

Jamaica's gender disparity closes

The latest world Human Development Index is indicating that men and women are registering almost equal achievements in Jamaica.

In the just-released index, the United Nations Development Programme, (UNDP) says Jamaica's Gender Development Index is almost the same as its human development index.

The gender development index looks at the achievements of men compared with women while the human development index looks at the overall well being of people in a country.

The UNDP found that there was only a difference of 0.5 per cent between Jamaica's gender development index and its human development index.

At the same time the report is indicating that 26 per cent of the population continues to migrate to other countries.

The United States remains the country of choice for migrating Jamaicans with almost three-quarters of them going to America.

Meanwhile, out of 182 countries, the United Nations Development Programme has ranked Jamaica as the 100th best place to live.

The placements are assigned based on criteria like life expectancy, literacy, school enrolment and gross domestic product per capita.

Jamaica's 100th ranking is well behind the placements assigned to eight other Caribbean countries.

In fact that ranking is only better than Guyana at 114th and Haiti at 149th.

Barbados which is ranked 37th has the best placement in the region.

The UNDP has ranked Norway as the best place to live followed by Australia; Iceland - third and Canada - fourth.