**Monitoring & Evaluation System: Reducing Early Marriages in Budalangi**

**1. Introduction**

Early marriage remains a significant challenge in Budalangi, leading to adverse outcomes for girls, including limited education, poor health, and economic dependency. This M&E system is designed to guide the project team in systematically collecting, analysing, and using data to assess progress and make informed decisions.

**2. M&E Objectives**

* Monitor implementation progress of the intervention activities.
* Evaluate the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of project strategies.
* Ensure accountability to donors, stakeholders, and beneficiaries.
* Generate learning for replication and policy influence.

**3. Theory of Change**

**Goal:** Reduce the prevalence of early marriages among girls aged 10–17 in Budalangi Constituency by 40% over two years.

**Outcomes:**

* Improved awareness of early marriage risks among community members.
* Increased school retention rates for girls.
* Strengthened enforcement of child protection laws.
* Empowered girls and families with economic and social alternatives.

**Outputs:**

* Community sensitization campaigns conducted.
* Schools supported with retention incentives.
* Trainings provided to local leaders, teachers, and parents.
* Girls’ mentorship and life skills sessions delivered.

**4. Indicators Framework**

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| **Level** | **Indicator** | **Means of Verification** | **Frequency** |
| Impact | % reduction in early marriage rates | Baseline/endline surveys, MoH records | Annually |
| Outcome 1 | % of parents aware of early marriage risks | KAP surveys, FGDs | Bi-annually |
| Outcome 2 | School attendance rates for girls (10–17) | School records | Quarterly |
| Outcome 3 | # of reported and acted-upon child marriage cases | Police/Chief reports | Quarterly |
| Output 1 | # of community forums held | Activity 1.1   * + 1. Reports | Monthly |
| Output 2 | # of girls mentored | Activity 2.1  2.1.1 Attendance registers  Activity 3.1 | Monthly |
| Output 3 | # of teachers/elders trained | 3.1.1 Training reports | Quarterly |

**5. Data Collection Tools**

* Baseline & Endline Surveys
* Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) Questionnaires
* Focus Group Discussion (FGD) Guides
* School Attendance Registers
* Training & Activity Registers
* Case Monitoring Forms

**6. Roles and Responsibilities**

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| **Role** | **Responsibility** |
| M&E Officer | Lead data collection, analysis, and reporting |
| Field Officers | Conduct community-level monitoring and documentation |
| Project Manager | Use M&E findings for planning and strategy |
| Partner Organizations | Provide data and support validation |
| Community Leaders | Participate in participatory monitoring |

**7. Reporting & Learning**

* Monthly Monitoring Reports
* Quarterly Progress Reviews
* Annual Evaluation Reports
* Learning Workshops to discuss challenges and insights
* Feedback Loops to community and stakeholders

**8. Evaluation Plan**

* **Midterm Evaluation (Month 18):** Assess project effectiveness and recommend course corrections.
* **Endline Evaluation (Month 24):** Measure overall project impact and sustainability.

**Methods:**

* Mixed-methods approach (quantitative surveys + qualitative interviews)
* Gender-sensitive and youth-inclusive evaluation tools

**9. Data Quality Assurance**

* Standardized tools and training for data collectors
* Regular supervision and field data audits
* Double data entry and verification protocols
* Storage in a secure, password-protected M&E database

**10. Budgeting for M&E**

Allocate 8–10% of total project budget for:

* Tool development
* Training and supervision
* Field data collection and validation
* Data analysis software/tools
* External evaluations

**11. Logical Framework**

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| Objectives | Indicators | Means of Verification | Assumptions |
| **Goal** | 40% reduction in early marriages | National statistics, Endline Survey | Continued political and community support |
| **Outcomes** | - Increased awareness- Higher school retention- Enforcement of laws | KAP Surveys, School data, Police reports, Court Reports | Community cooperates; laws enforced |
| **Outputs** | - # awareness forums- # girls mentored- # trained local leaders | Activity Reports, Attendance Sheets | Regular participation by stakeholders |
| **Activities** | - Conduct forums- Mentorship- Train leaders | Program Reports, Photos, Records | Sufficient resources and trained staff |