



The Human Rights Centre Uganda
Defending Human Rights Defenders

8th March 2024

Kampala, Uganda

International Women's Day | A call to Empower and Invest in Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs)

On this Women's Day, HRCU is proud to join the global community in honoring the incredible resilience, strength, and contributions of women in Uganda. This year's theme, 'Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress,' accentuates the need to prioritise women's empowerment for the betterment of society as a whole.

Investing in women is not just a matter of fairness; it is an imperative for progress. Through direct work in the community, advocacy, and philanthropy, we can support and invest in women to achieve gender equality and advance the rights of women. Also, investing in women's economic empowerment forms an important part of achieving gender equality, which is intrinsically linked to sustainable economic growth and development.

Despite the progress made in advancing women's rights, much work remains to be done. At HRCU, we recognize the immense value that women, and specifically WHRDs play in every facet of life, be it in the workforce, communities, or families. It is therefore noble that we unreservedly invest in and support WHRDs by providing them with equal opportunities, access to resources, advocacy tools, and platforms to guarantee their work.

Through different mentorship and advocacy initiatives, like the Annual WHRDs Conference, youth mentorship and skilling programs, HRCU commits to empowering and mentoring WHRDs, especially at the grassroots level, to become well equipped with the requisite knowledge and skills essential for their work.

HRCU urges HRDs, CSOs, government MDAs, and other relevant stakeholders to take concrete action and prioritise protecting WHRDs from all forms of violence, harassment, and reprisal. Investing in resources, capacity-building initiatives, and financial support for WHRDs to strengthen their resilience, skills, and networks remains key their advocacy and activism.

Let us reaffirm our commitment to empowering and investing in Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs) who tirelessly champion the rights and dignity of women and girls in the face of adversity.

Happy International Women's Day!



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