



### Intersectionality:

Understanding the Multi-dimensional Challenges in Preventing Violence Against Women and Girls

Tina Fahm, CEO of Bawso





UN International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM

# About Bawso

Bawso is a Pan–Wales charity that provides advice, support and safe refuge accommodation to women victims of violence.

We also support victims of forced marriage, female genital mutilation (FGM), honor-based violence (HBV) and victims of modern slavery and human trafficking (MSHT).

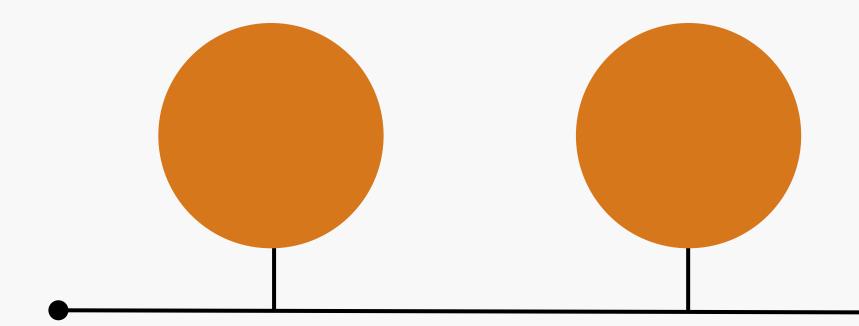


# What is FGM?

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) also known as 'cutting' involves all procedures that alter or cause injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. FGM causes long and short-term consequences to the victims, including psychological torture, cysts and haemorrhage (WHO, 2023).



# Key Features



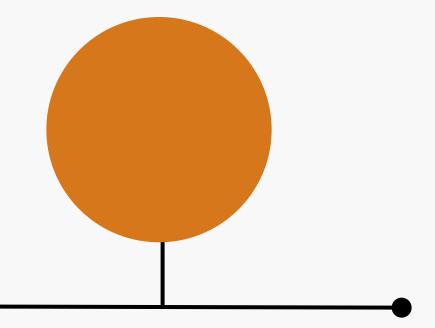
#### MILLION OF GIRLS ARE AT RISK OF FGM

Nearly 4.4 million girls are at risk in 2024, representing 12,000 girls at risk daily, around the world.

#### NO LOCAL AUTHOITY IS FREE FROM FGM

Estimates that 137,000 women and girls affected by FGM resided in England and Wales.





#### 123 VICTIMS OF FGM WERE TREATED IN WALES

'A case of FGM was discovered every three days, by maternity staff in Wales in 2016'

