

INVESTING IN KNOWLEDGE  
FOR ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE

# PUBLICATIONS CATALOGUE

2018-2019

UNFPA-UNICEF  
GLOBAL PROGRAMME  
TO END CHILD  
MARRIAGE



Belgium  
partner in development

Canada



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The Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage is generously funded by the Governments of Belgium, Canada, the Netherlands, Norway, the United Kingdom and the European Union and Zonta International.

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# CONTENTS

<b>ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>GLOBAL PUBLICATIONS</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>AFRICA</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>East and Southern Africa</b> .....	<b>12</b>
Eritrea .....	13
Ethiopia .....	13
Malawi .....	14
Tanzania .....	15
<b>West and Central Africa</b> .....	<b>15</b>
Ghana .....	17
Niger .....	21
Sierra Leone .....	22
<b>The Middle East and North Africa</b> .....	<b>24</b>
Egypt .....	25
Lebanon .....	25
<b>EAST AND SOUTH ASIA</b> .....	<b>26</b>
<b>East Asia</b> .....	<b>27</b>
Indonesia .....	27
Malaysia .....	28
Thailand .....	29
Viet Nam .....	29
<b>South Asia</b> .....	<b>30</b>
Afghanistan .....	33
Bangladesh .....	33
India .....	36
The Maldives .....	38
Nepal .....	38
<b>LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN</b> .....	<b>41</b>
Guatemala .....	43
<b>EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA</b> .....	<b>45</b>
Albania .....	46
Bulgaria .....	47
<b>ANNEX: ALL PUBLICATIONS BY TOPIC</b> .....	<b>48</b>



## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>AIDS</b>	acquired immune deficiency syndrome
<b>APRO</b>	Asia Pacific Regional Office
<b>ASRH</b>	adolescent sexual and reproductive health
<b>ASRO</b>	Arab States Regional Office
<b>AU</b>	African Union
<b>BALIKA</b>	Bangladeshi Association for Life Skills, Income, and Knowledge for Adolescents
<b>EAPRO</b>	East Asia and the Pacific Regional Office
<b>ECARO</b>	Europe and Central Asia Regional Office
<b>ESARO</b>	East and Southern Africa Regional Office
<b>GBV</b>	gender-based violence
<b>HIV</b>	human immunodeficiency virus
<b>IEC</b>	information, education and communication
<b>KAP</b>	knowledge, attitudes and practices
<b>KR4C</b>	key results for children
<b>LACRO</b>	Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office
<b>MENA</b>	Middle East and North Africa
<b>MENARO</b>	Middle East and North Africa Regional Office
<b>MHM</b>	menstrual health management
<b>MICS</b>	multiple indicator cluster survey(s)
<b>MSC</b>	most significant change
<b>ROSA</b>	Regional Office for South Asia
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UN WOMEN</b>	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
<b>UNFPA</b>	United Nations Population Fund
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>WCARO</b>	West and Central Africa Regional Office
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization

## INTRODUCTION

The UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage is turning commitments into tangible action for children. Managed by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), it promotes the right of girls to delay marriage, addresses the conditions that keep the practice in place, and cares for girls already in union. The Global Programme is being implemented in 12 countries that have a high prevalence or high burden of child marriage. These are Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Yemen and Zambia.

Investing in data and generating and disseminating evidence on what works to prevent child marriage is essential to developing smart, effective policies and programmes that can lead to large-scale change. To this end, one of the five outcome areas of the Global Programme is to generate robust data and use the evidence to inform programmes and policies relating to adolescent girls.

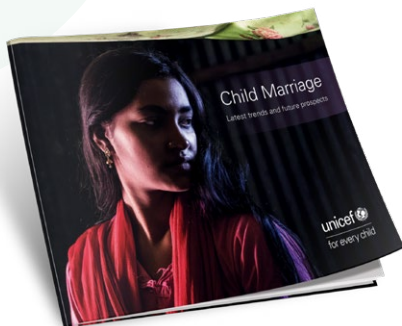
A total of 72 publications are presented in this catalogue, that is produced by the Global Programme Support Unit. It showcases work from 2018 and 2019 by the headquarters, regional and country offices of the Global Programme, and from other programmes that work towards ending child marriage led by UNFPA, UNICEF and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women).

To learn more about the Global Programme, visit [www.unicef.org/end-child-marriage](http://www.unicef.org/end-child-marriage), or contact [GPChildMarriage@unicef.org](mailto:GPChildMarriage@unicef.org).



A young girl with dark hair, wearing a yellow shawl and a patterned orange top, is the central focus. She has a determined expression and her right fist is raised in the air. The background is a blurred crowd of people, suggesting a public gathering or protest. A green circular graphic is overlaid on the top left, containing the text 'GLOBAL PUBLICATIONS'.

# GLOBAL PUBLICATIONS



**Data brief, July 2018**  
**8 pages**

**Contact:**  
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(ccappa@unicef.org)

## CHILD MARRIAGE: LATEST TRENDS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

*UNICEF Data and Analytics*

The practice of child marriage continues to decline around the world. Based on the latest data, 21 per cent of young women aged 20–24 were married as children, a decrease from 25 per cent ten years ago. This was driven predominantly by progress in India. Globally, 25 million child marriages have been prevented during that time, and of these, seven million were expected following prior trends, but the other 18 million were thanks to an acceleration of progress. Still, approximately 650 million girls and women alive today were married before their 18th birthday, and if progress is not accelerated, an additional 150 million girls will be married in childhood by 2030.



**Data brief:** <https://data.unicef.org/resources/child-marriage-latest-trends-and-future-prospects/>

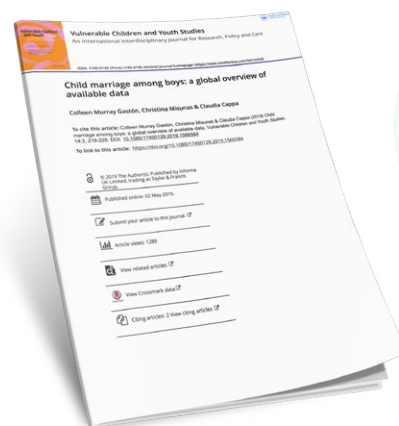


**Video:** <https://youtu.be/TfGyoG6Ru9g>

## CHILD MARRIAGE AMONG BOYS: A GLOBAL OVERVIEW OF AVAILABLE DATA

*Colleen Murray Gastón, Christina Misunas, Claudia Cappa*

The practice of child marriage has been well-studied among girls, but there has been little information to date about child marriage among boys. This article presents an analysis of all nationally representative and internationally comparable data on the prevalence of child marriage among boys, for 82 countries over the past ten years, representing 51 per cent of the global population of men. In those countries with data, the percentage of young men aged 20–24 years who were first married or in union before age 18 ranged from less than one per cent to nearly 30 per cent, with a global average of 5 per cent. The practice has become less common in all regions compared to 25 years ago. Those countries with the highest prevalence of child marriage among boys are geographically diverse, and differ from the countries where the practice is most common among girls.



**Journal article, May 2019**  
**10 pages**

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<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/17450128.2019.1566584?journalCode=rvch20>





Commentary/ White paper, April 2019  
3/35 pages

Contact:  
Suzanne Petroni  
(suzannepetroni@outlook.com)

Commentary: [https://www.jahonline.org/article/S1054-139X\(19\)30109-0/pdf](https://www.jahonline.org/article/S1054-139X(19)30109-0/pdf)

White paper: <https://www.girlsnotbrides.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Advancing-the-Evidence-Base-on-Child-Marriage-and-HIV-April-2019.pdf>

## UNDERSTANDING THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN HIV AND CHILD MARRIAGE: CONCLUSIONS FROM AN EXPERT CONSULTATION/ ADVANCING THE EVIDENCE BASE ON CHILD MARRIAGE AND HIV

Suzanne Petroni, et al./ Girls Not Brides, UNICEF

Research on child marriage from the early 2000s was often mistakenly interpreted to suggest that child brides face a higher vulnerability to HIV infection than women who marry later. This commentary and white paper make recommendations for practitioners and researchers based on new findings, suggesting a more nuanced relationship between child marriage and HIV. Many factors associated with child marriage and HIV among adolescent girls overlap, but rarely do programmes address adolescent girls as a whole and recognize the multiple underlying vulnerabilities they face. To most effectively advance the health and well-being of adolescent girls, policies and programmes need to target not only girls who are vulnerable to HIV and child marriage, but also to change attitudes, behaviour and norms of those individuals, communities and systems that perpetuate conditions that contribute to this vulnerability. Furthermore, there needs to be greater attention to the fact that adolescent girls are not a homogeneous group, and a better understanding of the relationship between HIV and child marriage is needed in diverse contexts, to more effectively end child marriage and the transmission of HIV, and to promote the overall health and well-being of girls.

## CHILD MARRIAGE AMONG BOYS IN HIGH PREVALENCE COUNTRIES: AN ANALYSIS OF SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES

Christina Misunas, Colleen Murray Gastón, Claudia Cappa

This article explores the socio-demographic profile of men who married by age 18 and assesses whether they are more or less advantaged than their peers in terms of their sexual and reproductive health outcomes. The analysis used the most recent data from nationally representative household surveys for the 15 countries with the highest prevalence of marriage by age 18 years among men aged 20–24 years, and that ranged from 8 to 28 per cent. The practice appears most common among those living in the poorest households and in rural areas, and with no education or only primary schooling. Men who married as children were less likely to have a comprehensive knowledge of HIV than their peers who married in adulthood. However, there was little observed difference among men who married by age 18 and those who married in adulthood regarding knowledge or use of modern methods of contraception. In almost all countries with data, the odds of having fathered three or more children among men aged 20–29 years are higher for those who married as children compared to their peers. In four countries, the odds of exceeding one's ideal family size among men aged 40–49 years also appear higher among those who married during childhood compared to men who married later. These results highlight the need for further research to identify drivers of child marriage among men, and to better understand the short- and long-term outcomes for those men, specifically concerning fatherhood, fertility preferences and completed family size.

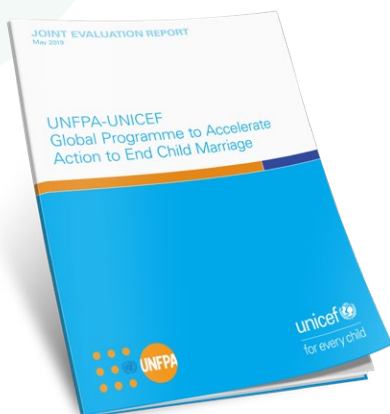


Journal article, August 2019  
16 pages

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<https://bmcinthealthhumrights.biomedcentral.com/track/pdf/10.1186/s12914-019-0212-8>





**Evaluation, May 2019**  
162/66/8 pages

**Contact:**  
UNICEF Evaluation Office  
(evalhelp@unicef.org)

## UNFPA-UNICEF GLOBAL PROGRAMME TO ACCELERATE ACTION TO END CHILD MARRIAGE: JOINT EVALUATION REPORT

*Andrea Lee Esser, Isabelle Cazottes, Françoise Coupal, UNFPA, UNICEF*

The evaluation of the Global Programme Phase I (2016–2019) showed that the programme is on track to achieve its outputs, with aggregate tracking noting that it is extending its reach and accelerating its approach. The programme fostered sustainability through advocacy, strengthening of national and subnational systems for the institutionalization of interventions, and developing partner capacities and mobilizing complementary funding. It has played a unique role in bringing together the combined capabilities of UNFPA and UNICEF to facilitate the multisectoral approach that is needed to handle complex sets of interrelated issues that perpetuate child marriage. UNFPA and UNICEF have maintained forward momentum to end child marriage by positioning it on global, regional and national agendas, providing national policy and legislative support, and demonstrating innovative community action. The evaluation made key recommendations, to prioritize normative leadership, expand framework for country contextualization, consolidate and strengthen the evidence base and knowledge management, define and monitor 'jointness', 'convergence' and 'complementarity', strengthen and contextualize monitoring and reporting systems, invest in human resources, strengthen the programme, and obtain funding. The findings are also informing the design of Phase II of the Global Programme (2020–2023).

↓ **Brief (English):** <https://www.unicef.org/sites/default/files/2019-06/GP-2019-Evaluation-Summary-English.pdf>

↓ **Brief (French):** <https://www.unicef.org/sites/default/files/2019-06/GP-2019-Evaluation-Summary-French.pdf>

↓ **Brief (Spanish):** <https://www.unicef.org/sites/default/files/2019-06/GP-2019-Evaluation-Summary-Spanish.pdf>

↓ **Brief (Arabic):** <https://www.unicef.org/sites/default/files/2019-06/GP-2019-Evaluation-Summary-Arabic.pdf>

↓ **Report:** <https://www.unicef.org/sites/default/files/2019-06/GP-2019-Evaluation.pdf>

↓ **Annexes:** <https://www.unicef.org/sites/default/files/2019-06/GP-2019-Evaluation-annexes.pdf>

## EVALUATION OF UNFPA SUPPORT TO THE PREVENTION OF, RESPONSE TO AND ELIMINATION OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND HARMFUL PRACTICES (2012–2017)

*UNFPA Evaluation Office*

This evaluation found that UNFPA has made significant contributions to the response to gender-based violence and harmful practices at all levels, and across the humanitarian, development and peace nexus. It recommends that UNFPA should enhance its work on prevention of gender-based violence and harmful practices. UNFPA is the only United Nations agency that works across the three harmful practices of child marriage, preference for sons and female genital mutilation. Existing joint programmes are an effective way to create synergies among different partners using dedicated resources, though sustainable funding to end gender-based violence and harmful practices is increasingly difficult for development actors to secure. Greater commitment to long term funding is critical to effectively address underlying social norms and advance behavioural change. UNFPA should strengthen its approach to coordination, and learn from other UN agencies' experiences in humanitarian cluster coordination.

↓ **Report:** [https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/admin-resource/GBV\\_Report\\_FINAL\\_29\\_Nov.pdf](https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/admin-resource/GBV_Report_FINAL_29_Nov.pdf)

↓ **Brief:** [https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/admin-resource/Evaluation\\_brief\\_28\\_Nov\\_FINAL\\_Layout.pdf](https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/admin-resource/Evaluation_brief_28_Nov_FINAL_Layout.pdf)



**Evaluation, November 2018**  
120/6 pages

**Contact:**  
UNFPA Evaluation Office  
(evaluation.office@unfpa.org)

↓ **Recorded presentation of the findings relating to child marriage:** <https://youtu.be/juKKXPtg1E>



**Workshop report, April 2019**  
65 pages

**Contact:**  
Global Programme Support Unit  
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## GLOBAL PROGRAMME TO ACCELERATE ACTION TO END CHILD MARRIAGE: PHASE II DESIGN WORKSHOP REPORT

*Child Frontiers, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women*

This report summarizes discussions from the Global Programme Phase II Design Workshop in February 2019, building on what was learnt during the implementation of the Global Programme and other programmes that aim to end child marriage, plus insights from external partners and key stakeholders, and discussions within the Global Programme team and UN Women. The report highlights the promising work from the first three years of programme implementation regarding evidence generation, collaboration between agencies, tackling child marriage from a multisectoral approach, and keeping the issue on agendas at national, regional and global levels. For Phase II, the workshop concluded that there is a need to enhance the programme's gender transformative approach, systems for monitoring and evaluation, multisectorality and convergence, knowledge management, programming in humanitarian settings, how to take interventions to scale, and concrete ways to achieve these aims.

