



## National Standards Framework for FGM/C-related Educational Resources

For health professionals and  
community workers addressing  
FGM/C and related issues.

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The Multicultural Centre for Women's Health (MCWH) is a national, community-based organisation committed to the achievement of health and wellbeing for and by immigrant and refugee women. The mission of MCWH is to promote the wellbeing of immigrant and refugee women across Australia, through advocacy, social action, multilingual education, research and capacity building.

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NETFA



## Introduction

Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C)<sup>1</sup> is a harmful traditional practice that affects the health and wellbeing of more than 125 million girls and women worldwide. FGM/C is not only potentially life threatening, but can have long term health consequences for girls and women throughout the course of their lives. FGM/C has been internationally recognised as violation of human rights and, more specifically, of the rights of children and the rights of women. Although the practice is largely concentrated in parts of Africa and Asia,<sup>2</sup> girls and women who have experienced FGM/C or who may be at risk of FGM/C live in many parts of the world including Australia, through international migration and the displacement of communities from their home countries.

The National Education Toolkit for FGM/C Awareness (NETFA) Project was implemented to support new and existing FGM/C-related community education programs across Australia. The NETFA Project has brought together programs and organisations operating in every state and territory, as well as Australian experts in the field, in order to share their approaches, best practices and resources. Many of the outcomes of the project are documented on the NETFA website at [www.netfa.com.au](http://www.netfa.com.au)

One important part of the NETFA Project involved the development of a National Standards Framework for FGM/C-related educational resources. The framework is based on a survey of FGM/C-related, community-focused resources that are currently available in Australia and internationally. Both the survey and the framework will provide a helpful reference for community-based programs seeking appropriate resources related to FGM/C.

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<sup>1</sup> According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), FGM/C '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'.

<sup>2</sup> WHO, Factsheet No. 241, 2014. FGM/C is commonly practised in parts of Africa, Asia and the Middle East. Forms of FGM/C have also been reported in Central and South America. In New Zealand, Canada, Europe and the United States, immigrants from practising communities are sometimes known to practice FGM/C and are thought to be at risk.

## A note on Terminology

Other English language terms used to describe FGM/C include ‘female genital mutilation’ (FGM), female genital cutting (FGC) and female circumcision. In languages other than English the practice is often not described in these terms at all. The use of the term ‘mutilation’ highlights the seriousness of the harm that can be done by the practice, but can also lead communities to feel stigmatised or condemned, which can have negative consequences for effective engagement.

This Framework uses the term ‘female genital mutilation/cutting’ or ‘FGM/C’ to reflect the importance of using non-judgemental language that is respectful of individuals who have undergone the practice. Including the term ‘cutting’ is not an attempt to excuse or diminish the impact of the practice, but to acknowledge the different ways girls and women might identify or interpret their experience. Particularly in countries of destination like Australia, best practice health promotion and community development programs agree that using appropriate language to ensure that communities are not marginalised or stigmatised is more effective in engaging communities and facilitating dialogue.

## About the National Standards Framework

This National Standards Framework has been developed as an easy-to-use reference tool to inform the use and development of FGM/C-related resource materials for community education and health promotion programs. The National Standards closely reflect the Best Practice Principles outlined in the [NETFA Best Practice Guide for working with communities affected by FGM/C](#), and should be read in that context.

The Framework sets out ten broad criteria that characterise effective and adaptable FGM/C-related health education resources. The criteria can also be used as guidelines for the development of new resources, particularly those which are intended for community education or community-based engagement.

In order to develop the standards, an online survey was conducted of existing Australian and international resources in Australia. Resources included a range of formats and functions including posters, audio-visual materials, training manuals and factsheets. Only resources relevant to community education or community health promotion programs were reviewed. Resources for health professionals, legal professionals, law enforcement or clinical settings were generally not considered in relation to designing the criteria, although there is some cross-over where resources are appropriate in many settings.

In addition to the resource survey, NETFA partner organisations representing every state and territory met to discuss resource use within the context of identifying best practices for working with communities affected by FGM/C. These partners contributed their expertise and resource knowledge throughout the development of the framework.

This Framework approaches the issue of FGM/C within a human rights-based framework that respects the voices, knowledge, culture and life experiences of girls and women. It is an approach that views FGM/C as a violation of human rights, as well as a practice which is harmful to the health of girls and women. The process of empowering communities, especially women, to take the lead in activities supporting the abandonment of FGM/C without stigmatising girls, women or their community is also of central importance. Both national and international best practice suggests that programs should engage all members of the community, and that programs with a focus on young people would be beneficial.

## Who can use this Framework

This Framework is intended for individuals and organisations working with FGM/C-affected communities living in Australia to facilitate their use or development of FGM/C resources. More generally, the Framework might be of interest to professionals, services, community workers and community members who are interested knowing more about how to communicate appropriately and effectively about FGM/C.

This Framework has been developed with the Australian context in mind. In this regard, it identifies resources which address FGM/C with the recognition that what works in a country with widespread knowledge or history of the practice may need to be adapted to address diaspora communities in countries of migration, where their culture is neither dominant nor necessarily understood. For this reason, the Framework might be relevant for programs operating in other countries of migration.

