

Mali

2024 SNAPSHOT

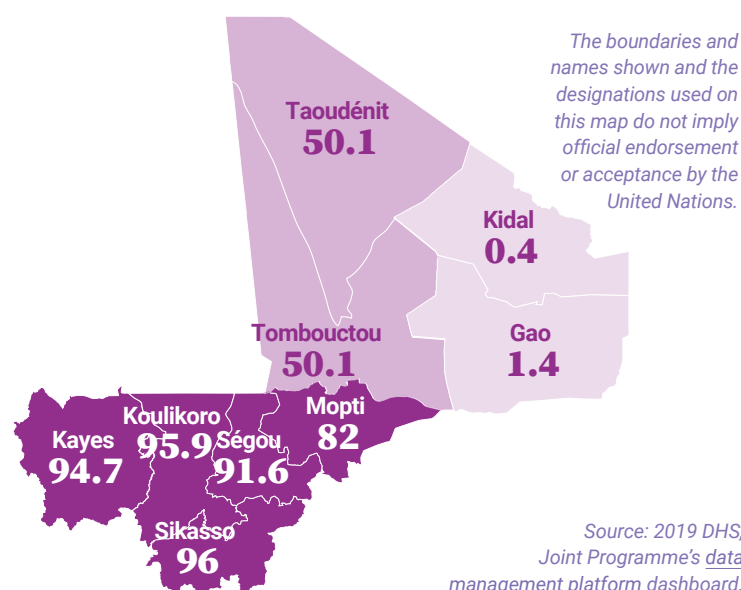
Sociopolitical context

Mali faces a complex humanitarian crisis, with 6.4 million people needing aid by late 2024 due to conflict, insecurity and climate shocks, compounded by socioeconomic issues. Needs are highest in the northern and central regions, where displacement and limited basic services are prevalent.

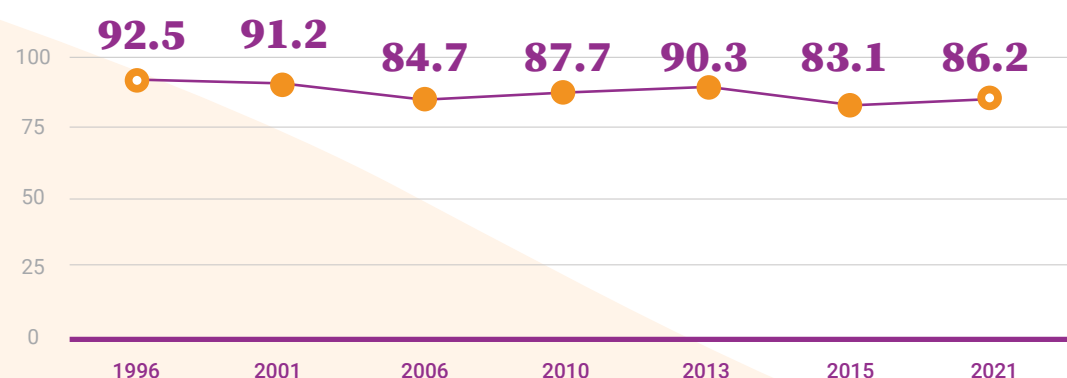
FGM context

Mali has yet to ratify national female genital mutilation (FGM) legislation. In 2024, the Government focused its efforts on awareness-building and prevention. Programmatic interventions were negatively impacted by partner disengagement due to political instability and pushback from religious leaders.

Latest subnational FGM prevalence (percentage) among females aged 15–49 years



FGM prevalence (percentage) among females aged 15–19 years from first through latest population-based surveys



Social norms (2023 data)¹

Descriptive norm:

82%

of men and women believe that the majority (i.e., more than half) of girls under 5 in their community had undergone FGM.

