MDG3: Founding, Furthering or Fracturing?

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The goal and the target: foundational?

- Gender equality as a foundational value
- Is gender parity in education an appropriate target?
- 2005 and the first target
## Progress against indicators: 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Progress</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ratio of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education</td>
<td>2007 – gender parity in primary education in 2/3 of 181 countries with data</td>
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<td>In secondary education in 1/3 of 177 countries with data;</td>
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<td>In tertiary education in only 5 countries of 148 with data</td>
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<td>2005 target date missed in 94 out of 149 countries with data; achieved in 82 countries</td>
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## Progress against indicators: 2

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<thead>
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<tr>
<td>Ratio of literate women to men (15-24)</td>
<td>GPI youth literacy improving countries improves 0.88 (1985-1994) to 0.92 (1994-2004).</td>
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<td>Approx 66% of 781 million adults without literacy skills are women</td>
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<td>GPI literate women: men 0.84 (1990) and 0.89 (2004)</td>
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Progress against indicators: 3

- **Share of women in wage employment in the non agricultural sector**
  - 2006 (1990) data from ILO:
  - 46 (42)% - developed regions;
  - 48 (46)% CEE/CIS;
  - 42 (38)% Latin America/Caribbean
  - 19 (18)% Middle East/N. Africa
  - 19 (15)% South Asia
  - 31 (25)% Sub Saharan Africa
Progress against indicators: 4

- Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments
  - 2006 (1997):
    - Sub Saharan Africa 16 (9)%
    - South Asia 15 (5)%
    - Middle East/North Africa 8 (3)%
    - Latin America/Caribbean 18 (11)%
    - East Asia/Pacific 11 (6)%
    - CEE/CIS 16 (9)%
    - Developed 26 (18)%
Assessing MDG3

- Gender equality, parity and the debate about empowerment
- Furthering - MDG3 Plus:
  Additional indicators: gender & primary completion, under 5 mortality, youth labour force participation, average hourly wage; percentage using modern contraception & young mothers
Silences: violence against women

- Violence against women explicit demonstration of gender inequity
- Domestic violence widespread
  - Population surveys from 10 countries find between 16% & 67% physically or sexually assaulted by partner
  - Between 4% & 54% experienced violence in past year
Sexual violence widespread: percentage sexually experienced women reporting forced first sex

Gender and intersectionality

- Inequalities multidimensional
- Vertical and horizontal distances from the MDGs
- The fragility of the MDG compact
- The political nature of achieving real equality
- The problem of fracturing
- Are torches enough?