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Child Marriage Model of Action for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region

Edition 2021



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Helping children worldwide.



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Acronyms

A2J

Access to Justice

ABYM

Adolescent Boys & Young Men

AGD

Age, Gender & Diversity

AGYW

Adolescent Girls & Young Women

BLN

Basic Literacy & Numeracy

CASI

Child & Adolescent Survivor Initiative

CLS, FBA, & CJA

Community Leaders & Structures,
Faith-Based Actors, & Customary Justice Actors

CMR

Clinical Management of Rape

CP

Child Protection

CSE

Comprehensive Sexuality Education

CSG

Child Safeguarding

ECCD

Early Childhood Care & Development

GBV

Gender-Based Violence

GNB

Girls Not Brides

GTF

Gender Task Force

IASC

Interagency Standing Committee

IDPs

Internally Displaced Persons

IPV

Intimate Partner Violence

IYCF

Infant & Young Child Feeding

MEL

Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning

MENA

Middle East & North Africa

MHM

Menstrual Health & Hygiene Management

MHPSS

Mental Health & Psychosocial Support

MNCH

Maternal, Newborn & Child Health

MoA

Model of Action

NFI

Non-Food Items

NLG

No Lost Generation

PEP

Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (Post-Rape Kits)

(P)SEA

(Protection from) Sexual Exploitation & Abuse

RAF

Regional Accountability Framework
on Child Marriage

SBC(C)

Social & Behavior Change (Communication)

SRH(R)

Sexual & Reproductive Health (& Rights)

STIs

Sexually Transmitted Infections

Tdh

Terre des hommes

ToC

Theory of Change

WASH

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

WG

Working Group

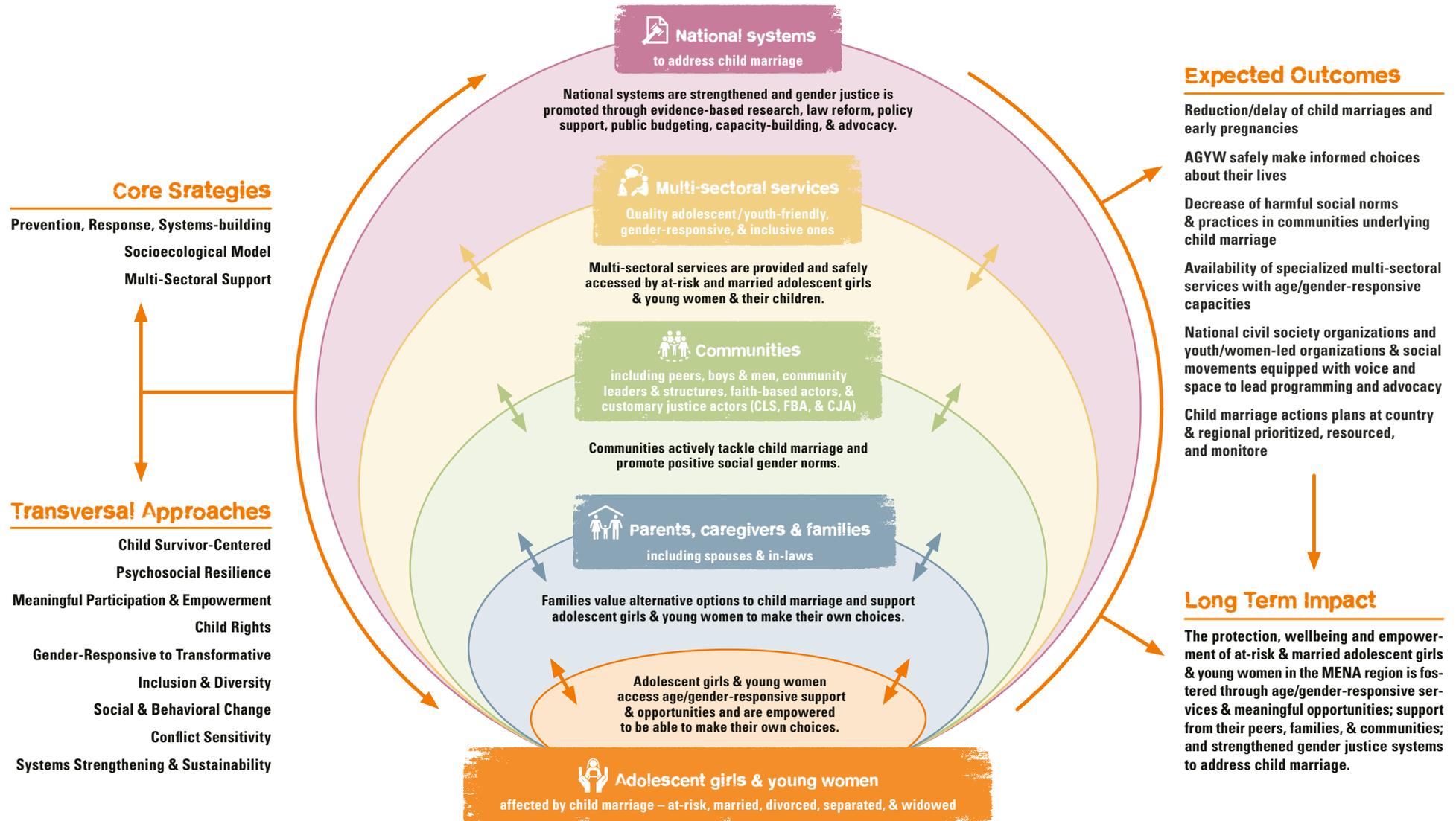
WPS

Women, Peace, & Security (Resolution 1325)

The Child Marriage MENA Model of Action – Navigating the tool

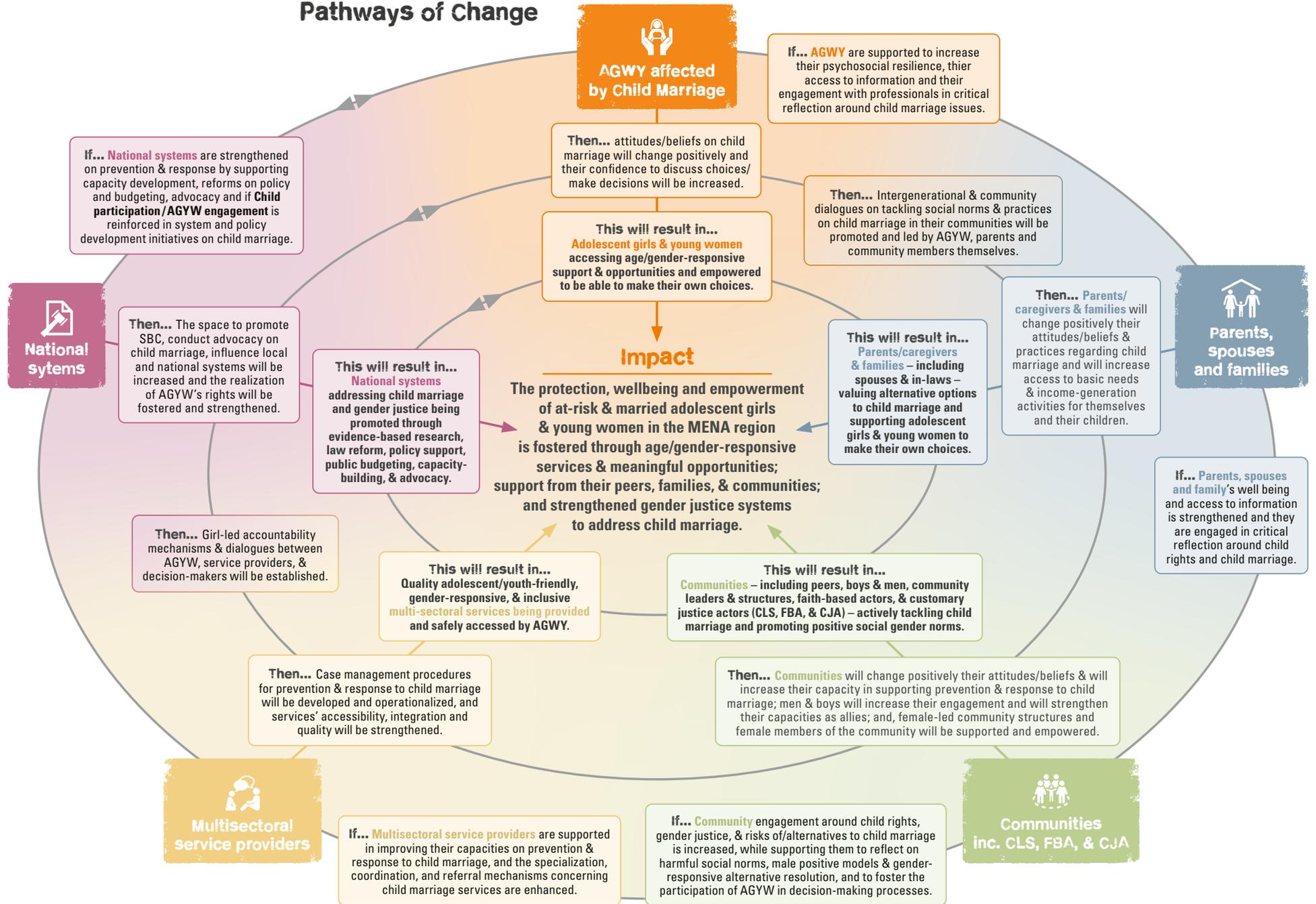
| No | Section | Description |
|----|---|---|
| | Child Marriage MENA MoA – Snapshot | Highlights the recommended approaches, core strategies & interventions for child marriage in the region, in order to support communication, engagement, & visibility on the MoA. |
| 1. | Introduction to the Child Marriage MENA MoA | Outlines the objectives, target users, scope & structure to facilitate navigation of the MoA for users. |
| 2. | Overview of Child Marriage in MENA | Provides an overall picture of how child marriage takes place in the region and key issues to address. Notes drivers, trends, and consequences, as well as gaps in efforts to address child marriage. |
| 3. | Theory of Change for Addressing Child Marriage in MENA | <p>Describes the transversal approaches to be integrated across child marriage interventions. Introduces the three core strategies that form the basis for structuring interventions to address child marriage, as well as the intended target groups.</p> <p>Illustrates the regional desired impact, outcomes, & change pathways for child marriage interventions implemented by Tdh MENA country offices.</p> <p>Based on the ToC, identifies Tdh’s added value & strategic positioning for addressing child marriage in MENA. Describes how to engage in a complementary & sustainable partnership approach with international and national stakeholders.</p> |
| 4. | Intervention Matrix for Addressing Child Marriage in MENA | Details child marriage interventions to contribute to the ToC pathways of change, organized by socioecological levels and by prevention, response, & systems-building activities. |
| 5. | Designing, Implementing, & Monitoring Child Marriage Interventions in MENA | Highlights certain considerations for child marriage interventions throughout the main stages of the program cycle. |
| 6. | Annex | <p>Provides basic reference information regarding key concepts & definitions on child marriage as well as compiled key global and regional resources.</p> <p>Also includes expanded tables on target groups, areas of added value & partnership, and interventions, with considerations noted for intervention contextualization and available tools to build on.</p> |
| | Appendix | Provides a detailed Intervention Matrix capturing actions and activities per socioecological level and strategies (prevention, response, system building). |

Child Marriage MENA Model of Action – Snapshot



Child Marriage MENA Model of Action – Snapshot

Pathways of Change





1. Introduction to the Child Marriage MENA Model of Action

a. Purpose of the Child Marriage MENA Model of Action

What Is the Child Marriage Model of Action?

The Child Marriage Model of Action (MoA) is a regional model to guide Terre des hommes (Tdh) operations in design, implementation, and monitoring of interventions addressing child marriage.

The MoA is intended to provide technical direction to teams in how to prevent and respond to child marriage, as well as promote the protection, empowerment, and resilience of adolescent girls and young women, while working on masculine roles & identities. It provides with a regional Theory of Change and an Intervention Matrix to orient and harmonize child marriage interventions' impact in the MENA region.

What Are the Objectives of the Child Marriage MoA?

The Child Marriage MoA is intended to be a practical guidance to assist Tdh staff and partners in their efforts to develop and conduct project design and implementation to address child marriage in the region. In addition, it can be leveraged as a tool to support resource mobilization, partnership identification and management, and accountability. It should inform country strategic planning processes, as well as evaluation of interventions.

The Child Marriage MENA MoA aims to contribute to the following objectives:

- Strengthening the **comprehensiveness, effectiveness, & quality of interventions** to address child marriage in the region
- Increasing **dedicated interventions** to address child marriage in the region, while facilitating in parallel **mainstreaming of child marriage considerations across Tdh specialized programmes**
- Ensuring child marriage is **prioritized** by operations in the region **within strategies, resourcing, & programming**
- Leveraging a strong partnership approach in the region on child marriage for a **holistic, wide-reaching, resource-effective, & sustainable response**
- Supporting regional **measurement of broader** effects of child marriage interventions, as well as learning across countries in the region
- Increasing **visibility & resource mobilisation** in order to better leverage targeted child marriage interventions in the region

For Tdh in the MENA region, child marriage is **embedded programmatically within the Gender Justice programmatic pillar**. The coordination of child marriage interventions sits under the Access to Justice (A2J) specialized programme which serves as a hub.

It is important to note that Child marriage **interventions also span across the two other specialized programmes within Tdh (Migration and Child & Maternal Health)**. Linkages with additional sectors on child marriage interventions should also be facilitated through partner programming or referrals to other agencies.

The Tdh **transversal Child Protection fundamentals** should be applied across child marriage interventions.

What Are the Objectives of the Child Marriage MoA?

The Child Marriage MoA is centered on a Theory of Change (ToC) that outlines the **intended impact** as well as **interlinked pathways of change** to achieve this impact. Based on the ToC, a comprehensive set of **programmatic actions** are identified to create the desired changes in the region.

b. Target Users & Scope for the Child Marriage MENA Model of Action

Who Is the Child Marriage MoA for?

The Child Marriage MoA is intended to be a **resource for all Tdh staff and partners supporting programming in the MENA region**. This includes personnel engaged in program design, implementation, monitoring and quality assurance, and resource mobilization.

Where Does the Child Marriage MoA Apply?

The scope of the Child Marriage MoA covers in the region: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Palestine. The MoA promotes approaches that must be adapted in recognition of the different operating contexts, populations, and programs within the region, including the diversity within AGYW. It is critical that the MoA is a framework reference to be adapted for each national/local context through a localized participatory process. **Adolescent girls & young women (AGYW), communities, partners, and other stakeholders should be directly engaged in shaping the design, implementation, and monitoring of interventions to address child marriage.** Specific considerations to support contextualization are noted as possible throughout the model.

It may be of interest to **share and engage on the MoA more widely with donors, coordination platforms, networks, and other stakeholders**, as relevant. To support communication on the framework, a summary Snapshot of the MoA has been produced that can be disseminated both within Tdh and externally. While recommendations from the model may have broader application to child marriage interventions, at this stage the MoA is oriented specifically for Tdh staff, partners, and programs.

The MoA is intended to be a **living resource**. It will be updated as needed based on continued participatory consultation, with a sustained focus on the participation of AGYW.

Sources for the Child Marriage MoA

The Child Marriage MoA is **informed by and adapted for the MENA regional context**, including identified priorities & practices in the region to address child marriage. It reflects inputs from the consultative processes on child marriage that took place from 2016-2020 with AGYW and their families & communities, as well as staff, partners, & other stakeholders. Feedback from Tdh focal points in the MENA country delegations was solicited during the development of the MoA. Staff & partners are not only the intended users of the MoA but continue to be regarded as co-developers.

The MoA is **harmonized with Tdh guidance** at regional and global level. It is also **aligned with interagency standards** in the areas of: Protection (Gender-Based Violence [GBV], Child Protection [CP], & Gender); Mental Health & Psychosocial Support (MHPSS); Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR); and Adolescents & Youth.



2. Overview of Child Marriage in MENA



Child marriage continues to be a critical global phenomenon affecting an estimated 12 million girls annually, with one in five girls in the world married before the age of 18.^[1] The world is home to 650 million child brides, including currently married girls and women who were first married in childhood, of whom 40 million child brides are in the MENA region (including currently married girls and women who were first married in childhood^[2]); only an **estimated 700,000 cases are reported annually.**^[3] **Child marriage in the MENA region has been greatly exacerbated by conflict and displacement over the past decade, with COVID-19 placing a further strain on resources.** Even for countries in the region which had demonstrated progress combatting child marriage, positive trends have stalled or reverted backward. Prior to COVID-19, adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) already faced challenges to their mobility and access to information, education, and other services, which has only increased. While official data is not available across countries, increases in child marriage have been reported in the last year based on consultations with girls, households, and stakeholders.