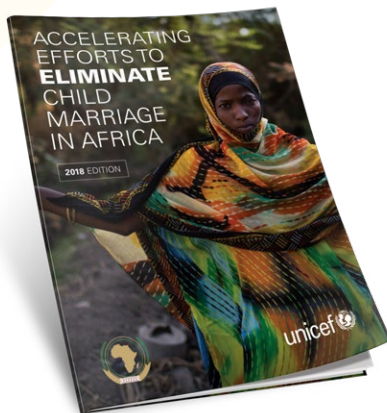


<https://www.unicef.org/sites/default/files/2019-06/GP-2019-Phase-II-Workshop-Report.pdf>





**AFRICA**



**Data brief, November 2018**  
4 pages

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## ACCELERATING EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE CHILD MARRIAGE IN AFRICA

*UNICEF Data and Analytics*

Across Africa around the year 2000, nearly 40 per cent of all young women were married before 18 years old. Today, this has fallen to one in three, with 10 per cent still married before 15 years old. A total of 125 million girls and women across the continent today were married as children. However, prevalence of child marriage varies widely across countries, from as low as 2 per cent in Tunisia to as high as 76 per cent in Niger. Although child marriage levels have decreased slightly compared to earlier generations, progress in reducing child marriage in Africa is insufficient. At the current rate, it would take at least 100 years to eliminate the practice.



<https://data.unicef.org/resources/child-marriage-in-africa-brochure-2018/>

## MULTI-COUNTRY ANALYTICAL STUDY OF LEGISLATION, POLICY INTERVENTIONS AND CULTURAL PRACTICES ON CHILD MARRIAGE IN AFRICA

*UN Women*

This study assesses the state of child marriage in Africa from practice to policy, and interventions towards its eradication with a focus on 10 countries that have a comparatively high prevalence of child marriage. The study found that the factors driving child marriage are common across Africa, anchored in social, structural and systemic features of a patriarchal system that oppresses and treats women and girls as second-class citizens and drives gender inequality at all stages of their lives. There are boys who marry as children, but the majority are girls, married off because of gender inequality and negative social norms around the value of the girl, poverty or deprivation, insecurity and lack of safety, socio-cultural and religious traditions, and inadequate legal and policy safeguards against child marriage. Different forms of marriages are prevalent in the countries studied: temporary marriages, cousin marriages, marriages by abduction, marriages by 'choice', cultural preparatory ceremonies, and arranged marriages. The study established that there is a disconnect between country policies and laws against child marriage on one hand, and community perceptions, beliefs and practices around child marriage on the other.



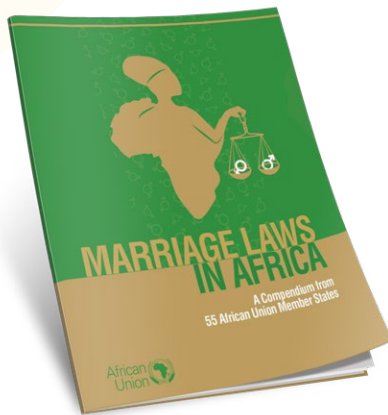
**Research report, 2018**  
312 pages

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<http://www2.unwomen.org/-/media/field%20office%20africa/attachments/publications/2019/multicountry%20analytical%20study%20of%20policies%20interventions%20cultural%20practices%20on%20child%20marriage%20in%20afr.pdf?la=en&vs=2727>

# AFRICA



**Compendium, June 2018**  
**61 pages**

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Beatrice Duncan  
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## MARRIAGE LAWS IN AFRICA: A COMPENDIUM FROM 55 AFRICAN UNION MEMBER STATES

*African Union, UN Women, Plan International*

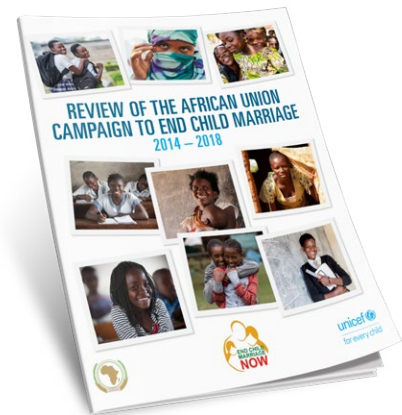
This compendium reviews marriage laws across African Union (AU) member States, compiled through a desk review of national legal frameworks including constitutions, civil codes, family laws and other partner documents and publications. Out of 55 AU member States, 43 (78 per cent) have legal frameworks that establish the minimum age of marriage at 18 years old or above for both girls and boys. However, 27 (63 per cent) of these have exceptions legalizing child marriage with parental/guardian consent, a judge's approval, court/state approval or another exemption. Furthermore, 11 states (20 per cent) do not have any legal framework with a minimum age of 18 years old or above for both boys and girls, and 10 (18 per cent) have further exceptions lowering the legal age of marriage to as low as 10 years old for girls. Ten states (18 per cent) have different minimum ages of marriage for boys and girls, ranging from as low as 14 years old for girls and 15 years old for boys. One member State has no minimum age at all for marriage, bringing the total number of states within the AU where child marriage is legalized to 39 (71 per cent).

➔ [http://www2.unwomen.org/-/media/field%20office%20africa/attachments/publications/2019/marriage%20laws%20in%20africa%20english%20final\\_14%20nov%202018-web.pdf?la=en&vs=2458](http://www2.unwomen.org/-/media/field%20office%20africa/attachments/publications/2019/marriage%20laws%20in%20africa%20english%20final_14%20nov%202018-web.pdf?la=en&vs=2458)

## REVIEW OF THE AFRICAN UNION CAMPAIGN TO END CHILD MARRIAGE 2014–2018

*African Union, UNICEF*

The first phase of the African Union Campaign to End Child Marriage in Africa ran from 2014 to 2018. This review provides an analysis of the campaign's key successes, challenges and opportunities, from key informant interviews and a desk review of related documentation. In summary, the campaign has been very effective at raising the issue of child marriage on the continent, but for greater impact and accelerated progress it should focus on improving its conceptual framework, its targeting of countries, and overall monitoring and evaluation.



**Review brief, November 2018**  
**4 pages**

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↓ [https://www.unicef.org/protection/files/Summary\\_Review\\_of\\_the\\_AU\\_Campaign\\_to\\_End\\_Child\\_Marriage.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/protection/files/Summary_Review_of_the_AU_Campaign_to_End_Child_Marriage.pdf)

# AFRICA



**Meeting report, May 2018**  
40 pages

**Contact:**  
Maja Hansen  
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## East and Southern Africa

### FIRST EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL SYMPOSIUM: IMPROVING MENSTRUAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND WOMEN

*Department of Women in the Republic of South Africa, UNFPA ESARO*

The issue of menstrual health management has gained greater attention in recent years, thanks to the strengthening of global and local advocacy. However, there is still need for a stronger evidence base on menstrual health management, and deeper dialogue around innovative approaches and more effective responses regarding stigma and discrimination. The first East and Southern Africa regional symposium on menstrual health management took place in May 2018. Discussions on the relationship between sexual and reproductive health and rights highlighted the dearth of data and general silence around vaginal bleeding that occurs outside menstruation. There was a clear need for more information on the risks of infection during menstruation, sexual activity and sexual coercion during menstruation, and transactional sex as a means to support menstrual health management. The symposium raised the importance of improving education and ensuring menstrual literacy before menarche. Community involvement, particularly that of boys and men and traditional and religious leaders, is key to changing perceptions, practices and policies around menstrual health management. Interventions also need to focus on both demand and supply of menstrual health products, and should aim to amplify the voices of marginalized and vulnerable communities.

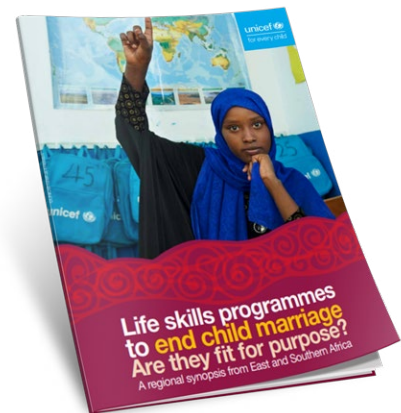


<https://esaro.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/MMH%20Report%20final%20digital.pdf>

## LIFE SKILLS PROGRAMMES TO END CHILD MARRIAGE: ARE THEY FIT FOR PURPOSE? A REGIONAL SYNOPSIS FROM EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

*UNICEF ESARO*

To better understand whether life skills programmes under the Global Programme are fit for purpose to end child marriage, this synopsis reviewed programmes in Ethiopia, Mozambique, Uganda and Zambia, the four Global Programme countries in East and Southern Africa, as well as in Malawi, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe. A total of 42 documents were reviewed, including global evaluations and discussion papers on life skills programmes to end child marriage, and country-level materials on life skills programmes and child marriage including facilitator guides, programme frameworks, monitoring and evaluation frameworks, policy briefs and assessments. The report identified coverage, relevance, sustainability and effectiveness as the four key considerations for designing, delivering and monitoring life skills programmes. Key lessons included the need to share a range of information and target a range of skills, use of participatory teaching methods that align with participants' age and development stage, and the importance of educating, engaging and empowering adolescent boys and men into life skills curricula and programmes, as well as parents, caregivers and wider community members. In addition, the need to train and support motivated and well-respected trainers and mentors was noted, and to consider financial incentives, identify safe spaces where girls can learn and freely ask questions, and strengthen monitoring and evaluation by including indicators around attitudes towards gender equality and change in gender norms.



**Synopsis, 2018**  
32 pages

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Available upon request

# AFRICA



**Research report, 2018**  
52 pages

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Available upon request

## ERITREA

### FORMATIVE RESEARCH ON UNDERAGE MARRIAGE IN ERITREA

*UNICEF Eritrea, National Union of Eritrean Women, Bureau of Standards and Evaluation of the National Commission for Higher Education*

Despite a legal minimum age for marriage set at 18 years old for both girls and boys, child marriage continues to be practiced widely in Eritrea. The 2010 Eritrea Population and Health Survey reported that among married women aged 20–24 years, 13 per cent were married by 15 years old, 41 per cent by 18 years old, and 62 per cent by 20 years old. The purpose of this study was to help understand the key drivers of child marriage in the Eritrean context, and the social, psychological and economic consequences of the practice. The report also prescribes a set of strategies and interventions which can help stakeholders to run programmes that can effectively influence the attitudes and beliefs of communities as they move towards reducing the practice of child marriage in Eritrea.

## ETHIOPIA

### ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE: A PROFILE OF PROGRESS IN ETHIOPIA

*UNICEF Ethiopia, UNICEF Data and Analytics*

Today, Ethiopia is home to 15 million child brides, six million of which were married before their 15th birthday. Although the country has seen an accelerated progress in ending the practice in the last decade, four out of ten girls are still married before they turn 18 years old. Child brides in Ethiopia are more likely to live in rural areas where 48 per cent of young women were married before age 18, compared to 16 per cent in urban areas, and to be from poor households, with 58 per cent of young women from the poorest quintile becoming child brides compared to 19 per cent from the richest quintile. Most also have less education, with 68 per cent of girls with no education being married in childhood, compared to 43 per cent among girls with primary education, 13 per cent among girls with secondary education and 6 per cent among girls with higher education. Child brides in Ethiopia are more likely to give birth during adolescence and are less likely to have skilled birth attendance. They are also less likely to be employed later in life than their peers who married above age 18.



**Data brief, January 2018**  
12 pages

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[https://www.unicef.org/ethiopia/sites/unicef.org.ethiopia/files/2018-12/Child%20Marriage%20Ethiopia-%20onlineversion15NOV\\_0.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/ethiopia/sites/unicef.org.ethiopia/files/2018-12/Child%20Marriage%20Ethiopia-%20onlineversion15NOV_0.pdf)



**Fact Sheet, July 2018**  
2 pages

**Contact:**  
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**MALAWI**

## CHILD MARRIAGE IN MALAWI

UNICEF Malawi

This fact sheet gives an overview of the situation regarding child marriage in Malawi, where 46 per cent of all girls are married before the age of 18 years old, and 9 per cent before the age of 15. The main drivers of child marriage are poverty, cultural and religious traditions, and peer pressure. Child marriage is often associated with limited education and employment opportunities and is seen as a way of protecting girls from pregnancy out of wedlock. An important aim of UNICEF's Child Protection Programme in the country is to increase knowledge and understanding among communities of the harms associated with child marriage.

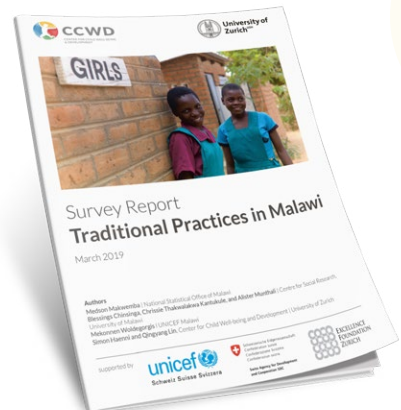


<https://www.unicef.org/malawi/reports/child-marriage-factsheet>

## TRADITIONAL PRACTICES IN MALAWI

*Medson Makwemba, National Statistical Office of Malawi, Blessings Chinsinga, Chrissie Thakwalakwa Kantukule and Alister Munthali, Centre for Social Research, University of Malawi, UNICEF Malawi, Simon Haenni and Qingyang Lin, Center for Child Wellbeing and Development, University of Zurich*

This report presents findings of a household survey on traditional practices in Malawi related to child marriage and initiation ceremonies. Results showed that civil marriage is very rare in Malawi, estimated at 2 per cent. Customary marriages are dominant (60 per cent), followed by religious marriages (25 per cent) and marriage by reputation or cohabitation (13 per cent). Child marriage is prevalent across the country, especially for females. Nine per cent of interviewed women married before the age of 15, and 42 per cent were married before the age of 18, compared to 1 and 6 per cent for males, respectively. Marriage below age 15 is particularly widespread in the Southern region while marriage below 18 years old is highest in the Northern region. Child marriage is both an urban and a rural phenomenon, but prevalence of child marriage among females is higher in rural areas. There is consensus among respondents that the appropriate age for marriage should be above 18 years old, which is the legal age of marriage. The reported reasons to marry at a younger age include the desire to form a family, the desire to become independent, unplanned pregnancies and poverty. Girls take part in initiation rituals more often than boys. The initiation ceremonies for girls include both sexual and non-sexual orientated sessions. Non-sexual orientated sessions include being taught good manners, general counselling and being taught household skills. Sexual orientated sessions include labia stretching and circumcision, sexual instruction and sexual practice, though one third of the respondents do not think that these initiation ceremonies are valuable.



