

# Uganda

## COUNTRY SNAPSHOT

### FGM prevalence among girls and women aged 15 to 49 by year



### FGM: Drivers, Prevalence, Attitudes and Progress Towards Elimination



#### FGM Drivers and Practitioners

- Norms that exclude women who have not undergone FGM from participating in circumcision ceremonies and other key social events in the community remain drivers of FGM, especially among older married women.
- Both educational attainment and access to information (frequent use of media channels such as TV and radio) appear to be protective factors against FGM.<sup>1</sup>



#### FGM Prevalence and Attitudes

- Prevalence is 0.3% among women aged 15 to 49, although district-level rates range from 13% in Kapchorwa District to 52% in Moroto District.<sup>2</sup>
- 83% of girls and women aged 15 to 49 think that FGM should stop.<sup>2</sup>



#### Progress Towards the Elimination of FGM

- FGM prevalence has significantly declined, from 1.4% in 2011 to 0.3% in 2016.<sup>2</sup>
- The reduction of FGM is attributed to multisectoral approaches; strong partnerships; collaboration with CSOs as society organizations as well as religious, cultural and religious leaders under the leadership of local governments; and a conducive political and policy framework.
- On track to eliminate FGM by 2030.



### Key Partners

**Government:** Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development, Ministry of Education and Sports, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Uganda Human Rights Commission (government agency), The six district government authorities.

**Non-Governmental Organizations:** ActionAid International Uganda, International Rescue Committee, Bangladesh Rehabilitation Assistance Committee-Uganda, National Association of Women's Organizations in Uganda, Karamoja Women-Led Network, Naguru Teenage Information and Health Centre.



### Key Programme Results in 2023



Number of girls aged 0 to 14 years saved from FGM through the community-level surveillance system to monitor compliance supported by the Joint Programme:

Target: 20 → Achievement: 51



Number of government personnel from different sectors, CSOs and grass-roots organizations with enhanced capacities for data collection, analysis, research and dissemination, including qualitative data on FGM:

Target: 50 → Achievement: 55



Number of women and girls who have initiated conversations on FGM elimination and/or advocated for abandonment of the practice:

Target: 170 → Achievement: 493



Number of health service delivery points in Joint Programme intervention areas where at least one health-care staff member is trained on FGM prevention, protection and care services, and that provide FGM-related services:

Target: 66 → Achievement: 40



Number of people engaged in a public declaration that they will abandon the practice of FGM:

Target: 8,000 → Achievement: 16,586



### Spotlighted Intervention

In partnership with the Naguru Teenage Information and Health Centre and BRAC Uganda, the Joint Programme supported feminist action research that used cameras to document individual, personal stories about FGM and other harmful practices. Photo stories were disseminated through social media to raise awareness of the benefits of gender equality and the importance of shifting inequitable gender and social norms.

<sup>1</sup> UNICEF, 2020. "FGM in Uganda."

<sup>2</sup> Uganda Demographic and Health Survey 2016.