Convergent Action for Gender Equality: Lessons from the 3D Program

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2020: Time to Act

• Generation Equality Forum
  Kickoff: Mexico, May 7 – 9, 2020
  Culminate: Paris, July 7 – 10, 2020

• SDG + 5 years

• Decade of Action

• COVID-19
Progress

- 131 countries enacted 274 legal and regulatory reforms on gender equality (2009-2019)
- Parity in (primary) education achieved globally on average
- Global maternal mortality fell by 38% (2000-2017)
Persistent Inequalities

Political participation:
• Only 1 in 4 seats in national parliaments are held by women

Violence:
• 18% of ever partnered women 15-49 experienced sexual and/or physical violence by an intimate partner over the past year

Health:
• 190 million women 15-49 who wanted to avoid pregnancy did not use contraception (2019)

Economic empowerment:
• Women 25-34 are 25% more likely to live in extreme poverty than men
• Gender gap in labor force participation stagnated at 31% over past 20 years
It Costs!

• **Violence against women:** costs countries up to 3.7% of their GDP (global)

• **Child marriage:** ending child marriage would result in global savings of more than $4 trillion by 2030

• **Low female labor force participation:** lower productivity and economic growth (10 – 30% loss of GDP depending on region)
# India: Key Indicators of Inequality

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>National</th>
<th>Maharashtra</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sex ratio at birth</strong></td>
<td>919 females : 1000 males</td>
<td>924 females : 1000 males</td>
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<td><strong>Child marriage</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>% of women, aged 20-24, married before 18</td>
<td>26.8%</td>
<td>26%</td>
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<td><strong>Secondary education</strong></td>
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<td>% men and women, aged 15 – 49, who have 10 or more years of schooling</td>
<td>35.7% women vs. 47% men</td>
<td>25% women vs. 34% men</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Female Labor force participation rate</strong></td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>31%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Violence against girls and women</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Aged 15 – 49</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Spousal violence: 31%</td>
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<td>• Spousal violence: 21.4%</td>
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<td>• Physical violence: 30%</td>
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<td>• Physical violence: 21%</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Sexual violence at least once: 6%</td>
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<td>• Sexual violence at least once: 3%</td>
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Why should we care?

India’s Commitments to Global Agreements:

• Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

• Beijing Platform of Action

• Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
The 3D Program for Girls and Women

- The 3D Program for Girls and Women advances gender equality and girls’ and women’s empowerment by helping local governments work more efficiently across departments, and with civil society and the private sector, while strengthening women’s voices and platforms to hold government accountable.

- Convergent action – Good governance

- Pune District, Maharashtra State, India
The 3D Program Model

• Village-level, women-led committees, filling a vital gap
• Increased accountability by including village-level functionaries and creating feedback loops to block, district and state levels
• Allows for the participation of young women
• Local problem-solving, block-level decision-making and district level planning
• Started in 5 villages, expanding to 15, scaling up to 150 villages
• Scaling up includes a rural women’s fellowship program and strengthening Mahila Gram Sabhas

Lessons from the 3D Program

• Poor women are an untapped productive resource for the formal sector
• Women’s time is precious
• Women’s voices and opinions have policy value
• Women’s collectives can shift social hierarchies
• Women need choices
• Public safety impacts outcomes in other areas
• Women have multiple, intersecting needs