

AWARENESS SESSIONS ON CHILD MARRIAGE PROGRAM FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

In June 2025, with UNFPA support, RTM International launched Awareness Sessions on Child Marriage in Cox's Bazar, covering three RTMI service points. The program uses the Early Marriage Curriculum, which focuses more deeply on early marriage than the Girl Shine Life Skills Curriculum, while also addressing other forms of GBV.

Objectives:

- **Delay Marriage:** Identify causes of early marriage, raise awareness of its risks, promote alternatives, improve caregiver–girl relationships, and foster solidarity among girls.
- **Support Unmarried Girls:** Educate on rights, provide body awareness and decision-making skills, and strengthen relationships and peer support networks.



PROGRAMME GOALS

- Total groups formed: 3 (one in each camp, KTP RC, NYP RC, Camp-1W)
- Total adolescents reached across all 16 sessions: 480 (10 participants per camp)
- Total sessions conducted: 48 (16 per camp)
- Total additional participants (e.g., caseworkers, doctors, lawyers, etc.): 15
- Number of encouragement certificates distributed: 30
- Total influential family members (mothers/caregivers) who attended sessions: 24
- Total adolescent girls (14-17) under follow-up: 30
- Total mothers who attended the sessions: 13
- Percentage of adolescent girls who completed all 16 sessions: 100%
- Percentage of adolescent girls who conducted peer sessions in the 16th session with accurate information: 73.33%
- Percentage increase in knowledge through these sessions: 70%

KEY TOPICS COVERED

- What Is Power?
- Women and Girls Are Stronger Together
- What Is Gender?
- Our Relationships
- Decision Making and Decision Makers
- Marriage and Unions for Unmarried Girls
- Our Rights!
- Our Health!
- Violence Against Women and Girls!
- Sexual Decision Making for Unmarried Girls
- Mapping Our Community
- Our Community Support and finally,
- Time for Action!

ACHIEVEMENT OF ONGOING PROGRAMME

On August 6, 2025, RTM International completed the final session of the Awareness on Child Marriage Program for the first batch of participants from Kutupalong RC and Camp 1W. A post-test assessed the adolescent girls' knowledge gained, and certificates were awarded for their participation and commitment. The closing ceremony was attended by representatives from UNFPA, including Dr. Tasnuba Nourin and Dr. Shafaatullah, as well as senior RTMI staff. The event marked a successful milestone, with plans to continue the program for upcoming batches.



"TOGETHER, WE CAN DELAY MARRIAGE AND EMPOWER GIRLS TO CLAIM THEIR FUTURES."