

# 7 FACTS

## ON CHILD MARRIAGE

1

**CHILD/EARLY MARRIAGE REFERS TO ANY MARRIAGE OF A CHILD YOUNGER THAN 18 YEARS OLD\*.**



CHILD MARRIAGE IS ONE OF THE MOST PRESSING

**HUMAN RIGHTS & DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES.**

\*Source: Article 1 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

2

**GIRLS ARE DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED, AS THEY ARE THE MAJORITY OF THE VICTIMS.**



AS A RESULT,

**THEY ARE DENIED THE RIGHTS THAT ARE THE MOST CRUCIAL FOR TRANSFORMING THEIR LIVES: HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SECURITY.**

3

EVERY YEAR

**14 MILLION GIRLS ARE MARRIED BEFORE THEY TURN 18.**



**CHILD MARRIAGE AFFECTS GIRLS IN EVERY REGION IN THE WORLD BUT IT IS PARTICULARLY WIDESPREAD IN ASIAN AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES.**

5

**CHILD MARRIAGE IS A LARGE-SCALE PROBLEM ...**

OVER

**140 MILLIONS**

OF CHILDREN ARE PREDICTED TO MARRY UNTIL 2020.

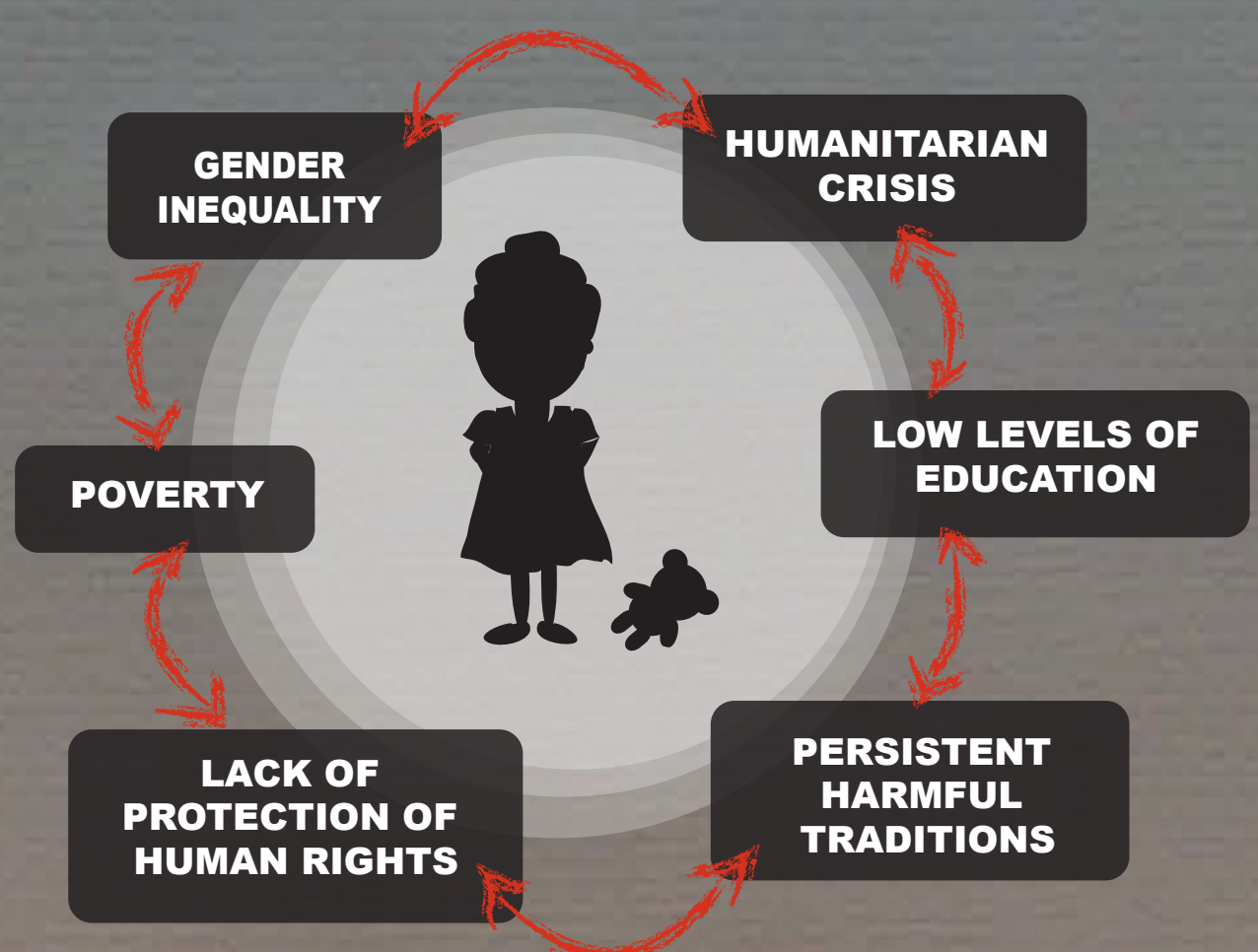
**700 MILLION**

WOMEN CURRENTLY MARRIED WERE CHILD BRIDES

**...THAT ALSO HAMPERS PROGRESS IN THE COMMUNITIES, ECONOMIES AND NATIONS AFFECTED.**

4

**CHILD MARRIAGE HAS A CROSS-CUTTING NATURE:**



6

**EARLY MARRIAGE INCREASES GIRLS' EXPOSURE TO MANY HEALTH RISKS:**

VIOLENCE AND ABUSE

FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION

CHILD MALNUTRITION

HIGHER MORTALITY AND COMPLICATIONS OF BOTH MOTHER AND THEIR NEWBORNS

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

ILL MENTAL HEALTH (DEPRESSION, SUICIDAL TENDENCES)



7

**ENDING THIS HARMFUL PRACTICE DEMANDS CONCERTED EFFORTS TO SCALE UP PROVEN INTERVENTIONS:**

**AN ADEQUATE LEGAL AND POLICY ENVIRONMENT** (18 YEARS OLD TO BE THE MINIMUM AGE OF MARRIAGE FOR BOTH BOYS AND GIRLS)

**COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION** TO CHANGE SOCIAL NORMS

**INCREASE GIRLS' OPPORTUNITIES FOR SECONDARY EDUCATION**



**INCENTIVE-BASED PROGRAMS FOR FAMILIES** (LOANS, SUBSIDIES, SCHOLARSHIPS, CONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFERS...)

**TARGET BOTH MARRIED GIRLS AND GIRLS AT-RISK** TO DEVELOP THEIR LIFE SKILLS, ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND SUPPORT NETWORKS

For more information, visit  
**[www.isglobal.org](http://www.isglobal.org)**

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