



WE Connect

Connecting women in renewable energy

The month that's been

Women hold half of the world's potential. Imagine what can be achieved in a world free from gender bias, with equal opportunities for all!

With this in mind, WE Connect successfully launched on 21 May 2020. The inaugural webinar was attended by over 60 women and men from four different countries to discuss the art of networking and mentorship.

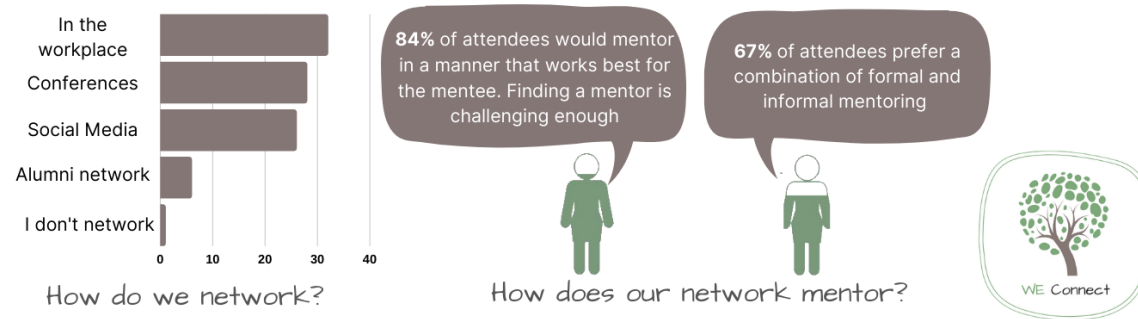
Our insightful speakers ensured that attendees were engaged, challenged and motivated to make connections. Kristina Miller introduced us to Great Girls, an NPO focussing on uplifting girls from disadvantaged communities. Michele Doyle shared her personal journey of growth and development.

Their stories confirmed the positive impact we can have on society when we empower, mentor, guide and inspire women. Here are our favourite take away messages:

- Networking is a lot about: "what can I give" and this leads to reciprocal actions
- Asking for advice is not a sign of weakness
- Networking is not about the height of your business card stack, but rather about making the right, and real, connections

- Reverse mentoring, where a mentor learns from the mentee, is powerful and often unexpected
- You can be a connector, connecting people with people and ideas with ideas
- Focus on progress, rather than perfection

We also learned more about our network through various polls:



In case you missed it, check out these links:



A big thank you to our speakers and everyone that showed up with such enthusiasm. Without you, this event could not have had such a spectacular impact. May we continue to raise as we rise.

The month ahead

So, what's next for our newly established network?

We initially planned for our next event to take place in August 2020, but the response from our network has overwhelmingly been to organise more events, more frequently. We heard you and we have not one, but two events planned for the month of July 2020.

Work-Life Harmony

The word 'balance' that typically follows the words 'work-life' creates the illusion that work and life needs to be 50/50 in order to be balanced. This is often untenable for women to balance in all phases of their careers.

- The first session in this series will focus on the six stages of the female career and how work-life harmony changes as you move through the stages. Regardless of where you are in your career, this session is a must.
- The second session will focus on work-life harmony for the moms, the moms to be and their partners.

At the risk of overhyping this, this is one you do not want to miss. Keep an eye on our social media for more information and the dates. Soon, we will be directing you to our website - which is coming soon.

LinkedIn Group

For those of you on LinkedIn, head over to our [closed group](#) to interact with the WE Connect Community between events.

What we are Reading, Watching, Listening

Justice for women amidst COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has and will continue to impact each of us in a unique way. It has created a global emergency of multiple dimensions. There is now major concern that COVID-19 and its impact will push back progress on gender equality, including slowing progress in reversing discriminatory laws and broader progress made. Full report available by clicking on the image.



Regressing to traditional gender roles?

These can be trying times for women and men. The studies informing this article (click on the photo for the link) are not necessarily applicable to the African context, but there are some lessons to take from it.

For information relevant to our South African context, RSVP for our July 2020 events.



"The world needs strong women. Women who will lift and build others, who will love and be loved. Women who live bravely, both tender and fierce. Women of indomitable will."

- Amy Tenney

Let's continue to build a powerful network of women working in renewable energy,
The WE Connect Team

