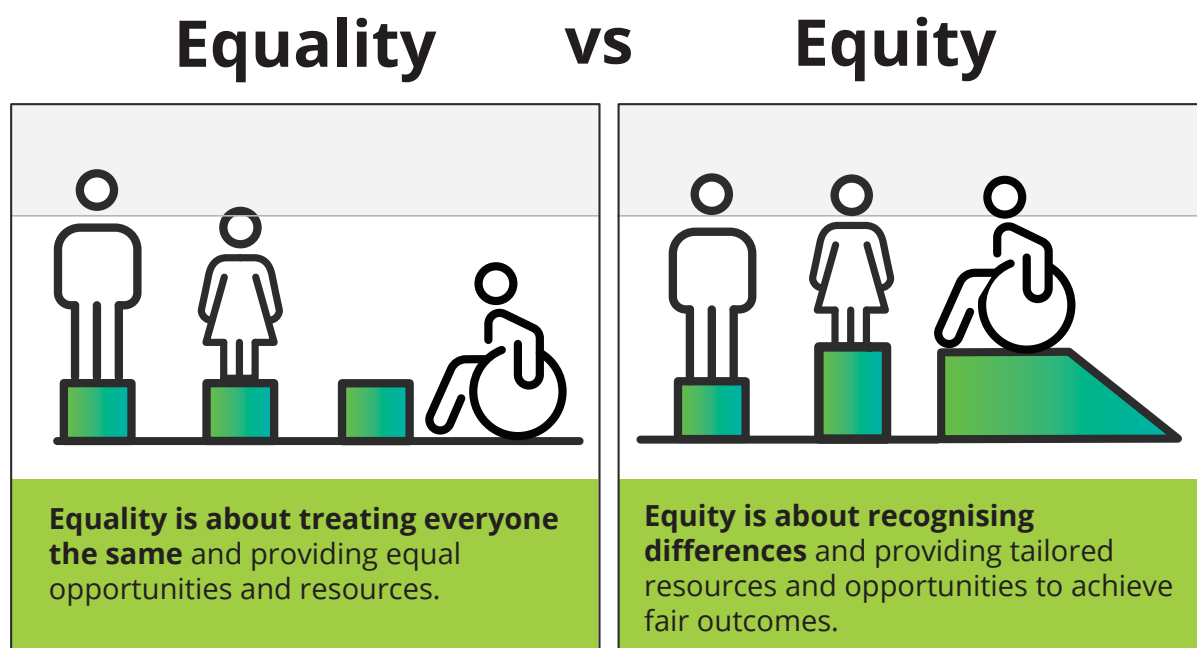


## Understanding the difference between gender equity and gender equality in health supply chains

Understanding the difference between gender equity and gender equality is key to building a fair and inclusive Africa. Recognising these differences is crucial for developing effective health supply chains that improve outcomes for everyone across the continent.



For example, in distributing mosquito nets to prevent malaria, a gender equality approach would provide equal numbers to men and women. A gender equity approach, however, would prioritize pregnant women and children, who are more vulnerable. This ensures the most at-risk groups get the care they need, improving health outcomes for everyone.

### ***What is Gender Equality?***

Gender equality is giving all genders equal treatment when it comes to rights, responsibilities and opportunities.

### ***Considerations around gender equality in health supply chains***

#### **RIGHTS**

Ensuring all genders have equal access to healthcare services and resources.

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

Providing all genders with equal roles and duties within health supply chain management.

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

Offering all genders the same chances for training, advancement, and leadership in health supply chains.

## **What is Gender Equity?**

Gender equity considers privilege, bias and other aspects that can limit people's access to equal opportunities; and pursues just measures.

### **Consideration around gender equity in health supply chains**

#### **PRIVILEGE**

Addressing how certain genders may have advantages that others do not.

#### **BIAS**

Noticing and fixing unfair treatment and prejudices that stops people from getting equal access to resources.

**Gender equity aims to create fair, health supply chains by considering and addressing the unique barriers faced by different genders.**

Cultural, economic, and geographic barriers often limit healthcare for women and marginalised genders in Africa. These inequalities lead to varying health outcomes as different genders face unique challenges.



## ***The interconnection between gender equity and gender equality***

Gender equality focuses on providing equal opportunities and rights around healthcare for all. Gender equity is about ensuring that the path to achieving these equal outcomes is fair.

Both concepts are interdependent, and essential for creating a balanced and inclusive system with an efficient and effective healthcare lens.

Benefit	Gender Equality	Gender Equity
<b>Health outcomes</b>	Improves overall health in Africa by eliminating bias	Healthcare is tailored to specific needs
<b>Human rights</b>	Ensures equal rights for all genders	Addresses historic disadvantages
<b>Economic growth</b>	Boosts productivity by including everyone	Provides extra support where needed
<b>Social stability</b>	Promotes inclusivity	Builds cohesive communities

### ***Continue your gender integration learning journey***

Aligned with the broader benefits of Gender Integration, the application of gender equity and gender equality into health supply chains is critical to the success of healthcare initiatives.



By understanding the difference between gender equity and gender equality in health supply chains and committing to these principles, you can play your part in creating a healthcare system that truly serves all individuals, fostering a healthier and more inclusive Africa and a more just world.