



UNICEF selected ‘End Child Marriage’ as a flagship programme to successfully implement the National Costed Roadmap to End Child Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation (2020-2024) and to accelerate progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goal number 5.3. Despite significant progress in Ethiopia, the prevalence of girls marrying before age 18 remains high. Multiple and interrelated causes can explain the phenomenon: Social and religious norms that restrict females to roles as wives and mothers; gendered stereotypes that oblige females to do all or most of the domestic labour and childcare; lack of opportunities for vocational training or safe secondary schools with water, toilets; lack of opportunities for safe, paid labour; incentives for acquiring dowry and traditions of family honour tied to brides being young virgins.

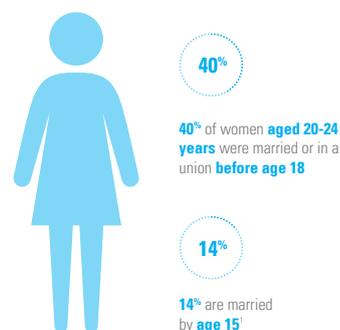
Emergencies such as conflict and drought, further exacerbate the risk of child marriage, as the practice is used as economic coping mechanism for family survival. In 2022 Ethiopia has seen rising trends of child marriage in conflict and drought-affected regions.

Child marriage implications

Various international, regional and national human rights instruments and laws determine that child marriage is a violation of the rights of women and girls. The practices also play a part in reinforcing stereotypical gender norms and gender inequality, and have multifaceted effects on the health, well-being, productivity and economic independence of women and girls. These implications follow girls and women throughout their lives, from childhood through adolescence and into adulthood, and into the next generation through their children.

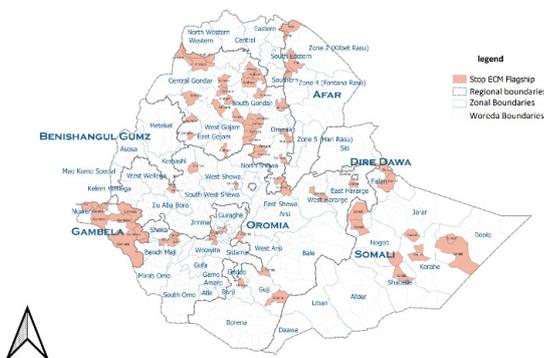
Child Marriage also have economic implications for the girls as well as significant costs for the country. Limitations on their educational attainment affect their participation in productive sectors. Even when young brides do manage to participate in education or the labour market, this may be compromised by domestic duties, early pregnancy and related complications, maternal mortality and caring for the poor health of children born to young mothers.

Conversely, the economic benefits of elimination of child marriage are hugely significant. Ending child marriage would increase earnings for the country as a whole by 1.5 per cent, and if every girl delayed pregnancy until she was an adult, the Ethiopian economy would gain 15 per cent gross domestic product (GDP) over her lifetime. If child marriage and early childbearing had ended in 2014, the estimated annual benefit in the subsequent year (2015) would have been equivalent to \$117 million, increasing to \$4.9 billion by 2030.



¹ EDHS, 2016

Number of Woredas targeted: 62



The flagship is aligned with legislative and rights policy frameworks:

- UNICEF Strategic Plan Goal Area 3 — Every child is protected from violence and exploitation.
- Sustainable Development Goal target 5.3 — by 2030 eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.
- Article 35, Section 4 of Ethiopia National Constitution — Women have the right to protection by the state from harmful customs. Laws, customs and practices that oppress women or cause bodily or mental harm to them are prohibited and “Proclamation No. 414/2004 of the Criminal Code of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

Aims to:

Output 1: Underserved/marginalized adolescent girls (aged 10-19) who are at risk of child marriage or who are pregnant, married, divorced, or widowed are engaged in gender transformative life skills and comprehensive sexuality education programmes that build their knowledge, skills, awareness of their rights, and connect them to services.

Output 2: Families, communities, traditional and religious leaders, and other influencers are engaged in dialogue and consensus-building on alternatives to child marriage (including education), the rights of adolescent girls, and gender equality.

