

CHILD MARRIAGE NO NEVER...



INDIA



**WITHOUT
MY CONSENT,
NEVER EVER.**



GIRLS BLOOMING AND WITHERING

With just a day to go for the big wedding day, Aarti decided to call it off. It was as if an earthquake had hit the village. Everyone was now discussing her dark deeds. "Since I did not have a father, widowed and alone, I felt helpless and gave in to family pressure."

LOOMING UNCERTAINTY

"I called 1098 and pleaded with them to stop my wedding. But they said it was a wrong number." "If Haseena Didi is sent off to her 'saural' (marital home) now, what will happen to her education?" The sisters had gathered so many emotions into their little eyes... laugh, joy, sorrow, and childhood...

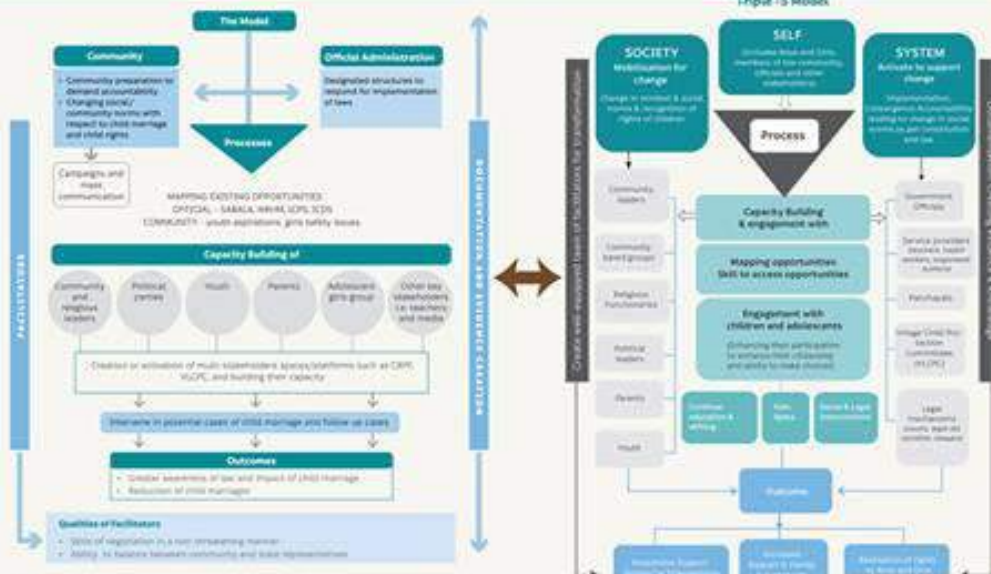


Model for Intervention

Rights - based - approach

2012

2018



AN OATH: NOT ME, NOT US, NEVER

"We will never, never ever... get married in our childhood", standing in a group, ten-year-old Maya studying in class seven could be heard saying. Gathered under the Peepal tree in the scorching heat of May, the school children were taking an oath together. Maya said, "I was married off when I was five-years-old."

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

"She still goes to school, even though she's a mother herself." Ignoring people's jokes and taunts, Mamun said, "I don't pay them any attention. And if I could have my way, I'd ensure that nobody could be married before they were 18."



"I don't have the wings of a bird, after all, I can't just fly off when and where I please. I'm the eldest among my siblings, and I have to think about them too. If I wish to study further, I will have to do my share of the housework as well." Disha said.



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