

Gender in ICT policy and regulation

Consultation and representation

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women in global science & technology



The gender digital divide

	East Asia & Pacific	South Asia	Sub-Saharan Africa	Europe & Central Asia	Latin America & the Caribbean	Middle East & North Africa
Women's and girls' Internet access level	29%	8%	9%	35%	36%	18%
Men's and boys' Internet access level	37%	11%	16%	49%	40%	28%
Gender gap (weighted)	20%	33%	43%	29%	10%	34%
Global gender gap (144 developing countries)	23%					

The gender digital divide in Sub-Saharan Africa:

Men and women are not able to access and use ICTs equally [in Africa]....the fundamental reason for this lies in the gender disparities found in income and education (RIA, 2013)

Women's representation in decision making in the public and private sectors is low.

Economy	Percentage of permanent full-time workers that are female.	Percentage of permanent full-time workers that are female.	Percent of firms with female participation in ownership.	Percent of firms with a female top manager.
Latin America & Caribbean	37.9	13.9	40.4	20.8
Eastern Europe & Central Asia	38.2	12.4	36.0	18.9
East Asia & Pacific	37.7	11.6	58.7	29.3
Sub-Saharan Africa	24.9	7.4	33.1	15.3
South Asia	13.7	2.3	18.4	6.0
Middle East and North Africa	6.9	0.3	6.6	1.2

Gender in Enterprises, World Bank, 2013

Women in national parliaments

	Single House or lower House	Upper House or Senate	Both Houses combined
Nordic countries	42.0%	---	---
Americas	24.8%	25.0%	24.9%
Europe - OSCE member countries including Nordic countries	24.3%	22.6%	24.0%
Europe - OSCE member countries excluding Nordic countries	22.7%	22.6%	22.7%
Sub-Saharan Africa	21.9%	19.2%	21.5%
Asia	19.1%	13.8%	18.5%
Arab States	17.8%	7.6%	15.9%
Pacific	12.8%	36.0%	15.4%

What is the solution?

Gender Working Group of the Broadband Commission:

There is an urgent need for policy-makers to introduce strong gender perspectives into ICT policies, to devise strategies with clear goals, and to put in place measurement systems and practices to ensure gender equality is achieved.

Governments should form working groups with diverse stakeholder participation, including gender mainstreaming experts as well as representatives from local women's movements, in order to draft gender sensitive ICT strategies.

Sex-disaggregated data: Gender statistics should be mainstreamed in national ICT statistics and a gender perspective integrated into ICT data collection.

Communities, and especially women, need access to affordable, pervasive broadband services, and the equipment necessary to use it.

What is the solution? Examples:

Albania ICT Strategy developed with UNDP and the Open Society Foundation

WSIS+10 Review meeting in February 2013 with two special sessions on “Reviewing Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in the Knowledge Society (UNESCO, ITU, UNCTAD, UNDP)

International Knowledge Network of Women in Politics (iKNOW Politics)

Dynamic Coalition on Gender at the Internet Governance Forum

GenderInSITE – Gender in Science, Innovation, Technology and Engineering