

CHALLENGES



Gaps in evidence and in systematic data collection across several areas including practices to adolescent health, sex and age disaggregated data on hunger and food insecurity, and on MHH and VAWG due to stigma and fear of retaliation.



Gaps in policies remains including on mental health, food security, girls and women living with disabilities, inclusion of TVET, work policies, minimum age of marriage, corporal punishment, restrictions in public participation and reservations to CEDAW.



The **gaps at system** level are cross-cutting and intersectional and highlights limits in coordination mechanisms, quality of services, mental health services, poor quality of education, limited connectivity, weak private sector and barriers to accessing justice in both formal and informal institutions.



Sociocultural **gender norms and expectations** are constituting barriers and constrains for women and girls across the life cycle which includes limited levels of autonomy in decisions making, unpaid domestic labour, exposure to VAWG, effect on nutritional status and food security and school attendance due to limited WASH and restricted mobility.



Regional **gaps in preparedness** which includes preparedness planning towards climate change, water scarcity, food insecurity, the digital divide and the relationship between public and private sector in terms of these demands.



Girls, adolescents and women **experience limited participation** in both public and private sphere. Civic engagement among youth is the lowest in the world and adolescents' women are experiencing the highest levels of unemployment.



Equitable and safe access to services is a major concern, especially for women and girls in rural areas, young women, women and girls living with disabilities, refugees and IDP's. Women and girls continue to face very challenging barriers towards equitable and safe access to health, mental health, SRHR, multi-sectoral care for survivors of VAWG and WASH services.



Emergencies have a gendered impact on women and girls which threatens to undermine decades-long investments and further exacerbate gender inequality by reinforcing already-existing inequalities within the education system, disproportionately disadvantaged marginalized groups, amplify domestic work burden and lead women and girls to assert negative coping mechanisms.



Throughout the life course, women and girls experience **barriers to human capital** which includes limited opportunities to attain skills-based education, access to resources, economic empowerment and high levels of unpaid labour.



Youth are at risk of not receiving an education aligned with current labour market requirements due to limitations in national education system and curriculum, limited integration of LSCE, constrained attitudes towards TVET and vocational training programmes which reinforce gender-based discrimination.