

GENDER EQUITY AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL IN THE POST 2015

Maria Grazia Panunzi (AIDOS - Action for Global Health)

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Gender inequality is the most pervasive form of inequality around the world and a **pressing human rights concern**. Recent decades have seen gains in some areas, such as in girls' enrolment in education; however progress has been uneven, with gender inequalities persisting and even growing along several dimensions. **Progress on gender equality is fundamental for realizing human rights for all, creating and sustaining peaceful societies, and building socially inclusive and sustainable development trajectories where the benefits of development are equitably shared.**

Inequalities between women and men, and boys and girls, play out across all areas of life in every country, cutting across both public institutions, such as governance systems and markets, and the private sphere. Gender inequalities are reflected in the daily realities of women's and girls' lives.

A transformative stand-alone gender equality goal in the new framework will galvanize resources and political will, and will serve as an accountability mechanism to monitor progress and address the remaining gaps in implementation. In addition, any goals of the new framework must transform gender relations by tackling the structural underpinnings of gender inequalities, as agreed in the Beijing Platform for Action. To be transformative, this comprehensive universal approach should ensure accountability through robust monitoring frameworks and timely and reliable statistics. Therefore, gender-specific targets should also be integrated into other goals in order to ensure meaningful achievement of those goals by addressing the specific areas of gender-based discrimination that limit prospects for eradicating poverty, creating sustainable consumption and production patterns, promoting transparent and accountable governance, ensuring access to high quality education and health care, and ensuring sustainable water and energy access while protecting the environment.

In this context and taking into consideration the proposals on the next framework coming from the civil society organizations both at national and international level, we consider relevant the inclusion of the following references within the Goal 5 "Attain Gender equality, empower women and girls everywhere":

- The elimination of all forms of discrimination based on gender against women and girls of all ages revoking all gender discriminatory legislations, policies and practices which criminalise or stigmatise different social groups, and ensuring access to justice and effective remedial mechanisms for human rights violations.
- The elimination of all forms of gender based violence against all women and girls in all their diversity in public and private spaces; the elimination of the impunity for gender based violence such as sexual



violence perpetrated during and after conflict and provide universal access to critical services, rehabilitation, justice and remedies for all victims/survivors of gender-based violence.

- The elimination of all harmful practices against women and girls, especially child, early and forced marriage, female genital mutilations/cutting, honour killings.
- The elimination of gender disparities at all levels of education and training and guarantee equal access to universal, quality and free education for all women and girls at all level, life-long learning and comprehensive sexuality education with a focus on the most marginalised women and girls, including indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities, those living with disabilities, those living in rural areas and migrants.
- Equal opportunities and access of women to full and productive employment and decent work, and the access to equal pay for work of equal value.
- The reduction and redistribution of the unpaid care and domestic work through shared responsibility by states, private sector, communities, women and men and the insurance that care is incorporated into social protection systems through allowances, services, and benefits that maximize women's autonomy.
- Equal access to, control, management and ownership of assets and natural and other productive resources and inheritance for women as well as non-discriminatory access to essential services and infrastructure, including financial services and ICT.
- Full, equal and effective participation and leadership of women and girls at all levels of decision-making in the public and private spheres and institutions, including in conflict and disaster-affected settings and environmental management.
- Universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- The availability of gender and age disaggregated data to improve the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of gender equality policies, laws and programs including gender responsive budgeting.
- Fully engagement of men and boys in efforts to promote and achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.
- The achievement of the rights of people with diverse sexual orientation and gender identity.

Key references

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