

# ARC8 EG4 Equitable Access and Success in Higher Education

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**What is your take, how inclusive are the national, institutional policies and practices currently? Do you have any numbers to show or any story to tell?**

**Salmi (2018) *'All around the world – Higher education equity policies across the globe'* – Lumina Foundation for World Access to Higher Education Day (WAHED)**

**Global survey of 71 countries across all continents**

- Overall, only 32% of the countries surveyed have defined specific participation targets for any equity group.
- Overall, 11% of the countries surveyed have formulated a comprehensive equity strategy. Another 11% have elaborated a specific policy document for one equity group, gender, people with disabilities, or members of indigenous groups.
- The countries that are most advanced in their policy commitment on behalf of providing equal opportunities of access and success in higher education have a comprehensive equity strategy—sometimes even a dedicated agency—, and they seek to ensure consistency over time in terms of alignment among policy objectives, improvement targets for various equity groups, resources, and quality assurance criteria.
- Among all the countries surveyed, Australia, Cuba, England, Ireland, New Zealand and Scotland stand out in that respect

## European Student Union's Bologna With Students Eyes Survey 2020

- Social Dimension being considered a moderately to highly important subject on both the governmental and HEI levels in  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the countries that participated in the survey, while being assigned no importance in only 10% of cases in relation to governmental prioritization and slightly less than 10% in relation to HEIs.

BUT

- Only 6 out of 39 countries have national targets in place to enhance participation of underrepresented groups in HE, with another 9 countries having targets in place which are not being followed.

**What potential risks do you foresee in the coming years that could jeopardize greater inclusion, access and success efforts?**

News / Canada

# Canadian universities could lose up to \$3.4 billion due to COVID-19: Statistics Canada

*The agency said Canadian student registration numbers could also drop this year*



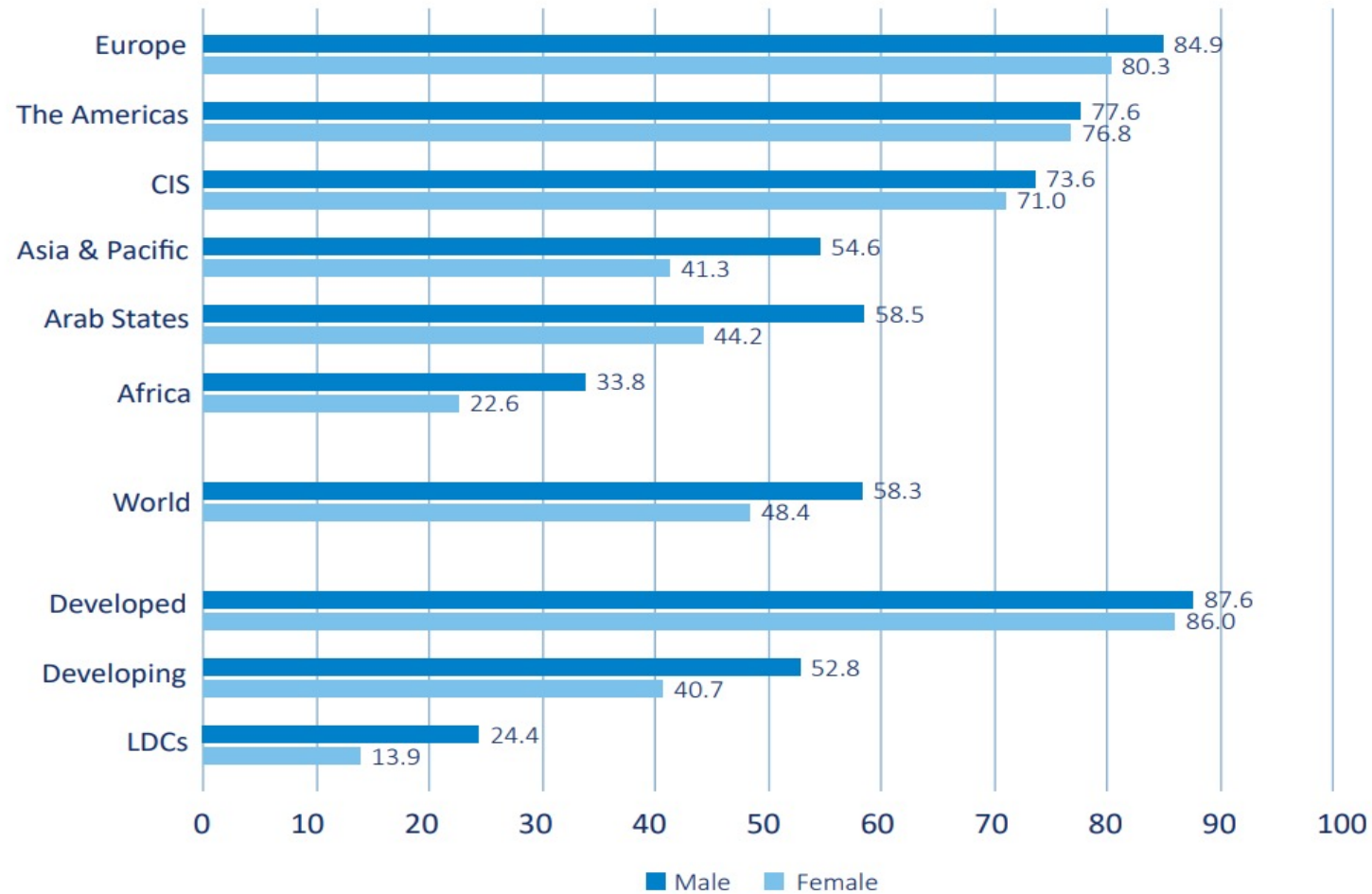
The Canadian Press  
Vicky Fragasso-Marquis

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# The digital gender gap is growing fast in developing countries

*Internet penetration rate for men and women, 2019\**



Note: \* ITU estimate. Penetration rates in this chart refer to the number of women/men that use the Internet, as a percentage of the respective total female/male population.

Source: ITU.

**What leverage points do you see to promote inclusion?**



*'COVID-19 has been likened to an x-ray, revealing fractures in the fragile skeleton of the societies we have built. It is exposing fallacies and falsehoods everywhere.*

*The lie that free markets can deliver healthcare for all; the fiction that unpaid care work is not work; the delusion that we live in a post-racist world; the myth that we are all in the same boat.*

*Because while we are all floating on the same sea, it's clear that some are in superyachts while others are clinging to drifting debris.*

***Inequality defines our time.'***

António Guterres: Secretary-General of the United Nations, 18<sup>th</sup> July 2020

A. Relative importance of different skill groups