FGM/C resources should not be used in isolation and are not suggested for use by individuals with little or no previous professional experience or training in working with diaspora communities. However, for people working with communities, it can provide a useful reference guide for finding appropriate and relevant resources.



## Summary of Resource Survey

In general, the survey found that there are many resources available which cover the topic of FGM/C. However, very few of them are written with a community audience in mind. While there is a lot of material written for professional health service providers, there are few educational resources for community workers working across different cultural and linguistic communities. Although internationally there have been a number of comprehensive programs, such as the Tostan (partners and donors, UNICEF, UNFPA, USAID) Program, documentation of educational resources used by peer educators during such projects were not found.

## Gaps Identified

In addition to the general lack of resources written for a community audience, there are a number of gaps that have been identified from the materials surveyed:

- Resources that specifically discuss the cultural issues and impact of migration surrounding FGM/C
- Resources in community languages, culturally appropriate and relevant
- Resources for the younger generation
- Resources that discuss changes and contemporary case studies from home countries of communities

## Standards to consider when selecting a resource

Based on current understanding of national and international best practice, a number of standards have been developed to help peer educators to identify resources that are appropriate for use across a range of settings and audiences. While educators may have different approaches or methods of delivering information about FGM/C to specific communities or groups, these standards seek to identify educational materials that minimise the possibility of stigmatising or alienating communities or triggering trauma in individual women who have experienced FGM/C. The standards have been expressed as questions in order to help educators to assess their own resources independently.

## National Standards Framework for FGM/C-related Educational Resources

1	Inclusive and Interactive	Does the resource encourage open communication and dialogue?
2	Relevant	Is the resource relevant to the audience you want to address (considering their gender, age, life stage, religion, marriage status, country of birth etc.)?
3	Human Rights Compatible	Does the resource discuss the issue in terms of gender inequality and the rights of all girls and women?
4	Sexual and Reproductive Health Focus	Does the resource discuss FGM/C within the wider context of sexual and reproductive health?
5	Respects Cultural Dignity	Does the resource reinforce positive aspects of a community's culture and/or ability to move forward?

6	Uses Non-Judgemental Language	Does the resource avoid using judgemental language or stigmatising women who have already been affected by FGM/C?
7	Supports Women's Empowerment	Does the resource empower women to take ownership of their health and wellbeing?
8	Contains Accurate Information	Does the resource use accurate, up-to-date and evidence based information?
9	Uses Appropriate Language	Is the resource written in community languages OR does it use a level of English that could be easily translated?
10	Carries a trigger warning (if applicable)	If the resource uses potentially disturbing images, videos or stories are used, does it provide a content or trigger warning?

## Recommended National FGM/C-related Education Resources

In addition to the National Standards Framework, this document provides an overview of several recommended resources for use in FGM/C-related community education. The list is not definitive and resources were sometimes given preference for their availability, their adaptability and their relevance. Resources include training guides and toolkits, audio visual materials and booklets. An appendix has also been included which lists all the resources that were surveyed in the development of the Standards. The authors encourage peer educators to use both the recommended Resources list and the Appendix to find the materials most suitable for their particular needs.

### Using Resources

Health promotion and community programs targeting FGM/C often negotiate two separate but related aims: to ensure the total abandonment of FGM/C in Australia through education and information; and to ensure that women who have undergone the practice are fully supported in addressing specific health needs and any emotional, psychological or social effects of their experience.

The migration and settlement experience can be a source of long-term trauma for individuals and communities who have been through it. Connections to cultural and social identity can be lost or challenged and new cultural and social expectations can be alienating. This Framework assumes that all resources would be used by peer educators or community workers who have received training in community education and who understand the ways in which the migration experience can impact on the mental, sexual and reproductive and general health and wellbeing of girls and women born in countries, or born to parents from communities with a history of practicing FGM/C as part of their cultural and social life. Social stigma, racial and gender based discrimination, language barriers and access to services are all issues closely bound up with addressing FGM/C in Australia and must be addressed in order to effectively support women who have experienced the practice.

The [NETFA Best Practice Guide for working with communities affected by FGM/C](#) outlines many important considerations for organisations and individuals embarking on FGM/C education or community engagement and can be accessed on the NETFA website.

## Recommended Training Guides, Manuals and Toolkits for Community Workers and Educators

**National Education Toolkit for FGM/C Awareness (NETFA) Best Practice Guide (2014).** Multicultural Centre for Women's Health, Melbourne, Australia, English.

**Summary:** This Guide was developed in consultation with programs across Australia and a literature review of best practice recommendations from national and international programs and initiatives. The Guide provides key guiding principles that can be used to inform health promotion programs working with communities around the issue of FGM/C in Australia.

**Availability:** <http://www.netfa.com.au/best-practice-guide.php>

**National Education Toolkit for FGM/C Awareness (NETFA) Resource and Activity Guide for working with communities affected by FGM/C (2014).** Multicultural Centre for Women's Health, Australia, English.

**Summary:** This resource guide provides advice, program plans, resources and activities to support peer educators to deliver FGM/C education to diverse community groups. The resource includes information on reaching communities, planning and facilitating a health promotion program, handouts, evaluation tools and useful resources for the Australian context. The resource is based on the NETFA Best Practice Guide.

