

# THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN 2007

## Women and Children

The Double Dividend  
of Gender Equality



# **THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN 2007**

© The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), 2006

Permission to reproduce any part of this publication is required. Please contact the Editorial, Design and Publications Section, Division of Communication, UNICEF NY (3 UN Plaza, NY, NY 10017) USA, Tel: 212-326-7434 or 7286, Fax: 212-303-7985, Email: nyhqdoc.permit@unicef.org. Permission will be freely granted to educational or non-profit organizations. Others will be requested to pay a small fee.

Commentaries represent the personal views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect UNICEF positions.

ISBN-13: 978-92-806-3998-8

ISBN-10: 92-806-3998-6

UNICEF, UNICEF House, 3 UN Plaza,  
New York, NY 10017, USA

Email: [pubdoc@unicef.org](mailto:pubdoc@unicef.org)

Website: [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org)

Cover photo: © UNICEF/HQ95-0980/Shehzad Noorani

# Acknowledgements

This report was made possible with the advice and contributions of many people, both in and outside of UNICEF. Important contributions were received from the following UNICEF field offices: Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, China, the Gambia, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica, Jordan, Madagascar, Montenegro, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Uganda, Uzbekistan and Zimbabwe. Input was also received from Programme Division, Division of Policy and Planning, Office of UN Affairs and External Relations, and Division of Communication at New York Headquarters, UNICEF regional offices and the Innocenti Research Centre.

Sincere thanks to Casimira Rodríguez Romero, Minister of Justice, Bolivia, for her special contribution.

## EDITORIAL

Patricia Moccia, *Editor-in-Chief*; David Anthony, *Editor*; Allyson Alert; Chris Brazier; Christine Dinsmore; Hirut Gebre-Egziabher; Emily Goodman; Paulina Gruszczynski; Tamar Hahn; Pamela Knight; Amy Lai; Catherine Langevin-Falcon; Jodi Liss; Najwa Mekki; Lorna O'Hanlon; Catherine Rutgers

## STATISTICAL TABLES

Tessa Wardlaw, *Acting Chief*, Statistical Information Section, Division of Policy and Planning; Priscilla Akwara; Claudia Cappa; Friedrich Huebler; Rouslan Karimov; Edilberto Loaiza; Nyein Nyein Lwin; Mary Mahy; Maryanne Neill; Ngagne Diakhate; Khin Wityee Oo; Emily White Johansson

## DESIGN AND PRE-PRESS PRODUCTION

Prographics, Inc.

## STEERING COMMITTEE

Rima Salah, *Chair*; Gordon Alexander; Maie Ayoub von Kohl; Liza Barrie; Wivina Belmonte; Samuel Bickel; Susan Bissell; Mark Hereward; Eva Jespersen; Afshan Khan; Gabriele Koehler; Erma Manoncourt; Peter Mason; Sidya Ould El-Hadj; David Parker; Mahesh Patel; Marie-Pierre Poirier; Dorothy Rozga; Fabio Sabatini; Christian Schneider; Susana Sottoli; Yves Willemot; Alexandre Zouev

## RESEARCH AND POLICY GUIDANCE

Elizabeth Gibbons, *Chief*, Global Policy Section, Division of Policy and Planning; David Stewart, *Senior Policy Advisor*, Global Policy Section; Raluca Eddon; Ticiana Maloney; Annalisa Orlandi; Kate Rogers

## PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

Jaclyn Tierney, *Production Officer*; Edward Ying, Jr.; Germain Ake; Eki Kairupan; Farid Rashid; Elias Salem

## TRANSLATION

*French edition*: Marc Chalamet  
*Spanish edition*: Carlos Perellón

## PHOTO RESEARCH

Allison Scott; Susan Markisz

## PRINTING

Gist and Herlin Press

## EXTERNAL ADVISORY PANEL

Anne Marie Goetz; Edmund Fitzgerald; Geeta Rao Gupta; Kareen Jabre; Sir Richard Jolly; Azza M. Karam; Elizabeth M. King; Laura Laski; Joyce Malombe; Carolyn Miller; Agnes Quisumbing; Gustav Ranis

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

Lori Beaman, Esther Duflo, Rohini Pande and Petia Topalova; Elizabeth Powley; Sylvia Chant; Leslie A. Schwindt-Bayer

