



GIRLS NOT BRIDES

The Global Partnership
to End Child Marriage

IT TAKES A MOVEMENT

REFLECTING ON FIVE YEARS OF PROGRESS TOWARDS
ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE

About this report



Child marriage has been practised for centuries around the world, cutting across countries, religions and ethnicities – undermining the potential of girls everywhere. Yet five years ago, little attention was paid to this issue. Much has changed since.

This *Girls Not Brides* report looks at the progress we've made, where we are now, and where we need to go next.

[Download the report](#)

Share the report

Twitter

- Progress made to #endchildmarriage over last 5yrs must be matched by action, says @GirlsNotBrides bit.ly/2cGGW77 #ItTakesAMovement
- We've achieved so much to #endchildmarriage in just 5 yrs, but we need to do a lot more! bit.ly/2cGGW77 #ItTakesAMovement #IDG2016
- #ItTakesAMovement to #EndChildMarriage! Look at how much we've achieved in the last 5 years bit.ly/2cGGW77 #IDG2016

Facebook

- It's hard to believe how far we've come – from global commitments and national strategies, to increased funding and better research, look at what the movement to end child marriage has achieved in just 5 years. bit.ly/2cGGW77
- It takes a movement to end child marriage. And look at what this movement has achieved! Read @GirlsNotBrides' five-year progress report: bit.ly/2cGGW77

Share your stories of progress

#ItTakesAMovement

Join our tweet-chat!

What progress has been made on child marriage, and what remains to be done? Come chat with us on Wednesday 28 September, 10 am GMT. Follow #GNBchat.

Take our Twitter surveys

In the lead-up to Day of the Girl, we are asking our followers where they have seen progress & where change is still needed. Follow [@GirlsNotBrides](https://twitter.com/GirlsNotBrides) to take part!



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INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL 2016

ACTIVITIES & MESSAGES

Celebrating Day of the Girl 2016

#IDG2016

#ItTakesAMovement

Who inspires you?

Share the stories of those working to end child marriage at the global, regional, national levels and in your community too.

In the run-up to Day of the Girl, we will profile the most inspiring stories of change. Use #IDG2016 and #ItTakesAMovement to share your stories, and don't forget to tag @GirlsNotBrides!

- On #IDG2016, let's raise our voices & call for govt accountability to #endchildmarriage by 2030!
#ItTakesAMovement
- We've made huge progress to #endchildmarriage, but more needs to be done to improve girls' lives!
#IDG2016 #ItTakesAMovement
- Leaders need to turn their #SDGs commitment to #endchildmarriage into action bit.ly/2cGGW77
#ItTakesAMovement #IDG2016
- If we don't step up efforts to #endchildmarriage, 1.2 billion women will have been married by 2050
#IDG2016 #ItTakesAMovement

Key messages

#IDG2016
#ItTakesAMovement



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SOCIAL MEDIA INFOGRAPHICS

CLICK ON EACH PHOTO TO DOWNLOAD (OR VIEW THE
ALBUM [HERE](#))

Key statistics about child marriage

720 million women alive today
were married before 18

bit.ly/2cGGW77

#EndChildMarriage #IDG2016

CHILD MARRIAGE AROUND THE WORLD: KEY FACTS

15 MILLION

girls a year marry before
the age of 18

1.2 BILLION

women will have married as children by 2050
if there is no reduction in child marriage

720 MILLION

women alive today were married
before the age of 18

1 IN 4 GIRLS

globally are married
before the age of 18

250 MILLION

women alive today were married
before the age of 15

156 MILLION

men alive today were married
before the age of 18

**Child marriage occurs around the world,
and cuts across countries, cultures,
religions and ethnicities:**

Percentage of 20-24 year old girls married before 18:



45%
in South Asia



39%
in sub-Saharan Africa



23%
in Latin America and
the Caribbean



18%
in the Middle East
and North Africa.

**Child marriage also persists in some
communities in Europe and North America.**

Child marriage trends

#Childmarriage is on the decline, but it's not happening fast enough

bit.ly/2cGGW77

#ItTakesAMovement
#IDG2016

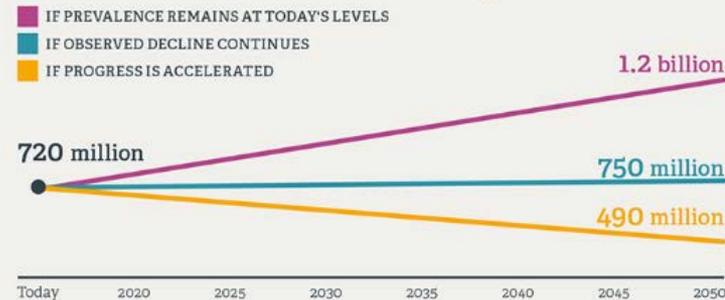
Globally, the practice of child marriage is declining, especially when it comes to marriage of girls under age 15

Percentage of women aged 20 to 24 years who were married or in union before ages 15 and 18*



* Notes: Estimates are based on a subset of 120 countries with available trend data covering 64 per cent of the global population of women aged 20-24 years. Source: UNICEF global databases, 2016, based on DHS, MICS and other nationally representative surveys, 2003-2014.

