

JULIET'S JOURNEY

FROM SILENCE
TO CONNECTION



Belgium
partner in development



WOMEN OF UGANDA NETWORK
WOUNET

Enabel 

Foreword

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the visionary team at WOUGNET for bringing this comic book to life. Their dedication, creativity, and passion have resulted in a powerful and engaging narrative that amplifies the voices of women and girls navigating the digital age. Each page of this comic is a testament to their commitment to fostering digital inclusion and advocating for gender equality.

Our sincere appreciation also goes to our esteemed partners, Enabel and Belgium In Development, whose steadfast support has been instrumental in making this initiative a reality. Their shared vision of a digitally inclusive world has driven meaningful efforts to address the challenges women and girls face, ensuring that technology serves as a tool for empowerment rather than exclusion.

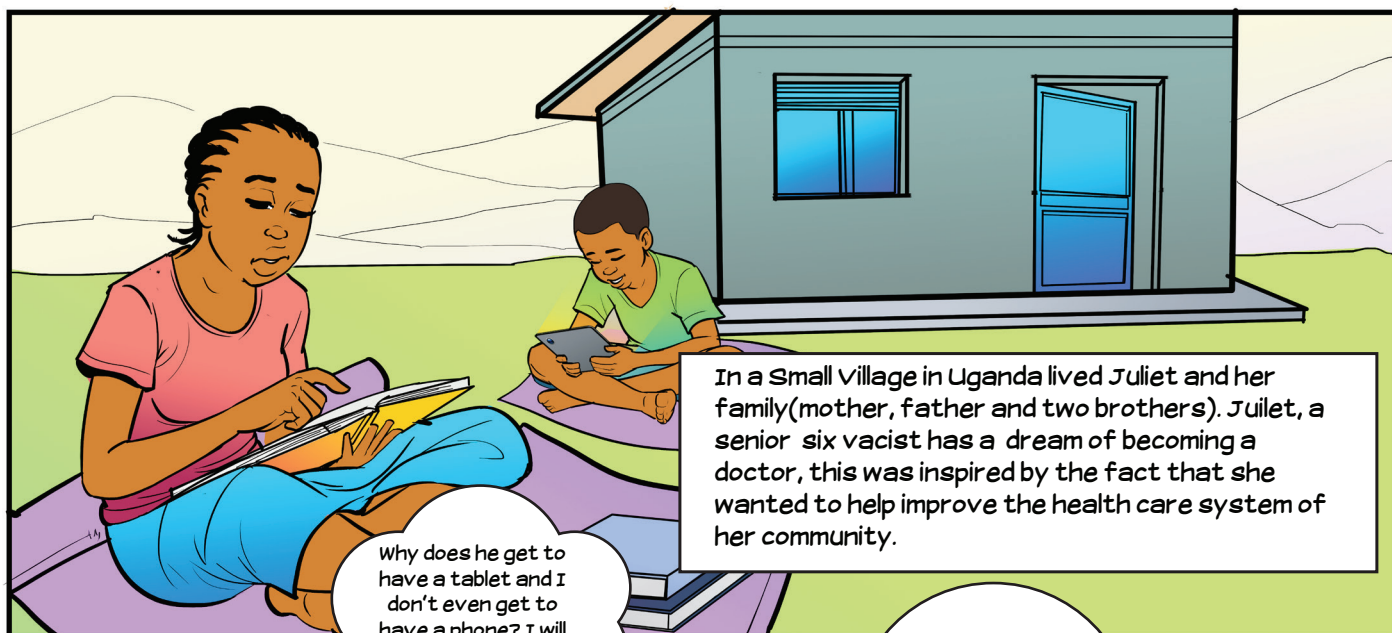
This comic tells the inspiring story of Juliet, a bright and determined young girl from a rural Ugandan village. Juliet dreams of becoming a doctor, but she faces societal biases and unequal access to technology—barriers that often stifle women's and girls' ambitions. Her journey takes a pivotal turn during a community session led by WOUGNET, during which she learns about the transformative potential of digital tools for families and communities, especially for women and girls.

