



□ 03.02.2016 - The 6th February will mark International Day of Zero Tolerance For□ Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) with the theme of "Achieving the new Global Goals through the elimination of Female Genital Mutilation by 2030."

WHAT IS FGM?

Female genital mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures that involve altering or injuring the female genitalia for non-medical reasons, and is recognized internationally as a violation of the human rights of girls and women.

Key Facts :

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The procedure is known to have no health benefits for girls and women. An estimated, 100 million - 140 million girls and women alive today have undergone some form of FGM globally.

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15 million additional girls between ages 15 and 19 be subjected to it by 2030 if the current trends continue.

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It is mostly carried out on young girls sometime between infancy and age 15.

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It causes severe bleeding and health issues including cysts, infections, infertility as well as complications in childbirth increased risk of new-born deaths.



Towards a Brighter Future

For the first time female genital mutilation has been fully acknowledged on a global scale in its inclusion in [Sustainable Development Goal #5, Gender Equality](#) , which commits the global community to ending the practice in conjunction with tackling issues such as early child and forced marriage.

[The United Nations Population Fund \(UNFPA\) and the United Nations Children's Fund \(UNICEF\)](#) lead the largest global programme to accelerate the abandonment of FGM. They operate in all seven continents often collaborating with partners at the grass roots level to increase awareness of the health consequences in order to help families and communities realise that abandoning the practice is in their best interest.

Recognising FGM as a human rights issue and implementing policies to protect women from the practice has been a long and ongoing process, but, as the inclusion in the SDGs shows, there have been many achievements along the way.

Join the international community in promoting the International Day of Zero Tolerance For Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) on Saturday February 6th with the slogan #endFGM and use our [FGM timeline](#) .



[INFORMS: A Training Manual for Health Workers on the Prevention and Management of Female Genital Mutilation](#) [UNICEF: A Training Manual for Health Workers on the Prevention and Management of Female Genital Mutilation](#)