

**The International Federation of University Women (IFUW) calls for the compilation and public dissemination of gender and age specific disaggregated data to monitor Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) progress and as part of post-2015 goals**

**Geneva, Switzerland, 08 July 2014** –The International Federation of University Women ([IFUW](#)) calls on all governments, regional agencies and other relevant bodies to incorporate a gender-specific perspective in gathering, analysing and publishing indicators of development, so that gender disparities and biases can be properly identified and addressed. The compilation and publication of data, which specifically examines the participation of girls and women in society, is needed immediately so as to track the progress being made in achieving the [Millennium Development Goals](#) (MDGs) and the post-2015 [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs).

IFUW President Catherine Bell emphasised that “it is not enough to show general, aggregated trends of development within countries. Given the increased vulnerability of girls and women in areas such as education, health and employment, we must have gender indicators that accurately reflect whether and to what extent progress is being made in closing gender inequalities.”

Both the [UN Population Fund](#) (UNFPA) and the [UN Commission on the Status of Women](#) (CSW) have expressed concern that not all countries are using gender disaggregated data and thus “do not provide sufficient information about the situation of women and girls throughout their life cycle”.<sup>1</sup> Where gender disaggregated data does exist, the results provide concrete cause for concern in terms of the disparities between male and female empowerment. Gender statistics within education highlight the stark reality of inequality; of the 774 million people who are illiterate in the world, over two thirds are female, while there are 4 million more boys than girls enrolled in primary education.<sup>2</sup>

The International Federation of University Women ([IFUW](#)) is based in Geneva, Switzerland, and has an international membership. Founded in 1919, IFUW is the leading girls’ and women’s global organisation run by and for women, advocating for women’s rights, equality and empowerment through access to quality education and training up to the highest levels.

IFUW is in special consultative status with ECOSOC and is an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO. Learn about our grants & fellowships and our advocacy work. Follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter ([@IFUWwomen](#))

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<sup>1</sup> UN Commission on the Status of Women, ‘Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls: Agreed Conclusions’ 58<sup>th</sup> Session, 10-21 March, 2014 UN Doc. E/CN.6/2014/L.7.

<sup>2</sup> UNESCO ‘Education for all Global Monitoring Report: Girls’ Education- The Facts’ October 2013 <http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/ED/GMR/images/2011/girls-factsheet-en.pdf>