Inspired by this session, Juliet begins her transformation. With the support of WOUGNET's digital literacy programs, she gains the skills and confidence to harness technology for her education and beyond. Her story is not just a personal triumph but a blueprint for how access to technology and knowledge can ignite lasting change in communities.

As you journey with Juliet through her challenges and victories, we hope her story motivates you to take action. Together, we can bridge the gender digital divide and create a world where technology uplifts and empowers everyone, regardless of gender or background.

Let us work towards a future where access to technology is recognised as a right for all and used as a tool to unlock opportunities for women and girls everywhere.

Sandra Aceng
Executive Director
Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET)



I can't even get some time to apply at the university, yet applications are soon closing.

James, I have borrowed your tablet to apply, help me watch if Dad is coming



Juliet, what are you doing?

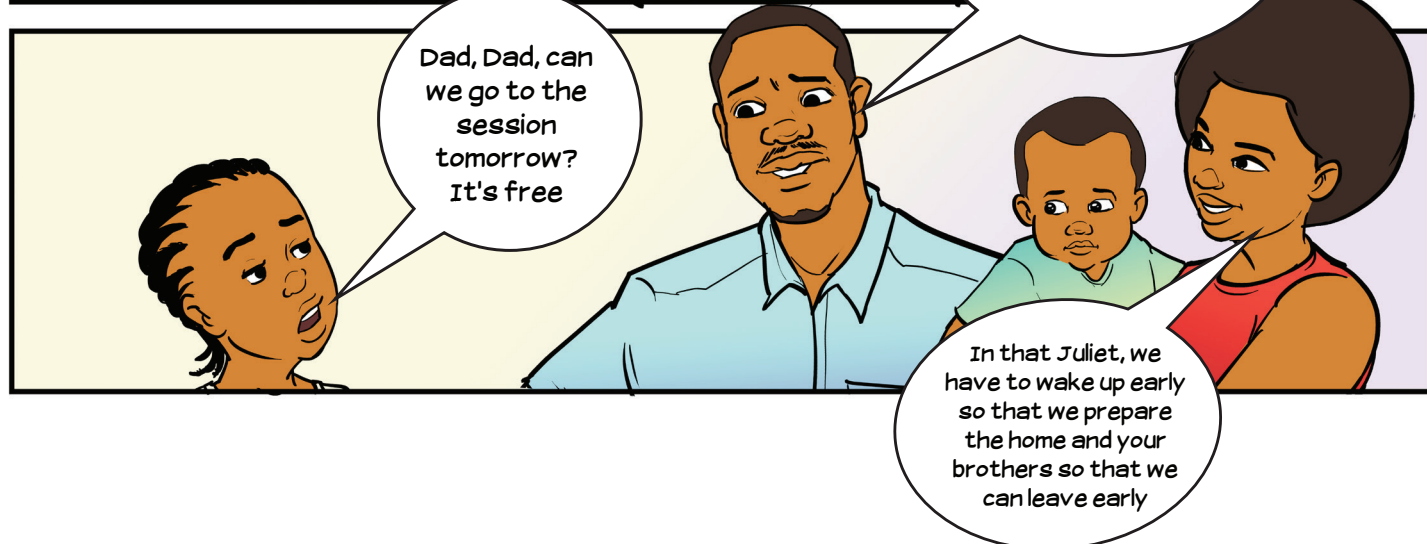


But Dad, I just wanted to check out universities where I can go.