While there has been growing awareness of the harm inflicted by child marriage, **it remains a persistent and complex phenomenon in the region.** Although the manner in which child marriage manifests and the rates can vary, **it takes place across countries and communities.** Child marriage affects national and migrant populations, in crisis and non-crisis settings in the MENA, though with contextual differences pertaining to the contributing factors. The tables that follow outline the phenomenon of child marriage in the **MENA region** in regard to:

- key trends for child marriage
- structural drivers of child marriage
- the consequences for AGYW and their families & societies
- ongoing challenges & gaps related to efforts to address child marriage

^[1] Girls Not Brides (GNB), *Child Marriage Atlas*

^[2] UNICEF, 2018, *A profile of Child Marriage in the Middle East and North Africa*

^[3] UNICEF & UNFPA, *Child Marriage in the Context of COVID-19*, 2021: 9

Key Trends for Child Marriage in MENA

Child Marriage Prevalence

- **Estimated rates** from 2021 vary from 26% in Lebanon, 10% in Jordan, 13% in Palestine, 17% in Egypt, and 28% in Afghanistan & Iraq^[4]. Conflict-affected countries and neighboring countries have seen an increase in rates among both displaced and host communities.
- The majority of informants consulted in the UNICEF study on the **impact of COVID-19** in the region indicated that the percentage of child marriage has increased and is expected to climb further.

Correlating Factors for Child Marriage in the Region

- **School drop-out** is correlated with child marriage. Girls who stay in school are less likely to be married early.
- **Homebound girls** and girls in families from **rural areas** are more likely to enter child marriages.
- **Refugee populations** in the region tend to have higher levels of child marriage relative to host communities (or to their pre-displacement rates). However, rates can vary between more recent refugee populations and those that arrived earlier, for example, between Syrian and Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.
- In crisis contexts, some child marriages & wider forced marriages for AGYW are to members of **armed groups**.^[5]

Decision-Making Processes & Actors for Engagement & Marriage

- Most families report that they receive (repeat) **marriage proposals** for daughters starting at an early age.
- While men are generally perceived to be the primary authority in the household, decision-making processes for marriage of girls have been shown to **involve different members of the household**. For instance, the role of mothers has also been reported. Girls have also indicated their peers as an influence.
- In addition to the fiancé and his family, wider actors in the community are also involved in the engagement process. **Customary justice actors** and faith-based actors (in many cases those are the same person) play a critical role in processes related to marriage as well as family disputes that touch upon cases of child marriage. However, their role, perceptions, & influence can vary.
- Even in contexts in which child marriage is prohibited, there are **exceptions and informal marriages** that occur.
- **Opportunities to delay or halt child marriages** have been identified during the engagement process, mostly influenced by customary justice actors, community leaders and/or faith-based actors (i.e. engagement contract stipulates that the wedding cannot happen until the bride-to-be has finished education).

Legal Frameworks Addressing Child Marriage

- Legislative advancements have **set minimum ages** across the MENA countries in which Tdh operates other than Lebanon, while each religious confession (15 in total) rule differently on age pertaining child marriage. However, **marriages under 18 are still permitted**, starting from 15 years in Afghanistan or on the basis of exceptions in other countries.
- It is important to mention that the MENA region characterizes by an extensive **legal pluralism**, particularly when related to 'family issue' as child marriage is considered. This means that while it is mainly in the **personal status laws** where age of marriage is foreseen, child marriage is deeply rooted in **customary/social norms** prevalent at community level.
- There are **gaps in enforcement of legislation** across countries and informal marriages are widespread.
- There has been an increase in **national plans established by MENA countries** to tackle child marriage.

^[4] UNICEF, *Child Marriage Global Dataset*. It is important to note that rates are estimated as not all marriages are reported.

^[5] UNICEF, UNFPA, 2018, *Child Marriages in Humanitarian Settings – A spotlight on the situation of the Arab region*

Structural drivers of Child Marriage in MENA

Social Norms Related to Gender & Sexuality

- A recent study by Tdh underscores that girls & families often hold “ambivalent, mixed and contradictory attitudes” to child marriage. While a pre-existing practice, **family expectations** regarding marriage have changed related to conflict & economic crisis the past years. There is a perceived lack of viable alternatives.
- **Gendered social norms** regarding girls & women related to their bodies, sexuality, marriage, decision-making, and roles in society enable child marriage to be regarded as a normalized & accepted social practice. Girls are taught that marriage is desirable via messaging from their peers, communities, & wider society.
- Gendered social norms on **hegemonic masculinity** for boys & men in the region contribute to child marriage & other forms of GBV.

Limited Access to Education & Income-Generating Opportunities for Girls & their Families

- There are **barriers to access education** for adolescent girls, with a high rate of **school drop-outs** for girls.
- The lack of pathways to higher education, income-generating opportunities and professional perspective makes girls & their families question the value of education.
- **Limited sustainable livelihood opportunities** are available for families, in particular for refugees who face discrimination & restrictions to their right to work.

Seeking Safety & Protection for Girls through Child Marriage

- There are **concerns regarding the “honor”** of girls based on gendered social norms. (Actual or fear of) incidents of **sexual harassment** can contribute to school drop-out and child marriage due to fear of “shame.”
- **Overcrowding & lack of privacy** for AGYW in living & communal spaces is a factor, e.g. in camp settings.
- **Insecurity about the future** leads to the perception by families that marriage will provide girls with greater **financial & physical security**.

Limited Awareness about Child Marriage and Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR)

- **Limited information about SRHR** reaches girls & their families in the region. Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) is not integrated within school curricula and there is continued social & institutional restrictions regarding discussion of these topics.
- **Limited awareness of the risks & consequences** of child marriage and early pregnancy continues to be reported by girls, their families, & communities. Girls are often **not aware of their rights**.
- Girls in the region report they are **not aware beforehand of what marriage entails**. Married AGYW do not feel equipped to navigate their situation, including as young mothers.

Restricted Mobility & Limited Access to Social Spaces for AGYW

- **Limited social spaces & activities** for AGYW can lead to boredom & social isolation.
- **Homebound girls** in particular lack access to education, Mental Health & Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) activities, and other services, as well as interaction with their peers.

Barriers for AGYW to Access Gender-Based Violence (GBV) & SRHR Services

- Barriers exist for **AGYW to access GBV & SRH services**, including for married AGYW.
- There is a lack of **awareness about, access to, & ability to decide on contraception** for married AGYW due to the power differential, leading to **early pregnancy & lack of family spacing**.
- Lack of **menstrual hygiene materials & facilities** for AGYW poses a barrier that contributes to school drop-outs.

Gaps in Legal Frameworks & lack of gender-responsive justice to address Child Marriage cases and wider GBV

- **Legal frameworks** in the region do not prohibit child marriage or allow exceptions.
- In contexts with legal frameworks setting a minimum age, girls and their families are **not always aware of the laws** or they are not always enforced. Families can still find ways to marry girls through **exceptions or outside of the law** (with possibility to regularize the marriage when the girl turns 18 or through paying a fee).

- **Formal justice systems** (personal status and criminal jurisdictions) do not count with gender-responsive tools or capacity to properly address child marriage cases, protecting children's rights. **Customary justice actors** dealing with child marriage cases are neither equipped to apply positive child and gender-related practices/norms to the alternative dispute resolution processes they lead.
- **Social acceptance based on traditional/gender-based discriminatory norms, permissive laws, and impunity** within the justice sector pertaining to child marriage or wider GBV has been stressed as a very particular exacerbating factor in the region.^[6]

Impact of COVID-19 on Child Marriage

- **COVID-19** has exacerbated the above contributing factors, including related to school closures, increased financial distress for families, further social isolation of girls, decreased availability of services, etc.

Consequences for Child Marriage in MENA

Loss of Childhood & Agency and Exposure to GBV

- Married girls **lose their childhood** and are placed in developmentally inappropriate roles. They are typically **restricted in their decision-making and exercise of agency**.
- Married girls **experience sexual violence**, as they cannot provide informed consent.
- Child marriage is frequently accompanied by **other forms of GBV** including Intimate Partner Violence (IPV).
- Girls married early can face **divorce & abandonment**, leaving them without a source of income to support themselves & their children as well as facing social stigma.

Physical & Mental Health and Well-Being

- There is a **high risk of early pregnancy**, which leads to **higher rates of maternal & infant mortality**, as well as other **negative health & nutritional outcomes** (e.g. obstetric fistula). There is also a greater **likelihood of Sexually Transmitted Infections** (STIs), as well as having a **higher number of children**.
- In addition to being detrimental for their physical health, married adolescent girls face **negative psychological effects**. Child marriage significantly **impacts their well-being**, including increased risk for depression, suicidal ideation, and other mental health concerns.

Barriers for Civil Documentation & Services

- **Unregistered marriages** pose challenges for adolescent girls & their children to access services and their rights, including for spousal support, inheritance, & custody matters.
- Children of married adolescent girls can face the risk of **statelessness**.

Loss of Opportunities & Ability to Realize their Potential

- Married adolescent girls typically drop-out of school. Both they & their children tend to have a high risk of **illiteracy and lack of education**, which **limits their development and opportunities** in life.
- Often married adolescent girls are **socially isolated** from their peers & families.

Socioeconomic and Generational impacts on the long term

- Child marriage perpetuates the **cycle of poverty, insecurity, and violence** for families. Its **negative health, educational, and economic impacts** tend to continue for generations.
- At national level, it imposes **high economic and social costs**, perpetuates poverty, and hinders the ability to achieve gender equality, sustainable development, and peacebuilding outcomes.

^[6] Terre des hommes, 2020. *Children in contact with the law and customary justice in Afghanistan, Egypt, Jordan and Palestine*
Available here: tdh.ch/sites/default/files/201116_tdh_children-conflict-mena_en.pdf

Terre des hommes and Dr. Aisha Hutchinson, *Exploring the capacity of faith-based actors in Jordan and Lebanon to prevent child marriage*
Deliverable 7 of the research: 'Understanding child marriage amongst Syrian Refugee Communities in Jordan and Lebanon'
Available here: tdh.ch/en/media-library/documents/research-child-marriage

Gaps in Child Marriage Interventions in MENA

- There have been drastic **cuts in basic needs assistance** throughout humanitarian and development programming in the region.
- AGYW are often **invisible and fall between programming** that tends to be either child- or women-focused.
- There is **little targeted programming to prevent & respond to child marriage, as well as support married girls.**
- **Limited GBV & Child Protection (CP) case management** and SRH services are available in the region, in particular to reach rural/remote areas & hard-to-reach populations.
- CP & GBV service providers are **not always equipped to handle cases of child marriage** or child survivors.
- Efforts to address child marriage tend to be more prevention-focused & sectoral, leading to a **gap in comprehensive approaches** that can tackle different levels, drivers, & consequences in an integrated manner.
- **Approaches for engaging men and boys** – as well as community leaders, faith-based actors, and customary justice actors – on child marriage are **underfunded/not prioritized.**
- Similarly, there is still a lack of clarity regarding **how to measure the effectiveness of wider work on social & behavioral change (SBC).**
- There are **less actors leveraging SRHR awareness-raising & services.**
- **Gender-responsive justice** interventions within child marriage programming are scarce, with a need to focus on **levels policy/system, specialized services & capacity building with customary & formal justice actors.**
- While there has been growing investment, **approaches for meaningful participation** of AGYW need to be strengthened further, with increased **support to youth/feminist movements** in the region.
- Linkages have still not been fully made on child marriage **to development & peacebuilding agendas, while the WPS 1325 plans in the countries of the region strongly point out to GBV and particularly child marriage.**
- Although there has been an abundance of **research** conducted on child marriage in the region, it has not always been informed by and **channeled back into program & advocacy work.** The Regional Accountability Framework (RAF) on Child Marriage is transitioning into an advocacy platform which provides an **opportunity for joint advocacy work, evidence-based programming, and fundraising.**

The Child Marriage MENA MoA has been designed in response to the problematic of child marriage in the MENA region to guide Tdh MENA delegations in designing and implementing their interventions. Considering how child marriage takes place and what is needed to address it in the region, the MoA seeks to provide a coherent and specialized regional programmatic framework.

Further information on child marriage in the region can be referenced in the reports listed in the [Annex](#).



3. Theory of Change for Addressing Child Marriage in MENA

This section articulates the ToC, composed of the following components:

- a. The **intended target groups** for child marriage interventions in the region;
- b. **Transversal approaches** that should be integrated across programmatic work on child marriage;
- c. **Core strategies** for child marriage interventions in the region;
- d. The **desired impact & pathways of change** to address child marriage in the region;
- e. Based on the above, **areas of added value for Tdh complemented by a partnership approach** for addressing child marriage in the region.

a. Target Groups for Child Marriage Interventions

Potential Risk Considerations for Girls Related to Child Marriage

- Absent from or dropped out of school
- Homebound
- Engaged in child labor
- In contact with the law (e.g. child marriage as a solution to minimize the 'stigma' associated with the girls' acts).
- With disabilities
- Mothers and/or siblings married early
- Economically-constrained/large-sized/single-parent households
- Household-member with disability or chronic health condition
- Received marital offers

Child marriage interventions in the MENA region seek to **prevent child marriage and support at-risk girls, as well as supporting married adolescent girls, young women who were married early, and their children.**

As child marriage is an issue across communities – and in order to promote **social cohesion** between groups – child marriage interventions should target **refugee, IDP, migrant, stateless, and host/citizen populations.** The diversity of AGYW should also be taken into consideration, through an **intersectional approach.** For instance, it is important to direct attention to **AGYW in detention and protection or care facilities involving a form of deprivation of liberty (e.g. administrative detention).**

Below is a description of primary and secondary target groups to consider when developing, implementing, and monitoring child marriage interventions.

Primary Target Groups^[7]:

- **At-Risk & Married AGYW:** The focus is on AGYW who are at-risk of child marriage (guiding considerations can be determined for each context), as well as adolescent girls who are married and young women who were married as minors. Young women who were married early are considered as part of the primary target group, as they are continuing to experience the immediate effects of child marriage

^[7] For detailed profiles/key categorization elements of AGYW unmarried/at risk, married, separated/divorced/widows, please refer to the Tdh *Child Marriage Case Management Guideline* (MENA region), 2021. Available at: tdh.ch/fr/mediatheque/documents/child-marriage-mena-region-child-marriage-case-management-guideline

and navigate their situation. It is also a window in which provided support can have a life-changing impact for them and their children. Young women are also at high risk of wider forced marriage.

- **Children of Young Mothers:** Children of AGYW should also be considered as part of interventions, in order to break the cycle of child marriage and its adverse effects.
- **AGYW More Broadly:** AGYW should also be engaged in community-based activities. This supports their PSR and provides entry points for identification of girls who are at-risk and married for referral to more specialized child marriage services. It also offers a wider reach for awareness-raising and minimizes the risks of stigma. The influence of girl peers has been identified in research as an area to target.

Different approaches are often required for **adolescent girls who are married and unmarried** in order to be able to effectively reach them and address their needs. They have different daily routines, status, and priorities. There may also be community concerns regarding mixing unmarried and married AGYW within the same group due to norms regarding sexuality. Nevertheless, it can be a powerful tool to have AGYW who were married early speak to their peers through a phased approach in appropriate spaces.

Aligned with the socioecological model, it is critical to work not only with AGYW but also the **wider environment** around them. These layers are composed of different groups from the **household to the societal and regional level**. The importance of components working with **families and peers**; engaging **boys and men**; and leveraging **community and religious leaders/customary justice actors** on child marriage have been demonstrated. Understanding and targeting **different roles within the decision-making process for marriage** – both within the household and community – is key. It is also critical to support and promote the leadership of **women/youth-led groups, feminist networks, and social movements themselves** on the issue.

Secondary Target Groups:

- **Parents/caregivers, fiancées & spouses, in-laws, & wider families**
- **Peers, including Adolescents Boys and Young Men**
- **Communities, including community leaders & structures and faith-based & customary justice actors**
- **Service providers & partners**
- **Youth/women-led groups & feminist social movements**
- **Authorities & policymakers; relevant national platforms & coordination groups**

An **intersectional lens** should be engaged to consider age, gender, & diversity (AGD) considerations within these groups. For instance, approaches should be adapted to reach mothers versus fathers of AGYW.

An expanded table capturing detailed specifics of primary and secondary target groups can be found in the [Annex](#).

Focus on AGYW with Engagement of ABYM

The primary target group for child marriage interventions is **adolescent girls & young women (AGYW)**. This is in consideration of the disproportionate impact of child marriage on girls globally and in the region. It is important to keep the needs, risks, interests, capacities, & aspirations of AGYW central to child marriage interventions.

