This study is an assessment of the Millennium Development Goals in the Arab world with Egypt as a case study. The analysis focuses on access to primary education, gender equality, and women empowerment in the Arab world with special emphasis on Egypt. The study found that most Arab countries are on the right track toward achieving most of the MDGs by 2015. However, discriminatory social norms, laws, and practices are still at the heart of gender inequality in the Arab world, and therefore need to be further incorporated in the MDGs to advance a more egalitarian developmental approach.

Keywords: Status of Women and Gender Equality in the Arab Region (Beijing +20), Against Wind and Tides: A Review of the Status of Women and Gender Equality in the Arab Region (Beijing +20), Selected papers from the Fourth, World Conference on Women’s Studies, Colombo Sri Lanka, Queer and Trans Reproduction with Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART), in Europe, More Selected Papers of the Third World Conference on Women’s Studies, Colombo, Sri Lanka, May 2017.

The Arab region has been relatively weak in mobilizing private capital to finance larger infrastructure projects, compared to other parts of the world. The ongoing political transition in Arab countries has created an opportunity for greater investment in human development. However, the region’s dependence on oil revenue has limited the resources available for social development, particularly in education and health.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were developed out of the eight chapters of the United Nations Millennium Declaration, signed in September 2000. The eight goals and 21 targets include:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Achieve development in a sustainable manner

The Arab region has made impressive progress towards many Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), particularly in education. Achievements, however, were uneven among and within Arab countries. Major The Millennium Development Goals are eight goals that 189 United Nations member states have agreed to try to achieve by the year 2015. The Millennium Development Goals were officially established at the Millennium Summit in 2000, where 189 world leaders adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration, from which the eight-goal action plan, the ‘Millennium Development Goals’, was particularly promoted. Table of Contents. 1 Goals. 5.4 Progress and regional reports about gender equality and MDGs. Goals. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were developed out of the eight chapters of the United Nations Millennium Declaration, signed in September 2000. The eight goals and 21 targets include: