ENGAGEMENT THROUGH









#GIRLSGETEQUAL CAMPAIGN

Youth, especially girls co-design the campaign for CEFM in Nepal. The main goal of the campaign is to reduce CEFM.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS





"If we can mobilize child club for positive changes, we could empower, educate, and engage many more children, adolescent girls, and boys in the community for raising awareness on CEFM"

Anita Chaudhary - Deputy Mayor, Madhuban Municipality, Bardiya

"I stand for girls' rights and specific requirements during menstrual period and other sexual and reproductive health issues with my mom, family and mates".

Astika - 13 years, CoC member, Bardiya

"To bring improvement in the situation of adolescents, there is a need for positive parenting education, especially for mothers"

Kariram Yadav - Mayor, Sabaila Municipality, Dhanusha.

"In my ward, there is only one school (Shree Janata Rastriya Primary School) and I will give top priority to education first while making budget and planning process"

Saroj Yadav - Ward Chairperson-11, Sabaila Municipality, Dhanusha.

"Only training or workshop is not sufficient; there should be monitoring from respected sections like Education Coordination Unit, MOWCYS, Education Directorate and related one and for this Palika will be always in support"

Santosh Yadav - Bideh Municipality, Dhanusha.

Contact person: Mandira Neupane - Project Manager, Telethon: Child Not Bride Email: mandira.neupane@plan-international.org











BACKGROUND

Nepal has the third highest rate of child marriage in South Asia. 37% of Nepali women aged 20-24 years were married by the age of 18 and 10% of them were married by the age of 15. According to the married women who were surveyed in the national census of 2011, approximately 75% were married before their 20th birthday, and over 100,000 girls were given away in marriage before the age of 10.

Similarly, another report reveals that 37% of girls in the Terai region who were married between 15 to 19 years have experienced sexual violence, and 19% of them have experienced other forms of physical violence.

Early marriage is a violation of a child's human rights. Despite being prohibited by national law, it continues to rob thousands of Nepali girls who are below the age of 20. It denies the rights of girls to make vital decisions about their sexual health and well-being. It forces them away from education and into a life of poor prospects, with an increased risk of violence, abuse, ill health, or early death.

PROJECT BRIEF

Telethon: Child, Not Bride is funded by Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation (NRK Telethon). The goal of this programme is to reduce the prevalence of Child Early and Forced Marriage (CEFM) in the Terai lowlands of southern Nepal, close to the Nepal-India border: Bardiya and Dhanusha. The programme is implemented through a comprehensive approach to increase the agency of adolescent girls and boys to exercise their rights to informed choices about their futures through education, economic empowerment, knowledge of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and life skills. The programme will support girls and their families at the risk of CEFM to increase their skills and generate income to avoid early marriage.

The project will address the underlying causes of CEFM by mobilizing communities to embrace norms that value the girl child and support adolescents to delay their marriage. It advocates and strengthens laws and policies related to child protection and its effective implementation.



THE PROGRAM WILL BENEFIT 32,000 CHILDREN IN 80 SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES

BARDIYA

Kathmandu: Country Office

Dhanusha / Surkhet: Regional Office



TOTAL POPULATION 426.576 **(CENSUS 2011**

- **Barbardiya Municipality**
- Geruwa RM
- Madhuwan Municipality
- Thakurbaba Municipality



COC IN BARDIYA: 834 MEMBERS IN 32 CENTER

DHANUSHA



Bideha Municipality

- Janaknandini RM
- Kamala Municipality
- Sahidnagar Municipality
- Sabaila Municipality
- NUMBER OF 37

COC IN DHANUSHA: 917MEMBERS IN 40 CENTER

CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE

Champions of Change (CoC) is a community-wide strategy for promoting gender equality and social norm change through youth engagement and peer-to-peer mobilization. It empowers boys and girls to work together toward gender equality by challenging traditional gender norms. It engages boys and men to examine and change sexist behaviors and become champions for girls' rights. At the same time, girls are provided safe spaces. protection through peer networks, access to mentors, and leadership opportunities.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS







EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Retention of girls in school
- Knowledge of sexual and reproductive health and rights among adolescent
- Strengthened economic opportunities for girls and families at high risk of CEFM
- Communities hold social norms that value the girl child and support them to delay marriage
- Increased responsiveness of duty bearers at national, district, and sub-district levels to prevent and respond to child rights violations, particular CEFM

EXPECTED KEY RESULT:

COMMUNITIES







10.504









EDUCATE TRADITIONAL RELEVANT LOCAL

