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Sustainable Goal 5 Gender Equality

Achieve gender equality
and empower all women
and girls

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1. What is the issue?



Gender equality –the state in which access to rights or opportunities is unaffected by gender. The possession for equal gender rights have been a continuous and unrelenting fight for centuries, and still have a long way to go.



Some key facts:

1. COVID-19 consequences: violence against women and girls has intensified and child marriage has increased- up to 10 million additional girls at risk of child marriage in the next decade as a result of the pandemic.
2. Nearly 1 in 3 women, that is 736 million women, have been subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by a husband or intimate partner or sexual violence by a non-partner at least once in their lifetime since the age of
3. At least 200 million girls and women have been subjected to female genital mutilation (FGM). Despite progress, there are still countries where FGM is almost universal – where at least 9 in 10 girls and women aged 15 to 49 years have been cut.
4. On an average day, women spend about 2.5 times as many hours on unpaid domestic work and care work as men, according to the latest data from 90 countries and areas collected between 2001 and 2019.
5. By 2019, women, accounted for nearly 39% of the global labour force, but occupied only 28.3% of managerial positions.



2. Who is impacted by the issue?



- The majority of the issues caused by gender inequality are shown to impact mainly women universally across the world
- However, gender inequality is an issue that harms all people of any gender, and its lasting effects can be seen to have an impact across whole populations



- Opportunities of development are often restricted for women
- Gender stereotyping is a prevalent issue in men particularly
- A new study co-authored by Dr. Blum looked at the development of gender stereotypes in early adolescence and their impact on adolescent health in 14 low-income countries



- It found that boys were more likely than girls to report adversity including physical neglect, sexual abuse and violence victimization.
- Moreover, boys facing adversity were 11 times more likely to be engaged in violence, compared to four times among girls.





19 M

the times that the
#metoo has been used



1 IN 3

women suffered some
form of violence



61%

of women say 'feminist'
describes them well





3. Where in the world is the issue most prevalent/ in need of resolving and why?



1. The Gender Inequality Index (GII) measures the loss of achievement within a country due to gender inequality. It uses three dimensions to measure opportunity cost: reproductive health, empowerment, and labour market participation
2. In 2018, Switzerland was measured to have the most gender equality, whilst Yemen ranked least, at place 162
3. Yemen's poor gender equality may be attributed to the large education gap between men and women in Yemen, as well as prevalent and illegal discrimination in the workforce against women.
4. Only 35% of Yemeni women are literate compared with 73% of men, and years of conflict have eroded the institutions that once might have protected these women.



⚡ 4. What barriers stand in the way of resolving the issue? ♀

- Amid the global push for gender equality, traditionalist insecurities drive men to violent retaliation against societal change, exacerbating the challenges women already face
- 'Gender fatigue': This is the phenomenon of simultaneously acknowledging that gender inequality exists in general while denying that it exists in one's immediate work environment. It prevents any actual impactful progression being made to the issue being solved
- Cultures and traditions are so engraved within societies that it's difficult to penetrate their ways of life. It's difficult to implement strategies to combat this issue without going against national sovereignty

⚡ 5. How you would attempt to resolve the issue? ♀

1. Start educating all genders from a young age in schools about the main issues of gender inequalities and get them talking about it freely- there is often a major stigma around gender equality being a 'female' issue, particularly with men being afraid to be labelled as a 'feminist'
2. Offer ways for people to sponsor a girl's education in a LIC
3. Raise money to set up more menstrual health facilities- some cultures believe menstruating girls cause harm to everything she touches, such as in rural Nepal, where girls are forced out of their homes into dangerous 'menstrual huts' whilst on their periods. By implementing more organisations specialising in menstrual health, it will help to decrease these cultural taboos that often result in ostracism, early marriage, and endangerment of girls' futures. It will also help to increase access to sanitary products to women who are in refugee camps
4. Donate to call centres which specialise in helping domestic violence survivors

