Concept Note

Ending Child, Early and Forced Marriages and Unions is Achievable – Proposal for a Satellite Event

Global EVAC Ministerial Conference - November 2024

Context

In the realm of The Global Ministerial Conference on Ending Violence Against Children (EVAC), World Vision (WV), Girls Not Brides: The Global Partnership to End Child Marriage, Brave Movement, and Plan International are strategically and actively engaging across all echelons to wield influence over the EVAC agenda, substantiate it with evidence, and foster commitments, notably through participation in the National Preparatory Processes. Child, early, and forced marriage and unions (CEFMU) represent a severe form of violence against children (VAC) on a global scale. Girls, in particular, are disproportionately affected. To strengthen the commitment to ending CEFMU, governments and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) will engage in thought-provoking, and solution-oriented discussions during a satellite event on 5 November.

Objectives

❖ To highlight CEFMU as a severe form of violence against children.
❖ To demonstrate the achievability of ending CEFMU.
❖ To facilitate honest intergenerational conversations regarding CEFMU and how working together across generations can help eradicate it,
❖ To catalyze increased commitments to multi-stakeholder partnerships to end CEFMU, emphasizing locally driven solutions and accountability mechanisms.

Agenda, Methodology and Key Potential Speakers

▪ Opening: Girls Not Brides, World Vision International, a child delegate
▪ Interview with the Stakeholders: Representatives of Kenya, Sierra Leone, Canada, Bangladesh.
▪ Fishbowl discussions with government representatives, national and global CSOs, multi-lateral agencies, children, survivors from Brave Movement, faith actors, and women's groups.
▪ Video and insights from Brave Movement
▪ Closing remarks by Plan International

Evidence

Evidence to be leveraged in the side event includes the following:

Girls Not Brides Child Marriage Research to Action Network (CRANK) reports.

WV: Global Thematic Review on the ways to address CEFMU; Country briefs from Bangladesh, Kenya, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Dominican Republic.

UNICEF and UNFPA Global Programming to End Child Marriage evaluations and reviews.

Plan International: Causes, trends, levers, and impact of CEFMU in Cambodia; Current implementation, lessons learned, and best practices on the SADC model law on CEFMU; A scoping review: What is driving
the persistence of high rates of child marriage and thwarting efforts to eradicate it in sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East and North Africa, and Asia?

Other evidence from Government and other stakeholders.

**Key messages**

It is achievable to end CEFMU through:

- Effective partnerships among governments, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), children, women's groups, survivors, faith-based organizations
- Intergenerational dialogue, emphasizing child-led advocacy testimonies, particularly those addressing the linkages between violence against children (VAC) and violence against women and girls (VAWG).
- Concrete commitments, including the financial ones and establishing accountability mechanisms for these commitments.

**Venue** Agora, Room B  
**Day and Time:** 05.11.2024; 2:30 pm-3:30 pm

**Registration Link:** [HERE](#)

**Contact persons:** Georgina Epure, [georgiana.epure@girlsnotbrides.org](mailto:georgiana.epure@girlsnotbrides.org), Brikena Zogaj, [Brikena.Zogaj@wvi.org](mailto:Brikena.Zogaj@wvi.org)