

***Girls Not Brides'* external evaluation 2019, Terms of Reference**

Purpose

The purpose of this evaluation is to evaluate the relevance, effectiveness, impact, and likely sustainability of the *Girls Not Brides* Secretariat's efforts in fostering collaborative action at the regional and national levels to drive change, and to provide recommendations that will inform the Secretariat's future work in these areas.

Background:

Girls Not Brides is a global partnership of more than 1000 civil society organisations committed to ending child marriage and enabling girls to fulfil their potential. Members are based throughout Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas. Stronger together, *Girls Not Brides* members bring child marriage to global attention, build an understanding of what it will take to end child marriage and call for the laws, policies and programmes that will make a difference in the lives of millions of girls.

Girls Not Brides' [2017-2020 Strategy](#) represents a roadmap for the Partnership's work. The strategy, based on consultations with over 500 individuals from member and partner organisations, identifies a set of six shared goals for the Partnership to maximise our impact for the four-year period. The strategy has guided the Secretariat's priorities since 2017.

Girls Not Brides is looking for a consultant to undertake an evaluation of two specific areas of our work. The focus areas of the evaluation were chosen by the *Girls Not Brides* Secretariat in consultation with the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), who have supported *Girls Not Brides* since 2017 and are funding this evaluation. Both areas of work were selected as they are at a critical juncture, before the *Girls Not Brides* Secretariat plans to increase efforts in these areas. Learnings generated by the evaluation will influence and help guide our future work.

1. Evaluation object and scope

The following areas of *Girls Not Brides* work in the period of 2017 – 2019 have been selected for inclusion in the evaluation:

1. Supporting National Partnerships to advance change at the national level

Girls Not Brides National Partnerships are groups of members who believe in the power of collective action to end child marriage. *Girls Not Brides* has National Partnerships in nine countries and one Indian State: Bangladesh, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, the Netherlands, Nepal, Rajasthan, Uganda, the United Kingdom and the United States. We also work with emerging and established coalitions in a number of other countries.

National/ state level Partnerships work in the following ways:

- Work with governments to develop, implement and monitor national strategies to end child marriage.
- Raise public awareness of child marriage.
- Share information and learnings to better tackle child marriage.

Through collective engagement, members have a real opportunity to catalyse broader change to end child marriage.

The evaluation will focus on *Girls Not Brides'* support for two National Partnerships (selected by *Girls Not Brides*), one in Asia and one in Africa.

2. Effective partnership building and support for regional and national level advocacy, focusing on *Girls Not Brides'* regional work on the SADC model law to end child marriage

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Model Law on Eradicating Child Marriage and Protecting Children Already in Marriage is the first-ever regional model law on child marriage. The SADC Model Law provides a common framework to end child marriage and protect children already in marriage, for law-makers, policy-makers, service providers and civil society, among other actors across the SADC region. It was developed in order to support and catalyse legal and/or policy reform on child marriage in SADC Member States by providing a regional standard and to promote cohesion among SADC Member States' in relation to their legal response to child marriage.

Girls Not Brides was involved in the development of the model law, including holding civil society consultations, and partnered with the SADC Parliamentary Forum and UNFPA East and Southern Africa Regional Office (UNFPA ESARO) to develop a user-friendly Guide to using the SADC Model Law. *Girls Not Brides* is now involved in disseminating the law among members and other relevant stakeholders.

Please note the scope may be further refined in further consultations between *Girls Not Brides* and the selected evaluator.

2. Evaluation purpose: Intended use and intended users

The purpose is to evaluate the relevance, effectiveness, impact, and likely sustainability of the *Girls Not Brides* Secretariat's efforts in fostering collaborative action at the regional and national levels to drive change, and to provide recommendations that will inform the Secretariat's more focused future work in these areas. The evaluation will complement other completed and ongoing internal learning initiatives of the *Girls Not Brides* Secretariat.

The evaluator may also be requested to take stock of how our existing monitoring and evaluation mechanisms support *Girls Not Brides* to measure impact in the focus areas to inform the refresh of the Secretariat's monitoring and evaluation framework planned for 2019. Similarly, it may offer an opportunity for our *Girls Not Brides* members involved in the process to reflect upon how they can strengthen their own M&E capacity and systems and tell the story of their work.

3. Evaluation objective and questions

3.1. National/State Partnerships, objective of evaluation

The Secretariat is currently considering how to intensify its work to support national level coalitions to drive change. An evaluation of the relevance, effectiveness, impact, and likely sustainability of the Secretariat's support to National Partnerships at this point in time will help inform our planning for future engagement. For example, an evaluation of how we are supporting the sustainability of National Partnerships would be particularly useful in light of our current consideration of how to resource and support National Partnership co-ordination and capacity development in the future. Findings may also inform case studies and generate 'stories of change' which both the secretariat and National Partnerships can use to highlight key successes and learning.

We propose a review of our support to two National/State Partnerships. The evaluator will make 2 country visits to enable a deeper interrogation of data and engagement with key stakeholders at the national/state level.

