



UNFPA-UNICEF

Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: Accelerating Change

ANNUAL REPORT 2012

SCALING UP A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO ABANDONMENT IN 15 AFRICAN COUNTRIES

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Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	v
Figures and Tables.....	vi
Acronyms.....	vii
Executive Summary.....	viii
Introduction.....	1

CHAPTER 1: Global and National Instruments for the Abandonment of FGM/C..... 5

2012 Milestone: The UN General Assembly Resolution Eliminating FGM/C.....	8
National Legislation Banning FGM/C.....	9
National Policies On FGM/C Abandonment: Translating Legislation into Action and Improving Coordination through National Committees.....	11

CHAPTER 2: Changing Social Norms at the Community, National, Regional and Global Levels17

Creating a Ripple Effect: The Role of Media at the National Level.....	24
Working in Partnership with Religious and Traditional Leaders.....	28
Promoting the Social Norm Perspective at the Regional and Global Levels.....	30

CHAPTER 3: Linkages to Public Systems and Cross-Sectoral Collaboration..... 33

Integrating FGM/C Prevention and Care into Health Policy Documents and Coordinated Action Plans.....	34
Linkages with the Other Systems.....	39

CHAPTER 4: Monitoring & Evaluation and Research 41

Evidence-based Programming.....	43
Research.....	44

CHAPTER 5: Challenges, Lessons Learned and the Way Forward 47

Challenges and Lessons Learned.....	48
The Way Forward.....	49
Bibliography.....	51

Figures and Tables

Figure 1: National FGM/C prevalence across the region	1
Figure 2: Number of people declaring the abandonment of FGM/C in Kenya.....	21
Figure 3: Number of communities declaring the abandonment of FGM/C in 2010-2011-2012	21
Figure 4: Number of press releases and tv or radio programmes on FGM/C	25
Figure 5: Media coverage on FGM/C in the 15 countries	25
Figure 6: Number of media personnel trained.....	26
Table 1: Ratification of international instruments relevant to FGM/C	7
Table 2: The enactment, enforcement and use of legislation and national policies to promote FGM/C abandonment.....	12
Table 3: Community-based interventions to build consensus to abandon FGM/C.....	20
Table 4: Number of community declarations and number of people involved.....	21
Table 5: Number of supportive religious or traditional leaders and edicts issued	29
Table 6: Existence of adequate health policies and laws that address FGM/C	35
Table 7: Donor contributions	52
Table 8: Financial report	52

Acronyms

ACAD	Childhood Development Association (Egypt)
AIDOS	Italian Association for Women in Development
ARP	Alternative Rites of Passage
AU	African Union
BEmOC	Basic Emergency Obstetric Care
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEP	Community Empowerment Programmes
CHW	Community Health Worker
CNAPN	National Committee to Fight Harmful Practices
CPA	Child Protection Advocate
CPC	Child Protection Committees
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
DFID	UK Department for International Development
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
EPHS	Eritrea Population and Health Survey
FGM/C	Female Genital Mutilation and Cutting
FIGO	International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics
HQ	Headquarters
ICN	International Council of Nurses
ICRH	International Centre for Reproductive Health
JP	Joint Programme
KEMEP	Kenya Media Network on Population and Development
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MoH	Ministry of Health
MOWDAFA	Ministry of Women Development and Family Affairs (Somalia)
MWIA	Medical Women's International Association
NACAF	National Committee on Abandonment of FGM/C (Kenya)
NCP	National Congress Party
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PSA	Public Service Announcement
TBA	Traditional Birth Attendant
UN	United Nations
UNFPA	United Nations Populations Fund
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNWomen	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
WGK	Wassu Gambia Kafo
WHO	World Health Organization
WMA	World Medical Association
WUN	World-wide Universities Network

Executive Summary

In 2012, the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM/C: Accelerating Change continued to strengthen the momentum toward ending FGM/C in one generation. Since 2008, UNFPA and UNICEF have worked together as one to achieve this goal, in partnership with other UN Agencies, cooperation/development partners and leading NGOs. In 2012, the Joint Programme's fifth year of implementation, its novel, culturally sensitive human rights-based approach, strategically leveraging social dynamics in favour of abandonment, was implemented in 15 African countries: **Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan** and **Uganda**.

Building on evidence-based strategies identified by the 2008 Inter-Agency Statement on the elimination of FGM/C, the Joint Programme supported 10 complementary outputs in 2012:

1. Effective enactment, enforcement and use of national policy and legal instruments to promote the abandonment of FGM/C
2. Local-level commitment to FGM/C abandonment
3. Media campaigns and other forms of communication dissemination organized and implemented to support and publicize FGM/C abandonment
4. Partnerships with religious groups and other organizations and institutions consolidated and new

7. Tracking of programme benchmarks and achievements to maximize accountability of programme partners
8. Strengthened regional dynamics for the abandonment of FGM/C
9. Strengthened collaboration with key development partners on the abandonment of FGM/C
10. Existing theories on the functioning of harmful social norms further developed and refined with a view to making them applicable to the specific realities of FGM/C.

During 2012, the Joint Programme's programmatic and strategic contributions gained greater visibility in a number of **global forums**. As the year began, Zero Tolerance Day (February 6th) was celebrated by an event at the US State Department. Then US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton acknowledged the Joint Programme's contributions in the global effort to accelerate social change and pledged US support for a Pan-African Centre of Excellence in Nairobi, Kenya.

In March, the Joint Programme's ongoing work featured prominently once again during a high-level side event on FGM/C organized by the governments of **Italy, Burkina Faso** and **Egypt** at the 56th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women. Furthermore, the Secretary General's Report, "Ending Female Genital Mutilation" (E/CN.6/2012/8), describing global progress made in

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