

FINAL REPORT

South Africa: Country Gender Profile

March 2009

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South Africa

Summary

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Summary of Country Gender Profile in South Africa (2009)

Current Situation of Women in South Africa

Since attaining democracy, South Africa made substantial achievements in women empowerment and the advancement towards gender equality. The year 2006 also marks the tenth year of the South African Constitution, which has non-racism and non-sexism as its core value. Since 1997, numerous policies and programmes for women, in particular, in politics and decision-making positions have been recorded. In 2005, South Africa was ranked number eight in the world in terms of gender equality in government.

Government Policy on Gender

South Africa's definition and goals towards achieving gender equality are guided by a vision of human rights, which incorporates acceptance of equal inalienable rights of women and men. This idea is a fundamental tenet under the Bill of Rights of The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996(Act 108 of 1996.) It emerged from a long period of struggle for a democratic society that respects and promotes the rights of all its citizens irrespective of race, gender class, age, disability, etc. (Bill of Rights, Section 9.1 to 9.4.)

National Machinery

In South Africa, the term national gender machinery refers to "an integrated package" of structures located at various levels of state, civil society and within the statutory bodies¹. The policy framework specifically vests the responsibility for women's empowerment and gender equality with the Minister in the Presidency, while placing the responsibility for gender mainstreaming as a strategy for realising gender equality in all members of Cabinet and government entities.

Situation of Women/Gender in Education

The priority of Government policy in education is to get equal access and opportunities to education for girl-child and to minimise the dropout rate among girls. South Africa has made significant progress since 1994 to ensure access to education for almost all children aged 7 to 15.

Situation of Women/Gender in Health

Many women are still unaware of certain health threatening conditions and have not fully developed effective health-seeking behaviours. Contributing factors include long distance from the clinics and prohibitive costs of transport, especially in the rural and peri-urban areas, poor patient records makes it difficult to maintain a continuity of care, long queues and staff shortages among others.

Situation of Women./Gender in Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries

The agriculture sector is well developed with 55,000 commercial farmers. However men dominate the commercial farming sector. Women are active in smaller scale farming, but often do not have the final control. When land becomes commercialized, control is often taken away from women.

¹ South Africa CEDAW report

Situation of Women/Gender in Economic Activities

South Africa is classified as a middle-income country, since independence, economic growth has been positive, however, the growth has not been strong enough to lower South Africa's high unemployment rate. In particular, women in the country still have lower incomes, higher unemployment and less access to ownership of assets than men. The racial differences are larger than gender inequalities within racial groups, thus the position of women in the economy, can better be understood if the race issues are also taken into account.

List of Abbreviations
(South Africa)

ABET	Adult Basic Education Centre
ARV	Anti-retroviral
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
F/P	Family Planning
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization, UN
GAD	Gender And Development
GOS	Government of South Africa
HIV/AIDS	Human-Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Mitigation
IUD	Intra-Uterine Contraceptive Devices
MAFISA	Micro-Agricultural Finance Institution of South Africa
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for International Development
NVTCs	National Vocational Training Centres
NWC	National Women's Committee
ORT	Oral Rehydration Therapy
PHC	Primary Health Care
STD	Sexually Transmitted Diseases
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDAF	The United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programs
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNIC	United Nations Information Centre
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNODC	United Nations International Drug Control Programme
VCT	Voluntary Counselling and Testing
WARD	Women's Agriculture and Rural Development
WDR	World Development Report
WFP	World Food Organization
WHO	World Health Organization

1. Basic profiles

1-1 Socio-Economic Profile

Socio-economic profile							Ref.	
Social indicators								
International development indicators	Human development index*		Gender-related development index*		Gender empowerment measurement (Value)*			
	2005	0.674	0.667		N/A		5)	
	1998	0.704	0.689		0.582		14)	
Demographic indicators	Total (millions)		% of urban population		Population growth rate (%)	Total fertility rate (%)		
		% of female population		% of female population				
	2007	48,687(000)	51.8	59.0	57.6	0.82	2.8	6)
	1998	42,39(000)	52.0	50.0	N/A	2.2	N/A	6)
	Life expectancy		Households number by head of households (HH)					
		Male	Female	Total	Male-headed	Female-headed		
	2007	50	53	13,261	24.4	75.6		7)
	1996	60.8	66.8	N/A	N/A	N/A		4)
Economic indicators								
		GNP/Capita	Growth rate of real GDP	GDP implicit deflator*	Gini index*	Aid/GNP		
	2007	\$5,916	5.1	N/A	57.8	N/A		
	1998	\$3,160	-1.1 (90-95)	N/A	58.4	N/A		
Public sector expenditure by sectors		Health	Education	Social welfare	Defence	Gender	Others	
	Unit R	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)		(000)	
		66,066.5	17,176.7	98,420.4	31,271.3			12)
	%	3.31	8.61	49.4	15.69			
		/GDP	/GDP	/GDP	/GDP			
Industry /GDP		Agriculture	Industry	Service	Others			
		%	%	%	%			
	2006	2.3	49.0	39.7	1.0			1)
Labour indicators	Total No.		Unemployment no and rate		Minimum wage			
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
	No	7,742,000	6,102,000	3,272,000	3,690,000	N/A	N/A	2)
	2008	56.0	44.0	47.0	53.0			
Employment rate (YEAR)	Agriculture	Non-agriculture						
		Industry	Service	Others				
	Total (2008)	728,000	12,414,000		22,000		2)	
	% of female population	33.5	41.1		25.4			
Approaches to gender issues								
Ratification and signature of international laws							Year	
Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action							1995	
Convention of Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)							1996	
SADC (Southern African Development Committee) Declaration on Women' Rights							1997	
Women in decision-making (% of female population)								
Government	In parliament	123		Private sector	Directors	419		8)
	Ministers	11			Managers	1,227		
	Deputy ministers	9						
Policy of gender							Year	
South Africa's National Policy Framework for Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality							2000	9)
Laws of gender							Year	
Divorce Courts Amendment							1997	
Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act							2000	

Socio-economic profile		Ref.
Public organization of gender		
Name of the national machinery	The Office on the Status of Women, The Presidency	