However, this does not mean that **adolescent boys & young men (ABYM)** should not be a part of child marriage interventions, rather, they place an essential role. It is critical to engage boys/men peers as allies to support girls' decision-making and address child marriage. Risks of forms of GBV that men & boys can face should also be considered – as well as other types of CP & Protection concerns – with referral pathways for men/boy survivors that disclose during the course of interventions.

b. Transversal Approaches for Child Marriage Interventions

Transversal approaches should be taken into consideration throughout the design, implementation, and monitoring of child marriage interventions. These transversal approaches provide a foundation upon which the ToC is based. Approaches have been divided in three areas that closely interrelate and support each other:

- ▶ Working Toward Rights-Based Protection with a Gender & Diversity Lens
- ▶ Promoting the Well-Being, Resilience, & Empowerment of Adolescent Girls & Young Women
- ▶ Striving Toward Resilient & Sustainable Protective Systems

9 transversal approaches to mainstream across child marriage interventions

Working toward Right-Based Protection with a Gender & Diversity Lens

- 1 Child Rights**
 - ▶ Promote child rights throughout child marriage interventions with AGYW; their peers (girls & boys), families, & communities; and service providers & national systems
 - ▶ Ensure child marriage interventions – including services – are child/adolescent/youth-friendly, tailoring approaches to be developmentally-appropriate for younger adolescents, older adolescents, & youth
 - ▶ Promote child/adolescent/youth participation throughout child marriage interventions, including directly in the program design, implementation, & monitoring
 - ▶ Ensure to reach the most vulnerable & hard-to-reach AGYW, exploring intersections with child labor, children in detention & on the move, & other CP concerns
 - 2 Gender-Responsive to Transformative**
 - ▶ Ensure child marriage interventions are informed by a gender & child rights analysis in the context; continue to assess gender dynamics^[8] throughout the program cycle
 - ▶ Integrate an intersectional lens to gender, factoring in age & diversity considerations
 - ▶ Ensure approaches & tools for child marriage interventions are gender-responsive working toward gender-transformative to promote gender equality
 - ▶ Avoid a blanket approach to child marriage interventions, but adapt approaches for girls/women versus boys/men as well as for other diversity groups
 - ▶ Address gender-related barriers & risks for AGYW and ensure their participation
 - ▶ Ensure safe identification & referral to internal or external GBV & CP services
 - ▶ Actively work to tackle gender norms in context-appropriate ways
 - ▶ Ensure engagement of boys & men works toward positive masculinity^[9]
 - ▶ Ensure training & support of Tdh staff & partners on child rights & gender equality
 - ▶ Continue to collect and analyze data by gender, age, & diversity, applying an intersectionality approach in order to ensure we leave no one behind (for the MENA region with a focus on migrant status, wealth, age, gender, disability and ethnicity); work to measure changes in social norms & practices
 - ▶ Mainstream gender within Tdh & partner internal systems, strategy/policies, & staffing
-

^[8] Tdh, *Gender and Diversity Marker*.

^[9] As useful reference: UNICEF and UNFPA, 2020. Technical Note on Partnering with Men and Boys to End Child Marriage in the *Global Programme to End Child Marriage*. And GNB, 2018. *Men engagement in Ending Child Marriage*.

-
- 3 Diversity & Inclusion**
- Identify marginalized, hard-to-reach, & at-risk groups within the context and the barriers & risks they face, as well as effective strategies to engage & support them
 - Adapt & target approaches to child marriage interventions for diversity considerations: *migrants, refugees, IDPs, & minority groups; persons with different types of disabilities, in rural areas, on the move, in detention, & lower literacy; LGBTQ+ & older persons*
 - Ban tokenistic or stereotypical approaches to ensure interventions do not stigmatize marginalized groups or place them further at risk
 - Partner with service providers & associations working with/led by marginalized groups
 - Reflect gender & diversity considerations within staffing for Tdh & partners across levels
 - Integrate diversity & inclusion within Tdh & partner policies, systems, & strategies
-

Promoting the Well-Being, Resilience, & Empowerment of AGYW

- 4 Child & Adolescent Survivor (CASI)**
- Keep AGYW affected by child marriage/child survivors central to interventions, supporting their interests & agency
 - Align with the caring for child survivor^[10], GBV, & CP guiding principles, including:
 - 4 GBV guiding principles (safety, respect, confidentiality, & non-discrimination, as well as the survivor-centered approach^[11])
 - 4 CP guiding principles (survival & development, non-discrimination & inclusion, children’s participation, & best interest of the child)
 - Apply the CASI approach to enhance case management as well as wider service provision on child marriage, via leveraging joint GBV & CP expertise to harmonize program guidance & tools; map referral pathways; co-facilitate trainings & technical supervision; and identify effective approaches & practices
 - Ensure informed assent/consent of AGYW & (as safe/in their best interest) their parents
-
- 5 Psychosocial Resilience (PSR)**
- Promote the PSR of AGYW, their families, & communities throughout child marriage interventions, through working toward the:
 - 5 pillars of well-being (safety & security; relationships & connections; roles, responsibilities, & identities; justice & rights; and hope & meaning)
 - 3 resilience capacities (coping, adapting, & transformative capacities)
 - Ensure alignment of child marriage interventions with the IASC MHPSS pyramid^[12] & standards, with facilitation of referrals to specialized MHPSS services only as needed
-
- 6 Meaningful Participation & Empowerment**
- Promote participation & empowerment of AGYW throughout child marriage interventions, including through AGYW-led initiatives, dialogues, & action research
 - Actively identify and address risks & barriers to participation in child marriage interventions, ensure to reach the most vulnerable
 - Support the leadership of community structures, partners, & youth/women-led/feminist groups on child marriage at local, national, & regional levels; facilitate their access to decision-making spaces
 - Take a phased do no harm^[13] approach to participation, ensuring appropriate support & safeguarding, in particular for those engaged in leading dialogues, initiatives, & advocacy on child marriage in their communities/societies
 - Set-up accessible feedback & response mechanisms for child marriage interventions
-

^[10] The term ‘survivor’ is generally preferred in the psychological and social sectors because it implies agency, autonomy, and resilience. The term ‘victim’ (rather than the term ‘survivor’) is typically used when referring to aspects of the justice system pertaining to the formal ‘legal status’ of persons as victims of, whose rights have been violated – individually and collectively. In addition ‘victim’ can be used in reference not only to those who have been victims of crimes and GBV, but may also include their family and community members, including children born as a result of pregnancy from rape. Importantly, the term ‘victim’ refers to individuals that have both survived violence, and those that did not.

^[11] A survivor-centered approach is defined by the United Nations as one which seeks to empower the survivor by prioritizing their rights, needs, and wishes. This includes ensuring that survivors have access to appropriate, accessible, and quality services. Complete definition available at: endvawnow.org/en/articles/1499-survivor-centred-approach.html

^[12] See: interagencystandingcommittee.org/iasc-reference-group-on-mental-health-and-psychosocial-support-in-emergency-settings

^[13] As a reference: ALNAP, 2018. Incorporating the principle of “Do No Harm”: How to take action without causing harm. Available at: alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/donoharm_pe07_synthesis.pdf

Striving toward Resilient & Sustainable Protective Systems

- 7 Social & Behaviour Change (SBC)**
- Analyze norms & behaviors and contributing factors for child marriage in the context
 - Identify entry points & influencers to support change on child marriage
 - Determine preferences & access to different communication channels for AGYW, communities, & stakeholders for awareness-raising & engagement on child marriage
 - Define objectives, target groups, messages, content, & modalities for campaigns
 - Promote two-way communication & participatory engagement approaches
 - Support layered, diversified, & continuous interventions to generate SBC, e.g. outreach, awareness sessions, community events, & initiatives; use of social media/tech, traditional media, & creative arts; printed materials; campaigns & lobbying; etc.
 - Mainstream awareness-raising on child marriage across sector interventions, e.g. COVID
 - Invest in components for engaging men & boys; engaging community & religious leaders, customary justice actors; and working on institutions, policies, & systems
 - Engage AGYW, partners, & youth/feminist networks in design of SBC frameworks
-
- 8 Conflict-Sensitivity**
- Conduct a conflict analysis to understand the different stakeholders, community dynamics, & decision-making processes at different levels
 - Identify conflict risks & protective factors in the context and ensure child marriage interventions do not exacerbate conflict at household, community, or societal level
 - Mitigate risks of backlash or further GBV for AGYW & other program participants in child marriage interventions, such as through sensitizing gatekeepers/influencers
 - Analyze conflict-related drivers of child marriage and update analysis as dynamics evolve
 - Apply 'Do not harm' principle across the conflict-sensitivity analysis, including a non-violent communication approach
 - Promote a gender justice lens within national policies & peacebuilding agendas, with inclusion of AGYW in relevant dialogues & platforms
 - Explore linkages between the Women, Peace, & Security agenda and child marriage
-
- 9 Triple-Nexus Systems Strengthening & Sustainability**
- Adapt child marriage interventions for different stages of the crisis & types of response
 - Promote a longer-term community-based & systems-strengthening approach to address child marriage linking across humanitarian, development, & peacebuilding agendas
 - Build trust with and facilitate a phased approach together with AGYW, communities, & partners, in particular for tackling harmful gender norms & behaviors
 - Promote resilience & empowerment of AGYW & their peers, families, & communities across the nexus continuum
 - Strengthen service provision and promote localization through structured capacity-building approach for national civil society & government partners
 - Support the capacity-building & leadership of feminist/youth groups & social movements
 - Channel research into evidence-based programming, policy support, & advocacy
 - Generate positive changes in development, implementation, & monitoring of policies & Gender Justice system on child marriage
-

Additional regional and global guidance resources organized by thematic area can be found in the [Annex](#).

c. Core Strategies for Child Marriage Interventions

There are **three core strategies** for structuring child marriage interventions:

- 1. Supporting Prevention, Response, & Systems-building**
- 2. Fostering Multi-Leveled Interventions across the Socioecological Model**
- 3. Leveraging Multi-Sectoral Integrated Support**

These strategies work together to mobilize holistic and effective interventions to address child marriage.

1. Supporting Prevention, Response, & Systems-Building

It is important that interventions to address child marriage work on **both prevention and response, as well as building stronger protective systems.**

Prevention of child marriage is critical. By working with at-risk girls and their families and communities and providing alternatives to child marriages, it can avoid the long-lasting harm caused to girls who are married early. Research in the region has identified that can be opportunities to delay or cancel the marriage of girls during the engagement process, including conditions in the pre-marriage/engagement contract^[14]. It is also important to not forget girls who are already in child marriages. Adolescent girls and young women who were married as children should be provided with support as a **response** to the consequences they still face. Within this category, there may be girls who are separated, divorced, or widowed. Married AGYW are often hard-to-reach and require modified approaches. Linking married AGYW to services and opportunities helps to address the harm they experience and realize their potential. It can break the cycle of child marriage for the next generation.

In parallel to prevention and response, **systems-building** is key, linked to longer-term development and peace-building agendas in the region. Building the capacities of informal and formal systems to address child marriage from community to national level ensures that sustainable change is achieved. Environment-building on child marriage encompasses tackling harmful social norms and behaviors, building age/gender-responsive service provision, and strengthening policies and systems. It requires close partnership with civil society and government partners as well as youth and feminist networks in the context to support their capacities and advocate together on change.

Prevention, response and system-building strategies are mutually linked and reinforcing each other.

^[14] Ensuring that the approach does not cause harm (e.g. trying to stop the wedding at all cost as it can place the girl at further risk).

2. Fostering Multi-Levelled Interventions across the Socioecological Model

In addition to encompassing prevention, response, and systems-building, child marriage interventions should target **different levels of the socioecological model in parallel**. In order to effectively create change on child marriage, interventions need to work both at the individual level with AGYW and with the wider environment around them.

Adolescent girls and young women should be maintained at the core of the work. Girls in the region are predominantly and directly affected by child marriage, based on the double disadvantage they face at the intersection of age and gender. However, it is still important to engage their **peers – boys & men** – through positive masculinity approaches to tackle social norms related to child marriage^[15]. Work with parents, **spouses, wider families, and communities** should also take place in parallel to prevent backlash and widen the protective impact. At community, national, and regional levels, it is critical to strengthen **services, systems, and policies** to address child marriage.

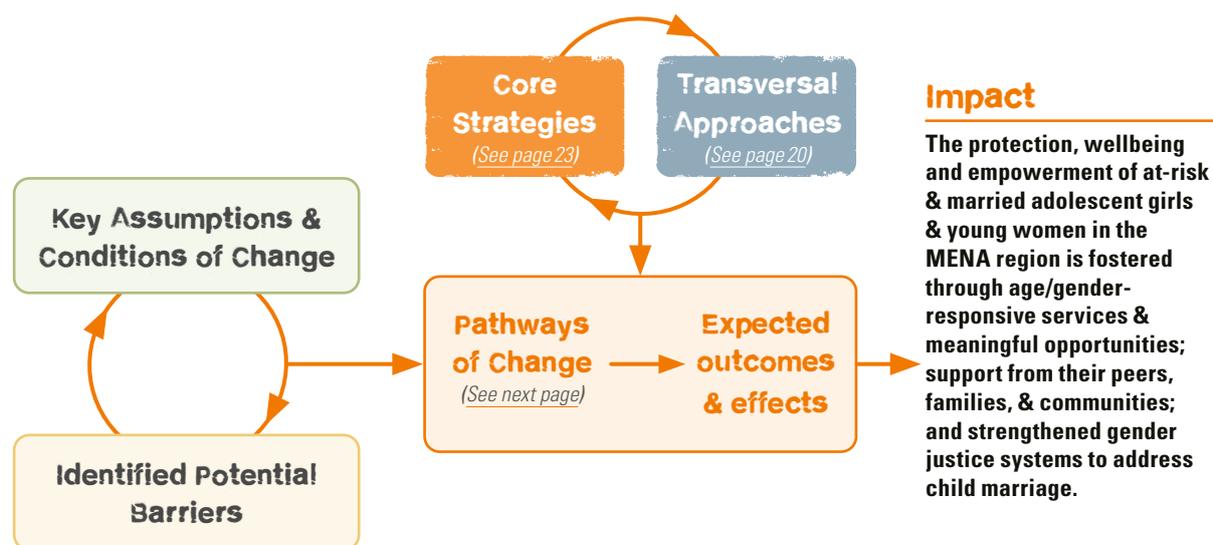
It is important to also **foster linkages between levels** as appropriate, such as intergenerational activities between girls and their parents or inclusion of adolescents and youth within community committees.

3. Leveraging Multisectoral Integrated Support

In addition to working across the socioecological levels, a multisectoral approach for child marriage should be mobilized. This can take place through targeted or integrated interventions supported by Tdh across its **three specialized Programmes (Access to Justice, Migration and Child and Maternal Health) with Child Protection transversal support; complementary interventions by partners in sectors where Tdh does not have a concrete expertise (e.g. education, livelihoods, shelter); and referrals and joint initiatives with actors in other sectors.**

^[15] As well as referring boy/men survivors of other forms of GBV or CP concerns to specialized GBV/CP case management provided.

d. Theory of Change for Child Marriage Interventions



Key Assumptions & Conditions of Change

- Provision of specialized multi-sectoral services, promotion of resilience & empowerment, and changing negative social norms will allow adolescent girls & young women to be able to make informed decisions about their lives.
- Supporting married adolescent girls and young women and their children – as well their spouses and families as appropriate – and improving their access to services & opportunities can improve their well-being & future outcomes.
- Raising awareness and engagement in critical reflections at communities level – on risks of and alternatives to child marriage – paired with increased educational & employment pathways for adolescent girls & young women and their families will help to prevent child marriage.
- Engagement of community & religious leaders and customary justice actors – as well as elevating the voices of adolescent girls & young women and their families – can help to change norms & practices on child marriage in communities.
- Strengthening capacities of service providers will enhance accessibility, integration, & quality of multi-sectoral services to prevent and respond to child marriage.
- Gender-responsive & child rights-oriented policies & systems that are enforced, well-coordinated across jurisdictions & monitored will protect the rights of adolescent girls & young women.

Identified Potential Barriers

- It is difficult to engage certain target groups in activities due to their responsibilities, lack of interest, or other factors (e.g. men & boys).
- There are barriers imposed by families, spouses, & communities for AGYW to participate in activities or backlash to wider programming on child marriage.
- There are sensitivities within communities and/or restrictions by authorities to discuss child marriage in the context.
- Economic stressors continue to worsen and drive families further into poverty & debt.
- Partners have limited program management and technical capacity. Partners are not perceived as independent/neutral.
- Short project duration poses challenges to continuity of programming to be able to work toward social norms change and sustainability.
- Key humanitarian sectors face limited funding, leading to limited support for basic needs and gaps in other services, posing challenges to leverage multi-sectoral approaches to address child marriage.
- Pandemic and/or security conditions limit access to target populations & program monitoring.
- There are challenges to partner with authorities due to different parties in conflict or absence of a stable governing authority within the country.

Expected outcomes / effects

- ✓ Reduction/delay of marriages involving adolescent girls and support for married adolescent girls & young women, with reduction in early pregnancy.
- ✓ Adolescent girls & young women are able to make informed choices about their lives, supported by their parents, peers, spouses, families, & communities.
- ✓ Decrease of harmful social norms & practices in communities underlying child marriage.
- ✓ Specialized multi-sectoral services have age/ gender-responsive capacities and are targeted to prevent and respond to child marriage.
- ✓ National civil society organizations and youth/women-led organizations & social movements are equipped to lead programming & advocacy efforts to prevent and respond to child marriage in the MENA region.
- ✓ Action plans at country & regional level focused on eradicating child marriage as a priority are supported, resourced, and monitored.

Child Marriage MENA – Pathways of Change

Core Strategies

Prevention, Response, Systems-building
Socioecological Model
Multi-Sectoral Support

Transversal Approaches

Child Survivor-Centered
Psychosocial Resilience
Meaningful Participation & Empowerment
Child Rights
Gender-Responsive to Transformative
Inclusion & Diversity

Social & Behavioral Change
Conflict Sensitivity
Systems Strengthening & Sustainability

If...


