Meeting our commitments to gender equality in education
Sustainable development cannot happen without gender equality.

...and gender equality also has to be achieved in education.
To monitor progress on gender equality in education, it is not enough to just look at the numbers of boys and girls in schools.

We also need to consider:

- Norms, values and attitudes
- Education laws and policies
- Resource allocation
- Teaching and learning practices
Gender disparities vary by level of education...
...and by level of wealth
There are disparities by subject studied...
...in leadership positions...
...and among professionals
Education influences preventative behavior against non-communicable disease

Formal and informal education play a role in reducing smoking:

- In poor and rich countries, more education is associated with less tobacco use
- National mass media and social media campaigns can make a difference
Understanding gender and accountability in education

Transforming structures for gender equality in society

What gender aims for: Redirect accountability towards transformative change that advances women’s rights

Changing processes for gender equality in education

What gender does: Scrutinize the underlying power processes associated with accountability structures

Achieving gender parity in education

What gender is: Reach parity in participation rates and learning outcomes by sex as a focus of accountability
Many countries are yet to fully commit to gender equality...
...because they express reservations

But gender equality cannot be a matter of picking and choosing
Credible plans clarify commitments to gender quality in education

Many countries are not putting a gender lens over their policies before finalizing them.
A gender lens is needed at all points in the education policy and planning cycle.

- **Planning and policy-making:** Ex-ante gender assessment and gender responsive education plans
- **Budget Preparation:** Gender budgeting
- **Implementation and review:** Multi-stakeholder review of progress towards gender responsive plans
- **Reporting:** Annual education monitoring report with gender analysis and data disaggregated by sex

**There are far fewer women leaders making decisions at the top.**
Ensuring equality in access to school requires government investment in schools and families
At a minimum dignity requires

**REGULATIONS**
- Should include gender issues in the process

**INSPECTIONS**
- Should include gender issues in the inspection
- However, inspectorates are often resource constrained

**COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION**
- Nearly 80% of 45 countries had supportive polices
- Important to examine power – those that do are five times more likely to be effective
Making gender equality in schools a reality is a shared responsibility...

ENSURING SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS
...and requires unbiased textbooks

OF COURSE GIRLS AND BOYS ARE EQUAL...

...and sensitive teaching methods

TEACHER TRAINING CAN HELP OVERCOME EXPLICIT GENDER BIAS
Recommendations for gender equality in education

IDENTIFY AND REMOVE GENDER BARRIERS
Holistic approach addressing laws, institutions, and policies in and outside of school

Such as:
- Revoking laws that discriminate – for example, banning pregnant girls
- Instilling whole school reform – including teacher codes of conduct

HOLD PEOPLE TO ACCOUNT FOR GENDER INEQUALITY IN EDUCATION
- Government is the primary duty bearer
- Individual and civil society submission of complaints
- Importance of robust women’s movements
- Using gender quotas in leadership positions
- Producing an annual education monitoring report
Let’s get accountability right

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#WhosAccountable
Bit.ly/gem2018gender