Note: Refer to the definitions for the words attached with *

1-2 Health Profile

Health Indicators							Ref.
Prevalence of health services	No. of Hospital beds per 1,000 persons	No. of physicians per 1,000 persons					10)
	N/A	N/A					
Infant mortality rate	Total			Female			10)
	2008	43/1000		N/A			
Under-five mortality rate	Total		Male	Female			15)
	2004	67/1000	72/1000	62/1000			10)
	2008	58/1000	N/A	N/A			
Prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis	Total			Female			10)
	2006	77,009		N/A			
Prevalence and death rates associated with infectious diseases	Total			Female			10)
	2006	39,239		N/A			
% of vaccinated (1 year old)	BCG	DPT	Polio	Measles			13)
	97	99	99	85			
Reproductive health	Contraceptive prevalence rate	Rate of births attended by trained personnel		Anaemia prevalence among pregnant women			10)
		93,7	34.5		N/A		
	Maternal mortality ratio	Total fertility rate		Average age of first marriage			4)
2005	230/100,000	2.8		N/A			
Nutrition	Children under weight for age (& aged under 5)	Oral re-hydration therapy use rate		Iodine deficiency			13)
	2008	15	7		38		
Community health service	Access to safe water			Access to adequate sanitation			
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	
	2007	10,444	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
%	79,0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	10)
HIV/AIDS	HIV prevalence, aged 15-49 year-old				% of population aged with comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS		
	Total	Male	Female		Male	Female	
				Pregnant women			
	2008	5.35 (million)	N/A	N/A	N/A		10)
%	18.8	N/A	54	29.1	95	94	10)

1-3 Education Profile

Education Indicators								Ref.
Education systems		Primary	15,358	Secondary	5,670	Tertiary	5,037	11)
Adult literacy rate (Over 15 year-old)		Total	10.5	Male	8.6	Female	12.2	11)
Primary education								
Net enrolment rate	2006	Total	94.0	Male	94.0	Female	95.0	11)
	2007		94.0		95.0			
Progression rate	2006	Total	82.0	Male	N/A	Female	N/A	
Drop-out rate		Total	N/A	Male	N/A	Female	N/A	
Secondary education								
Net enrolment rate	2006	Total	90	Male	58.0	Female	65.0	13)
Progression rate	2006	Total	N/A	Male	41.0	Female	48.0	13)
Drop-out rate		Total	N/A	Male	N/A	Female	N/A	
Tertiary education								
Net enrolment rate		Total	N/A	Male	47.0	Female	53.0	11)
Progression rate		Total	N/A	Male	N/A	Female	N/A	
Drop-out rate		Total	N/A	Male	N/A	Female	N/A	
Tertiary level enrolment by field of study by gender		Education	Arts	Social science	Engineering and Technology	Medicine	Business & Management	
			41.7		28.2		30.1	11)

Note: Refer to the definitions for the words attached with *

Reference:

- 1) Stats in Brief, Statistics South Africa, 2008
- 2) Quarterly Labour Force Survey, Statistics South Africa, 2008
- 3) Beijing +10 Report, The Presidency, South Africa 2005
- 4) Beyond Inequalities, Women in Development, 2005
- 5) UNDP, Human Development Report 2007/8, UNDP 2008
- 6) Mid-year Population Estimates, Statistics South Africa, 2008
- 7) General Household Survey, Statistics South Africa, 2007
- 8) Update Statistics of Women Representation in Decision Making Positions
- 9) South Africa's National Policy Framework for Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality
- 10) South Africa Demographic and Health Survey 2003, Department of Health
- 11) Education Statistics in South Africa 2007
- 12) South Africa Finance Indicator, National Treasury, 2008 (Web site)
- 13) Statistics of UNICEF, 2008 (Web site)
- 14) UNDP, Human Development Report 1998, UNDP 1998
- 15) WHO, Mortality Country Fact Sheet 2006, WHO 2006
(http://www.afro.who.int/home/countries/fact_sheets/southafrica.pdf, accessed in March 2009)

2. General Situation of Women and Government Policy on Gender

2-1 General Situation of Women in South Africa

General Situation of Women in South Africa

- 1) Gender Mainstreaming is on progress, after the liberation and more women participate in decision making process.
- 2) However, there are still some challenges such as sexual harassment and violence against women
- 3) Various traditional and customary activities have been restricted by laws in the country to protect women's health, rights and dignity.

[General situation]

Since attaining democracy, South Africa made substantial achievements in women empowerment and the advancement towards gender equality. The year 2006 also marks the tenth year of the South African Constitution, which has non-racism and non-sexism as its core value. Since 1997, numerous policies and programmes for women, in particular, in politics and decision-making positions have been recorded. In 2005, South Africa was ranked number eight in the world in terms of gender equality in government. Different government departments have adopted a gender perspective in projects such as housing, water, justice, local government, trade and industry and many of the government departments established gender focal points or gender desks. As well as the government has been reforming and implementing new laws aimed at addressing inequalities and promoting the rights of women, South Africa also endorsed and ratified other international multilateral instruments such as the Convention of the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

[Sexual harassment and violence against women²]

In the year 2000, 52,550 cases of rape and attempted rape of women were reported to the South African Police and 21,438 of which were minors under the age of 18 years and of these 7,898 were under the age of 12 years². As for the domestic violence, the estimates range from one in two to one in six women experiencing it. Linked to both sexual assault and domestic violence are the reported high levels of coercive sex in relationships in South Africa. The results of a National Youth Survey 2001-2004 show the following results;

- 39% of sexually experienced girls had been forced to have sex when they did not want to,
- 35% of sexually experienced boys agree with the statement that "having many partners means I am cool or hip,"
- 16% of sexually experienced girls have had sex in exchange for money, drinks, food or other gifts. Adults men, who are called "Sugar Daddy" have sex with these girls and pay for them.

² Beyond Inequalities, 2005

[Improvement of the low representation in key decision making positions in the government]

Political participation of women has increased since 1997. Women have generally become more experienced and entrenched in the political processes. Much of the success can be ascribed to South Africa's commitment to and ratification of various multilateral agreements and conventions in the region as well as internationally. This has provided the basis for the government to include women in meaningful positions on their part list and subsequently in government.