## Background Information

#### Religion

Sociological and culture

Health hygiene and aesthetics

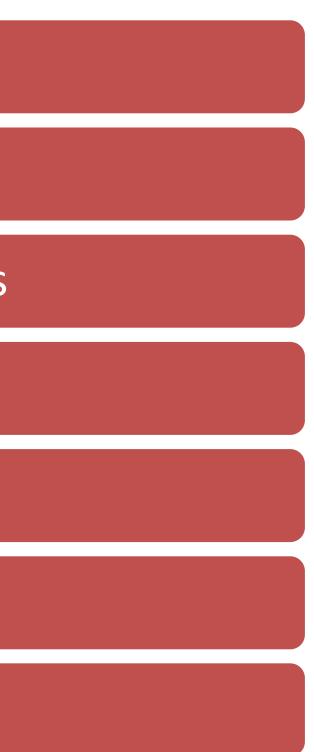
Psychological

Sexual and marriage

Economic

Tradition





### Girls & women are in danger

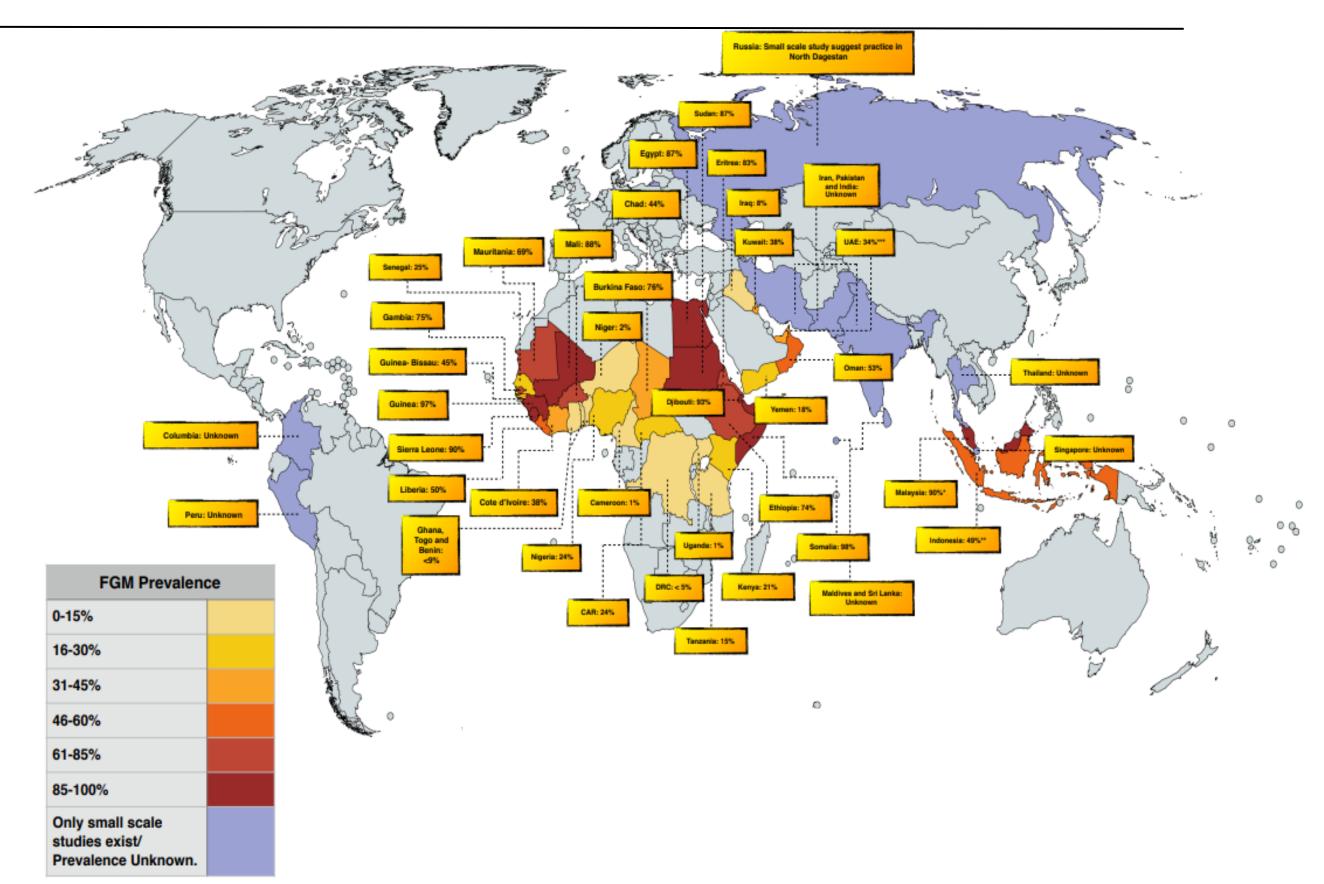
More than **200 million** women and girls worldwide have been cut while 20 million are at risk of FGM annually







### FGM Global Prevalence





### UK Prevalence

60,000 girls under 15 are at risk of FGM in the UK

A case of FGM is reported in England every 109 minute (Children's Charity Plan UK; 2016 report)

Wales started recording FGM cases in 2016.

123 victims treated in wales since 2016-this may have gone up

At least 3 cases reported in Cardiff every week (as of 2018)



# UKLegislation

**Integral** to participate in any sort of arrangement for FGM to be performed on another, inside or outside of the UK

(The Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003)

#### **14 years** of imprisonment

for aiding, abetting, counseling, procuring or carrying out FGM either inside or

outside of the UK is or a fine or both.



# FGM Protection orders

Two full FMPO issued in 2022 and 2023 by the South Wales police to protect victims or persons at risk (South Wales PCC, April 2023)



### FGM Convictions since 1985

Uganda mother who committed the offense in London (2019)

FGM legislation has been in place since 1985 in the UK



A mother who aided FGM practice in Kenya and convicted in October 2023 awaiting sentencing

## Bawso work on FGM

In 2019, Bawso recruited and trained 30 community advocates from practicing communities to support our prevention work in the community.



#### **Bawso delivered** community-based awareness to 1872 people in 2019

# Bawso support on FGM



By December 2019, Bawso has provided one to one support to over 106 clients

Up to March 2020, Bawso had supported 46 victims

All the survivors who were referred to Cardiff Infirmary received psychosocial support





### Thank you

#### **Bawso contact:**



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