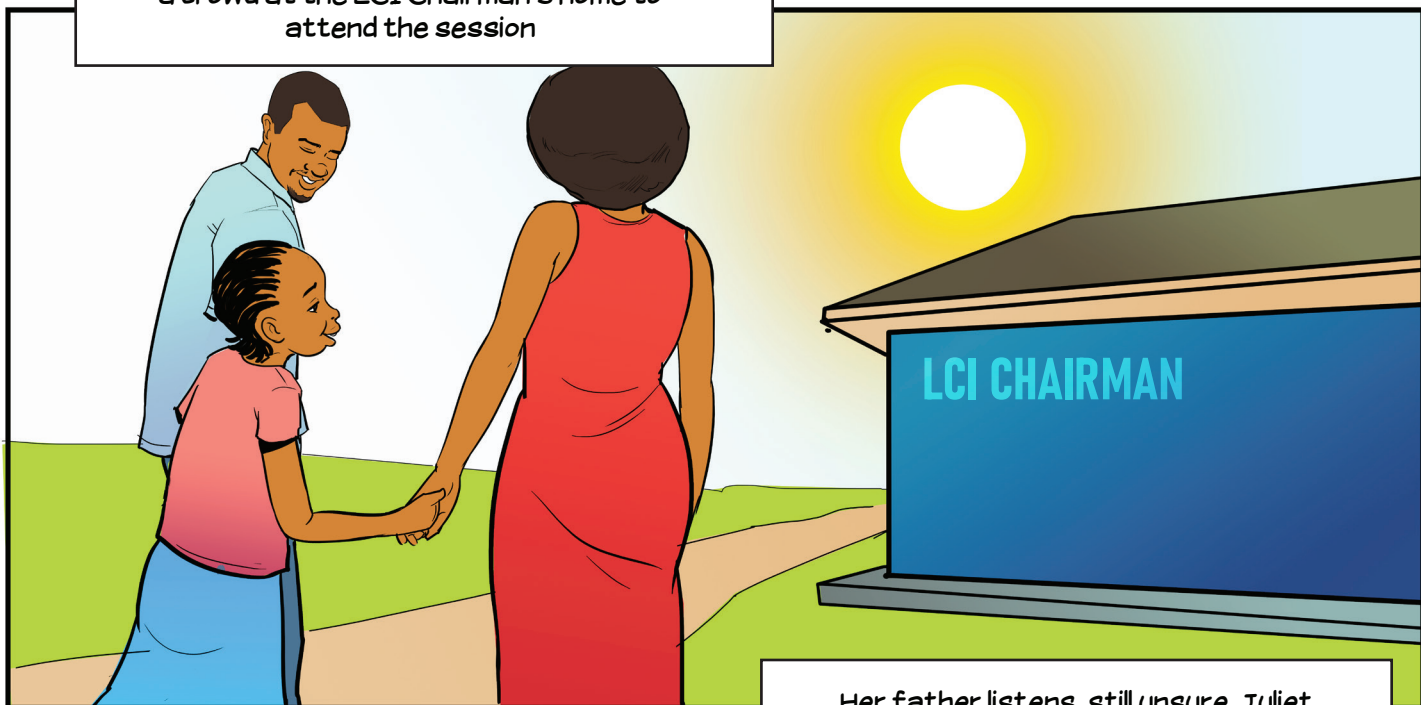


That tablet is a distraction to you. Go and help your mom to wash.

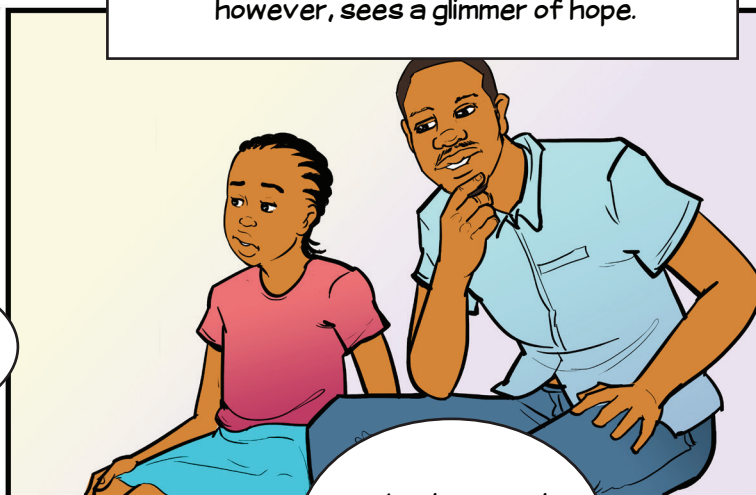




The next day, Juliet and her parents join a crowd at the LCI Chairman's home to attend the session



Her father listens, still unsure. Juliet, however, sees a glimmer of hope.



