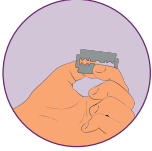


FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

FACTS AND FIGURES

WHAT IS FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION (FGM)?



Harmful traditional practice and serious violation of human rights involving **cutting, removing or sewing closed flesh female genital organs**. FGM has severe short and long-term consequences



► **Short term:** Can lead to death or serious health complications: hemorrhage, shock, infection, urine retention and severe pain



► **Long term:** Can lead to severe complications in childbirth and chronic infections



► Affected girls are at increased risk of becoming **child brides and dropping out of school**



THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA ACCOUNTS FOR
A QUARTER OF ALL FGM CASES GLOBALLY

PROGRESS IN THOSE FIVE COUNTRIES

30 YEARS AGO

70% of girls affected;

(CRC adoption)

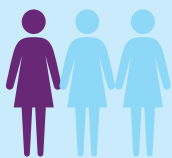
TODAY

half of all girls

Among high prevalence countries,



Egypt has seen the strongest progress in the past 30 years



Even if trends are improving, at current rates,

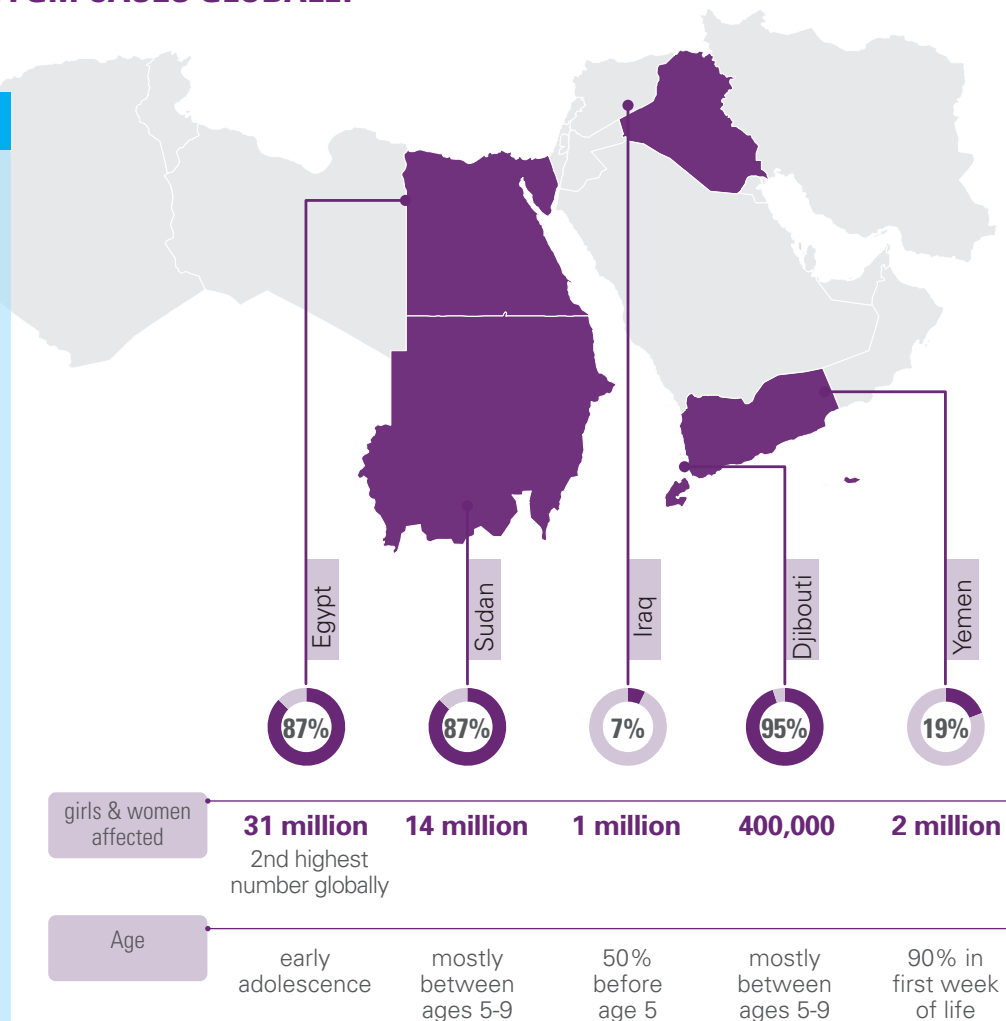
1/3

of all girls will undergo the practice by 2030

To eliminate FGM by 2030: regional progress rate needs to be



**15 TIMES
FASTER**



50 million

GIRLS AND WOMEN have undergone the harmful practice in the region including Egypt, Djibouti, Sudan and parts of Yemen and Iraq

MEDICALIZATION - when FGM is conducted by medical professionals

Medicalization increasing in **Egypt and Sudan**



almost
8 in 10

girls who undergo FGM are cut by medical personnel



Traditional practitioners responsible for FGM in **Yemen, Djibouti and Iraq**



FGM is **NEVER SAFE**, no matter who performs it

OPINIONS AND BELIEFS



Less than half

of women support FGM in most countries in the region



Support from local communities for FGM is **the highest in Egypt**



FOCUS ON EGYPT:



A majority of Egyptians still **believe that husbands prefer** women who have undergone FGM



Nearly half of all Egyptians **believe the practice prevents adultery**



On average, less than half of all Egyptians **believe the practice is required by religion**



Overall, more than half of all Egyptians **believe that it can lead to a girl's death**



Only a quarter of all girls in Egypt have received **information 'recently' on FGM, mainly from television**

WEALTH AND EDUCATION



In Egypt and parts of Yemen

more common among **rural, poor and uneducated girls/women**



In parts of Iraq and Sudan

more common among **wealthier (Iraq) and more educated (Sudan) women**

For more information

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