The impact of education on child marriage: Evidence & insights in practice



Based on the evidence, the WHO recommends implementing child marriage interventions that:

- Remove gender-based barriers to education
- Ensure girls' completion of 12 years of quality education



Check out the evidence behind this recommendation in our <u>brief.</u>



Why focus on education & child marriage?

Education is a protective factor around child marriage; the longer a girl stays in school, the less likely she is to marry before age 18: 1



In contexts where marriage and education are mutually exclusive, just being in school can be enough to prevent child marriage.



beyond marriage.



A critical mass of girls going to school can transform social norms in families and communities to expand opportunities for girls.



What works to improve education & child marriage outcomes?



National-level policies to improve outcomes at scale:

- Remove school fees & financial barriers (uniforms, books, exams, transport)
- Support girls' transition & retention in secondary schooling
- Implement gender-transformative approaches to schools, curricula & teaching
- Develop policies that challenge gender discrimination & increase long-term economic opportunities for girls & women
- Strengthen civil registration & education policies to include displaced & refugee girls



Multicomponent interventions linking education, social norms and livelihood programming:

- Consider gender-transformative, wholesystem approaches to address multiple drivers of child marriage
- Use feminist participatory approaches to address gendered social norms & create inclusive education models with the wider community
- Consider using cash transfers, combined with investment in key services



Targeted interventions accounting for context and the girls most at risk:

- Consider the specific needs & barriers for ever-married, pregnant and/or parenting girls, LGBTQIA+ people and people with disabilities, and those affected by conflict & crisis
- Blend formal and informal education to build girls' foundational, transferable & technical skills
- Use safe spaces to engage ever-married girls & girls affected by conflict & crisis in education & vocational training beyond school
- Consider (married) girls' unpaid domestic & care work



Some practical tools:

- <u>Gender-transformative education: Reimagining education for a more just and inclusive world</u>
- <u>Visualisation tool: Assessing the girl friendliness of schools</u>
- Shifting norms around violence in schools: A guide for trainers and facilitators working with children and young people
- <u>Gender responsive pedagogy teacher training: The case for holistic investment in girls</u>
- Guidance for developing gender-responsive education sector plans.
- International technical guidance on sexuality education
- <u>International technical guidance and programmatic guidance on out of-</u> school comprehensive sexuality education (CSE)
- <u>Technical note on life skills programmes for empowering adolescent</u> girls: Notes for practitioners on what works
- Financing matters: A toolkit on domestic financing for education
- Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack:
 - <u>Resource bank</u> of tools to support the implementation of the Safe Schools Declaration
 - o <u>Toolkit</u> for collecting and analysing data on attacks on education



Spaces for learning:

- UNGEI <u>knowledge hub</u> & <u>learning series</u>
- The Child Marriage Research to Action Network
- Align platform



Working on child marriage and education?

Submit your research to the CRANK.



to End Child Marriage