**Research Report, March 2019**  
214 pages

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<https://www.unicef.org/malawi/media/1546/file/Traditional%20Practices%20in%20Malawi:%20Survey%20Report.pdf>



# AFRICA

## TANZANIA

### FACT SHEET: CHILD MARRIAGE

UNFPA Tanzania

Prevalence of child marriage in Tanzania is high. According to data from the 2015–2016 Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey, one in three women marry before their 18th birthday, with a 5 per cent increase in the prevalence of marriage among adolescent girls aged 15–19 years compared to the previous survey from 2010. The drivers of child marriage in Tanzania are multifaceted and vary across regions and ethnic groups, and include conflicting legal and customary laws, poverty, low educational attainment, gender inequality, teenage pregnancy, linkages to other harmful social practices such as female genital mutilation, and social norms. Observed consequences of child marriage in Tanzania are an adverse effect on development, negative health impacts for girls giving birth at an early age, more limited economic opportunities, and an increase in gender-based violence and adverse psychological impacts.



Fact sheet, September 2018  
4 pages

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[https://tanzania.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/Factsheet\\_CM\\_UNFPA\\_14oct.pdf](https://tanzania.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/Factsheet_CM_UNFPA_14oct.pdf)

## West and Central Africa

### CHILD MARRIAGE IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA — AT A GLANCE

UNFPA WCARO, UNICEF WCARO

The West and Central Africa region contains 6 of the 10 countries with the highest child marriage prevalence in the world, where more than 50 per cent of girls were married before the age of 18 years old. There has been a slow but steady decline in child marriage since the 1990s, however, but with great variations in this decrease across and within countries. Similar to the global pattern, child marriage is more than twice as common in rural areas compared to urban areas, and the practice is more than three times as common among the poorest quintile compared to the wealthiest. This is especially evident in Nigeria, where over 80 per cent of young women in the poorest quintile were married in childhood compared to 10 per cent of those in the wealthiest quintile.



<https://www.unicef.org/wca/sites/unicef.org.wca/files/2018-11/UNFPA-WCARO-UNICEF-WEB.pdf>

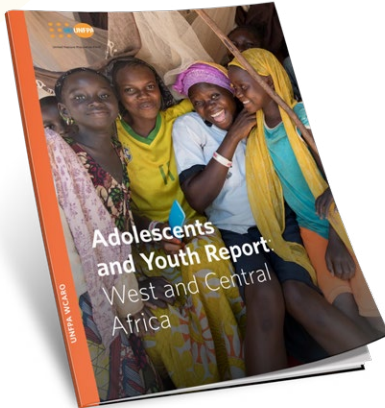


Data brief, November 2018  
12 pages

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# AFRICA



**Research report, 2018**  
**100 pages**

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<https://wcaro.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/UNFPA-WCARO-YOUTH-EN-WEB.pdf>

## ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH REPORT: WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

UNFPA WCARO

The population in West and Central Africa is predominantly young, with more than 64 per cent being under the age of 24 years old. This report provides a comprehensive overview of indicators related to population dynamics, sexual and reproductive health, education, employment, gender and social protection impacting adolescents and youth in the region. For example, West and Central Africa has the highest proportion of adolescents giving birth before the age of 18 years old, at 33 per cent. The region also has the highest prevalence of child marriage below the age of 18 years, as well as below 15 years, with at least 13 per cent of women aged 20–24 years being married by the age of 15. There are, however, differences in prevalence across the region ranging from 30 per cent of girls married by age 15 in Chad, the highest level in the world, to 3 per cent in Cape Verde.

## ADOLESCENT GIRLS IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA: DATA BRIEF

UNICEF Data & Analytics, UNICEF WCARO

Presenting the latest data on adolescent girls in West and Central Africa, this data brief shows how adolescent girls in the region encounter multiple and overlapping deprivations that put at risk their rights, well-being, health and education. Countries must urgently tackle social norms and institutions that deny women and girls educational opportunities, constrain access to sexual and reproductive health information and services, and condone harmful practices such as child marriage. Compared to other regions, girls in West and Central Africa face the highest risk of marrying in childhood, with large spousal age gaps being common. Across all countries with available data, the majority of young women aged 20–24 years who were married before the age of 18 were married to someone five or more years older than them. Like child marriage, childbirth in adolescence in the region is linked to socio-economic status, and is highest among the poorest households.



**Data brief, October 2019**  
**12 pages**

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**English and French briefs:** <https://data.unicef.org/resources/adolescent-girls-in-west-and-central-africa-data-brief/>

# AFRICA



**Data brief, May 2019**  
8 pages

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## ADOLESCENT GIRLS' HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

UNICEF Data and Analytics, UNICEF WCARO

The health and well-being of adolescents are fundamental to a country's social and economic progress. Home to 120 million people aged 10–19 years, West and Central Africa along with East and Southern Africa has the highest proportion of adolescents of any region globally, and the adolescent population is expected to grow by a further 37 per cent by 2030. As they transition from childhood to adulthood, adolescents acquire physical, cognitive, emotional, social and economic resources that serve as the foundation for health and well-being later in life. But this is also a vulnerable period in which girls and boys are exposed to new risks. It is a period in which gender norms consolidate, often to the disadvantage of girls. The onset of puberty can be a signal for constraining girls' movement, schooling, sexuality and life exposure. Adolescent girls in regions like West and Central Africa also face social pressures to marry and bear children, jeopardizing their ability to acquire the education and resources needed for adulthood, and resulting in lifelong consequences for girls, their children and their communities. This data brief presents a statistical snapshot of the health and well-being of adolescent girls in West and Central Africa along select dimensions. It also examines the intergenerational effects of adolescent childbirth on the health and nutrition of children born to adolescent mothers in the region.



<https://data.unicef.org/resources/adolescent-girls-health-and-well-being-in-west-and-central-africa/>

### GHANA

## CHILD MARRIAGE IN GHANA: EVIDENCE FROM A MULTI-METHOD STUDY

*Babatunde Ahonsi, Kamil Fuseini, Dela Nai, Erika Goldson, Selina Owusu, Ismail Ndifuna, Icilda Humes, Placide L. Tapsoba*

Reducing child marriage remains a challenge in Ghana. However, there is little empirical evidence on the predictors, norms and practices surrounding the practice. This study sought to fill that gap, with data from the women's file of the 2014 Ghana Demographic and Health Survey used to examine the predictors of child marriage from frequencies and logistic regression. Key informant interviews and focus group discussions in the Central and Northern regions of Ghana examined norms and practices surrounding child marriage using thematic analysis, with 21 per cent of the girls in the quantitative sample having married as children. Results revealed that girls who had never attended school compared to those who had ever attended school were more likely to marry as children. Compared with girls in the lowest wealth quintile, girls in the middle, fourth and highest wealth quintiles were less likely to marry as children. From qualitative data, the study identified poverty, teenage pregnancy and cultural norms such as betrothal marriage, exchange of girls for marriage and pressure from significant others, as the main drivers of child marriage. As such, efforts to curb child marriage should be geared towards retention of girls in school, curbing teenage pregnancy, empowering girls economically, enforcing laws on child marriage, and designing tailored advocacy programmes to educate key stakeholders and adolescent girls on the consequences of child marriage. Additionally, there is the need to address socio-cultural norms and practices to help end child marriage.



**Journal article, November 2019**  
15 pages

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<https://bmcwomenshealth.biomedcentral.com/track/pdf/10.1186/s12905-019-0823-1>

# AFRICA



## CHILD MARRIAGE AND ASSOCIATED OUTCOMES IN NORTHERN GHANA: A CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY

Richard de Groot, Maxwell Yiryele Kuunyem, Tia Palermo, Ghana LEAP 1000 Evaluation, UNICEF Ghana

In Ghana, 20 per cent of girls marry before their 18th birthday and 5 per cent are married before their 15th birthday. This paper examines the association between child marriage and adverse outcomes related to health, fertility, contraception, child mortality, social support and stress for women among a uniquely vulnerable population in northern Ghana. The study includes 1,349 women aged 20–29 years. Child marriage in this sample was associated with increased risks of poorer health as measured by difficulties in daily activities, increased child mortality among first-born children, and not believing that one's life is determined by their own decisions. Conversely, child marriage was also associated with lower levels of reported stress. While not much is known about effective measures to combat child marriage in the context of Ghana, programmes should address key drivers of early marriage such as economic insecurity and school enrolment at secondary level.

Journal article, February 2018  
12 pages

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<https://bmcpublihealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-018-5166-6>

## SIGNIFICANT CHANGE STORIES ON CHILD PROTECTION IN GHANA: SYNTHESIS REPORT. THE COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS OF STORIES FROM REGIONS, MUNICIPALITIES, METROPOLITANS, DISTRICTS, COMMUNITIES IN GHANA

Associates for Change, UNICEF Ghana

The 'most significant change' technique is a participatory monitoring and evaluation tool which allows for the collection of 'deep dive' qualitative stories, and subsequent conversion of the story content into light quantifications to better understand child protection dynamics and solutions. Out of the stories collected through two research phases in northern and southern Ghana (see separate research reports), 19 stories (3.5 per cent) were about child marriage, 37 stories were about empowerment, livelihood and voice (7 per cent) and 97 (18 per cent) were about sexual and reproductive health. This latter topic reflected stories on sexual exploitation, teenage pregnancy, reproductive health issues such as contraceptive use, and knowledge and awareness of sexual and reproductive health, rights and choices. Child marriage was one of the dominant prevailing child protection issues recorded in the northern parts of the country, but this was not dominant in the south. For both northern and southern Ghana, participants overwhelmingly attested to the positive impact that awareness-raising campaigns organized by governmental and non-governmental programmes have brought to their lives. The recorded changes resulting from the interventions were mainly in the form of changes in attitudes and behaviour at both individual and community levels.



Research report, May 2018  
82 pages

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Available upon request

# AFRICA

## SIGNIFICANT CHANGE STORIES ON CHILD PROTECTION IN GHANA: PHASE I (NORTHERN GHANA)

*Associates for Change, UNICEF Ghana*

UNICEF is developing the use of 'most significant change' stories as a participatory monitoring and evaluation tool to gather qualitative stories and turn them into quantifiable measures. The Phase I study in northern Ghana collected a total of 356 such stories from Northern (Tolon and West Mamprusi Districts) and Upper East (Talensi and Bawku West Districts) regions, of which 220 were selected for analysis. The majority (53 per cent) were from female storytellers, and 50 per cent were from 12–17-year-olds, mostly students. Analysis of the stories showed that the most dominant child protection domains were sexual and reproductive health and rights, and teenage pregnancy (21 per cent), child labour (15 per cent), empowerment, education and voice (13 per cent), and child abuse and child neglect (11 per cent). The stories described the change that happened as a result of community activities, and map out lessons learnt from the results.



**Research report, May 2018**  
**167 pages**

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## SIGNIFICANT CHANGE STORIES ON CHILD PROTECTION IN GHANA: PHASE II (SOUTHERN GHANA)

*Associates for Change, UNICEF Ghana*

The Phase II study in southern Ghana collected 348 'most significant change' stories from six districts across three regions: Greater Accra (Ga West and Ningo-Pramprom), Central (Gomoa West and Awutu-Senya), and Volta (South Tongu and North Tongu). Of these, 325 were selected for analysis, showing that the most dominant child protection domains were the right to education (19 per cent), sexual and reproductive health and rights (16 per cent), child trafficking (15 per cent), child labour (14 per cent) and child neglect (11 per cent). The stories explained the change that happened as a result of community activities, and highlight the lessons learnt from the results.



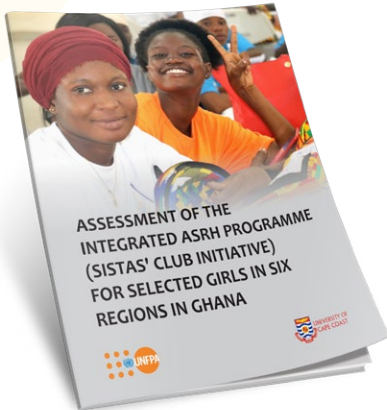
**Research report, May 2018**  
**182 pages**

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# AFRICA



**Research report, May 2019**  
110 pages

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<https://ghana.unfpa.org/en/publications/assessment-integrated-asrh-programme-sistas-club-initiative-selected-girls-six-regions>

## ASSESSMENT OF THE INTEGRATED ASRH PROGRAMME (SISTAS' CLUB INITIATIVE) FOR SELECTED GIRLS IN SIX REGIONS IN GHANA

UNFPA Ghana, University of Cape Coast

This study assessed the overall effectiveness and benefits of the SISTAS' Club Initiative, and identified appropriate approaches to assure a robust model for the girl empowerment and adolescent sexual and reproductive health (ASRH) programme. The expectation was that some members in the community-based clubs would have been married adolescents out of education, but this was not the case in all the sampled clubs. The study affirmed the existence of adolescent- and youth-friendly health services in some communities surveyed and the key attributes and the various services they provide. However, their utilization is hampered by negative attitudes of 'gatekeepers' and other adolescents in relation to comprehensive adolescent sexuality education. The study confirmed the need for sustainability and replication of all components of the Initiative, but that this requires partnership and ownership structures that are well conceptualized, developed and defined. The SISTAS' Club Initiative could be scaled up to include boys only and mixed groups, to empower more adolescents to make informed decisions that relate to their sexual and reproductive health.

## CHILD PROTECTION BUDGET BRIEF

UNICEF Ghana

Many children in Ghana experience violence in both public and private settings, at home, on the streets, at school, and in their communities. Health and development costs of child abuse are extremely high for Ghana, estimated at US\$223–347 million a year to Ghanaian society, equivalent to 0.8–1.4 per cent of the national gross domestic product. In terms of child marriage, the government has set a goal to have "a society without child marriage by 2030", and ending child marriage was flagged as a priority area under the President's Coordinated Programme for Economic and Social Development Policies (2017–2024). The estimated cost of implementing the National Strategic Framework on Ending Child Marriage for 2017–2018 is 11 million Ghanaian cedi (GH¢) or almost US\$2 million. In the 2019 annual budget, more than GH¢ 100,000, or 3 per cent of the total goods and services budget of the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, was allocated to the coordination of work around child marriage. However, as of September 2019, only a small fraction of this amount had actually been released.

