



# THE OUTCOME WE WANT FROM CSW 63



## GUARANTEE INCLUSIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION TO ALL GIRLS

Around the world, women and girls do not enjoy equal access to social protection and public services. Girls and women perform a disproportionately large share of unpaid care within the home and are more likely to work in low-skilled, low-paid jobs leaving them less able to access social protection and public services. Social protection policies often apply one-size-fits-all model that does not integrate gender and age dimension into the design and implementation. As a result, these programmes do not always reach adolescent girls and young women, robbing them of a chance for a better future.



- ▶ Ensure that social protection schemes are linked with other community interventions, social services and gender equality strategies. Social protection programmes cannot achieve girls' empowerment in isolation.
- ▶ Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through provision of access to public services and social protection schemes, including pension provision.
- ▶ Guarantee paid maternity leave and invest in free or subsidized childcare, in particular with a comprehensive array of support services offered to teenage mothers.
- ▶ Mainstream gendered analysis into the design, implementation and evaluation of all policies and programmes.
- ▶ Invest into gender impact evaluation to track the long-term impact of social protection programmes on women across life cycle.
- ▶ Design and deliver social protection, public services and infrastructure initiatives in ways that meet women's and girls' needs and priorities.

## TACKLE HARMFUL STEREOTYPES, PATRIARCHY AND DISCRIMINATORY SOCIAL NORMS

Patriarchy is at the root of gender inequality. The underlying ideologies of male superiority and discriminatory social norms legitimise discrimination against girls both in the private and public domain. They also shape how girls and women access social protection systems and public services. Girls' aspirations and well-being need to be unconstrained by stereotypes, harmful social norms and practices. **Gender equality starts with valuing girls and upholding their basic human rights.**



- ▶ Ensure social protection systems are not based on patriarchal models of division of labour within the home, neither on cultural expectations.
- ▶ Run education and public awareness raising campaigns that tackle harmful norms and stereotypes that condone discrimination. These should be linked with social protection schemes targeting women and girls.
- ▶ Ensure stricter regulation of media and advertising that feature stereotypical gender roles, as well as sexist advertising.

## RECOGNISE AND INVEST IN GIRLS' AGENCY AND VOICE

Girls and women are experts on their own lives and must be included in the design of any policy, strategy, and decision, especially pertaining to social protection, public services and infrastructure. Even when women's and girls' resources are increased through social protection programmes, lack of empowerment can exclude them from management of these resources.

- ▶ Recognise girls' and young women's agency and include them in consultations on design of social protection schemes and public services and infrastructure.
- ▶ Provide age-appropriate services and improve dissemination of youth-friendly information about available public services.
- ▶ Support local organisations with funding to create and maintain safe spaces for girls to develop leadership skills, increase self-confidence, and establish peer networks.



GIRLS' AGENCY  
AND VOICE

## END ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST GIRLS AND WOMEN

Women and girls who find themselves in situations of violence, are more vulnerable to social and economic risks. Violence or fear of violence often prevents girls from accessing public spaces and public services. Girls and young women everywhere are experiencing street harassment on a daily basis and it has become "normalized" as part of growing up. Out of 7,000 female respondents of the WAGGGS survey, 52 percent said fear of harassment makes them avoid public transports or public places.



- ▶ Guarantee robust support mechanisms for GBV survivors, as well as improved access to justice. In case of girl survivors, services and responses must take into account the best interests of the child.
- ▶ Invest in public awareness campaigns and prevention education that address unequal power relations between boys and girls, men and women, and which condone discrimination and violence.
- ▶ Criminalize street harassment and adopt on-the-spot fines.
- ▶ Provide training to law enforcement officers on effective police response to violence and harassment against girls and women.
- ▶ Invest in data collection to understand the nature and scale of violence against women and girls to inform the design of social protection programmes.



INVEST  
IN GIRLS'  
EDUCATION

## EMPOWER GIRLS THROUGH EDUCATION

Women's empowerment begins with girls' access to quality formal and **non-formal education**.

- ▶ Ensure equal access for all girls and women to complete 12 years of free, safe and quality education.
- ▶ Introduce education on human rights, gender equality and healthy relationships into school curricula to tackle the ideologies of male superiority, as well as increase girls' awareness and understanding of their rights. This should include adaptation of school programmes, textbooks and teaching methods.
- ▶ Recognise and invest in non-formal education as a critical and sustainable empowerment tool for all girls, which is complementary to formal education.
- ▶ Invest in education on body confidence recognizing that pressure to adhere to society's beauty norms has a lasting impact on girls' ability to fulfil their potential.
- ▶ Invest in school infrastructure in remote communities including the provision of regular, reliable public transport to allow girls to access education.