



**Inter-Agency
Coordination**
Lebanon



Child Marriage – Globally

1.2 BILLION

If there is no reduction in child marriage, the global number of women married as children will reach 1.2 billion by 2050.

700 MILLION

Over 700 million women alive today were married as children.

Complications in pregnancy and childbirth is the leading cause of death in girls aged 15-19 globally

What does that means for girls?

POVERTY

- Don't receive the educational opportunities and economic opportunities

EDUCATION

- Are likely to drop out o school

INEQUALITY

- Little to no say when or whom they will marry

What does that mean for girls?

HEALTH

- Face high risk of death or injury

VIOLENCE

- Increased risk of violence; *many are likely to describe their first sexual experience as forced*

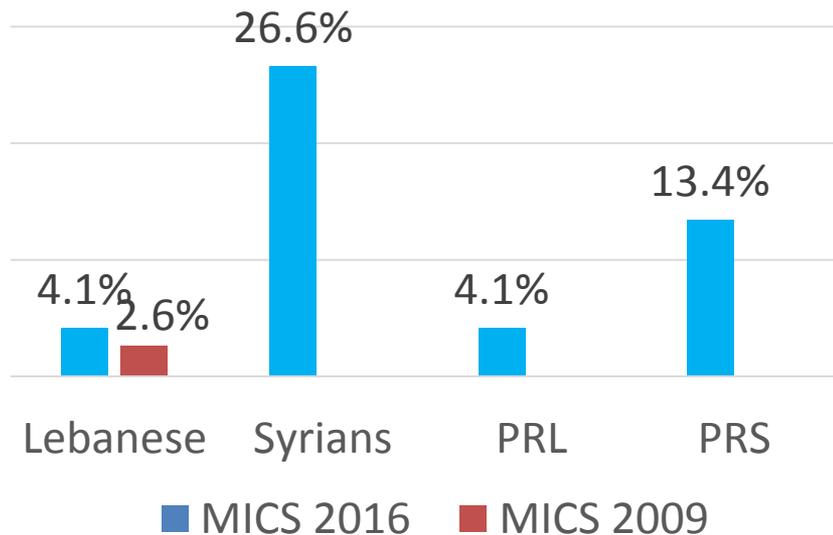
Child Marriage – in Lebanon

In Lebanon the exact number of child brides is not known, however, child marriage is reported as a **key protection risk** affecting adolescent girls and boys.

UNICEF

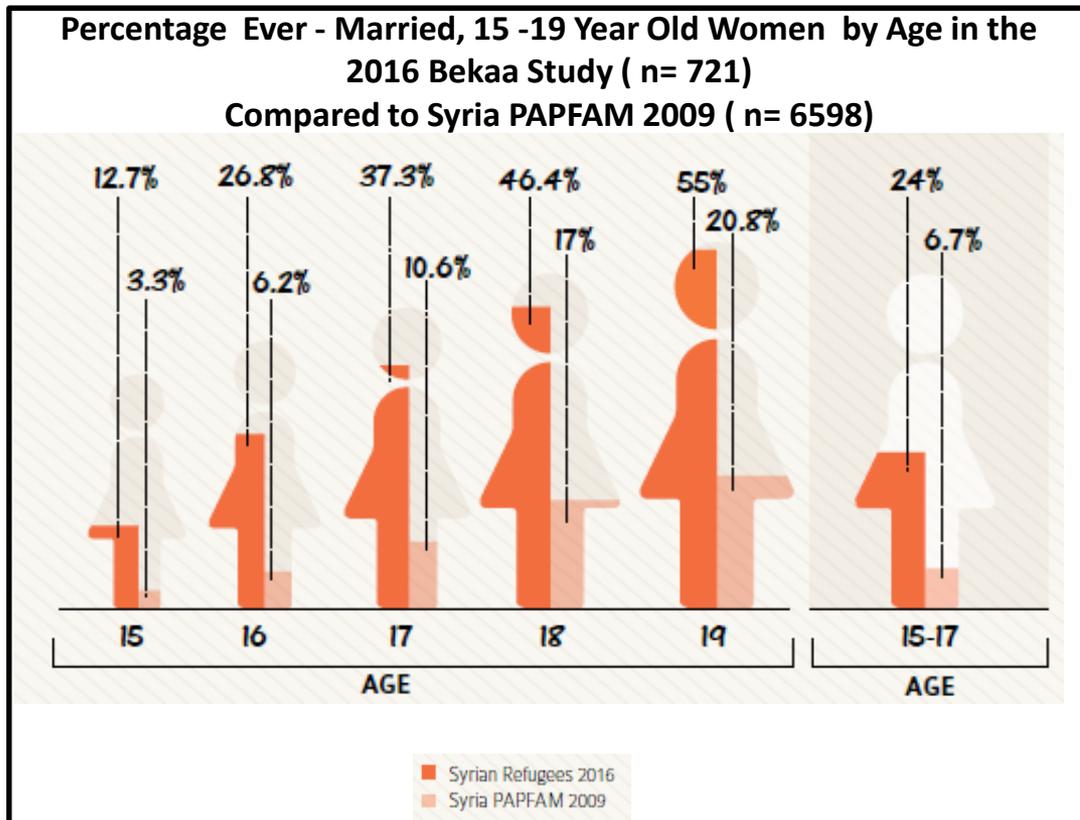
Key Indicator Results – Baseline Survey, 2016

