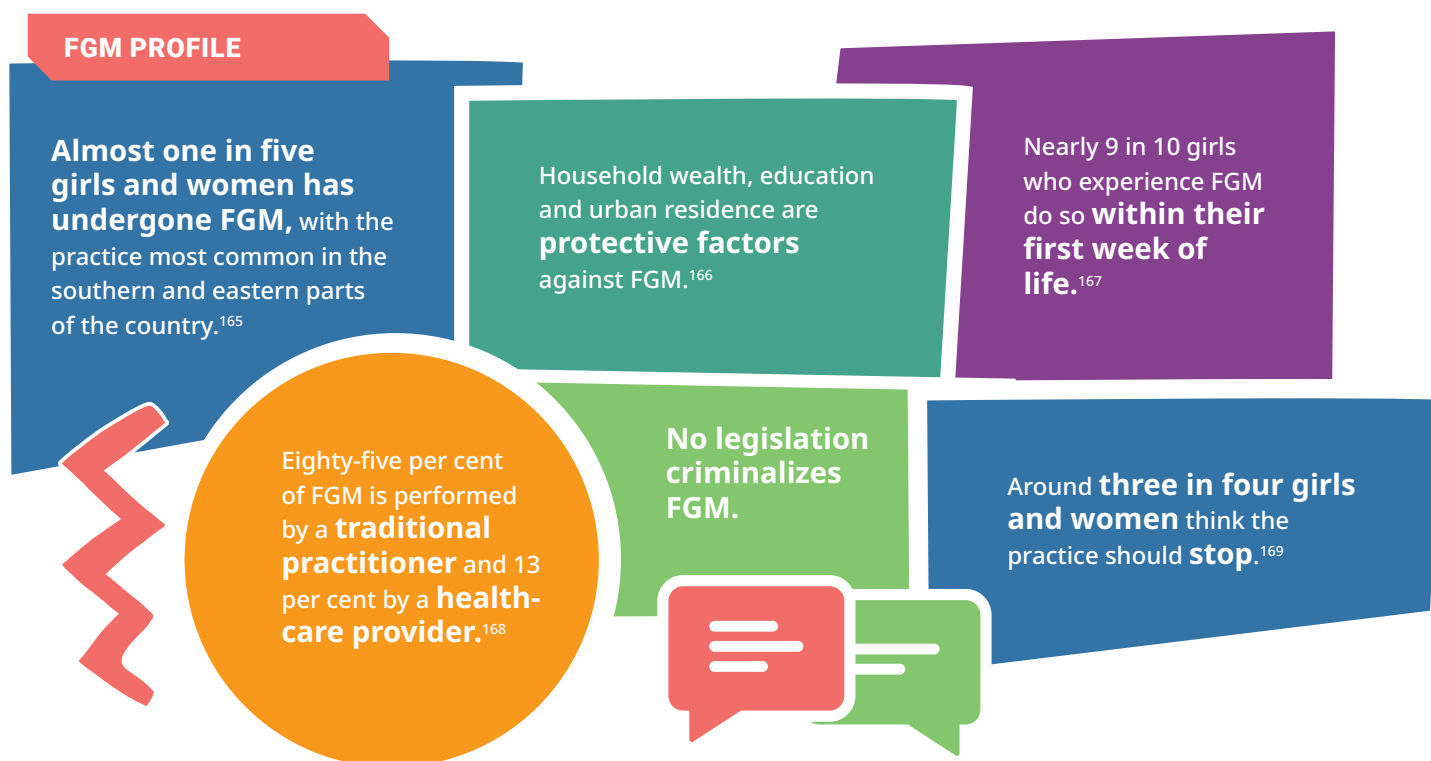


# Yemen

Eight years of armed conflict in Yemen have caused a humanitarian crisis that has displaced 3.1 million people, caused tens of thousands of civilian casualties, and devastated the country's economy and infrastructure.<sup>161</sup> Yemen is one of the world's largest humanitarian crises, with pervasive malnutrition, disease outbreaks, civilian casualties and displacements, a collapsing economy, looming famine and the reversal of the country's past development gains. Millions of people suffer from the compounding effects of armed violence, ongoing economic crisis and disrupted public services.<sup>162</sup> In 2023, an estimated 21.6 million people will need humanitarian assistance and protection services, a slight decrease from 23.4 million people in 2022.<sup>163</sup> More than 80 per cent of the population struggles to access food, safe drinking water and adequate health services, while nearly 90 per cent has no access to publicly supplied electricity.<sup>164</sup> The negative impact of conflict is exacerbated by deeply rooted harmful social norms and gender inequalities that disproportionately affect women and girls most at risk of GBV, including harmful practices such as FGM and child marriage.



## JOINT PROGRAMME CONTRIBUTIONS TO FGM ELIMINATION

**Social media for FGM elimination:** The “[No More Cutting Social Media Campaign](#)” was launched in 2022 with messages promoting the end of FGM in Yemen.

**Interactive theater:** In the Al Mukha district of Taiz Governorate, an area with one of the highest FGM prevalence rates in Yemen, interactive theatre raised awareness about the consequences of the practice, including the impact on girls’ and women’s physical and mental health. The play allowed a dynamic and engaging dialogue to take place between performers and audience members. Community leaders and participants asked questions, shared their own experiences and discussed FGM in a safe space. As a result, community leaders signed a public declaration pledging to take action to stop FGM and to raise awareness about its harmful impact on girls and women. In 59 communities, most community members also signed the declaration, making it a powerful symbol of commitment to end FGM.

## KEY PROGRAMME RESULTS

Health service delivery points where at least one health-care provider is trained on FGM prevention and response services