# CONTENTS

## Forewords

Kofi A. Annan  
Secretary-General  
of the United Nations .....vi

Ann M. Veneman  
Executive Director, UNICEF .....vii

Chapter 1 .....1

Chapter 2 .....17

Chapter 3 .....37

Chapter 4 .....51

Chapter 5 .....69

References .....88

Statistical Tables .....98

General note on the data .....99

Under-five mortality rankings .....101

Table 1: Basic Indicators .....102

Table 2: Nutrition .....106

Table 3: Health .....110

Table 4: HIV/AIDS .....114

Table 5: Education .....118

Table 6: Demographic Indicators....122

Table 7: Economic Indicators.....126

Table 8: Women .....130

Table 9: Child Protection .....134

Summary Indicators.....136

Measuring human development....137

Table 10: The Rate of Progress .....138

Index.....142

Glossary .....147

UNICEF Offices .....148



## 1 A call for equality

**Summary** .....viii

### Panels

Gender discrimination across the life cycle .....4

Gender discrimination and inequalities across regions .....8

### Figures

1.1 In many developing regions, girls are more likely than boys to miss out on a secondary education.....3

1.2 Men's discriminatory attitudes towards women vary across regions but are significant everywhere .....6

1.3 In sub-Saharan Africa, young women are more vulnerable to HIV infection but have less comprehensive knowledge about HIV than young men.....11

1.4 More than 1 out of every 4 births to an adolescent mother (aged 15–19) occurs in the least developed countries .....13

1.5 High rates of maternal death are associated with limited access to health-care services for expectant mothers .....14

## 2 Equality in the household

**Summary** .....16

### Panels

Domestic violence against children.....24

Grandmothers and HIV/AIDS.....30

Mother Centres in Central and Eastern Europe and the Gambia....34

### Figures

2.1 Many husbands are making the decisions alone on their wife's health.....18

2.2 Many husbands are making the decisions alone on daily household expenditure.....19

2.3 Many husbands are making the decisions alone on visits to friends and relatives.....20

2.4 Underweight prevalence among children under five in the developing regions.....23

2.5 Despite recent improvements, women's literacy rates are generally lower than men's.....27

# Women and Children

## The Double Dividend of Gender Equality



### 3 Equality in employment

**Summary** .....36

#### Panels

Do girls risk missing out on school when women work?.....41

The impact of family-friendly workplaces in industrialized countries.....46

Child labour: Are girls affected differently from boys?.....48

#### Figures

3.1 Women are working longer hours than men across the developing world.....38

3.2 Nominal wages for women are significantly lower than for men .....40

3.3 Estimated earnings for women are substantially lower than for men.....41

3.4 Significant male-female gaps in land ownership in Latin America.....42

3.5 Many women across the developing world work in the informal sector.....44

### 4 Equality in politics and government

**Summary** .....50

#### Panels

Women and politics: Realities and myths.....54

Women's groups: A force for political change .....59

Women and the Darfur Peace Agreement.....62

Women as mediators and peacekeepers.....63

The hope of justice for Bolivia's women and children, by Casimira Rodríguez Romero.....66

#### Figures

4.1 Bill sponsorship in Argentina and New Zealand .....53

4.2 In most of the countries surveyed, a majority of the public agrees or strongly agrees that men make better political leaders than women.....55

4.3 Women's participation in national parliaments across regions.....56

4.4 Women in governance.....58

### 5 Reaping the double dividend of gender equality

**Summary** .....68

#### Panels

Partnerships for girls' education....70

Monitoring governments' commitments to women's empowerment through gender-responsive budgets.....74

Partnering to promote child rights and gender equality in political agendas.....76

Quotas: One size does not fit all ....79

Women's participation in community-based initiatives across the developing world .....82

Program H: Challenging gender stereotypes and changing attitudes in Brazil and other countries.....84

Partnering to provide improved estimates of maternal mortality.....86

#### Figures

5.1 The majority of countries with the most women in parliament use political quotas.....78

5.2 Countries with the most women in parliament are also the most likely to use quotas....80

5.3 In many countries sex-disaggregated data are not available for key indicators.....85

# Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations

Eliminating gender discrimination and empowering women are among the paramount challenges facing the world today. When women are healthy, educated and free to take the opportunities life affords them, children thrive and countries flourish, reaping a double dividend for women and children.



© UN/DPI/Sergey Bormentev

In the 27 years since the adoption of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, much has been done to advance the progress of women. But we have fallen far short of what we need to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Until there is gender equality, there can be no sustainable development. It is impossible to realize our goals while discriminating against half the human race.

As study after study has taught us, there is no tool for development more effective than the empowerment of women. No other policy is as likely to raise economic productivity or to reduce child and maternal mortality. No other policy is as sure to improve nutrition and promote health, including the prevention of HIV/AIDS. No other policy is as powerful in increasing the chances of education for the next generation. That is why discrimination against women of all ages deprives the world's children – all of them, not just the half who are girls – of the chance to reach their potential. This is an issue that goes to the heart of UNICEF's mission: protecting the rights of all children.

In my 10 years as Secretary-General, I have been proud to add my voice to UNICEF's in calling on the world to pay more attention to children's lives, needs and rights. Among the many issues UNICEF has addressed over the past decade, none is more central to its mandate than the rights of women.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'Ban Ki-moon'.

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码

<https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?report>