

Profile of Jaag Welfare Movement Rahim Yar Khan

& SECM (Support to End Child Marriages)

Project: Empower 1250 Pakistani Child Brides to delay first Birth



Project Leader: Abdul Rub Farooqi



بچوں، عورتوں، بزرگوں اور نظر انداز شدہ افراد کی بے انتہا ترقی کیلئے مصروف عمل

Jaag Welfare Movement Rahim Yar Khan

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Jaag Welfare Movement

Background

- Jaag Welfare Movement was established in 1997 by some progressive friends of different sections of life having the approach of “Development” rather than the “Welfare” or “Charity”. They felt that people should be aware of their rights especially Women and Children. They rouse for their own development. So “Jaag” decided to wake up the people for the positive change.
- In 1998, it was registered with the Social Welfare Department under the Reg. # DD-SW(BD) 98-382 dated 29-08-1998.

Mr. Nazir Ahmad Lar is the Founder President of Jaag Welfare Movement. After 3 Years, in 2001 Molana Maqsood Ahmad was elected as President then in 2004 Mr. Muhammad Ramzan Jatala Advocate became its President. In the result of 2007 elections held in the Month of August 2007, Mrs. Rehana Yasmeen was became the first women President of Jaag Welfare Movement Rahim Yar Khan. In the month of March 2009, the founder president elected as President again for the period of 2009-2013.

Objectives

- Provide health and hygienic education and improve functioning of existing services as a mean of community mobilization.
- Enhance Awareness against Child Labor and VAW including Child Marriages.
- Enhance literacy, Skill Development and education in the program areas.
- Empower people, especially Older People and women through group formation, training, and networking for right based programming.
- Undertake policy level advocacy and conduct research on related themes.
- Undertake humanitarian response in emergency and actions for DRR
- Facilitate mechanisms, which promote tolerance, social harmony and peace in society.)

Mission

Our Mission is to facilitate community development and empowerment through capacity building and policy research and advocacy with community participation for ending violence & abuse against Women, Older People and Children.

Vision

A progressive, prosperous and peaceful society, where people & institutions are performing at their best of potential and where opportunities are ensured for all especially the most deprived Community "women & Children and Older People".

Goals

- Enable women, children and Marginalized communities especially Older People to acquire greater access to knowledge, resources and institutions.
- Influence attitudes and behaviour for a social environment responsive to women's concerns and people-centred issues.

Values and Culture

- Commitment to Children, Women and Marginalized Group's cause
- Sense of belonging and ownership
- Caring and sharing
- Mutual trust and respect
- Space for discussion
- Participatory decision-making
- Nurturing of colleagues
- Encouragement of initiatives
- Free & friendly environment

Strategic Objectives and Priorities

- During this strategy period 2010-2015, we are focusing on achieving the following strategic objectives:
 - Poor & excluded people especially Older People are able to demand and realize their rights.
 - Women and girls are able to participate in social, economic, and political processes.
 - Citizens and peoples' organizations especially Older People Associations are strengthened and have capacity to demand just, democratic, transparent and accountable governance and dignity for the older people.
 - Poor peoples' access to and control over basic rights such as land, education, health and shelter is increased and their livelihoods are protected.

Tools and Strategic Approaches of Jaag:

Grassroots linkages & support for community initiatives

We are supporting and strengthening communities' access and control over basic social services such as health, education and water. We are also supporting poor people specially Older People and Children in identifying and creating alternative livelihood opportunities.

Human Rights based approach

JAAG's human rights-based approach holds that every individual by virtue of being a human is a holder of rights. It involves a process of enabling and empowering people to claim and realize their civic, political, economic, cultural and social rights.

People-centred campaign and advocacy

This strategy includes the process of mobilizing, organizing, capacity building, engaging, reflecting and learning. Using this approach, JAAG is continued to enable poor and marginalized people to formulate their own policy agenda and claim and realize their rights.

Capacity building and institutional support

JAAG together with local partners is continuing to mobilize and organize poor people and provide strategic institutional support to sustain their struggle for justice.