Political Position by Gender in February 2009 in South Africa³

Category	Women	Men	Total
Deputy President	1	-	1
Ministers	11	17	28
Deputy Ministers	9	12	21
Speaker	1	-	1
Deputy Speaker	1	-	1
Premiers	4	5	9
National Assembly	123	277	400
National Council of Provinces	23	31	54

[Issues originated in religions and traditional customs]

Cultural and religious norms can trap women in traditional gender roles. The South African Constitution recognises this by providing that cultural and religious rules and practices are subject to the Constitution, including the right to equality (section 30 and 319). It also provides for the codification of religious and customary law (section 15). South Africa has enacted the Recognition of Customary Marriages Act, 110 in 1998, which removes inequality and discrimination against women in customary marriages. However, the situation with regard to customary inheritance remained discriminatory until the Constitutional Court declared the rules of primogeniture to be unconstitutional in the case of *The Magistrate Khayalitsha*⁴.

Article 2(1) (b) of the "Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa" calls for legislative measures to prohibit all forms of harmful practices that endanger the health and general wellbeing of women and girls. Harmful practices are defined as "practices, which negatively affect the fundamental rights of women and girls, such as their right to life, health, dignity, education and physical integrity." However, there is evidence of ongoing harmful customary practices that discriminate against women. For example, the HIV and AIDS pandemic has seen the emergence of virginity testing of girls in KwaZulu Natal. This practice both exposes girls to be abused by men who believe that having sex with a virgin will cure them of AIDS, and to ostracisation by the community as *izeqamgwago* or prostitutes. The commission of on Gender Equality

³ The Presidency, Update statistics of women representation in decision making positions, Feb 2009

⁴ Beyond Inequalities, 2005

has criticised this practice as violating the rights to life, health and dignity of girls. The incidence of female genital mutilation (FGM), however, differs on the extent to which it occurs and as to whether it is a problem in the South African context. Some FGMs are possibly occurring in some immigrant communities. It is also thought that forced marriage is practiced in some communities. The legal framework provides for the prohibition of such practices. For example, the Promotion of Equality and Prevention of unfair Discrimination Act 4 of 2000, generally protects women against discrimination. Section 8 of the Act sets out a list of possible cases of unfair discrimination, each of which would need to be proved in terms of the Act. This section includes FGM, gender-based violence and “any practice, including any traditional, customary or religious practice, which impairs the dignity of women and undermines equality between women and men, including the undermining of the dignity and well-being of the girl-child.”

2-2 Government Policy on Gender

Government Policy on Gender

South Africa's policy on gender equality is guided by a vision of human rights, which incorporates acceptance of equal inalienable rights of women and men. This idea is a fundamental tenet under the Bill of Rights of The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996(Act 108 of 1996.) It emerged from a long period of struggle for a democratic society that respects and promotes the rights of all its citizens irrespective of race, gender class, age, disability, etc. (Bill of Rights, Section 9.1 to 9.4.)

[Government policy and development plan on women]

The South Africa's national policy and development plan are as follows:

National Policy for Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality, 2000⁵

Principles

South Africa's definition and goals towards achieving gender equality are guided by a vision of human rights, which incorporates acceptance of equal inalienable rights of women and men. This idea is a fundamental tenet under the Bill of Rights of The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996(Act 108 of 1996.) It emerged from a long period of struggle for a democratic society that respects and promotes the rights of all its citizens irrespective of race, gender class, age, disability, etc. (Bill of Rights, Section 9.1 to 9.4.)

Goals

- To ensure that there is equality of all persons by eliminating sexism and racism in the Constitution of South Africa. Women's rights must be seen as human rights.
- To ensure that customary, cultural and religious practices are subjected to equality by changing policies that have hindered women's rights access to basic needs, the economy, and a decision-making.
- To ensure that appropriate training to improve knowledge, skills and attitudes in gender analysis and gender equality is provided to all policy-makers and strategic and operational managers.

Focus

- Development of a National Policy Framework by reviewing existing policies and institutionalising women's empowerment and gender equality in line department.
- Development of a Gender Mainstreaming Strategy.
- Adoption of the National Policy Framework and receipt of ministerial commitment.
- Development of Provincial Gender Action Plans and Gender Mainstreaming Strategies.

⁵ Beyond Inequalities, 2005

Priority areas

Violence

Poverty

Health

Education

Economic empowerment

Institutional mechanisms

Decision-making

Implementation

Co-ordinating body: Office on The Status of Women (The Presidency)

Other entities: Government ministries and agencies, including NGOs, CBOs, private sector and donor communities

[On-going campaigns for women]

- 1) 50/50 Campaign: Since the year 2005, the government has been implementing campaign in order for women to participate in more decision-making activities at organizations and home
- 2) White Ribbon Campaign and Community Mobilisation. This includes the annual campaign on Sixteen Days of No Violence against Women and Children, which has been launched in 1998. Service delivery has also been improved, particularly through victim empowerment and specialist services such as Sexual Offences Courts. Now the government is aiming at extending the period from 16 days to 365 days.

[Gender related laws and regulations]

GAD Related Laws and Regulations

Laws and regulations	Year	Content
Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, Act 108	1996	It contains several provisions that advance gender equality. Among these is the Equality Clause in the Bill of Rights.
Maintenance Act 99	1998	This allows the court to order an employer to deduct maintenance from the salary of the father.
Domestic Violence Act 116	1998	Through this Act, women are afforded greater protection against actual or threatened physical violence, sexual, emotional, verbal, psychological and economic abuse as well as intimidation, harassment, stalking, damage to or destruction of property, or entry into their home without consent.
Recognition of Customary Marriage Act 120	1998	This Act abolished the minority status of women married under customary law and abolishes the marital power of husbands as guardians.

Laws and regulations	Year	Content
The Domestic Worker Sectoral Determination	2003	It outlines the basic working conditions and minimum wages for domestic workers and gardeners and also makes provision for annual wage increases for these workers.
Unemployment Insurance Contributions Act	2002	This Act applies to domestic and seasonal workers and their employers and provides for a monthly contribution of one percent of salary paid to as well as earned by employees and employers to the Unemployment Insurance Fund; as well as enforces the employer to register the employee.
Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act 4	2000	The objectives of the Act include the prevention and prohibition of unfair discrimination, redress for discrimination, the promotion of equality and progressive eradication of discrimination.
South African Citizenship Act 88	1995	Citizenship may not be lost or gained due to marriage, giving effect to obligations under CEDAW.
The Restitution of Land Rights Act 22	1994	It states that priority should be given to people with the most pressing needs. Restitution may disadvantage women as the Act aims to restore land rights to those who had rights before, most of whom are not women.