Number of women aged 18 and older who were married or in union before age 18



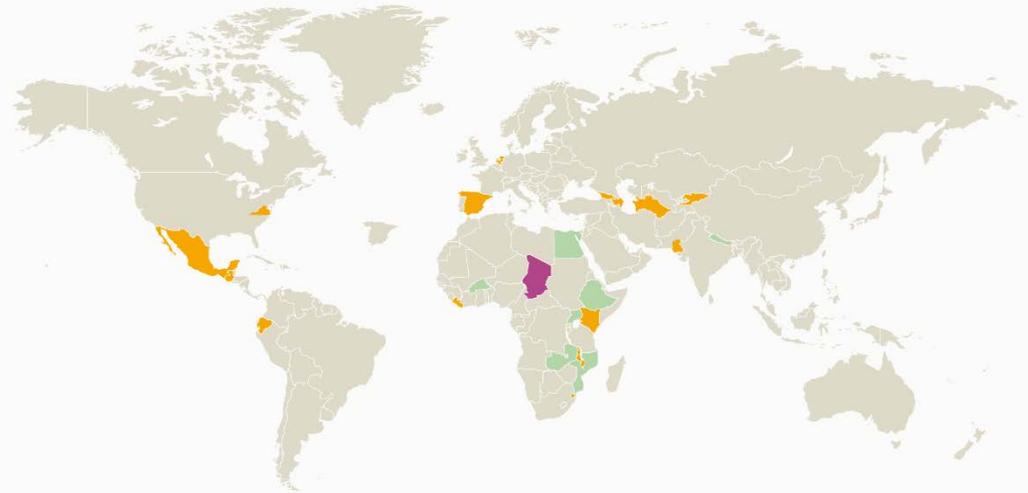
Unless more is done, staggering numbers of girls will continue to be married as children

* Notes: Projections of child marriage prevalence are calculated on the basis of annual rates of change observed over time, in order to estimate what the prevalence would be in the future if these rates of change persist. The acceleration scenario applies double the rate of reduction observed in the past. Source: UNICEF Data Analytics Section, 2016

Global and national progress

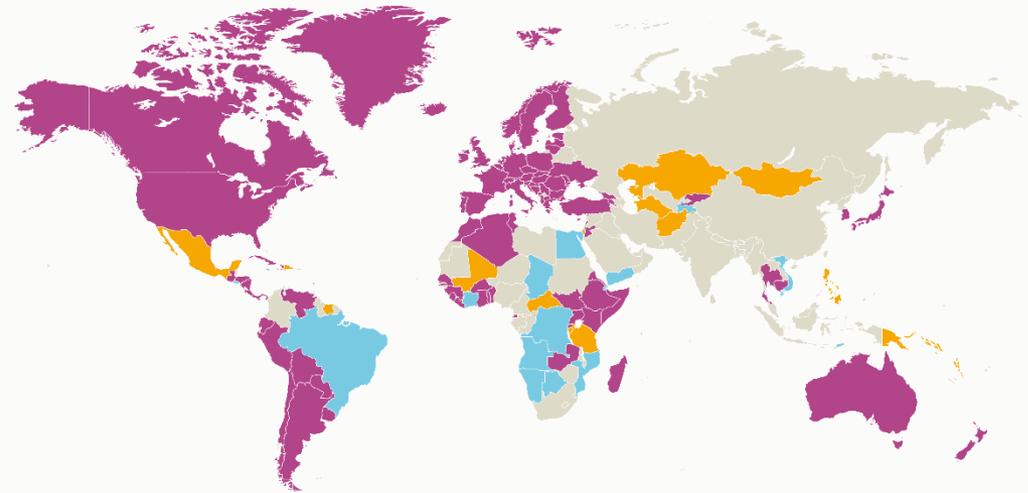
Which countries are making progress on #childmarriage? Have a look bit.ly/2cGGW77 #ItTakesAMovement #IDG2016

COUNTRIES WITH NATIONAL STRATEGIES & COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE MADE LEGAL REFORMS ON CHILD MARRIAGE SINCE 2011



- COUNTRIES WITH NATIONAL STRATEGIES
- COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE MADE LEGAL REFORMS
- COUNTRIES WITH NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND WHICH ALSO HAVE MADE LEGAL REFORMS

COUNTRIES WHICH CO-SPONSORED THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS IN 2013 AND 2015 & COUNTRIES WHICH CO-SPONSORED THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2014