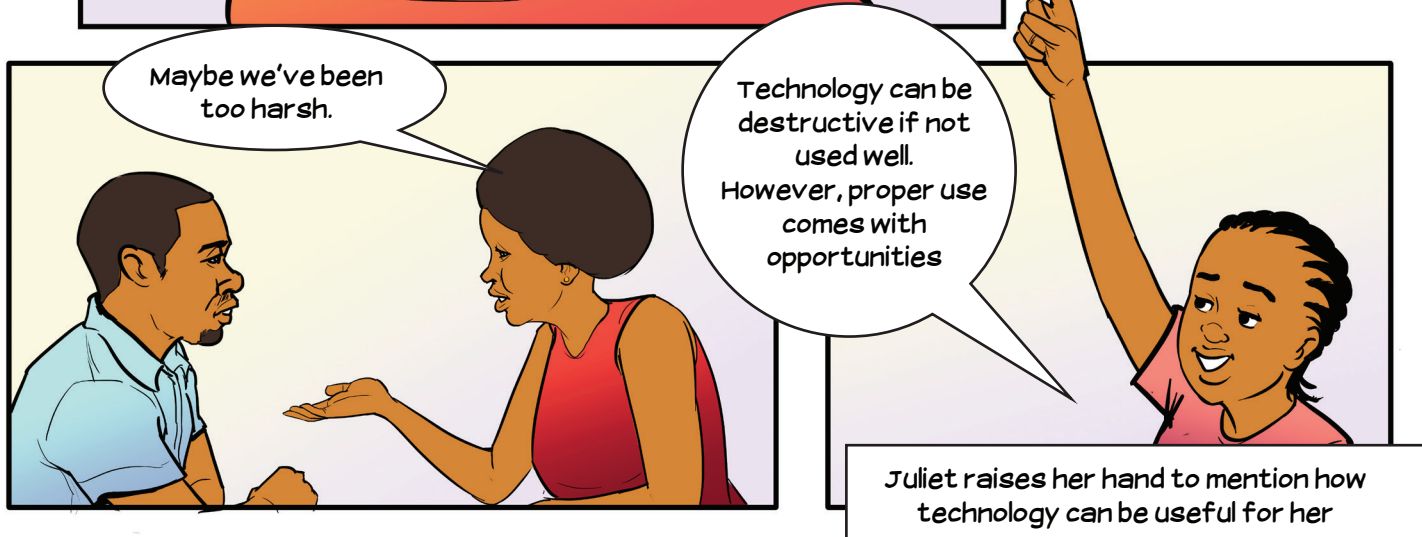
The facilitator speaks about success stories of women empowered by technology.



Technology can be monitored to ensure responsible use.



The facilitator mentions parental controls and online safety tools, which catch Juliet's father's attention.

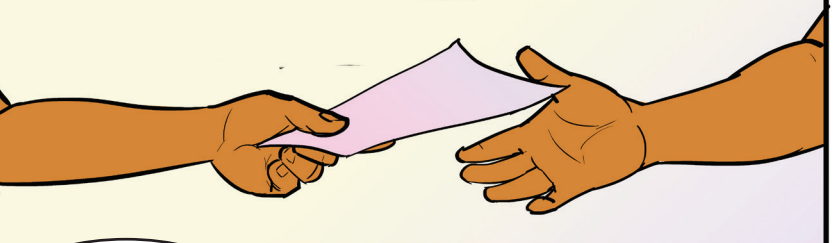


After the session, Juliet's father approaches the WOUGNET facilitator, thanking them for the insightful session.

Thank you, Facilitator, for the great session, I have a question, Does WOUGNET have digital training sessions? And also, how long does it take for one to properly learn certain skills.

