



GIRLS NOT BRIDES

The Global Partnership to End Child Marriage

What are National Partnerships (NPs)?

- Groups collaborating at the national level
- Developing and implementing long-term joint strategies
- Existing NPs (associated with *Girls Not Brides* global): Ghana, Mozambique, Nepal, UK, Bangladesh
- Other NPs (own identities / in formation): Ethiopia, Tanzania, Turkey, Uganda, USA



Why does *Girls Not Brides* work with national partnerships?

- Change will happen on the national level
- To achieve *Girls Not Brides* 2014 – 2016 strategic plan
- For country developments to inform global work
- Share lessons learned between NPs



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How does *Girls Not Brides* work with national partnerships?



- Point persons
- Regular updates
- Meetings
- Consultations
- Google group

- Highlight work
- Cross NP learning
- Capacity development as appropriate
- Links with new members

- Global advocacy
- Highlighting evidence
- Increasing funding to the field
- National level change
- Strengthening the reach of the partnership



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How to work with *Girls Not Brides*?

MoU (Board approval)

- Explicit association w/ *Girls Not Brides*
- Align work with *Girls Not Brides* objectives
- Official members are only CSOs
- Take the *Girls Not Brides* NP name
- Regular communication with secretariat

Agreement of collaboration

- Different name and identity
- Members include various types of stakeholders
- Regular communication with secretariat
- Ad hoc collaboration around specific opportunities



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Achievements of existing partnerships

Girls Not Brides Nepal

- Advocated for dedicated strategy to address child marriage in Nepal and played key role as the main civil society partnership in research and building consensus during consultations to inform the national strategy

Girls Not Brides Mozambique

- Advocated for dedicated strategy to address child marriage in Mozambique and launch of national campaign

Tanzania Ending Child Marriage Network (TECMN)

- Joint advocacy to amend the Law of Marriage Act & developed campaigns in high prevalence areas, involving traditional and religious leaders

Girls Not Brides USA

- Co-hosted consultation on child marriage with USAID & developed working paper on whole-of-government approach to ending child marriage which helped its inclusion in US government's Adolescent Girl Strategy



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Setting up a national partnership: requirements



So you want to start a NP

Members should consider:

- Added value of the partnership
- Incentives and benefits vs. time and effort required
- Readiness to commit staff time and resources



Define your identity: name, vision and mission

- Our vision? *i.e. end result we want to see*
- Our mission? *i.e. longer term goals to make our vision a reality*
- *How do they relate to GNB?*
- *Identity (should we take the GNB name?)*



Membership and stakeholders engagement

- Child marriage requires multi-stakeholder collaboration
- **Define clear membership criteria**
- **Develop plan to mobilise and grow membership**
- Define how to engage with different actors: government, UN agencies, etc.



Governance and decision making

- Establish clear roles, responsibilities, term and approval process
- Ensure work is shared among members
- Balance between leadership and ownership
- Decision-making process: consensus not winners
- Examples: **steering committees** (for strategic oversight and policy decisions) **working groups** (to advance specific issues)



Coordination structure

- Either a dedicated coordinator, or a significant percentage of a member's time
- E.g. GNB USA has 3 co-chairs who allocate 20% of their time to coalition work (or 1 day a week);
GNB Ghana: 40% of their time (2 days /week),
Mozambique: 50% of their time (2.5 days /week)

Don't underestimate the time needed to coordinate



Develop a common strategy

Joint strategy development with the full group that includes:

- Issue and stakeholders analysis to set common objectives
- Determine your pathways to change
- Develop a common action plan (with activities, roles & timeline)
- Set up a framework for M&E



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Operational issues

- Set up process for regular check-ins and to share information
- Establish effective communication channels (e.g. Google groups, skype conferences etc.)
- Consider setting up thematic working groups
- **Important to foster participation and ownership and making sure no-one feels left out**



Operations issues: resource mobilisation

- Don't underestimate the cost of running a partnership
- Budget your strategy plan
- Assess available resources
- Consider fundraising options (for specific events?, membership fees? Etc.)
- Develop principles for managing partnership funds which are clear, transparent and provide a means of accountability



Recap of requirements

- Identity
- Mission statement
- Criteria for joining; engagement and mobilisation plans
- Governance structure and decision making processes
- Coordination mechanism
- Strategic plan
- Operational issues (participation, communication, resource mobilization)



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Conclusions

- Formal affiliation is not for everyone
- Preparation work and decision making
- Commitment and collaboration

**Work with the Secretariat from
the beginning!**

