

COSTING AND FINANCING IN EDUCATION AND CHILD MARRIAGE

July 2021

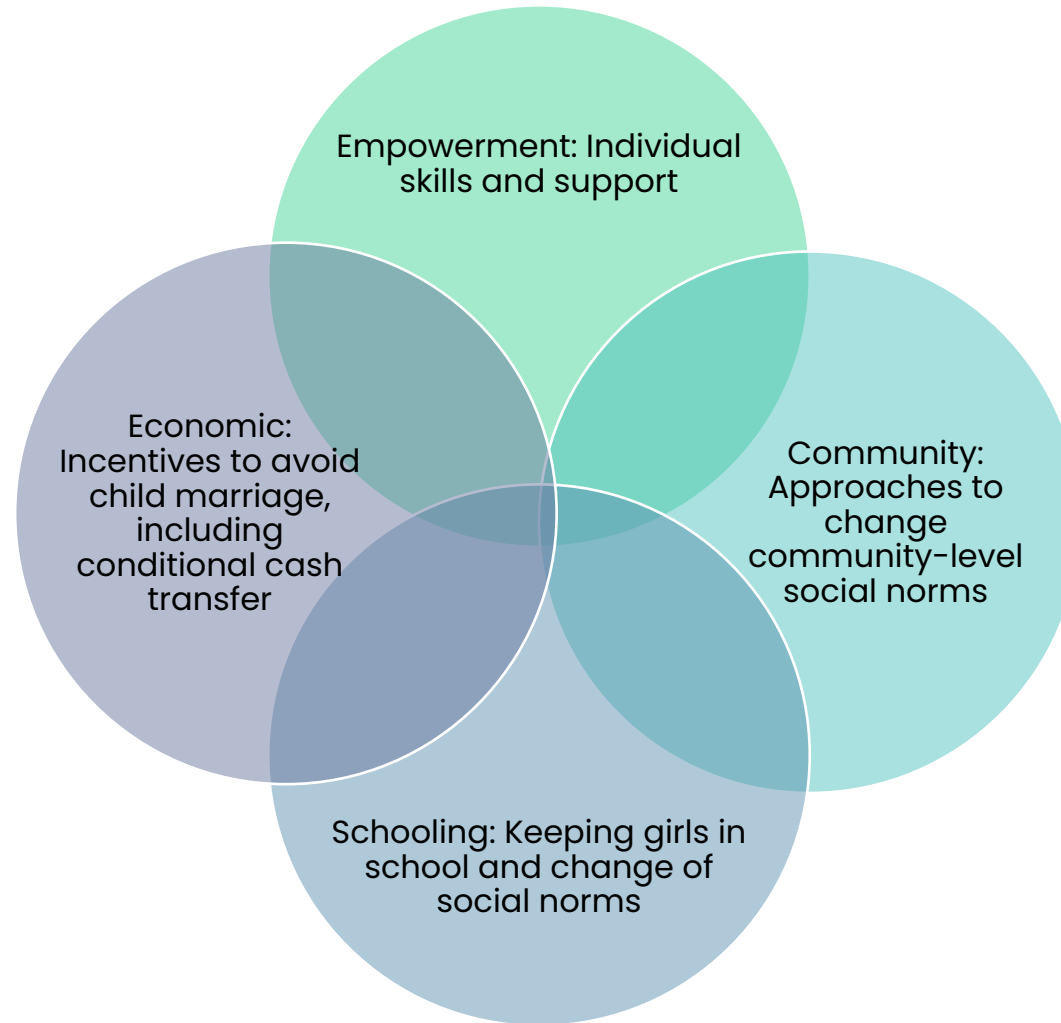


100 million more girls may get married over the next decade

- Around one in five young women today married before their 18th birthday
- Prevalence has decreased (eg. In South Asia prevalence went from 49% to 30% in a decade). However...
- Larger population cohorts mean more child marriages, even before considering potential lost progress due to the pandemic
- 12 Million girls under 18 years of age are married each year -> 100 Million over the next decade