Yes, WOUGNET has a training session, and I am happy to share with you some of our programs and absolutely! While learning starts simple and builds skills over time, it usually is continuous because technology keeps evolving

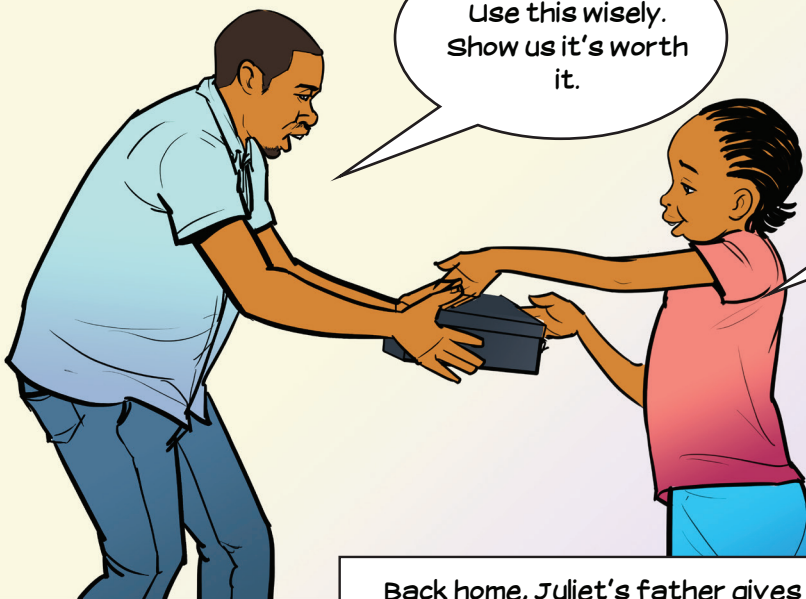
The facilitator hands him a pamphlet with WOUGNET's different training programs

