

Guinea

CONTEXT

In 2021, Guinea continued to experience growing cases of COVID-19 as well as of the Ebola virus, particularly in the Nzerekore region. It saw the dissolution of the Government and republican institutions, and suspension of the Constitution adopted in March 2020, which prohibited FGM and child marriage. As a result, the bank accounts of Joint Programme government partners were frozen, leading to difficulties in disbursing funds.

When presenting a road map for the transitional Government, the Prime Minister affirmed that the Government would ensure the vigorous application of legislation in the fight against GBV. On 15 December 2021, the Prime Minister on behalf of the transitional government signed two commitments to end GBV, including rape, FGM and other forms of violence against women and children.



3 out of 4 girls experience FGM before age 10

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:



73 arrests



73 cases brought to court



29 convictions and sanctions

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Overall performance on outcome indicators in Phase III



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 and care

Sources: Guinea DHS 2018, UNFPA estimates for 2018 based on the Guinea MICS 2016, Data-for-All, UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation: Accelerating Change.

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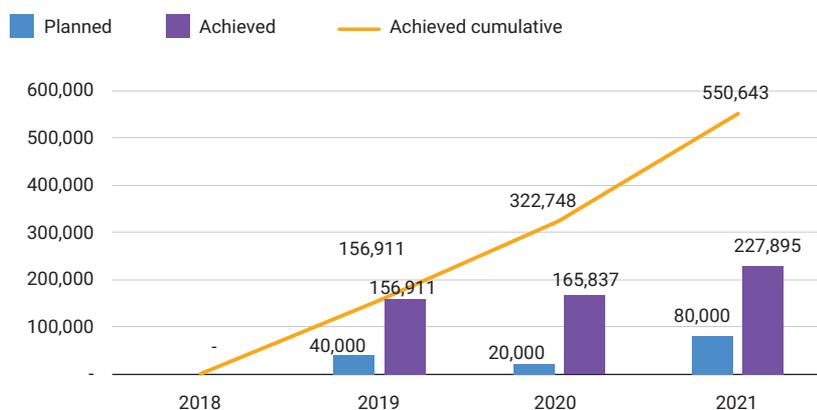
Strengthened community engagement

The Joint Programme supported 609 women mentors, 261 women's groups and 43 young women's platforms in target communities to provide training and education sessions to girls at risk of FGM. In 2021, through community interventions employed by social workers, non-governmental organizations, traditional communicators and religious leaders, a total of 7,930 girls were saved from FGM across the country.

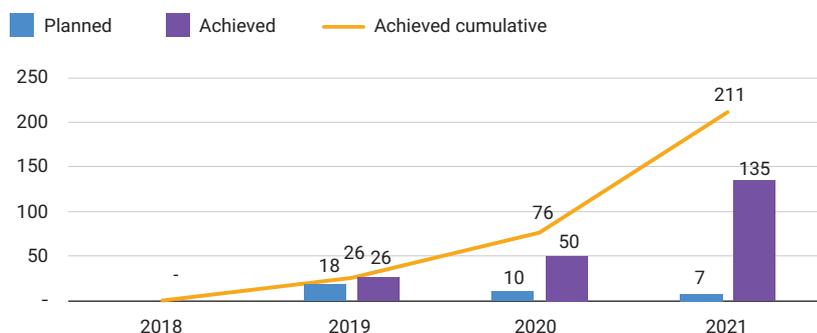
During 2021, additional significant results were as follows:

- A total of 502 communities organized public declaration ceremonies to abandon FGM and child marriage; 485 communities set up a functional post-declaration monitoring system to ensure compliance with commitments made. Monitoring committees comprise members of the protection structure, male role models, female mentors and young leaders (girls and boys) from each community.
- Educational talks, peer education and community dialogues on FGM, child marriage and other forms of GBV reached 589,964 people, including 213,336 men, 376,628 women, 185,218 boys and 231,320 girls compared to 165,837 people in 2020.

Number of people who participate actively in education/sensitization/ social mobilization sessions promoting the elimination of FGM in Guinea



Number of health service delivery points in Joint Programme intervention areas where health care staff apply FGM case management protocols in Guinea



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MOST SIGNIFICANT STORY

A traditional leader commits to end FGM

Namanignan Bakary Berete, a spokesperson (commonly called *beléna*) in the village of Manfara, believed that FGM contributed positively to the lives of girls and women. He considered the practice to be a question of femininity and that men should not talk about it. Today, thanks to training and information gained in capacity-building sessions organized by the Joint Programme, he has changed his mind and become a fervent opponent of FGM.

He led a drive for community sanctions against practitioners and their accomplices. Thanks to his bravery, the issue of FGM is no longer a taboo subject in the village. Members committed to abandon the practice through a community ceremony broadcast on rural radio.



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