**The stairway to gender equity**

**BIG STEPS AHEAD**

- The step leading to gender equity in education is all countries of the world not being a very big one. So, many countries are in a stage of education that would make any one of them pride themselves on having achieved gender parity. However, if one looks at the education level of each country, it becomes clear that most countries are far away from the goal.

**Money and equity do not go hand in hand**

When considering the gender pay gap, the issue of income inequality is a key concern. The Gender Index 2008 shows that income inequality has a significant impact on gender parity. In countries with high levels of income inequality, women tend to have lower incomes than men, which affects their overall equity status. The report highlights the importance of addressing income inequality as a crucial step towards achieving gender equity.

**ECONOMIC ACTIVITY GAP**

The Economic Activity Gap is divided into three subcategories: Economic activity rate, Economic activity rate and Economic activity rate.

- **Economic activity rate**: The percentage of the working-age population that is employed in the economy.
- **Economic activity rate**: The percentage of the population that is engaged in economic activities but not employed in the formal economy.
- **Economic activity rate**: The percentage of the population that is not engaged in economic activities and not seeking work.

**EMPOWERMENT GAP**

The Empowerment Gap is calculated using the following indicators:

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- **Gender gap in educational achievement**: The difference in educational attainment between men and women.
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- **Gender gap in political participation**: The difference in political participation between men and women.
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- **Gender gap in economic activity**: The difference in economic activity between men and women.

**SOCIAL WATCH**

Social Watch is a global network of civil society organizations that aims to improve the lives of people by promoting human rights, social justice, and economic equality. The Social Watch Gender Index is a tool that measures gender gaps in various areas, including education, income, and political participation. The index uses a set of indicators to assess gender parity and provides a framework for understanding the challenges and opportunities for achieving gender equity.

**REFERENCES**

- Gender Index 2008, UNDP.
- International Labour Organization (ILO).
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

**NOTES**

- The Gender Index 2008 provides a comprehensive overview of gender gaps in various areas.
- The index is updated annually to reflect the latest data and trends.
- The methodology and data sources used in the Gender Index are transparent and based on best practices.

**FIGURES**

- Figure 1: Stairway to gender equity.
- Figure 2: Economic activity gap.
- Figure 3: Empowerment gap.

**MAPS**

- Map 1: Education gap.
- Map 2: Economic activity gap.
- Map 3: Empowerment gap.

**DATA**

- Data from various sources, including national statistics, surveys, and reports.

**LIMITATIONS**

- The data used in the Gender Index is collected from various sources, which may not be fully representative of all countries.
- The index is based on a set of indicators that may not capture all aspects of gender equality.
- The methodology of the index is complex and may be subject to interpretation.

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**FURTHER READINGS**