Annual target for 2022:

**7**  
HEALTH SERVICE  
DELIVERY POINTS



Annual result in 2022:

**16**  
HEALTH SERVICE  
DELIVERY POINTS



Media campaigns promote gender equality, girls' and women's rights, and the elimination of FGM



Annual target for 2022:

**20,000**  
INDIVIDUALS



Annual result in 2022:

**423,862**  
INDIVIDUALS



Support grass-roots organizations in engaging in accountability mechanisms



Annual target for 2022:

**3**  
ORGANIZATIONS



Annual result in 2022:

**88**  
ORGANIZATIONS



## BEST PRACTICE EXAMPLE

**Youth to Religious dialogues to FGM elimination:** Deem for Development Organization, a youth-led non-governmental organization, organized a two-day round table between the International Islamic Center for Population Studies and Research from Al Azhar University in Cairo and Yemeni theologians to discuss harmful practices and their consequences. The round table resulted in the following key recommendations:

- Enhance the quality of evidence-based research on the physical and mental health risks associated with FGM;
- Develop a strategy for religious leaders to use in sensitizing communities about FGM and strategies for eliminating the practice, including by challenging misconceptions;
- Develop action plans for working with religious leaders as allies in the elimination of harmful practices based on good practices and lessons;
- Provide training to religious leaders on addressing SRHR and GBV; and
- Adopt legislation in Yemen that bans FGM.

The recommendations were integrated in Phase IV of the Joint Programme in Yemen.

161 OCHA (Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs), 2022. Humanitarian Needs Overview: Yemen. Website: <https://www.unocha.org/yemen>.

162 OCHA (Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs), 2022. Humanitarian Needs Overview: Yemen. Website: [https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/yemen\\_hno\\_2023\\_final1.pdf](https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/yemen_hno_2023_final1.pdf).

163 Ibid.

164 Ibid.

165 UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund), 2020. "Female Genital Mutilation Country Profiles." Website: <https://data.unicef.org/resources/fgm-country-profiles/>.

166 Ibid.

167 Ibid.

168 Ibid.

169 Ibid.