

MORE THAN BRIDES ALLIANCE

This is the 3rd News Flash from the More Than Brides Alliance in 2020. In this edition, you will find updates about our **Are You Listening?** campaign, our High-Level Political Forum side-event on the unintended consequences of enforcing child marriage laws, an update about our **Spark Fund**, and information about recently released and upcoming studies and reports. Click the buttons below to stay tuned for more updates from the More Than Brides Alliance.

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ARE YOU LISTENING?!

Are You Listening? is an online and advocacy campaign that highlights the impact of COVID-19 on adolescent girls at risk of child marriage. **Adolescent girls are being disproportionately affected by the pandemic** through increased levels of gender-based violence as well as decreased access to education and their sexual and reproductive health and rights. **Are You Listening?** urges policymakers to put **girls at the center** of COVID-19 responses.

Read the Call to Action in both [English](#) and [French](#).

Join 28 other organizations from around the world and sign your organization's name to our **Call to Action** by clicking [here](#).



UNITED NATIONS 2020
HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM

The **More Than Brides Alliance** in collaboration with Girls Not Brides, Her Choice Alliance, and Partners for Law in Development hosted a virtual side-event during the 2020 **High-Level Political Forum** on the unintended consequences of enforcing child marriage laws.

Missed the event? Click [here](#) to read a summary or watch a video recording of it. The summary is also available in [French](#).

LEARNING SPARK FUND

The **Learning Spark Fund** is a participatory grant mechanism designed to stimulate learning on the theme of girl adolescent sexuality and Child Marriage. The first phase of the fund, **Community Skyrocket**, has just closed and will grant up to 6,000 EUR to one initiative in 9 countries: Mali, Niger, Malawi, Uganda, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Ethiopia, and Nepal. Networking and proposal development for the Community Skyrocket took place in our virtual open space on Slack, where over 280 people from around the world participated.



Two more grant windows will soon open for applications: **Spark** and **Fireworks**. The Spark window will offer a grant up to 3,000 EUR for a national level or online exchange, and the Fireworks Window will grant up to 10,000 EUR for learning exchanges connecting a few Sparks and bringing learnings from them together.

Stay tuned to the **Learning Spark Fund** page on our website by clicking [here](#).

LEARNING PRODUCTS

As part of the More Than Brides Alliance, Oxfam and its partners Bedari and Baahn Belli in Pakistan conducted a **qualitative study exploring positive deviance cases in child marriage**, meaning, families that deviate positively from social norms by delaying the marriage of their daughters. We conducted interviews with 48 individuals in Punjab and Sindh, half of whom were from families that decided against child marriage and the other half were individuals identified by families as having played an instrumental role in their decision. Results were discussed with partners in reflection workshops to identify important learnings and construct programmatic responses.

You can read the report [here](#).

MTBA in Pakistan implemented four quantitative and qualitative studies. Triangulating evidence from these studies has resulted in a series of **comparative learning products**, each focusing in-depth on a specific topic.

Stay tuned to our website and social media for upcoming reports as part of this series!



The **More Than Brides Alliance** thanks you for your continued support. We hope you stay safe and healthy.

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