Partnership & alliance building

JAAG is focusing on forging and strengthening partnerships with poor and excluded communities, small farmers, women & girls, bonded laborers and victims of Human Smuggling/Trafficking. We are also supporting and strengthening coalitions and networks at Sub-regional and regional level in Pakistan.

Participation

JAAG is making concerted efforts to encourage and support critical engagements with policy makers by enhancing effective participation and communication with the poor and vulnerable communities.

Jaag's Features

- Jaag's strong and vocal position with regard to human rights, democratic governance and social justice is its important attribute.
- Jaag Welfare Movement is Provincial Partner of HelpAge International Pakistan for creating an environment of age friendly society for dignified and healthy older people.
- Jaag is a member of a number of national and regional networks and alliances such as Network for Community Empowerment (NCE), PNF/PNCC, CCBN, SPNF, SAAG, SAP Pakistan, DTCE and Actionaid Pakistan. It has also more than 170 Community Organizations / Village Organizations and more than 500 CCBs for whom it is working Tehsil / District level Network alliances.
- Jaag has liaison with line departments with critical engagement to enhance the capacity of communities as well as provision of rights to these communities.
- Jaag has conducted several researches on Irrigation water issues, land rights, violence against women, Human Rights violation, civic Problems, Human Smuggling & Trafficking.
- Jaag has competent staff that is committed to challenging unequal and exploitative power structures and policies.

Women and girls' rights

JAAG intends to weaken the very foundations of inequality, injustice and poverty by mobilizing and organizing women for equal land rights, active political participation, economic empowerment and eradication of discrimination and violence against women in which the Child Marriages/forced marriages are common in the area. We will focus on strengthening and supporting community initiatives to access and use basic social services and Rights such as health, education, water, vocational skills and control over assets. Efforts will be made to increase and streamline women's political participation and effective engagement in the decision making processes at local, Regional and national levels. We are supporting and strengthening women's organizations and networks to facilitate their

collective voice against discriminatory and oppressive laws and traditions such as Child Marriages and women's inheritance Rights.

Strategic actions:

- Supporting and strengthening community initiatives to increase women's access to social services.
- Mobilizing and organizing women to strengthen and increase their political participation.
- Working towards eradication of anti-women and discriminatory laws and policies.
- Making government accountable for its national & international commitments.
- Campaigning against all kinds of violence against women including ending Child Marriages.
- Increasing women's ownership of and access to resources particularly land and capital.

Outcomes:

- Women and girls have increased access to and control over basic social services.
- Girls school enrolment and attainment is enhanced.
- Women are increasingly demanding & asserting their rights for equitable resource distribution & participation.
- Discriminatory and suppressive laws, policies and traditional practices are removed.
- Laws, policies, systems and mechanisms are put in place to curb violence against women & girls including Child Marriages.

Achievements

Women, of the area, have benefited most from the interventions of JAAG in Collaboration with Actionaid, OXFAM-GB, HelpAge International Pakistan & SAP Pakistan. Specifically minority Hindu women and the women living in disaster prone area have become empowered economically and socially; they now actively contribute in social and economical spheres of life. Many girl Child have been Rescued from early child marriages. Women day Festival in Year 2009 was celebrated to aware people against Early & Child Marriages. A movement of Hindu community called Scheduled Caste Rights Movement has also been formed that raised issues themselves up to the Supreme Court and national assembly of Pakistan. They have been successful in achieving national identity cards, legal registration of Hindu marriage which entitles certain rights to women.

What turned us to work for Ending Child Marriage

Sonia belongs to a minority family in a village named Basti Kahoor, Union Council Aman Garh, Rahim Yar Khan. Actually the father of Sonia has received an Amount of PKR 50,000/- (US \$500) as lump sum amount against Sonia. Jaag came to know through Community activists that a 9 years old girl is going to forced marriage with 50 years old against the amount of Fifty Thousand to adjust loan of her father. Her elder sister was also sold in PKR 40,000 some years before and now she is standing with Child of One Year. The National Electronic and Print Media were called and they raised the issue. This was not be materialized this case to be report in Police until it has some proof, then one leading TV Channel named geo asked the groom that the Father of Sonia is not going to marry her daughter with you. He presented the Stamp Paper in which they have agreed that PKR 50K already paid will not be back and Sonia will marry to him. According to the stamp paper declared by Mr.

