

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

"International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for moving towards gender parity."

- International Women's Day website



FOR OVER 100 YEARS

Held every year, International Women's Day (IWD) has taken place on **March 8** for over 100 years.

In 1975, IWD was adopted by the United Nations as an official, world-wide celebration of women's rights and world peace.

While IWD celebrates inspirational contemporary and historical women, the day also aims to start conversations about gender equality issues.

THE MAIN AIMS OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ARE:



to celebrate the achievements of women around the world



to encourage action on issues of gender equality



to empower women and girls around the world

Did you know?

- Globally, women make up less than **25%** of people in national parliaments worldwide.¹
- Women, on average, earn **25–40%** less than men who do the same job.²
- Across the world, over **60%** of the people who cannot read are women.³

The International Women's Day website says that the day "belongs to all groups". People of all genders, cultures, ages, languages, and religions can take part in International Women's Day. Some of the important topics that are thought about on International Women's Day are:



gender equality



girls and women in leadership



personal and family safety



poverty



access to education



empowerment

¹ <http://archive.ipu.org/wmn-e/world.htm>

² <https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-gender-gap-report-2017>

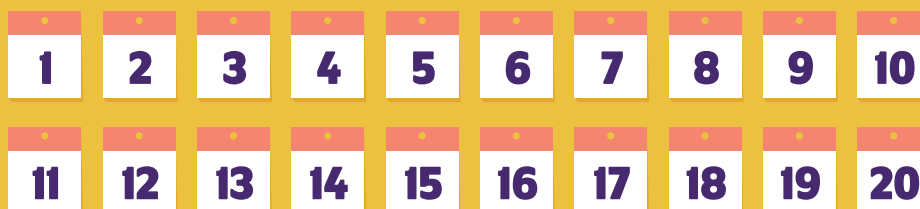
³ <http://uis.unesco.org/sites/default/files/documents/fs45-literacy-rates-continue-rise-generation-to-next-en-2017.pdf>

GENDER INEQUALITY IN EDUCATION

Around the world, there are at least **34 million** elementary school age girls out of school, compared to about **28 million** boys.¹



Two-thirds of the world's illiterate adults are women. This proportion of illiterate women has not changed for the past **20 years**.²



15 million young girls will never have the opportunity to learn to read and write in elementary school, compared to about **10 million** boys.²



'At least **60%** of the world's countries have fewer girls enrolled in secondary education than boys.'²



In general, girls who get an education:



marry later



have fewer children

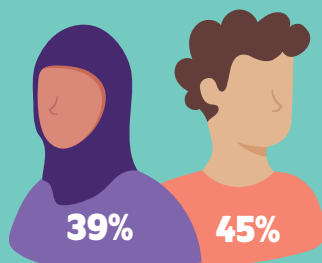


earn higher wages



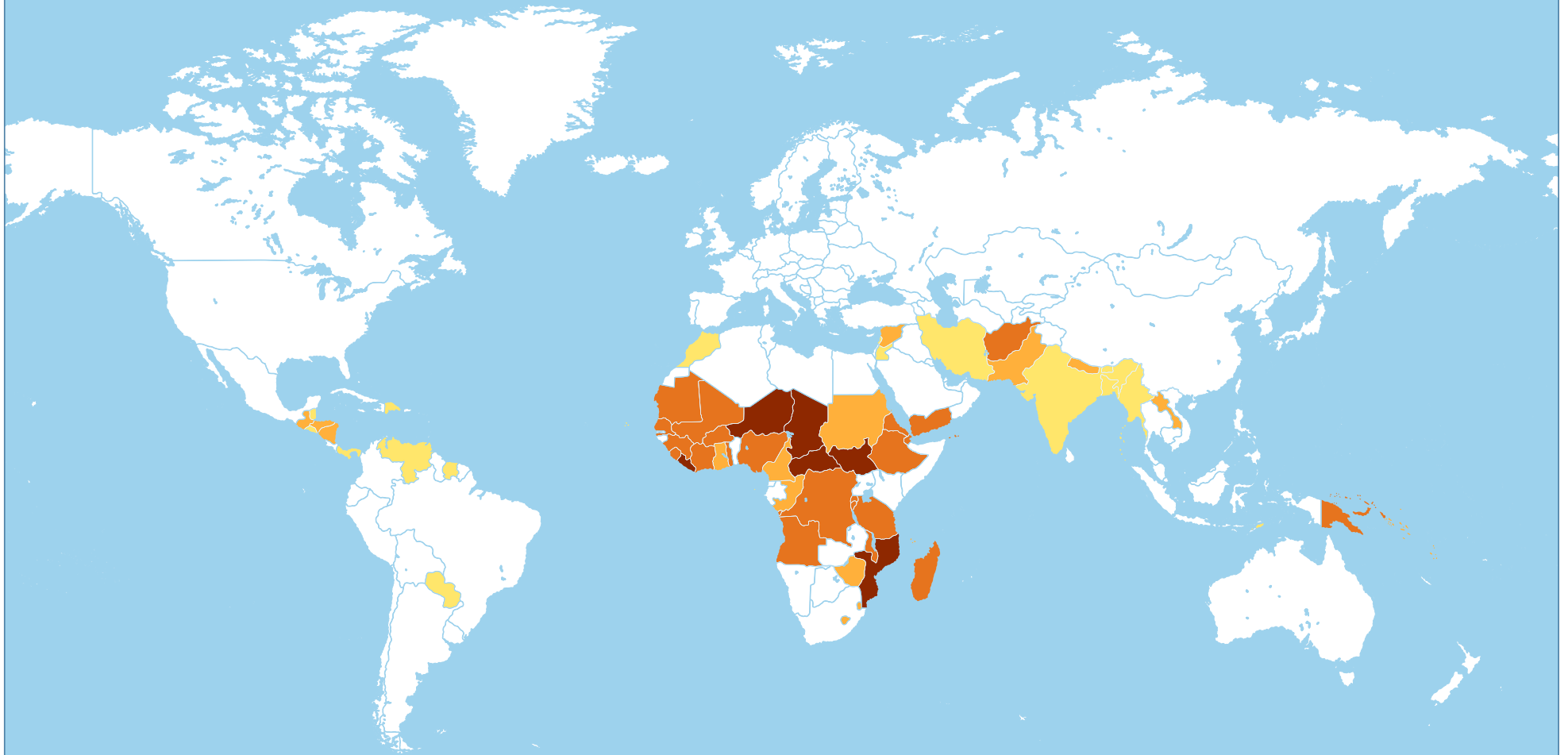
support healthier families

Globally, only **39%** of girls living in rural areas attend secondary school, compared to **45%** of boys living in rural areas.²



¹ <https://www.globalpartnership.org/data-and-results/education-data>
² United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Female Participation in Secondary Education



- Very low participation (0% - 20% of eligible population)
- Low participation (21% - 40% of eligible population)
- Some participation (41% - 60% of eligible population)
- Significant participation (61% - 75% of eligible population)