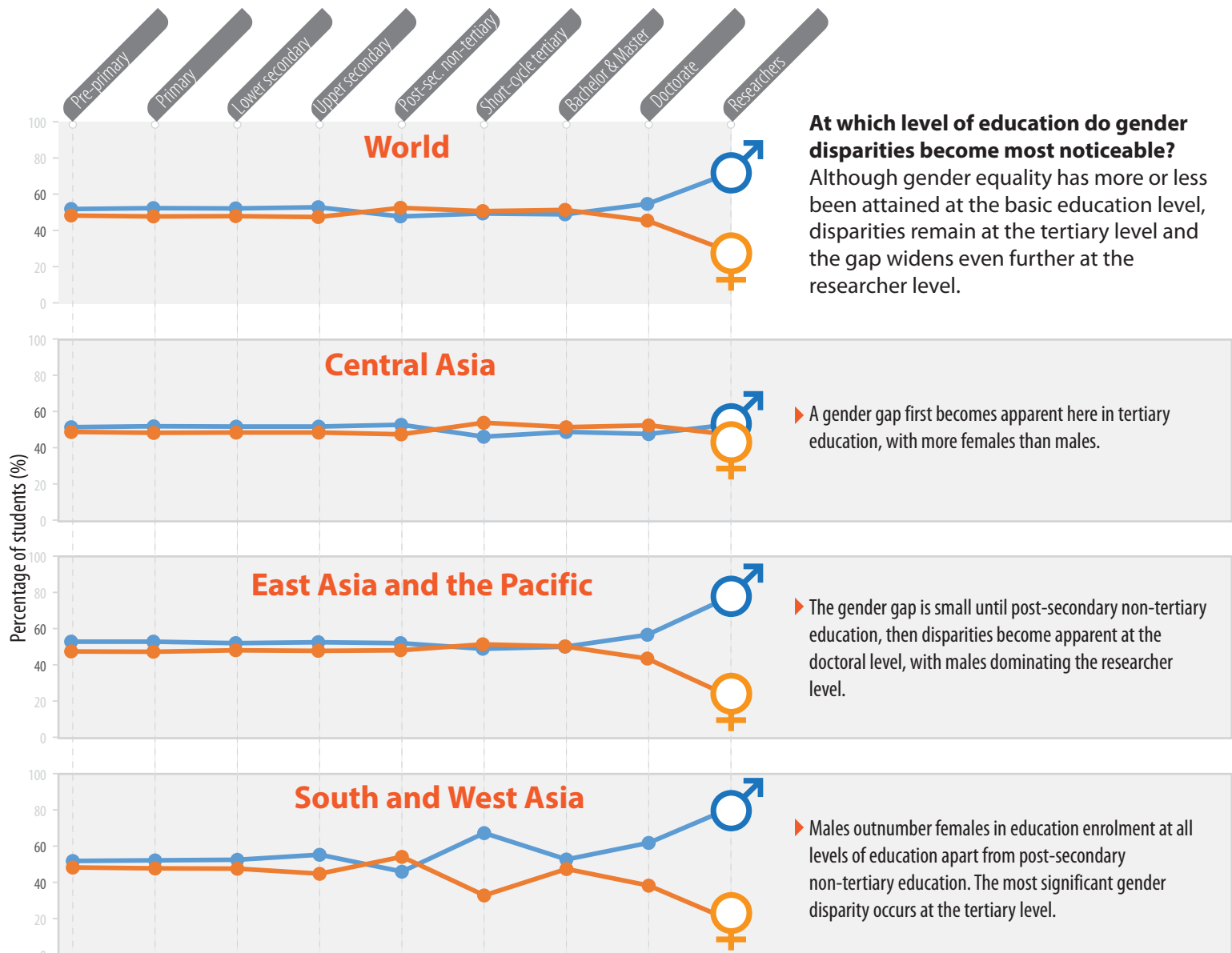


Gender Disparities in Education: When Does the Problem Start?

International Women's Day 2016 calls on us all to "Step it Up for Gender Equality" and Asia-Pacific countries need to do just that when it comes to accelerating progress toward gender parity in education and achieving the vision of Sustainable Development Goal 4, which aims to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning for all."

At this occasion, the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) is launching the *UNESCO eAtlas of Gender Inequality in Education*, which shows the gender gaps from primary to tertiary education using the latest available data from the UIS. With about 100 interactive maps and charts, the eAtlas shows the educational pathways of girls and boys in more than 200 countries and territories.

Figure 1: Share of female and male students participating in different levels of education in Asia and the Pacific (2013 or latest available data)

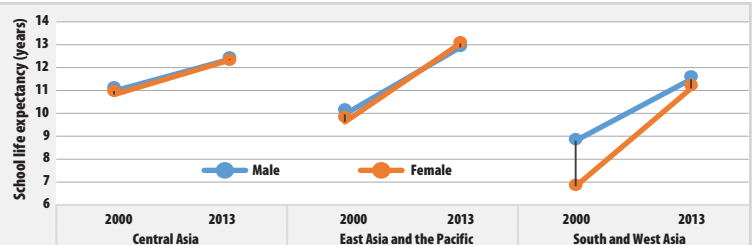


Note: Pre-primary education data for South and West Asia refer to 2012. Source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics, Data Centre, accessed in February 2016.

Figure 2: School life expectancy, primary to tertiary education, 2013

How long do females and males stay in school?

Since 2000, the average number of years that both females and males are likely to spend in school has been increasing and the gender gap in this area has been narrowing.



Note: Definition of School-life expectancy: the average number of years that a child is likely to spend in the educational system