Source: Data and estimates from UNICEF, 2021, <https://www.unicef.org/stories/child-marriage-around-world>

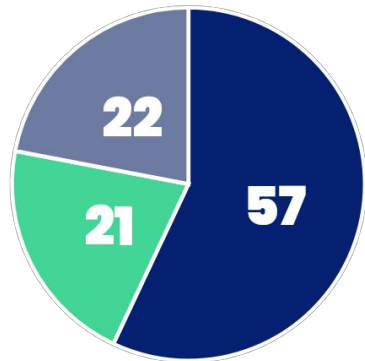
Preventing child marriage can leverage a multidimensional approach



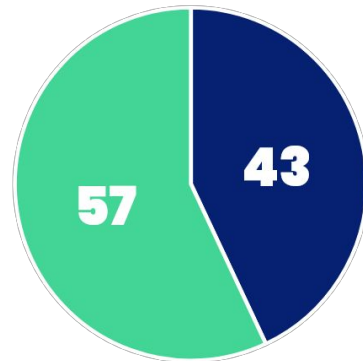
Empowerment and schooling stand as the most promising approaches

Success in preventing child marriage of intervention by approach (percentage):

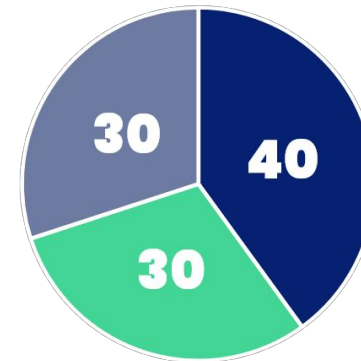
Empowerment (n=14)



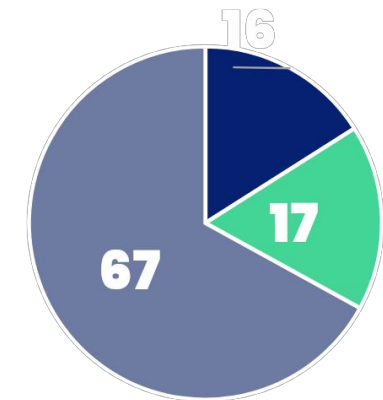
Schooling (n=7)



Economic (n=10)



Community (n=6)