AGWY affected by Child Marriage


Parents, spouses and families


Communities inc. CLS, FBA, & CJA


Multisectoral service providers


National Systems

- ▲ Have opportunities to strengthen their PSR and mental health through access to safe spaces, MHPSS activities, & peer networks.
- Access information and can engage themselves and with professionals in critical reflection and positive discussions around their rights, child marriage & early pregnancy, and alternative options and services.
- Have the opportunity to strengthen their PSR & well-being through MHPSS activities & peer parental groups.
- Increase access to information & a engage on critical reflection and positive discussions around child rights, gender equality, and risks of & alternatives to child marriage for their children and for themselves.
- Have opportunities to increase their engagement around child rights, gender justice, & risks of/alternatives to child marriage
- Are supported to foster the participation of AGWY in decision-making processes; finding alternatives to child marriage including through community justice processes; & provision of support to married AGWY.
- Are accompanied through a context- and culturally-sensitive process of reflecting upon harmful social norms, male positive models & gender-responsive alternative resolution and community/social cohesion.
- Reinforce their capacities in prevention & response to child marriage, including age/gender-responsive, child survivor and reintegration approaches.
- Enhance the specialization of services for child marriage within the GBV/CP prevention and response route, as well as their coordination and referral pathways among them, with particular attention to legal/justice services providers.
- National systems & policies for prevention & response to child marriage are strengthened through capacity development, legal/justice reform and policy support, public budgeting, advocacy.
- Child participation / AGWY voices / civil society orgs' and movements' engagement are reinforced and mainstreamed in system and policy development initiatives on child marriage.

Then...

- ▲ Change positively their beliefs on child marriage & benefit from increased confidence to be able to make & discuss informed choices with their parents, spouses, & peers.
- Increase their knowledge and access of GBV/CP case management, legal aid and justice options, & other specialized services to address child marriage and feel comfortable to seek support.
- AGWY and parents/families increase capacities to raise awareness and lead initiatives tackling social norms & practices on child marriage in their communities, including intergenerational & community dialogues.
- Change positively their beliefs & practices regarding child marriage through increased positive parenting skills, peer support, & intergenerational dialogues.
- Increase their access to basic needs & income-generation activities for themselves and for their children linked with promoting girls' education (formal or informal), protection and empowerment.
- Change positively their beliefs & increased their capacity in supporting prevention & response to child marriage in communities.
- Men & boys increase their engagement of and strengthened their capacities as allies in applying and promoting positive masculinities that are culturally-sensitive to address harmful norms underlying child marriage.
- Female-led community structures and female members of the community are respected and find support to find alternatives to child marriage beneficial for the AGWY and in turn for the whole community.
- Case management procedures for prevention & response to child marriage, are developed and operationalized, aligned with child survivor, gender justice & reintegration approaches.
- Improved accessibility, integration and quality of services (including GBV/CP case management, legal/justice assistance & pre-nuptial counseling, SRH services, protection/emergency assistance, shelter/ care options & economic empowerment, etc.)
- Girl-led accountability mechanisms & dialogues between AGWY, service providers, & decision-makers are established to support strengthened services & policies on child marriage.
- Tailored child marriage policies and national mechanisms are invested in, effective to respond to the needs and to foster the realization of AGWY's rights.
- Civil society orgs', youth/feminist groups & social movements increase their capacities and have the safe space to promote SBC, channel AGWY' wishes and conduct advocacy on child marriage and influence local and national system.

This will result in...

- ▲ **Adolescent girls & young women affected by child marriage – at-risk, married, divorced, separated, & widowed – access age/gender-responsive support & opportunities and are empowered to be able to make their own choices.**
- Parents/caregivers & families – including spouses & in-laws – value alternative options to child marriage and support adolescent girls & young women to make their own choices.**
- Communities – including peers, boys & men, community leaders & structures, faith-based actors, & customary justice actors (CLS, FBA, & CJA) – actively tackle child marriage and promote positive social gender norms.**
- Quality adolescent/youth-friendly, gender-responsive, & inclusive multi-sectoral services are provided and safely accessed by at-risk and married adolescent girls & young women & their children.**
- National systems to address child marriage are strengthened and gender justice is promoted through evidence-based research, law reform, policy support, public budgeting, capacity-building, & advocacy.**

Impact

The protection, wellbeing and empowerment of at-risk & married adolescent girls & young women in the MENA region is fostered through age/gender-responsive services & meaningful opportunities; support from their peers, families, & communities; and strengthened gender justice systems to address child marriage.

e. Leveraging Added Value & Partnership Approach to Address Child Marriage

Tdh is strategically placed for addressing child marriage in the MENA region. Based on the Child Marriage ToC, **areas of added value** for Tdh in the region are identified below. The table includes areas in which Tdh has an **established presence** and areas that are **currently being invested in and further developed**.

From this mapping, it is possible to draw out complementary areas to support in leveraging more holistic interventions. These **areas for partnership** enhance the work Tdh is already undertaking by **filling in gaps and developing aspects further**. They also **engage sectoral areas Tdh does not cover**. It is critical to recognize the expertise contributed by different agencies and promote collaborative approaches in order to address the complex drivers and consequences of child marriage.

In addition to ensuring holistic interventions, partnerships are **an important vehicle for promoting participation, capacity-building, localization, and sustainability** through support of local actors. This entails working through a phased approach in partnership with **youth, women-led, and feminist groups; community structures and leaders; and civil society and government partners**. It requires **training, support, and fostering linkages between groups**, as well as **systematizing participation from AGYW**. Lastly, **participation in relevant coordination fora** is an important aspect of the partnership approach for child marriage. Via interagency platforms, it is possible to strengthen **referral pathways, as well as undertake joint guidance, quality standards, trainings, and advocacy towards regional and national decision-makers, as well as donors**.

Through continuing to invest in its areas of strategic value while in parallel leveraging meaningful partnership, Tdh can **increase the specialization, effectiveness, comprehensiveness, and impact of interventions to address child marriage**.

Tdh added value & partnership areas for child marriage intervention

| Areas of Added Value (AV) | | Areas for Partnership (PS) |
|--|---|---|
| Areas of Demonstrated Excellence | Emerging Investment Areas | Partnership Areas |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tailored Services to Address Child Marriage: As a critical intervention to address child marriage, provision of accessible age-gender responsive GBV/CP case management, legal support, SRH, & other services – through direct provision or referrals – specifically tailored for child marriage cases supporting at-risk & married AGYW, provided by trained & supervised service providers. • Gender-Responsive Justice and Specialized Legal Aid for Addressing Child Marriage: Building on Tdh's expertise in this area, sensitizing, training, & supporting formal justice actors/systems and community leaders, faith-based actors, and customary justice actors on prevention & response to child marriage cases, including pre-nuptial counselling, as well as working to strengthen gender-responsive justice standards & systems, with participation of AGYW. Development of legal aid standards, representation of AGYW in front of formal and/or informal justice mechanisms. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity-Building Program on Addressing Child Marriage: Building sustainable capacities of partners & service providers to address child marriage – in particular for specialized services – via individualized capacity assessments & plans with training, coaching, & guidance materials, as well as monitoring service quality incorporating AGYW-led accountability. • Engaging Men & Boys as Allies to Address Child Marriage: Working with men & boys – fathers, spouses, & community leaders – to promote positive masculinity & address harmful social norms underlying child marriage, through: MHPSS activities (including use of sports); sensitization & training; and support of community-led initiatives. • SRHR: As a critically needed component in the region, facilitating further awareness-raising/comprehensive sexuality education on SRHR tackling social norms regarding AGYW's sexuality and in parallel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education: Supporting access to and strengthening quality age/gender-responsive formal & non-formal education free from violence – including remedial, BLN, ECCD, & secondary – for at-risk & married AGYW & their children, incorporating child marriage within learning materials. • Economic Empowerment and Socio-economic support: Conducting market assessments and providing vocational & financial skills training, small grants/loans, & links to dignified employment/income-generation for at-risk & married AGYW and their families, linked to education for AGYW & raising awareness on child marriage. In complement to the above, basic economic assistance provision, paired with cash and voucher assistance. |

Areas of Added Value (AV)

Areas for Partnership (PS)

| Areas of Demonstrated Excellence | Emerging Investment Areas | Partnership Areas |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reintegration of AGYW Affected by Child Marriage: Supporting married AGYW & their children to realize their potential through GBV reintegration approaches, including their access to education, economic empowerment, and other opportunities, as well as incorporating child marriage considerations within release & reintegration of AGYW in detention/care facilities. • Promoting Well-Being, Resilience, & Empowerment of AGYW: Supporting centre-based & mobile safe spaces providing MHPSS activities – unstructured, structured, & focused, including adolescent-led methodologies and use of sports & arts – for AGYW, with links to GBV/CP case management. • Girl/Youth-Led Activism & Social Movements Focused on Child Marriage: Building on Tdh’s investment in youth/feminist groups & social movements, supporting AGYW-led initiatives & activism on child marriage through training groups on advocacy, promoting their participation within decision-making platforms, supporting campaigns, and building networks. • Action-Oriented Research on Child Marriage: Drawing from the extensive research conducted on child marriage in the region, supporting action-oriented research on identified gaps – with participatory AGYW-led approaches – and leveraging research to support programming, advocacy, & policy. • Coordination, Policy, & Advocacy on Child Marriage: Linked to Tdh’s leadership in child marriage platforms such as the RAF, support of dedicated interagency coordination, initiatives, & resource mobilization on child marriage; mainstreaming of child marriage considerations in wider fora; and advocacy & support for design, implementation, & monitoring of legislative policies, judicial systems, & national action plans related to child marriage, linked to WPS agenda. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provision of family planning counselling & services, MHM & dignity kits, CMR & PEP/post-rape kits, and maternal & child health care for AGYW, as well as other SRHR information & services. • CASI: In response to challenges in tailored approaches for child survivor/marriage, jointly leveraging GBV & CP guidance, expertise, & coordination to facilitate co-training for case management, streamlined referral pathways, & harmonized tools promoting an individualized approach to AGYW balancing best interest of the child & survivor-centred. • MHPSS: Provision of structured, targeted, and contextual MHPSS community-based services as needed for at-risk & married AGYW & their families (addressing the MHPSS continuum of care through different level of the IASC MHPSS pyramid of intervention). • Alternative Care Arrangements & Shelter: Tackling gaps in safe shelter options for AGYW by identifying and supporting both existing & alternative arrangements for shelter & care, in particular for married, divorced, & separated AGYW. • WASH: MHM & hygiene promotion, as well as supporting safe dignified latrine & bathing facilities & MHM materials for AGYW & their children, including to address barriers for AGYW to attend school. • Emergency Assistance, Economic Empowerment and Socioeconomic support: In order to meet immediate emergency needs and work toward case goals – including retention of AGYW in education – provision of assistance & income-generation opportunities for at-risk & married AGYW and their families, with context-specific situational analysis & modalities on cash and voucher assistance for child marriage. • SBCC for Prevention & Response to Child Marriage: Tackling norms & practices underlying child marriage through formulation of structured SBC approaches & measurement framework together with AGYW, social movements, & partners, with awareness activities, initiatives, campaigns, & advocacy at different levels. • Program Curricula Tools Development Focused on Child Marriage: Addressing the gap in targeted approaches with progressive development, piloting, & adaptation of programmatic resources focused on child marriage, including case management, legal aid, engaging men/boys & community leaders, & MHPSS activities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health, SRHR, & Nutrition: Provision of & training on CMR, forensic, maternal & child health, family planning, nutrition & IYCF, & other health services for at-risk & married AGYW and their children, as well as wider awareness-raising on SRHR. • Specialized Mental Health (Levels 3-4): to complement and address comprehensively as need be concrete cases in alignment with MHPSS approaches and services within it for AGYW affected by child marriage. • Shelter & Basic Needs: Safe shelter & other forms of temporary accommodation, as well as assistance (food, NFI, or financial through cash, vouchers, or items), for at-risk & married AGYW and their families. • Development of Tools & Resources, Research, & Advocacy: Development of program guidance, conducting research, & supporting advocacy on child marriage with other actors, including those with specific expertise in functional and/or thematic areas, e.g. curricula development for engaging men & boys. |



4. Intervention Matrix for Addressing Child Marriage in MENA

Interventions for child marriage to be able to reach the desired outcomes in the pathways of change are outlined below. Interventions are listed by each socioecological level. These interventions encompass the two other strategies of **prevention, response, and systems-building, as well as the multi-sectoral model.**

This table serves as a guide to types of interventions aligned with Tdh’s approach that can contribute to addressing child marriage in the region. Not every intervention will be possible or relevant in each context, depending on the specific trends, existing programming and services, and other considerations. A **consultative process** should take place together with AGYW, their families and communities, partners, service providers, coordination bodies, and stakeholders, so as to select and **adapt interventions to be contextually appropriate and effective.** This process should also seek to **identify and mitigate potential risks from interventions.**

It is also important to note that the table is not exhaustive. The earlier section on *Partnerships* can be referenced to consider areas of complementarity with other actors for child marriage interventions. A more detailed *Interventions* table in the *Annex* can be consulted as a reference regarding implementation and contextualization considerations for interventions, as well as available resources.

Types of child marriage interventions

(Prevention, Response, & System-Building, are indicated by P, R & SB)

| Socio-Ecological Level | Intervention Type | |
|---|--|------|
|  <p>Adolescent Girls & Young Women (Focus on At-Risk & Married)</p> | Safe spaces for adolescent girls & young women, accompanied by mobile modalities | P, R |
| | Unstructured & structured MHPSS activities with AGYW, including through arts & sports and girl/women-led modalities | P |
| | Life Skills groups with at-risk & married AGYW | P, R |
| | Parent groups with AGYW who are married/young mothers | R |
| | Support groups with married AGYW | R |
| | Specialized ^[16] GBV/CP case management tailored for child marriage cases | P, R |
| | Pre-nuptial counseling for engaged girls & their fiancées | P |
| | Legal counseling & assistance for at-risk & married AGYW, including as related to customary justice processes & civil registration | P, R |
| | Family planning counseling & services for married AGYW | R |
| | Dignity kits and Menstrual Health & Hygiene Management (MHM) for AGYW | P |
| | Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) for AGYW | R |
| | Maternal, newborn, & child health (MNCH) care for married AGYW & their children | R |
| | Other SRHR information & services for AGYW | P, R |
| | Emergency/Protection basic assistance for at-risk & married AGYW | P, R |
| | Independent accommodation/safe housing/alternative care for married AGYW | R |
| | Educational support for at-risk & married AGYW & their children | P, R |
| Economic empowerment of at-risk & married AGYW | P, R | |
| Awareness-raising to address social norms on child marriage with AGYW | P, SB | |
| Girl-led awareness-raising & community initiatives to address child marriage | P, SB | |

^[16] Specialized is used in reference to targeted individual Protection services for prevention & response to a GBV concern provided by trained & supervised GBV/CP specialists (not intended to be an indication of specialized services along the IASC MHPSS pyramid).

| Socio-Ecological Level | Intervention Type | |
|--|---|----------|
|  <p>Parents, Spouses, & Families</p> | Parent groups for parents/caregivers of at-risk & married AGYW | P, R |
| | Positive parenting counseling during judicial disputes | P, R |
| | Emergency/Protection basic assistance for parents & families of at-risk & married AGYW | P, R |
| | Economic empowerment of parents & spouses of at-risk & married AGYW | P, R |
| | Awareness-raising to address social norms on child marriage with parents, spouses, & family-members of AGYW | P, SB |
| | Parent-led awareness-raising & community initiatives to address child marriage | P, SB |
|  <p>Peers & Communities (Community Leaders & Structures, Faith-Based Actors, & Customary Justice Actors)</p> | Sensitization sessions/roundtables with CLS, FBA, & CJA on child marriage | P, SB |
| | Community leader-led awareness-raising & community initiatives to address child marriage | P, SB |
| | GBV & Justice/Gender Justice capacity-building focused on child marriage, including for pre-nuptial counseling, with CJA & FBA | P, R, SB |
| | Engaging men & boys as allies to address child marriage | P, SB |
| | Intergenerational & community dialogues on child marriage | P, SB |
| | Support of youth & feminist groups & social movements addressing child marriage | P, SB |
|  <p>Services</p> | Building accessibility & quality of specialized case management & multi-sectoral service provision for child marriage cases (SRHR, Legal/Justice, MHPSS, Economic Empowerment, Shelter, etc., following the GBV multisectoral route) | P, R, SB |
| | Capacity-building for national partners on child marriage interventions | P, R, SB |
| | Support of age/gender-responsive accountability systems in national partners | SB |
|  <p>National Systems</p> | Action-oriented research on child marriage | SB |
| | Campaigns & wider advocacy on child marriage | P, SB |
| | Trainings of authorities & policymakers on child marriage (in expertise areas of Tdh) | SB |
| | Policy technical support on child marriage (in expertise areas of Tdh) | SB |
| | Identification of priorities & good practices with support of learning exchanges on child marriage | SB |
| | Investing in national & regional coordination on child marriage | SB |



5. Designing, Implementing, and Monitoring Child Marriage Interventions in MENA

Considerations for child marriage interventions across **the program cycle – Assessment & Program Design, Implementation, and Monitoring, Evaluation, & Learning (MEL)** – are identified below^[17]. The program cycle has been consolidated into three main phases for the purposes of the MoA. It is important to note that the phases do not necessarily run discretely but overlap. For instance, it is critical that MEL does not occur only at the end of interventions but concurrently with implementation.

