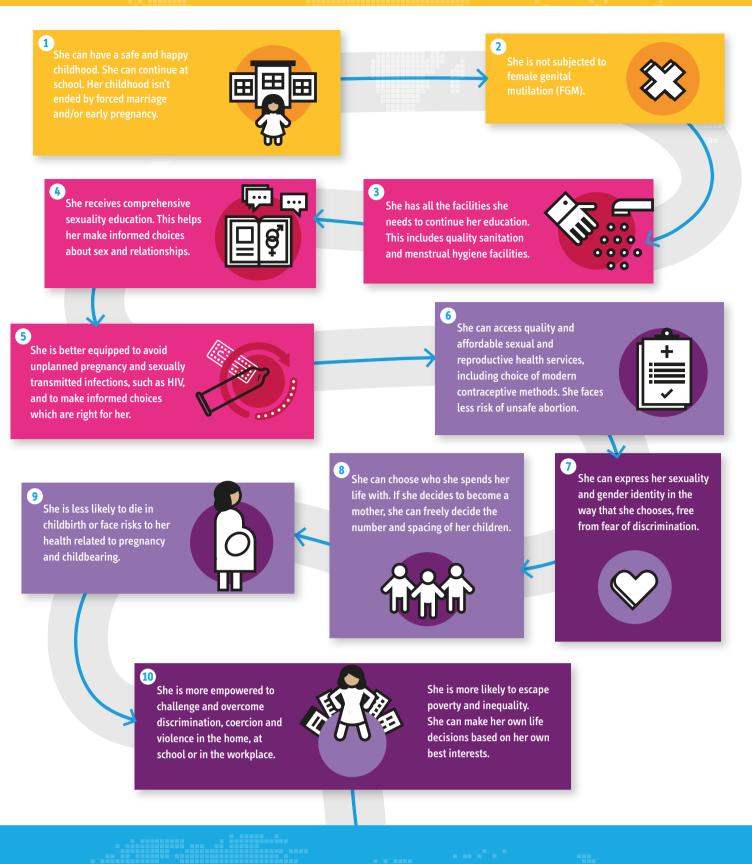
SEXUAL + REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH + RIGHTS ARE CENTRAL TO DEVELOPMENT

These rights can transform a girl's life. Here's how:



Sexual and reproductive health and rights must be at the heart of development policy if girls are to have happy and healthy lives, to reach their full potential as adults, and to contribute to their countries' future.

WHAT DO GOVERNMENTS NEED TO DO?



1

PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION

This will empower young people to protect themselves from unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV. Evidence-based comprehensive sexuality education has been shown to reduce risky sexual behaviour two-thirds of the time (UNFPA).

END CHILD MARRIAGE

If there is no reduction in the practice of early, forced and child marriage, up to 280 million girls today are at risk of becoming brides by the time they turn 18. Ending child marriage will help break the intergenerational cycle of poverty by allowing girls to participate more fully in society (UNICEF).

3

MEET THE UNMET NEED FOR CONTRACEPTION

Providing contraceptive options to the 225 million women globally with a current unmet need would result in 21 million fewer unplanned births and avoid the preventable deaths in childbirth of almost 100,000 women each year. 4

2

INVEST IN ADOLESCENT GIRLS

Currently, only 2 cents of every euro of overseas development assistance is channelled toward adolescent girls. Investing in girls' and young women's sexual and reproductive health is a matter of human rights and must be at the heart of sustainable development policy (ICPD Taskforce).



SEXUALITY, INFORMATION REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH & RIGHTS www.ifpa.ie The IFPA acknowledges the generous support of UNFPA in developing this infographic.

