

Burkina Faso

Approximately 64 per cent of Burkina Faso's population lives in severe poverty.¹ In 2022, the humanitarian situation worsened² with nearly one in two Burkinabè (46 per cent of the population) directly affected by insecurity, and with 8 per cent of people (approximately 1.6 million) forcibly displaced.³ Insecurity has reduced access to basic services, and food and nutrition insecurity has risen throughout the country, with at least 2.6 million people food insecure in 2022.⁴ Gender-based violence (GBV) is the most reported protection issue among women and children, at 26 per cent of all reported cases.⁵

In December 2022, almost 24 per cent of education institutions were closed.⁶ Forty-two per cent of health facilities were not operating at full capacity or were closed.⁷ Several high courts were closed or relocated, which has likely had an impact on FGM legal cases.

FGM PROFILE

68% of girls and women aged 15 to 49 have undergone FGM.⁸

FGM is performed by traditional practitioners.¹⁰

Protective factors against FGM include **living in urban settings, education and household wealth.**⁹

Approximately 9 out of 10 people think the practice should **stop.**¹¹

The majority of girls experience FGM **before age 5.**¹³

Fewer adolescent girls have undergone FGM compared to older women; **support for the practice has declined significantly.**¹²

JOINT PROGRAMME CONTRIBUTIONS TO FGM ELIMINATION

Humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach to FGM elimination: Using the UNICEF-UNFPA toolkit for the nexus approach on FGM programming, the Joint Programme expanded its partnerships in Burkina Faso with humanitarian actors, grass-roots organizations, community facilitators and community health workers. The nexus approach ensures programme continuity in areas where insecurity has made direct access to communities challenging, and is a strategy for supporting community surveillance of girls at risk of undergoing FGM.

National awareness campaign: During the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, the Joint Programme launched the "Neither an Actor, Nor an Accomplice: Stop FGM Now!" national awareness campaign; 200 young people from 13 regions called on youth to take action to prevent and report cases of FGM.

National database on FGM: An integrated database of relevant FGM data is also being set up with the ministry in charge of gender. The report of the diagnostic study to set up the database has been validated and shared with decision-makers.

Digital platforms support FGM prevention and response: The Joint Programme used digital platforms popular with youth, such as [GQ Jeune](#) and [U-Report](#), to provide information on FGM and referrals to services.

KEY PROGRAMME RESULTS

Communities establish surveillance structures to monitor and report cases of FGM



Annual target for 2022

6,023
COMMUNITIES

Annual result in 2022

1,295
COMMUNITIES
(including 40 communities in sites with internally displaced people in Barsalogo, Kaya, Pissila and Niangado in the province of Sanmatenga)

Prevent girls from undergoing FGM through community-led surveillance



Annual target for 2022

80,000
GIRLS

Annual result in 2022

79,614
GIRLS
(including 195 girls with disabilities and 771 who are internally displaced)

BEST PRACTICE EXAMPLE

Enhancing adolescent girls' agency: A total of 117,723 adolescent girls benefitted from life skills programmes in 2,747 adolescent clubs and safe spaces promoting the right to be free from FGM. With support from community mentors and role models, empowered adolescent girls have engaged in intergenerational dialogues with their families about FGM. Through education sessions promoting gender equality and positive masculinities, 106,081 boys and young men pledged to take an active role in the elimination of FGM in their communities. In addition, 131,913 [U-Reporters](#) accessed information by texting "FGM" to learn more about the practice. On World Children's Day, adolescents and youth launched the annual "Faso Youth Caravan", which organized free activities in six cities: Ouagadougou, Kaya, Tenkodogo, Dédougou, Gaoua and Fada N'Gourma. They promoted FGM elimination through civic action, film screenings, concerts, interactive theater, sporting events and art exhibitions. The caravan reached approximately 800,000 adolescents and young people with information on ending FGM.

1 World Bank, 2023. "The World Bank in Burkina Faso." Website: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/burkinafaso/overview>

2 OCHA (Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs), 2022. Plan de réponse humanitaire Burkina Faso. Website: https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/bfa_hrp_2022_mars.pdf.pdf.

3 Ibid.

4 WFP (World Food Programme), 2022. WFP Burkina Faso Country Brief. Website: <https://reliefweb.int/report/burkina-faso/wfp-burkina-faso-country-brief-november-2022>.

5 Ibid.

6 WHO (World Health Organization), 2022. BFA: Bulletin humanitaire du Cluster santé. Website: <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/burkina-faso/document/bfa-bulletin-humanitaire-du-cluster-octobre-2022>.

7 Ibid.

8 Enquête modulaire démographie et santé (EMDS) 2015.

9 Ibid.

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

11 Ibid.

12 Ibid.

13 Ibid.