




ARE YOU THE NEXT CHANGE AGENT?

**IF YOU ARE COMMITTED TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND WANT TO MAKE
A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY, COME AND JOIN US!**

YOU CAN MAKE A CHANGE!





ARE YOU COMMITTED TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A CHANGE WITHIN YOUR COMMUNITY? WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK TOWARDS EQUALITY BETWEEN WOMEN AND MEN AND BE INVOLVED IN A PROJECT THAT TACKLES GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE?

THIS BROCHURE IS FOR YOU!

Discover how to become a CHANGE Agent within your community and how to put an end to gender-based violence and harmful practices (such as female genital mutilation, early and forced marriage...).



This publication has been produced with the financial support of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the authors and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Commission.

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September 2019



TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT THIS GUIDE	6
BECOME A CHANGE AGENT	8
A LEARNING EXPERIENCE	10
THE BEHAVIOUR CHANGE ACTIVITIES IN COMMUNITIES	12
THEORY OF CHANGE	14
FACTS & NUMBERS	16
GLOSSARY	17
CONTACTS	18

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This guide is for everybody who is committed to human rights, a member of a migrant community, and who wants to put an end to gender-based violence such as female genital mutilation and early and forced marriage.

Let's CHANGE is a European project coordinated by the German NGO TERRE DES FEMMES e. V. and co-funded by the European Union. The project's aim is to end female genital mutilation (FGM) in practising communities. The project is implemented in different European countries, with the aim of empowering people from migrant communities to become actors of change.

In each country, these actors raise awareness in their communities to promote gender equality and reduce the prevalence of FGM.

GOALS:

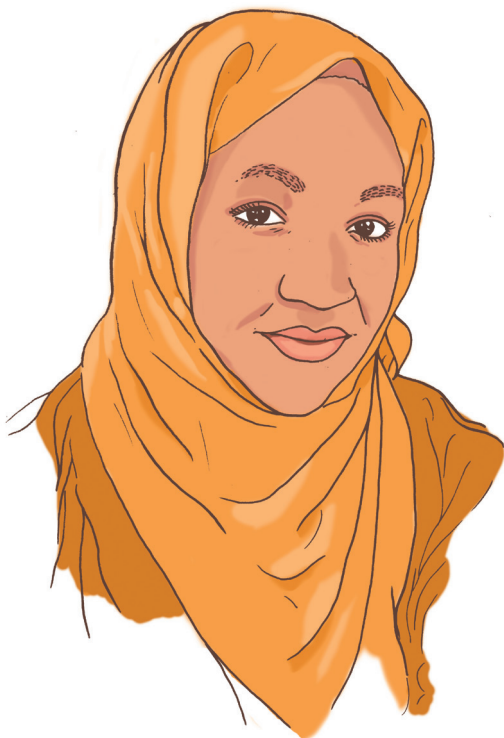
- Prevent gender-based violence by changing communities' behaviour and practices towards FGM
- Make new people from practising communities "actors of change" towards the abandonment of FGM
- Train different key professionals in order to inform FGM survivors and/or protect girls at risk

THE PROJECT LET'S CHANGE IS FOCUSING ON FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION BUT BEING AN ACTOR OF CHANGE IS NOT LIMITED TO THIS PRACTICE. THIS BROCHURE IS FOR ANY PERSON WHO WANTS TO FIGHT AGAINST ANY FORM OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE.

PORTRAIT

BINET, CHANGE TRAINER AT PLAN INTERNATIONAL (GERMANY)

Binet is a CHANGE Agent since 2016 and she has organized many behaviour change activities in the past few years. Since November 2018, she has trained CHANGE Agents and trainers in the Let's CHANGE project.



“My advice to the future CHANGE-Agents would be to work hard with your communities and not to forget to include men. Keep contact with your group continuously. Have a coffee together, help them in their everyday life, avoid stigmatization and be diplomatic when referring to FGM/C. And finally, have a talk with previous CHANGE Agents, and take “short-cuts” and “lesson-learned” for your strategies.”

BECOME A CHANGE AGENT

A CHANGE AGENT IS A MEMBER OF AN FGM PRACTISING COMMUNITY WHO WANTS TO BE INVOLVED IN RAISING AWARENESS IN HIS OR HER COMMUNITY TO ABANDON HARMFUL PRACTICES.

IF YOU ARE:

- In favour of equality between women and men
- From a FGM practising community
- Motivated and committed

AND WANT TO BRING CHANGE IN YOUR COMMUNITY ...

... BECOMING A CHANGE AGENT IS FOR YOU!

