



10 REASONS TO INVEST IN GIRLS

Investing in Girls Through the Girls Project

The Girls Project, a partnership between the government of West Bengal and Landesa, aims to keep girls in school and reduce their vulnerability to child marriage.

More than 40,000 girls are currently participating in the project, learning about their rights to own and inherit land, and receiving training in intensive gardening skills during regular meetings led by the girls themselves with support from government rural health workers.

Girls who participate in the program are more likely to stay in school, marry later, and have an asset in their name.

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1. Educated girls are more than twice as likely to educate their own children. (UNICEF)
2. Educated girls are 50% more likely to immunize their own children. (Johns Hopkins)
3. A child born to a literate mother is 50% more likely to survive past the age of five. (Johns Hopkins)
4. The #1 cause of death for girls ages 15-19 is childbirth. (World Health Organization)
5. An extra year of primary school boosts girls' eventual wages by 10% to 20%. (World Bank)
6. An extra year of secondary school boosts a girls' eventual wages by 15% to 25% (World Bank)
7. If India enrolled 1% more girls in secondary school, its GDP would rise by \$5.5 billion. (Global Campaign for Education and RESULTS Education Fund)
8. When a girl in the developing world receives seven or more years of education, she marries four years later and has two fewer children. (Clinton Global Initiative)
9. In India, adolescent pregnancy results in nearly \$10 billion in lost potential income. (The Center for Global Development)
10. Educated girls are less likely to contract HIV and AIDS and pass it on to their children. (UNICEF)

[Read](#) more information about the project.

[Watch](#) Academy Award winner Megan Mylan's short documentary about the project.

[Learn](#) about how secure land rights can help women take better care of their families.