



**W O M E N ' S  
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**Research. Rethink. Resolve.**

Youth bulges, low educational attainment, and high un/under employment affect post-conflict recovery and stability.

Half of the world's 39 million children who are out-of-school live in conflict-affected fragile states. The majority of these out-of-school youth are girls.

A country emerging from civil war faces a 44% chance of returning to conflict within five years if economic growth does not take off.



Large numbers of unemployed youth drive conflict and displacement

Displaced youth return home unable to contribute to the re-building of their lives and communities

Displaced youth miss out on years of school

Years spent displaced represent wasted opportunities

Skills training programs that exist are not market driven

Livelihoods Assets	Conflict shocks	Effects on girls
Human	Death, disability, loss of productivity, school and workplace closures	Girls may become household heads and may lose access to vital health care and education. Girls care and chore burdens increase in conflict and displacement.
Financial	Displacement causing unemployment, collapse of financial systems	Girls and young women may not have many financial assets of their own and are therefore highly dependent on others, while they also must provide for others.
Social	Displacement, fighting between groups, loss of family and peers	Social structures can support girls, but also work against them, restrict their freedom. Loss of social systems may create space for greater choice in girls' lives.
Physical	Displacement, loss of secure dwelling, schools, workplaces, access to infrastructure, safe energy sources, land	Girls are more vulnerable to sexual and physical violence.
Natural	Looting, destruction	Girls affected same as others in household, but more vulnerable to rape and sexual violence. Access to water and safer energy sources critical for girls' protection.
Political	Deterioration of state and legal system	May already have discriminated against girls. Girls may not be able to participate in formal economy. Lack of land and inheritance rights.

# Displaced Girls

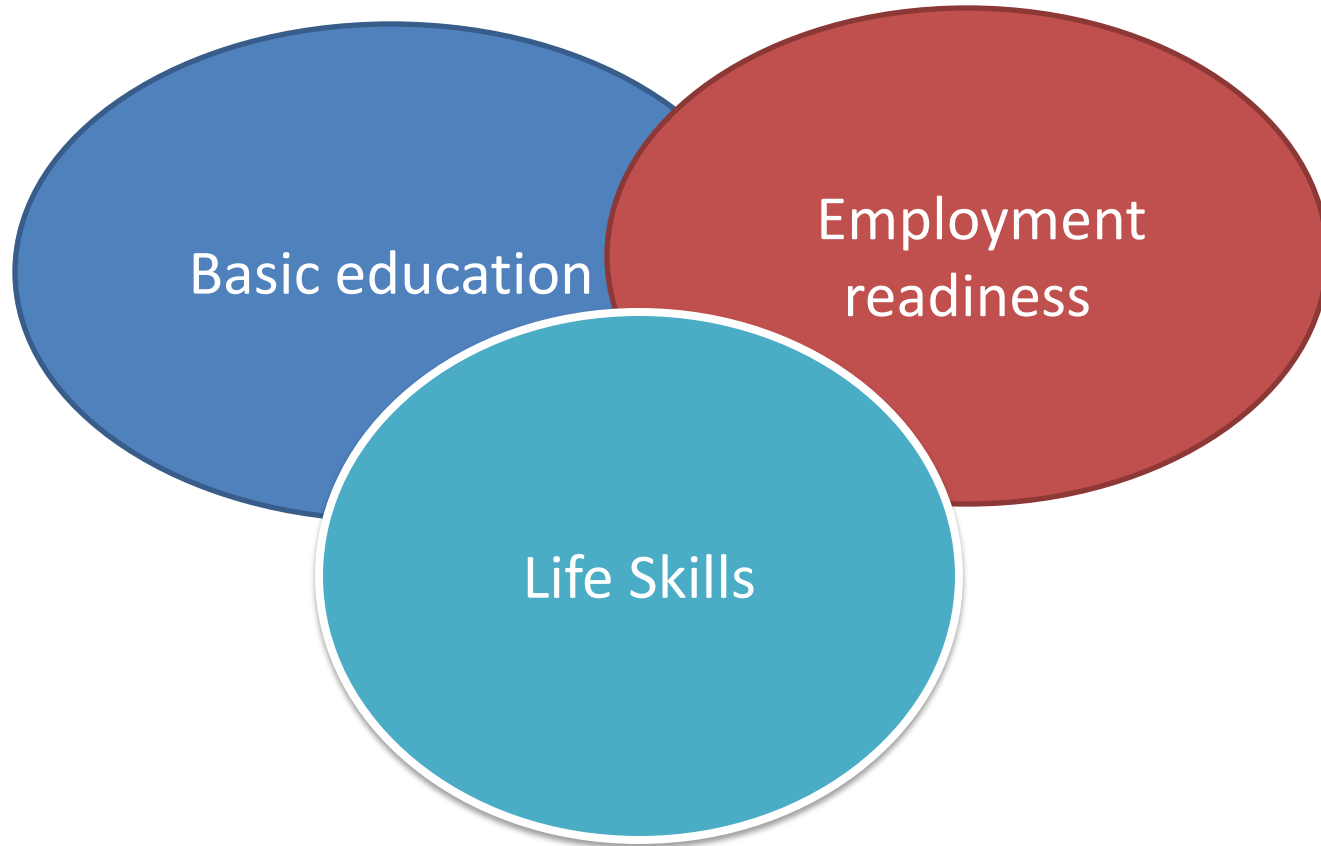
- More protracted the displacement=fewer resources
- Early and forced marriage, early pregnancy
- Education interrupted
- Chore and care burdens increase
- Lack of access to livelihoods increases risks of exploitation and GBV
- New risks, yet also new opportunities
- Changes in gender roles