- › No age restriction (in accordance with country laws)
- › No prior knowledge on FGM and gender-based violence requested
- › People from all over the world (Asian, Middle Eastern, African background) are encouraged to join the project

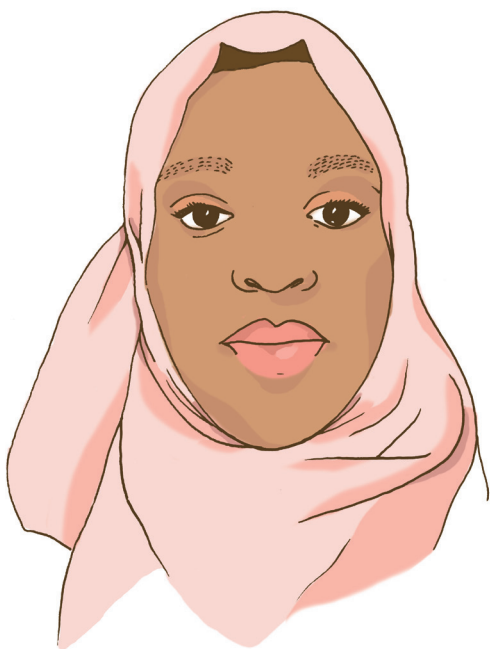
IF YOU TAKE PART IN THE PROJECT, HERE ARE SOME OF YOUR FUTURE MISSIONS:

- Complete a **training programme** on FGM and gender-based violence
- Organize **Behaviour Change Activities** (BCA) to raise awareness in your community
- Participate in “**Empowerment meetings**” to share experiences and discuss challenges with other CHANGE Agents
- **Advocate** for the abandonment of FGM at local and international level

PORTRAIT

SAHRA, CHANGE AGENT AT TERRE DES FEMMES (GERMANY)

Sahra started working as a CHANGE Agent with Terre Des Femmes in 2018. She is also founder of a women empowerment group, supporting women from the Horn of Africa in their integration process in Germany.



“My name is Sahra and I was born in 1980 in Ethiopia. Now, I’m living in Berlin and working as interpreter. In addition to German, I also speak Amharic and Oromoo. Besides that, I’m involved in an organization, which focuses on women empowerment and is called “Horn of Africa”. In Ethiopia FGM is highly prevalent. Since I’ve also been working as a nurse there, I know a lot about this practice. Another reason is that I’m affected by FGM myself. I want to help informing people about the consequences of this harmful practice.”

A LEARNING EXPERIENCE

AS A CHANGE AGENT YOU WILL

- › Be trained in human rights, gender equality and FGM as well as in communication and presentation skills, in a participatory approach
- › Build your capacity (through training and mentorship)
- › Develop your leadership and advocacy skills
- › Benefit from personal and professional growth
- › Receive a certification
- › Gain self-confidence!

Becoming a CHANGE Agent will allow you to be an **expert on gender-based violence and female genital mutilation.**

YOUR GOALS:

- **CHANGE** communities' behaviour towards FGM with the aim of ending the practice
- **BREAK** taboos and dispel myths around FGM
- **EMPOWER** the community to spread the message towards ending FGM
- **REDUCE** the risk of violence against children and gender-based violence in the form of FGM through sensitization and protection of girls at risk

PORTRAIT

WEDAD, CHANGE AGENT AT FSAN (NETHERLANDS)

Wedad studied English in Iraq. In The Netherlands she is Treasurer in the Board of an Iraqi foundation for almost 10 years now. Besides, she works at 'ABC' for already 6 years. In this organization she supports people that need help with integration in the Dutch society.



"I wanted to become CHANGE Agent because I want good changes for the people and for our society. Even if it is just one person that has changed in a good way that will be a success for me."

THE BEHAVIOUR CHANGE ACTIVITIES IN COMMUNITIES

A Behaviour Change Activity (BCA) is an **awareness-raising workshop** that you organize with people from your community to talk about FGM and its harmful consequences.

HOW A BCA IS ORGANIZED?



8 to 15 people



About 2 hours



Target group: men,
women, youth



Topics: What is FGM, sexual and reproductive rights, gender relations, FGM and religion...



Form: Film screening, debate, poster-making...

**IF YOU ARE COMMITTED TO WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND TO
END FGM IN YOUR COMMUNITY, COME AND JOIN US!**

PORTRAIT

DIEYNABA, CHANGE TRAINER AT EQUIPOP (FRANCE)

Dieynaba started to collaborate with Equipop in 2016 in CHANGE Plus as a CHANGE Agent. She is now a CHANGE Trainer for key professionals. She gained experience in the work of communities' sensitization.