Source: Beyond Inequalities, 2005

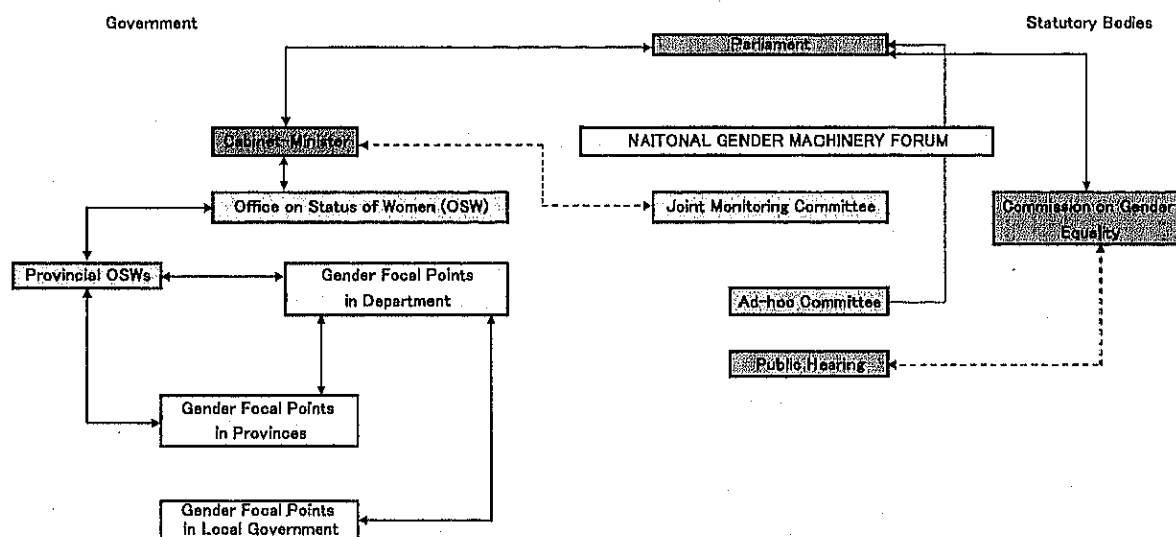
2-3 National Machinery

National Machinery on Gender

In South Africa, national gender machinery is conceived as “an integrated package” of structures located at various levels of state, civil society and within the statutory bodies

[National machinery on gender issues]

In South Africa, the term national gender machinery refers to “an integrated package” of structures located at various levels of state, civil society and within the statutory bodies⁶. The policy framework specifically vests the responsibility for women’s empowerment and gender equality with the Minister in the Presidency, while placing the responsibility for gender mainstreaming as a strategy for realising gender equality in all members of Cabinet and government entities.



National Gender Machinery in South Africa

[The main activities of the national machinery]

The main activities of National Machinery of gender are as follows:

- The promotion of South Africa’s constitutional sub-regional and international commitments to women’s empowerment, gender equality, women’s human rights and social justice;
- The transformation of institutions, laws, policies, procedures, consultative processes, budgetary allocations taking into account the needs and aspirations of all women, and particularly those who were most disadvantaged by the previous dispensation;

⁶ South Africa CEDAW report

- Encouraging the development of policies, structures and practices in all statutory, government, public and private institutions which address women's empowerment and redress gender inequalities in their transformation goals;
- Promoting compliance to the national Gender Policy and ensuring its implementation;
- The exchange and sharing of information on the implementation of gender equality policies, and the evaluation of their impact and effectiveness;
- The review of priorities, targets, time-frames and performance of gender equality policies, and the evaluation of their impact and effectiveness;
- The review of priorities, targets, time-frames and performance indicators; of existing policy using a gender analysis; and
- Advocating for women's empowerment and gender equality

3. Current Situation of Women by Sector

3-1 Education

Education

- 1) The priority of Government policy in education is to get equal access and opportunities to education for girl-child and to minimize the dropout rate among girls. South Africa has made significant progress since 1994 to ensure access to education for almost all children aged 7 to 15.
- 2) The disparity between males and females in educational qualifications is still large in the Black. 20% of Black females and 13% of Black males do not have any formal schooling, whereas only less than 1% of White females and males do not have any formal schooling.
- 3) The proportion of females who are university graduates is lower than that for males.
- 4) The literacy level for females in 2002 was 85.45%, compared to 89.64% for males. Government has introduced Adult Basic Education Centres (ABET) to provide learning opportunities for people who, in the past, have not been able to have an education.

[Government policy]

The priority of Government policy in education is to get equal access and opportunities to education for girl-child and to minimise the dropout rate among girls. South Africa has made significant progress since 1994 to ensure access to education for almost all children aged 7 to 15. In 2000, the education system accommodates more than 12.3 million learners (50.5% women), 300,000 university students (54.6% women) and 190,000 technical school students (45.5% women.)⁷ As of the year 2000, accordingly, there are more girls than boys enrolled in schools. In National Census 2001, the figures for the girl and boy child between 0-17 years in the education system were equal. Additionally, the increase in the proportion of females under 19 years attending school has increased phenomenally from 21.33% in 1995 to 65.53% in 1999⁷.

[Gender consideration development plan and education in primary and secondary level]

The disparity between males and females in educational qualifications is still large. 20% of Black females and 13% of Black males do not have any formal schooling, whereas only less than 1% of White females and males do not have any formal schooling⁷. There are 4,567,497 (refer to the table below) people over the age of 20 years who do not have any schooling. Women account for 60% of this number. In South Africa, unlike many other developing countries, the number of women enrolled in educational institutions exceeds that of men. This is the case at the secondary school level as well as at tertiary level. The main reason of this phenomenon is due to the fact that the high dropout level of the boy child and the fact that it is easier for boys to get access to menial and unskilled work than girls.

