



## **Introduction**

Tuvalu is one of the countries which progress toward EFA since 2000 was not fully reflected in the 2015 Education for All Global Monitoring Report (GMR) due to lack of sufficient enrolment data. The country has not reported any number of children enrolled in school to the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) beyond the school year ending in 2006. In order to assess progress made Tuvalu across some of the EFA goals since 2000, the GMR Team used data from different national sources, including, the Education Statistical Report of 2012<sup>1</sup>, the 2010/2011 Millennium Development Goals Progress Report<sup>2</sup> and the Tuvalu EFA 2015 review report.

It is important to note that the use of data from national sources meant using age-groups that are different from the ones agreed upon in the International standard classification of education system (ISCED) framework. This was particularly the case of primary education where, with the age-group in national sources referring to 6-13 while the age-group is used in the ISCED framework.

## **Pre-primary education**

Tuvalu was in the high level category of participation in pre-primary education, with a gross enrolment ratio (GER) of 91% in 2012. However, the enrolment ratio decreased since 2001 when it was 96%. The decline has continued in 2013 (GER of 89%) mainly due to a more rapid increase in the school age population than in enrolment.

## **Primary education**

In 2002, Tuvalu was close to the universal primary enrolment target, with a net enrolment ratio (NER) of about 97%. However, the country experienced a decline of the proportion of primary school age children enrolled to 92% in 2013, thus moving into the intermediate position.

## **Gender Parity**

Tuvalu was close to gender parity in 2000, with the gender parity index (GPI) of the GER at 1.04 in 2000. However, the country has been moving away from the target since and the situation of boys has worsened as indicates by the increase in the GPI that reached 1.06 in 2013.

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<sup>1</sup> Tuvalu, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. (2012). Education Statistical Report 2012. Available at <http://www.spc.int/prism/images/EducationDigests/TUVALU/Tuvalu%20Statistics%20Digest%202012.pdf> (Accessed 11<sup>th</sup> April 2015)

<sup>2</sup> UNDP-Tuvalu, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development. (2011). Millennium Development Goals Progress Report 2010/2011. Available at: [http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/MDG/english/MDG%20Country%20Reports/Tuvalu/MDG\(tuvalu\)%202010.pdf](http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/MDG/english/MDG%20Country%20Reports/Tuvalu/MDG(tuvalu)%202010.pdf) (Accessed 11<sup>th</sup> April 2015)

## **Conclusion**

The analysis of education data of Tuvalu shows that the country has been moving away from the three EFA goals assessed. Fewer children were enrolled in pre-primary and primary education while gender disparities at the expense of boys at this latter level have increased since 2000. Clearly, EFA remains an unfinished business in this country and will need more attention and targeted interventions as the world in adopting a new education agenda that is even more ambitious.