The transversal approaches and three core strategies for child marriage interventions should be applied throughout the program cycle in order to achieve change, including supporting prevention, response, & systems-building; working across socioecological levels; and mobilizing multisectoral efforts.

Aligned with the third transversal approach, child marriage interventions should be first informed by **consultation conducted in the context together with AGYW; their families, peers, & communities; service providers; partners; and other stakeholders**. This engages their participation from the beginning to adapt interventions accordingly. Part of this exercise should be to **identify and address intervention-related risks** before implementation. Risks and barriers should continue to be identified throughout the course of child marriage interventions, including as related to Sexual Exploitation & Abuse (SEA) and Child Safeguarding (CSG). Appropriate **Protection from SEA (PSEA) and CSG policies, focal points, and mechanisms** should be set in place, with links to **wider feedback and response mechanisms**.

Throughout design, implementation, and monitoring of interventions, it is critical to also consider **AGD considerations**, to be able to adapt interventions to reach, engage, and support different groups.

^[17] Further editions of the *Child Marriage MENA Model of Action* will include specific annexes and tools dedicated to MEL/Quality & Accountability.

Checklist of Highlighted Considerations for Child Marriage Interventions Across the Program Cycle

Assessment & Program Design

- ✓ Conduct participatory assessment with AGYW, families & communities, & stakeholders
- ✓ Keep AGYW at the center of the design of child marriage interventions
- ✓ Ensure objectives, outcomes, & interventions address prevention, response, & systems-building; socioecological levels; and the multisectoral model, as well as integrate transversal approaches
- ✓ Tailor intervention design for both at-risk/unmarried adolescent girls and married, divorced, separated, & widowed AGYW, as well as their children
- ✓ Factor in appropriate technical expertise, as well as sufficient resourcing for activities, capacity-building, research, etc.
- ✓ Ensure accountability mechanisms and PSEA & CSG considerations are included in design

Implementation

- ✓ Ensure activities support both unmarried/engaged girls to prevent child marriage as well as married, divorced, separated, & widowed AGYW; extend support to their children
- ✓ Support both facility-based & mobile modalities, with strategies for hard-to-reach AGYW
- ✓ Ensure provision of specialized GBV/CP case management & legal/judicial support, as well as provision or referrals to other targeted services for child marriage
- ✓ Extend adapted intervention modalities targeting different roles in families: parents/guardians (including both mothers & fathers), fiancés/spouses, & in-laws
- ✓ Work with community & religious leaders, structures, & wider communities on promoting positive social norms to combat child marriage, as well as engaging men & boys
- ✓ Include appropriate training & supervision for any AGYW/ community-led initiatives
- ✓ Facilitate ongoing structured capacity-building, coaching, & supervision for partners, community leaders & structures, and women/youth-led groups
- ✓ Continue direct participation of AGYW, their communities, local organizations & social movements, & partners throughout the implementation phase
- ✓ Link together research, programming, & advocacy on child marriage
- ✓ Work across child marriage interventions to ensure they do not contribute to the risks of child marriage, SEA, or wider forms of GBV for AGYW

Monitoring, Evaluation, & Learning Implementation

- ✓ Measure beyond the number of participants to outcome level indicators, with sexual and age disaggregated data analysis
 - ✓ Continue to identify risks & barriers for AGYW to participate in child marriage interventions and access services, as well as changing patterns related to child marriage
 - ✓ Support rigorous monitoring of interventions, services, & partners and translate back into quality strengthening
 - ✓ Verify through MEL that key transversal approaches and core strategies are being applied
 - ✓ Ensure MEL is interlinked with (AGYW-led) accountability mechanisms; incorporate community feedback back into child marriage intervention design
 - ✓ Report back to communities, partners, & other stakeholders in response to their feedback regarding progress toward objectives
 - ✓ Document child marriage program approaches & learning; conduct external evaluation; and facilitate exchanges between Tdh country operations and within interagency platforms
-



Annex

a. Key Concepts & Definitions on Child Marriage

Child Marriage

Child marriage is the marriage or a union that involves a minor(s) under the age of 18. Globally as well as in the region, **child marriage disproportionately and primarily affects girls.** Due to underlying power disparities based on gender and age, **child brides face heightened discrimination, violence, and other risks.** Adolescent girls and young women in the region are a **high-risk group for GBV**, in particular exacerbated by crisis. Adolescent girls across MENA countries commonly experience the risk of child marriage, as well as wider forced marriages for young women. While child marriages are permitted in certain countries in the region, this is still against international frameworks on the rights and protection of children, as well as of women and girls.

Child marriage is a **fundamental violation of child rights**, including the right to survival and development. As a **form of GBV**, child marriage is **based on, perpetuated by, and reinforces gender inequalities.** Child marriage is a type of sexual violence, as **children cannot give informed consent** due to their developmental stage and the power differential. It often **leads to and is interlinked with other forms of GBV such as domestic violence and IPV.** Married girls frequently experience physical and psychological abuse, as well as denial of resources, opportunities, and services. Child marriage **robs girls of their childhood and denies them their fundamental rights.** It is closely correlated with **barriers to access education and school drop-out**, hindering their ability to realize their potential. It is also a **violation of their reproductive rights**, including the right to a consensual marriage and decision-making about having children. Child marriages **poses a serious risk to the life of girls** related to health complications from sexual violence and **early pregnancy.** All of this **negatively affects their well-being and causing long-lasting harm.**

Child marriage also has **severe repercussions for the children of girls who are married early.** This includes poorer health and nutrition outcomes – with elevated infant mortality rates – as well as risks of statelessness. Households with child marriages are more likely to be locked in the **cycle of poverty.** Furthermore, child marriages have a **detrimental impact at societal level, hindering the achievement of national development goals.** Gender equality has been shown to directly correlate to the economic prosperity and stability of a country, with the cost of child marriages by 2030 estimated by the World Bank to be in the trillions.

Adolescents & Youth

Adolescents and youth have specific experiences, needs, risks, and capacities. They span the ages of 10 to 24, including younger adolescents, older adolescents, and youth. Adolescents and youth are in a critical **transitional phase**, yet they can often be **invisible** in the eyes of programming and policy. **Adolescent girls and young women** in particular experience a **double disadvantage**, which contributes to their high risk of different forms of GBV such as child marriage. Dedicated **adolescent/youth-friendly and gender-responsive approaches** are required in order to effectively promote the safety, dignity, and empowerment of AGYW.

The need for targeted approaches applies as well to service provision. **Child survivors** require a tailored approach that draws from both the **best interest of the child** and the **survivor-centered approach.**

The global Youth Compact and best practice approaches in the region emphasize the importance of promoting the **participation and agency** of adolescents and youth throughout programs.

Below is a table of key terms related to child marriage. Definitions are extracted from the IASC Guidelines on GBV and Gender, interagency GBV Minimum Standards, Alliance for CP in Humanitarian Action CP Minimum Standards, and regional toolkit for Adolescent and Youth Engagement (*refer to Annex: Resources*).

key terms related to child marriage

| | |
|---|--|
| Child | <p>Article 1 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) defines a child as “<i>every human being below the age of 18 years unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier.</i>” The Committee on the Rights of the Child, the monitoring body for the Convention, has encouraged States to review the age of majority if it is set below 18 and to increase the level of protection for all children under 18.</p> <p>Minors are considered unable to evaluate and understand the consequences of their choices and give informed consent, especially for sexual acts [with adults].</p> |
| Adolescents & Youth | <p>Adolescence encompasses the period of early adolescence (10 to 14 years) and late adolescence (15 to 19 years).</p> <p>The United Nations (UN) definition of youth is 15 to 24 years old which encompasses the period of late adolescence and young adulthood.</p> <p>Young people is an umbrella term for adolescents and youth, aged 10 to 24 years old.</p> |
| Child Marriage (alternatively referred to as early marriage or child & early marriage) | <p>Child marriage is a formal marriage or informal union before age 18. Even though some countries permit marriage before age 18, international human rights standards classify these as child marriages, reasoning that those under age 18 are unable to give informed consent. Therefore, child marriage is a form of forced marriage as children are not legally competent to agree to such unions.</p> |
| Forced Marriage | <p>Forced marriage is the marriage of an individual against her or his will. Child marriage falls under the umbrella of forced marriage.</p> |
| Survivor (alternatively referred to as victim) | <p>A survivor is a person who has experienced gender-based violence. The terms ‘victim’ and ‘survivor’ can be used interchangeably. ‘Victim’ is a term often used in the legal and medical sectors. ‘Survivor’ is the term generally preferred in the psychological and social support sectors because it implies resiliency.</p> |
| Child Survivor | <p>Survivors of sexual abuse who are minors (under the age of 18). The term ‘child sexual abuse’ generally is used to refer to any sexual activity between a child and closely related family member (incest) or between a child and an adult or older child from outside the family. It involves either explicit force or coercion or, in cases where consent cannot be given by the victim because of his or her young age, implied force.</p> <p>Young children and adolescent girls and boys are vulnerable because of their age, size, dependency on adults and limited participation in decision-making processes. Sexual abuse in childhood can occur in the family environment; the perpetrator is often close to the child and someone with whom the child has a relationship of trust.</p> |

Gender-Based Violence An umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person’s will and that is based on socially ascribed (i.e. gender) differences between males and females. The term ‘gender-based violence’ is primarily used to underscore the fact that structural, gender-based power differentials between males and females around the world place females at risk for multiple forms of violence.

As agreed in the *Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women* (1993), this includes acts that inflict physical, mental or sexual harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion and other deprivations of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life. The term is also used by some actors to describe some forms of sexual violence against males and/or targeted violence against LGBTI populations, in these cases when referencing violence related to gender-inequitable norms of masculinity and/or norms of gender identity.

Gender Refers to the social attributes and opportunities associated with being male and female and the relationships between women and men and girls and boys, as well as the relations between women and those between men. These attributes, opportunities and relationships are socially constructed and are learned through socialization processes. They are context/time-specific and changeable. Gender determines what is expected, allowed and valued in a woman or a man in a given context.

In most societies there are differences and inequalities between women and men in responsibilities assigned, activities undertaken, access to and control over resources, as well as decision-making opportunities. Gender is part of the broader socio-cultural context.

Gender Equality Refers to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys. Equality does not mean that women and men will become the same but that women’s and men’s rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on whether they are born male or female. Gender equality implies that the interests, needs and priorities of both women and men are taken into consideration, recognizing the diversity of different groups of women and men. Gender equality is not a women’s issue but should concern and fully engage men as well as women. Equality between women and men is seen both as a human rights issue and as a precondition for, and indicator of, sustainable people-centered development.

It is important to differentiate between gender *equality* and gender *equity*. Gender equity relates to women, girls, men and boys having access to the rights, resources, services and opportunities, etc. defined by their specific needs.

Child Protection The prevention of and response to abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence against children in humanitarian action.

Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights
(alternatively referred to as SRH or SRHR) SRH is a state of physical, emotional, mental, and social well-being in relation to all aspects of sexuality and reproduction, not merely the absence of disease, dysfunction or infirmity. Therefore, a positive approach to sexuality and reproduction should recognize the part played by pleasurable sexual relationships, trust, and communication in promoting self-esteem and overall well-being. All individuals have a right to make decisions governing their bodies and to access services that support that right.

Mental Health & Psychosocial Support Support that aims to protect or promote psychosocial well-being and/or prevent or treat mental disorder. An MHPSS approach is a way to engage with and analyse a situation, and provide a response, taking into account both psychological and social elements. This may include support interventions in the health sector, education, community services, protection and other sectors.

Any type of local or outside support that aims to protect or promote psychosocial well-being and prevent or treat mental health conditions. MHPSS programmes aim to (1) reduce and prevent harm, (2) strengthen resilience to recover from adversity, and (3) improve the care conditions that enable children and families to survive and thrive.

**Consent/
Informed Consent**

Refers to approval or assent, particularly and especially after thoughtful consideration. Free and informed consent is given based upon a clear appreciation and understanding of the facts, implications and future consequences of an action. In order to give informed consent, the individual concerned must have all adequate relevant facts at the time consent is given and be able to evaluate and understand the consequences of an action. They also must be aware of and have the power to exercise their right to refuse to engage in an action and/or to not be coerced (i.e. being persuaded based on force or threats).

Children are generally considered unable to provide informed consent because they do not have the ability and/or experience to anticipate the implications of an action, and they may not understand or be empowered to exercise their right to refuse. There are also instances where consent might not be possible due to cognitive impairments and/or physical, sensory or intellectual disabilities.

Informed consent means making an informed choice freely and voluntarily by persons in an equal power relationship. A survivor must be informed about all available options, and fully understand what she is consenting to as well as the risks, including the limits of confidentiality, before agreeing. The full range of choices should be presented to the survivor, regardless of the service provider's individual beliefs. The survivor should not be pressured to consent to any interview, exam, assessment, etc. A survivor is allowed to withdraw consent at any time.

Informed Assent

Informed assent is the expressed willingness to participate in services. For younger children, who are by definition too young to give informed consent but are old enough to understand and agree to participate in services, the child's "informed assent" is sought.

The expressed willingness to participate in services. Informed assent is sought from children who are by nature or law too young to give consent, but who are old enough to understand and agree to participate in services. When obtaining informed assent, practitioners must share, in a child-friendly manner, information on: services and options available, potential risks and benefits, personal information to be collected and how it will be used, and confidentiality and its limits.

Additional definitions for **Agency, Resilience, and Empowerment** can be found in the Tdh resource *Toward Psychosocial Resilience and Well-Being*.

b. Key Resources on Child Marriage

Interagency Global Platforms, Resources, & Research

Child Marriage

Girls Not Brides

UNFPA & UNICEF, [Global Programme to End Child Marriage](#)

Global Programme Child Marriage, [Addressing Child Marriage in Humanitarian Settings](#), 2021

Child Survivors

International Rescue Committee (IRC) and UNICEF, [Caring for Child Survivors of Sexual Abuse Guidelines and Training Toolkit](#), 2012

Gender & Gender-Based Violence

Inter-agency Standing Committee (IASC). [The Gender Handbook for Humanitarian Action](#), 2017

IASC, [Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action](#), 2015

Interagency (GBV Area of Responsibility), [Minimum Standards for Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies Programming](#), 2019

IASC, [Gender with Age Marker](#)

Child Protection

Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action, [Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action](#), 2019

Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights

Inter-Agency Working Group on Reproductive Health in Crisis (IAWG), [Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Toolkit for Humanitarian Settings](#), 2020

Mental Health & Psychosocial Support

IASC, [Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings](#), 2007

Adolescents & Youth

Compact for Young People in Humanitarian Action

IASC, [Working with and for Young People in Humanitarian and Protracted Crises](#), 2020

GBV & CP Case Management

Refer to the [Tdh Case Management Guidance for Addressing Child Marriage](#) for interagency global resources on case management

Tdh Global and MENA regional Platforms, Resources, & Research

Child Protection

Tdh 2020, [The Fundamentals in Child Protection](#) – only accessible on the internal Tdh knowledge center

Mental Health & Psychosocial Support

Tdh 2020, [MHPSS Operational Guidance & Annexes](#)

Gender & Diversity

Tdh 2019, [Policy on Gender & Diversity](#)

Tdh, [Gender & Diversity Marker](#) – only accessible on the internal Tdh knowledge center

Child Marriage, GBV, & Gender Justice Research

Tdh 2019, *The Role of Customary Actors in Shaping Child Marriage in Burkina Faso, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Palestine, & Egypt*

Tdh 2020, *Research – Understanding Child Marriage amongst Syrian Refugee Communities in Jordan and Lebanon, Full Reports, Main Findings*

Tdh 2021, *Gender Justice Mapping & Assessment in Jordan*

Tdh 2021, *Procedural Guideline of Access to Justice Standards for Cases of Violence Against Women and Girls in Formal and Customary/Community-based Justice Systems in the West Bank, Palestine*

Tdh 2021, *Gender Justice in Lebanon: Fostering the care and reintegration of girl children and female youth deprived of liberty, with a focus on GBV survivors*

Tdh 2021, *Gender Justice Policy Brief - When the invisibility has gender: access to justice for women and girls survivors of violence in Palestine*

Child Marriage Resources

Tdh 2021, *MENA Child Marriage Case Management Guidance*

Tdh 2021, *MENA Child Marriage – Policy brief. From research to policy: addressing child marriage to reach education goals*

Tdh 2021, *MENA Child Marriage – Policy brief. From research to policy: child marriage and female economic empowerment*

Tdh 2021, *MENA Child Marriage – Poster: Amplifying girls' and adolescents' voice in the MENA region*

Interagency Regional Platforms, Resources, & Research

Child Marriage Platforms

UNICEF-UNFPA, *Regional Accountability Framework of Action on Ending Child Marriage, 2018*

Child Marriage, GBV, & Gender Research (Focus on Adolescent Girls)

