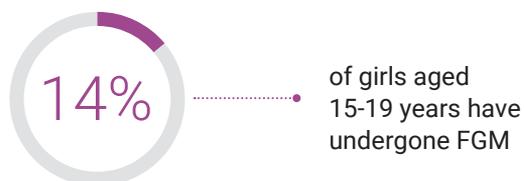
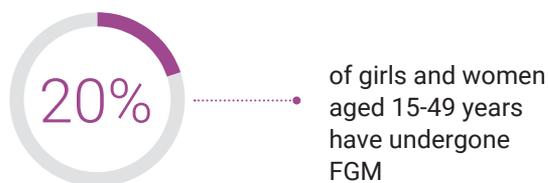


Nigeria

CONTEXT

The Government of Nigeria has recognized FGM as a discriminatory practice requiring policy and legal interventions since 2002, when it developed the first National FGM Policy. It enacted the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Act in 2015. While DHS data show decreased prevalence among women and girls aged 15-49, from 24.8 per cent in 2013 to 19.5 per cent in 2018, detailed analysis indicates that the prevalence among girls aged 0-14 increased from 16.9 per cent in 2013 to 19.2 per cent in 2018. The data trend also shows a decrease in FGM medicalization from 26.9 per cent in 2013 to 7.1 per cent in 2018 for the group aged 0-14, and from 11.9 per cent in 2013 to 8.6 per cent in 2018 for those aged 15-49.



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:



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

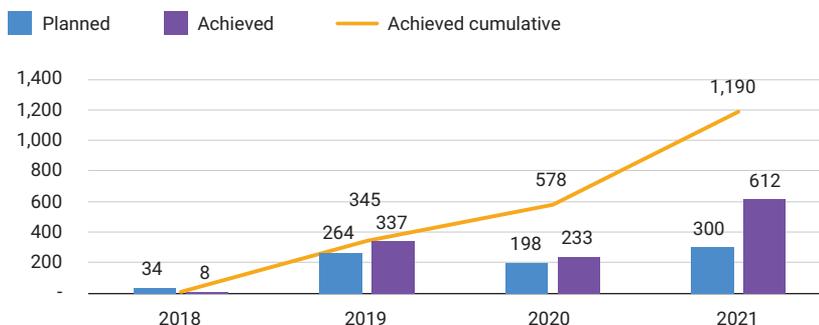
Sources: Nigeria DHS 2018, UNFPA estimates for 2018 based on the Nigeria MICS 2016-2017, Data-for-All, UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation: Accelerating Change.

Nigeria

Fostering an enabling environment for FGM elimination

The National Policy and Plan of Action for the Elimination of FGM in Nigeria (2021-2025) builds on existing gains, addresses emerging gaps and challenges, and provides a foundation for further actions to ensure the elimination of FGM. In alignment with the National Policy, the Joint Programme supported 46 local government areas in Ebonyi, Ekiti, Imo, Osun and Omo states to develop two-year local FGM elimination action plans (2022-2023) that provide sustainable self-guided strategies for FGM elimination, using local resources and linking with government, CSO and development partners.

Number of communities that made public declaration of abandonment of FGM that have established a community-level surveillance system to

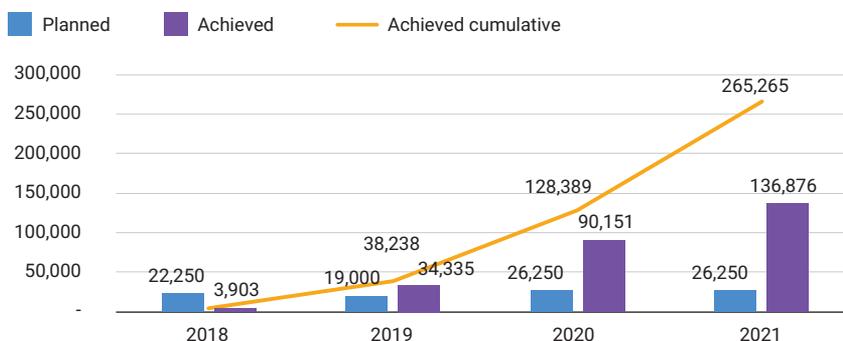


In alignment with the National Policy, the Joint Programme supported 46 local government areas.