<https://www.unicef.org/ghana/reports/budget-brief-1>



**Budget brief, September 2019**  
4 pages

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# AFRICA



Issue brief, September 2019  
4 pages

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 <https://www.unicef.org/niger/sites/unicef.org.niger/files/2018-08/Issue%20Brief%20Child%20Marriage%20Niger%202018.pdf>

NIGER

## ACHIEVING KEY RESULTS FOR CHILDREN IN NIGER: KR4C #6: ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE

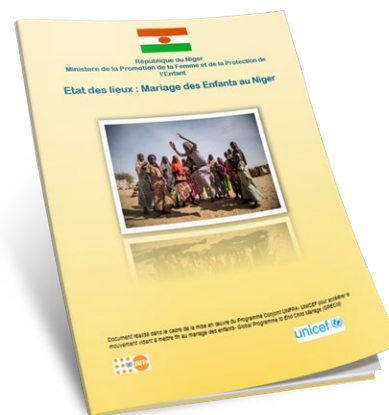
UNICEF Niger

UNICEF estimates that around 76 per cent of young girls in Niger were married before the age of 18 years, and 25 per cent before the age of 15. This is the highest prevalence of child marriage in the world. Poverty is a major driver, bringing with it the hope of economic prosperity and an increase in social status for both girls and their parents. Upholding social and religious traditions, including the fear of dishonour from pregnancy outside of marriage is another major driver, as is instability caused by civil unrest and natural disasters. The link between education and the prevalence of child marriage is particularly evident in Niger. Of women aged 20–24 years, 81 per cent of those with no education and 63 per cent with only primary education were married or in union at or before 18 years old, compared to only 17 per cent with a secondary education or higher. Girls who are better educated are also more able to contribute to the growth and development of their country. Ending child marriage can positively impact indicators for child survival, protection, maternal health, education, food security, poverty eradication, HIV/AIDS and gender equality, and could save Niger US\$25 billion between 2014 and 2030.

## STATE OF PLAY: CHILD MARRIAGE IN NIGER

UNFPA Niger, UNICEF Niger

Niger has the highest rate of child marriage in the world. More than three quarters (76 per cent) of young women aged 20–24 years were married before their 18th birthday and nearly half (48 per cent) had already had a child at that age. However, there are considerable differences within the country. Child marriage prevalence is highest in the south and the east of the country (excluding the capital Niamey). Maradi region has the highest prevalence of child marriage at 89 per cent, while at 33 per cent Niamey has the lowest. There has been only a small and uneven decline in child marriage prevalence in the past 20–30 years, and median age at first union increased very little, from 15.1 years in 1992 to 15.8 years in 2012. Drivers behind the practice are many, including: social norms that limit women to the role of wife and mother; insufficient provision of basic social services, both in terms of access and quality, especially for education; and national legislation that is not sufficiently enforced, nor harmonized with international conventions adopted by the country. The study also looked at different strategies to end child marriage, to serve as a basis for a national strategy to end the practice.



Research report, 2018  
52 pages

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# AFRICA



**Evaluation report, 2019**  
**222 pages**

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Available upon request

## EVALUATION OF THE INITIATIVE FOR ADOLESCENTS IN NIGER - ILLIMIN ZAMAN DUNIA: KNOWLEDGE FOR DIGNITY

*UNFPA Niger*

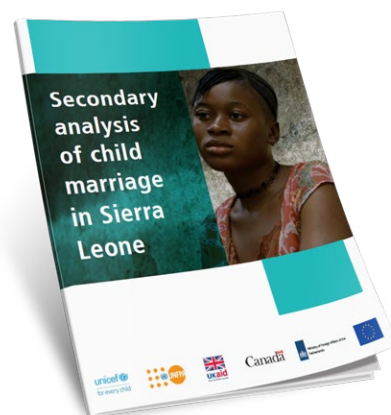
A total of 4,826 adolescent girls aged 10–19 years (77 per cent from rural areas) and 179 resource persons were surveyed in this evaluation of the Illimin adolescent empowerment programme. Almost all girls (97–98 per cent) reported that participation in Illimin had changed their outlook on the world, and that a woman must be able to make money. Most (80–85 per cent) said they have rights as adolescents, knew a modern method of family planning, and could withstand the pressure of their friends (girls or boys). More than half (55 per cent) said they are using or want to use a modern family planning method whenever necessary. The main recommendations were to improve the quality of the programme by strengthening vocational training, adding more non-traditional income generating activities, and improving content in terms of reproductive health and the dangers and side effects of certain contraceptives. It was also suggested to increase the involvement of departments and municipalities for greater ownership of the programme, and intensify advocacy with political authorities to highlight issues in existing national laws and to adopt new laws relating to ending child marriage.

### SIERRA LEONE

## SECONDARY ANALYSIS OF CHILD MARRIAGE IN SIERRA LEONE

*UNFPA Sierra Leone, UNICEF Sierra Leone*

This report assesses trends in child marriage in Sierra Leone using the 2008 and 2013 Sierra Leone Demographic and Health Surveys and 2015 census data. The assessment informs ongoing child marriage interventions under the Action for Adolescent Girls programme and the Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage, that are increasing access to quality health information and services, education and life skills for adolescent girls at risk of and affected by child marriage. According to the 2013 Demographic and Health Survey, national child marriage prevalence among 20–24-year-olds is 39 per cent. Districts exceeding the national average were Koinadugu (58 per cent), Kambia and Pujehun (52 per cent), Port Loko and Bonthe (50 per cent), and Tonkolili (42 per cent). Of the 3,408,584 children below the age of 18 (2015 census), there are at least 57,878 children who have ever been married, with three quarters from rural areas. Poverty is a major reason for parents marrying their children, with child marriage more common in middle-wealth and lower-income families in rural areas, and in larger families. Polygamous marriages also occur, mostly among families who are Muslim and from the Mende and Temne ethnicities. By age 15–17 years, childbearing rises to 87 per cent for females and school enrolment decreases to 21 per cent, indicating a potential link between high school dropouts and pregnancy, with only 47 per cent of married 10–17-year-olds having ever attended school.



**Research report, May 2018**  
**50 pages**

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# AFRICA



**Brief, 2018**  
**1 page**

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## A SNAPSHOT: SITUATION OF ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND BOYS IN SIERRA LEONE

*UNICEF Sierra Leone*

Adolescents in Sierra Leone, and especially girls, are confronted with many challenges and risks, and are exposed to various forms of violence, exploitation and abuse across different contexts. Among 20–24-year-old women, 30 per cent were first married or in union before age 18 years and 13 per cent before age 15 years. Also, 34 per cent of girls (15–19 years) were married or in union with a spouse who was ten or more years older. In contrast, only 7 per cent of men (20–24 years old) were first married or in union before age 18, and 3 per cent before age 15. The brief also provides statistics on female genital mutilation, adolescent birth rate, child labour, contraceptive use and education among adolescents.

## HARMFUL PRACTICES IN SIERRA LEONE

*UNICEF Sierra Leone*

Sustainable Development Goal 5.3 aims to eliminate all harmful practices including female genital mutilation and child marriage by 2030. In Sierra Leone, girls living in rural areas were twice as likely to be married before 18 years old compared to girls living in urban areas. The prevalence of marriage among girls under 18 years old was highest in the North region (37 per cent), followed by the South (34 per cent), the East (29 per cent) and the West (21 per cent) regions. Girls with no or only pre-primary education were five times more likely to be married before age 18, compared to girls with senior secondary or higher education (52 and 11 per cent, respectively). Girls from the poorest households are three times more likely to be married before age 18, compared to girls from the wealthiest households (44 and 15 per cent, respectively). Also, 64 out of every 1,000 babies born to mothers below 20 years old die before their first birthday, compared to 53 out of every 1,000 babies born to mothers 20–34 years old. Regarding female genital mutilation, 86 per cent of women aged 15–49 years have undergone some form of female genital mutilation, meaning partial or total removal of the female external genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons.



**Brief, 2018**  
**2 pages**

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# AFRICA



**Data brief, July 2018**  
**8 pages**

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## The Middle East and North Africa

### A PROFILE OF CHILD MARRIAGE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

*UNICEF MENARO, UNICEF Data and Analytics*

In the past 25 years, prevalence of child marriage in the Middle East and North Africa region has dropped from one in three young women being married before their 18th birthday, to approximately one in five. However, in the last decade, progress appears to have stalled, and there have been 700,000 additional child brides in the region in each of the last few years. Child brides are more likely to live in rural areas, come from poor households and to have received less education. To reach the Sustainable Development Goal of eliminating child marriage by 2030, the rate of progress must be 10 times faster for the region overall. On the positive side, elimination is already within reach in some countries, for example in Algeria, Oman and Tunisia.



<https://www.unicef.org/mena/sites/unicef.org/mena/files/2018-07/A%20Profile%20of%20Child%20Marriage%20in%20MENA.pdf>

## CHILD MARRIAGE IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS: SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARAB REGION

*CARE MENA, Terre des Hommes, UNFPA ASRO, UNICEF MENARO,  
University of Bedfordshire, Women Refugee Commission*

This brief provides an overview of the situation of child marriage in countries affected by conflict and displacement in the Middle East and North Africa region. It outlines five key strategies to address child marriage: empowering girls, engaging communities to change social norms, strengthening legal and policy frameworks, promoting cross-sectoral engagement, and strengthening evidence generation. These strategies are based on the Regional Accountability Framework of Action to End Child Marriage in Arab States/Middle East and North Africa, led by the UNFPA Arab States Regional Office and the UNICEF Middle East and North Africa Regional Office, in partnership with a consortium of other UN agencies and civil society organizations.



**Data brief, August 2018**  
**5 pages**

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<https://www.girlsnotbrides.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/CM-UNICEF-Co-Arab-States-2018.pdf>

# AFRICA



**Policy brief, June 2018**  
4 pages

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EGYPT

## POLICY FOR ACTION: ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE

NCCM Child Rights Observatory, UNICEF Egypt

The legal age of marriage in Egypt is 18 years old. Yet, without criminalizing the perpetrators, girls are still getting married without registering or reporting their marriages, and not registering children born out of these marriages. According to the national 2017 census, nearly one in every 20 girls aged 15–17 years and one in every 10 girls aged 15–19 years are either currently or formerly married, though the country has seen a slight decline in recent years. Drivers of child marriage tend to be girls being out of education, and poverty and cultural beliefs that reinforce discriminatory gender norms and practices. Girls who marry before 18 years old experience negative impacts on their health, education, participation in the labour market and are at a greater risk of contracting diseases. Child marriage not only affects the well-being of girls, but it also negatively affects the country with evident implications on fertility rates, and health risks on children and their mothers due to premature childbirth.



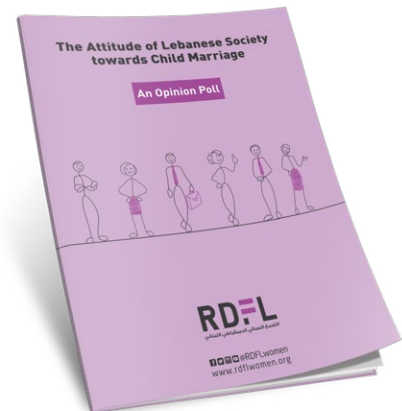
English and Arabic briefs: <https://www.unicef.org/egypt/reports/policy-action-ending-child-marriage>

LEBANON

## THE ATTITUDE OF LEBANESE SOCIETY TOWARDS CHILD MARRIAGE

*The Lebanese Women Democratic Gathering – RDFL, UN Women, Save the Children, IM, Diakonia, Kvinna till Kvinna, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung*

The Lebanese public is against child marriage and deems this practice to constitute a human rights violation against girls. Of those surveyed, 97 per cent believe that the best marriageable age for females is 18 years old and above, and out of these, 64 per cent support the passing of a law to stipulate the minimum age of marriage as 18 years old. Women are more supportive of a child marriage law than men, and younger people are more supportive of a law than older people. According to the poll, people believe that the major drivers of child marriage are economic and social, such as the negative connotation of a woman remaining single, combined with customs and traditions. The public believes that legislation alone is not enough to end child marriage, but that more work needs to be undertaken to increase awareness of the negative consequences of child marriage and to scale up economic empowerment interventions targeting families.



**Research brief, February 2019**  
32 pages.

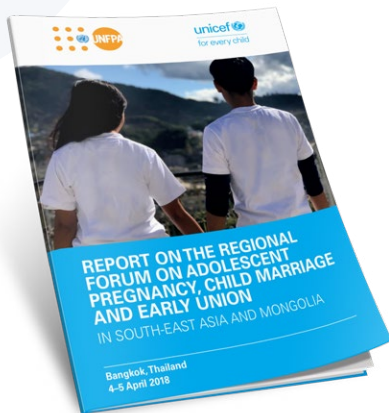
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English and Arabic briefs: <http://www2.unwomen.org/-/media/field%20office%20arab%20states/attachments/publications/2019/02/rdf1%20poll%20booklets%20high.pdf?la=en&vs=2302>



**EAST AND  
SOUTH ASIA**



Meeting report, April 2018  
100 pages

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## East Asia

### REPORT ON THE REGIONAL FORUM ON ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY, CHILD MARRIAGE AND EARLY UNION IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

UNFPA APRO, UNICEF EAPRO

This report details the central discussions that arose at the Regional Forum on Adolescent Pregnancy, Child Marriage and Early Union in South East Asia and Mongolia in April 2018. Data on increased rates of adolescent fertility and the prevalence of child marriage and early unions among young people and adolescents in South East Asia and Mongolia suggested a need to better understand the drivers and contexts in which these practices occur, in order to develop more effective programmes and policies for prevention and response. The forum resulted in a call for action to mobilize political will, invest in a better understanding of the situation, and to develop enabling and empowering laws, policies and programmes that recognize adolescent sexuality. The forum also recommended more meaningful engagement with young people; development of multi-sectoral approaches, addressing harmful gender norms and non-consensual sexual behaviour, providing comprehensive sexuality education in line with international standards, and making services accessible, non-judgmental and tailored to the needs of all adolescents.

