01.
GLOBAL OVERVIEW

New data confirm that the practice of child marriage has continued to decline around the world, with accelerated progress in the last 10 years.

Progress is insufficient to meet the ambitious target of elimination, as set forth in the SDGs.
Child marriage has continued to decline around the world

Percentage of women aged 20 to 24 years who were first married or in union before age 18, observed and projected

- Observed prevalence
- Projected prevalence if observed declines continue
- Projected prevalence if progress is accelerated

Source: UNICEF global databases, 2018
Notes: Analysis is based on a subset of 107 countries with available data covering 78 per cent of the global population of women aged 20-24 years. The first projection scenario is calculated on the basis of the observed average annual rate of reduction from the past 20 years (red dotted line). The second scenario assumes a doubling in this rate of reduction (purple dotted line).
25 million child marriages have been averted in the past decade

Of these, 7 million were expected based on the prior trends
And 18 million were due to an acceleration of progress.

Legend
Number of child marriages, expected and observed:
- If no progress had been made
- If prior trends had continued
- With observed acceleration

Source: UNICEF global databases, 2018
Notes: Analysis is based on a subset of 107 countries with available data covering 78 per cent of the global population of women.
The global number of child brides is now estimated at **650 million**

**12 million:** Number of girls married in childhood each year, according to the latest prevalence and population figures.

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Source: UNICEF global databases, 2018
Notes: Analysis is based on a subset of 107 countries with available data covering 78 per cent of the global population of women.
Substantial **acceleration** is needed in order to meet the **Sustainable Development Goal** target 5.3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate of reduction in child marriage, observed and required</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average annual rate of reduction (%)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Observed over past 25 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Observed over past 10 years</td>
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<td>Required for elimination by 2030</td>
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Source: UNICEF global databases, 2018

Notes: Analysis is based on a subset of 107 countries with available data covering 78 per cent of the global population of women. For statistical purposes, elimination is defined as a prevalence of one per cent or lower.
02. Regional trends

Global progress has been driven by reductions in South Asia.

Distinct trends in the practice of child marriage are evident across geographic regions, though variation exists within regions and even within countries.
Percentage of women aged 20 to 24 years who were first married or in union before age 18, by region

Source: UNICEF global databases, 2018

Notes: Analysis is based on a subset of 107 countries with available data covering 78 per cent of the global population of women aged 20-24 years. Regional estimates represent data from countries covering at least 50 per cent of the regional population. Data coverage was insufficient to calculate regional estimates for North America and Western Europe.
**Sub-Saharan Africa** is now home to the highest prevalence of child marriage, and over the past decade has seen only modest declines.

In addition to the slow progress, the sharply increasing population means that with each passing year the number of child brides could grow.

Source: UNICEF global databases, 2018
Notes: Analysis is based on a subset of 107 countries with available data covering 78 per cent of the global population of women. Values in the chart refer to the most recently married cohort of child brides at the two points in time.
THANK YOU!

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