UNICEF, *A Profile of Child Marriage in the Middle East & North Africa, 2018*

UNICEF, *Child Marriage in the Context of COVID-19, 2021*

UNICEF, UNFPA, Women's Refugee Commission, & Johns Hopkins University, *Child Marriage in Humanitarian Settings in the Arab States Region, 2020*

Save The Children, *Married by Exception: Child Marriage Policies in the Middle East and North Africa, 2021*

Save The Children, Plan, & UC Berkeley, *Child Marriage in Humanitarian Crises: Girls and Parents Speak Out on Risks and Protective Factors, Decision-Making, and Solutions, 2021*

International Rescue Committee, *Jordan Adolescent Girls Assessment: Needs, Aspirations, Safety, and Access, 2015*

GAGE, Jordan, & *State of the Evidence, Lebanon & State of the Evidence, Palestine & State of the Evidence*
GBV AoR, *Voices from Syria 2020, Voices from Syria 2021*

UNICEF, UNWOMEN, UNFPA, WFP, ESCWA, FAO, Tdh, Plan International, *Situational Analysis of Women and Girls in MENA and Arab States Region - Regional Report, 2021*

Adolescents & Youth Platforms & Resources

No Lost Generation (NLG)

Adolescent & Youth Hub

NLG/UN:NGO Working Group on Adolescents & Youth, *Adolescent and Youth Engagement Toolkit, 2018*

NLG/UN:NGO Working Group on Adolescents & Youth, *Systematic Participation of Adolescents and Youth in Programming (MENA), 2017*

NLG/UN:NGO Working Group on Adolescents & Youth, *Adolescent Kit for Expression & Innovation (Arabic)*

c. Target Groups for Child Marriage Interventions – Detailed Table

Below is a non-exhaustive list describing groups to consider across socioecological levels when designing, implementing, and monitoring child marriage interventions. Certain categories may overlap.

| Target groups for consideration for child marriage interventions | | |
|--|---|---|
| Type | Groups to Consider | Sub-Groups to Consider |
| Primary Target Groups | Adolescent Girls & Young Women (AGYW), Focusing on At-Risk Adolescents Girls and Girls & Young Women Married Early | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At-risk adolescent girls Adolescent girls who are engaged Adolescent girls who are married, as well as divorced, separated, & widowed adolescent girls Young women who were married early AGYW who are young mothers |
| | Children of AGYW | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children of married AGYW who were married early |
| Secondary Target Groups | Peers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wider AGYW, as well as adolescent boys & young men (ABYM) |
| | Parents/Guardians/Caregivers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mothers, fathers, guardians, & caregivers for AGYW, in particular at-risk & married AGYW May also include parents, guardians, & caregivers for ABYM |
| | Fiancés & Spouses | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fiancés of engaged adolescent girls Spouses of married AGYW |
| | Wider Families, including In-Laws | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extended family-members of AGYW, especially those living in the same household or with influencing roles In-laws/families of fiancés & spouses of AGYW |
| | Communities, including Community Leaders & Customary Justice Actors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wider communities Community/religious leaders & customary justice actors Community structures, such as committees, networks, etc. |
| | Service Providers, both Specialized Protection & Wider Service Provision | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service providers providing GBV/CP case management Service providers providing other tailored services for child marriage cases: Health, Legal/Justice, MHPSS, Shelter, NFI, Food, Cash, Education, Economic Empowerment, etc. More general service providers for mainstreaming child marriage considerations, e.g. for safe identification & referrals |
| | Civil Society | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National/local organizations |
| | Authorities & Policymakers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal & customary judicial actors Relevant national ministries, policymakers, & other authorities |
| | Partners | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partners collaborating with Tdh, include both civil society organizations & government institutions |
| | Networks & Social Movements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth & feminist networks & social movements at local, national, & regional levels |
| Coordination Bodies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant interagency coordination bodies on Child Marriage, GBV, CP, Protection, Gender, Adolescents & Youth, and Women, Peace, & Security 1325 | |



**Appendix:
The Detailed Intervention
Matrix for Addressing
Child Marriage in MENA**

Types of child marriage interventions by socio-ecological level^[a]
(Prevention, Response, & System-Building, are indicated by P, R & SB)

| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|---|--|---|--|--|
|  Adolescent Girls & Young Women (Focus on At-Risk & Married) | Safe spaces for adolescent girls & young women, accompanied by mobile modalities | P, R <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spaces in which AGYW can participate in MHPSS^[18] & other activities; access information & services regarding child marriage; & socialize with peers, paired with mobile modalities • Consider dedicated AGYW areas/days within wider women & girls safe spaces, youth centers, health centers, learning spaces, etc. • Should ensure safety, dignity, & privacy as well as participation of AGYW | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with AGYW regarding their interests • Conduct a risk assessment for each safe space with mitigating strategies • Support AGYW-led activities • Ensure different kinds of AGYW can access the safe space and pair with mobile modalities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tdh MHPSS Operational Guidance & Annexes; Ride On, YouCreate, & Sports for Protection; Child Protection Fundamentals – <i>only accessible on the internal Tdh knowledge center</i> • AYWG MENA Adolescent Kit for Expression & Innovation |
| | Unstructured & structured MHPSS activities with AGYW, including through arts & sports and girl/women-led modalities | P ^[a] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unstructured MHPSS, including recreational, cultural, social, & creative/arts-based activities • Structured PSS curricula should specifically target (younger & older) AGYW & integrate child marriage topics; engage the use of AGYW-led methodologies, arts, & sports • Reaches to AGYW more widely, with links to focused MHPSS activities & GBV/CP case management for identified at-risk & married AGYW | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify accessible spaces in which activities can be conducted in the context (e.g. centers, schools) • Adapt curricula through participatory consultation, including for different AGD groups • Incorporate local arts, recreational, & cultural activities; engage AGYW to support facilitation • Build capacities of local partners to implement MHPSS activities with AGYW | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tdh MHPSS Operational Guidance & Annexes; Ride On, YouCreate, & Sports for Protection; Child Protection Fundamentals – <i>only accessible on the internal Tdh knowledge center</i> • AYWG MENA Adolescent Kit for Expression & Innovation |

^[18] MHPSS is used throughout for unstructured, structured, and focused activities aligned with Tdh terminology to promote the holistic MHPSS approach throughout all levels of intervention, with links to higher levels of specialized MHPSS care as needed; may be referred to as PSS activities by sector coordination.

^[a] Although placed in prevention, these interventions can also contribute in a certain way to response through safe identification and referrals of married AGYW to services. They are also potential activities in which married AGYW can participate, in parallel to case management. As they work to address gendered social norms, this helps to address beliefs & practices that also pose barriers for married AGYW to access services & opportunities and realize their potential.

| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|---|--|---|---|---|
|  <p>Adolescent Girls & Young Women (Focus on At-Risk & Married)</p> | Life Skills groups with at-risk & married AGYW | P, R <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structured focused MHPSS through small group sessions targeting at-risk & married AGYW Curriculum specifically targeting (younger & older) AGYW with a focus on child marriage to build self-protective capacities and raise awareness on available services Separate groups of unmarried & married AGYW are typically suggested; as appropriate consider occasional joint sessions with parents or mixed sessions with ABYM peers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify accessible spaces in the context Adapt curricula through participatory consultation, including for different AGD groups Find modalities to engage hard-to-reach AGYW Identify social norms & practices to target in the context and adolescent/youth friendly entry points & framing for sensitive topics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRC (My Safety, My Well-Being; Girl Shine, Compass), Plan, & IMC (Youth Empowerment Program) Life Skills Curricula UNICEF/UNFPA Iraq Adolescent Girls Curriculum |
| | Parent groups with AGYW who are married/young mothers | R ^(b) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structured focused MHPSS through small group sessions targeting married AGYW Curriculum specifically adapted for AGYW who have experienced child marriage rather than parents of AGYW; can combine Life Skills & Parenting tracks Can potentially separate groups by AGYW with children & without children | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify accessible spaces in the context Adapt curricula through participatory consultation, including for different AGD groups Find modalities to engage hard-to-reach AGYW Identify social norms & practices – including related to parenting – to target in the context and adolescent/youth friendly entry points & framing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRC (CP), Save, Plan, IMC, DRC Parenting Curricula – <i>some may be targeted to parents of adolescent girls or younger children</i> |
| | Support groups with married AGYW | R ^(b) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structured focused MHPSS through small group sessions targeting married AGYW Facilitation guide specifically adapted for AGYW who have experienced child marriage Offers another MHPSS group session model that can be considered depending on AGYW preferences; can be in parallel to, as an alternative to, or following GBV/CP case management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify accessible spaces in the context Adapt curricula through participatory consultation, including for different AGD groups Find modalities to engage hard-to-reach AGYW Identify social norms & practices to target in the context and adolescent/youth friendly entry points & framing for sensitive topics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IMC Support Groups Curricula |

^(b) Noting that response still contributes to prevention/risk mitigation of further forms of GBV & other harm for married AGYW.

| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|---|--|---|---|---|
|  <p>Adolescent Girls & Young Women (Focus on At-Risk & Married)</p> | Specialized^[19] GBV/CP case management tailored for child marriage cases | P, R <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual case management for at-risk/engaged adolescent girls, as well as married AGYW Specialized GBV/CP service with MHPSS mainstreamed (focused PSS level along IASC triangle) Provide in a safe, private, & dignified space; can be embedded within child-friendly, youth, or women safe spaces; health facilities; learning spaces; & mobile modalities Align with the CASI approach with attention to best interest of child & survivor-centered approaches; informed consent/assent with robust safety planning & risk mitigation Ensure GBV/CP case managers are equipped to support child marriage cases; guidance & forms should be specifically adapted for child marriage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify accessible, private, safe, & dignified spaces for case management (e.g. in centers, health facilities) Map available services and develop referral pathways aligned with national GBV/CP SOPs, including Information-Sharing Protocols (ISPs) Contextualize case management guidance/forms Identify entry points for and strengthen safe identification & referral to case management Identify and mitigate barriers & risks for case management in the context for at-risk/married AGYW Understand mandatory reporting protocols in the context and how to navigate aligned with BI of the child/survivor-centered | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tdh MENA Child Marriage Case Management Operational Guidance Interagency GBV & CP Case Management IRC & UNICEF Caring for Child Survivors Guidelines & Trainings ABAAAD GBViE Case Management Course |
| | Pre-nuptial counseling for engaged girls & their fiancées | P ^[a] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeting adolescent girls who are being/already engaged, as well as their fiancées Ensure faith-based actors/community leaders have been trained previously and guidelines for pre-nuptial counselling in child marriage cases are in place to support gender-responsive interpretations of personal status laws (informing adolescents about their rights & obligations linked to marriage & parenthood; promoting healthy respectful & gender equal relationships, e.g. more balanced sharing of household/childcare responsibilities) Aim to cancel or delay child marriages, but first identify and mitigate risks for each case to determine the best course of action and not place girls at risk | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand customary justice/mediation processes & actors in the context, as well as legal frameworks Pilot & adapt pre-nuptial counselling curriculum Assess roles, positions, & capacities of CJA, including identification of potential allies Identify innovative framing & ways to promote positive gender social norms with CJA Identify and mitigate risks for pre-nuptial counseling & engagement of CJA in the context | |

^[19] Specialized is used in reference to targeted individual Protection services for prevention & response to a GBV concern provided by trained & supervised GBV/CP specialists (not intended to be an indication of specialized services along the IASC MHPSS pyramid).

^[a] Although placed in prevention, these interventions can also contribute in a certain way to response through safe identification and referrals of married AGYW to services. They are also potential activities in which married AGYW can participate, in parallel to case management. As they work to address gendered social norms, this helps to address beliefs & practices that also pose barriers for married AGYW to access services & opportunities and realize their potential.

| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|---|--|---|---|--|
|  <p>Adolescent Girls & Young Women (Focus on At-Risk & Married)</p> | <p>Legal counseling & assistance for at-risk & married AGYW, including as related to customary justice processes & civil registration</p> | <p>P, R</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal counseling, assistance, & representation for at-risk & married AGYW, including for: mediation process during marriage decision-making; drafting the engagement contract to delay or add specific conditions; conflictual/non-conflictual divorce processes; civil registration processes; court processes • Train and support formal & customary justice actors & lawyers/paralegals; set safeguards in place to prevent reprisals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct analysis of legal frameworks & their implementation related to child marriage, e.g. minimum age of marriage, exceptions, & mandatory reporting provisions • Examine judicial policies & procedures and conduct a stakeholder analysis to identify gaps, capacities, & potential allies within formal/informal justice systems • Identify procedures for marriage, divorce, child custody, inheritance, civil registration, etc. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tdh Palestine VAWG / Access to Justice Standards • Tdh Lebanon Policy Brief Provision of Legal Assistance for AGYW Affected by Child Marriage – <i>in development</i> |
| | <p>Family planning counseling & services for married AGYW</p> | <p>R ^(b)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeting married AGYW; as possible also provide information to wider AGYW as part of CSE within MHPSS & learning curricula • Includes family planning information dissemination, counseling, access to & provision of contraception & follow-up, with service provision through facility/center & mobile modalities • Focus on prevention of early pregnancy & birth spacing, as well as protection from STIs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify spaces in which family planning information & services can be provided, including integration within MHPSS curricula; ensure accessibility, privacy, safety, & dignity • Understand social norms/myths & decision-making processes regarding family planning, as well as availability, access to, & preferences for different types of contraception • Find adolescent/youth friendly entry points & framing for sensitive topics (e.g. jointly with health staff) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IAWG SRH Adolescent Toolkit • Life Skills Curricula (<i>refer to Life Skills row in Intervention Matrix p45</i>) |

^(b) Noting that response still contributes to prevention/risk mitigation of further forms of GBV & other harm for married AGYW.

| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|---|--|---|--|--|
|  <p>Adolescent Girls & Young Women (Focus on At-Risk & Married)</p> | Dignity kits and Menstrual Health & Hygiene Management (MHM) for AGYW | <p>P^[a]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHM sessions targeting AGYW more widely, paired with provision of MHM materials & dignity kits Address MHM-related barriers for AGYW to access schools, including safe & dignified sanitary facilities Leverage as an entry point to engage on child marriage and wider GBV & SRHR, as well as for safe identification & referrals; topic within CSE | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand social norms/myths regarding puberty & MHM to address, including availability, access to, & preferences for different types of menstrual hygiene materials Identify MHM-related barriers for AGYW to access schools & other services/opportunities, together with WASH & Education Adapt MHM materials & approaches, including tackling social taboo/stigma regarding menstruation Identify entry points within MHM curricula & hygiene material distributions for wider SRHR & GBV awareness-raising, in particular on child marriage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Save MHM Operational Guideline; IRC & Columbia University and Plan MHM in Emergencies Toolkit Menstrual Hygiene Day |
| | Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) for AGYW | <p>R^[b]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinical care, provision of PEP/post-rape kits, & forensic with basic emotional/legal-medical counseling, as well as referrals to GBV/CP case management & other medical services if needed Critical to be urgently provided (within 72 hours) for survivors of rape & other forms of sexual violence; medical counseling & care also to be provided to wider GBV survivors Essential to have protocol including for child survivors; specific trained CMR providers; updated directories & referral pathways; and prepositioned kits & supply chain to ensure PEP kits are available and not expired In addition to facilities, potential provision through mobile modalities with appropriate protocols | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and address barriers & risks for AGYW to access CMR Target gaps in CMR service provision; designated focal points; PEP kits availability & supply chain; and referral pathways, including between CMR & case management Assess and support service provider capacities to provide age/gender-responsive CMR & support child survivors, including addressing survivor-blaming attitudes Understand mandatory reporting protocols for health professionals & how to navigate aligned with BI of the child/survivor-centered approach | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IMC, IRC, Save, & ABAAD Trainings WHO, UNFPA, UNHCR CMR E-Learning WHO CMR & IPV Survivors Protocols GPC Health Cluster Turkey Syria Guidelines Health Staff Caring for GBV Survivors |

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^[b] Noting that response still contributes to prevention/risk mitigation of further forms of GBV & other harm for married AGYW.

| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|---|---|--|---|--|
|  <p>Adolescent Girls & Young Women (Focus on At-Risk & Married)</p> | Maternal, newborn, & child health (MNCH) care for married AGYW & their children | <p>R ^[b]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MNCH for AGYW mothers & their children, as well as Infant & Young Child Feeding (IYCF)/Nutrition Includes maternal (antinal, perinatal & postpartum care) & newborn health, child health, immunization, and nutrition & health promotion Provision through facilities & mobile modalities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and address barriers & risks in the context for pregnant AGYW, young mothers, & their children to access MNCH information & services Identify info gaps and find entry points to provide unmarried & married AGYW with information regarding family planning & MNCH early on to support their informed decisions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WHO/PMNCH Guidelines for Reproductive & MNCH UNICEF IAWG Newborn Care in Emergencies Nutrition Network IYCF Guidance |
| | Other Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR) information & services for AGYW | <p>P, R</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information about and prevention, testing, & management of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) Integration of CSE/wider SRHR topics for AGYW, including within MHPSS activities (e.g. puberty, MHM, bodily integrity, healthy relationships, GBV, STIs, contraception/family planning; maternal/child care) Entry points to be found in each context for SRHR, with mitigation of risks & contextualized framing determined together with local partners, health facilities, Health & Education governmental institutions, etc. Joint activities with health facilities/staff on child marriage & wider SRHR are recommended | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify curricula & spaces in the context in which SRH information and/or services can be provided; ensure accessibility, privacy, safety, & dignity Understand and address myths & underlying gender norms related to SRHR regarding AGYW's bodies & sexuality Find entry points & adolescent/youth-friendly framing for sensitive topics that are more accepted in the community (e.g. sessions with health staff, integration within MoE curriculum) Identify and address risks in the context for AGYW participants to access SRHR info & services; raise awareness with parents, families, & communities in parallel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan CSE Standards IAWG SRH Adolescent Toolkit Save Reproductive Health in Emergencies Toolkit IRC Testing ASRH Packages in Emergencies |

