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At Girl Up's 2022 Global Leadership Summit, a global community of changemakers united for one common purpose: Creating a positive impact in the world. This year's theme “We're Not Waiting: Change is Now” focused on the importance of the continued pursuit of advancing gender justice.

The two-day virtual event, presented by NortonLifeLock, was led by Baliqees and Yara, two youth leader emcees from Nigeria and Syria. More than 50% of the event’s speakers were youth changemakers, and they were joined onstage by influential leaders and activists including Karamo, Television Host and Author; Candace Parker, Two-time WNBA Champion, Broadcaster, and Mom; Tarana Burke, Activist, Author, and Founder of the ‘me too.’ Movement; Chloé Zhao, award-winning filmmaker; Reshma Saujani, Founder & CEO, Marshall Plan for Moms and Founder, Girls Who Code; Lopa Banerjee, Executive Coordinator, Generation Equality & Director, Civil Society Division at UN Women; and Actress Sepideh Moafi.
Almost 1,500 people (including 1,000+ attendees under 25 years old) representing 102 countries attended the Leadership Summit, and the experience culminated in a Day of Action where more than 300 youth participants learned valuable skills in order to channel their passion into purpose and create tangible social change in their communities around the world.

Thank you to our event sponsors Caterpillar Foundation, WWE, Olay, Miss O & Friends, Noble Panacea, Rotary International, Malone Souliers, Booz Allen Hamilton, and Horizon Therapeutics for recognizing the power of youth leadership and helping make this exciting event possible.

Day of Action
312 Youth Attendees

The Summit culminated in a Day of Action where 312 youth attendees honed key leadership skills as gender equality activists. Participants were able to choose from one of four skill-based workshops: Advocacy & Storytelling, STEM for Social Good, Organizing & Fundraising, Professional Development.
"Investing in girls is investing in our future. To use our own voices to speak about issues that matter and are important to us. To have our own seat at the table and not be spoken for."

Over two days, 673 participants attended 12 youth- and expert-led workshops on how this generation can (and is!) tackling the world’s most pressing issues, including: Addressing Gender-based Violence, Prioritizing Mental Health, Advocating for Gender Equality in Sports, Taking Action for Climate Progress, Using Digital Activism for Transformational Change, Advocating for Menstrual Equity, and more! The interactive workshops equipped its participants with the knowledge, resources, and skills to become changemakers in their own communities.
The Partner & Investor Collective

As an exclusive opportunity for Girl Up Advisory Board members, donors, corporate partners and new supporters to learn about our work and hear from our Girl Up Alumnae, this year’s Partner Collective also featured Girl Up Executive Director Melissa Kilby and the Head of Impact of ‘The Meteor’ Tara Abrahams. The conversation centered around the importance of youth leadership and activism when fighting for girls and women’s rights. Melissa also shared Girl Up’s bold new 2030 Vision to engage one million girls around the world in order to create a more equitable and just world for every girl, everywhere.
Social Reach

>215,000 IMPRESSIONS/REACH ACROSS SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

163,267 VIDEO VIEWS ACROSS SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

12,868 UNIQUE EMAIL CLICKS

8,000+ POST ENGAGEMENTS

Out of 148 posts about the Global Leadership Summit, #GirlsLead22 was used in 94 posts with 8,000+ likes, comments and shares – including from Silvana Estrada, Anita Erksine, Sepideh Moafi, Tefi Pessoa, Liz Plank, Reshma Saujani, and Girl Up Champions Nigel Barker, Malia Baker, and Cara Delevingne.

Leadership Summit Survey

We surveyed Leadership Summit participants & here’s what they had to say:
*More than 91% of respondents were between the ages of 15-24

86% UNDERSTAND THAT LEADERSHIP TAKES A VARIETY OF DIFFERENT FORMS AND THAT EVERYONE IS CAPABLE OF BECOMING A LEADER.

82% HAVE INCREASED KNOWLEDGE IN ISSUES THAT REFLECT THEIR PRIORITY ADVOCACY AREAS.

81% UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT OF INTERSECTIONALITY IN RELATION TO GENDER ISSUES.
“My favorite part was the interaction I had with other Girl Up members. I have met amazing women and they have become an inspiration for me to continue striving for change.”

Girl Up Leader
IMPACT REPORT

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