Scaled-up community engagement

In Phase III, 12,773 in- and out-of-school girls from 521 communities in Nigeria received training on life skills and risks attached to FGM and SRHR. They built knowledge, confidence and self-advocacy skills while developing stronger social networks and access to supportive adults. A total of 1,216 communities that made a public declaration of FGM abandonment established a community surveillance system to monitor compliance; 838,329 people participated in education, sensitization and social mobilization sessions promoting FGM elimination. Over 265,000 girls received health, social and legal services related to FGM. This demonstrates the effectiveness of the Joint Programme's strategic approach of enhancing the capacity of service providers and strengthening service referral systems.

Number of girls and women who have received health, social and legal services related to FGM in Nigeria



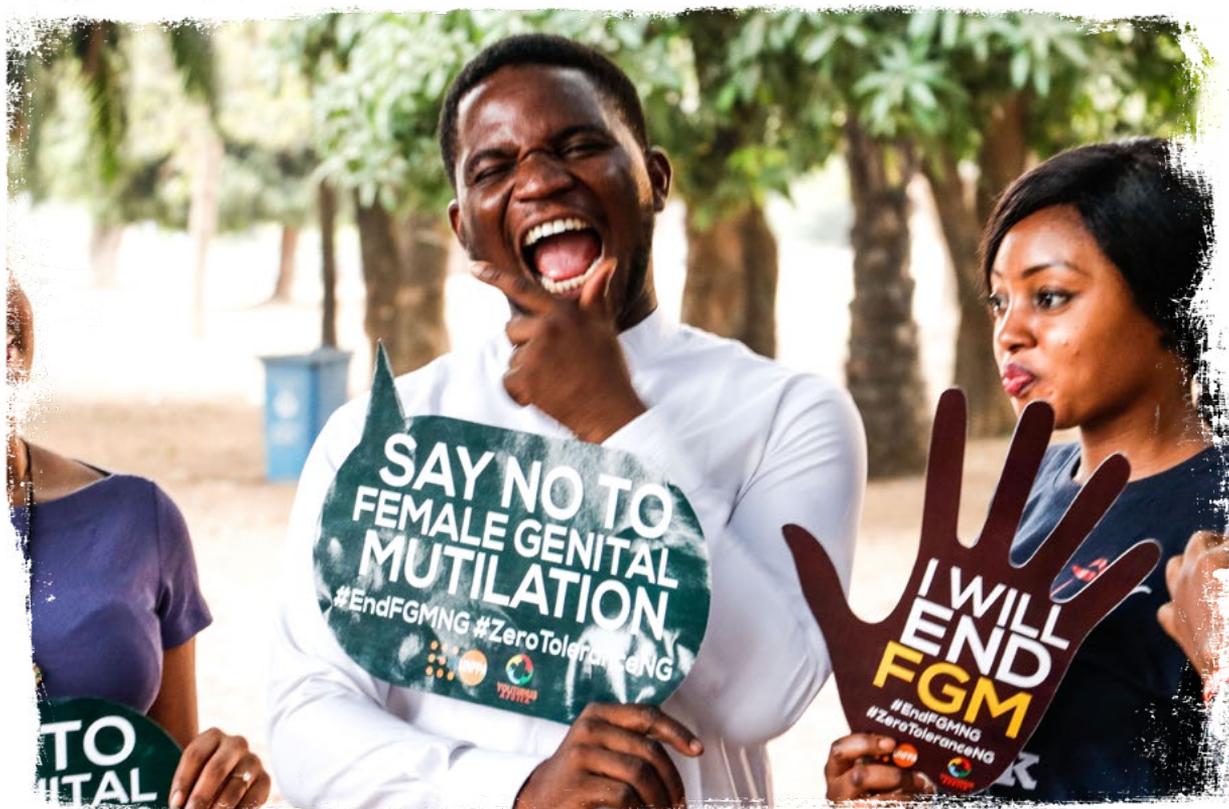
© UNICEF Nigeria

MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE

A traditional leader calls on a community to end FGM

To end FGM in the Ororuwo community, an advocacy visit with the community chief sought support and buy-in. This was followed by advocacy and dialogue sessions with young girls and older women, and a combined session with the community and the King (Oba Qamarudeen Adeyanju of the Ororuwo community). After listening to girls and women speak about the difficulties they face from FGM, the chief declared that all harmful traditional

practices including FGM must be abandoned in the community. He instructed town criers to announce his position on FGM abandonment across the community every fortnight, which is ongoing. The chief also set up a community watchdog to track and report any community member practising or intending to carry out FGM. Everybody in the community is now aware of the impact of FGM and the laws against it.



© UNFPA Nigeria