- COUNTRIES WHICH CO-SPONSORED THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS ONLY
- COUNTRIES WHICH CO-SPONSORED THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION ONLY
- COUNTRIES WHICH CO-SPONSORED BOTH THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS AND THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<p>OCTOBER</p> <p>Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting</p> <p>54 Heads of Government commit to taking action.</p>  <p>CHOGM 2011 PERTH, AUSTRALIA</p>	<p>OCTOBER</p> <p>1st International Day of the Girl Child</p> <p>Focuses on child marriage and 50 <i>Girls Not Brides</i> members from 29 countries call for action.</p>  	<p>SEPTEMBER</p> <p>1st ever HRC resolution on child marriage</p> <p>Co-sponsored by 100+ countries, puts child marriage on the HRC agenda.</p> <p>DECEMBER</p> <p>1st ever UNGA resolution on child marriage</p> <p>Puts child marriage on the UN General Assembly agenda highlighting it as a barrier to development.</p> 	<p>APRIL</p> <p>1st OHCHR report on child, early and forced marriage</p> <p>Sets out international human rights standards related to child, early and forced marriage. 70+ civil society organisations contribute to consultation.</p> <p>JULY</p> <p>London Girl Summit</p> <p>1st global summit to mobilise efforts to end child marriage and FGM/C within a generation.</p> 	<p>MAY</p> <p>Commonwealth Kigali Declaration</p> <p>Adopted by 15 National Human Rights Institutions.</p> <p>JUNE</p> <p>Common African Position on Ending Child Marriage in Africa</p> <p>Adopted by all AU Member States, calls for comprehensive action and minimum age of marriage at 18.</p> <p>JULY</p> <p>2nd HRC resolution on child marriage</p> <p>Co-sponsored by 85+ countries and adopted by consensus, recognises child marriage as a violation of human rights and a barrier to sustainable development.</p> <p>SEPTEMBER</p> <p>SDGs address child marriage</p> <p>The culmination of five years' effort - the SDGs include target 5.3 that commits all governments to take concrete action to end child marriage by 2030.</p> 
<p>KEY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AU African Union CEDAW Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women CRC Committee on the Rights of the Child CSW Commission on the Status of Women FGM/C Female Genital Mutilation / Cutting HRC Human Rights Council OHCHR Office of High Commission for Human Rights UNGA UN General Assembly SAIEVAC South Asian Initiative to End Violence Against Children (Apex Body of The South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC)) SDGs Sustainable Development Goals 				

Putting child marriage on the agenda: key milestones

#Childmarriage is firmly on the global agenda – let's keep it that way!
bit.ly/2cGGW77 #ItTakesAMovement #IDG2016

Quotes

If we
#endchildmarriage,
we can empower
millions of girls &
transform
communities –
Desmond Tutu
#ItTakesAMovement
#IDG2016

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“The world is now blessed with the biggest generation of girls in history. By ending child marriage we can empower millions of girls to fulfil their potential and help to transform communities on an unprecedented scale.” Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Co-founder and Champion of *Girls Not Brides* and former Chair of The Elders

“Child marriage needs a comprehensive approach with strategic actions. The more sectors we can involve in finding solutions to child marriage, the more we can make it work.” Sophia Piral, Asociación Pro Bienestar de la Familia de Guatemala (APROFAM), Guatemala

“Culture is the best of the values that we as human beings cherish. What we need to challenge are the traditions and practices that have developed over time that are harmful to girls and women and which do not represent our values. Traditions were made by people; they can be changed by people.” Graça Machel, Co-founder and Champion of *Girls Not Brides*, and a member of The Elders



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WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

1 Hold governments accountable to their international, regional and national commitments,

in particular to developing ambitious plans for implementing target 5.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals with clear indicators for progress.

2 Develop, implement and fund comprehensive policies, programmes and plans

to end child marriage and support married girls, in partnership with civil society and other key stakeholders. This might involve the development of targeted national strategies and/or integration of child marriage into related strategies for girls and children.

3 Continue to grow and strengthen the movement

by involving new stakeholders, developing new partnerships, and supporting new champions. Ensure that young people are at the forefront of the movement.

4 Celebrate and share successes,

including case studies of individuals overcoming child marriage; of communities who have united to promote a better future for their girls, of policy change or programmatic initiatives which have had a large-scale impact and ultimately of regions and countries where child marriage has been tackled in a holistic and comprehensive manner.

5 Engage related sectors

such as those addressing education, health or violence – at global, regional, national and local levels, so that they integrate a focus on ending child marriage into their work.

6 Learn from what works and what doesn't

so that efforts to end child marriage are based on the latest evidence. Ensure the necessary research, documentation and evaluation of programmes and policies, and learn from other sectors and initiatives which address social norm change.

7 Increase funding for efforts which prevent child marriage and support married girls,

and ensure the necessary support for grassroots groups working directly with those affected. In particular, target investment in education and health programmes for girls, as well as in initiatives which tackle social norm change over the long term.

What next?

Here is a 7-step recipe to boosting global efforts to #endchildmarriage!
#ItTakesAMovement
bit.ly/2cGGW77 #IDG2016