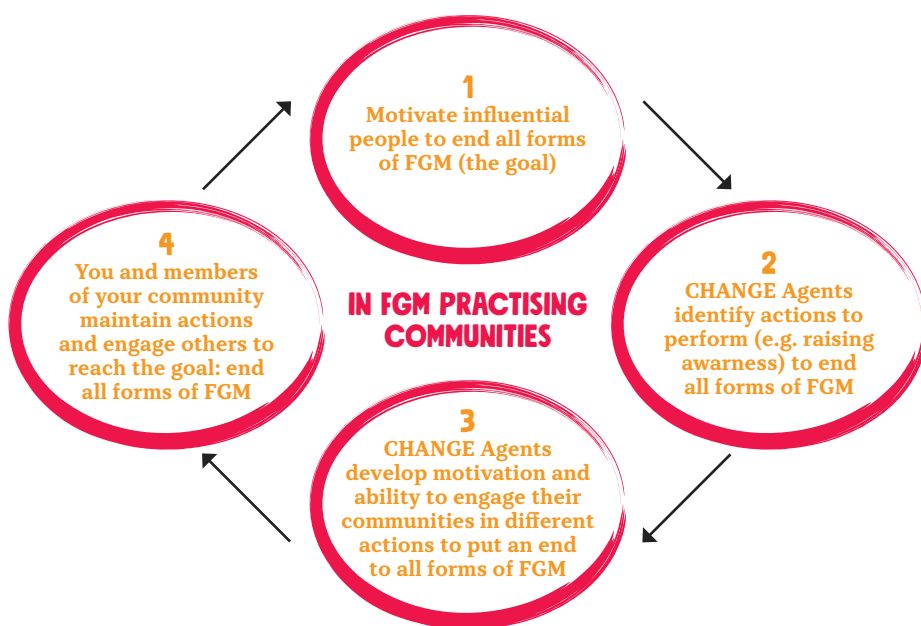


“During the organization of a BCA, it is very important to target the public you want to reach and before, you have to prepare yourself psychologically and intellectually on the subject. FGM is a taboo topic. One must handle it with much sensitivity and learn to face resistance.”

THEORY OF CHANGE

The Theory of Change is a theoretical approach to end FGM by **changing behaviours** and **making members of FGM practising communities' actors of change**.

If you support community members, especially those tackling violence against girls and women, you will **help to achieve change in the lives of girls, women, and the whole community**, and build strong and inclusive social movements towards change.



THEORY OF CHANGE SUMMED-UP:



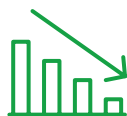
**MOBILIZE PRACTISING COMMUNITIES
TO END FGM**



**ENGAGE NEW PEOPLE TO BECOME CHANGE
AGENTS THANKS TO THE MOBILISATION
OF PRACTISING COMMUNITIES**



**INVOLVE SEVERAL GROUPS OF ACTORS TO END
FGM: CIVIL SOCIETY, PRACTISING COMMUNITIES,
KEY PROFESSIONALS AND PUBLIC AUTHORITIES**



**REDUCE THE PRESSURE AROUND FGM AND THE
STIGMA FOR GIRLS FROM PRACTISING COMMUNITIES
THAT HAVE NOT BEEN SUBJECTED TO FGM**

FACTS & NUMBERS

ABOUT 1 IN 3 OF WOMEN WORLDWIDE

have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime (WHO, 2017).

AS MANY AS 5000 WOMEN ARE KILLED

annually for reasons of honour. These crimes take place throughout the world and are not limited to one specific religion or faith (UNFPA, 2000).

SOME 650 MILLION GIRLS AND WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD

today have been married as children. Complications of pregnancy and childbirth are the main causes of death among adolescent girls (15 – 19 years old) in developing countries (UNICEF, 2018).

200 MILLION WOMEN AND GIRLS

alive today have been subjected to some form of female genital mutilation in 29 countries in Africa, the Middle East and Asia (UNICEF, 2016).

3 MILLION GIRLS

are at risk of undergoing FGM every year (UNICEF, 2013).

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IS A MAJOR VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. TOGETHER, WE CAN END SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS!

GLOSSARY

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE is violence directed against a person because of the person's gender. Everyone can experience this type of violence but the majority of victims are women and girls while men are usually the perpetrators.

HARMFUL PRACTICES constitute a form of violence against women and girls for the benefit of men (controlling women's and girls' bodies, sexuality and rights).

Examples:

- Female genital mutilation
- Early and forced marriage
- Honour killings

These practices are a violation of human rights and have negative physical and psychological consequences for affected women and girls.

FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION comprises all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons.

EARLY AND FORCED MARRIAGE describes marriages in which at least one of the spouses is being forced into it and is under 18 years of age.

HONOUR KILLING is a type of violence used in order to maintain or regain what is perceived as "family honour".

GENDER is a concept that refers to the social differences between women and men that have been learned, are changeable over time and have wide variations both within and between cultures (European Commission, 1998).

GENDER EQUALITY means that human beings are free to develop their personal abilities and make choices without the limitations set by strict gender roles; that the different behaviour, aspirations and needs of women and men are considered, valued and favoured equally (European Commission, 1998).

EMPOWERMENT is a process that aims to give more power of action and decision to an individual or a group of individuals so that they can change their social, economic or political conditions.



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This project is funded by the *Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC)* Programme of the European Union



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**EQUI
POP.
ORG**



Gibt Kindern eine Chance

