**Concept Note; International Day of the Girl 2018**

**Introduction**

Girls Not Brides Uganda is a National Partnership that hosts 80 member organizations in an effort to end child marriage in Uganda. Girls Not Brides Uganda became an official national partner of Girls Not Brides Global in 2016; the national partnership works at the national, regional and district level by building capacity of its members to raise awareness of Ending Child Marriage.

Joy for Children Uganda and World Vision co- coordinate the National Partnership in Uganda. The National Partnership has participated in a number of national campaigns to end child marriage and teenage pregnancies in Uganda. In collaboration with the Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development, Girls Not Brides Uganda co-led, provided leadership and shared strategies in the drafting and finalizing the National strategy to End Child Marriage and Teenage Pregnancies (2015).

**Background**

Thursday October 11, marks the first-ever U.N International Day of the Girl Child, a resolution adopted by the U.N. General Assembly on December 19, 2011. The day was established to help galvanize worldwide enthusiasm for goals to better girls’ lives, providing an opportunity for them to show leadership and reach their full potential.

The resolution “recognizes girls’ rights and the unique challenges girls face around the world.” It also promotes girls’ empowerment and the fulfillment of their human rights. Many organizations and dedicated girl activists have engaged in a longstanding campaign to gain recognition and reserve a day for advocacy and action by and for girls. This declaration reinforces the United Nations’ pledge to end the discrimination, economic inequality, violence, and gender stereotypes that overwhelmingly affect girls. The focus for the inaugural day is on ending the devastating practice of child marriage.

This year’s theme is ***With Her: A Skilled GirlForce****.* It focuses upon equipping girls with the education and training they need for a successful transition into the world of work. IDG 2018 will mark the beginning of a year-long effort to bring together partners and stakeholders to advocate for, and draw attention and investments to, the most pressing needs and opportunities for girls to attain skills for employability.

**What we will do to celebrate the International Day of the Girl**

* Hold a half day dialogue meeting on ending child marriage with 20 GNB members in n western region, 50 CSOs, religious and district officials working on children issues in the district.
* Hold a conversation around International Day of the Girl Child using a selected hashtag. A social media package with images and messages in English will be developed.
* We will also hold a radio talk show in the evening hours on the pre - IDG
* Produce a five minute video of girl survivors of child marriage who have been empowered via education and trainings.
* Hold parallel meetings in two schools with teachers, parents, boys and girls on the value of education and the challenges they face go in accessing education and training.
* Ask GNB members to participate in a social media campaign that promotes International Day of the Girl and girls; ask GNB members and girls themselves to use social media to share thoughts or images (using the hashtag) and to connect with others from around the world who share an interest in girls' education and training.

**Budget: 2000 US dollars**