**Availability:** <http://www.netfa.com.au/resource.php>

**The Women's Health and Traditions in a New Society (WHATINS). Training Manual for Bilingual Community Workers (2010).** NSW Program for Female Genital Mutilation, Sydney, Australia, English.

**Summary:** This training resource for Bilingual Community Workers (BCW) is designed to support them to facilitate a 14 day FGM/C education program. The comprehensive training guide

includes listening and communication strategies that accommodate diversity within and across cultural groups and focuses on community empowerment.

**Availability:** Can be purchased by contacting the [NSW Program for FGM](#).

**Female Genital Mutilation (FGM): A Resource Manual for Health Professionals (2008).** Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne, Australia, English.

**Summary:** This resource was developed by the Royal Women's Hospital in 2002 and revised in 2008 by its Family and Reproductive Rights Education Program (FARREP). The resource includes a power point presentation for FARREP workers to use across Victoria. The manual includes relevant health information, case studies, handouts and evaluation.

**Availability:** Contact the Royal Women's Hospital.

**Training Kit: Prevention and Elimination of FGM among Immigrants in Europe (2005).** The African Women's Organization, Vienna, Austria, English.

**Summary:** Modular training program based on WHO materials, set in European context. The training kit is divided into 3 modules run in 7 sessions. The kit targets are community leaders, religious leaders and facilitators. Constructed to be easily adaptable for use by other sectors as required. Includes an attachment on Methodological and Technical Aspects of Training Sessions.

**Availability:** [http://www.african-women.org/resources/training\\_kit.php](http://www.african-women.org/resources/training_kit.php)

Handbook for Cultural and Religious Leaders to End FGM (2014). African Women's Development and Communications Network (FEMNET), Kenya, Africa, English.

**Summary:** This handbook is a behaviour change communication tool intended to expand the engagement of men in religious and cultural institutions to reach out to their communities to eradicate FGM/C in Meru and Tharaka. It clarifies some common myths and misconceptions that perpetuate FGM/C and opens space for dialogue between religious, cultural leaders and members of the community and promotes alternative rite of passage.

**Availability:**

<http://femnet.co/2015/11/08/handbook-for-cultural-religious-leaders-to-end-fgm-3/>

Mama and Nunu 2: Information Manual for Health Professionals (2010). Women's Health West, Melbourne, Australia, English.

**Summary:** Information manual to increase the knowledge, expertise and capacity of health professionals and services to provide appropriate and culturally sensitive services to African women affected by FGM/C. For Service providers. Includes FGM/C information, information about working with women from African backgrounds and fact sheets.

**Availability:** <http://whwest.org.au/resource/mama-and-nunu-2/>

## Recommended Youth Focused Training Guides, Manuals and Toolkits for Community Workers and Educators

### Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Lesson Plan (2014) FORWARD, London, UK.

**Summary:** This clear and easy-to-use lesson plan was designed for secondary school students and includes excellent information including advice about ways to prepare and set ground rules for students. Also includes activities, handouts and discussion guides.

**Availability:** Contact FORWARD or see the FORWARD FGM-Fact-File:  
<http://www.forwarduk.org.uk>

### FGM Fact-File: an Interactive Teaching Resource (2013). FORWARD, UK.

**Summary:** This teaching resource was developed and designed by young people, for use in secondary schools (years 9-11). It includes a comprehensive teaching pack containing guidance notes concerning disclosure and background information ready to use PowerPoint presentations that work alongside clear lesson plans; teaching aids for use in the classroom including three, large scale, boards; an extensive range of movable characters; speech bubbles to stimulate discussion; a DVD, posters, leaflets and activities.

**Availability:** Contact FORWARD to purchase:  
<http://www.forwarduk.org.uk>

### 'K23 FGM Lesson' in SRE Covered: all you need to teach about sex and relationships in secondary schools (2014). Islington Health Schools Team, London, UK, English.

**Summary:** Developed in collaboration with FORWARD as part of a comprehensive sexual and reproductive curriculum resource for secondary school students. Includes a supporting slideshow and classroom activities.

**Availability:**  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/276541/KS3\\_FGM\\_lesson\\_plan.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/276541/KS3_FGM_lesson_plan.pdf)

### Prevention Girls' Circumcision (FGM) teaching toolkit (2009). Rutgers Nisso Groep/Pharos, Utrecht, the Netherlands, English.

**Summary:** This educational resource has been developed for use with all ages (both female and male) from practising and non-practising communities and as part of school curricula with the context of sex and relationship. The toolkit includes lesson plans, handouts and activities.

**Availability:**  
[http://www.pharos.nl/documents/doc/toolkit\\_fgm\\_2009b.pdf](http://www.pharos.nl/documents/doc/toolkit_fgm_2009b.pdf)

## Recommended Audio and Video Resources

**Africa Rising (2008). Equality Now (DVD 63 mins.) English.**

**Summary:** Empowering video which explores issues surrounding the grassroots movements against FGM/C, covering remote villages in Burkina Faso, Kenya, Mali, Somalia and Tanzania. Individuals share their beliefs on FGM/C, and presents the stories of several young girls who have suffered from FGM/C.

**Availability:** Can be purchased by contacting [www.equalitynow.org](http://www.equalitynow.org)

**Breaking the Chains (2011). Multicultural Women's Health, Family Planning Queensland (66 min.) English.**

**Summary:** Testimonies of nine women from diverse backgrounds, and countries sharing their experiences of FGM/C and its impact of on their lives. The transcript is also available.

