

Improving Dignity, Equality, Aspiration to End Child Marriage and Promote Adolescent Empowerment in UTTAR PRADESH

Objectives



1 in 6 child marriages in India occur in Uttar Pradesh



16.7% female work participation



36.7% married women have experienced spousal violence

Key interventions

Formation of large-scale community platform – Mahila Evam Bal Adhikar Manch (MEBAM groups comprising of women and children), linked to local governance across **7,000** gram panchayats to end child marriage, violence against children and promote adolescent empowerment

Established community accountability mechanisms to assess progress on women and child rights issues across **20** districts

Transformative change

25,000 adolescents and **452,601** community members engaged in social mobilisation to end child marriage, violence against children and promote adolescent empowerment

Leveraged **USD 1.5 million** of government resources to support mobilisation and capacity building of **55,000** community members

Increased commitment to scale up Ending Child Marriage Programmes from **7** to **19** districts

Inclusion of **Ending Child Marriage and Empowerment of Adolescents** in the State Mission for Women's Empowerment (SMWE) mandate

Opportunities

Political commitment and State willingness to scale up Ending Child Marriage Programme from **20** to **35** high prevalence districts

Increased demand for **skills development and employment opportunities** linked to adolescent aspirations and choices

Way forward

- By 2022, develop and implement State Action Plan across **20** districts with focus on gender equality and ending child marriage
- Coordination and convergence with government departments, industries and civil society organisations
- Strengthen knowledge and capacities of **16,000** local governance councils to improve social accountability
- Communication and mobilisation to enhance value of the girl child