**Target audience:** Policy-makers and planners, project/programme officers, teachers/school heads, teacher trainers, gender trainers

This tool gives you an overview of international commitments and suggested actions that need to be taken in order to achieve gender equality in education. Follow the links to learn more about these commitments, sensitize others and learn how to take action at your own level.

**Dakar Framework for Action, Education for All, 2000**
http://www.unesco.org/education/efa

It proposes 12 major strategies and sets 6 major goals to achieve quality education for all by 2015. The gender specific goals are as follows:

**Goal 2** is to “ensure that by 2015, all children, particularly girls, children in difficult circumstances and those belonging to ethnic minorities, have access to and complete free and compulsory primary education of good quality.”

**Goal 4** is to “achieve a 50 percent improvement in levels of adult literacy by 2015, especially for women, and equitable access to basic and continuing education for all adults.”

**Goal 5** is to “eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005, and achieve gender equality in education by 2015, with a focus on ensuring girls’ full and equal access to and achievement in basic education of good quality.”

**UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), 2000**
http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals

The 8 MDGs form a blueprint agreed to by all the world’s countries and all the world’s leading development institutions. They have galvanized unprecedented efforts to meet the needs of the world’s poorest. The education related goals are as follows:

**Goal 2** is to “ensure that all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling.”

**Goal 3** is to “eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015.”

**Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 1995**
http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform

The Platform for Action is an agenda for women’s empowerment. It seeks to remove all the obstacles to women’s active participation in all spheres of public and private life through a full and equal share in economic, social, cultural and political decision-making.
The World Declaration on Education for All adopted by the World Conference on Education for All, in Jomtien, Thailand spells out targets and strategies to meet the basic learning needs of all. The goal is to have universal access to learning; focus on equity; emphasize learning outcomes; broaden the means and the scope of basic education; enhance the environment for learning; and strengthen partnerships.

The Convention was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly. It defines discrimination against women and establishes an action agenda for putting an end to sex-based discrimination. In particular, Article 10 of the Convention stipulates specific rights to education that governments ought to ensure.

The Convention states unequivocally that discrimination in education is a violation of rights enunciated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It is UNESCO's first international instrument in the field of education to have binding force in international law. Its purpose is not only the elimination of discrimination in education, but also the adoption of measures to promote equality of opportunity and treatment.

The right to education for all was recognized by Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was adopted in 1948 by the General Assembly of the United Nations.