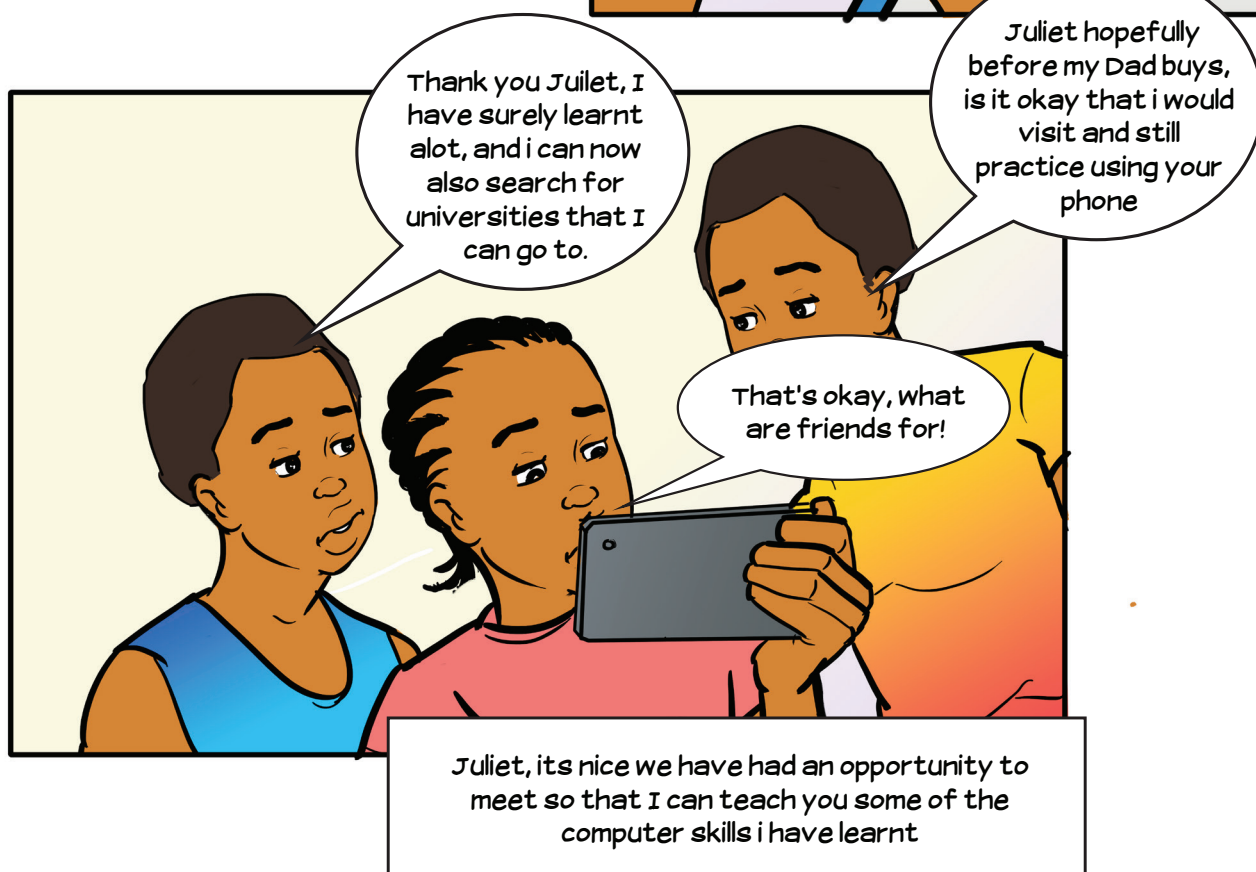


Use this wisely. Show us it's worth it.

Thank you dad. I promise I won't let you down

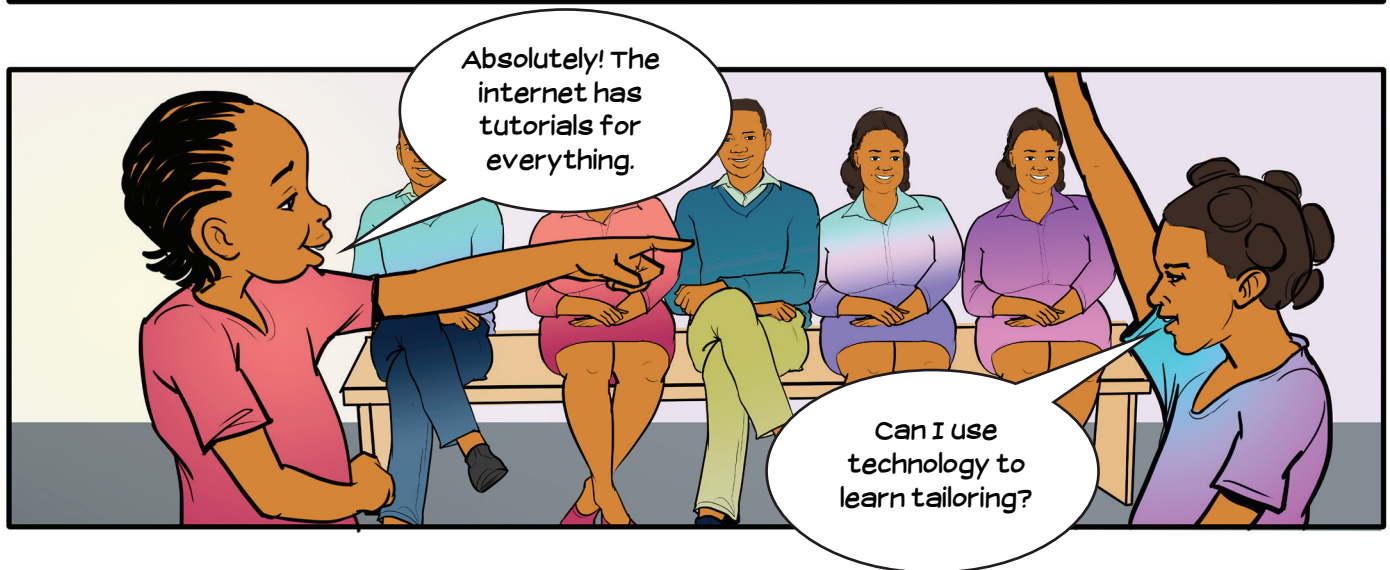
Back home, Juliet's father gives her a small box. Juliet opens it to find a smartphone inside.