Output 3: Strengthened provision of integrated multi-sectoral services (WASH, health, social protection, education and nutrition services) to protect girls from child marriage.

Output 4: Capacity building and technical support provided to government to implement a budgeted multi-sectoral gender-transformative plan on ending child marriage across ministries and departments at sub-national levels.

How UNICEF’s multisectoral approach contributes to the flagship results:

The Flagship Result ‘Ending Child Marriage’ is informed by the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage (2020-2023) and the National Costed Roadmap to End Child Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation (2020-2024).

The interventions to end child marriage is closely linked to the ongoing work for a robust child protection system and allied systems in C4D, health, learning and development, nutrition, social protection and WASH to accelerate progress made over the last years. Programme interventions takes a gender-transformative approach and avails opportunities to change harmful social and gender norms and practices.



Key Targets:

Nearly **84,000** adolescent girls (aged 10-19) who actively participated in life skills or comprehensive sexuality education interventions in programme areas (targeting out-of-school girls only).

Around **4 million** individuals reached through media programmes with messaging on key protective behaviours and access to services

4.6 million people Productive Safety Net Programme clients attending social and behaviour change communication sessions that include preventative messaging on ending child marriage.



Education:

- Ensure girls' education through secondary school, support alternative learning pathways, and develop gender clubs delivering life skills education.
- Promote a gender responsive pedagogy and prevent and respond to gender-based violence in schools.



Child protection:

- Ensure adequate funding of the National Costed Roadmap and support the implementation of the roadmap especially in the priority regions.
- Strengthen capacity of communities and professionals on reporting, prevention and case management towards ending child marriage.
- Contribute to social and behavioural change at household and community levels, including girls' empowerment.
- Increase on birth registration as part of civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems to verify girls' ages.



Social protection:

- Assist social protection programmes that promote girls' education and discourage child marriage.
- Monitor and report on recommendations of Convention on the Rights of the Child, Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women Committees and Universal Periodic Review.



Communication:

Advocate for engagement on the roadmap and promote influential champions, role models, influencers and mass media campaigns against child marriage.



Emergencies:

- Support child marriage prevention messages and services as part of gender-based violence prevention and mitigation and response services through child friendly spaces and community systems.



Budget:

\$23,661,220

A total of USD \$23,661,220 is required to significantly reduce child marriage in Ethiopia. This funding will strengthen the capacity of adolescent girls at risk of and affected by child marriage to make their own informed decisions and choices regarding marriage, education, sexual and reproductive health.

BUDGET FOR THE PROTECTION END CHILD MARRIAGE FLAGSHIP	
OUTPUT	TOTAL (US\$)
INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME: Adolescent girls at risk of and affected by child marriage are effectively making their own informed decisions and choices regarding marriage, education, sexual and reproductive health	
Output 1: Underserved/ marginalized adolescent girls (aged 10-19) who are at risk of child marriage or who are pregnant, married, divorced, or widowed are engaged in gender transformative life skills and CSE programmes that build their knowledge, skills, awareness of their rights, and connect them to services.	
Number (and proportion) of adolescent girls (aged 10-19) who actively participated in life skills or CSE interventions in programme areas (in- and out-of-school)	\$ 1,446,240
Activity 1. CP (OOS): Establish and strengthen gender and girls' clubs (through training), safe spaces or other platforms in development and humanitarian contexts for knowledge and skills building of OOSGs	
Activity 2. CP (OOS): Develop and roll-out mobile phone intervention to reach girls (out-of-schools) and support them remotely to strengthen knowledge and confidence	
Activity 1. L&D (in-school): Procure and provide households with solar powered radio cassettes targeting adolescents' girls	
Activity 2. L&D (in-school): Capacity building of gender clubs to deliver life skills training for in school adolescents	
Output 2: Families, communities, traditional and religious leaders, and other influencers are engaged in dialogue and consensus-building on alternatives to child marriage (including education), the rights of adolescent girls, and gender equality	
Number of people participating in community engagement and behavior change interventions to address harmful practices, social and gender norms	\$1,180,000.00
Activity 1. CP and C4D: Identify model boys and men and equip them with the skill and information to enable them to share experience and convene discussions (through the roll-out of men and boys' engagement strategy)	
Activity 2. CP and C4D: Roll-out and implementation of the revised Community Conversations toolkit (both humanitarian and development contexts)	
Activity 3. CP and C4D: Engagement with religious leaders and FBOs to reach communities at large on social and gender norm change	