Aatim Jee, father of Sonia, that there is no age boundary in his religion. In the result of Media campaign, Police arrested Zinda Jee for violating the Child marriage Restraint act 1929. But the penalty is just PKR 1000. However the Father and Husband were released against the declaration for not hold this relation. We highlighted it as the case of Internal Human Trafficking. For this reason Police register FIR with healthy dose. Now Sonia is studying and this all turned us to work this devastating activity endanger the lives of girls. We also found a village where there is no student in Grade 4. Every girl who pass the Class 3 got marry. Village name "Chak No. 229" has many grandmothers of age 25-30. The Teacher of that school Miss Huma Riaz said that I joined ten year before and my students who passed their class 3 or 4 are now mothers of my current students. So there is entire need to address this issue.



News Clipping in Daily Khabrain Lahore to highlight the Issue of Sonia



Zinda Jee, 50 years old husband of Sonia Claiming that he is the owner of Sonia as there is no age limit in Hindu religion



Elder sister of Sonia having a Child



October 12, 2009, Sonia is sitting with sad mood



June 15, 2010, Sonia is happy and studying Drawing

SECM (Support to End Child Marriages)

Project: Empower 1250 Pakistani Child Brides to delay first Birth

Summary of the Project

Girl Child Marriage is one of the major kinds of exploitation and violence prevalent in the country and that to camouflage under the cultural and religious codes. A marriage in the childhood badly impacts social, physical and mental health of girl.

It is very difficult to get accurate data on the true extent of child marriages in Pakistan as the actual number of child marriages taking place in the country annually remains unknown. But it is believed that much of the cases of child marriage occurring in remote rural areas of the country go unreported. In most of the cases the practice of child marriage is supported on the religious ground. However, according to some reports more than 60 million girls around the world were married under the age of 18 in 2010, out of which 42% are from Pakistan (24% were from rural Pakistan and 18% from urban areas). In some cases, young girls are even given out before they were born to a man old enough to be their father. Child marriage is considered to be a widely ignored violation of the education, health and development rights of girls and young women. Therefore, the issue of child marriage need be dealt with the human rights framework. According to latest news that early marriages increased maternal mortality rate which at present was 276 per 100,000 live births, nationally (<http://www.dawn.com/news/1160120>).

The Proposed project is to

- Initiate and analyze Data Collection on Child Marriage prevalence for lobby and advocacy purpose.
- Take Capacity building initiatives for SECM Groups, Media, Youth, Community Organizations and Religious Leaders
- Establish endowment fund for sustainable economic growth of Child Brides to delay first birth
- Facilitate for continuation of Education of Girls at risk of Child Marriage
- Provide skills, tools and livelihood to these Child Brides for delaying first birth.
- Provide Healthcare sessions for delaying first birth.
- Awareness Raising at masses against Child Marriages
- Support Lobby and Advocacy for Policy Change & follow-up

SECM - Support to End Child Marriages initiative is a Two years collaborative and integrated approach to End Child Marriages. People and communities will be aware, sensitized and stand united to end child marriages.

The SECM will engage the law enforcement agencies, member parliament, and concerned government authorities concerning child marriages to stop the practices. It will promote structural measures at local and provincial level to respond the issue of child marriages. SECM will have prime mandate to ensure community ownership for sustainable action and durable solutions of Child Protection with women empowerment by establishing small industrial units

Jaag Welfare Movement is dreaming a progressive, prosperous and violence free society, where people & institutions are performing at their best of potential and where opportunities are ensured for all. Jaag Welfare Movement as winner of Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Human Rights Defender Award in year 2010 always facilitated mechanisms, which promote Child Rights, Women Rights and peace & Tolerance in the society. Jaag have track record of promoting Human Rights and condemn violence in the society. Jaag Welfare Movement has strong network of Community Organization in all over the district Rahim Yar Khan and Particularly in focused 10 Union Councils of SECM.

