

Project Background

“Reducing Child, Early and Forced Marriage” (CEFM) project also known as My Body. My Decision. My Right; is a three year project (2020-2023) being implemented in Sierra Leone and Burkina Faso. The project aims to reduce CEFM, enable girls to make decisions on their own future and fulfil their equal human rights by addressing the underlying normative conditions which maintain gender inequality and making alternative opportunities more accessible and meaningful for girls.

Project Focus

The CEFM project focuses on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), which is a major infringement of girls’ human rights and one of the key factors undermining the realization of their full potential and their contribution to the development in societies.

Drivers of child early forced marriage

The drivers of CEFM are multi-faceted and rooted in a complex inter-play between poverty, lack of access to education and gender inequality based on discriminatory norms and beliefs that place the primary role of women and girls to being housewives, mothers and care givers.

Project Location

The project is being implemented in countries; SIERRA LEONE and BURKINAFASO. In Sierra Leone the project is operational in **30 communities** across **Kailahun** and **Western Rural districts**.

Budget and Donor

Project budget is **4.9 million Canadian Dollars** (CAD), funded by Government of Canada through the Global Affairs Canada.



Key Successes

- ❖ **693 girls** and **578 boys** enrolled into (INSERT NUMBER) **Safe Spaces**
- ❖ **28 VSLA** groups established and supported
- ❖ **120** safe space facilitators trained and engaged
- ❖ **22 PHU** and **16 police stations** (FSU) staff trained in adolescent friendly and gender responsive health and protection services
- ❖ **60 community structures** renovated for safe spaces
- ❖ **300 copies** of safe space manuals produced and distributed