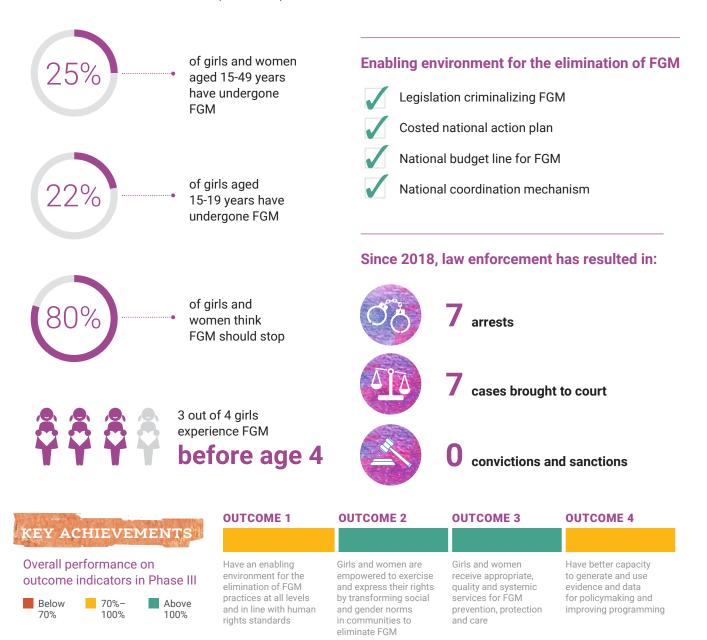
## Senegal

## CONTEXT

Senegal shares a border with five countries, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali and Mauritania, where FGM is practised. Although Senegal's economic growth has been more than 6 per cent since 2014, poverty and unemployment rates remain high. The pandemic significantly affected the country's economy, restricting health and social services. Although Senegal has made significant progress in child survival and development, persistent gender inequalities and harmful sociocultural practices remain. Among girls aged 15-17, 2.9 per cent have confronted sexual violence and 20 per cent physical violence (DHS, 2019).



Sources: Senegal DHS 2019, UNFPA estimates for 2018 based on the Senegal DHS 2017, Data-for-All, UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation: Accelerating Change.

## Scaled-up community engagement

Through strategic interventions such as education sessions, social mobilization and FGM sensitization, in Phase III, 12,770 people engaged in community and/or interpersonal dialogues in 1,136 communities; 809 villages committed to abandoning FGM. The Joint Programme supported human rights training workshops for 456 religious and 107 community leaders to strengthen their capacity and knowledge of human rights.

In Phase III, 6,007 girls and boys became change agents after completing capacity development packages; 368 girls' clubs with 11,040 members aged 12-22 bolstered capacities on human rights and FGM; 144 alert and watch brigades were set up during the pandemic; 30,000 girls completed capacity-building on FGM; 1,387 communities began implementing capacity-building on FGM. Since 2020, a digital campaign on FGM has been used as an alternative to continuing counselling and education services. In 2021, 3,180,373 interactions on social media activities related to FGM were initiated with Joint Programme support.

Standard operating procedures were developed in 2013 following WHO guidelines, improving multisectoral coordination and responses to survivors of all types of violence. In cooperation with the Ministry of Health, training sessions for health professionals and community health workers built skills on clinical management and psychological support for FGM survivors. In Phase III, 70,283 girls and women received health services related to FGM; 94,0101 girls gained social and legal services related to FGM.



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