

1 Jamila is a 12-year-old girl who lives in a rural area in Morocco. She is still at school when most girls her age have dropped out – about 78 percent of them between the ages of 12 and 14 are no longer in formal schooling there. If she carries on with her education, she will be able to accomplish her dream of becoming a doctor. However, significant challenges stand in her way – a slowing economy over the past five years, limited job opportunities, and fewer women in the workplace (25 percent) compared to men (over 66 percent).

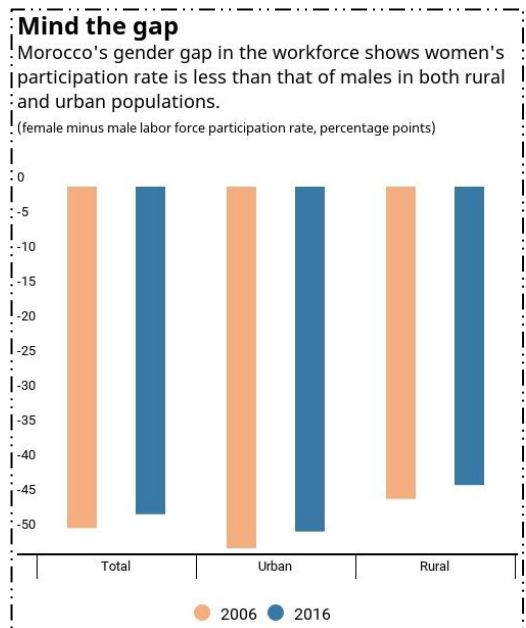


2 The government has started to implement strategies that better integrate women into the economy, but more still needs to be done to help young girls like Jamila achieve their dreams. As a result of the assessment of the Moroccan economy, policies that involve more women in this sector and eradicate gender gaps are being applied. For this purpose, initiatives have been adopted to increase access to education, improve public transportation to make it safer and easier for women to get to work, launch vocational training and literacy programmes, especially in rural areas. These could significantly boost the country's economic growth.

3 Furthermore, the government has already initiated some reforms of the legal system. In 2002, Morocco launched the first and most advanced initiative in the Middle East and Central Asia to tackle gender inequality and promote women's advancement. In 2004, the family code was revised to expand women's rights in marriage, guardianship, and access to divorce. As well as that, a maternity leave of 14 weeks at full salary was introduced in the same year, and a law to ensure gender equality was passed seven years after that.

4 Even with these improvements, our research points out that stronger and well thought out measures are needed to increase female employment, and to address gender gaps in education in Morocco. For instance, our study found out that:

- Investing in public childcare facilities could free women's time, enabling them to undertake more educational and training activities, and join the labour market.
- Reform programmes for education, as recommended in the recently-adopted national employment strategy, can promote better access to secondary education for girls. These could also support literacy programmes for women in rural areas, female entrepreneurship, and vocational training schemes for all women.



5 If all these actions are implemented, there is no doubt that the barriers to this girl's economic participation would be greatly reduced, and she would have more opportunities to contribute to a more prosperous and inclusive Moroccan society.

I COMPREHENSION (15 POINTS)

{BASE ALL YOUR ANSWERS ON THE TEXT}

A Tick (☑) the most appropriate choice. (1 pt)

The text is about:

- 1 the Moroccan economy
- 2 the reforms to reduce gender inequality in Morocco
- 3 the reform of the educational system in Morocco

B Are these sentences TRUE or FALSE? JUSTIFY your answers. (3 pts)

- 1 Very few children leave school at an early age in the countryside.
.....
- 2 Morocco hasn't passed any new laws that help combat sex discrimination.
.....
- 3 Building more nurseries and kindergartens will enable women to find it easier to study and work.
.....

C Answer these questions. (3 pts)

- 1 Which problems will Jamila face once she has finished her studies?
.....
- 2 In which year was the law that guarantees the equality between men and women enacted?
.....
- 3 Why are more rigid and practical strategies needed?
.....

D Find in the text words or expressions that mean the same as the following. (3 pts)

- 1 important (para 1)
- 2 eliminate (para 2)
- 3 plans (para 4)

E What do the underlined words in the text refer to? (3 pts)

- 1 there (para 1)
- 2 that (para 3)
- 2 this girl (para 5)

F Complete the following sentences with information from the text. (2 pts)

- 1 The government has launched some initiatives so that it
- 2 Reform policies for education can promote better access to secondary education for girls as well as

II LANGUAGE (15 POINTS)

A Put the verbs between brackets into the correct tense. (3 pts)

Yesterday morning I (do) the shopping in the Mall when I (meet)
 an old friend of mine I (not see) for years.

B Put the words between brackets into the correct form. (3 pts)

- 1 I'm (true) sorry that things had to end like this.
- 2 She spent a (profit) afternoon in the library.
- 3 His actions were based on a false (assume)

C Correct the mistakes in the following. (2 pts)

- 1 I didn't write to him for ages.
.....
- 2 Do your parents mind you to leave home?
.....
- 3 Should you send this letter for me, please?
.....
- 4 I was feeling hungry; since I made myself a sandwich.
.....

D Fill in each blank with the most appropriate word. (2 pts)

merely literacy tremendous livelihood managerial shun awareness

- 1 There is growing of the link between diet and health.
- 2 The government is running a campaign to promote adult
- 3 It's difficult to earn a as an artist.
- 4 Does she have any experience?

E Rewrite the following sentences as suggested. (3 pts)

- 1 His wife was there at that moment. I said nothing about the matter.
Because of his wife
- 2 They'll have dinner at eight tomorrow evening, I suppose.
By ten tomorrow evening,
- 3 It's just impossible that I gave them the wrong directions.
I can't

F Match every sentence with the corresponding function. (2 pts)

Sentences		Functions	
1	OK, you've made your point!	a	Expressing Opinion
2	I still can't understand what you're driving at.	b	Expressing Agreement
3	It was a ridiculous thing to do, to my mind.	c	Expressing Disagreement
4	I have to differ with you on that.	d	Expressing Lack of Understanding
		e	Asking for Clarification

1 2 3 4

