

Key Results and Highlights

2011



IL Chamus Community Public Declaration in Kenya (2011)



Selected indicators

Indicators	Numbers
Number of legal actions against offenders in 2011	123
Number of community education sessions in 2011	18498
Number of communities that made a public declaration in 2011	1964
Number of families abandoning FGM/C (Egypt) in 2011	3602
Number of media events on FGM/C (TV spots, radio programmes, soap opera, press articles...) in 2011	3153
Number of health facility integrating the management of complications of FGM/C in 2011	2931
Number of religious leaders declaring publicly that FGM/C should be abandoned	2903
Number of global advocacy events on FGM/C	9

An increase of 30% of communities that declared the abandonment of FGM/C was observed in 2011 bringing the number of communities to eight thousands (8000).

Global Highlights

Policy Advocacy

- Secretary-General's Report on "Ending Female Genital Mutilation" (2012) prepared for the 56th session of the Commission on the Status of Women:
http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E%2FCN.6%2F2012%2F8 (17 pages)
provides information on measures taken by UN Member States and activities carried out within the United Nations system to address female genital mutilation, pursuant to resolution 54/7 of the Commission on the Status of Women. It highlights the multitude of contributions of the Joint Programme in the areas of legislation and policy development on ending FGM/C, support to community-based efforts to abandon the practice, as well as development of the evidence-base on what works in FGM/C abandonment programming. In the conclusions it points to promising human rights-based prevention initiatives that reach out to entire communities, build partnership and involve multiple stakeholders at different phases of the programme, and endorses this approach



UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme for the Acceleration of the Abandonment of FGM/C



that has been promoted by the Joint Programme while also raising the continuing challenge of limited resources.

- On International Zero Tolerance Day to FGM/C – February 6, 2011 UNFPA Executive Director Babatunde Osotimehin and UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake issued a joint statement to renew their commitment to put an end to the harmful practice. “We call on the global community to join us in this critical effort. Together, we can abolish FGM/C in one generation and help millions of girls and women to live healthier, fuller lives,” they stated. Articles featuring the statement were disseminated widely through press releases and social media.
- High-level side-event meeting on FGM/C organised during the 55th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (Feb. 2011)
- Provided continued technical support to the CEDAW and CRC Committees for the development of the Joint/General Statement/Recommendation on Harmful Practices
- High-level advocacy including continuing advocacy and high level discussions resulted in the UK parliament debating FGM/C in the House of Commons
- Provided technical inputs to draft UNGA resolution on FGM/C
- 2010 Annual Report published: Nurturing Change from Within
http://www.unfpa.org/gender/docs/2010_Annual_Report_2.pdf

Capacity-building

- Began development of an FGM/C abandonment training toolkit for NGOs and government counterparts, including elements of successful programming on abandonment. Will be tested and rolled out in 2012
- Annual meetings of the Joint Programme held in Nairobi, Kenya (East and North African Countries) and Dakar, Senegal (West Africa) in March 2011

Partnerships

- Partnership established with the Association of European Parliamentarians with Africa to advocate African parliaments to accelerate legal and policy work on FGM/C abandonment.
- Continued partnerships with Inter-African Committee and AIDOS
- INTACT expanded its web presence: Expanded Facebook user base (<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/234626136594951/>), French Interface of INTACT website (www.intact-network.net/intactfr/) launched including reports, journal articles, videos, books, IEC materials, factsheets). INTACT is now officially tweeting at <http://twitter.com/INTACTnetwork>. It also organized three online forums: “Media in the Abandonment of FGM/C” in December 2011, “Medicalisation: A Blessing or a Curse” in August 2011 and “The Effectiveness of Public Declarations” in February 2011.