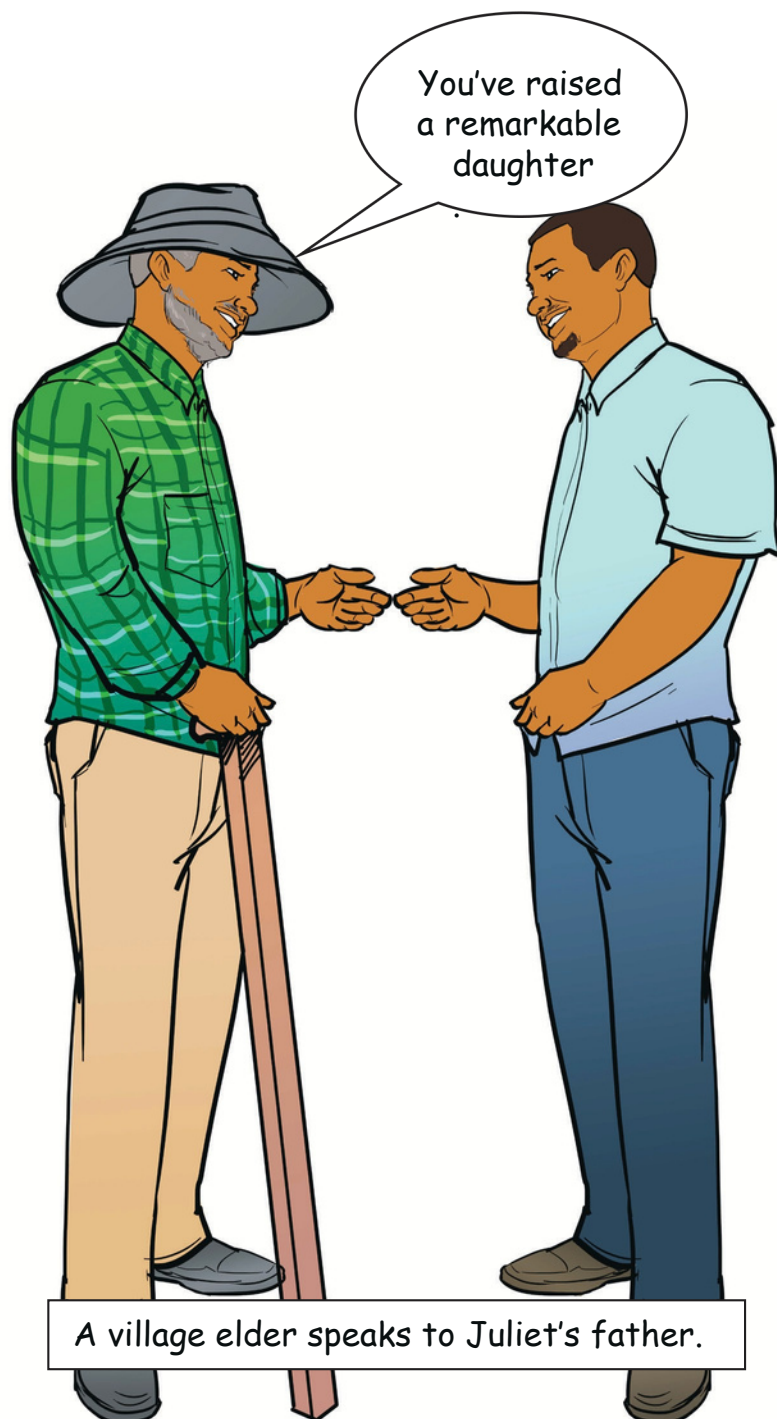


Juliet collaborates with WOUGNET to organize workshops for other girls.

DIGITAL LITERACY WORKSHOP



Juliet collaborates with WOUGNET to organize workshops for other girls.



KEY MESSAGES

- Access to technology is a right, not a privilege. Women and girls deserve equal opportunities to leverage technology for education, growth, and empowerment.
- Raising awareness is a cornerstone of digital rights empowerment for women and girls, creating a ripple effect that uplifts entire communities.
- Education through technology can break cycles of inequality.

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