⁷ Beyond Inequalities, 2005

Highest Level of Education by Gender among those Aged 20 and Over

Level of Education	No. of Male	No. of Female	Total
No schooling	1,830,254	2,737,244	4,567,497
Some Primary	1,958,814	2,124,928	4,083,742
Completed Primary	52,996	870,471	1,623,467
Some secondary	3,697,317	4,148,806	7,846,125
Grade 12	2,539,565	2,661,036	5,200,602
Higher	1,033,524	1,117,811	2,151,336
Total	11,812,470	13,660,299	25,472,769

Source: Beyond Inequalities, 2005

[Tertiary education]

As the table below shows, at primary, secondary and tertiary level, figures indicate that women receiving primary and secondary education surpass men. However, the proportion of females who are university graduates is lower than that for males. In 1995, while there were 60.2% male university graduates, there were only 39.8% females. This figure increased in 2002 to 45.8% female university graduates, indicating an increase of 6% from 1995 to 2002. More males attend universities because of the outlay of finances to male education, regarded as a future investment for families, whereas females marry and leave the family homes, thus not contributing to income.

Comparison of Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Level Education by Gender

Indicator %	1995		1999		2002	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Primary graduate	54.2	45.8	53.3	46.7	53.2	46.8
Secondary graduate	50.2	49.8	51.4	48.5	51.7	48.3
University graduate	39.8	60.2	43.7	56.2	45.8	54.2

Source: Beyond Inequalities, 2005

[Literacy education]

The literacy level for females in 2002 was 85.45%, compared to 89.64% for males⁸. This indicates that fewer women than men in South Africa are literate. In addition, literacy rates also vary according to race, due to the former system of separate education. In this regard, Blacks, and particularly Black women, tend to have lower literacy rates. In order to improve the adult literacy rate, government has introduced Adult Basic Education Centres (ABET) to provide learning opportunities for people who, in the past, have not been able to have an education. While more women access ABET centres for literacy and numeracy skills than males, it must be noted that this is because more women have been lacking these skills as compared to men. Women are accessing opportunities to improve their skills

⁸ Beyond Inequalities, 2005

and develop themselves. In 2002, the proportion of females attending adult basic education was 61% as compared to 39% males⁹.

⁹ Beyond Inequalities, 2005

3-2 Health

Health

- 1) The healthcare system in South Africa has been drastically reformed since 1994. Primary healthcare has become the focus, with clinic and health centres that are community-based, and these facilities were all in the major cities.
- 2) Many women are still unaware of certain health threatening conditions and have not fully developed effective health-seeking behaviours.
- 3) South Africa has been widely known for its accessible family planning services and health services that are well established, relative to the situation in sub-Saharan Africa.
- 4) According to the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) 1998, there is a very high utilization of antenatal care for birth, which covers 94% of pregnant women.
- 5) The Department of Health estimated that by the end of 2001, about 4.74 million or one in nine South African was HIV positive. In 2001, more women (56%) than men were living with HIV and AIDS.

[Government policy]

The healthcare system in South Africa has been drastically reformed since 1994. Primary healthcare has become the focus, with clinic and health centres that are community-based, and these facilities were all in the major cities. Health care was not particularly focused on universal access by the poor.

[General situation of health and women]

Many women are still unaware of certain health threatening conditions and have not fully developed effective health-seeking behaviours. Contributing factors include long distance from the clinics and prohibitive costs of transport, especially in the rural and peri-urban areas, poor patient records makes it difficult to maintain a continuity of care, long queues and staff shortages among others.

[Reproductive health and family planning]

South Africa has been widely known for its accessible family planning services and health services that are well established, relative to the situation in sub-Saharan Africa. And the low fertility rate can also be explained by the high use of contraceptives. The 1998 South African Demographic Health Survey (DHS) revealed an almost universal knowledge of at least one contraceptive method. Three-quarters of all women interviewed indicated that they used a contraceptive method at some stage during their lives while 61% of sexually active women reported that they were currently using modern contraception methods. By 2000, at least 66% of urban-based sexually active females and 53% of rural-based sexually active females used contraceptives¹⁰. Increased urbanization is also

¹⁰ Beyond Inequalities, 2005

contributing to the decline in birth rate, particularly since the end of the policy of influx control has already resulted in smaller household size is 3.8 persons.

[Antenatal care and maternal mortality]

According to the Demographic and health Survey, 1998, there is a very high utilisation of antenatal care for birth, which covers 94% of pregnant women. The survey results also revealed that there was a shift in the provider of antenatal care. That most women were seen by doctor (63%) and that nurses or midwives (29%) in the latest survey¹¹, while women had been seen by midwife (66%) and fewer by doctors (29%) in 1998 according to the previous survey¹². Maternal mortality is associated with women's ability to access affordable maternity services, receive quality antenatal care and give birth safely. South Africa generally has high levels of utilisation of antenatal care in an institution, and 95.1% of women attended care at least once in their pregnancy and 83.7% of women give birth in an institution. However, these national figures hide deeper inequalities, with over 40% of very poor women in the rural Eastern Cape giving birth at home¹³.

The maternal mortality ratio based on the South African Demographic Health Survey 1998 data shows 150 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births for the approximate period 1992-1998¹². The main causes for maternal mortality include hypertensive diseases of pregnancy (20%), infectious disease including AIDS (18%), obstetric haemorrhage (14%), early pregnancy loss (12%), pre-existing maternal disease (11%) and pregnancy-related sepsis (9%).¹³

[HIV/AIDS]

The Department of Health estimated that by the end of 2001, about 4.74 million or one in nine South African was HIV positive. In 2001, more women (56%) than men were living with HIV and AIDS. In particular, in the same survey, it has been revealed that 27.9% pregnant women are living with HIV in 2003¹³. The Department of Health also suggested that domestic violence and women's perceptions their degree of control in their relationships are important predictors of HIV and are associated with increased risk of HIV infection. Poverty and economic inequality make women dependent on men, more vulnerable to domestic violence and less able to negotiate safer sex practices. The need to supplement income may force to women to sell sex either as sex for-support relationship such as Sugar Daddy case.