SECM will mobilize 2000 young people, 100 Religious Leaders, 50 Journalist to form networks for Child Protection. It will also form and strengthen 10 Union Council Level Child Protection Committees to handle these issues leading to Tehsil & District Level Child Protection Committees. SECM will include all OPAs & COs to mainstream gender based violence issues on sustainable basis. SECM will use innovative approach to enhance the capacity of users for using Multi & Social Media, FM Radio, Cable TV, Newspapers in Focus Group Discussions/Workshops. It will strengthen the 1250 Child Brides economically, educationally, and healthy by establishing endowment fund and provide skill to run small industrial units and Marketing Management. It will sensitize the line department to make arrangement to combat practices of Child Marriages. It will make the Child Protection Committees & SECM Groups be vigilant to detect, prevent and respond to the incidents or practices of Child Marriages in their areas.

Jaag is the Partner of GirlsNotBrides Network to end Child Marriages while Jaag is also approved partner of GlobalGivingUK (Online fund raising charity), where Jaag has launched a similar project activities to support Child Brides in Pakistan and to date this project has raised US\$ 1320. While WE Can End VAW has same agenda to end Child Marriage. The cost of the Project is 25160000 (25.16 Million PKR) and funding request is 3 Million PKR(US\$ 30,000)

Context/background

Child marriages, tendering the girls to settle personal feuds and forced marriages of women are common forms of violence against women especially in rural Pakistan. Child marriages is one of the cruellest of gender based violence that is continues unabated in the name of traditions and feudal culture.

It is very difficult to get accurate data on the true extent of child marriages in Pakistan as the actual number of child marriages taking place in the country annually remains unknown. But it is believed that much of the cases of child marriage occurring in remote rural areas of the country go unreported. However, according to some reports more than 60 million girls around the world were married under the age of 18 in 2010, out of which 42% are from Pakistan (24% were from rural Pakistan and 18% from urban areas). In some cases, young girls are even given out before they were born to a man old enough to be their father. Child marriage is considered to be a widely ignored violation of the education, health and development rights of girls and young women. Therefore, the issue of child marriage need be dealt with the human rights framework.

Today, the devastating impact of child marriage continues to be ignored in the developing world. Millions of child brides, some only just past puberty, are denied access to health, education and economic opportunities. The majority of them are burdened with the roles and responsibilities of wives and mothers without adequate support, resources or capabilities.¹

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) defines a child as “every human being below the age of eighteen years unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier”. In Pakistan, the legal age of marriage is 18 years for men 16 years for women. The 1929 Child Restraint Act states that men over 18 years old who marry underage girls are to be punished with one month's jail or a fine of 1,000 rupees, which at current conversion rates is equal to less than \$10.

In most of the cases the practice of child marriage is supported on the religious ground. However, the fact is that Islam does not sanction child marriages. The Koran states that young people should marry "when they reach the age of puberty and maturity". As a matter of fact Islam does not define the exact age of puberty. It believes in puberty and maturity of the child, not in age limits.

¹ Ending Child Marriage: A Guide for Global Policy Action, International Planned Parenthood Federation. 2006

Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah not only strongly denounced the clergy's claim to sanction the age of marriage on religious grounds but said that marriage law had nothing to do with religion and there is no divine edict or text that sanction the marriage age. He supported the bill of 1929 with the following comments:

"I am not convinced that this Bill in any way militates against the rule of civil laws applicable to marriages amongst Mussalman... I cannot believe that there can be a divine sanction for such evil practices as are prevailing... we should not, for a single minute, give our sanction to the continuance of these evil practices any longer." [He termed child marriage a] "cruel, horrible, disgraceful, inhuman practice."²

The issue of child marriages is related to a number of other societal issues and customary practices. Exchange marriages, forced marriages, practice of giving women and children in compensation in tribal/familial feuds etc. often include the element of child marriage. Early and child marriages are directly attributable to deep-rooted gender inequalities, traditional practices and customs.

