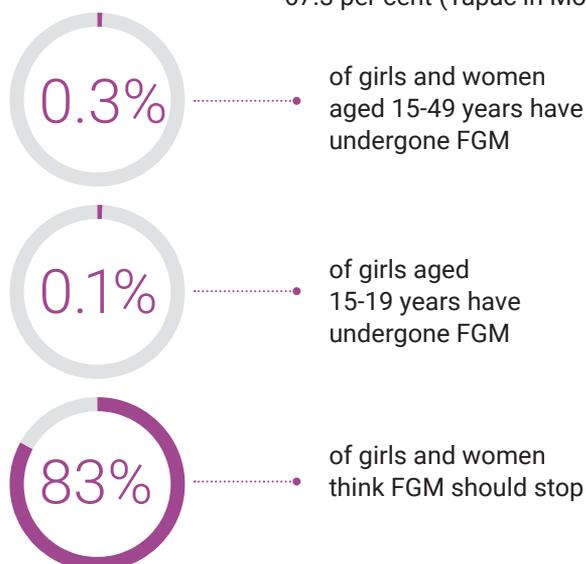


# Uganda

## CONTEXT

Despite enforcement of the Female Genital Mutilation Act of 2010 and the East African Community Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act, FGM is still practised in some eastern parts of Uganda. According to the DHS, 55 per cent of women aged 15-49 have heard of FGM; 0.3 per cent of women have gone through it.

Although DHS data showed reduced overall prevalence among girls and women aged 15-49, from 1.4 per cent in 2011 to 0.3 per cent in 2016, prevalence in practising communities is still alarming. Some districts have an average of 26 per cent. The Karamoja region still presents the highest FGM prevalence, with the Moroto district at 52 per cent, the Nakapiripirit district at 49 per cent and the Amudat district at 42 per cent. The Sebei region also has a high prevalence, with the Bukwo district at 28 per cent, the Kween district at 21 per cent and the Kapchorwa district at 13 per cent. The prevalence rates in some subcounties are as high as 67.3 per cent (Tapac in Moroto District) and 56 per cent (Loroo in Amudat District).



## 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:



**114**  
arrests



**84**  
cases brought to court



**43**  
convictions and sanctions

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Overall performance on outcome indicators in Phase III

■ Below 70%
 ■ 70%–100%
 ■ Above 100%

### 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: Uganda DHS 2016, Uganda DHS 2011; Data-for-All, UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation: Accelerating Change.

# Uganda

## Fostering an enabling environment for FGM elimination

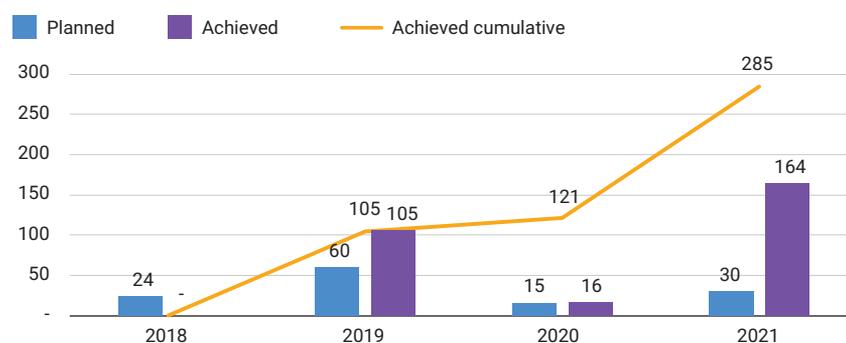
The Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act of 2021 criminalized all activities related to FGM. To reinforce the anti-FGM law, Uganda's Constitutional Court declared the practice is illegal and inconsistent with international human rights standards. In 2021, the Joint Programme continued to support

implementation of the law through capacity-building for primary duty-bearers, including the police, judiciary, health workers, religious leaders, cultural leaders and communities within practising districts. As a result, over 43 cases of legal enforcement were registered.

## Community engagement

In Phase III, 320 communities publicly declared the abandonment of FGM following community mobilization, dialogues and engagement with cultural and religious community members, elders, opinion leaders and social influencers. At baseline, only 6,231 individuals were engaged in FGM abandonment. By the end of 2021, the programme had mobilized about 30,000 people to engage in public declarations of FGM abandonment. This represented a positive shift in deeply rooted social norms. The public declarations acknowledge FGM as a harmful practice that should end in this generation.

### Number of communities that have made a public declaration of abandonment of FGM in Uganda



## Quality service provision

The programme helped over 34,000 girls and women access health and social services and legal advice related to FGM. This was an improvement from 1,040 women and girls who accessed similar services in Phase II.

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

