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ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION

TARGETS:

- 1. Ensure that, by 2015, all children will be able to complete a full course of primary and secondary schooling;*
- 2. Eliminate gender disparities in both primary and secondary education, if possible by 2005 and in all levels by 2015*

STATUS OF PROGRESS:

Over 30% of the pupils/students drop out of school between the enrolment in primary school and graduation from high school, with 11% dropping out by the end of primary school (7-8% during grades 5 - 8), with an additional 11% at the enrolment in secondary education and a further 9% by the end of secondary education. In terms of enrolment and completion rates in secondary education, the Roma, Turkish and Albanian ethnic communities are the most exposed to risk. Although there has been a visible improvement, for the time being, enrolment and completion rates are still below the desired level. Gender disparities in primary education have been almost eliminated, while in the higher education they are in favour of the female population. Disparities are evident only in the secondary education, mainly among students of the Roma, Turkish and Albanian communities.