

United to End FGM: European Knowledge Platform for Professionals dealing with Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

**November 8, 2016
Brussels**



Project Identity

- **Funded by** the European Union
- **Duration:** 24 months (Sept. 2015- Sept. 2017)
- **Agreement Number:** JUST/2014/RPPI/AG/FGMU/6983

12 Partners



4 Associate Partners

- **CEPOL**- European Police Academy
- **EMA** - European Midwives Association
- **ENMW** - European Network of Migrant Women
- **UNHCR** - Global Learning Centre (Protection Unit) and the Bureau for Europe

They contribute to the ***dissemination and endorsement*** strategy of the project and provide ***technical expertise and/or identify experts*** where appropriate

Aim of project

The creation and development of a **web-based knowledge platform on FGM**, which will gather easily accessible and culturally appropriate information and support to professionals in order to:

Aim of project


- **Deliver** victim support more effectively,
- Help **prevent** FGM and **protect** women and girls living with or at risk of FGM,
- Serve as a **resource** and **education** center.

Background

UEFG: United to end FGM

<http://www.uefgm.org/>

- An **e-learning tool** offering information and practical advice about FGM (health and asylum professionals)
- 6 Modules, 3 streams (Health, Asylum, Combined)
- Supported and endorsed by the UNHCR.
- Available in English, Portuguese and Italian.
- Funded by: the END FGM Fund 2012 (END FGM European Campaign and Human Dignity Foundation)
- Partners: MIGS, APF, AIDOS, and AkiDwa.



"Mama tied a blindfold over my eyes.
The next thing I felt my flesh was being cut away.
I heard the blade sawing back and forth through
my skin. The pain between my legs was so
intense I wished I would die."

Waris Dirie, UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador and spokesperson on FGM

Welcome to United to END FGM (UEFGM)

United to END FGM (UEFGM) is a free-of-charge e-learning tool,
offering information and practical advice about
female genital mutilation (FGM).

Primarily designed for health and asylum service staff working in Europe, the course will also be of use to NGOs,
including women's organisations and shelters. The UEFGM course has three main aims:

01

To improve the support and treatment offered to women and girls in Europe living with or at risk of genital mutilation, by encouraging a more specialised gender- and culture-sensitive approach in the healthcare services.

02

To strengthen the skills needed to maintain a high standard of decision-making in protecting FGM-affected and/or at-risk women and girls seeking asylum.

03

To bring about the greater harmonisation of the European Asylum System, by highlighting relevant European and international treaties and legislation protecting FGM-affected and/or at-risk women and girls.

Activities

Design and develop an **integrated website** that will host the knowledge platform including the e-learning course, ‘live knowledge’ features and country information pages.

Beneficiaries

- It is addressed to a wide **spectrum of professionals** including:

Health professionals, **asylum and migration** officers, legal professionals, child protection officers, **the police**, judiciary, social workers, **media professionals**, academics, educators, students and many others

- **Women and girls** living with or at risk of FGM in Europe that will receive support as a result of multi-disciplinary, multi-agency cooperation

e-learning course

- an **e-learning course** on different aspects of FGM that will consist of :

7 learning streams,
a total of 13 modules and
will be available in 9 European languages
covering 11 EU member states

- a “**live knowledge**” section for the hosting of online discussions for e-learners and other interested parties

Modules

1. Introduction to FGM
2. FGM: Understanding Gender and Social Dynamics

1+2 Compulsory

2 more depending on the chosen stream

3. Consequences of FGM on Women's Health and their Management
4. Ethics, Communication and Counseling in the Health Context

Modules

- 5. FGM as Ground for International Protection** (discusses FGM in the context of asylum, describing the practice as constituting a well-founded fear of persecution, issues of state protection)
- 6. The Asylum Context: Communication and Interviewing Techniques** (focuses on techniques of effective communication with women/girls affected by FGM)
- 7. The role of the justice system in ending FGM**
- 8. The Role of Police in ending FGM**

Modules

9. How to Advice and Support for Survivors of FGM

10. FGM and Child Protection

11. The Role of the Education Sector in Preventing FGM

12. Community Based Approach in Responding to FGM

13. Communicating and Reporting about FGM

(analyses the role of the media in preventing and raising awareness on FGM + Cultural and gender sensitive reporting and non-stigmatizing communication practices)

Country specific information pages-



Belgium, Cyprus, Germany
Ireland, Spain, France
Italy, Netherlands, Portugal
Sweden and United Kingdom

In English and MS Language

Launch of the platform

February 2017

1 EU-wide event

9 national dissemination events

Contact details

Christiana Kouta

christiana.kouta@cut.ac.cy

Elina Kofou

ekofou@gmail.com

Christina Kaili

christina@medinstgenderstudies.org