



SCHOOL

EMPLOYMENT

ADULT MARRIAGE/
HEALTHY CHILDREN

SECURITY
OF PLACE

WORK-LIFE
BALANCE

LIFELONG
LEARNING

WEALTH/CHILD
INVESTMENT

SECURE
OLD-AGE

DEMOGRAPHIC
DIVIDEND



Photo: UNFPA/Besfort Kryeziu

“I don’t have the conditions to go to school”

Wealth/child investment

Kejsi, 10, lives in a village in southern Albania. Kejsi used to live in barracks under a bridge with her mother, who collects cans to earn a living. She now lives with her grandmother, but the family still does not have enough money to send her to school. Kejsi wishes her 15-year-old sister, who is married abroad, could come back and live with her. She wants to become a hairdresser when she is older.

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QR CODE

CHILD
MARRIAGE

TEENAGE
PREGNANCY

REPEAT
PREGNANCIES

CHILD ILLNESS
& DEATH

MATERNAL
MORBIDITY

INFORMAL
WORK

INSECURITY
& DISPLACEMENT

INSECURE
OLD-AGE

MISSED
DEMOGRAPHIC
DIVIDEND



Investing in the health and education of girls and young women is key for breaking the cycle of poverty and exclusion.

IN PARTS OF THE REGION MANY PEOPLE LIVE WITH LESS THAN

USD 3.10 PER DAY



→ The situation

Although Kejsi's situation is not typical for the region, poverty and social exclusion is a reality for many people, in particular in parts of Central Asia and the South Caucasus where significant segments of the population live on less than USD 3.10 per day.¹ There are also pockets of poverty in other parts of the region, including among some minority groups.

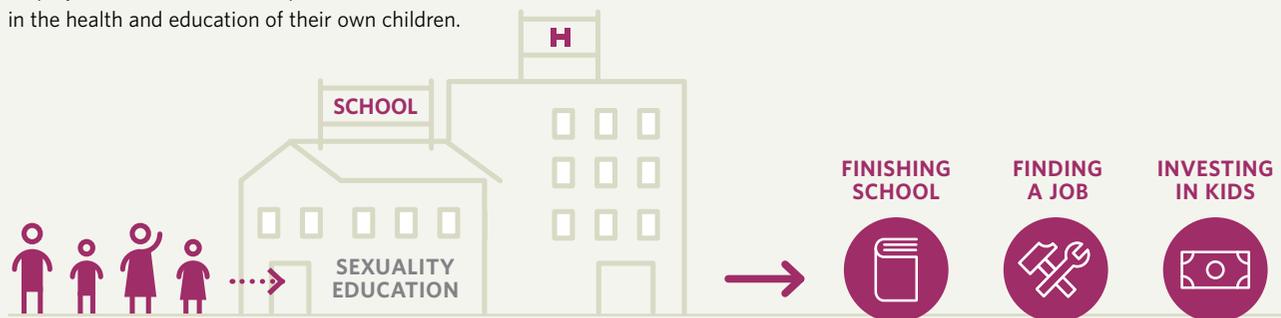


→ Why is it important?

Poverty and social exclusion limit the opportunities of young people, especially girls and young women, to fulfil their potential. They often get caught in a vicious cycle involving early marriage and pregnancy, early school drop-out and lack of job opportunities, which in turn further contribute to poverty and exclusion, passed on from generation to generation.

→ Leaving no-one behind

Making sure all girls and young women, including the most vulnerable, have the knowledge and means to protect themselves from unintended pregnancy is one of the key factors for breaking this cycle. It empowers them to decide when to have children, and how many. This increases their chances of getting a good education and finding employment, which in turn helps them invest in the health and education of their own children.



→ What needs to be done?

Investing in the health and education, including sexuality education, of girls and young women is key for breaking the cycle of poverty and exclusion, and for empowering the current generation of young people to invest in their own children.

¹ The World Bank, Poverty and Equity Database.