- Provided technical inputs to the World Health Assembly resolution on female genital mutilation WHA61.16, <http://www.ghwatch.org/node/243>
- Participation in efforts towards the establishment of a research institute on FGM/C in Nairobi, Kenya (October 2011)
- Participation at African Union meeting on harmful traditional practices in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (October 2011)

Highlights from the Countries

Sub-regional

Sub-Regional Fatwa on FGM/C Declared

Oulemas from Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, The Gambia and Egypt participated in a sub-regional workshop organized by Mauritania to establish a West Africa fatwa against FGM/C. Eminent African religious leaders attending the meeting on “Islam and Female Genital Mutilation and Cutting” (12-14 September) in Nouakchott called for a definitive abandonment of FGMC in Africa. This ever strongest call to get rid of this pernicious child rights violation came in the wake of an important gathering organized by the Islamic Knowledge and Culture Dialogue Forum in partnership with the Mauritanian Government, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN WOMEN, WHO and the German Development Cooperation. The *Fatwa* adopted unanimously marks a breakthrough in combating a widespread and harmful practice affecting girls across Africa

Burkina Faso

"FGM/C, We abandon you"

Thousands gathered together on Saturday, May 7, 2011 in Boussouma, Burkina Faso to participate in a public declaration of 104 villages to collectively abandon female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C). Community representatives - women's groups, Muslim imams, Catholic and Protestant priests and traditional village leaders - read their declarations in Moore, the most widely spoken national language of Burkina, and heard speeches on FGM/C abandonment from representatives of the diverse authorities. The Minister of Social Action manifested her strong support for the declarations, emphasizing the importance of ending harmful practices that violate human rights, and first of all the importance of community action alongside Burkina's national law to ending FGM/C. The Dima of Boussouma - one of the five main kings of the country's main ethnic group - added the weight of customary authority responsible for ritual and tradition to the celebration. The festivity - broadcast widely on burkinabè media - ended with the communal burial of the tools traditionally used to carry out FGM/C on young girls. The declaration - funded by the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM/C - was the climax of four years of coordinated, community-led efforts to discuss the harmful effects of FGM/C under UNICEF-financed guidance by the burkinabè NGO Mwangaza Action.



Djibouti

First Public Declaration on FGM/C

Sunday, July 3, 2011, more than 600 hundred people, including representatives from 99 Djiboutian villages and neighborhoods, united together in the Main Stadium of Djibouti City to publically and collectively declare their intention to abandon female genital mutilation/cutting. The event was presided by the Ministry of Women's Promotion, UNICEF, UNFPA and the NGO Tostan and joined by a delegation from Putland and Somaliland. Of the 99 communities, only 33 directly benefited from national programme to abandon FGM/C, others were brought into the process of dialogue and discussion through organized diffusion. Participants read the declaration in Afar, Somali, Arab and French, concluding with the statement, "we solemnly declare to abandon definitively the practice of FGC in all its forms, for the well-being of all of our sisters and daughters." Djibouti began its national program in 2007, applying a combination of village-level and national efforts to change social norms and end FGM/C.

Egypt

Progress in the face of Challenges

In Upper Egypt, over 4,136 community mobilisation activities were organised in selected communities of 15 districts of 4 Governorates (El Minya, Assiut, Sohag, Qena) against FGM/C and violence, and child rights which were attended by approximately 118,023 people (female 83%, male 17 %) as compared to 134,300 people in 2010. Furthermore, some 46,100 families were visited by 95 social workers (female 83%, male 17%) who work through 20 Community Development Associations (El Minya 4, Assiut 7, Sohag 4 and Qena 5). The total number of families with girls at risk, declaring to abandon FGM/C in public has reached 17,772 of which 3,602 coming out against the practice in 2011.

Ethiopia

New Declarations in 2011 toward total abandonment

Burimodaytu and Argoba districts which consists of 28 sub-districts (more than 200 communities-villages) with a total population of 53,515 (31,786 in Burimodaytu and 21,729 in Argoba) officially declared to abandon FGM/C on 10 and 12 January, 2012 respectively. The declaration was celebrated in the presence of regional government officials, religious leaders, elders, clan leaders and thousands of people.

Gambia

Two Public Declarations in Upper River Region see 131 communities abandon FGM/C

A total of 131 Fula and Mandinka communities in the Upper River Region (URR) declared they have abandoned FGM/C and early and forced marriage; among other harmful traditional practices. The declaration by these communities came at the end of a three-year community empowerment programme initiated by the NGO Tostan, which has been operating in The Gambia since 2006 and has been receiving support from the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme since 2008. The declarations were



UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme for the Acceleration of the Abandonment of FGM/C



attended by thousands of people among them the governor of URR, Tostan national coordinator, chairman of Basse Area Council, National Assembly member for Jimara District, security chiefs and a cross-section of the community.