"An important issue in this debate is the assumption that the girl's attainment of puberty also means her mental maturity. After all, a woman is not merely a vehicle for sex and procreation. A girl who starts performing the functions of a wife at the age of ten or 12 is denied all possibilities of mental growth. She cannot understand the duties and rights of a wife, to say nothing of her responsibilities as a mother and as a member of society. That is why societies that allow child marriages are denounced for planning under-developed generations".³

In certain peculiar situations, it takes place under what is known as *dand* or *bada* in Sindh, *vani* in Punjab, and *swara* in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and "*lajai*" in Balochistan. In this practice, an accused family gives its girl or girls in marriage to an aggrieved family to settle a blood feud between the two parties. Women and girl children who are victims of *vani* or *swara* arrangements live in a hostile environment where they are treated as daughters or relatives of the enemy.

Ending child marriage delays first birth, reduces maternal deaths and gives girls a better chance in life, child marriage endangers girls' lives and limits their potential. According to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), signed and ratified by Pakistan in 1990, everyone under the age of 18 was a child. But under the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 a 'child' was defined as a male of less than 18 years of age and a female of less than 16 years.

Furthermore, since the UNCRC define the child as below the age of 18 for both males and females while in the Marriage Restraint Act 1929, there is the age discrimination between males and females which is a clear violation of child rights. The government had also signed the Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and was bound to formulate laws according to its global commitments but it was not being done. Therefore, there is growing demand from the civil society organisations of Pakistan for the past many years to raise the age of marriage to 18 years for women and make it equal to men.

The existing Child Marriages Restraint Act 1929 had not yet been able to control childhood marriages due to various reasons including inefficiency of law and order institutions. Child marriages are made a cognizable offence which was currently treated as a non-cognizable offence. In Pakistan, poverty, illiteracy, social and cultural practices are factors cited for the prevalence of child marriages.

While the law does deal with penalizing those who are involved in different facets of conducting child marriages, including parents and the husband etc. it does not declare the marriages invalid, thereby, allowing child marriages with a minimal, outdated punishment. Nevertheless, if the law was implemented properly, and the relevant persons were brought before the court every time such a marriage happened, then there would be a good chance for better implementation of the law when people realize that they could actually be punished.

² Quoted by Asma Jahangir in an interview published in Newsline, 14 August 2002.

³ I.A. Rehman. "The evil child marriage is". Online article. <http://www.pppusa.org/Human%20Rights/Article-12.htm>

An early marriage leads to early conception, which ultimately affects the health of a teenage girl i.e. more than one-third of maternal deaths in the country occurred among females who were married between the ages of 14 and 17 years. Typically, enormous pressures to bear children are put on child brides. In the developing countries, early pregnancy is the leading cause of death for young girls between the ages of 15 and 18. Girls as young as twelve are forced into marriage and lose their childhoods for a life that is defined by isolation, violence and poor health. Marrying at a young age has lifelong consequences. National indicators on maternal health, education, food security, poverty eradication, HIV/AIDS, and gender equality are all negatively correlated with high child marriage rates in rural areas of Pakistan.

The practice of child marriage is more prevalent in the local communities of districts of Southern Punjab including Baluch, Saraiki speaking tribes and Hindus. According to a non-formal campaign and research conducted by Jaag Welfare Movement, a worst situation found in a village of 100 households namely Chak No. 229-P, Tehsil Rahim Yar Khan where ratio of enrolment of girls in primary school is alarming because majority of them had been married and shifted to their in-laws. Even a girl of 4 years studying in nursery class knows her fiancée name. There are many women of age 25-30 in the area who are even grandmothers.

Similarly, it is a matter of grave concern that the majority of tribes of the area are mainly illiterate and poor. Because early marriages denied the girls their education and livelihood right, so it is also quite clear that the primary source of income of the child brides is limited to the livelihood of male head of the household. To date, there is no primary data on girl child victims of early marriages in the area.

The above background and context reveals that:

- The practices of early and child marriage is directly attributable to deep rooted gender inequalities. These practices are being carried out under several cultural, social pretexts and justified by customs, traditions and exploitative cultural practices.
- More than one-third of maternal deaths in the country occurred among females who were married between the ages of 14 and 17 years. Child marriage endangers girls' lives and limits their potential to get empowerment.
- The law does deal with penalizing those who are involved in different facets of conducting child marriages including parents and the husband etc. it does not declare the marriages invalid, thereby allowing child marriages with a minimal, outdated punishment.
- Social pressures are non-existent and weak to support women claiming such rights and essentially denied without any recourse.