The National AIDS Plan's policy to prevent HIV/AIDS is as follows¹³;

- Promotion of safer sex practices
- Promotion of improved health-seeking behaviour
- Improving access to male and female condoms

¹¹ DHS Preliminary Report 2003

¹² DHS 1998

¹³ Beyond Inequalities, 2005

- Reducing mother to child transmission
- Improving access to voluntary counselling and testing (VCT)
- Family planning

Anti-retroviral (ARVs) to prevent vertical transmission are available in public hospitals, as is ARV treatment for people living with AIDS. By August 2005, the majority of the 70,000 people receiving ARVs from state hospitals were women¹⁴.

¹⁴ Beyond Inequalities, 2005

3-3 Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

- 1) The agriculture sector is well developed with many commercial farmers. However men dominate the commercial farming sector. Women are active in smaller scale farming, but often do not have the final control. When land becomes commercialized, control is often taken away from women.
- 2) In order to improve this situation, government has launched major policy changes in agriculture, which includes the following items¹⁵;
 - Liberalizing agricultural trade
 - Implementing land reform policies and programmes
 - Reforming institutions governing the sector
 - Introducing a minimum wage for farm workers

[Agricultural policy and gender]

South Africans living in rural areas especially female farmers are set to benefit from government's R1.8 billion boost to rural development and smaller farmer support. According to Finance Minister Trevor Manue, "Increasing agricultural output, raising rural incomes, supporting small scale farmers and investing in rural roads are key objectives of government's rural development strategy." Government is trying to ensure women's economic empowerment through the Women's Agriculture and Rural Development (WARD) initiative and the Micro-Agricultural Finance Institution of South Africa (MAFISA)¹⁶. WARD is an initiative aimed at highlighting gender-related issues in agriculture and focuses specifically on land policies, programmes and projects. It was launched nationally in August 2006 by Agriculture and Land Affairs Minister Lulu Xingwana. MAFISA provides financial services to facilitate the development of micro and small agri-businesses into larger businesses. Both initiatives were implemented as small farmers, particularly women in rural areas, still experienced problems when they needed access to financial assistance, land and relevant information including their rights regarding land reform.

[Agriculture, land ownership, policy reform and women]

The agriculture sector is well developed with 55,000 commercial farmers. However men dominate the commercial farming sector. Women are active in smaller scale farming, but often do not have the final control. When land becomes commercialized, control is often taken away from women. Accordingly men are still in charge of major agricultural production factors and the gender division of labor and low status of women in rural society have resulted in very few women being involved in commercial

¹⁵ Beyond Inequalities, 2005

¹⁶ All Africa dot com, web site

agriculture and other planning functions in the agricultural sector. In order to improve this situation, government has launched major policy changes in agriculture, which includes the following items¹⁷;

- 1) Liberalizing agricultural trade
- 2) Implementing land reform policies and programmes
- 3) Reforming institutions governing the sector
- 4) Introducing a minimum wage for farm workers

¹⁷ Beyond Inequalities, 2005

3-4 Economic Activities

Economic Activities

- 1) South Africa is classified as a middle-income country, since independence, economic growth has been positive, however, the growth has not been strong enough to lower South Africa's high unemployment rate.
- 2) Black women continue to be the most affected by unemployment, more than seven times than White males and also employment in informal sector.

[Employment opportunities]

South Africa is classified as a middle-income country, since independence, economic growth has been positive, however, the growth has not been strong enough to lower South Africa's high unemployment rate. In particular, women in the country still have lower incomes, higher unemployment and less access to ownership of assets than men. The racial differences are larger than gender inequalities within racial groups, thus the position of women in the economy, can better be understood if the race issues are also taken into account.

Occupation by Race and Gender, 2003

Category	Women %			Men %		
	Black	Coloured/ Asia	White	Black	Coloured/ Asia	White
Senior officials and managers	2	4	15	4	10	29
Professionals	3	3	14	2	4	14
Technical and Associate professionals	11	12	20	6	9	15
Clerks	8	23	36	5	9	7
Service and sales workers	12	13	10	13	10	8
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	4	0	1	4	1	3
Craft and related trade workers	5	5	2	19	20	17
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	3	8	1	19	13	4
Elementary occupations	27	20	1	27	25	3
Domestic workers	25	11	0	1	0	0
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Beyond Inequalities, 2005

Income differentials appear largely to reflect the concentration of women in lower-paid industries and in occupations. While unequal pay for equal work persists, it is illegal and generally camouflaged by difference in job title and status. As it is shown in the above table, 5% of Black women were employed as senior officials, managers and professionals, compared to 43% of White men. Some 25% of Black women were employed as domestic workers, and 27% were elementary, which is meant to be "unskilled" workers.

[Women and unemployment]

The table below indicates that Black women continue to be the most affected by unemployment, more than seven times than White males. Reason for high unemployment are attributed to the current economic paradigm that puts more emphasis on capital-intensive than labour-intensive methods of production.

Unemployment Status by Race and Gender, 1996 and 2003

% of Women	1996	2003
Black	51	55
Coloured/Asian	22	31
White	6	10
% of Men	1996	2003
Black	35	42
Coloured/Asian	14	24
White	4	6

Source: Beyond Inequalities, 2005

[Support system for women workers]

In “the study on Gender and the Private Sector” done in 1999, the Commission on Gender Equality indicated that the country business community shows scant interest in promoting gender equality. This is despite the country’s Constitution and statutory requirements obligating the private sector to address issues of inequality between men and women¹⁸.

[Informal Sector]

In contrast to women in the private sector, women are over-represented in the informal and NGO sector. The development sector is a very important sector but regarded as informal due to the heavier workloads. The table below shows the percentage of informal sector employment. It indicates that more Black women and men are employed in informal sector.

Employment by Race and Gender, 2003 (unemployment is not listed here)

Category	Women %			Men %		
	Black	Coloured/ Asia	White	Black	Coloured/ Asia	White
Formally employed	20	44	53	34	49	52
Informally employed	10	3	4	12	5	3

Source: Beyond Inequalities, 2005

¹⁸ Beyond Inequalities, 2005

4. Gender issues which should be particularly taken into consideration in future JICA and other donors/NGOs' intervention in the country.