<https://www.unicef.org/eap/reports/report-regional-forum-adolescent-pregnancy-child-marriage-and-early-union-se-asia>

## INDONESIA

### AN EMPIRICAL EXPLORATION OF FEMALE CHILD MARRIAGE DETERMINANTS IN INDONESIA

Lauren Rumble, Amber Peterman, Nadira Irdiana, Margaret Triyana, Emilie Minnick

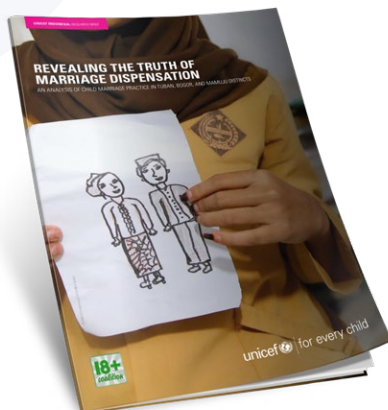
The child marriage burden remains high among female adolescents in Indonesia, despite socioeconomic development. Research on child marriage in South East Asia is scarce, and no nationally representative studies thus far have examined determinants of child marriage in Indonesia through multivariate regression modelling. This study used data from the 2012 Indonesian Demographic and Health Survey and the Adolescent Reproductive Health Survey to estimate determinants of child marriage and marital preferences. Among the child marriage research sample (6,578 females aged 20–24 years), 17 per cent and 6 per cent reported being married before age 18 and 16 years old, respectively. Among the marital preferences research sample (8,779 unmarried females aged 15–24 years), the average preferred marriage age was 26 years old and only 5 per cent approved of child marriage. Increased education, wealth and media exposure have protective effects against early marriage, while rural residency is a risk factor. There are significant variations by region, indicating the effects of religious, ethnic and other geographically diverse factors.



Journal article, March 2018  
13 pages

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<https://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/track/pdf/10.1186/s12889-018-5313-0>



**Research brief, January 2019**  
7 pages

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## REVEALING THE TRUTH OF MARRIAGE DISPENSATION: AN ANALYSIS OF CHILD MARRIAGE PRACTICE IN TUBAN, BOGOR, AND MAMUJU DISTRICTS

18+ Coalition, UNICEF Indonesia

The legal age of marriage in Indonesia is 21 years old, though girls can get married from 16 years old and boys from 19 years old with parental consent. Furthermore, the mechanism of marriage dispensation as stipulated in the 1974 Marriage Law, allows exceptions to these minimum ages subject to consent from an appropriate authority such as judges from the Religious Court (for Muslims) or District Court (for non-Muslims). This research mapped the situation in which marriage dispensation was requested and granted (or denied), to understand the relevant procedures. Data was obtained using in-depth interviews, focus group discussions, observation and a policy analysis. Findings showed that the majority of marriage dispensation cases were approved by the Religious Court. Most female dispensation subjects are aged 14–15 years and unemployed, while most male dispensation subjects are 17–18-years-old labourers. The process of marriage dispensation lacks rigorous verification and many child marriage cases still remain unregistered.



<https://www.girlsnotbrides.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/UNICEF-Marriage-Dispensation-Research-Brief.pdf>

### MALAYSIA

## CHILD MARRIAGE IN MALAYSIA

*Dato' Noor Aziah Mohd Awal, Mohd Ai Adib Samuri, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, UNICEF Malaysia*

There is strong public opposition to child marriage in Malaysia, but the data that is needed to provide an accurate and complete assessment of its prevalence in the country is outdated, unavailable or cannot be made public. Based on interviews and an analysis of shariah court files, factors that place children at risk included low household income which strongly correlates with children dropping out of school. Children who marry tend to have a poor understanding of sexual and reproductive health issues, which in turn leads to a higher risk of pregnancy. Parents also lack an effective support system which leaves many of them believing that marriage is the best solution when their children become sexually active or become pregnant. Community social norms also accept child marriage as an option. Several legal and policy bottlenecks hinder efforts to curb child marriage and Malaysia's complex legal system which encompasses shariah, civil and customary law, makes it difficult to define 'child' in the context of child marriage. An analysis of case files from the shariah courts of seven states during 2012–2016 revealed that of 2,143 applications for child marriage only ten were rejected, emphasizing that child marriage is easily accepted within the judicial system.



**Working paper, January 2018**  
93 pages

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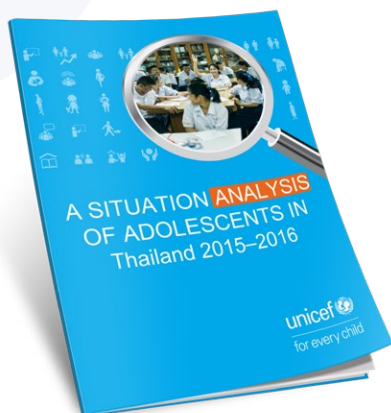


<https://www.unicef.org/malaysia/media/711/file/Child%20marriage%20in%20Malaysia.pdf>

## THAILAND

### A SITUATION ANALYSIS OF ADOLESCENTS IN THAILAND 2015–2016

UNICEF Thailand



**Research report, August 2018**  
68 pages

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Of the 65.1 million people living in Thailand, approximately 8.7 million are adolescents aged 10–19 years old, and of all sexually transmitted HIV infections in Thailand, 70 per cent occur among young people aged 15–24 years. Despite a gradual drop in overall HIV prevalence over the past two decades, new infections were seen to be rising among young people from key populations, especially young men who have sex with men. Access to basic education had improved, with the net attendance rate in primary school having increased from 70 per cent in 1990 to 80 per cent in 2000, and 93 per cent in 2013. A 2016 review of sexuality education in secondary schools and vocational colleges confirmed that problematic attitudes about sexuality and gender were still common among students, and most teachers said they thought that sex between unmarried young people was unacceptable. In the multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS) from 2013, 22 per cent of women aged 20–24 years reported they had been married or had lived with their sexual partner before the age of 18 years old, an increase of two percentage points from the MICS in 2006. The highest rates of marriage or sexual partnership among 15–19-year-olds were found in six provinces: Chai Nat, Prachuap Khiri Khan, Phang Nga, Rayong, Samut Sakhon and Uthai Thani. Three of those six provinces also recorded the lowest levels of education among women.

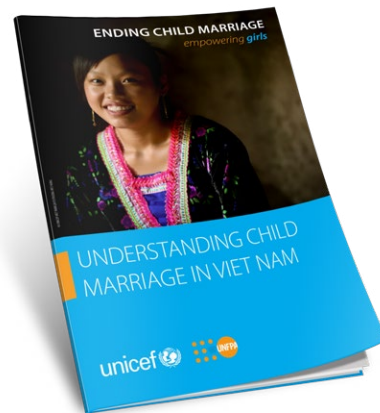
<https://www.unicef.org/thailand/sites/unicef.org.thailand/files/2018-08/adolescent-situation-analysis-thailand-en.pdf>

## VIET NAM

### UNDERSTANDING CHILD MARRIAGE IN VIET NAM

UNFPA Viet Nam, UNICEF Viet Nam

This discussion paper built on research on child marriage and early unions in Viet Nam, and the outcomes of two national conferences on ending child marriage hosted by the Vietnamese government, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN Women. Child marriage continues to be a persistent issue, with one in ten Vietnamese women aged 20–24 years married or in union before their 18th birthday according to the latest data from 2014. While its prevalence varies across geographic areas, girls from all regions of Viet Nam and all layers of society are vulnerable to becoming a child bride, and there has been no substantial decrease in recent years. Girls with no education are almost seven times more likely to marry in childhood than those who completed higher secondary education. In addition, children whose parents had a higher level of education run a lower risk of becoming a child bride. Child marriage assumes different forms and is undertaken for different reasons, so to successfully end this harmful practice, interventions must be carefully tailored to local realities.



**Discussion paper, September 2018**  
20 pages

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<https://www.unicef.org/vietnam/sites/unicef.org.vietnam/files/2018-09/Child%20Marriage%20Eng.pdf>



**Research report, March 2019**  
68 pages

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<https://www.unicef.org/rosa/reports/child-marriage-adolescent-pregnancy-and-school-dropout-south-asia>

## South Asia

### CHILD MARRIAGE, ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY AND SCHOOL DROPOUT IN SOUTH ASIA

Population Council, UNICEF ROSA

This study explored the relationships between child marriage, adolescent pregnancy and educational attainment particularly in secondary education. It reported a set of shared underlying factors including poverty, cultural and gender norms and perceived returns from education, feeding into a decision-making process about marriage and schooling. This implied that rather than characterizing the timing of marriage and dropping out of school as independent decisions that occur sequentially, they are presented as closely related and as part of a jointly made decision. The study highlighted a strong association between secondary school completion and child marriage in Bangladesh, India and Nepal, while in Pakistan and Afghanistan the educational attainment profiles were characterized by girls who have never been enrolled in school. Overall, factors driving both child marriage and educational attainment for girls also vary within countries, so each needs to be studied in depth to understand the implications. To develop effective policies and interventions to address these important differences, rigorous programme or impact evaluations can provide needed evidence for policy and programme design targeted at the different country contexts within the very diverse South Asian region.

### CHILD MARRIAGE IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS: A DESK REVIEW OF SELECTED COUNTRIES IN SOUTH ASIA

UNFPA APRO, UNICEF ROSA, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Center for Humanitarian Health, Women's Refugee Commission

This desk review is part of a larger research initiative on child marriage in humanitarian settings in South Asia and provides an overview of existing evidence, and programmatic approaches. The research aims to measure prevalence and drivers of child marriage in humanitarian settings in South Asia, specifically one population displaced by conflict (Bangladesh) and another affected by a natural disaster (Nepal). The research is planned to be finalized in 2020 and the findings will feed into recommendations for interventions. Initial findings based on the desk review indicate that while new drivers may emerge, the strongest route of impact of humanitarian crises on child marriage may be through exacerbated economic and physical insecurity. Displacement can increase both economic and physical insecurity, and reduce access to education, as well as pose new threats to physical and mental health. That said, displacement, particularly in humanitarian settings where relief aid and social services are available, accessible and appropriate, may bring exposure to education, empowerment, and, as in other contexts of migration, "emancipation ideas that may influence the decision-making of the household to avoid harmful practices, such as marrying children under age" (Dietrich et al, 2018, p.13).



**Research report, September 2019**  
72 pages

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**Research report, July 2018**  
98 pages

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## STRUCTURAL VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN IN SOUTH ASIA

UNICEF ROSA

This desk review analyzed structural violence against children and adolescents in South Asia, and the institutional responses in the region. Common across studies was a focus on describing its visible and direct nature, especially on risk factors, with an evident gap in knowledge regarding the determinants of the invisible and indirect risk factors underlying direct violence. In the global literature, the indirect form is known as 'structural violence' that is an important component underlying all forms of violence, particularly interpersonal violence. It was also found that there are five types of structural violence prevalent across South Asia that underlie the forms of interpersonal violence reviewed. These are gender-based, age-based, socio-economic-based, caste-based, and fragile institutions-based structural violence. Inter-sectionality is central to how structural violence operates, since marginalized populations such as girls in poverty, women from lower castes, children with disabilities, children in fragile contexts, etc., are considerably more vulnerable than their peers. Thus, it is important to take a holistic approach that targets all forms of structural violence.



<https://www.unicef.org/rosa/reports/structural-violence-against-children-south-asia>

## GENDER RESPONSIVE COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT: MAPPING AND ASSESSMENT OF UNICEF INITIATIVES IN AFGHANISTAN, BANGLADESH, NEPAL AND PAKISTAN

UNICEF ROSA

The report provides practical guidance on how to strengthen gender in critical communication for development interventions, based on analysis of the gender responsiveness of interventions across Afghanistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Pakistan, with case studies and lessons learned. Diverse initiatives are represented, ranging from awareness-raising or health promotion initiatives to those that engaged influential community members such as religious leaders to end child marriage, and the mobilization of school management 'shuras' (councils) to promote the enrolment of out-of-school children. Based on inputs from country office teams and an analysis of the assessment findings, recommendations were proposed that could enable a shift towards more gender transformative communication for development programming. This can be achieved by establishing coordination mechanisms, ensuring quality assurance, investing in gender responsive research, building capacity of UNICEF staff and national partners, enhancing knowledge management and regional learning, developing regional tools and guidance, and embracing human rights and a child-centred approach.

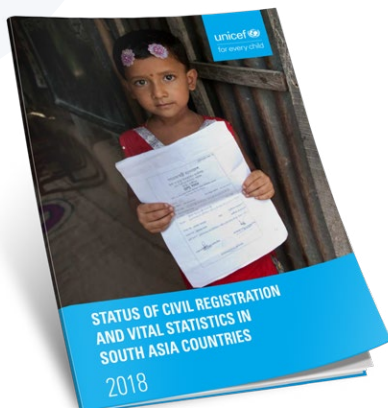


**Research report, February 2018**  
110 pages

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<https://www.unicef.org/rosa/reports/gender-responsive-communication-development>



**Research report, April 2019**  
160 pages

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<https://www.unicef.org/rosa/reports/status-civil-registration-and-vital-statistics-south-asia-countries>

## STATUS OF CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS IN SOUTH ASIA COUNTRIES

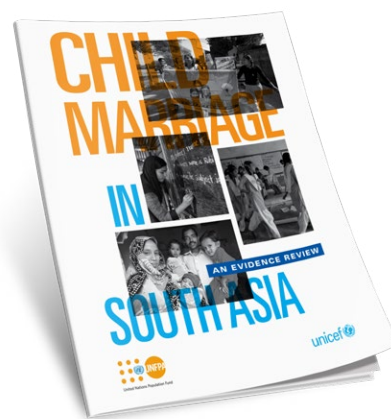
UNICEF ROSA

This report provides a comprehensive review of current registration practices in the South Asia region. All reviewed countries have a legal framework for civil registration, except for Bhutan where there is only reference to 'birth registration' in the Bhutan Citizen Act. The legal age for marriage is 18 years or older for both men and women in only three of the countries, and child marriage is still permitted for girls in Afghanistan and Pakistan and for girls and boys with parental and/or court consent in Bangladesh, Maldives and Sri Lanka. Only Afghanistan, Bhutan, Maldives and Sri Lanka have centralized civil registration systems. However, even where civil registration is decentralized, a national agency is still responsible for setting standards of practice. Nevertheless, countries where civil registration is under the responsibility of the government face discrepancies in the process of registration, including different fees, and constraints and bottlenecks remain that hinder the improvement of civil registration and vital statistics in general. These include a lack of knowledge or understanding of the civil registration process among large sections of the population, insufficient staff with relatively low educational levels, too few staff in civil registration centres to adequately serve remote populations, and lack of computerization of the civil registration procedures.

## CHILD MARRIAGE IN SOUTH ASIA: AN EVIDENCE REVIEW

UNFPA APRO, UNICEF ROSA

This report reviewed recent evidence on child marriage in South Asia, including the influence of gender norms, economic growth and societal expectations, and the relationship between child marriage and health, education, violence, policies and laws. Child marriage and its drivers are complex and vary within and across countries, but persistent cultural practices related to child marriage and how to stem them in the context of cultural norms were explored. Other notable findings were the rise of own-choice marriages in different forms, and an increased sensibility of child marriage as key to social status or kinship networks. New evidence on the role of wealth and poverty emerged, particularly with the observation in Afghanistan that perceptions of economic vulnerability as opposed to actual levels of income or wealth appeared to predict child marriage. In terms of education as a driver underlying child marriage, educational attainment or simply attending school was not enough to delay marriage. Educational indicators like literacy and completion of secondary education emerged as being more salient in delaying child marriage, as did the literacy level of the mother. New research also identified gender inequality and harmful social norms as key drivers of child marriage, and that child marriage of girls is decreasing in many countries in South Asia. But information on the experiences of boys as child grooms is scant and this aspect of child marriage remains largely unexplored.