Number of individuals reached through media programmes with messaging on key protective behaviors and access to services	\$757,000.00
Activity 1. CAP: Developing and disseminating tailored and interactive media programme message through mainstream and community medias	
Activity 2. CAP: Edutainment programming (mixed-media and face-to-face) on social and gender norms	
Activity 3. CAP: Social media engagement	
Output 3: Strengthened provision of integrated multi-sectoral services (WASH, Health, Social protection, Education and Nutrition services) to protect girls from child marriage	
Number of girls supported to ensure school enrolment and retention	\$4,400,000.00
Activity 1. L&D: Build capacity of schools for girls' enrollment and learning (teachers training for gender responsive pedagogy, gender clubs, parent teacher association for school-parent/ guardian linkage)	
Activity 2: L&D: Support the development, adaptation, dissemination and utilization of SBCC messages for getting out of school primary and secondary school-age children back in formal/ non-formal learning	
Number of adolescents reached in schools with Menstrual Hygiene Health implemented in schools' programmes as a result of UNICEF direct support and/or leveraged through national programmes.	\$5,790,300.00
Activity 1. Construction of Menstrual hygiene and Health WASH facilities	
Activity 2. Establishment of Menstrual hygiene and Health safe space	
Activity 3. Menstrual hygiene and Health items procurement including strengthening supply chain for pad production	
Activity 4. Comprehensive C4D interventions	
Activity 5. Capacity building	
Activity 6. Monitoring and Evaluation, Knowledge management	
Number of girls and boys who have experienced violence reached by health, social work or justice/law enforcement services	\$5,438,435.00
CP activity 1. Capacity building for community service workers, child protection experts and service providers on case management	
CP activity 2. Capacity building to community-based protection structures (e.g., Women development groups, anti-HTP committees, CCCs) to strengthen linkages with formal protection structures	
CP activity 3. Labor costs or social service workforce	
CP activity 4. Procurement of supplies (e.g., dignity kits)	

End Child Marriage
A flagship programme

Number of school age children receiving nutrition services through schools with UNICEF support in the reporting year (Nutrition)	
Activity 1. Nut: Procurement of supplies and job aids and SBBC tools development	\$874,000.00
Activity 2. Nut: Capacity building activities (health workers and health extension workers)	
Activity 3. Nut: Monitoring and evaluation	
Health workers are capacitated to provide gender responsive health services for adolescents	No budget requested from health - budget already received through Global Affairs Canada
Activity 1. Health: Training on new FGM manual / Social Analysis and action	
Number PSNP Clients attending SBCC sessions that include preventative messaging on ending child marriage	
Activity 1. Support Government to strengthen and adapt SBCC package to include Ending Child Marriage(ECM) messaging	\$400,000.00
Activity 2. Support rolls out of SBCC package	
Output 4: Capacity building and technical support provided to government to implement a budgeted multi-sectoral gender-transformative plan on ending child marriage across ministries and departments at sub-national levels.	
Costed national plan / strategy on child marriage is implemented	
Activity 1. CP: Support the result, budget and expenditure tracking for the Roadmap	\$139,000.00
Activity 2. CP: Development of advocacy budget brief	
Activity 3. CP: Consultative meeting with relevant Ministries and Bureau on improving national and regional government budget allocation on ending Child Marriage in line with the Roadmap	
Activity 4. CP: Strengthen the functionality and linkages of the National Alliance and coordination platforms at regional, woreda and community level	
Monitoring and Evaluation	
Activity 1. Evaluation for ECM Flagship	\$150,000.00
Total programmable	\$20,574,975.00
Programme support costs UNICEF Ethiopia (15%)	\$3,086,246.23
TOTAL	\$23,661,221.00



For more information contact:

Catherine E. Robar, Resource Mobilization Manager

Email: crobar@unicef.org

Cellphone Number: +251 911 505 520