Available: Order from [Family Planning Queensland](http://www.fpq.com.au/pdf/Breaking_the_chains.pdf)  
Transcript:  
[http://www.fpq.com.au/pdf/Breaking\\_the\\_chains.pdf](http://www.fpq.com.au/pdf/Breaking_the_chains.pdf)

**The Cut (2009). Linda May Kallestein (Online 13 mins.) English.**

**Summary:** A factual and informative short film describing the effect of FGM/C on women's lives. Presents Mary (14 years old) and Alice (early twenties) from Kenya. This film contains disturbing images (blood).

**Availability:** <http://vimeo.com/24040811>

**Empowering Change (2013). RE Ross/Care Somaliland/Monash Health, Melbourne, Australia (DVD and Online 13.41 mins.) English/Somali.**

**Summary:** Video featuring Somali women from different generations living in Victoria talking personally about FGM/C.

**Availability:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UflyjonVCR0>

**Ending FGM/C in Côte d'Ivoire (2013). UNICEF, (Online 5.01 mins.) French with English subtitles.**

**Summary:** Powerful video focusing on Côte d'Ivoire, including interviews with an ex-practitioner, activists and women who have experienced FGM/C.

**Availability:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a3WJsNBaT98&list=PLzfcpK7Y8RR4oscDe6tQkFYgyGXWctT>

**Ending FGM/C in Somalia (2013). UNICEF (Online 5.32 mins.) English.**

**Summary:** Video documenting the efforts of women in Somalia to educate women about the dangers of FGM/C and encourage them to abandon the practice.

**Availability:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QQDrLUPixl0&index=4&list=PLzfcpK7Y8RR4oscDe6tQkFYgyGXWctT>

**Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) – A change has begun (2014). Girleffect, UK (Online 10.13 mins.) English.**

**Summary:** A short and intimate, survivor-led account of life with FGM/C which speaks of the positive shift in perspectives within practising communities in the UK.

**Availability:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jBRRS6y2-68>

**Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: A UNICEF Innocenti documentary (2010). UNICEF (Online 5.34 mins.) English, subtitled.**

**Summary:** Short video examining strategies to encourage communities to abandon FGM/C around the world. Women who have undergone FGM/C and activists share their experiences and



personal stories from Africa and Europe. Jointly they make a persuasive case for the global abandonment of FGM/C.

**Availability:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Msdel5JkbEo>

**Moolaadé (2004).** Ousmane Sembene (DVD 124 mins.) Jula and French, English subtitles.

**Summary:** A touching feature film about and against the practice of FGM/C. For fear of enduring genital mutilation, a group of girls flee their own 'purification' ceremony and take refuge with Collé (Fatoumata Coulibaly), a woman who had spared her daughter from the same fate.

**Availability:** Commercial release.

**NSPCC: Ending Female Genital Mutilation (2014).** National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) (Online 8.20 mins.) English.

**Summary:** A short overview of the risks and consequences of FGM/C, including misconceptions about the practice and personal accounts.

**Availability:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=04qAO5ZzZdY>

**Speaking Out Against Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (2013).** UNICEF (Online 3.11 mins.) English.

**Summary:** Video discussing the most recent statistics and findings about FGM/C practices and attitudes around the world.

**Availability:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pjy8jRRGHcU&list=PLzfcpxK7Y8rRR4oscDe6tQkFYgyGXWctT&index=2>

## Recommended Fact Sheets and Pamphlets

Please Note: Many of the Training Guides, Manuals and Toolkits for Community Educators include quality fact sheets which are not listed here.

**National Education Toolkit for FGM/C Awareness. FAQs about FGM/C, Online, 2014.**

**Summary:** Simple Question and Answer format for nationally relevant facts about FGM/C.

**Availability:** <http://www.netfa.com.au/what-is-female-genital-mutilation-cutting-fgm-c.php>

**NSW Education Program on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). What the Law says about Female Genital Mutilation in NSW. April 2014.**

**Summary:** Recently updated pamphlet explaining the law in relation to FGM/C in NSW. Each State has different laws which prohibit FGM/C. See the Appendix for fact sheets specific to other states and territories.

**Availability:**  
<http://www.dhi.health.nsw.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/333/FGM%20Laws%20-%20New%20Legislation%20April%202014.pdf.aspx>

**Women's Health State-wide, SA Health. Information on Female Circumcision for immigrant women living in South Australia and their Communities. Brochure. November 2012.**

**Summary:** Provides information about FGM/C in a sensitive and non-discriminatory way in simple English.

**Availability:**  
[http://www.whs.sa.gov.au/pub/FGM\\_community.pdf](http://www.whs.sa.gov.au/pub/FGM_community.pdf)

**WHO. Female Genital Mutilation. Fact Sheet (No. 241). World Health Organisation (WHO) February 2014.**

**Summary:** Although the WHO Fact Sheet is not written in simple language, it remains a definitive resource for accurate FGM/C-related information.

**Availability:**  
<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs241/en/>

**Women's Health in the North. Female Genital Cutting (FGC) Factsheet. 2014.**

**Summary:** This factsheet provides clear explanations of the key issues related to FGM/C including prevalence, health implications and referral services.

