

UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme to Eliminate FGM

Ending Female Genital Mutilation

An Investment in The Future



Some 68 million girls could be subjected to FGM by 2030.

Just \$1 per girl each year can go a long way toward changing that.

Over 200 million girls and women have been subjected to FGM in 30 countries. Across these 30 countries, the prevalence of FGM has dropped by about one third over the past three decades. Yet, without concerted and accelerated actions, another 68 million girls are likely to be cut by 2030 due to population growth.

Ending FGM is a matter of human rights and gender equality. It impacts health, development and our common future.

The UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme is the world's largest response to eliminate FGM.

FGM can be stopped. The time to act is now.

ELIMINATING FGM IN A GENERATION

Since 2008, UNFPA and UNICEF have led the world's largest programme to eliminate female genital mutilation: Joint Programme to Eliminate FGM: Accelerating Change. Its aim: to end the practice in one generation. Proven results:

- Reduced prevalence of FGM: The practice is declining in most of the Joint Programme countries.
- Strengthened political commitment: 13 countries have legal and policy frameworks banning FGM.
 More than 900 enforcement cases have been reported in the last four years.
- Increased government ownership: 17 countries have a national mechanism to coordinate FGM responses in place; 12 countries established budget lines for related services and programmes.
- Improved access to appropriate and quality services:

 More than 3.2 million girls and women benefited from FGM-related protection and care services.
- Better management systems: Protocols for tracking and sharing data on FGM in real time were established, and government and civil society personnel or staff were trained.
- Accelerated community-led engagement: More than 31.5 million individuals in more than 21,000 communities in 15 countries made public declarations of abandonment of FGM, increasing the chance that these girls will be free from FGM.
- Advanced knowledge on social norms, which is crucial for addressing the drivers of FGM.

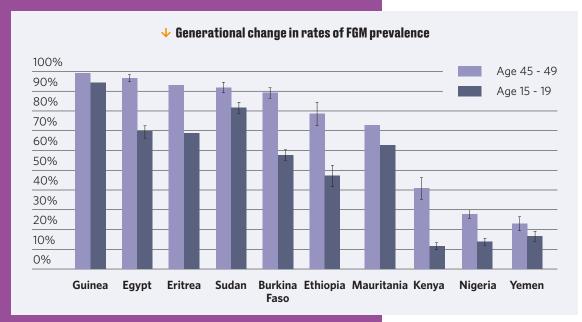


SHIFTING SOCIAL NORMS

The Joint Programme has refined a methodology to shift deeply entrenched social norms through collective action and community declarations of FGM abandonment.

New attitudes and voices — of girls and women, leaders young and old, health providers and officials — are amplified and scaled up across multi-media channels. They are sustained through post-public declaration initiatives and followup.

The UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme to Eliminate FGM calls for \$77 million to support governments and civil society efforts in 16 countries.



Invest in healthy girls and women, healthy communities and healthy countries.

Source: DHS and MICS data analysis, UNICFF 2018



The approach is evidence-driven and validated by external evaluations. It calls for commitments to eliminate FGM across three domains that resonate synergistically: an enabling policy and legal environment; improved access to quality services for FGM prevention, protection and care; and the transformation of social and gender norms.

Stopping health professionals from performing FGM, also called the medicalization of FGM, is another crucial area for advocacy and legal action.

ACCELERATED PROGRESS NEEDED

The practice of FGM on girls aged 15 to 19 has declined in 10 of the 17 countries covered by the Joint Programme's Phase II, particularly in the last 10 years.

However, current rates of change and levels of investment are insufficient. An acceleration ranging anywhere from four times in Kenya to nearly 1,000 times in Mali is needed to meet the Sustainable Development Goal to eliminate FGM by 2030. Unless we accelerate progress, population growth will outpace the rate of reduction.

By 2030, nearly one in three girls worldwide will be born in the 30 countries where FGM is prevalent, with projections that as many as 68 million girls aged 0 to 14 will be at risk of FGM.

MEETING GLOBAL GOALS



Member States all around the world agreed to intensify efforts to eliminate FGM. Target 5.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals calls for accelerated progress in ending FGM, as well as other harmful practices such as child marriage.

The next four years are a critical time for donors, Member States and the international community to consolidate the considerable gains made by the Joint Programme and to assist the growing number of girls and women affected by and at risk of FGM.

WORKING WHERE NEEDS ARE GREATEST

The Joint Programme will focus its interventions in 16 countries, balancing need (high prevalence rates and demographic growth) with progress made in ending FGM. It will strategically use resources in a tiered approach to maximize impact. Other countries contributing to the global burden will be supported through strategic mechanisms.

FGM inflicts long-lasting harm that goes beyond the individual survivors to affect families, communities and countries.



WORKING AS ONE

Among initiatives to end FGM, the Joint Programme is unique in its ability to affect change at global, regional, sub-regional, national and community levels. UNFPA and UNICEF build on the comparative advantages of many partners while orchestrating their efforts through a rigorous results framework. Added value:

- Complementary and multisectoral strengths of UNFPA and UNICEF.
- Close relationships with WHO and UN Women for technical support and knowledge sharing in key areas.
- National and community ownership of programming.
- Innovative social norms framework to measure progress in FGM elimination and gender dynamics.
- Shared best practices and other lessons learned through an online platform, conferences, training manuals and publications.
- Cooperation among stakeholders.

TARGETS 2017-2021

- 8 million girls and women will receive appropriate FGM-related services.
- 19 million people in over 10,000 communities will publicly declare abandonment of FGM.
- 16 countries will have a national budget line and monitoring mechanism.
- Regional and sub-regional political organizations will be mobilized to enhance national efforts.
- Global online knowledge hub will be created.

GROWING SUPPORT AND OWNERSHIP

The success of the Joint Programme is reflected in and sustained by its broadening base of support. Launched in 2008 with the contributions of two major donors – Norway and Italy – the Joint Programme in 2017 garnered the support of 10 major donors: Finland, European Union, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

The steering committee, representing all major donors, provides an important sounding board and mechanism of accountability. It continues to insist on increasing rigor in programming, monitoring, evaluation and results.

The Joint Programme also acknowledges the momentum generated by accelerating support for and ownership by programme countries themselves.

We are calling on other donors to join us with multi-year commitments to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Joint Programme and the well-being of girls and women everywhere.



Invest in the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint

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