

SIGBI Programme Director's Blog November 2018



Hello everyone – thank you for electing me as your Programme Director. I shall try to write something of interest to all each month but please do let me know if there is something you think could be of interest to you. I cannot promise to accede to any request but will do so whenever it is possible.

I am sure that many of you were at conference and will be aware of the Programme Action resolutions and the new SIGBI project. However, for those unable to attend these were:

1. Programme Resolutions 1 and 2 were about the effects climate change will have on Small Island Developing States and, more specifically, on our members in the Caribbean. Grants are available to help with mitigation but eligibility criteria are based on the country's Gross National Product. The per capita income in the Caribbean is not a true reflection of the need. These resolutions ask us all to lobby our governments to amend these to reflect the need more appropriately and to ask our governments to address the impact of climate change.
2. The conference also considered a new project for us. After keen voting the winner was 'Empowering Women in Nepal'. This will be launched at conference in Bournemouth in 2019. Watch out for more information and the chance to become intimately involved as ambassadors.



New SIGBI Project 2019-2022

There is still opportunity to support our current project in Meru with donations. This is doing really well and seeks to help women and their families to help themselves. This is much more effective than sending goods to developing countries. For the evidence to support this go to <http://www.cashlearning.org> and see their dvd at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijkP6eaHE6Y>

The UNiTE Campaign's global advocacy theme this year is: Orange the World: #HearMeToo Under the theme Orange the World: #HearMeToo, the UNiTE partners are encouraged to host events with local, national, regional and global women's movements, survivor advocates and women human rights defenders, and create opportunities for dialogue between activists, policy-makers and the public. As in previous years, the colour orange will be a key theme unifying all activities, with buildings and landmarks lit and decorated in orange to bring global attention to the initiative.

Soroptimists Get Involved:

- Hold your own "Orange the world," events
- Wear "Orange"
- Tweet using @SIGBI1 and #orangetheworld #HearMeToo

Visit the [UN Women website](#) for more information.

Last but not least, I am sure you are all familiar with our 3As and 3Es but, perhaps, less familiar with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which have replaced the Millennium Development Goals.

The SDGs apply to all countries in the UN, including the UK. We will, therefore be introducing the 5Ps – the UN suggestion for managing all 17 SDGs with their 196 targets! To learn more please do read the Programme Action Magazine this month at <https://sigbi.org/assets/November-2018-PAM.pdf>.

I am looking forward to working with all of you to advance the wellbeing of women and girls.

Kay Richmond
Director of Programme