**Availability:**  
[http://www.whin.org.au/images/PDFs/SRH/FGC\\_SRHFactSheet2014.pdf](http://www.whin.org.au/images/PDFs/SRH/FGC_SRHFactSheet2014.pdf)

## Recommended Booklets

NSW Education Program on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). No Female Genital Mutilation Circumcision in Australia. Arabic, English and Somali.

**Summary:** This booklet includes a wide range of material including poems and doctors' experiences when confronted with treating FGM/C. This booklet also includes information on FGM and the law in NSW.

**Availability:** Contact [NSW Education Program on FGM](#).

FORWARD. Female Genital Mutilation – Frequently Asked Questions: A Campaigner's Guide for Young People. 2012.

**Summary:** Visually interesting and informative resource directed at a young audience (secondary school). Some aspects of the resource are for a UK audience and may not be relevant.

**Availability:** [http://www.forwarduk.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Forward\\_-FGM-FAQ.pdf](http://www.forwarduk.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Forward_-FGM-FAQ.pdf)

FORWARD. Female Genital Mutilation: Information, Services and Support Guide. 2013. English.

**Summary:** Similar to the FORWARD Campaigner's Guide, this resource was developed with a youth focus (ages 12 – 18). It is visually interesting and provides clear information about FGM/C. Some aspects of the resource are for a UK audience and may not be relevant and/or accurate for Australia.

**Availability:** <http://www.forwarduk.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/ISSGuide-Forward.pdf>

Women's Health in the North. Girls Talk Health: A Sexual and Reproductive Health Program for Young Women. 2014. English.

**Summary:** This resource clearly lays out the Girls Talk Health program offered by Women's Health in the North targeting young women from FGM/C-affected communities in school and group settings. The seven modules provides a comprehensive SRH education program which includes a module on FGM/C.

**Availability:** <http://www.whin.org.au/images/PDFs/SRH/GTHBookletWeb.pdf>

Harmful Traditional Practices: Your Questions Our Answers. Gender and Development Network. 2013.

**Summary:** Comprehensive and visually interesting booklet covering harmful traditional practices including FGM/C. Provides information about human rights and gender equity.

**Availability:** <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/536c4ee8e4b0b60bc6ca7c74/t/54b561ebe4b02a643c1c7ac6/1421173227982/GADN+Harmful+Traditional+Practices.pdf>

Women and Newborn Health Service. Female Genital Mutilation: An Educational Resource. King Edward Memorial Hospital, WA Department of Health. 2005. English, Amharic, Arabic and Malay.

**Summary:** Although this resource is dated and has information specific to WA, it provides a simple introduction to FGM/C and is available in Amharic, Arabic and Malay.

**Availability:** Contact the King Edward Memorial Hospital in WA

## Recommended Position Papers and Statements

African Women Australia Inc. (AWAU). Charter of Ethical Practice. African Women Australia, Sydney, 2014. English.

**Summary:** A Charter developed by a group of women from African communities living in Australia promoting a human rights approach to FGM/C and providing a guide to respectful engagement with diverse groups.

**Availability:**

<http://www.netfa.com.au/downloads/AMA-CHARTER-2014.pdf>

Multicultural Centre for Women's Health. Position Paper on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting. 6 February 2013.

**Summary:** A position paper endorsed by over twenty organisations operating across Australia, promoting a nationally coordinated approach to FGM/C.

**Availability:**

[http://www.mcwh.com.au/downloads/2013/MCWH\\_FGMC\\_POSITION\\_PAPER\\_2013.pdf](http://www.mcwh.com.au/downloads/2013/MCWH_FGMC_POSITION_PAPER_2013.pdf)

WHO (2008) Eliminating Female Genital Mutilation: An Interagency Statement UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCHR, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIFEM, WHO. World Health Organization, Geneva, 2008. Available in English, Arabic, French and Portuguese.

**Summary:** A clear statement from a large number of international organisations including clear information about FGM/C, why the practice continues and its harmful consequences.

**Availability:**

[http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw52/statements\\_missions/Interagency\\_Statement\\_on\\_Eliminating\\_FGM.pdf](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw52/statements_missions/Interagency_Statement_on_Eliminating_FGM.pdf)

Women's Health in the North. WHIN Position Statement: Female Genital Cutting. 2014.

**Summary:** A clear statement from a community health organisation supporting the abandonment of FGM/C including the organisation's position on terminology and their action plan for 2014-2016.

**Availability:**

[http://www.whin.org.au/images/PDFs/SRH/SRH\\_position\\_statement\\_2015.pdf](http://www.whin.org.au/images/PDFs/SRH/SRH_position_statement_2015.pdf)

## Recommended Online Resources

Please Note: At the time of writing the links provided to online materials were up-to-date and accessible.

### International

#### FORWARD:

<http://www.forwarduk.org.uk>

**Summary:** FORWARD is a leading African diaspora women's campaign and support organisation, which produces useful and innovative resources on FGM/C.