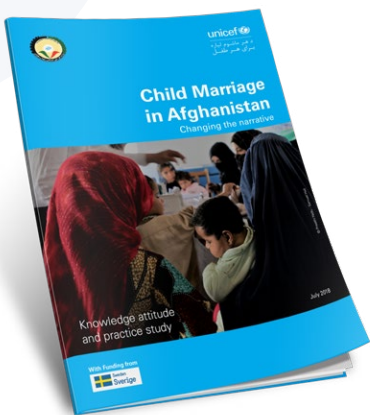


**Research report, October 2019**  
72 pages

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[https://www.unicef.org/rosa/media/4251/file/Child%20Marriage%20Evidence%20Review\\_Web.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/rosa/media/4251/file/Child%20Marriage%20Evidence%20Review_Web.pdf)



AFGHANISTAN

CHILD MARRIAGE IN AFGHANISTAN:  
CHANGING THE NARRATIVE. KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE  
AND PRACTICE STUDY

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Martyrs and the Disabled, Afghanistan,  
UNICEF Afghanistan

Research report, July 2018  
92 pages

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At least one in three girls are married before their 18th birthday in Afghanistan. The primary objective of this report was to provide a contextualized analysis on the knowledge, attitudes and practices of communities, to better inform future programming that aims to prevent child marriage and mitigate its impacts. Understandings of childhood and the transition to adulthood strongly impact the practice of child marriage, with different understandings of what makes a person an adult, and what makes a person prepared for marriage. The economic and transactional view of marriage by many provides ongoing impetus to use child marriage as a coping mechanism. National laws treat boys and girls differently, with the minimum age of marriage at 16 years old for girls, and 18 years old for boys. Respondents were often aware of the potential harmful impacts of child marriage, but many were unaware of the legal and religious frameworks that govern the practice. The report found that decision-making on child marriage is firmly centred within the family unit, and male household members are likely to have greater or final say. However, most reported that women and other family members, including children, are also involved in the process. As such, solutions cannot be simply girl-focused, but must also consider households, communities and the role of the government in providing the necessary structures to support change.

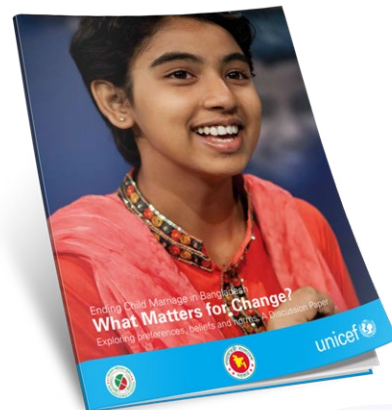
<https://www.unicef.org/afghanistan/sites/unicef.org/afghanistan/files/2018-07/afg-report-Child%20Marriage%20in%20Afghanistan.pdf>

BANGLADESH

ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE IN BANGLADESH: WHAT  
MATTERS FOR CHANGE? EXPLORING PREFERENCES,  
BELIEFS AND NORMS: A DISCUSSION PAPER

Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, UNICEF Bangladesh

Despite a decrease in child marriage in Bangladesh in recent decades, it is still a widespread practice with a prevalence of 52 per cent according to the latest multiple indicator cluster survey (2012–2013). The objective of this study was to better understand the socio-normative factors that operate in the backdrop for sustaining or preventing the practice, as a first attempt to measure these aspects at the national level. In the surveyed households, 50 per cent of marriages in 2017 involved a girl below 18 years old. The far most common reason why families decided to go ahead with a child marriage was because they found a good match, which was the case for 56 per cent of the cases found. 72 per cent of girls who got married and who were below 18 years of age were attending school before marriage. Almost half of the girls that got married dropped out of school, mainly because their husband or in-laws did not want them to continue. Three out of four people do not know that a child is anyone under the age of 18, and only one out of three people could correctly say what child marriage is. More than half of the population was aware of the negative consequences of child marriage, however 35 per cent believed that at least half of all girls marry before 18 years old, and more than half of parents still feel pressure from others to marry their girls before age 18.



Research report, August 2018  
54 pages

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Available upon request



## MARRIAGE AND SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH OF ROHINGYA ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH IN BANGLADESH: A QUALITATIVE STUDY

Population Council, UNFPA Bangladesh

This qualitative study aimed to draw out and amplify the voices of Rohingya adolescents and youth and provide a rich understanding of the experiences and needs of adolescents and youth in crisis, especially related to how the crisis has impacted their sexual and reproductive health, marriage practices, safety and security, and related attitudes and aspirations. The sample included 48 married and unmarried Rohingya adolescent girls and boys aged 14–24 years, 48 community and religious leaders, 20 adult Rohingya women, 24 programme managers and service providers working with Rohingya populations in Bangladesh and 53 adolescents and young people from the host community. The findings show that child marriage is practiced among the Rohingya, and participants in the study state a clear preference for the practice. There is an absence of legal processes of documentation of marriages in camps because of the ambiguous status of the Rohingya in Bangladesh; this absence allows the Rohingya more perceived control over marriage in their communities in Bangladesh than they had in Myanmar. Further, arranged marriages and dowry exchange are the norm among the Rohingya; large family size is preferred and use of contraception is limited; home delivery used to be the widespread practice among the Rohingya in Myanmar and is still in practice in the camps; and reproductive health services are often available but inaccessible for the Rohingya adolescents and youth in the camps. Despite several issues, the Rohingya consider living in camps safer than living in Myanmar, while the host community perceives the Rohingya as both social and economic threats.

Research report, October 2018  
54 pages

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[https://www.popcouncil.org/uploads/pdfs/2018PGY\\_RohingyaResearchReport.pdf](https://www.popcouncil.org/uploads/pdfs/2018PGY_RohingyaResearchReport.pdf)

## RESULTS OF BASELINE SURVEY OF THE ENTERTAINMENT EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health

This survey evaluated the entertainment education campaign, run across different platforms such as television, radio, print, social media and grassroots local/folk media initiatives. The campaign focussed on ending child marriage, along with other key behaviour around menstrual hygiene, adolescent health, care seeking, safe sex, enrolment and retention in secondary school, HIV/AIDS and sexual abuse and harassment. The baseline was conducted in three high-prevalence districts for child marriage: Nilphamry, Kustia and Tangail. In total, 1,163 households were visited with 4,434 interviews conducted. Although 90 per cent of parents wanted their daughters to complete higher secondary education, one third was not comfortable in relying on their daughter's income in old age. A high prevalence of sexual harassment and the practice of dowry was perceived to be the reasons for child marriage. In addition, 74 per cent of parents thought that child marriage had a negative effect on the physical health of girls, while only 11 per cent perceived it to have negative effects on their mental health. Only 6 per cent of parents agreed or were neutral to the approval of child marriage, but 20 per cent believed that the community approves of the practice. About 20 per cent also perceived that there would be social sanctions, such as social isolation, threat of violence or shame by the society, if one were to not practice child marriage.



Research report, March 2018  
102 pages

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**Research report, August 2018**  
24 pages

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## ACCELERATING ACTION TO END CHILD MARRIAGE IN BANGLADESH

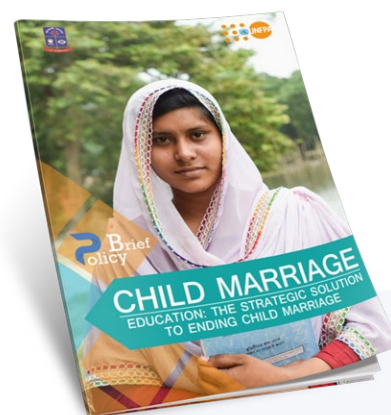
*Population Council, UNFPA Bangladesh*

This baseline study design built on the successes of the Bangladeshi Association for Life Skills, Income, and Knowledge for Adolescents (BALIKA) programme, that identified strategies to scale up skill-building activities along with alternative community participation strategies to ensure long-term sustainability. A four-arm cluster randomized trial design was used to evaluate three intervention strategies relative to control areas where no interventions were offered. Arm 1 tested the impact of skill-building alone; arm 2 skill-building plus outreach activities with women; and arm 3 skill-building along with outreach activities with men. A total of 2,990 interviews were conducted with adolescents. There are no significant differences across intervention and control arms in educational outcomes with the exception of a marginally higher proportion (3.6 per cent) of arm 3 girls who reported that they had never attended school compared to 2 per cent overall. Marriage characteristics were similar across study arms, but there were significant differences between districts. Of all marriages, 82 per cent were registered, slightly lower in Bogura (79 per cent) compared to Jamalpur (93 per cent). Overall, respondents in Bogura were more likely to have a voice in decisions about marriage. Girls in Bogura were more likely to report that their parents asked for their consent (77 per cent) compared to girls in Jamalpur (59 per cent). However, there are no strongly significant differences in the proportion of marriages that were reported as 'love marriages' (17 per cent). Of all marriages, 59 per cent were reported to involve a dowry payment, with a median reported amount of Taka 50,000 (US\$625). Among ever-married respondents, 50 per cent had experienced a pregnancy and 39 per cent had children, while 68 per cent among those sexually active and not currently pregnant were using contraception.

## CHILD MARRIAGE – EDUCATION: THE STRATEGIC SOLUTION TO ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE

*UNFPA Bangladesh*

Bangladesh has the highest prevalence of child marriage in South Asia, affecting nearly six in ten girls in the country. Closely linked to child marriage is the adolescent fertility rate, at 113 live births per 1,000 girls aged 15–19 years, also the highest in South Asia. This policy brief advocates to continue investing in education and keeping girls in schools. Survey participants of all age groups with no education or only primary education, held traditional views on girls and women, i.e. their primary role is as a homemaker, girls should be given in marriage as soon as they reach puberty and reproductive functions are their primary responsibility. Women with higher levels of education were more likely to know that child marriage was a punishable offence and a violation of human rights. Almost 85 per cent of respondents with no formal education considered only those below 14 years of age to be children. Girls that did not attend school were more likely to be married before 18 years old due to social pressure, and 85 per cent of girls who were given in marriage as children discontinued their education.



**Policy brief, 2018**  
4 pages

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Available upon request



INDIA

## ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE: A PROFILE OF PROGRESS IN INDIA

*UNICEF Data & Analytics, UNICEF India*

**Data brief, February 2019**  
**28 pages**

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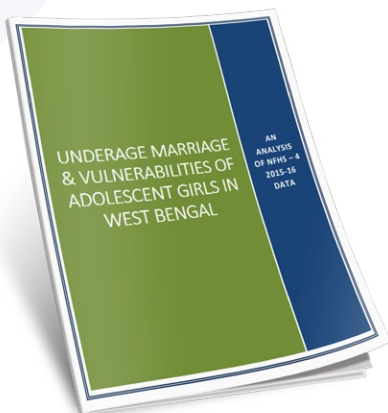
One in three of the world's child brides live in India, with 223 million girls and women married before their 18th birthday, and 102 million of those marrying while under 15 years of age. Today, approximately 25 per cent of young women in India were married or in union in childhood, showing progress, but additional efforts are required if child marriage is to be eliminated by 2030. The main determinant for child marriage was found to be a girl's level of education, with smaller disparities across women from different religious groups, castes and tribes. Most child brides in India give birth as adolescents, and they go on to have larger families compared to women who marry later. Child marriage is less common among boys than girls, and the practice among boys could be eliminated by 2030 if progress is accelerated.



<https://data.unicef.org/resources/ending-child-marriage-a-profile-of-progress-in-india/>



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**Research report, 2018**  
25 pages

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## UNDERAGE MARRIAGE AND VULNERABILITIES OF ADOLESCENT GIRLS IN WEST BENGAL: AN ANALYSIS OF NFHS-4 2015–16 DATA

UNICEF India

In India, the minimum legal age for marriage is 18 years for girls and 21 years for boys. Both girls and boys are affected by child marriage, but girls are affected in much larger numbers and with greater intensity. Child brides are often forced to drop out of school, are at risk of early pregnancy and are more likely to be exposed to violence. West Bengal has one of the highest levels of child marriage in the country, with 42 per cent of women aged 20–24 years old being married as children according to the National Family Health Survey (2015–2016), down from 54 per cent in the previous survey (2005–2006). This indicates that compared to the national average, West Bengal is moving at a slower pace in preventing and eliminating child marriage. Child marriage is much less prevalent among women who have higher education, with only 4 per cent of women having a higher education reported to have married as children, compared to 56 per cent for women with no education. Furthermore, prevalence of child marriage among women in the poorest quintile of West Bengal is five times higher than among those in the wealthiest quintile.

## ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE IN INDIA: DRIVERS AND STRATEGIES

*Shireen J Jejeebhoy, AKSHA Center for Equity and Wellbeing, UNICEF India*

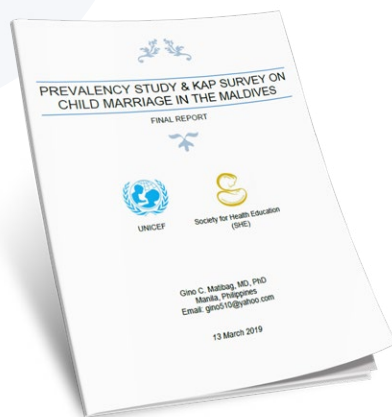
This review collated and synthesized available evidence to better understand the drivers of child marriage in India, and what works or may work, to prevent child marriage and inform a theory of change to end the practice. The review suggested that the theory of change should identify the manifestations of poverty and unpack the drivers addressing gender norms, so that strategies and approaches may be tailored to address them. It should also include the issue of forced marriage or marriage in the absence of meaningful consent, focus more on the needs of married girls acknowledging their disadvantaged status, and also incorporate a focus on boys. Building on the evidence, interventions which may be successful in ending child marriage in India emerged, including the following: keep girls in school and ensure that all complete secondary school, prepare older adolescent girls for livelihoods and school-to-work transitions, empower girls to exercise life choices, and encourage access to positive role models. Other identified interventions were to leverage social protection programmes including conditional cash transfers and other entitlements, support more gender equal families, sensitize influential community members, enhance boys' understanding and support for gender equality, and address the vulnerability and social isolation of married adolescent girls. Recommended higher level interventions included enhancing the implementation and knowledge of laws concerning gender equality and notably child marriage, enhancing the reach and quality of facilities, services and entitlements, and finally, harnessing the potential of the media to promote gender equality.



