

MDG3: Founding, Furthering or Fracturing?

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The goal and the target: foundational?

- Gender equality as a foundational value
- Is gender parity in education an appropriate target?
- 2005 and the first target

Progress against indicators: 1

Indicators

- Ratio of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education

Progress

- 2007 – gender parity in primary education in 2/3 of 181 countries with data
- In secondary education in 1/3 of 177 countries with data;
- In tertiary education in only 5 countries of 148 with data
- 2005 target date missed in 94 out of 149 countries with data; achieved in 82 countries

Progress against indicators: 2

Indicator

- Ratio of literate women to men (15-24)

Progress

- GPI youth literacy developing countries improves 0.88 (1985-1994) to 0.92 (1994-2004).
- Approx 66% of 781 million adults without literacy skills are women
- GPI literate women: men 0.84 (1990) and 0.89 (2004)

Progress against indicators:3

- Share of women in wage employment in the non agricultural sector
 - 2006 (1990) data from ILO:
 - 46 (42)% - developed regions;
 - 48 (46)% CEE/CIS;
 - 42 (38)% Latin America/Caribbean
 - 19 (18)% Middle East/N. Africa
 - 19 (15)% South Asia
 - 31 (25)% Sub Saharan Africa

Progress against indicators: 4

- Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments
 - 2006 (1997):
 - Sub Saharan Africa 16 (9)%
 - South Asia 15 (5)%
 - Middle East/North Africa 8 (3)
 - Latin America/Caribbean 18 (11)%
 - East Asia/Pacific 11 (6)%
 - CEE/CIS 16 (9)%
 - Developed 26 (18)%

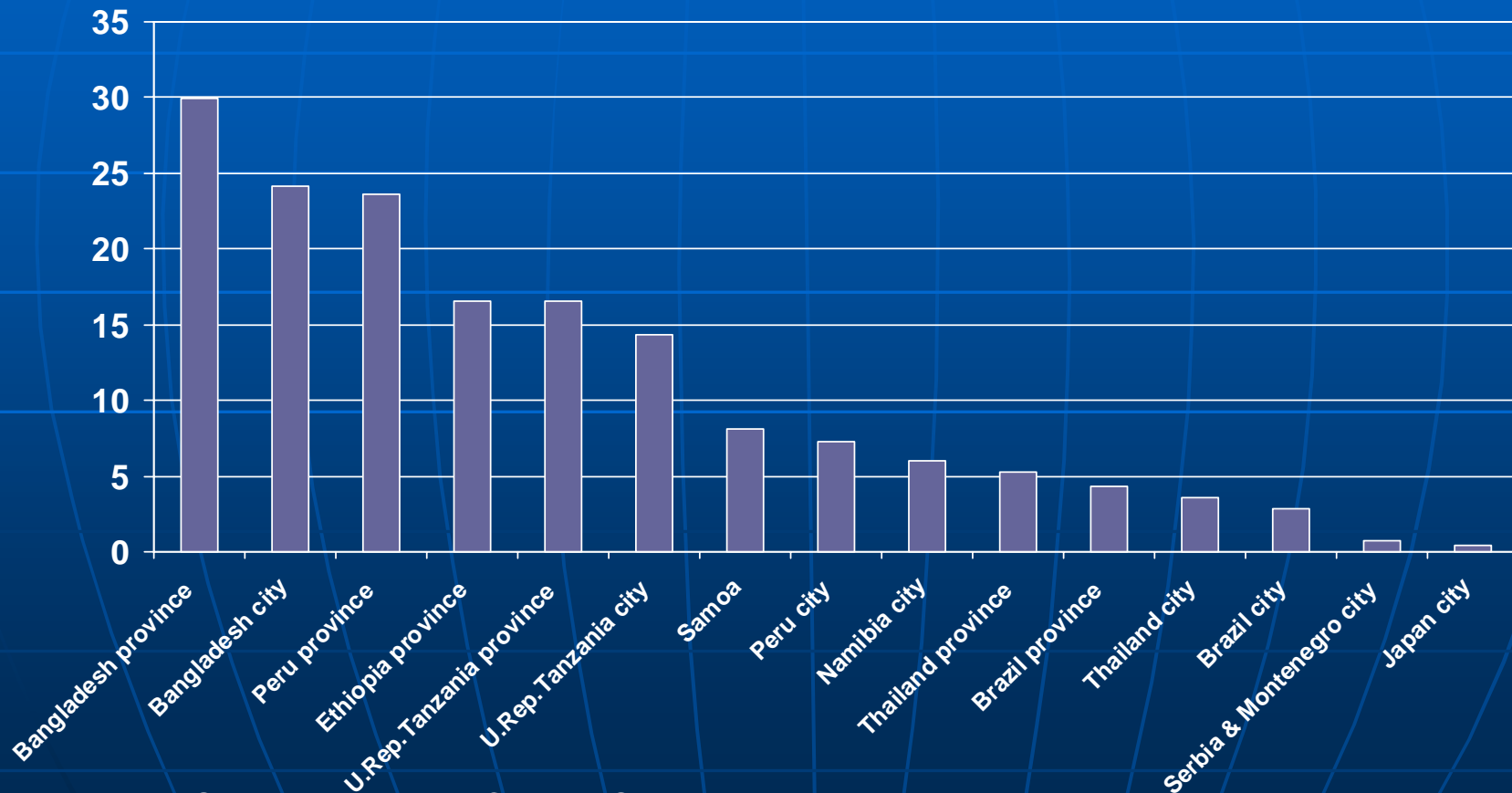
Assessing MDG3

- Gender equality, parity and the debate about empowerment
- Furthering - MDG3 Plus:
 - Additional indicators: gender & primary completion, under 5 mortality, youth labour force participation, average hourly wage; percentage using modern contraception & young mothers

Silences: violence against women

- Violence against women explicit demonstration of gender inequity
- Domestic violence widespread
 - Population surveys from 10 countries find between 16% & 67% physically or sexually assaulted by partner
 - Between 4% & 54% experienced violence in past year

Sexual violence widespread: percentage sexually experienced women reporting forced first sex



Source: Who Multi-Country Study on Domestic Violence and Women's Health 2005

Gender and intersectionality

- Inequalities multidimensional
- Vertical and horizontal distances from the MDGs
- The fragility of the MDG compact
- The political nature of achieving real equality
- The problem of fracturing
- Are torches enough?