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In line with international commitments, the Government of Djibouti, through the Ministry of Women and the Family, leads multisectoral implementation of the National Strategy for the Abandonment of FGM for the protection and respect of the physical integrity and the promotion of the health of women and girls. Strategic orientations consist of maintaining the institutional coordination mechanism for the response to FGM; strengthening the protection framework against FGM, including medical care and legal assistance; the intensification of community actions through advocacy; the development of an information management system; and conducting surveys and operational research on FGM trends. Based on a national survey, FGM prevalence has sharply declined in the cohort aged 15-19, from 94.3 per cent in 1994 to 21.1 per cent in 2019.

71% of girls and women aged 15-49 years have undergone FGM

63% of girls aged 15-19 years have undergone FGM

FGM prevalence has sharply declined in the cohort aged 15-19, from 94.3 per cent in 1994 to 21.1 per cent in 2019.

Enabling environment for the elimination of FGM
- Legislation criminalizing FGM
- Costed national action plan
- National budget line for FGM
- National coordination mechanism

Since 2018, law enforcement has resulted in:
- 19 arrests
- 13 cases brought to court
- 13 convictions and sanctions

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

OUTCOME 1: Have an enabling environment for the elimination of FGM practices at all levels and in line with human rights standards

OUTCOME 2: Girls and women are empowered to exercise and express their rights by transforming social and gender norms in communities to eliminate FGM

OUTCOME 3: Girls and women receive appropriate, quality and systemic services for FGM prevention, protection and care

OUTCOME 4: Have better capacity to generate and use evidence and data for policymaking and improving programming

Overall performance on outcome indicators in Phase III

Source: Data-for-All, UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation: Accelerating Change.
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Engaging religious and community leaders

Through partnership with the Ministry of Muslim Affairs and the National Union of Djiboutian Women, 60 religious leaders and community management committees took part in 3,064 community dialogues on FGM that reached 211,907 people in Phase III. Of the participants, 37 per cent were men and boys.

The Club of Grandmothers was established, where 30 women community leaders took steps against FGM. The Minister of Women and Minister of Health declared club members to be first-level ambassadors in community mobilization to accelerate the abandonment of FGM.

Strengthened FGM awareness campaigns

Community management committees organized 11 intercommunity meetings to learn about progress and share best practices for scaling up and identifying challenges and response strategies. Through home visits and building trust with families, 12 surveillance committees were able to prevent 1,906 girls from being subjected to FGM from 2018 to 2021. In 2021, 61,457 people participated in education, sensitization and social mobilization sessions promoting FGM abandonment.