Changing Attitudes towards Gender Equality:
Update from the World Values Survey

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INTRODUCTION - WORLD VALUES SURVEY

- Nationally representative surveys
- Stratified random sampling - with variations in the employed strata by country
- A minimum national sample of 1000
- Face-to-face interviews or phone interviews for remote areas
- All residents age 18 years and older

Wave 6 (2010-2014), 58 countries

- 6 Caucasus & Central Asia
- 2 Eastern Asia
- 4 South-eastern Asia
- 2 South Asia
- 9 Western Asia
- 9 Latin America & the Caribbean
- 5 North Africa
- 5 Sub-Saharan Africa
- 16 Developed countries
**Since Wave 3 (1994-9) - Questions on Gender Values**

- “On the whole, men make better political leaders than women.”
- “When jobs are scarce, men should have more right to a job than women.”
- “A university education is more important for a boy than for a girl.”
- “On the whole, men make better business executives than women do.”

3 or 5 point Likert scale

Proportion of respondents who disagree or strongly disagree with such statements –

Classified in this analysis as bearing attitudes that support women’s empowerment & gender equality in each specific area.
SUPPORT FOR GENDER EQUALITY BY COUNTRY

Support for Gender Equality by Country

Support for Gender Equality by Country

[Graph showing support for gender equality across different regions and countries, categorized into University education, Business executives, Political leaders, and Right to a job.]

Greater upward trends in support for women’s equal rights to university education.

While many countries in Asia and Africa show declining support for women’s equal right to employment when jobs are scarce.

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Differentials in Values — Right to a Job

DIFFERENTIALS IN VALUES — RIGHT TO A JOB

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SUMMARY OF DIFFERENTIALS

Gaps

Greater support for gender equality among women than men

People with university+ education have more positive attitudes to gender equality than those with < secondary education

Younger people (age 15-29) are more positive to gender equality than people age 50+
Significant positive relationship between proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments (SDG 5.5.1) and WVS support to gender equality in political leadership ($r = 0.6$, $p < .01$).
Thank you!

For more information, please contact liang@unfpa.org and rsnow@unfpa.org
GENDER VALUES & GENDER ROLES

- Percentage who disagree in statement "If a woman earns more money than her husband, it's almost certain to cause problems"

- Percentage who disagree or strongly disagree in statement "When a mother works for pay, the children suffer"

- Support to gender equality in right to employment when jobs are scarce