SECM - Support to End Child Marriages initiative requires a collaborative and integrated approach to end Child Marriages. People and communities should be aware and sensitized and stand united to end child marriages.

The law enforcement agencies, member parliament, and concerned government authorities concerning child marriages need to be engaged to stop the practices and promote structural measures at local and provincial level to respond the issue of child marriages. Ensuring community ownership for sustainable action and durable solutions is then a prime mandate of the proposed action. This fact suggests a three-pronged strategy for durable solutions if executed with total ownership of the community groups.

1. SECM will establish the culture of overseeing and accountability with three tier intervention:
 - a. Form and sensitize SECM community groups at union council level that will work to raise awareness to end child marriages.
 - b. Sensitize concerned government functionaries like Police and marriage registration authorities etc. and ensure effective implementation of relevant laws.
 - c. The SECM groups will work as vigilante to detect, prevent and respond to the incidents or practices of child marriage.

- d. The SECM groups will ensure that traditional participatory accountability systems remain alive and actively oversee issues pertaining to VAW & rights of girls particularly victims of early marriage and other victims of *Wani* or *Watta-Satta*(*Exchange Marriages*)
2. SECM will provide Healthcare , livelihood skills and Legal aid to Victims of Child Marriages to delay first birth
 - a. Livelihood Skills as per the need of the Community Groups will be established to strengthen these groups as well as victims of Child Marriages and other at risk girls.
 - b. Provision of Tools to the most vulnerable victims Child Marriages for their earnings and economic empowerment
 - c. Legal aid will be provide to rescue Children to be victim of Child marriages
 - d. Healthcare along with Health Education will be provided to Girl Brides for taking preventive measure
3. SECM will focus on policy development/legislation:
 - a. A policy framework will be developed with the consultation of legal experts, CSOs and other stakeholders for institutional changes on the laws pertaining to child marriage.
 - b. Lobby with elected representatives, CSOs networks, media and other stakeholders to push the agenda of institutional changes on child marriage.

Rational

Gender injustice is the major root cause of different forms of violence against women especially against rural poor. Among other factors, forced marriages and conflicts over issues related to women's property/inheritance rights are closely linked with broader issues of violence against women and their social and economic empowerment. The issue of denying women their rights of consent in marriage is widespread in both the urban and rural communities of Pakistan.

Jaag's experience of working at the grassroots level suggests that making women more aware on their economic and social rights and addressing early and child marriage related issues has been making enormous contributions in addressing the underlying causes of gender discrimination. However, a strong need was felt for addressing the consent in marriage directly as an intervention to not only address their poverty related issues and economic empowerment but ending domestic violence against them to a large extent. Jaag Welfare Movement will build on its existing work in the area that is being carried out in different campaigns including **WE Can** to end violence against women.

Impact of the Project

Girls can decide if, when, and whom to marry and married girls lead healthy, economically and socially empowered lives

Overall objective

End Child Marriages through community action to promote their social and economic empowerment and rights.

Specific objective

Organise community action to end child marriage to promote women's social and economic empowerment in selected Union Councils of Rahim Yar Khan.

Purpose

Mobilize and engage all stakeholders including SECM groups, communities, CSOs, media and parliamentarians to raise awareness against child marriages, Skill Development of Victims, review law governing child marriage.

Target area

A total of 10 selected UCs of Rahim Yar Khan District of Punjab

Target groups

Our Target groups are Women, men, girls under the age of 16 years, child brides, and victims of child marriages in the target area.

Methodology

It is important to select a method that is relevant to the context, brings results and do not expose victims, partners etc. in danger. Following methodology is proposed in this regard:

- Baseline survey on child marriages
- Formation of SECM community groups and their capacity building
- Provision of Stationery, Pocket money and Uniform to Girls at risk of Child Marriage.
- Establishment of Skill Development Centres for Victim of Early and Child Marriages
- Provision of tools / livestock for economic empowerment of Child Brides to delay first birth
- Conduct Medical Camps for Medical Check up and Health Education to delay first birth
- Awareness raising through Interactive Street Theatre / Puppet shows on early and child marriage and provide Health Education to delay first birth
- Advocacy and lobby with stakeholders for policy level intervention

Output results

Output 1: Baseline survey is conducted and basic data is available on child marriages.