- 1) When one would like to understand the gender issues in South Africa, it is not separable from a view point of race and/ or skin colors of people in the country.
- 2) It is also suggested to see the gap between urban and rural area as well as provincial status.
- 3) As the national policy and gender-related development plans have been implemented and other donors and NGOs also have been implementing relevant programs/projects, close coordination with the government, donors and NGOs will be valuable to learn lessons and recommendations from accumulated experiences in the project formulation and planning. Also close coordination and coordination will be necessary to avoid duplication and to increase efficiency in implementation.

5. On-going Gender Projects

Project / Program	Implementing Organization	Donor Organization	Duration	Budget (ZAR)	Area
Women / General					
50/50 Campaign	The government of South Africa	GOS	2005-2010	10,000,000 (US\$1.1mil.)	Violence Against Women
16 days of Activism	Department , Provincial and Local Government	GOS	2006-	-	Violence to Women
Education					
N/A					
Health / Medicine					
N/A					
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishery					
N/A					
Economic Activities					
The United Nations Development Assistance Framework for South Africa (UNDAF) 2007-2010	UNFPA, IOM, UNHCR, UNESCO, UNODC, WFP, ILO, FAO, UNICEF, UNDP, UNIDP, UNIC, UN/AIDS, UNDP	UNFPA, IOM, UNHCR, UNESCO, UNODC, WFP, ILO, FAO, UNICEF, UNDP, UNIDP, UNIC, UNAIDS, UNDP	2007-2010	882,288,000 (US\$94.3mil.)	Economic growth and development
The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan	Department of Environmental Affairs	GOS	-	-	Sustainable use of natural resources
Others					
The United Nations Development Assistance Framework for South Africa (UNDAF) 2007-2010	UNFPA, IOM, UNHCR, UNESCO, UNODC, WFP, ILO, FAO, UNICEF, UNDP, UNIDP, UNIC, UNAIDS, UNDP	UNFPA, IOM, UNHCR, UNESCO, UNODC, WFP, ILO, FAO, UNICEF, UNDP, UNIDP, UNIC, UNAIDS, UNDP	2007-2010	882,288,000 (US\$94.3mil.)	Democracy, Good governance, Economic growth and development, Justice peace, safety and security , poverty

Note: US\$1 = ZAR9.36

As of March 2009

6. Gender Information Sources

6-1 List of Organizations related to Gender

Name of Organization	Area of Specialization	Activity	Contact
Government Organization			
The Presidency, Office on the Status of Women	Overall gender	Gender mainstreaming	Union Buildings, Private Bag X955, 0001 Pretoria Ph#: (012) 337 5220 Fax#: (012) 326 4176
Commission on Gender Equality	Overall gender	Gender mainstreaming	7th Floor, Absa Building 132 Adderley Street Cape Town 8000 South Africa Ph#: 011-2721-426-4080 Fax #: 011-2721-424-0549
International Organisation			
United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) - Southern Africa Regional Office	Regional gender mainstreaming that covers Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles Islands, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zimbabwe	Gender mainstreaming	Takura House, 67/69 Union Avenue Harare, Zimbabwe Ph#: 263 4 792 681 Fax#: 263 4 704 729
UNDP South Africa	Overall development	The United Nations Development Assistance Framework for South Africa (UNDAF) 2007-2010, which include gender and HIV/AIDS	P.O. Box 6541, Pretoria 0001, South Africa 27 Ph#: 27-12-338-5007/5 Fax#: (27-12) 320-4353/4 Email: fo.zaf@undp.org Web site: www.undp.org/rba/ Last Update: Oct 3, 2000 16:38
NGOs			
African Gender Institute	The AGI's Mission is to contribute to the realisation of gender equality by building intellectual capacity and establishing an African resource dedicated to strengthening and advancing the work of intellectuals, researchers, policy-makers and practitioners.	The AGI has recently launched a new project called Strengthening Gender and Women's Studies for Africa's Transformation (GWS Africa).	The Website: http://www.gwsafrica.org . The GWS project has also launched a new electronic, African-based feminist journal, Feminist Africa - http://www.feministafrica.org University of Cape Town, All Africa House Private Bag Rondebosch 7701, South Africa Ph#: 011-(927-21) 650-2970 Fax#:011-(92767-21) 650-2142

Name of Organization	Area of Specialization	Activity	Contact
			Email: jradloff@humanities.uct.ac.za or bmartin@humanities.uct.ac.za Website: www.uct.ac.za/org/agi
Anglican Women's International Network	AWIN aims to affirm and encourage the role of women in the Church, to support the awareness of needs, to share resources, and to respond to issues from a woman's perspective.	Human Rights/Political Status of Women, Conflict Resolution and Peace Building, Interfaith Dialogue, Refugees, Disarmament	P.O. Box 5839 Halfway House 1685 Ph#: 27 12 661 7459 Fax#: 27 12 661 7459 E-mail: nesbar@iafrica.com Website: www.dfms.org/women/winnet.html
Commission on Gender Equality	Combating violence against women	N/A	Post net Box 164, Yeoville, 2198 Ph#: 27 01 403 7182 Fax#: 27 01 403 7188 Email: sakinam@cge.org.za Website: http://www.aids2000.com
Maintenance Action Group	Policy/Government, Economic Opportunity, Women's Identity/Theory/Analysis	N/A	6 The Terrace, 7 Isipingo Road, Bellevue East 2198 Ph #: 27 482 2511
Rape Crisis	Human Rights, Policy/Government, Sexuality, Violence Against Women	N/A	P.O. Box 46, Observatory, Cape Town 7935 Fax #: 021 361 0529 Email: leslie@rapecrisis.org.za Website: www.rapecrisis.org.za
Women's Net	Women's Net is a networking support program designed to enable South African women to use the Internet to find the people, issues, resources and tools needed for women's social activism. The Women's Net was initiated by SANGONeT & the Commission on Gender Equality.	N/A	Ph#: +27 11 838-6943/4 Fax#: +27 11 492-1058 Email:women@wn.apc.org Website: http://womensnet.org.za/

