

### 4.3 Understanding the national policy context

#### What is the context in which you are working?

In order to identify strong advocacy objectives and develop an effective post-2015 advocacy strategy, it is important to consider the context in which you are working. By tailoring your advocacy according to government commitments, laws and policies, your position will be more credible and powerful.

#### Some questions to consider about your national policy context:

- Has your government released a paper on its post-2015 priorities? Does it mention child, early and forced marriage, or a focus on gender equality?
- How was the post-2015 policy developed? Who led the process? Who participated? Was civil society involved?
- What is the prevalence rate of child, early and forced marriage?
- Has your government launched a national campaign to end child, early and forced marriage?
- Have government officials made statements about the importance of addressing child, early and forced marriage?
- What laws and policies have been introduced to address child, early and forced marriage?
- Are laws and policies on child, early and forced marriage implemented?
- The political context – how legitimate or powerful is the government?
- Is there an independent media?
- Is there a strong civil society?

See section 4.7 for use of other national level data

#### Regional and national context:

- Did your government co-sponsor the Human Rights Council resolution on child, early and forced marriage in 2013, or sign the 2014 joint statement on child, early and forced marriage at the Human Rights Council?
- Did your government co-sponsor the UN General Assembly resolution on child, early and forced marriage in 2014 or 2013?
- Did your government make a commitment at, or sign the Charter of the Girl Summit, organised by the UK government and UNICEF in July 2014?
- Is your country taking part in the AU campaign to end child marriage?
- Has your country ratified the Maputo Protocol or the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child?

- Did a minister from your country sign the Ministerial Commitment on comprehensive sexuality education and sexual and reproductive health services for adolescents and young people in Eastern and Southern African (ESA)?
- Is your government a member of the South Asia Initiative to End Violence Against Children (SAIEVAC) and supporting a regional action plan to end child marriage?
- How active in and influenced by regional voting blocs is your government?

### 4.4 Government commitments

See table below.

#### Key:

- ✓ = Yes
- ◆ = Signed Girl Summit Charter
- ⊙ = Supported target in OWG
- ✗ = Did not support target in OWG

#### Notes:

**Girl Summit Charter** - adopted at the Girl Summit on child marriage and FGM organised by the UK government and UNICEF in July 2014. The Charter calls for the inclusion of child, early and forced marriage in the post-2015 development framework

**Human Rights Council Resolution, 2013** - called for a report on child, early and forced marriage by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and for a panel discussion in June 2014

**Human Rights Council joint statement, 2014** - called for a resolution on child, early and forced marriage in June 2015

**UN General Assembly Resolution on child, early and forced marriage, 2014** - first substantive resolution on child, early and forced marriage, adopted by the UN General Assembly in November 2014

**UN General Assembly Resolution on child, early and forced marriage, 2013** - first resolution on child, early and forced marriage, adopted by the UN General Assembly, called for a panel discussion



State	Joint statement at HRC, 2014	HRC resolution, 2013 co-sponsor	UNGA resolution, 2013 co-sponsor	UNGA resolution, 2014 co-sponsors	Post-2015 position	Girl Summit Commitments	Prevalence, married by age 18 % (UNICEF)
Afghanistan			✓	✓	◆		40
Albania	✓	✓	✓	✓			10
Algeria	✓	✓	✓	✓	⊙		2
Andorra	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A
Angola	✓	✓	✓	✓	⊙		N/A
Antigua and Barbuda							N/A
Argentina	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A
Armenia	✓	✓	✓	✓			7
Australia	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ⊙		N/A
Austria	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ⊙		N/A
Azerbaijan							12
Bahamas		✓					N/A
Bahrain							N/A
Bangladesh					✗	✓	65
Barbados							N/A
Belarus							3
Belgium	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A
Belize							26
Benin	✓	✓	✓	✓	⊙		32
Bhutan							26
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)		✓	✓	✓			22
Bosnia and Herzegovina	✓	✓	✓	✓			4
Botswana	✓	✓	✓	✓	⊙		N/A
Brazil		✓			◆		36
Brunei Darussalam							N/A
Bulgaria	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ⊙		N/A
Burkina Faso	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆	✓	52
Burundi	✓	✓	✓	✓			20
Cambodia		✓		✓			18
Cameroon	✓	✓	✓	✓			38
Canada	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ⊙	✓	N/A
Cape Verde	✓	✓	✓	✓			18
Central African Republic	✓	✓	✓	✓			68
Chad	✓	✓	✓	✓			68
Chile	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A
China					⊙		N/A
Colombia	✓	✓	✓	✓			23
Comoros	✓	✓	✓	✓			32
Congo	✓	✓	✓	✓	⊙		33
Costa Rica	✓	✓	✓	✓			21
Côte d'Ivoire	✓	✓	✓	✓			33
Croatia	✓	✓	✓	✓	⊙		N/A
Cuba	✓	✓	✓	✓			40
Cyprus	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆		N/A
Czech Republic	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A
Democratic People's Republic of Korea							N/A
Democratic Republic of the Congo	✓	✓	✓	✓			39
Denmark	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ⊙		N/A
Djibouti	✓	✓	✓	✓			5
Dominica							N/A
Dominican Republic			✓	✓			41
Ecuador		✓	✓	✓			22
Egypt	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗		17
El Salvador		✓	✓	✓	✗		25
Equatorial Guinea	✓	✓	✓	✓			30
Eritrea	✓	✓	✓	✓			41
Estonia	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A
Ethiopia	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ⊙	✓	41
Fiji							N/A
Finland	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A