Output 2: Local community groups are organised and their capacity is built around the women rights in general and detect, protect and respond to the incidents of child marriage in particular

Output 3: The Local communities are aware on the issue of early and child marriage

Output 4: 1250 Child Brides empowered by getting education, skill & Tools / livestock for livelihood to delay first birth

Output 5: A policy is framed to amend Child Marriage Restraint act 1929 to raise the minimum age of women to 18 years and stakeholders are engaged on the issue.

Main activities

1. Baseline survey on child marriages especially their Health Education and economic concerns
2. Awareness raising of communities through sensitization sessions, workshops, Interactive theatre, Puppet Shows, promotional material, e-messages, girls festivals, broadcast messages on Cable TV & FM Radio etc.
3. Formation of SECM community groups comprising women and men especially students/youth at UC level and involve them to organize events, support to education and skill development activities
4. Capacity building of SECM groups through workshops on women rights, child marriage, Health Education and various other forms of violence against women and related UN mechanisms like CEDAW, CRC etc.
5. Sensitization sessions with government functionaries, religious/community leaders and linkage building of SECM groups with them to prevent incidents of child marriage.
6. Establishment of Vocational Centres in 10 Union Councils depending on the TNA basis under the SECM Groups and Older People Associations
7. Sensitize local & National media on women rights and engage them to highlight the incidents of violence against women and timely reporting on child marriage
8. Consultation meetings with legal experts, political parties, CBOs, CSOs to frame policy to amend Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929.
9. Lobby meetings with elected representatives to amend Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929.

Impact of the Project

For Girls

- Thousands of girls are increasingly aware of their rights
- Girls have the opportunity to develop solidarity with one another through peer groups and collective action
- Alternative economic, social roles for girls and women exist and are valued
- Increased access of married and unmarried girls to health, education, economic, and legal support

For Families

- Families, communities and young people are increasingly aware of the harmful impact of child marriage and alternatives available
- Families, communities and young people value alternative options to child marriage
- Families and communities prefer not to marry girls as children
- Men prefer not to marry girls who are still children
- Increased use of media to inform and support norm change to end child marriage

Services

- Increased access to safe, quality formal and non-formal education for girls
- Increased access to health services for adolescent girls, married and unmarried
- Health and education services establish protocols on identifying the warning signs and addressing the risks of child marriage
- Improved economic security for girls
- Increased commitment of programs to prevent and mitigate risk of child marriage

Laws and Policies

- National laws reflect international and regional human rights standards
- Robust legal framework against child marriage in place that sets 18 as the minimum legal age for marriage and protects girls' and women's rights
- Governments develop supportive policy frameworks with adequate resourcing across Ministries to increase educational, economic and social opportunities for girls at risk of child marriage and married girls
- Strengthened civil registration systems for birth and marriage
- Increased accountability and monitoring of national / regional / community institutions

Budget for the Project Activities

Budget Description	Budget (US\$)
Education to 250 Girls for 2 Years @ US\$ 3.33 Per Month Per Girl	20000
Skill Development Centres (10 No.) 500 Child Brides in 10 UCs	12500
Support for Livelihood (Tools or Small Industrial Units) 500 Child Brides @ \$50 each	25000
Theatre/Puppet Show, IEC material, FM Radio Messages for awareness	6000
Medical Camp (6 Med. Camps in each Union Council in 2 Year)	12000
Consultation & Lobbying Meeting/Public Forum	6000
Support & Administration Cost 2 Years (Including Baseline,	12500
Total Cost	94000

Methodology

It is important to select a method that is relevant to the context, brings results and do not expose victims, partners etc. in danger. Baseline survey, formation & Capacity building of SECM groups, Provision of Educational material to Girls at risk of Child Marriage. Skill Development, Organize Medical Camps, Awareness raising and Advocacy and Lobbying with stakeholders for Policy Change.