Across all regions, almost all men of prime working age (25-54 years) participate in the labour force, while rates of participation vary widely for women. The gender gap is striking and persistent: in no region has it been eliminated.

The proportion of women’s employment that is informal and unprotected in developing regions

The percentage point gap between women’s and men’s labour force participation*

The average global gender pay gap

How much more time women spend on unpaid care and domestic work than men

equal access to paid work
decent work, with social protection
fair and adequate earnings
equal sharing of unpaid care work

26
75%
24%
2.5X

Figure 2.3

AN EYE ON THE GAP
The global gender gap in labour force participation

A VISION FOR WOMEN’S RIGHTS TO WORK AND AT WORK

THE REALITY

Source: ILO 2015c.

Note: The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) three letter country codes are used to stand for country names. The figures uses 2013 ILO data on average labour force participation for those aged 15-54, disaggregated by sex.

* 27 refers to the labour force participation gap of all working-age women and men, aged 15 years and over.