

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION DIRECTORATE

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<u>CAR Launches #AfricaEducatesHer Campaign During Opening Session of the 10th African Day of School</u> <u>Feeding</u>

Bangui, Central African Republic – The Central African Republic (CAR) officially launched the #AfricaEducatesHer Campaign during the opening session of the 10th African Day of School Feeding (ADSF) program, marking a significant step in promoting girls' education and removing barriers to school participation in the country. Led by the African Union International Centre for the Education of Girls and Women in Africa (AU/CIEFFA), the campaign was launched in the presence of H.E. Aurélien Simplice Zingas, Minister of State in charge of National Education of the Central African Republic; Prof. Saidou Madougou, Director of the African Union Department in charge of Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation (ESTI); alongside government representatives, development partners, and Emmanuelle Ngainganazui, Miss Central African Republic 2025.

During the opening session, Prof. Saidou Madougou emphasized the African Union's unwavering commitment to advancing inclusive and equitable education across the continent. He underscored the critical need for accelerated efforts to ensure that all girls have access to quality learning opportunities, noting that gender disparities in education continue to hinder Africa's development goals. He called for stronger collaboration among governments, civil society, and development partners to sustain and expand education initiatives that empower young girls.

Following this address, the Minister of Education of the CAR officially opened the 10th edition of the ADSF, reaffirming the vital role of school feeding programs in supporting children's education, particularly for girls. He reiterated his country's commitment to expanding school feeding programs and strengthening initiatives that promote girls' education.

The launch event was further enhanced by the presence of Miss Central Africa 2025, whose involvement highlighted the importance of role models in inspiring girls to overcome challenges and pursue their academic aspirations.

The #AfricaEducatesHer Campaign was launched as part of the broader 10th ADSF celebrations, reinforcing the strong link between education, nutrition, and gender equality. School feeding programs, which serve as a key incentive for keeping children in school, particularly girls, remain a crucial pillar in addressing disparities in education access. The campaign launch further emphasized the need for integrated policies that tackle both the nutritional and educational needs of children across Africa.



Moving forward, AU-CIEFFA, in collaboration with CAR's Ministry of Education, will focus on strengthening advocacy, implementing targeted education policies, and mobilizing local communities to support genderinclusive learning environments. The launch of #AfricaEducatesHer in CAR represents a significant milestone in the continued push for girls' education across the continent. As the African Union advances its commitment to education equity and inclusion, this campaign will remain at the forefront of efforts to ensure that no girl is left behind in Africa's education transformation journey.

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