**Research report, November 2019**  
64 pages

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## THE MALDIVES

### PREVALENCE STUDY AND KAP SURVEY ON CHILD MARRIAGE IN THE MALDIVES

*Society for Health Education, UNICEF Maldives*

This study assessed the prevalence of and factors associated with child marriage in the Maldives, based on household surveys, focus group discussions, key informant interviews and six case studies. Chi-square tests and Spearman’s rank correlation coefficients were used to statistically evaluate the relationship between knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) around child marriage, against the age, gender and location of study participants. The findings showed that 5 per cent of all female respondents aged 20–24 years old were married while under 18 years old. Among females aged 35 years and above, 93 per cent had been married in childhood, whereas national-level data showed that 15 per cent of all women aged 20–24 years were married in childhood, and on average, husbands are 7 years older than their child brides. Almost all participants knew that the legal age of marriage in the Maldives is 18 years old. Most of the household respondents were aware of the negative consequences of child marriage such as difficult pregnancy and delivery (75 per cent), increased school dropouts (71 per cent) and decreased income (59 per cent). Most study participants said they would report child marriage cases to a court (45 per cent), the gender ministry (23 per cent) or the police (12 per cent). The main decision-maker for child marriage was believed to be both parents (29 per cent), and respondents believed that no one influences (56 per cent) nor discourages (39 per cent) a decision-maker to marry off their children. The most common motivation for marrying before age 18 is believed to be love (74 per cent).

**Research report, March 2019**  
102 pages

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## NEPAL

### END LINE SURVEY REPORT: ‘ZERO TOLERANCE – GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE FREE SCHOOLS IN NEPAL’

*Restless Development Nepal, UNICEF Nepal*

This study assessed the impact of the ‘Zero tolerance – gender-based violence free schools in Nepal’ programme in Mahottari and Rautahat districts, where 800 students were surveyed. Of these, 72 per cent were 9–14 years old, 28 per cent were 15–19 years old, and almost all were from marginalized ethnic groups. In addition, 361 other stakeholders were also surveyed including parents, teachers and community group members. Just over 50 per cent of the students felt safe in their school and community, compared to a baseline value of 33 per cent. The proportion of students having comprehensive knowledge of gender-based violence increased from 77 per cent at the start of the programme to 93 per cent at the end. The view of gender-based violence as unacceptable among students also increased significantly from 37 per cent in the baseline to 70 per cent in the end line, and from 66 per cent to 96 per cent among other stakeholders. Gender-based violence reporting mechanisms were largely functional and quite effective according to the students, and 649 of the 800 students claimed to have seen or heard of an incident. Of these, 85 per cent took some sort of action compared to 73 per cent in the baseline. Students at the end of the programme were more than twice as knowledgeable about the fact that marriage is their own decision.



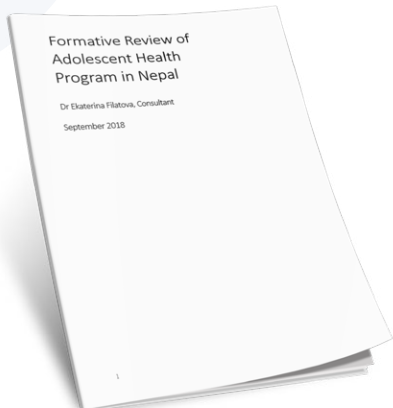
**End line survey, September 2019**  
50 pages

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Available upon request





## FORMATIVE REVIEW OF ADOLESCENT HEALTH PROGRAMME IN NEPAL

*Family Health Division, Ministry of Health and Population of Nepal,  
UNICEF Nepal*

**Research report, September 2018**  
**83 pages**

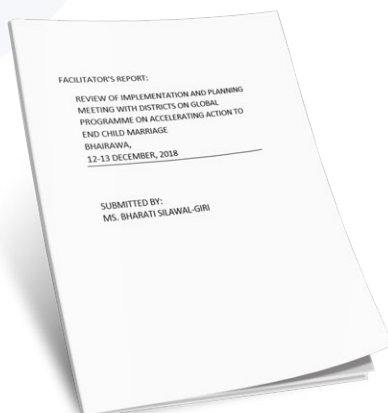
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Almost one in four (23 per cent) of the population in Nepal are adolescents aged 10–19 years. The health profile showed that 17 per cent of 15–19-year-old girls are already mothers or pregnant with their first child. Suicide or self-harm accounts for an estimated 6 per cent of all deaths among 15–29-year-olds, the second leading cause of death in this age group after road traffic accidents. In addition, adolescent girls' inability to effectively manage menstrual hygiene affects their education, physical health, psychological and emotional well-being and general quality of life. The Nepal government began the Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Programme in 2000, with information, education, and communication (IEC) services for adolescents delivered through adolescent-friendly health services established at primary care centres. The service package mainly addresses adolescent sexual and reproductive health, education on puberty and menstrual hygiene and healthier nutrition practices. The current coverage of adolescent-friendly health services in primary health centres is around 25 per cent, but evidence also suggests that demand for these services by adolescents is low, with some service centres having inconvenient working hours that is a barrier for access by adolescents. The acceptance of services by adolescents is also challenged by their unwillingness to consult a health worker of the opposite gender. In addition, adolescents prefer to discuss sexuality-related issues with younger counsellors.



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**Workshop report, December 2018**  
**16 pages**

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Available upon request

## FACILITATOR'S REPORT OF THE REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION AND PLANNING MEETING WITH DISTRICTS ON THE GLOBAL PROGRAMME ON ACCELERATING ACTION TO END CHILD MARRIAGE

*Bharati Silawal-Giri*

This workshop with district partners jointly examined, reflected upon and improved the design, implementation and overall effectiveness of the Global Programme in Nepal. Major highlighted results included the enhanced voice of adolescent girls, increased health-seeking behaviour thanks to the availability of adolescent-friendly health services, increased literacy and re-enrolment of girls in schools, mainstreaming of ending child marriage in plans and programmes, and the development of programming guidelines. Issues and challenges were also raised, such as the need for a flexible approach across districts based on local needs, to strengthen coordination and convergence in the new federal structure of the country, to strengthen monitoring and reporting across interventions, to further mainstream child marriage across sectors, and to address the social acceptance of child marriage and the low value put on girls' education, including engaging with parents. One lesson learnt was that school-based interventions are an effective way to scale up interventions and create a critical mass of advocates promoting the end of child marriage. Another was that open debate and discussion on child marriage at the community level has increased public commitments from parents to end the practice, they now allow their daughters to engage in sport activities, and this has led to improved confidence, self-esteem and mobility of adolescent girls to engage in non-traditional activities. The way forward was seen to be towards increased accountability of families, communities and local governments, and developing partnerships across sectors. Other needs included localizing national strategies to respond to context-specific issues, engaging men and boys in changing social norms, mobilizing youth, civil society and the media, promoting comprehensive sexuality education and life skills for boys and girls, and linking the programme with other interventions to tackle the root causes of child marriage, such as poverty.





LATIN  
AMERICA  
AND THE  
CARIBBEAN



**Data brief, August 2019**  
**24 pages**

**Contact:**  
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↓ <https://www.unicef.org/lac/en/reports/profile-child-marriage-and-early-unions>

## A PROFILE OF CHILD MARRIAGE AND EARLY UNIONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

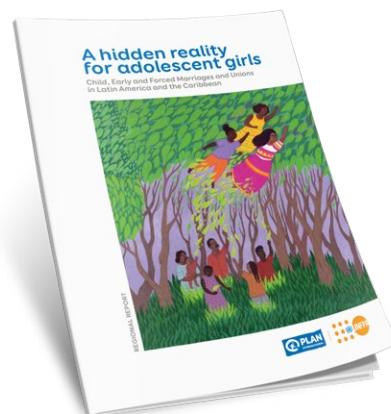
*UNICEF Data and Analytics*

One in four young women in Latin America and the Caribbean were first married or in union before their 18th birthday. Levels of child marriage vary across the region, from below 10 per cent in Jamaica to more than 30 per cent in Belize, the Dominican Republic, Honduras and Nicaragua. Child marriage most often takes the form of an informal union in which a girl lives with a partner, rather than a formal marriage. Child brides are more likely to live in rural areas, in poor households, and to have less education. Most women who married in childhood gave birth before their 18th birthday, and eight out of ten did so while under 20 years old. While other regions have made progress in reducing child marriage, the prevalence in Latin America and the Caribbean has remained stagnant for 25 years, and if the observed trend continues, Latin America and the Caribbean will have among the world's highest levels of child marriage by 2030, trailing only behind sub-Saharan Africa. Among boys, countries in Latin America and the Caribbean have some of the highest levels of child marriage worldwide, and nine of the ten countries with available data show levels above the global average.

## A HIDDEN REALITY FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS: CHILD, EARLY AND FORCED MARRIAGES AND UNIONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

*Plan International, UNFPA LACRO*

Child, early and forced marriages and unions are critical social justice issues, yet they have received limited attention in Latin America and the Caribbean. For this reason, Plan International and UNFPA conducted an eight-country regional study across Bolivia, Brazil, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Peru, to highlight the specificities of the region and to explore in depth the diversity in child marriage practices across countries. Across the region in 2017, 23 per cent of young women aged 20–24 years had been married or in union before 18 years old, and 5 per cent by 15 years old. Trend data demonstrated that Latin America and the Caribbean is the only region in the world where significant declines in the prevalence of child, early and forced marriage have not occurred over the past ten years. The report provides insights on how gender norms shape the control over girls' sexuality, education and levels of violence against them, among other patriarchal norms, and how this relates to child marriage across the region. The report also noted that there are limited resources and systems, including in the enforcement of laws, to support girls at risk of marriage or already married in the region.



**Research report, July 2019**  
**73 pages**

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↓ [https://lac.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/UnionesTempranas\\_ENG\\_Web.pdf](https://lac.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/UnionesTempranas_ENG_Web.pdf)

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



**Executive report, June 2018**  
20 pages

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## ACCELERATE ACTIONS TO END CHILD MARRIAGE AND EARLY UNIONS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

*Ford Foundation, UNFPA LACRO, UNICEF LACRO, UN Women LACRO, the Summit Foundation*

Latin America and the Caribbean is the only region where overall child marriage prevalence has not changed significantly in the past ten years. A joint inter-agency regional event on child marriage in October 2017 shared experiences, identified common challenges and strategies, and developed national and regional roadmaps to contribute to eliminating child marriage by 2030. Recommendations included the consolidation of intersectoral, interinstitutional and comprehensive responses, and alignment of national legislation with international frameworks by raising the minimum age of marriage to 18 years old without exceptions. Policies and services should support health, education, protect against violence, social protection, gender equality, child protection and economic development that help to prevent and respond to child marriage and early unions. Other recommendations included boosting the empowerment of girls and promoting more equal relationships in their immediate environments. Finally, there should be a regional platform of allies against child marriage and early unions, which starting from the generation of evidence, knowledge and lessons learned, can mobilize cooperation among and within countries and expand the initiative.



English and Spanish reports: <https://www.unicef.org/lac/en/reports/accelerate-actions-end-child-marriage-and-early-unions-latin-america-and-caribbean>

### GUATEMALA

## WHAT IS THE PROBLEM? HEGEMONIC MASCULINITIES AND CHILD MARRIAGE

*Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLASCO), UNFPA, Embajada de Canadá*

This study analyzed the impact of hegemonic masculinities on girls' lives in Guatemala, and interlinkages with child marriage, adolescent pregnancy and violence. Using mixed methods, it showed that hegemonic masculinities have an impact on girls and women through three main dimensions. These are normalizing violence against women and girls, appropriation of girls' and women's bodies, and limiting their autonomy. Also, girls who get married or enter into informal unions as children are the poorest and less educated, whereas men marrying girls are the most educated, and those entering informal unions are often non-indigenous.

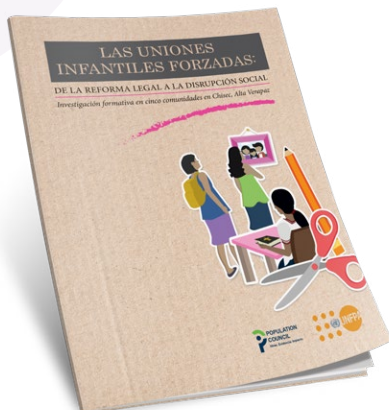


Spanish: <https://guatemala.unfpa.org/es/publications/estudio-%C2%BFcu%C3%A1l-es-el-problema>



**Research reports, August 2019**  
37/45/41/24 pages

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**Research report, May 2018**  
**20 pages**

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## FORCED CHILD UNIONS: FROM LEGAL REFORM TO SOCIAL DISRUPTION. FORMATIVE RESEARCH IN FIVE COMMUNITIES IN CHISEC, ALTA VERAPAZ

*UNFPA Guatemala, Population Council*

This study assessed knowledge, attitudes and practices related to child marriage in Guatemala, following revision of the civil code regarding the minimum legal age for marriage. Research was based on qualitative interviews, focus group discussions and investigations in five localities where the Abriendo Oportunidades (create opportunities) programme is implemented by Population Council. Results showed that the communities know about the child marriage law and the harm caused by child marriage, though attitudes vary, with some families, religious leaders and local authorities still supporting it. The study concluded that the new law has had only minor impact on reducing child marriage. Instead, more focus needs to be given to interventions which target social norms in the communities.



Spanish: <https://guatemala.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/Las%20uniones%20infantiles%20forzadas.pdf>





**EUROPE AND  
CENTRAL ASIA**



**Brief, October 2018**  
**4 pages**

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## WORKING TO END DISCRIMINATION AGAINST GIRLS IN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

UNICEF ECARO

The prevalence of child marriage ranges from 3 to 15 per cent across Europe and the Central Asia region, but national averages often hide high levels of child marriage among adolescent girls in marginalized communities. In Serbia, a recent survey found that 43 per cent of Roma girls aged 15–19 years old were married or living with a partner. Child marriage is also a concern in parts of the Caucasus, Central Asia and Turkey, where it is linked to the intersection between gender and social exclusion, migration, barriers to secondary education for girls, and lack of access to youth-friendly health services. The average adolescent fertility rate for the region is stable at around 17 births for every 1,000 girls aged 15–19 years old, but higher than the 10 per 1,000 European average. However, levels are at least twice as high in countries where child marriage occur, such as Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Romania and Tajikistan.