3.1.1 Possible evaluation questions for National/State Partnerships (to be refined with the consultant):

- *How relevant is the Girls Not Brides Secretariat's support to national/state advocacy civil society coalitions to end child marriage (NPs) to involved civil society stakeholders?*
- *How effective has the Girls Not Brides Secretariat's support to NPs been to strengthen their capacity in terms of coalition management and governance? How effective has the Girls Not Brides Secretariat's support to NPs been to strengthen their advocacy capacity? What is Girls Not Brides' unique function in supporting NPs?*
- *What role has the Girls Not Brides Secretariat played in the formation of State Partnerships?*
- *To what extent have NPs been able to broaden the range of, and collaborate with, other civil society actors and stakeholders working on this issue, including actors working in other sectors?*
- *What has been the impact of NPs in selected countries? (in terms of encouraging collective action, influencing government, development and implementation of national strategies)*
- *How has Girls Not Brides contributed to the development of diverse and inclusive NPs, including youth-led and women led organisations and organisations representing more marginalised groups and communities?*
- *What does it mean for the wider membership when a NP exists in the country – what benefits accrue to them?*
- *How have smaller organisations like CBOs at the country/state level benefited from being a member of Girls Not Brides? What has been the impact for them and their work?*
- *To what extent has the Secretariat supported linkages and learning at a national/regional level between NPs and key influencers, donors, media, legal institutions, and other actors who can help their work?*
- *To what extent has Girls Not Brides' support contributed to the long term sustainability of NPs, in terms of:*
 - *Increasing the profile, reputation and credibility of the NP*
 - *Developing and maintaining strong external relationships – not just with donors, but other influential stakeholders*
 - *Supporting NPs to leverage funding*
 - *Developing strong leadership pipelines and co-ordination structures in NPs*

3.2 Development and dissemination of the SADC model law to end child marriage, objective of evaluation

This evaluation will review the Secretariat's work on the SADC model law at the end of the first phase of the project (development and dissemination of the model law and the guide on how to use it). Learnings from the evaluation will shed light on how *Girls Not Brides* partners with regional actors, disseminates information for further usage and rallies regional collaboration and action. We hope it will inform our future work encouraging members and governments to use the SADC Model Law and handbook going forward, as well as informing similar processes within Africa and in other regions.

3.2.1 Possible evaluation questions related to work on the SADC Model Law (to be refined with the consultant):

How effective was Girls Not Brides' support to the development of the SADC model law and development and dissemination of the guide? What was its unique added value? What was successful? What were the challenges?

To what extent did the development of the user guide for the SADC model law developed by Girls Not Brides and partners prove to be relevant and meet the needs of stakeholders?

What lessons could we learn from the partnership amongst the organisations in the development of the guide?

How effectively have the model law and user guide been disseminated? What are the next steps and opportunities to increase awareness of the law and effective legislation at the national level?

What are the lessons from this approach for Girls Not Brides work on other regional opportunities and how might our approach be adapted for greater impact?

4. Methodology and methods for data collection and analysis (to be refined by the consultant)

For both areas of evaluation, we propose two broad stages of data collection: a review of existing project and operation documents, followed by a country visit(s) for face to face interviews with key stakeholders and/or remote key informant interviews.

The consultant will be required to:

Undertake an in person briefing with the Girls Not Brides team to understand about context of the evaluation

Undertake a literature review of key documents relating to Girls Not Brides work to support national partners and the SADC model law

Develop within 3 weeks of agreeing the contract a brief inception report highlighting methodology, detailed work plan and a timeline for completing key phases

Undertake 1-2 country visits to review work with NPs and potentially attend the SADC model law workshop in Zambia in May

Develop draft evaluation findings for discussion and validation with the Girls Not Brides team

Develop final report by July 19th

5. Organisation of evaluation management

The consultant will work with a reference group made up of *Girls Not Brides* staff. The reference group will provide support with:

- Development of the methodology for the evaluation
- Coordination in relation to access to documents, introduction to key stakeholders, and organisation of country visits for data collection
- Review of drafts of the final evaluation report.

The reference group will be made up of representatives of the following *Girls Not Brides* secretariat teams:

- Learning Team
- Partnership Team
- Donor Engagement (Part of Policy & Advocacy Team)
- Africa Team
- Asia Team

The consultant will report directly to the Head of Learning.

6. Evaluation quality

The evaluation should conform to OECD/DAC's Quality Standards for Development Evaluation. The evaluator should make use of the OECD/DAC Glossary of Key Terms in Evaluation and the evaluators shall specify how quality assurance, in accordance with DAC's quality standards, shall be handled by them during the evaluation process.

7. Anticipated time schedule and deliverables

- Call for applications and approach statements to close 12th April
- Short listed candidates interviewed week of 22-26th April and selected candidate notified by 1st May
- Kick off meeting in London week of 6th May
- Potential Zambia visit 14-17 May for SADC model law workshop
- Methodology finalised (with *Girls Not Brides*) by 20th May /within three weeks of contracting.
- 27th May – 14th June data collection including through 1-2 country visits to meet with National Partnerships (dates TBC)
- First draft report due 28th June
- Final version due 19th July

8. Evaluation team qualifications

Suitable candidates will have the following skills, experience and qualifications:

- Advanced level degree in relevant academic area e.g. development studies, social sciences
- Minimum seven years' experience working in monitoring and evaluation or research, including as lead investigator of an evaluation
- Experience in international development, including with of supporting networks g of civil society organisations and advocacy
- Good understanding of gender, sexual and reproductive health, rights based organisations or similar
- Good understanding of movement building for collective advocacy
- Significant in country experience in developing countries
- Experience and understanding of how member/ partnership-based global organisations work desirable

9. Application process

Interested candidates should submit the following to the *Girls Not Brides* recruitment inbox recruitment@GirlsNotBrides.org by 12th of April:

- A short statement of your capabilities and experience of undertaking similar assignments,
- A sample of an evaluation you have led or taken a leading role in;

- A short (not more than 2 page) description of your overall approach and methodology for completing this assignment;
- Your CV;
- Proposed Budget (including consultancy daily rates, travel and communications).