#### The Guardian:

##### Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

**Summary:** Wide-reaching and up-to-date resource for international FGM/C-related news and events.

#### Availability:

<http://www.theguardian.com/society/female-genital-mutilation>

#### HM Government (UK):

##### Female genital mutilation resource pack

**Summary:** A clearly laid out and up-to-date list of UK resources.

**Availability:** Search <https://www.gov.uk>

#### Orchid project (UK):

<http://orchidproject.org/>

**Summary:** A UK-based non-profit organisation that works to end the practice of female genital cutting. The website has an up-to-date blog, as well as helpful resources, fact-sheets and articles.

### Australia and New Zealand

#### African Women Australia (AWAU):

<http://www.africanwomenaustralia.org/home.html>

**Summary:** African Women Australia (AWAU) works to advocate, represent, train and empower African women and their communities in Australia. The website is still in development but includes some useful links to national events.

#### National Education Toolkit for FGM/C Awareness (NETFA):

<http://www.netfa.com.au>

**Summary:** Website for Australian FGM/C education and prevention programs, including resources, links and contacts for relevant Australian service providers and organisations.

#### NSW Department of Health:

##### NSW Education Program on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

**Summary:** Program website includes a rich collection of project reports and program resources.

#### Family Planning Queensland:

##### Multicultural Women's Health Education Project of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

**Summary:** Website includes information about the Education Project and list of resources available.

## Online E-Learning for Health Professionals

Western Australia Department of Health  
(2012): Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) – A  
Harmful Cultural Practice: E-Learning  
Package for Health Professionals

**Summary:** An easy-to-use self-guided online learning tool for health professionals, which is well-presented and easy to navigate.

**Availability:**

[http://www.kemh.health.wa.gov.au/services/womens\\_health\\_policy\\_and\\_projects/elearning/fgm/story.html](http://www.kemh.health.wa.gov.au/services/womens_health_policy_and_projects/elearning/fgm/story.html)

United to END FGM (UEFGM):  
<http://www.uefgm.org/>

**Summary:** United to END FGM (UEFGM) is a free-of-charge e-learning tool, offering information and practical advice about FGM/C and how to engage individuals and communities on the issue. Although it is developed for European health professionals, the six module course includes clearly presented information about FGM/C, gender identity and the impact of migration, communication techniques and health impacts.

## Appendix: List of All Resources Included in the Survey

Note: Most resources are available on-line (see hyperlinks on online document)

### Education Guides and Toolkits

The African Women's Organization (2005). [Training Kit: Prevention and Elimination of FGM Among Immigrants in Europe](#). Austria.

Barrett, H. R., Brown, K., Beecham, D., Otoo-Oyortey, N. and Naleie, Z. (2011) [Pilot toolkit for replacing approaches to ending FGM in the EU: implementing behaviour change with practising communities](#). Coventry University (Replace project), UK.

Centre for Reproductive Rights (2006). [Female Genital Mutilation: A Matter of Human Rights, An Advocate's Guide to Action](#). Centre for Reproductive Rights, New York, US.

FORWARD (2013). [FGM Fact-file: an Interactive Teaching Resource](#). FORWARD, UK.

(FEMNET) African Women's Development and Communications Network (2014). [Handbook for Cultural and Religious Leaders to End FGM](#). FEMNET, Kenya (pan-African).

Haberland N., Rogow D., Aguilar O., Braeken D., Clyde J., Earle C., Kohn D., Madunagu B., Osakue G. and Whitaker C. (2011). [It's All One Curriculum: Guidelines and Activities for a Unified Approach to Sexuality, Gender, HIV and Human Rights Education](#). The Population Council, UK.

Jordan L. and Neophytou K. (2012). [Improving the health care of women and girls affected by female genital mutilation/cutting: A service coordination guide](#). Family Planning Victoria, Australia.

Multicultural Centre for Women's Health (2014). [National Education Toolkit for FGM/C Awareness \(NETFA\) Best Practice Guide for working with communities affected by FGM/C](#). CW Department of Health, Australia.

Multicultural Centre for Women's Health (2014). [National Education Toolkit for FGM/C Awareness \(NETFA\) Resource and Activity Guide for working with communities affected by FGM/C](#). CW Department of Health, Australia.

NSW Education Program on Female Genital Mutilation (2007). [Female Genital Mutilation: Clinical Management Guidelines Self Directed Learning Manual](#). NSW Government, Australia.

NSW Program for Female Genital Mutilation (2011). [The Women's Health and Traditions in a New Society \(WHATINS\) Training Manual for Bilingual Community Workers](#). NSW Government, Australia.

Royal Women's Hospital (2008). [Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\): A Resource Manual for Health Professionals](#). The Royal Women's Hospital, Australia.

'K23 FGM Lesson' in Slough J. and Killough J. (2014). [SRE Covered: all you need to teach about sex and relationships in secondary schools](#). Islington Health Schools Team, UK.

Rutgers Nisso and Pharos (2009). [Prevention Girls' Circumcision \(FGM\) teaching toolkit](#), A Rutgers Nisso Groep/Pharos Publication, the Netherlands.

Women's Health in the North (2014). [Girls Talk Health: A Sexual and Reproductive Health Program for Young Women including young women from communities that traditionally practice FGC](#). Melbourne, Australia.

Women's Health West (2010). [Mama and Nunu 2: Information Manual for health professionals and service providers working with African women, particularly during pregnancy and childbirth \(including those affected by FGM\)](#). Melbourne, Australia.