Guinea

197 Communities Declare FGC Abandonment in Guinea

On Sunday, June 5, 2011, 197 communities congregated in Bissikrima, Guinea, to declare their abandonment of FGM/C and other traditional practices harmful to the health of women and girls. At the event, the government representative of Debola, Ibrahima Sy Savane, stated: “The abandonment of female genital cutting through the promotion of human rights is an immense contribution towards the realization of the Millennium Development Goals in Guinea.” Mr. Savane attended the declaration in the company of a large delegation from the Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene and the Ministry of Social Affairs for Female Advancement and Childhood and representatives of the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme.

Guinea-Bissau

MPs pass law banning FGM/C

In June 2011, the parliament of Guinea Bissau approved with 64 in favor, 3 abstentions and one against a draft law to prohibit FGM/C in the country. The practice, which affects about half of Bissau-Guinean women, is practiced on girls between 4-8 years in this West African Country. The new law includes sanctions of up to 5 years in prison for performing the practice on girls.

With the new law criminalizing FGM/C, approved by the National Assembly and promulgated by the President on July 5, the Joint Programme has been strengthening its full implementation and dissemination, by reinforcing capacity of stakeholders responsible for its enhancement. So far support was provided to the judiciary police and General Attorney to follow cases of charges against four women who practiced FGM/C in Bissau and in the eastern regions of the country. Particular attention was provided to the Curadoria de Menores and Policia Judiciaria. They were strengthened to better respond to FGM/C cases and also to monitor law enforcement at regional level. Working materials were provided as well as training in human rights issues, including FGM/C. The MINJUS is aware of the need to inform and sensitize populations and stakeholders, mainly the judicial system, on its application and preventive measures.

Kenya

President Signs the Prohibition of FGM Act of 2011

As a result of the policy briefing forums and lobbying activities, parliament passed the bill on September 30, 2011 and was assented by the President into Law on October 6, 2011. The Law is now referred to as the Prohibition of FGM Act 2011 and it prohibits FGM/C, spelling out punitive measures against



**UNFPA-UNICEF Joint
Programme for the Acceleration
of the Abandonment of FGM/C**



perpetrators of genital mutilation and safeguards against violation of a person’s mental or physical integrity.

Il Chamus elders and morans make a public declaration

On 24 June 2011, the Il Chamus elders and morans made a public declaration for abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation/ Cutting (FGMC) in their community. The ceremony was held in Marigat, Baringo. The activity was supported by UNFPA Kenya Country Office and is among several similar ones targeting total abandonment of FGM/C. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3_twfJYePA

The Pokot Declaration of abandonment

The Declaration was undertaken on 15th June 2011 at Makutano in Pokot West District. The event was witnessed by the Permanent Secretary (PS) for the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development, Member of Parliament for Kapenguria Constituency, the UNFPA country representative, the District Commissioner for West Pokot, Regional Commissioner for North Rift, Kuria Elders, Njuri Ncheke elders, senior government officials, members of civil society organizations, schools, and members of the community. The Guest of Honour, was Hon. Manyala Keya, Assistant Minister in the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development, who pointed out that FGM/C is not just a violation of human rights but also a beastly act meted against girls and women. He informed the gathering about the provisions of the Prohibition of the FGM/C Bill that seeks to outlaw FGM/C for all ages. He appealed to the Council of Elders not to stop at the declaration but to make sure the practice is abandoned in the Pokot region.

Senegal

Acceleration of Public Declarations to Abandon FGM/C

Through the support of the Joint Programme, 760 communities in Senegal publicly declared abandonment of FGM/C and child/forced marriage in 2011:

Host Region of Public Declaration	Date	Number of Communities
Latmingué	February 27, 2011	58
Gathiary	March 13, 2011	70
Goudomp	April 24, 2011	269
Mbour	May 8, 2011	20
Niaming/Médina Yoro Foula	May 29, 2011	119
Ranérou	June 5, 2011	41
Pata/Médina Yoro Foula	November 20, 2011	69
Niaguis/Ziguinchor	November 27, 2011	45



Bakel	December 18, 2011	69
Total		760

By the end of 2011, 5,315 communities had declared abandonment of FGM/C in Senegal.

