

## ANALYSIS REPORTS OF THE COMMUNITY DATA COLLECTION EXERCISE IN EBONYI STATE

### Introduction

From the 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2018, In line towards achieving the Strengthening, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Outcomes for accelerated effort to EndFGM, YNAFGM used the developed electronic Community Data Collection tool which was develop by YNAFGM to be able to capture the responses of stakeholders and other community members in the states of project implementation on questions relating or that are related to the practice of FGM and other social norm in their communities. In the course of the exercise 59 community stakeholders were randomly selected in four communities in Abakiliki and Ebonyi LGAs of Ebonyi State Nigeria and were interviewed using the data collection tool.

**Analysing the questionnaires completed by the stakeholders from the data collection exercise conducted in Ebonyi State, the following were pointed out.**

LOCATION	EBONYI				
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Do you believe FGM is a Harmful Practice	52 (88.1)	2(3.4)	0(0)	1(1.7)	4(6.8)
Do you thiek FGM is a Necessary Practice	2(3.4)	4(6.8)	1(1.7)	6(10.2)	46(78)
Are you willing to advocate ending FGM	51(86.4)	5(8.5)	3(5.1)	0(0)	0(0)
Do people face condemnation for not undergoing FGM	19(32.2)	9(15.3)	15(25.4)	6(10.2)	10(16.9)
Do you think FGM Practice should be made punishable by law	38(64.4)	13(22)	5(8.5)	2(3.4)	1(1.7)
Do people still undergo the process of FGM in your Community	16(27.1)	7(11.9)	22(37.3)	5(8.5)	9(15.3)
Do you think FGM is a religious Practice	8(13.6)	8(13.6)	7(11.9)	4(6.8)	32(54.2)
Do you think Community leaders can stop FGM	31(52.5)	8(13.6)	7(11.9)	7(11.9)	6(10.2)
Would you like FGM to continue	8(13.6)	1(1.7)	2(3.4)	1(1.7)	47(79.7)
Can Government laws stop FGM	33(55.9)	10(16.9)	7(11.9)	3(5.1)	6(10.2)
Do you think that FGM should be a condition for Marriage	7(11.9)	2(3.4)	3(5.1)	2(3.4)	45(76.3)
Do you think communities should abandon the practice of FGM	48(81.4)	3(5.1)	2(3.4)	1(1.7)	5(8.5)
Do you think Religious leaders can help stop FGM	35(59.3)	10(16.9)	9(15.3)	5(8.5)	0(0)
Can Media enlightenment help stop FGM	28(47.5)	8(13.6)	13(22)	9(15.3)	1(1.7)
Are ongoing media campaigns effective	15(25.9)	15(25.9)	15(25.9)	10(17.2)	3(5.2)

in ending FGM					
Do you think that other harmful social norms can be stopped	38(64.4)	14(23.7)	5(8.5)	0(0)	2(3.4)

**NOTE:** All figures in bracket in the table above are Percentages (%).

## FINDINGS

- ✓ 88.1% of the respondent Strongly agreed the FGM is a harmful practice
- ✓ Respondent were still not clear on the side to toll on the issue of people facing condemnation as a result of not undergoing FGM
- ✓ 39% of respondent agreed that they still practice FGM while 37.3 were indifferent on whether it is practiced or not 23.8% said that the practice is no longer in existence this goes a long way to show that the practice is still on going in the communities though might not be compulsory to all.
- ✓ There were a lot of mutilations in the questionnaires'
- ✓ There were a lot of group answers as against the individual opinion sorted which is the major reason for the exercise.

## CHALLENGES

- ✓ Inability of some stakeholders to read and understand the questionnaire without the aid of the interpreter
- ✓ Individual meeting of the stakeholders was more expensive

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- ✓ The questionnaire should be administered to different stakeholders at different spot to avoid group answers
- ✓ The Questions should be read and interpreted to stakeholders who cannot read or write and also the grading properly interpreted to all participants.
- ✓ There should be more FGM awareness programs and projects in these communities to reduce the number of people who do not want to speak about FGM
- ✓ Media enlightenments and Campaigns in these communities should be done in their local languages.

## CONCLUSION

Having accessed the responses from the questionnaires sent back by the stakeholders and having looked at their merits and demerits, the following conclusions suffix.

- ✚ Since most individual have accepted that FGM is a harmful practice and that no religion supports it, therefore advocating to community and religious leaders with the backing of the relevant government laws will help endFGM as also shown in their responses.