## Audio and Video

[Africa Rising](#) (2008). Equality Now (DVD 63 mins.) English.

[Angelique Kidjo talks about female genital mutilation/cutting](#) (2013). UNICEF (2 min 55 sec.) English - *UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Angelique Kidjo speaks out about female genital mutilation/cutting.*

[Breaking the Chains](#) (2011). Multicultural Women's Health, Family Planning Queensland (CD 66 min.) English.

[The Cut](#) (2009). Linda May Kallestein (Online 13 mins.) English.

[Desert Flower](#) (2009). Sherry Hormann (Feature film 120 mins.) English, Somali and French.

[Empowering Change](#) (2013). RE Ross/Care Somaliland/Monash Health, Melbourne, Australia (Online and DVD 13.41 mins.) English/Somali.

[Ending Female Genital Mutilation in Côte d'Ivoire](#) (2013). UNICEF, (Online 5.01 mins.) French with English subtitles.

[Ending Female Genital Mutilation in Somalia](#) (2013) UNICEF (Online 5.32 mins.) English.

[Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\) – A change has begun](#) (2014). Girleffect, UK (Online 10.13 mins.) English.

[Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: A UNICEF Innocenti documentary](#) (2010). UNICEF (Online 5.34 mins.) English, subtitled.

[Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\) Issues for Clinical Practice Part 1: Issues for Clinical Practice](#) (2001) The Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne, Australia (DVD 22 mins.) English

[Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\) Issues for Clinical Practice Part 2: Amina's stories \(for workers and women\)](#) (2001). The Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne, Australia (DVD 32 min.) Available in Amharic, Arabic, English, Tigrinya and Somali.

[Female Genital Mutilation in Clinical Practice](#) (2008). Multicultural Women's Health, Family Planning Queensland (DVD 46 mins.) English.

[FGM – A ritual of agony](#) (2011). The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs (Online 30.31 mins.) English and English subtitles.

[Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting](#) (2010). UNFPA and UNICEF (Online 9.21 mins.) English.

[Moolaadé](#) (2004). Written and directed by Ousmane Sembene (DVD 124 min.) Jula, French, English subtitles.

[A National Conference on Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\): Human Rights, Community & Health Response](#), Brisbane Australia (2005). Multicultural Women's Health Education Project, Family Planning Queensland (DVD) English.

[Progress and Efforts to End Genital Mutilation and Cutting](#) (2013). UNICEF (Online 5.32 mins.) English.

[Speaking Out Against Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting](#) (2013). UNICEF (Online 3.11 mins.) English.



[In Sudan, Saleema campaign re-frames debates about female genital cutting](#) (27 Aug 2010). UNICEF (Online 4.46 mins.) English.

[UNICEF Sudan Saleema Animation June 10.rm](#) (2010). UNICEF Sudan (Online 1.31 mins)

[Young People in Melbourne's North say NO! to Female Genital Cutting \(FGC\)](#) (2015). Women's Health in the North (Online 1.33 mins.)

## Fact Sheets and Pamphlets

Better Health Channel, [Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\)](#), State of Victoria, 2013.

Home Office UK. [Female Genital Mutilation: The Facts](#). Brochure. UK Government April 2011.

FORWARD, Muslim Council of Britain, Muslim Spiritual Care Provision in the NHS. [FGM & Islam Leaflet](#). 2014.

Multicultural Centre for Women's Health, [Elimination of FGM: What Works](#), Fact Sheet 1 March 2012.

Multicultural Women's Health. [Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\) Fact Sheet](#). Family Planning Queensland, March 2007. English, Amharic, Arabic, Tigrinya and Somali

National Education Toolkit for FGM/C Awareness (NETFA). [FAQs about FGM/C](#), Online, 2014.

National Organization of Circumcision Information Resource Centers (NOCIRC). [Answers to your Questions about Female Circumcision](#). 2007. English

No FGM in Australia. [FGM in Australia Fact Sheet](#). Online, 2013.

NSW Education Program on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). [NSW Education Program on FGM Brochure](#), November 2014.

NSW Education Program on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). [What the Law says about Female Genital Mutilation in NSW](#), April 2014.

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, [Fact Sheet No. 23 \(archived\): Harmful Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children](#). OHCHR. Available in English, Chinese and Russian.

The Royal Women's Hospital. [Female Circumcision \(Traditional Cutting\) and the Law in Victoria](#). June 2014.

The Royal Women's Hospital. [Well Women's De-infibulation Clinic](#). June 2014.

The Royal Women's Hospital. [Well Women's De-infibulation Clinic: Reversing your circumcision](#). June 2014.

The Royal Women's Hospital. [Can We Help You?: A service for women affected by female circumcision](#). Brochure. April 2009. Amharic.

Women's Health in the North, Victoria, [Female Genital Cutting: A Harmful, Traditional Practice](#). January 2015.

Women's Health State-wide, SA Health. [Information on Female Circumcision for immigrant women living in South Australia and their Communities Brochure](#). November 2012.

Women's Health State-wide, SA Health. [What does the law say about Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\) in South Australia?](#) November 2012.

Women's Health West. [Healthy African Women](#). Brochure. 2010. Amharic, Arabic, English, Somali and Tigrinya.

WHO. [Female Genital Mutilation](#). Fact Sheet (No. 241). World Health Organisation (WHO) February 2014.