State	Joint statement at HRC, 2014	HRC resolution, 2013 co-sponsor	UNGA resolution, 2013 co-sponsor	UNGA resolution, 2014 co-sponsors	Post-2015 position	Girl Summit Commitments	Prevalence, married by age 18 % (UNICEF)
France	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ○		N/A
Gabon	✓						22
Gambia	✓						36
Georgia	✓	✓	✓	✓			14
Germany	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ○		N/A
Ghana	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ○	✓	21
Greece	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆		N/A
Grenada							N/A
Guatemala		✓	✓	✓			30
Guinea	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆		52
Guinea-Bissau	✓				◆		22
Guyana							23
Haiti	✓	✓	✓	✓			18
Honduras	✓	✓	✓	✓			34
Hungary	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆		N/A
Iceland	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A
India					✗		47
Indonesia					○		17
Iran (Islamic Republic of)					✗		17
Iraq							24
Ireland	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ○		N/A
Israel	✓				○		N/A
Italy	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ○		N/A
Jamaica		✓	✓	✓			8
Japan	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆	✓	N/A
Jordan		✓	✓	✓			8
Kazakhstan	✓				○		6
Kenya	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ○		26
Kiribati							20
Kuwait							N/A
Kyrgyzstan		✓	✓	✓			8
Lao People's Republic							35
Latvia	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆		N/A
Lebanon		✓	✓	✓			6
Lesotho	✓				○		19
Liberia	✓						38
Libya	✓						N/A
Liechtenstein	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A
Lithuania	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆		N/A
Luxembourg	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A
Madagascar	✓	✓	✓	✓			41
Malawi	✓				◆ ○		50
Malaysia							N/A
Maldives	✓	✓	✓	✓			4
Mali	✓						55
Malta	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ○		N/A
Marshall Islands							26
Mauritania	✓						34
Mauritius	✓						N/A
Mexico				✓			23
Micronesia (Federated States of)							N/A
Monaco	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A
Mongolia							5
Montenegro	✓	✓	✓	✓	○		5
Morocco	✓	✓	✓	✓	○		16
Mozambique	✓	✓	✓	✓	○	✓	48
Myanmar					○		N/A
Namibia	✓	✓	✓	✓	○		9
Nauru					○		27
Nepal		✓	✓	✓	◆	✓	41
Netherlands	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ○	✓	N/A
New Zealand	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A
Nicaragua		✓	✓	✓			41
Niger	✓					✓	76
Nigeria	✓				○		43
Norway	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ○		N/A
Oman							N/A

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Pakistan					⊙		21
Palau			✓	✓	⊙		N/A
Panama		✓	✓	✓			N/A
Papua New Guinea			✓	✓	⊙		21
Paraguay	✓	✓	✓	✓			18
Peru	✓	✓	✓	✓			19
Philippines				✓			14
Poland	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆		N/A
Portugal	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ⊙		N/A
Qatar							N/A
Republic of Korea	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A
Republic of Moldova	✓	✓	✓	✓			19
Romania	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A
Russian Federation							N/A
Rwanda	✓	✓	✓	✓			8
Saint Kitts and Nevis							N/A
Saint Lucia							8
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines							N/A
Samoa				✓			N/A
San Marino			✓	✓			N/A
São Tomé and Príncipe	✓		✓				34
Saudi Arabia					✕		N/A
Senegal	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆		33
Serbia	✓	✓	✓	✓			5
Seychelles	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A
Sierra Leone	✓	✓	✓	✓			44
Singapore	✓	✓	✓	✓			N/A
Slovakia	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆		N/A
Slovenia	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ⊙		N/A
Solomon Islands				✓			22
Somalia	✓	✓		✓	◆		45
South Africa	✓				⊙		6
South Sudan	✓	✓	✓	✓			52
Spain	✓	✓	✓	✓	⊙		N/A
Sri Lanka							12
State of Palestine		✓					21
Sudan	✓				◆		33
Suriname				✓			19
Swaziland	✓				⊙		7
Sweden	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ⊙	✓	N/A
Switzerland	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ⊙	✓	N/A
Syrian Arab Republic							13
Tajikistan		✓					12
Thailand	✓	✓	✓	✓			22
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	✓		✓	✓			7
Timor-Leste		✓					19
Togo	✓	✓	✓	✓			25
Tonga							6
Trinidad and Tobago							8
Tunisia	✓	✓	✓	✓	⊙		2
Turkey	✓	✓	✓	✓	⊙		14
Turkmenistan			✓	✓			N/A
Tuvalu				✓			10
Uganda	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆	✓	40
Ukraine	✓	✓	✓	✓			9
United Arab Emirates							N/A
United Kingdom	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ⊙	✓	N/A
United Republic of Tanzania	✓		✓	✓	⊙		37
United States of America	✓	✓	✓	✓	⊙	✓	N/A
Uruguay	✓	✓		✓			N/A
Uzbekistan							7
Vanuatu			✓	✓			21
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)		✓	✓	✓			N/A
Vietnam							9
Yemen		✓			◆	✓	32
Zambia	✓	✓	✓	✓	◆ ⊙	✓	42
Zimbabwe	✓				⊙		31