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| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|---|--|---|---|---|
|  <p>Adolescent Girls & Young Women</p> <p>(Focus on At-Risk & Married)</p> | <p>Emergency/Protection basic assistance for at-risk & married AGYW</p> | <p>P, R</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cash, voucher, NFI, and/or food assistance for at-risk or married AGYW, tied to GBV/CP case management, with specific consideration for divorced, separated, & widowed AGYW Can be for immediate emergency needs and/or support toward set protection goals in case action plan First set SOPs in place for CVA for child marriage cases | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify financial/basic needs for at-risk & married AGYW & their families, as well as effective modalities to provide protection assistance tied to case management plan Identify and address risks in the context for protection/emergency assistance of AGYW, e.g. related to potential backlash from the household or community Develop contextualized SOPs for cash, voucher, NFI, and/or food assistance for AGYW, with transition planning and links to education & income-generation pathways | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CARE CVA & GBV Compendium WRC, IRC, & Mercy Corps Toolkit for Cash-Based Interventions for GBV |
| | <p>Independent accommodation/ safe housing/ alternative care for married AGYW</p> | <p>R ^[b]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeting primarily married AGYW (and their children & families, as applicable) Explore alternative care arrangements & safe housing/independent accommodation available for (child) GBV survivors that require this type of support, as well as referrals to existing shelters as available/wishes of survivor While recommended to coordinate with organizations & governmental entities when applicable, the safety & confidentiality of the survivors should be preserved as a priority | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map out existing shelter & care options and ways to strengthen the pathways for AGYW to access Identify alternative shelter/care options for child marriage cases/child survivors that are age/gender-responsive, aligned with the BI/survivor-centered approaches Identify risks in the context for independent housing & other alternatives and work to address, as possible with CLS & authorities/law enforcement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ABAAD Lebanon Emergency Shelter for Women & Girls |

^[b] Noting that response still contributes to prevention/risk mitigation of further forms of GBV & other harm for married AGYW.

| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|---|--|---|--|--|
|  <p>Adolescent Girls & Young Women (Focus on At-Risk & Married)</p> | Educational support for at-risk & married AGYW & their children | P, R <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct provision, referrals, or support to access learning opportunities for at-risk & married AGYW & their children • Facilitate access to formal education, as well as provide BLN, remedial, & non-formal education with pathways to formal education, including adapted modalities for married AGYW • Can take place in learning spaces; integrated within women & girl safe spaces, child-friendly spaces, & youth centers; or through mobile modalities • Promote safe learning environments free of violence & raise awareness on child marriage with education staff, with referrals to specialized CP/GBV services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and address barriers for AGYW to access non-formal & formal education, including for married AGYW (e.g. childcare, transportation support, flexible hours, etc.) • Identify risks of sexual harassment, bullying, & other violence for AGYW in schools and address with educational personnel • Find pathways for AGYW from informal education to formal education, as well as to support pathways to higher levels of learning & income-generation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNICEF Reimagining Girls' Education: Solutions to Keep Girls Learning in Emergencies • UNICEF E-Toolkit on Gender Equality in Education • Plan ECCD Curricula – for children • Aflatoun Aflatot, Aflatoun – Life Skills and Financial Education for Peace |
| | Economic empowerment of at-risk & married AGYW | P, R <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct provision, referrals, or support to access economic empowerment opportunities for at-risk & married AGYW • Vocational training & skill-building, linkages to income-generation & employment opportunities, & small loans, with adapted modalities for married AGYW and non-gender stereotypical options • Can take place in vocational centers or learning spaces; integrated within women & girl safe spaces, child-friendly spaces, & youth centers; or through mobile modalities • Work with employers to ensure safe & dignified working environments free of violence and monitor the conditions for working AGYW • Ensure support of economic empowerment is developmentally appropriate to not encourage child labor or school drop-outs, with promotion of & facilitated links to nonformal/formal education to place AGYW back in school | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a market assessment and consult with AGYW regarding their preferences, while not promoting only types of livelihoods that are associated with women in the context • Identify and address social norms & barriers for AGYW to access employment opportunities in the context, including for married AGYW (e.g. childcare, transportation support, flexible hours, etc.) • Identify risks of sexual harassment & other forms of GBV for AGYW in the workplace and work to address • Find pathways in the context between vocational training to income-generation for AGYW | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aflatoun Life Skills & Financial Education, Aflateen, Aflateen+, Aflayouth |

| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|--|--|---|---|---|
|  <p>Adolescent Girls & Young Women (Focus on At-Risk & Married)</p> | <p>Awareness-raising to address social norms on child marriage with AGYW</p> | <p>P^[a], SB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness & sensitization sessions & other activities on child marriage targeting AGYW Primarily separate awareness sessions by gender so participants can discuss openly; can target for specific sub-groups of AGYW (e.g. married) or orient specific sessions to be open for mixed gender or AGYW & adults together as appropriate Can also take place through: community events; dialogues; games, contests, arts, sports, & cultural activities; print materials; audiovisual / film or audio; traditional & social media; community outreach workers, committees, & leaders; outreach, assessments, & other program activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify information needs, social norms, and communication & engagement preferences on child marriage in consultation with AGYW, including access to tech, internet, & social media platforms; traditional media; community spaces as well as literacy levels Adapt framing, messages, content, & modalities on child marriage to be adolescent/youth-friendly & appropriate for the context, as well as for different AGD groups Identify & mitigate risks of communication, awareness-raising, & engagement on child marriage with AGYW Set and monitor specific targets for the context with AGYW & partners to address social norms and promote SBC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GBV AoR Syria GBV Awareness-Raising Toolkit ABAAD Lebanon Videos & Materials 16 Days of Activism Against GBV |
| | <p>Girl-led awareness-raising & community initiatives to address child marriage</p> | <p>P^[a], SB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement and support to AGYW who participated in group sessions on child marriage to develop and implement initiatives in their communities on child marriage Support AGYW through training, funding, technical guidance, & linking to relevant stakeholders Risks should be identified and mitigated, while ensuring adequate support to not place AGYW at risk | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify information needs, social norms, and communication & engagement preferences in the context on child marriage, in consultation with AGYW Adapt framing, messages, content, & modalities to tackle specific social norms and target groups in the contexts Assess capacities, provide support, and identify and mitigate risks to AGYW engaged in child marriage awareness-raising Set and monitor specific targets for the context with AGYW & partners to address social norms and promote SBC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GBV AoR Syria GBV Awareness-Raising Toolkit Interagency Jordan Amani Campaign AYWG MENA Adolescent & Youth Engagement Toolkit ABAAD Lebanon Videos & Materials IMC YEP Curriculum 16 Days of Activism Against GBV GNB Youth Activism Trainer Manual |

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| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|--|---|---|--|--|
|  Parents, Spouses, & Families | Parent groups for parents/caregivers of at-risk & married AGYW | P, R <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structured focused MHPSS through small group sessions targeting mothers & fathers of at-risk & married AGYW Curriculum specifically adapted for parents of AGYW with a focus on child marriage; target approaches between mothers & fathers and for different ages of AGYW daughters Parents of AGYW participants should be engaged in parallel to minimize risk of backlash & extend protective impact Separate gender groups; as appropriate consider occasional joint sessions with daughters or between mothers & fathers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify accessible spaces in the context (e.g. community centers, health facilities); ensure privacy, safety, & dignity Adapt curricula through participatory consultation, including for different AGD groups (e.g. mothers, fathers) Find modalities to engage both mothers & fathers, including those that are hard-to-reach Incorporate local arts, sports, cultural activities, & creative activities Identify social norms & practices to target in the context, as well as entry points & framing for sensitive topics Find opportunities that are appropriate to bring parents & AGYW together in activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRC (CP), Save, Plan, IMC, DRC (Lebanon Engaging Male Caregivers to End Early Marriage) Parenting Curricula – <i>some may be targeted to parents of younger children</i> |
| | Positive parenting counseling during judicial disputes | P, R <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counseling sessions prior to the formal/customary justice encounter provided by a trained formal/customary justice actor with the main parties of the child marriage case conflict, particularly focused when there are children of AGYW involved Through separate or group sessions with family-members involved in the dispute toward protective outcome of the child marriage case (e.g. delay, decision not to marry, protections for married AGYW & their children) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify ways in the context to introduce positive parenting during family judicial disputes, including to mothers, fathers, & other relevant family-members Adapt curricula through participatory consultation Identify social norms & practices to target in the context, as well as entry points & framing for sensitive topics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tdh Positive Parenting Skills during Family Judicial Disputes – <i>only accessible on the internal Tdh knowledge center</i> |

| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|  <p>Parents, Spouses, & Families</p> | Emergency/Protection basic assistance for parents & families of at-risk & married AGYW | P, R <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash, voucher, NFI, and/or food assistance for parents of at-risk or married AGYW, tied to GBV/CP case management, or for households of married AGYW & their spouses depending on risk assessment & case plan • Link to the access to education and other services & opportunities for AGYW • First have SOPs in place for CVA for child marriage cases • Ensure monitoring of workspaces for those placed in jobs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a market assessment and consult with parents & spouses of AGYW regarding their preferences, while ensuring to not reinforce gendered separation of vocations • Identify and address barriers for women, refugees, migrants, etc. to access dignified work opportunities in the context • Identify risks of sexual harassment & exploitation in the workplace and work to address • Find pathways in the context between vocational training to income-generation • Ensure support of economic empowerment for parents & spouses is linked to modalities in the context to promote for AGYW to go back to school and access services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CARE CVA & GBV Compendium • WRC, IRC, & Mercy Corps Toolkit for Cash-based Interventions for GBV |
| | Economic empowerment of parents & spouses of at-risk & married AGYW | P, R <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct provision, referrals, or support to access economic empowerment opportunities for parents/families of at-risk & married AGYW, linked to access to education and other services & opportunities for AGYW • Vocational training & skill-building, linkages to income-generation & employment opportunities, & small loans, with adapted modalities for mothers, fathers, & spouses and non-gender stereotypical options • Can take place in vocational centers or learning spaces; integrated within women & girl safe spaces, youth centers, & community centers; or through mobile modalities • Work with employers to ensure safe & dignified working environments free of violence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify financial/basic needs for families of at-risk & married AGYW, as well as effective modalities to provide protection assistance tied to case management plan • Identify and address risks in the context for protection/emergency assistance of families of AGYW • Develop contextualized SOPs for cash, voucher, NFI, and/or food assistance for families of AGYW – differentiating between AGYW living with their parents and AGYW with spouses – with transition planning • Identify ways in the context to ensure livelihood support to parents & spouses is linked to access to education for AGYW | |

| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|--|--|---|--|---|
|  Parents, Spouses, & Families | Awareness-raising to address social norms on child marriage with parents, spouses, & family-members of AGYW | P ^[a] , SB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness & sensitization sessions & other activities on child marriage targeting families, e.g. mothers, fathers, fiancées, spouses, in-laws, brothers, etc. • Primarily separate awareness sessions by gender so participants can discuss openly; as relevant target for specific family roles; can orient specific sessions to be open for mixed gender or AGYW & adults together as appropriate • Can also take place through: community events; dialogues; games, contests, arts, sports, & cultural activities; print materials; audiovisual/film or audio; traditional & social media; community outreach workers, committees, & leaders; outreach, assessments, & other program activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify information needs, social norms, and communication & engagement preferences on child marriage in consultation with AGYW, parents, spouses, & wider families, including access to tech, internet, & social media platforms; traditional media; community spaces as well as literacy levels • Adapt framing, messages, content, & modalities on child marriage to be relevant & appropriate for the context, as well as for different AGD groups; develop targeted approaches to reach women/mothers versus men/fathers and spouses • Identify & mitigate risks of communication, awareness-raising, & engagement on child marriage • Set and monitor specific targets for the context with communities & partners to address social norms and promote SBC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GBV AoR Syria GBV Awareness-Raising Toolkit • ABAAD Lebanon Videos & Materials • 16 Days of Activism Against GBV |
| | Parent-led awareness-raising & community initiatives to address child marriage | P ^[a] , SB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement and support to mothers, fathers, & other family-members who participated in group sessions on child marriage to develop and implement initiatives in their communities on child marriage • Support through training, funding, technical guidance, & linking to relevant stakeholders • Risks should be identified and mitigated, while ensuring adequate support to not place participants at risk | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify information needs, social norms, and communication & engagement preferences in the context on child marriage, in consultation with parents, spouses, and wider families • Adapt framing, messages, content, & modalities to tackle specific social norms and target groups in the contexts; develop targeted approaches to reach mothers, fathers, etc. • Assess capacities, provide support, and identify and mitigate risks to parents engaged in child marriage awareness-raising • Set and monitor specific targets for the context with parents & partners to address social norms and promote SBC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GBV AoR Syria GBV Awareness-Raising Toolkit • Interagency Jordan Amani Campaign • AYWG MENA Adolescent & Youth Engagement Toolkit • ABAAD Lebanon Videos & Materials • IMC YEP Curriculum • 16 Days of Activism Against GBV • GNB Youth Activism Trainer Manual |

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| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|--|--|---|---|--|
|  <p>Peers & Communities</p> <p>(including Community Leaders & Structured, Faith-Based Actors, & Customary Justice Actors)</p> | <p>Sensitization sessions/ roundtables with CLS, FBA, & CJA on child marriage</p> | <p>P ^[a], SB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensitization sessions & community roundtables with CLS, FBA, & CJA in a given community and at national level to discuss ways to effectively address child marriage • Joint identification of underlying gender social norms; entry points & barriers; and gatekeepers & allies • Ensure inclusion of AGYW’s voices to sensitize gatekeepers/leaders; weigh & mitigate risks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a stakeholder analysis to understand the community dynamics & leverage points, including the different roles, level of influence, & positioning on child marriage of CLS, FBA, and CJA • Identify information needs, social norms, and communication & engagement preferences on child marriage in consultation with community actors, including access to tech, internet, & social media platforms; traditional media; community spaces as well as literacy levels • Adapt framing, messages, content, & modalities on child marriage to be relevant & appropriate for community actors in the context, in consideration of different AGD group • Identify relevant teachings, practices, & other cultural/religious references in the context that promote positive norms & behaviors on GBV & gender, including child marriage • Identify and mitigate risks of communication, awareness-raising, & engagement on child marriage with community actors, including ensuring robust facilitation for discussions • Set and monitor specific targets for the context with community actors to address social norms and promote SBC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABAAD Lebanon Dialogues with Religious Leaders on GBV • SASA! Faith |

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| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|--|--|--|--|--|
|  <p>Peers & Communities</p> <p>(including Community Leaders & Structured, Faith-Based Actors, & Customary Justice Actors)</p> | <p>Community leader-led awareness-raising & community initiatives to address child marriage</p> | <p>P ^[a], SB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification, engagement, & training of community actors to tackle harmful social norms and progressively influence change on child marriage within communities • Support of community actors to develop and implement initiatives in their communities on child marriage, as well as integrate an age/gender-responsive approach & messaging on child marriage into their daily roles • Promote AGYW's participation in decision-making & mediation processes on child marriage • Identify and mitigate risks and ensure adequate support for a do no harm approach aligned with standards | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify both formal & informal leaders & influencers in communities, including both women & men • Identify information needs and communication & engagement preferences in the context on child marriage in consultation with communities & community leaders • Adapt framing, messages, content, & modalities on child marriage to be relevant & appropriate for the context; develop targeted approaches to reach and engage community actors • Assess capacities and provide support to community actors engaged in awareness-raising on child marriage • Identify and mitigate risks related to awareness-raising on child marriage by community actors, and set contextualized strategies to ensure appropriate support & monitoring • Set and monitor specific targets for the context with community actors to address social norms and promote SBC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CARE Social Norms Measures for Gender Programming • SASA! Activist Kit • SASA! Faith |
| | <p>GBV & Justice/Gender Justice capacity-building focused on child marriage, including for pre-nuptial counseling, with CJA & FBA</p> | <p>P, R, SB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of targeted capacity-building to CJA & FBA on GBV legal protection/access to justice standards for child marriage cases, including for alternative conflict resolution/community-based justice • Support capacities of CJA & FBA for age/gender-responsive pre-nuptial counseling for child marriage cases | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify CLS, FBA, & CJA in the context to target and engage on support to child marriage cases • Understand the different roles & processes related to child marriage & wider dispute mediation in communities • Contextualize curricula on GBV/access to justice and pre-nuptial counselling for child marriage cases • Identify and mitigate risks related to support of pre-nuptial counseling and engagement of CJA on child marriage cases | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tdh Palestine GBV A2J Standards |

