauritius, a small island developing nation that imports 75% of its food. To ensure food security, the country seeks to urgently boost local agriculture production and must overcome challenges from a changing climate that has brought more droughts, flash floods and cyclones in recent years.

[UN to discuss how to harness data for development](#)

The Road Not Taken

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I –
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

- **Robert Frost** (26 March 1874 – 29 January 1963) American Poet and Playwright. Appointed United States Poet Laureate in 1958, he also received the Congressional Gold Medal in 1960 and in 1961 was named poet laureate of Vermont.

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