<https://www.unicef.org/eca/sites/unicef.org/eca/files/2018-12/In%20focus%20-%20Gender%20%28October%202018%20FINAL%29.pdf>

### ALBANIA

## CHILD MARRIAGE: KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES, AND PERCEPTIONS AMONG AFFECTED COMMUNITIES IN ALBANIA

*Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Albania, Observatory for Children and Youth Rights, UNFPA Albania, UNICEF Albania*

Albania has a strong legislative framework to tackle child marriage, but the laws are not effectively or consistently implemented. Official data from 2017 indicated that 17 per cent of all marriages that year involved a female spouse below 19 years old, whereas 0.5 per cent involved a male spouse below the same age. However, this does not include unregistered marriages, meaning that the real prevalence is unknown. Child marriage prevalence is also known to be much higher in Roma communities, but accurate statistical data is unavailable. Child marriage in Albania seems to be linked to restrictive gender norms, poverty and social exclusion and has the consequences of dropping out of school, early motherhood and lack of autonomy and decision-making power in the household. Through focus group discussions and interviews, the study found that respondents were aware of the laws against child marriage, that the practice occurs in their community and its harmful consequences. Respondents talked of the fear of social sanctions, such as rumours about a girl's 'honour' being an important factor in pushing them towards early marriage, as was poverty and that there are no viable or acceptable alternatives for girls.



**Research report, June 2018**  
**101 pages**

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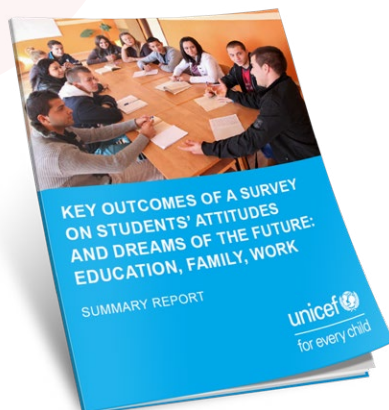
<https://www.unicef.org/albania/sites/unicef.org/albania/files/2018-12/Child%20marriage-Report-final.pdf>



BULGARIA

## KEY OUTCOMES OF A SURVEY ON STUDENTS' ATTITUDES AND DREAMS OF THE FUTURE: EDUCATION, FAMILY, WORK

UNICEF Bulgaria



**Research report, 2018**  
**46 pages**


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Available upon request

A survey assessed the views of students in 5th through 12th grade from ethnic minority communities in the Shumen region in Bulgaria, about their attitudes to education, a professional career and preferred age for marriage. A change in family patterns is seen in respondents' preferences for a higher marital age, with 55 per cent preferring to marry between 20 and 24 years old, and 18 per cent between 25 and 30 years old. In addition, there was a preference for smaller families with 67 per cent preferring two children and 13 per cent a single child, and for their future family to be autonomous and away from their parents' household (60 per cent). Overall, girls prefer marriage at an earlier age than boys, yet want fewer children than boys. Respondents showed a high aspiration for completing secondary (56 per cent) or higher education (29 per cent.). Only 12 per cent showed lower schooling ambitions, but note that the survey only covered girls and boys still in school. The study also found significantly higher ambitions for professional careers among girls than boys.



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**ANNEX:  
ALL PUBLICATIONS  
BY TOPIC**

# ANNEX: ALL PUBLICATIONS BY TOPIC

	TITLE	COUNTRY	REGION	LANGUAGE	PUBLICATION DATE	TYPE OF PUBLICATION	TOPIC	PAGE
<b>PREVALENCE, DRIVERS, CONSEQUENCES</b>								
1	Child Marriage: Latest trends and future prospects		Global	English	July 2018	Data brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	5
2	Child Marriage Among Boys: A global overview of available data		Global	English	May 2019	Journal article	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	5
3	Understanding the Relationships Between HIV and Child Marriage: Conclusions from an expert consultation/ Advancing the Evidence Base on Child Marriage and HIV		Global	English	April 2019	Commentary/ White paper	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	6
4	Child Marriage Among Boys in High Prevalence Countries: An analysis of sexual and reproductive health outcomes		Global	English	August 2019	Journal article	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	6
5	Accelerating Efforts to Eliminate Child Marriage in Africa		Africa	English	November 2018	Data brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	10
6	Multi-country Analytical Study of Legislation, Policy Interventions and Cultural Practices on Child Marriage in Africa		Africa	English	2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	10
7	Formative Research on Underage Marriage in Eritrea	Eritrea	East and Southern Africa	English	2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	13
8	Ending Child Marriage: A profile of progress in Ethiopia	Ethiopia	East and Southern Africa	English	January 2018	Data brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	13
9	Child Marriage in Malawi	Malawi	East and Southern Africa	English	July 2018	Fact sheet	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	14
10	Traditional Practices in Malawi	Malawi	East and Southern Africa	English	March 2019	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	14
11	Fact Sheet: Child marriage	Tanzania	East and Southern Africa	English	September 2018	Fact sheet	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	15
12	Child Marriage in West and Central Africa – At a glance		West and Central Africa	English	November 2018	Data brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	15
13	Adolescents and Youth Report: West and Central Africa		West and Central Africa	English	2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	16
14	Adolescent Girls in West and Central Africa: Data brief		West and Central Africa	English, French	October 2019	Data brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	16
15	Adolescent Girls' Health and Well-being in West and Central Africa		West and Central Africa	English	May 2019	Data brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	17

# ANNEX: ALL PUBLICATIONS BY TOPIC

	TITLE	COUNTRY	REGION	LANGUAGE	PUBLICATION DATE	TYPE OF PUBLICATION	TOPIC	PAGE
16	Child Marriage in Ghana: Evidence from a multi-method study	Ghana	West and Central Africa	English	November 2019	Journal article	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	17
17	Child Marriage and Associated Outcomes in Northern Ghana: A cross-sectional study	Ghana	West and Central Africa	English	February 2018	Journal article	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	18
18	Achieving Key Results for Children in Niger: KR4C #6: Ending child marriage	Niger	West and Central Africa	English	September 2019	Issue brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	21
19	State of Play: Child marriage in Niger	Niger	West and Central Africa	French	2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	21
20	Secondary Analysis of Child Marriage in Sierra Leone	Sierra Leone	West and Central Africa	English	May 2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	22
21	A Snapshot: Situation of adolescent girls and boys in Sierra Leone	Sierra Leone	West and Central Africa	English	2018	Brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	23
22	Harmful Practices in Sierra Leone	Sierra Leone	West and Central Africa	English	2018	Brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	23
23	A Profile of Child Marriage in the Middle East and North Africa		Middle East and North Africa	English	July 2018	Data brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	24
24	Child Marriage in Humanitarian Settings: Spotlight on the Arab region		Middle East and North Africa	English	August 2018	Data brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	24
25	Policy for Action: Ending child marriage	Egypt	Middle East and North Africa	English, Arabic	June 2018	Policy brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	25
26	The Attitude of Lebanese Society towards Child Marriage	Lebanon	Middle East and North Africa	English, Arabic	February 2019	Research brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	25
27	An Empirical Exploration of Female Child Marriage Determinants in Indonesia	Indonesia	East Asia	English	March 2018	Journal article	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	27
28	Child Marriage in Malaysia	Malaysia	East Asia	English	January 2018	Working paper	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	28
29	A Situation Analysis of Adolescents in Thailand 2015–2016	Thailand	East Asia	English	August 2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	29
30	Understanding Child Marriage in Viet Nam	Viet Nam	East Asia	English	September 2018	Discussion paper	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	29
31	Child Marriage, Adolescent Pregnancy and School Dropout in South Asia		South Asia	English	March 2019	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	30
32	Child Marriage in Humanitarian Settings: A desk review of selected countries in South Asia		South Asia	English	September 2019	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	30

## ANNEX: ALL PUBLICATIONS BY TOPIC

	TITLE	COUNTRY	REGION	LANGUAGE	PUBLICATION DATE	TYPE OF PUBLICATION	TOPIC	PAGE
33	Structural Violence Against Children in South Asia		South Asia	English	July 2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	31
34	Status of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in South Asia Countries		South Asia	English	April 2019	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	32
35	Child Marriage in Afghanistan: Changing the narrative. Knowledge, attitude and practice study	Afghanistan	South Asia	English	July 2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	33
36	Ending Child Marriage in Bangladesh: What matters for change? Exploring preferences, beliefs and norms: A discussion paper	Bangladesh	South Asia	English	August 2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	33
37	Marriage and Sexual and Reproductive Health of Rohingya Adolescents and Youth in Bangladesh: A qualitative study	Bangladesh	South Asia	English	October 2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	34
38	Results of Baseline Survey of the Entertainment Education Campaign	Bangladesh	South Asia	English	March 2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	34
39	Accelerating Action to End Child Marriage in Bangladesh	Bangladesh	South Asia	English	August 2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	35
40	Child Marriage – Education: the strategic solution to ending child marriage	Bangladesh	South Asia	English	2018	Policy brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	35
41	Ending Child Marriage: A profile of progress in India	India	South Asia	English	February 2019	Data brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	36
42	Underage Marriage and Vulnerabilities of Adolescent Girls in West Bengal: An analysis of NFHS-4 2015–16 Data	India	South Asia	English	2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	37
43	Prevalence Study and KAP Survey on Child Marriage in the Maldives	The Maldives	South Asia	English	March 2019	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	38
44	A Profile of Child Marriage and Early Unions in Latin America and the Caribbean		Latin America and the Caribbean	English, Spanish	August 2019	Data brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	42
45	A Hidden Reality for Adolescent Girls: Child, early and forced marriages and unions in Latin America and the Caribbean		Latin America and the Caribbean	English	July 2019	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	42
46	What is the Problem? Hegemonic masculinities and child marriage	Guatemala	Latin America and the Caribbean	Spanish	August 2019	Research reports	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	43
47	Forced Child Unions: From legal reform to social disruption. Formative research in five communities in Chisec, Alta Verapaz	Guatemala	Latin America and the Caribbean	Spanish	May 2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	44
48	Working to End Discrimination Against Girls in Europe and Central Asia		Europe and Central Asia	English	October 2018	Brief	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	46

# ANNEX: ALL PUBLICATIONS BY TOPIC

	TITLE	COUNTRY	REGION	LANGUAGE	PUBLICATION DATE	TYPE OF PUBLICATION	TOPIC	PAGE
49	Child Marriage: Knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions among affected communities in Albania	Albania	Europe and Central Asia	English	June 2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	46
50	Key Outcomes of a Survey on Students' Attitudes and Dreams of the Future: Education, family, work	Bulgaria	Europe and Central Asia	English	2018	Research report	Prevalence, drivers, consequences	47
<b>PROGRAMME EVALUATIONS AND IMPACT ASSESSMENTS, END LINE SURVEYS</b>								
51	UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage: Joint evaluation report		Global	English, French, Spanish, Arabic	May 2019	Evaluation	Programme evaluations and assessments, end line surveys	7
52	Evaluation of UNFPA Support to the Prevention of, Response to and Elimination of Gender-Based Violence and Harmful Practices (2012–2017)		Global	English	November 2019	Evaluation	Programme evaluations and assessments, end line surveys	7
53	Significant Change Stories on Child Protection in Ghana: Synthesis report. The collection and analysis stories from regions, municipalities, metropolitans, districts, communities in Ghana	Ghana	West and Central Africa	English	May 2018	Research report	Programme evaluations and assessments, end line surveys	18
54	Significant Change Stories on Child Protection in Ghana: Phase I (northern Ghana)	Ghana	West and Central Africa	English	May 2018	Research report	Programme evaluations and assessments, end line surveys	19
55	Significant Change Stories on Child Protection in Ghana: Phase II (southern Ghana)	Ghana	West and Central Africa	English	May 2018	Research report	Programme evaluations and assessments, end line surveys	19
56	Assessment of the Integrated ASRH Programme (Sistas' Club Initiative) for Selected Girls in Six Regions in Ghana	Ghana	West and Central Africa	English	May 2019	Research report	Programme evaluations and assessments, end line surveys	20
57	Evaluation of the Initiative for Adolescents in Niger - Illimin Zaman Dunia: Knowledge for dignity	Niger	West and Central Africa	French	2019	Evaluation	Programme evaluations and assessments, end line surveys	22
58	End Line Survey Report: 'Zero tolerance – gender-based violence free schools in Nepal'	Nepal	South Asia	English	September 2019	End line survey	Programme evaluations and assessments, end line surveys	38
<b>ACTIVITY MAPPINGS, LESSONS LEARNT, REVIEWS</b>								
59	Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage: Phase II design workshop report		Global	English	April 2019	Workshop report	Activity mappings, lessons learnt, reviews	8
60	Marriage Laws in Africa: A compendium from 55 African Union Member States		Africa	English	June 2018	Compendium	Activity mappings, lessons learnt, reviews	11
61	Review of the African Union Campaign to End Child Marriage 2014–2018		Africa	English	November 2018	Review brief	Activity mappings, lessons learnt, reviews	11

## ANNEX: ALL PUBLICATIONS BY TOPIC

	TITLE	COUNTRY	REGION	LANGUAGE	PUBLICATION DATE	TYPE OF PUBLICATION	TOPIC	PAGE
62	First East and Southern Africa Regional Symposium: Improving menstrual health management for adolescent girls and women		East and Southern Africa	English	May 2018	Meeting report	Activity mappings, lessons learnt, reviews	12
63	Life Skills Programmes to End Child Marriage: Are they fit for purpose? A regional synopsis from East and Southern Africa		East and Southern Africa	English	2018	Synopsis	Activity mappings, lessons learnt, reviews	12
64	Child Protection Budget Brief	Ghana	West and Central Africa	English	September 2019	Budget brief	Activity mappings, lessons learnt, reviews	17
65	Report on the Regional Forum on Adolescent Pregnancy, Child Marriage and Early Union in South East Asia		South East Asia	English	April 2018	Meeting report	Activity mappings, lessons learnt, reviews	27
66	Revealing the Truth of Marriage Dispensation: An analysis of child marriage practice in Tuban, Bogor, and Mamuju districts	Indonesia	East Asia	English	January 2019	Research brief	Activity mappings, lessons learnt, reviews	28
67	Gender Responsive Communication for Development: Mapping and Assessment of UNICEF Initiatives in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan		South Asia	English	February 2018	Research report	Activity mappings, lessons learnt, reviews	31
68	Child Marriage in South Asia: An evidence review		South Asia	English	October 2019	Research report	Activity mappings, lessons learnt, reviews	32
69	Ending Child Marriage in India: Drivers and strategies	India	South Asia	English	November 2019	Research report	Activity mappings, lessons learnt, reviews	37
70	Formative Review of Adolescent Health Program in Nepal	Nepal	South Asia	English	September 2018	Research report	Activity mappings, lessons learnt, reviews	39
71	Facilitator's Report of the Review of the Implementation and Planning Meeting with Districts on the Global Programme on Accelerating Action to End Child Marriage	Nepal	South Asia	English	December 2018	Workshop report	Activity mappings, lessons learnt, reviews	40
72	Accelerate Actions to End Child Marriage and Early Unions in Latin America and the Caribbean		Latin America and the Caribbean	English, Spanish	June 2018	Executive report	Activity mappings, lessons learnt, reviews	43