



UNITED NATIONS  
TRANSFORMING  
EDUCATION

2022

Amman

## Transforming Education Summit Leaders Day: Spotlight Session 5

# Advancing gender equality and girls' and women's empowerment in and through education

Location: Conference Room 4, UN Headquarters, New York

Monday, 19 September 2022, 15:00 – 16:30 EST

Co-hosted by: Plan International

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Women represent 26% of seats in parliament<sup>4</sup> and – while the majority of teachers at most education levels – face a hard glass ceiling in education management and leadership positions.<sup>5</sup>

Boys in many countries are 48% of the population, but in some countries, fewer

<sup>7</sup> In 2021, just over half of all children out of school were boys.<sup>8</sup>

Education can address gendered vulnerabilities like child marriage (one in five young women and one in 20 young men are married before the age of 18<sup>9</sup>), gender-based violence (15 million 15-19 year old girls have experienced forced sex<sup>10</sup>)



Education systems must make more explicit and active commitment to addressing the gender-based barriers, stigma and discrimination that hold learners back from fulfilling their right to education and future life, work and leadership opportunities. But action is also needed to harness education's power to unlock the potential of learners in all their diversity, end harmful gender norms, attitudes and practices, and transform institutions to achieve just, equal and inclusive societies.

## **PURPOSE OF THE SESSION**

As the world gathers for a once-in-a-generation Summit on Transforming Education, the UN Secretary-General is galvanizing collective commitments and a renewed partnership for concrete transformative actions to advance gender equality in and through education. This spotlight session offers a space for a high-level dialogue among heads of state, leaders and key influencers to commit to accelerating progress on gender equality and girls' and women's empowerment in and through education.

More specifically, this Spotlight Session aims to advance gender equality and girls' and women's empowerment in and through education by:

Sharing innovative catalytic and transformative actions undertaken through grassroots and national programmes to end harmful gender norms, attitudes and practices so that all learners can fulfil their right to education.

Learning from world leaders and partners on the commitments they are making through the Transforming Education Summit to advance gender equality and girls' and women's empowerment in and through education.

Calling on world leaders and partners to commit to advancing gender equality and girls' and women's empowerment in and through education, and to join a global platform to review progress towards gender equality and girls' education commitments annually – and to confront setbacks – to drive transformative leadership, accountability and action.

## **CALL TO ACTION**

We need education systems that go beyond acknowledging and responding to gender disparities in participation and learning. We need education that transforms attitudes and practices and supports the realisation of gender equality.



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## Programme

Monday 19 September 2022

15.00-15.15

Welcome and



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Argentina

## REFERENCES

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- <sup>1</sup> International Labour Organization (ILO). 2021. [Young people not in employment, education or training](#). Technical brief 3. ILO/SIDA Partnership on Employment. Geneva, ILO.
- <sup>2</sup> UNESCO. 2022. [Global Education Monitoring Report 2022: Gender Report. Deepening the debate](#)