Annex #12 - IIMA and VIDES Submission to OHCHR Study on the solutions to promote digital education for young people and to ensure their protection from online threats

Call for Inputs on digital education for young people

Civil Society's Reply from South Sudan



Details of the respondent

Respondent profile: Young Person (18-35) Gender: Female Country: South Sudan Organization: Comboni Missionary Sisters (CMS)

1) What are the main challenges that young people in your country face in accessing digital education? Please consider the specific situation of marginalized young people and those in vulnerable situations in your response.

- Limited infrastructure: Many areas in Wau lack basic internet connectivity making it difficult for students to access online education.
- Affordability: Digital devices and internet services can be expensive especially for low income families. This creates a barrier for students who cannot afford these resources.

2) What steps is the Government taking to ensure that digital education is accessible and promoted among young people? Please provide examples of specific laws and regulations, measures, policies, and programmes directed at ensuring young people's universal access to digital education.

In Wau we are not developed. It is already a dream to have public schools working well. At the private level something exists.

3) What steps is the Government taking to ensure that young people can realize their human rights online in a safe, empowering, and inclusive way?

- Promoting some awareness campaigns to encourage students and parents to embrace digital education as a viable option for learning.
- The government has policies for protecting the children, and is very serious on that. If there is a case of abuse or exploitation, especially in the schools, the authorities are very serious.
- The government works with international partners to promote the global standard for online safety and human rights.

4) What are the main gaps and challenges to young people's protection from online threats in law, policy, and practice in your country and the impacts on young people's

IIMA - Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice, <u>www.iimageneva.org</u> VIDES International - International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education, and Development, <u>www.vides.org</u> human rights? Please consider the specific situation of marginalized young people and those in vulnerable situations in your response.

Awareness and accessibility.

5) What steps is the Government taking to ensure that young people are protected from online threats? Please provide examples of specific laws and regulations, measures, policies, and programmes.

- Encouraging the development of technology solutions. -
- Developing and implementing national policies and strategies on cyber security and online safety