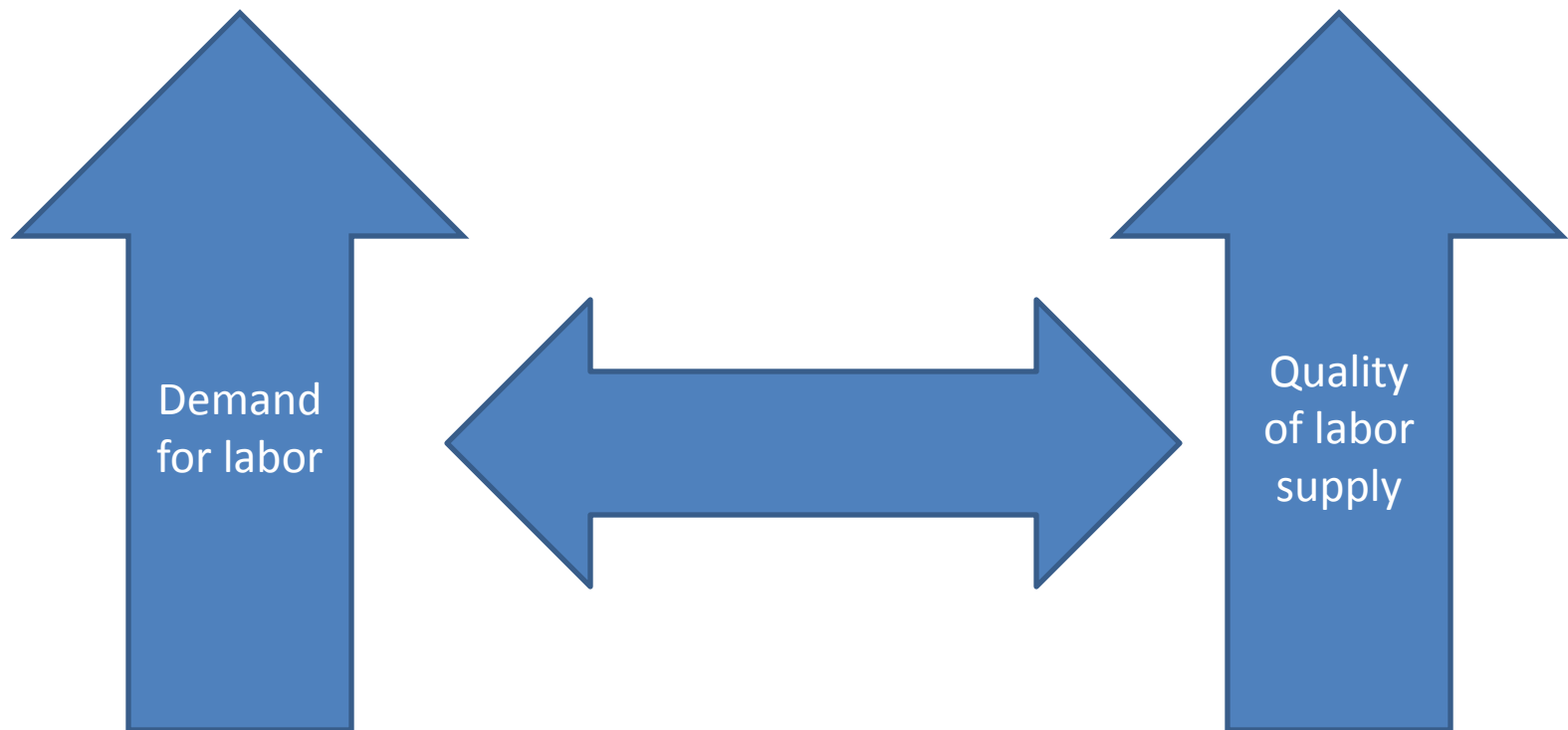
- Displaced girls and young women have heightened needs for protection and for income
- Already contribute paid and unpaid work to households



# What is needed???



- Preparing girls and boys for dignified livelihoods entails improving their employment readiness and linking them with employment opportunities
- Need to address both the demand side and the supply side of labor markets



# Challenges with Current Approaches

- Market-oriented humanitarian livelihoods programs are few and target adults
- “Youth” programs do not actively engage girls
- Few bridging and accelerated learning programs for educational catch-up
- Vocational training programs are not based on market opportunities
- Training programs don't include pre-training counseling nor post-training apprenticeships & job placement
- Microfinance programs seldom serve youth or girls in particular
- M&E captures outcomes, not impacts on well-being and livelihoods development

# LESSONS LEARNED

- Need to identify differences in economic coping strategies of girls and boys - including migration and role of humanitarian assistance
- Need to understand changing gender roles in the context of displacement and the opportunities and challenges such presents to girls
- Need to assist girls and young women to diversify their livelihood activities and mitigate risks
- Need to prepare girls and young women for “success”

# Next steps

- Learn what works for **different profiles of girls**
- Identify and program to skill sets required
- Build girls' and young women's assets and future scenario planning capacities
- Help girls help themselves stay safer while building economic resilience





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