Somalia

Somaliland and Puntland religious leaders and high-level officials join hands to put an end to all forms of FGM/C

Seventy religious leaders and some of Somaliland’s highest officials participated in a public gathering in Hargeisa to declare their support and commitment to the abandonment of all forms of female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) in June 2011. While presiding over the occasion, Somaliland’s First Lady Amina Waris mentioned that men are the key perpetrators of FGM/C while women are the ones who have to suffer the consequences including complications during childbirth.

In addition, in November 2011, His Excellency, The President of Puntland led over 100 religious leaders in declaring public abandonment of all forms of FGM/C. The President congratulated religious leaders for their bold step in taking leadership to publicly abandon all forms of FGM/C in Puntland. The President reaffirmed his support in his speech saying ‘I truly support the religious leaders’ decision to support abandonment of all forms of FGM/C in Puntland. Indeed, we are late to be calling for the abandonment of this practice which has health effects on our children’.

Sudan

The Visible Results of a Coordinated National Strategy

On the policy level, the National Plan of Action on Violence against Women (2010) includes sections to combat FGM /C and will be integrated in the Five Year National Strategic Plan of the Country 2012-2016. Currently, four State Child Acts have been passed including a ban on FGM/C. One other state has passed a specific law criminalizing FGM/C. At the community level, round 670 communities have been introduced to collective abandonment of FGM using the *Saleema* positive social transformation approach. The training includes training of around 420 community facilitators and an estimated 500 volunteers

New states that introduced programming to abandon FGM/C reaches to 13 out of 15 States. Partnership between NGOS and government welfare system continues in six States (River Nile, Gedarif, Kassala, Blue Nile, Red Sea, North Kordofan and Khartoum). Partnership is also extended with religious leaders and advocacy on child’s rights were enforced on Day of Prayer and Action for Children (November 2011) and included child protection from all forms of violence. The Red Sea network of religious leaders worked closely with community leaders for a joint advocacy to collectively abandon FGM/C.



Selected Press Coverage in 2011

- “Africa shows signs of winning war against female genital mutilation” – The Observer, 6 February 2011 (print and online)
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/2011/feb/06/female-circumcision-sister-fa>
- “February 6 observed as International Day against Female Genital Mutilation” – UN Radio interview published online on 6 February 2011
<http://www.unmultimedia.org/radio/english/detail/113258.html>
- “Senegal Curbs a Bloody Rite for Girls and Women” (New York *Times* and *International Herald Tribune*, print and online)
http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/16/world/africa/movement-to-end-genital-cutting-spreads-in-senegal.html?_r=1&pagewanted=all



**UNFPA-UNICEF Joint
Programme for the Acceleration
of the Abandonment of FGM/C**



UNFPA - UNICEF Joint Programme Indicative Financial Status as of 31 December 2011†					
COUNTRY OFFICES	BUDGET in US\$ (after Indirect Cost)	EXPENDITURES in US\$	COMMITMENTS in US\$	ESTIMATED BALANCE in US\$ (= Budget - Expenditures-Commitments)	IMPLEMENTATION RATE (against expenditures & commitments)
Burkina Faso	586,923	514,986	956	70,981	88%
Djibouti	518,525	438,507	0	80,018	85%
Egypt	156,292	153,397	0	2,895	98%
Eritrea	93,460	92,105	0	1,355	99%
Ethiopia	318,663	277,415	0	41,248	87%
Gambia	305,646	274,490	0	31,156	90%
Guinea	260,345	241,030	0	19,315	93%
Guinea-Bissau	327,717	301,270	0	26,447	92%
Kenya*	495,139	304,204	3,455	187,480	62%
Mali	193,460	171,706	1,269	20,486	89%
Mauritania	193,460	184,717	0	8,743	95%
Senegal	760,299	641,031	34,600	84,668	89%
Somalia	412,510	403,405	0	9,105	98%
Sudan	700,859	604,972	7,200	88,686	87%
Uganda	352,684	158,815	0	193,869	45%
HQ	1,236,559	911,868	182,315	142,376	88%
INGOs	751,756	506,890	0	244,866	67%
TOTAL	7,664,296	6,180,807	229,795	1,253,694	84%
Countries that joined in 2011					
† Figures are subject to change					
* Figure reported in this table reflect the financial report generated by UNFPA and UNICEF HQ. Kenya country office reported an expenditure rate of \$435,614, or 92% implementation rate. However, this has not yet been reflected in the global system.					