## Project and Research Reports

NSW Education Program on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) (2011). [Marking International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation 2011 Report](#). Sydney, Australia.

NSW Education Program on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) (2010). [Community Cultural Days November 2008 - July 2009 Report](#). Sydney, Australia.

UNICEF/Innocenti Research Centre (2010) [The dynamics of social change: towards the abandonment of female genital mutilation/cutting in five African countries](#). Florence, Italy.

## Posters

Multicultural Women's Health Education Project, Family Planning Queensland, [Posters](#): 1. 'Say no to FGM'; 2. 'Together we say no to FGM'; and 3. 'You wouldn't do it to her eyes so why would you do it to her genitals' (various years).

UK Government, [Female Genital Mutilation is Abuse Poster](#), UK Government, English and translated in 10 languages (Amharic, Arabic, Farsi, French, Somali, Swahili, Tigrinya, Turkish, Urdu and Welsh version.) 2011 [UK specific].

## Online Resources

### International

28 Too Many: <http://28toomany.org/>

Amnesty International: <http://www.amnesty.org/>

Daughters of Eve (UK): <http://www.dofeve.org/>

Desert Flower Foundation: <http://www.desertflowerfoundation.org/en/>

Equality Now. [Female Genital Mutilation](#) (online) [www.equalitynow.org](http://www.equalitynow.org), updated. Available in English, Spanish, French and Arabic.

FORWARD (Foundation for Women's Health Research and Development). [FGM](#) (online): <http://www.forwarduk.org.uk> 2015.

GAMS Belgium and La Boîte À Images [Female Genital Mutilation: My Way of Saying No](#): Photographic exhibition. English French and Dutch, 2013.

The Guardian. [Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\)](#) (online): updated regularly.

HM Government, UK. [Home Office Female genital mutilation: resource pack](#) (online), 22 July 2014.

London Safeguarding Children Board. National FGM Resources: <http://www.londonscb.gov.uk/fgm/>

Orchid project (UK): <http://orchidproject.org/>

Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices (IAC): [www.iac-ciaf.net](http://www.iac-ciaf.net)

International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF): <http://www.ippf.org/> Available in English and Japanese.

Tostan: Dignity for All: <http://tostan.org/community-empowerment-program>

UNFPA Female Genital Mutilation (online): <http://www.unfpa.org/female-genital-mutilation>

UNICEF. Child Protection (online): <http://www.unicef.org/protection/>

United to END FGM (UEFGM): <http://www.uefgm.org/>

UN Women: <http://www.unwomen.org/en>. Available in English, Spanish and French.

Youth Advocate Program International: [www.yapi.org](http://www.yapi.org)

## Australia and New Zealand

African Women Australia (AWAU): <http://www.africanwomenustralia.org/home.html>

African Women's Council of Australia (AWCoA): <http://awcoa.com.au/>

Australian Institute of Family Studies, [Female genital mutilation](#) (online): <http://www.aifs.gov.au/> 2015.

National Education Toolkit for FGM/C Awareness: <http://www.netfa.com.au>

New Zealand FGM Education Programme. [Female Genital Mutilation Information for Health and Child Protection Professionals](#) (online), 2011.

No FGM in Australia: <http://nofgmoz.com>

NSW Department of Health. [NSW Education Program on Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\)](#) (online), 06 Nov 2014.

Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services. [Female Genital Mutilation – Frequently Asked Questions](#) (online), 17 December 2014.

Western Australia Department of Health. [Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\) – A Harmful Cultural Practice: E-Learning Package for Health Professionals](#) (online), 2012.

Family Planning Queensland: [Multicultural Women's Health Education Project of Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\)](#) (online), 2013.

## Other resources

Australian Muslim Women's Centre for Human Rights. [Respectful Dialogue: A guide for responsible reporting on Female Genital Cutting](#), 2014.

European Institute for Gender Equality, [Female genital mutilation in the European Union and Croatia Report](#) (see in particular Section 6: Policy Development, implementation and actors at member State level), European Union 2013.

HM Government, [Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines: Female Genital Mutilation](#), 2014. UNICEF. [Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: A statistical overview and exploration of the dynamics of change Report](#), 2013.

## Selected Resources for Health Professionals

Jordan, L. and Neophytou, K. [Improving the health care of women and girls affected by female genital mutilation/cutting: A service coordination guide](#). Family Planning Victoria. September 2012.

New Zealand FGM Education Programme. [The Female Genital Mutilation Teaching Module: Background for Midwifery, Nursing and Medical Students](#). 2009.

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG). [Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\), Information for Australian Health Professionals](#). 2013.

SA Health. [South Australian Perinatal Practice Guidelines: Female genital mutilation](#), March 2012.

Tasmania Department of Health and Human Services. [Female Genital Mutilation Information for Health Professionals](#), 2010.

World Health Organisation. [Female Genital Mutilation: Integrating the Prevention and the Management of the Health Complications into the curricula of nursing and midwifery. A Teacher's Guide](#). Geneva. 2000.

World Health Organization [Global strategy to stop health-care providers from performing female genital mutilation](#) UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNIFEM, WHO, FIGO, ICN, IOM, WCPT, WMA, MWIA. 2010. Available in Arabic English and French.

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