



NSINDAGIZA ORGANIZATION

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NSINDAGIZA Submission on the Normative Content of Education, Training, Lifelong Learning and Capacity-building.

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Introduction

The right to education is a human right and indispensable for the exercise of other human rights and at the heart of the SDGs.

In 2018, Rwanda's literacy rate was 73.22%. As the progress in education was strengthened less than 20 years back, most of those who were not able to go to school are in their old age

While there are policies on education for all, inclusive education, ICT in education and education for girls, . though not formally discriminatory, formal education is mostly for children and the youth, with no special program for the education, training and capacity building for older people.

Education and ICT progress in Rwanda

Education in Rwanda before 2009 was in Kinyarwanda and French at all levels. It then shifted from French to English from primary school, with the promotion of ICT (Information, Communication and Technology), now the country has become Anglophone and Africa ICT hub.

Gap

Older people and others who studied before 2010, are lost and feel frustrated due to the e-system and use of English in everything (transport, banking, administration, education, land, etc). Key information is provided through social media and is mostly in English, which causes older people to feel illiterate even though they went to school.

A key normative element of the right to education in older age is that education must be acceptable and adaptable to their requirements. Older people have the right to equal access to opportunities of lifelong learning, education and skills-building available to the general public and to learning opportunities adapted to their specific needs, including their language and communication needs.

Fight for the rights and welfare of older persons, www.nsindagiza.org



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Solution

The reason behind the above issue is that there is no binding international legal instrument that directs funding and data on education, lifelong learning, training and capacity building for older people as an excuse to not put in place the necessary legal and policy framework. Now is the time for an International Convention on all the Human rights of older people, including their right to education adapted to their specific requirements.