Successful

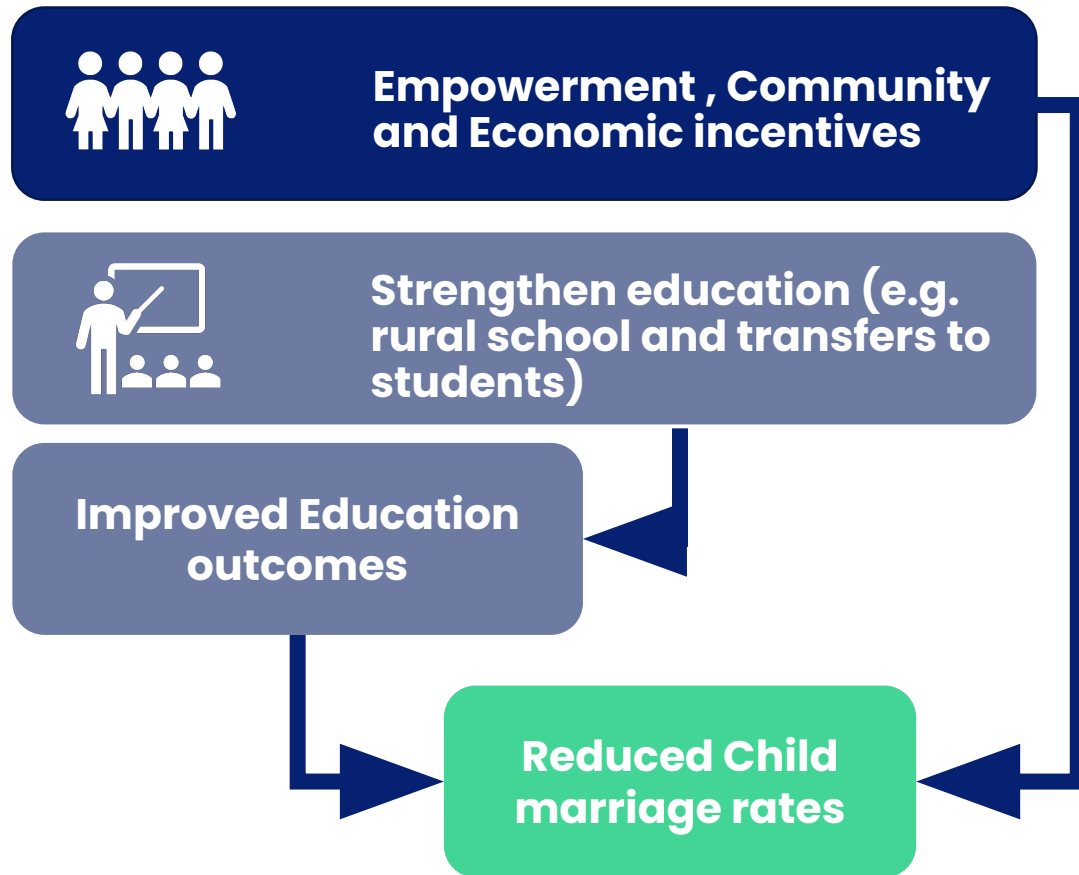
Mixed

Unsuccessful

Costing programs remains a challenge

- Costing programs focused on preventing child marriages remains challenging, particularly for programs focused on social norms
 - How to cost policy changes?
 - Large set of ingredients, from volunteers and materials to radio shows
 - Hard to keep track and monetize the large amount of time dedicated to change social norms
- Cost-effectiveness assessments also have their own challenges and limitations
 - External validity
 - Limited to one outcome (programs may have benefits in other areas, such as health and long-term income)

First estimates: US\$35 billion to end child marriage



- Estimated cost of bringing child marriage rate to 5% in 68 countries
- Based on «optimal» set of interventions
- ~US\$600 per case averted
- Intervention-level cost effectiveness estimates vary widely.
 - Musoden Wasalen in Burkina Faso, US\$159 per case averted
 - Nemeesha in Tanzani US\$739 per case averted

Financing and costing remain challenges despite potential large benefits

- US\$24.1 billion gap from the US\$35 billion needed between 2020 and 2030 to end child marriage despite potential benefits of ~US\$4 trillion in global GDP
- Still very little information on cost – effectiveness, particularly for programs focused on social norms.

Key elements to consider going forward:

- Education a key driver to eliminate child marriage
- Gender-responsive public expenditure management in education and other sectors as a lever for resources
- More information needed on local costs and cost-effectiveness, particularly of programs focused on social norms

Sources: UNFPA (2019) and Wodon et al (2017), Bitcoin example based on comparison of Jan, 2018 (US\$17,099), Jul. 2021 (US\$ 32,462) and assuming the same rate of price growth for a 10 year-period, leading to an estimated 70X growth.

THANK YOU!



THANK YOU

References:

Chae, Sophia and Thoai D. Ngo. (2017). "The Global State of Evidence on Interventions to Prevent Child Marriage," GIRL Center Research Brief No. 1. New York: Population Council.

Erulkar, A., G. Medhin, and E. Weissman. (2017). "The Impact and Cost of Child Marriage Prevention in Rural Burkina Faso." Addis Ababa: Population Council.

Erulkar, A., G. Medhin, and E. Weissman. (2017). "The Impact and Cost of Child Marriage Prevention in Rural Tanzania." Addis Ababa: Population Council.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). (2019). "Costing the Three Transformative Results". New York, New York. Retrieved at: https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/Transformative_results_journal_23-online.pdf

Wodon, Q., C. Male, A. Nayihouba, et al. (2017). Economic Impacts of Child Marriage: Global Synthesis Report. Washington, DC: The World Bank and International Center for Research on Women (ICRW).