Percentage of women age 15-19 years currently married or in union



UNFPA

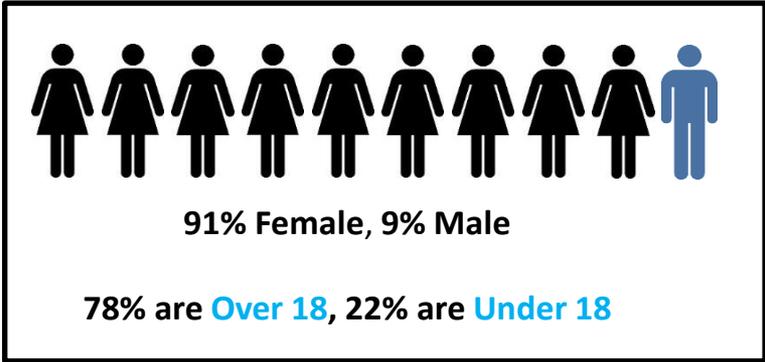
The 2016 Bekaa Study



The proportion of 15-19 year old girls who are **currently married** is substantially higher at every age than it was in Syria in 2009.

Gender-Based Violence Information Management System

National Trends



Physical Assault



Psychological/
Emotional Abuse



Sexual Assault



Forced Marriage



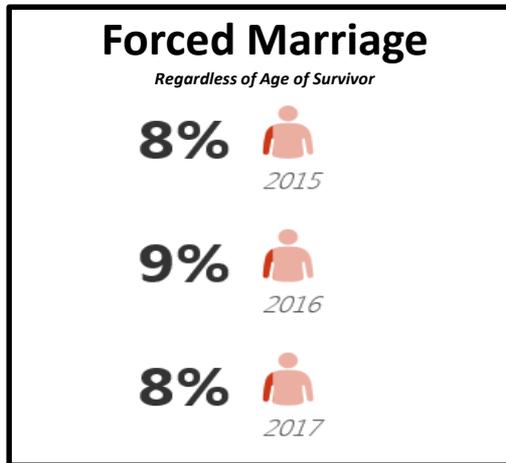
Denial of Resources



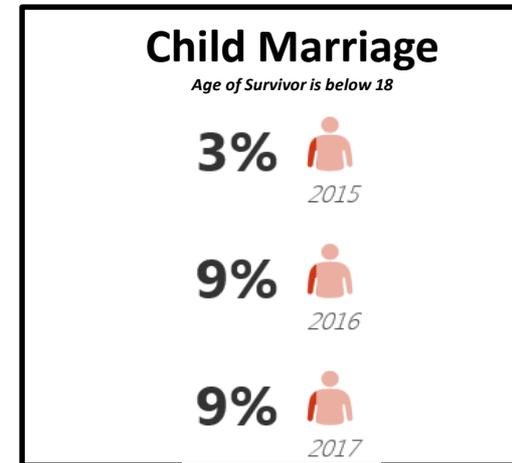
Rape

Gender-Based Violence Information Management System

National Trends

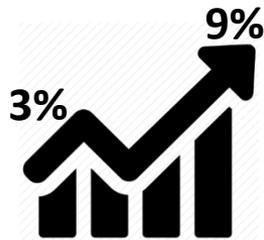


This is defined by the percentage of survivors disclosing incidents of marriage **against her or his will.**



This is defined by the **age** of the survivor at the time of the **incident of forced marriage.**

GBVIMS Findings



The **7% increase** in reported incidents suggests that more survivors have disclosed incidents of child marriage, which has been a result of **increased efforts** among humanitarian actors.



1 in 3 cases disclosed incidents **one month after** having started attending psychosocial activities.

Despite the increased efforts, disclosure of incidents of child marriage remains **extremely challenging** and continues to be **underreported**. Due to:

- Social stigma,
- Religious beliefs
- Fear of retaliation
- Belief that no one can help.

Why child marriage occurs?



Deteriorating socio-economic situation of families



Fear for the safety and security of girls



Inability to meet basic needs

Lack of opportunities and access to services



No minimum age of marriage in Lebanon;
Minimum ages vary depending on confessions

Gender Inequality

Challenges

CONTEXT

Social and cultural norms
Prolonged displacement
Isolation

SERVICES

Limited access to services, especially for girls who have been married

FUNDING

Limited opportunities for long term funding → impact on programmes

POLICY

Lack of coordinated multisectorial response
Limited legal protection available

What is being done to address child marriage in Lebanon?

Individual

- skills building for girls and women (access to women and girls safe spaces)
- access to women and girls safe spaces
- support for legal registration of marriages and birth registration
- access to reproductive health services

Community/Society

- community awareness on the risks related to child marriage and services available
- Identification of key/influential community members (such as religious leaders)

What is being done to address child marriage in Lebanon?

Institutional

- Development a multisectoral national strategy to address child marriage – GoL
- Capacity building
- Advocacy

Multisectoral interventions

- education
- health

“Raise the Age”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J6q-FK8RWWM>

“Stopping child marriage will not be achieved without the joining of efforts between civil society institutions, governmental bodies, and all institutions that play a vital role in the socialization process such as the religious, educational, and media institutions. It is time to support girls to get out of the cycle of vulnerability, violence, and exploitation”.

*Ghida Anani,
Director and Founder of ABAAD*

THANK YOU.