

# Dramatically Reduce Gender-Based Violence and Harmful Practices

### THE WORLD TODAY



1 in 3 women experience physical or sexual violence in their lifetime, mostly by an intimate partner



12 million girls under the age of 18 are married every year

200 MILLION 200 million girls and women have been subjected to female genital mutilation/cutting



Girls and young women with disabilities experience up to 10 times more gender-based violence than those without disabilities

# THE INVESTMENT CASE



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Economists found that investing in the elimination of gender-based violence is one of the 19 most cost-effective SDG targets

1.2% - 3.7%

Gender-based violence can cost countries 1.2% to 3.7% of their GDP

## **SOLUTIONS**



Functional legal systems that hold offenders accountable and encourage women to seek justice



Behavior change initiatives and community-based programs to address gender norms



Multi-sectoral services and treatment for survivors



Access to economic assets and women-centered civil society organizations



As long as girls and women fear for their safety, they cannot realize their full potential. Upholding their dignity and rights depends on eliminating the threat of gender-based violence and harmful practices everywhere.

### **ASKS**

Enact and enforce comprehensive legal frameworks and policies to protect against gender-based violence (GBV) and harmful practices such as child, early, and forced marriage, and female genital mutilation/cutting.

Scale up efforts targeting harmful gender norms, and educate young people, women, and men about GBV and harmful practices, including through community-based programs.

Recognize, investigate, and meaningfully respond to the needs and realities of marginalized and intersectional communities who are at greater risk for GBV, such as girls and women with disabilities, indigenous girls and women, LGBTQIA+ people, and girls and women from ethnic minority groups.

Invest in prevention programs that end GBV and harmful practices and empower girls and women.

Create and enforce gender-responsive legal frameworks that address the increased vulnerability of women in **emergency and conflict settings** and support women's protection and empowerment.

Train all health providers to address GBV and harmful practices to ensure that needed services are available, accessible, acceptable, and of quality for all.

Implement comprehensive sexuality education that addresses gender inequity, gender roles, GBV, and the rights of young people to seek services and justice.

