

# FGM/C as a Global Issue

## Female Genital Mutilation in Australia is Everyone's Business

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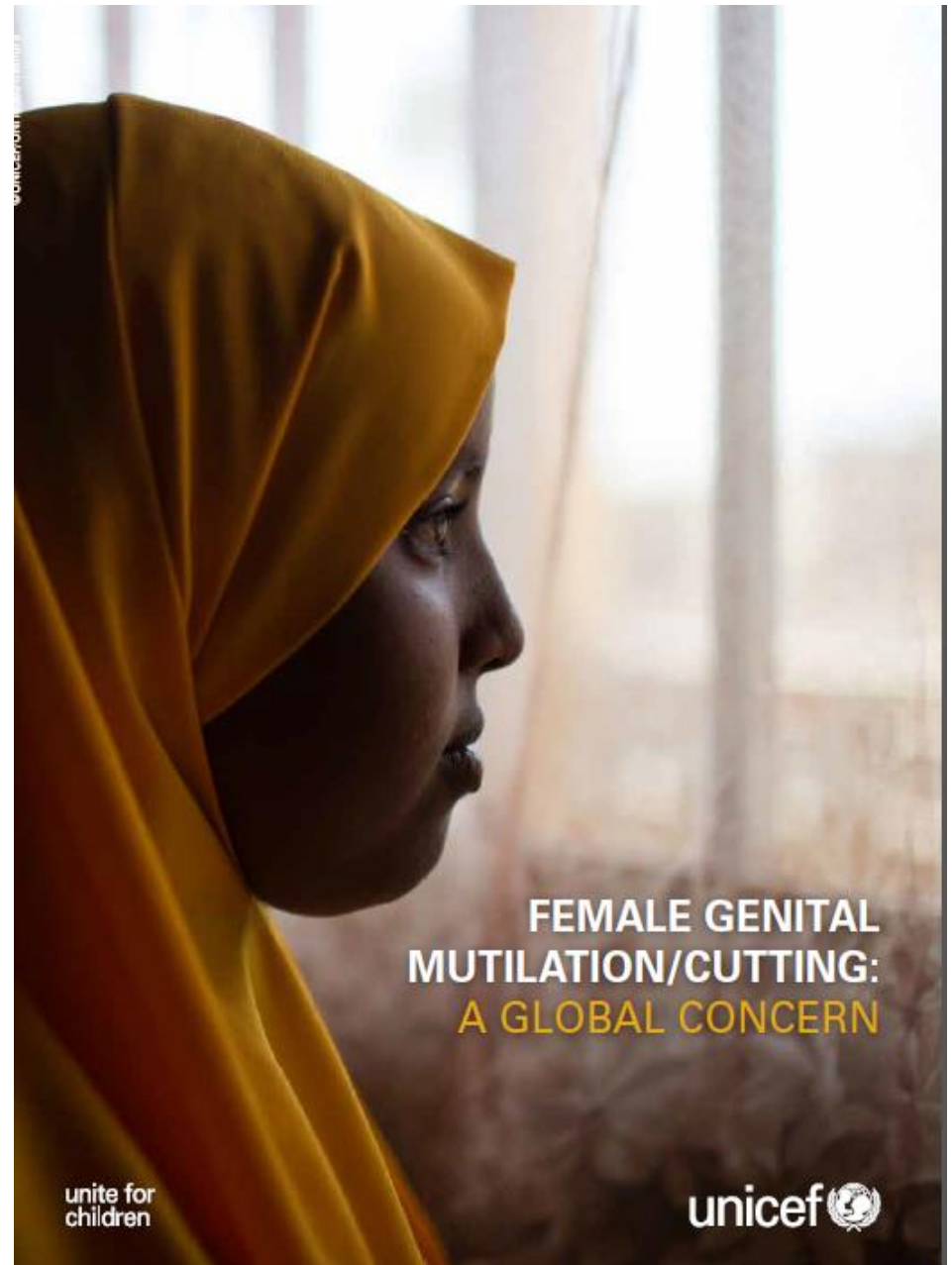
**February 2016 (UNICEF)**

***FGM/C: A global concern***

*UN International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM*

- Data from 30 countries\*
- 200 mill. girls living with FGM
- 50% live in Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia
- 44 mill. aged  $\leq 14$  years
- Most procedures  $< 5$ y
- Somalia 98% prevalence
- 50% Indonesian girls  $\leq 11$  y

\* Australian not included



# FGM/C

- World Health Organisation  
4 'types' of FGM/C
- Regardless of the type, and how it is performed, FGM is harmful and a violation of human rights (UNICEF)
- Fall from 51% - 37% (30 y)
- Uneven fall, if population growth continues, a rise in FGM predicted in 15y



# FGM/C: Action

- September 2015, UN agreed on *Sustainable Development Goal 5*: eliminate all FGM/C by 2030.
- Since 2008, >15,000 communities in 20 countries publicly declared they are abandoning FGM
- >2,000 communities in 2015
- Several countries have passed national legislation criminalizing the practice (Australia, UK)
- where data exist nearly two-thirds of boys and men think FGM should end

# FGM/C: Prevention

- **UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM:**  
*Accelerating Change*
- 16 countries in Africa/Yemen.
- legislation and policies to outlaw FGM
- care by health professionals
- Educate and empower  
girls, women, leaders to  
advocate to end FGM/C
- Collect data\*
  - Understand size of problem
  - Monitor change





# FGM/C

- High numbers, impacts huge
- Not just a problem for Africa
- Asia – highly prevalent ‘normalized’ uncounted
- Western countries
  - in Australia unrecognised, under ascertained, no accurate prevalence data