As of March 2009

6-2 List of reports and references related Gender

Title	Author	Publisher/Source	Year
General Statistics			
Stats in Brief	Staff of Statistics South Africa	Statistics South Africa	2008
Community Survey 2007, Basic Results	Staff of Statistics South Africa	Statistics South Africa	2007
Mid-year Population Estimates	Staff of Statistics South Africa	Statistics South Africa	2008
Gross Domestic Product	Staff of Statistics South Africa	Statistics South Africa	2008
Quarterly Labour Force Survey	Staff of Statistics South Africa	Statistics South Africa	2008
Community Survey 2007 Statistical Release	Staff of Statistics South Africa	Statistics South Africa	2007
General Household Survey	Staff of Statistics South Africa	Statistics South Africa	2007
Income & Expenditure of Households	Staff of Statistics South Africa	Statistics South Africa	2005
Education and Training			
I am my Sister's & Brother's Keeper; Girls & Boys Education Movement Clubs; A Guidebook for Schools	Staff of Department of Education of South Africa and UNICEF	Department of Education of South Africa and UNICEF	2008
Measures for the Prevention and Management of Learner Pregnancy; Choose to wait for a brighter future	Staff of Department of Education of South Africa	Department of Education of South Africa	2007
Guidelines for the Prevention and Management of Sexual Violence & Harassment in Public Schools	Staff of Department of Education of South Africa	Department of Education of South Africa	2008
Generations; Caring School Communities; 'Abstinence-a Personal Choice' (News Letter)	Staff of Department of Education of South Africa	Department of Education of South Africa	2009
Generations; What can be done When Prevention Fails (News Letter)	Staff of Department of Education of South Africa	Department of Education of South Africa	2009
Reviews of National Policies for Education South Africa	Staff of OECD	OECD	2008
Health and Medicine			
Mortality and Causes of Death in South Africa, 2006: Findings from Death Notification	Staff of Statistics, South Africa	Statistics, South Africa	2008
Country Guideline on HIV and AIDS for Local Government	Staff of SALGA (South African Local Government Association)	SALGA	2008
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries¹⁹			
N/A	N/A	N/A	
Economic Activities²⁰			
N/A	N/A	N/A	

¹⁹ Department of Agriculture does not have any documents. South African Local Government Association (SALGA) covers the gender indicators and facts of women in rural areas.

²⁰ Economic activities of women are included in general statistics

Title	Author	Publisher/Source	Year
Social/Gender Analysis			
Strategic Plan 2008-2013	Staff of Commission for Gender Equality	Commission for Gender Equality	2008
Update Statistics of Women Representation in Decision Making Positions	Staff of The Presidency, The Office on the Status of Women	The Presidency, The Office on the Status of Women	2009
South African CEDAW Report	Member of Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)	2008
Beyond Inequalities 2005	Staff of Women in South Africa	Women in South Africa	2005
Beijing +10 Report Progress Report on the Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action	Staff of The Presidency, The Office on the Status of Women	The Presidency, The Office on the Status of Women	2005
South Africa's national Policy Framework for Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality	Staff of The Presidency, The Office on the Status of Women	The Presidency, The Office on the Status of Women	N/A
Gender Policy Framework for Local Government	Staff of Department Provincial and Local Government (DPLG)	Department Provincial and Local Government (DPLG)	2007
South Africa Local Government Gender Action Plan Manual	Staff of DPLG	DPLG	2007
Women in Provincial and Local Governments Summit-2007	DPLG SALGA	DPLG SALGA	2007
Others			
SALGA(South African Local Government Association) Governance Framework	Staff of SALGA	SALGA	2008
The Constitution of SALGA	Staff of SALGA	SALGA	1997
Women in Local Government Act Against Abuse	Staff of SALGA	SALGA	2005
Act Against Abuse	Staff of Department Provincial and Local Government (DPLG)	Department Provincial and Local Government (DPLG)	2006
SALGA Profile	SALGA	SALGA	N/A
The United Nations Common Country Programme Action Plan for South Africa (CCPAP)	Staff of Government of South Africa and The United nations Systems in South Africa	Government of South Africa and The United nations Systems in South Africa	2007
The United Nations Development Assistance Framework for South Africa	Staff of the United Nations Country management Team in South Africa	The United Nations Country management Team in South Africa	2007

7. Definitions

<Technical Terms>

Informal sector

Part of economy consisting of small competitive individual or family firms listed in the labor indicators. According to the definition of ILO, those engaged in this sector have simple technology, insufficient amount of capital, unidentified business location, minimum number of employees (or none of them), lack of legality and registration, and no capability of bookkeeping.

Reproductive health/rights

Health/Rights concerning sex and reproduction. To be able to live safe and satisfied sex life, and to have freedom to decide whether, when and how many children to deliver.

National machinery

Administrative organization to promote equal participation between men and women, and to implement and strengthen policies related to women, and to supplement organization for women.

Affirmative action

Prioritized positive measure to promptly correct the difference, in the case that discriminated groups are placed in extremely unequal conditions to other groups, due to the discrimination accumulated in the past.

<Indicators>

Inflation rate

Instead, GDP deflator is used.

Gini index

Aggregate numerical measures of income inequality ranging from 0 to 100. A Gini index of zero represents perfect equality, while an index of 100 implies perfect inequality.

Percentage of Women's Income

There are no appropriate data comparable to each country. UNDP works out that the women's income is 75% of men's in non-agricultural sector.

Total fertility rate

Average number of children whom a woman delivers in all her life

Under-one mortality rate

Annual number of infants who die among 1,000 newborn babies within 1 year after the birth

Under-five mortality rate

Annual number of infants who die 1,000 newborn babies within 5 years after birth

Maternal mortality rate

Annual number of mothers who die among 100,000 cases of delivery due to pregnancy

Percentage of births attended by trained health personnel

The rate of births with the help of doctors, nurses, midwives, trained health personnel, or trained traditional midwives

Percentage of infants with low birth weight

The rate of newborn children of which the birth weight is less than 2,500 grams

Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT) use rate

The rate of using oral rehydrate salt or substitute solution for under- infants having diarrhea

Enrolment ratio of primary and secondary school

Total enrolment ratio (or gross enrolment ratio) is the rate of pupils going to school with no respect to school age against population at the school age. Net enrolment ratio is the rate of pupils going to school at the school age against the people at the school age.