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|  <p>Peers & Communities</p> <p>(including Community Leaders & Structured, Faith-Based Actors, & Customary Justice Actors)</p> | Engaging men & boys as allies to address child marriage | <p>P^[a], SB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeted engagement of fathers, brothers, fiancées, spouses, peers, CLs, and wider men & boys in communities to actively promote positive masculinity and tackle harmful social norms related to child marriage Unstructured, structured, & focused MHPSS such as Life Skills in parallel for ABYM and support to wider youth centers/info hubs, with curricula integrating child marriage Leverage sports & arts to engage men & boys and as a tool to promote the participation of AGYW Target community centers, social gatherings, religious facilities, events, etc. where men & boys congregate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure clearly tagged interventions contributing to engaging men & boys (can determine at the program design stage to set as its own separate component or distribute interventions along the families & communities socioecological levels) Identify specific social norms & innovative ways to engage men & boys on child marriage (e.g. leveraging community & religious leaders, gathering spaces for men & boys, flexible hours, etc.) Ensure to contextualize and adapt curricula, in consultation with men & boys Adapt framing, messages, content, & modalities for communication, awareness-raising, & engagement on child marriage with men & boys to be relevant & appropriate for the context, in consideration of different AGD groups Identify and mitigate risks related to engagement of men & boys on child marriage, e.g. of backlash; ensure AGYW stay central to interventions Identify referral pathways for men/boy survivors of GBV & CP, in case of disclosures | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tdh & Promundo Jordan Masculinities Curriculum – <i>in development</i> ABAAD & Promundo Lebanon Program Ra & P; DRC Fathers GBV AoR Syria GBV Awareness-Raising Toolkit IRC Engaging Men in Accountable Practice (EMAP) Promundo MenCare & Program P, as well as MenCare+ for MNCH, SRHR, & GBV Plan Champions of Change |

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|--|--|---|---|---|
|  <p>Peers & Communities</p> <p>(including Community Leaders & Structured, Faith-Based Actors, & Customary Justice Actors)</p> | Intergenerational & community dialogues on child marriage | P ^[a] , SB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intergenerational & community dialogues on child marriage as part of SBC approach • Promote the leadership of AGYW to participate in and organize dialogues • Ensure appropriate training & support beforehand to AGYW, parents, & community leaders on facilitation of community discussions on child marriage • Should be in a safe space with appropriate facilitation; risks should be identified & mitigated beforehand | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify information needs, social norms, and communication & engagement preferences in the context on child marriage for communities • Adapt framing, messages, content, & modalities on child marriage to be relevant & appropriate for the context, with targeted approaches for different AGD groups • Assess capacities and provide support to AGYW, parents, and CLS facilitating in intergenerational/community dialogues • Ensure effective profile for facilitators, as well as appropriate safe spaces for dialogues • Identify and mitigate risks related to intergenerational/community dialogues • Set and monitor specific targets for the context with community actors to address social norms and promote SBC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan Champions of Change & Intergenerational Dialogues |
| | Support of youth & feminist groups & social movements addressing child marriage | P ^[a] , SB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support capacity-building, flexible grant-making, & facilitate spaces for youth/women-led groups & feminist social movements to participate at local, national, & regional level • Support groups to advocate and campaign on child marriage & the wider gender justice agenda, including through digital, social, & traditional media; lobby; participation in platforms & accountability mechanisms • Promote the voices of AGYW within different national, regional, & global fora, as well as establishing link-ages between movements in the region • Put in place appropriate & robust safeguards based on ongoing risk assessment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the situation for social movements and feminist/youth groups, including any barriers they face • Map social networks, movements, & groups already working on child marriage or with a relevant profile to leverage • Learn from strategies & approaches used by social networks, movements, & groups to address child marriage • Assess capacities and provide support to youth/women led groups and social movements on child marriage advocacy • Find ways to link groups/movements together on child marriage both in the country context & at regional level • Identify and mitigate risks for social movements/groups on child marriage, including related to activism & advocacy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tdh She Leads Model: Regional – <i>only accessible on the internal Tdh knowledge center</i> |

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| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|--|--|--|--|---|
|  Services | Building accessibility & quality of specialized case management & multi-sectoral service provision for child marriage cases | P, R, SB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map out & disseminate available services that support AGYW and address child marriage in the context Provide priority services for at-risk & married AGYW through Tdh, partners, and referrals to other actors; adapt approaches for prevention & response in consideration of age & marital status Consider center/clinic-based & mobile modalities for service provision, ensuring the safety, privacy, & dignity Training & technical supervision of GBV/CP case managers, legal aid, & other specialized service providers on child marriage, based on age/gender-responsive, CASI, & reintegration of child/youth GBV survivors approaches Adaptation of case management systems & forms for child marriage cases in alignment with CASI Training, supervision, & support should be based on key competencies for prevention & response to child marriage cases, as well as informed by structured capacity-building needs assessments & plans Support of internal & external referral workshops to map pathways for child marriage/child survivor cases Ongoing monitoring of accessibility & quality of specialized services by age/gender-responsive standards | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess available services, gaps, & quality of targeted services for at-risk & married AGYW Identify gaps in entry points/safe identification & referral pathways for AGYW to access targeted services, as well as between different services (e.g. case management & CMR) Identify and mitigate barriers & risks to access targeted services for AGYW (including homebound & married AGYW) through mobile modalities & other innovative strategies Identify case manager profiles; assess capacities of service providers to support child marriage cases; develop localized capacity-building plans; and contextualize trainings & supervision, based on key competencies Contextualize child marriage case management & other guidance for specialized services, as well as quality monitoring mechanisms Ensure contextualized protocols for information management & protection (e.g. storage, sharing, etc.) Understand mandatory reporting protocols in the context for social professionals & how to navigate aligned with BI of the child/survivor-centered approach | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tdh MENA Child Marriage Case Management Operational Guidance Quality of services Assessment framework, Tdh – <i>only accessible on the internal Tdh knowledge center</i> |

| Level | Intervention Type | Intervention Description & Relevant Elements for Implementation | Contextualization Considerations | Resources & Tools |
|--|---|--|---|---|
|  Services | Capacity-building for national partners on child marriage interventions | P, R, SB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity needs assessments & individualized structured capacity-building plans with partners – both civil society & government – to strengthen capacities to design, implement, & monitor child marriage interventions Should include a series of trainings, paired with technical support & coaching; sharing of guidance; mentoring & peer exchanges; etc. Adapt for different roles (e.g. program managers, case workers, MEL staff) based on needed key competencies, with a focus on specialized service provision for GBV/CP case management & legal/justice aid Ensure MEL & Accountability mechanisms for interventions - including direct feedback from AGYW – are used to update capacity-building plans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set a contextualized partnership approach, with identification of different types of profiles & partnership models for child marriage; identify other potential partners in the context Assess wider capacities of partners to set-up, implement, & monitor child marriage interventions; develop individualized capacity-building plans based on participatory assessments Identify available resources and adapt contextualized guidance & tools to support different aspects of child marriage interventions for partners Consider risks & mitigating strategies for partnership approach on child marriage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IASC Gender with Age Marker & Trainings Materials Tdh Gender and Diversity Marker – only accessible on the internal Tdh knowledge center |
| | Support of age/gender-responsive accountability systems in national partners | SB ^[c] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct risk identification and support trainings on age/gender-responsive Accountability – including PSEA & CSG - with staff, partners, & community structures engaged in child marriage interventions Set-up and manage accountability mechanisms that are accessible to AGYW & wider communities, with a focus on girl-led mechanisms, based on assessment of access & preferences for feedback channels Develop contextualized PSEA & CSG systems aligned with Tdh policies & interagency mechanisms in country, including ensuring feedback mechanisms are equipped to appropriately handle reports of SEA & CSG Work together with staff & partners to ensure policies, systems, & programs are age/gender-responsive & inclusive with promotion of AGYW participation throughout the program cycle, aligned with the Gender Marker | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map existing systems, policies, & accountability mechanisms for Tdh & partners to identify areas to strengthen for gender mainstreaming against Gender Marker Identify potential SEA & CSG risks in the context for child marriage interventions and set mitigating strategies Set localized SOPs & action plans to promote accountability, PSEA, & CSG for Tdh, partners, & coordination bodies, promoting the development of and linking to any existing interagency mechanisms for PSEA Identify accessible & preferred feedback & response mechanisms for AGYW & other program participants in consideration of AGD, as well as for staff & partners | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan Adolescent-Led Accountability Guidance & Hear Our Voices Toolkit Care & Plan Community Score Cards Examples IASC & Tdh Gender and Diversity Marker – only accessible on the internal Tdh knowledge center UNHCR Operational Guidance on Accountability PSEA & CSG Trainings & Guidance |

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|--|---|--|--|--|
|  National Systems | Action-oriented research on child marriage | SB ^[c] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participatory assessments to inform contextual adaptations for child marriage interventions by AGD considerations Research based on child marriage research priorities identified by Tdh & relevant interagency fora, with a focus on effective interventions to address child marriage Promotion of participation of AGYW, their communities, staff & partners, & other stakeholders, via participatory action methodology that is age/gender-responsive (including AGYW-led research activities & creative approaches) Identification & mitigation of risks beforehand to align with ethical considerations for children & GBV survivors (e.g. FGDs with AGYW versus interviews) Ensuring there is practical application of research to programming & advocacy/policy work | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify research gaps & priorities, based on available research and in discussion with AGYW, their families & communities, partners, & other stakeholders Ensure to coordinate planned research at country/regional level to avoid duplication; identify strategies to mitigate research fatigue & risks of harm in alignment with ethical guidelines Support a designated review committee/process for the research methodology, findings, & recommendations (engaging research institutions & technical experts from or familiar with the country/regional context) Consider the profile of research partners to ensure a strong contextual understanding & added value so research is practically oriented to be informed by and support programming & advocacy in the context Pilot and adapt methodology/tools with AGYW & other stakeholders, in consideration of AGD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RAF Research Mapping & Briefs Adolescents & Youth Hub, NLG, & GNB portals Save MENA Youth Voices: Participatory Action Research with Youth & How-To Guide WHO Ethical & Safety Recommendations for SV Research IASC GBV Guidelines |

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|--|--|---|---|---|
|  National Systems | Campaigns & wider advocacy on child marriage | <p>P^[a], SB^[c]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of objectives, target groups, & key messages on child marriage, in partnership with youth/women-led/feminist groups & social movements, as well as partners & other stakeholders • Child marriage information needs & communications preference assessment for target groups – and AGD considerations – to inform adaptation of messages, content, & engagement modalities • Structured plan for campaigns that is multi-leveled & integrates diverse channels for reach & impact (e.g. traditional & social media/digital; community-based & interpersonal; print, audiovisual, & audio; creative; etc.) • Interagency campaigns together with other actors working on child marriage, local civil society & government partners, & relevant coordination bodies with promotion of AGYW within design, implementation, & monitoring • Ensure to identify & mitigate risks • Link to humanitarian, development, & WPS 1325 agendas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider stakeholders/target groups in the context, desired changes in norms & behaviors, and conditions that are needed to achieve those changes • Analyze previous advocacy strategies & lessons learned; build on earlier campaigns on Gender & GBV • Assess accessibility to & preference of target groups for different communication, awareness-raising, & engagement modalities on child marriage • Identify entry points in the context through influencers, decisionmakers, etc. who can support as allies • Pilot and adapt modalities & content for advocacy with the target groups in the context • Set localized indicators to measure effectiveness of advocacy & SBC efforts and monitor progress • Build on partners & networks in the context to promote the voices of AGYW and leverage local movements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GBV AoR Syria GBV Awareness-Raising Toolkit • Interagency Jordan Amani Campaign • AYWG MENA Adolescent & Youth Engagement Toolkit • ABAAD Lebanon Videos & Materials • IMC YEP Curriculum • 16 Days of Activism Against GBV • GNB Youth Activism Trainer Manual |
| | Trainings of authorities & policymakers on child marriage (in expertise areas of Tdh) | <p>SB^[c]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification, engagement, & support to build gender-responsive capacities within government institutions & policymakers to address child marriage • Capacity-building of national actors focused on Tdh expertise areas of work for child marriage in which guidance is being developed (case management, legal/justice, reintegration of GBV children/youth survivors, SRHR, MHPSS, engagement of AGYW in accountability processes, etc.) • Pair practical trainings with on-the-job supervision & support, based on capacity-building assessments & plans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess institutional capacities to support child marriage cases and develop localized capacity-building plans • Identify allies & influencers to target through capacity-building efforts on child marriage • Contextualize training curricula & approaches with relevant ministries • Through trainings & supervision, continue to identify gaps & challenges in provision of services for child marriage cases | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Refer to rows regarding relevant technical areas in the Intervention Matrix (e.g. case management, legal/justice)</i> |

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|  National Systems | Policy technical support on child marriage (in expertise areas of Tdh) | SB ^[c] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development, implementation, & monitoring of national policies & plans related to child marriage together with government actors, informed by Tdh program practice & evidence-based research • Technical development of policy tools, procedural guidance, & operational briefs on Tdh key expertise areas for enhancement of national systems' capacities to address child marriage (GBV/A2J standards & legal assistance, child marriage case management, SRHR, reintegration of GBV child/youth survivors, etc.). • Align with child marriage national actions plans (when existing) & relevant interagency coordination platforms to identify areas of policy development support; link as well to humanitarian, development, & WPS 1325 agendas • Include voices of AGYW and dialogue with youth/women-led/feminist groups & social movements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct an analysis of existing policies (and their implementation) in the context on child marriage, child survivors, and wider GBV & SRHR • Identify opportunities to support policy development, reform, & implementation related to child marriage & AGYW rights • Find ways in the context to engage AGYW, social movements, & partners in the policy support process, e.g. adolescent/youth-friendly consultations on proposed policies • Ensure policies take into account AGD considerations & marginalized groups in the context • Find ways to leverage policy technical support as an entry point for wider national dialogue on child marriage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNICEF UNFPA Addressing Child Marriage in Humanitarian Settings • Save Working Together to End Child Marriage Policy Brief; Child Marriage Policies in MENA • Plan Child Marriage Brief |
| | Identification of priorities & good practices with support of learning exchanges on child marriage | SB ^[c] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly analyze trends, practices, & priorities based on child marriage programs & evidence-based research • Support regular exchanges; documentation of child marriage approaches & learning; & mentorship programs with partners (civil society & government), interagency coordination, & other relevant actors • Channel learning into programming, advocacy, policy support, & guidance development on child marriage, including via partners, interagency coordination, & national platforms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct an analysis of existing research & programming in the context, in discussion with AGYW, their parents & communities, partners, & stakeholders to identify priorities & practices • Identify relevant actors in the context to engage in child marriage workshops, learning exchanges, and development of briefs • Promote MEL for child marriage interventions within interagency fora to capture progress toward indicators; support documentation of case studies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RAF, NLG, & Adolescents & Youth Hub portals • Gender Task Force MENA Situational Analysis for Women & Girls • GNB • UNICEF UNFPA Addressing Child Marriage in Humanitarian Settings |

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|--|--|--|---|--|
|  National Systems | Investing in national & regional coordination on child marriage | SB ^[c] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support dedicated platforms for coordination on child marriage (when possible, Tdh to take a leading role) • Mainstream child marriage considerations to prioritize within other sector coordination platforms, overall national planning & resourcing, interagency assessments, etc. • Promote links between civil society platforms & government in tackling child marriage, with inclusion of local actors; ensure structured phased approach for capacity-building, localization, & sustainability • Promoting AGYW's voices and their participation within child marriage coordination (e.g. such as through girl representatives; links with existing youth advisory councils, social movements; etc.) • Link to humanitarian, development, & WPS 1325 agendas at national & regional levels | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify relevant interagency/governmental platforms at local, regional, & national level • Consider any dedicated platforms in the context on child marriage as well as existing GBV, CP, Gender, Adolescents & Youth, SRHR, & MHPSS fora • Identify opportunities within other sectors in the context to promote child marriage as a priority and integrate relevant considerations • Find ways to facilitate participation of AGYW & youth/feminist social movements within coordination platforms, paired with a do no harm approach to identify and mitigate risks in the context | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RAF, NLG, & Adolescents & Youth Hub portals • Gender Task Force MENA Situational Analysis for Women & Girls • GNB • UNICEF UNFPA Addressing Child Marriage in Humanitarian Settings |

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Responsible for publication:

Marta GIL & Maria BRAY
(Tdh Programmes & Expertise)

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Every child in the world
has the right to a childhood.
It's that simple.



Siège | Hauptsitz | Sede | Headquarters
Av. de Montchoisi 15, CH-1006 Lausanne
T +41 58 611 06 66, E-mail: info@tdh.ch
www.tdh.ch, CCP: 10-11504-8

 www.tdh.ch
 www.facebook.com/tdh.ch
 www.twitter.com/tdh_ch
 www.instagram.com/tdh_ch



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