Injunctive norm:

86%

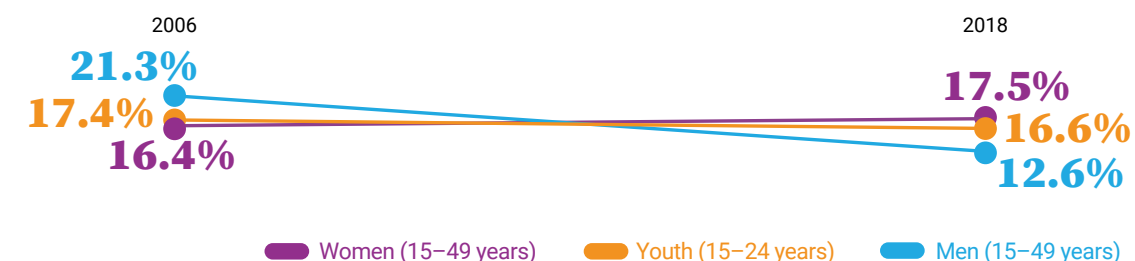
of men and women think their community expects them to continue FGM.

Outcome expectancies:

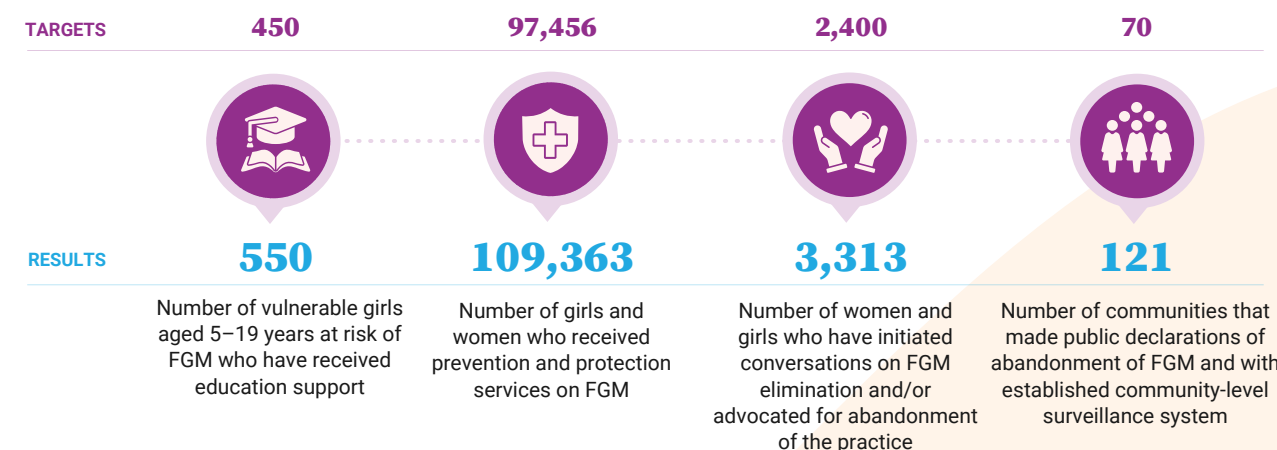
34%

of men and women think they would face sanctions for abandoning FGM.

Proportion of individuals who believe FGM should be stopped



Highlights of 2024 programme results



Spotlighted interventions

Movement-building

→ In 2024, 220 people (118 women and 102 men) from the Kayes, Koulikoro, Sikasso, Ségou and Mopti regions and the district of Bamako, including conflict-affected areas such as Gao and Timbuktu, gained advocacy skills. Four youth platforms were launched in Gao, Kayes, Sikasso, and Timbuktu, developing 12 action plans for advocacy and peer education on abandoning FGM and Gender-Based Violence (GBV). Young leaders have also created communications channels such as WhatsApp groups and Facebook pages and tapped into U-Report to mobilize their peers.

Promoting girls' agency

→ A ludo-educational (use of games in a learning framework) mass communications approach engaged 322,607 individuals on FGM, child marriage and promoting gender equality in the Koulikoro, Ségou, Kayes, Dioila, Timbuktu and Mopti regions. Various community-based activities, such as mass sensitization, training sessions, radio broadcasts, forum theater and dialogues, addressed taboos and prompted constructive discussions and a better understanding of the harms of FGM. Twelve girls were protected from FGM and 111 girls from child marriage through community management committees. Moreover, over 121 communities officially abandoned FGM, creating an enabling environment to promote girls' agency.

¹ Data from five zones in Mali: Bamako, Kayes, Koulikoro, Sikasso and Ségou. Based on Somji, A., B. Bocourm, C. Leon-Himmelstine et al., 2023. "A Quantitative Analysis of Social Norms Relating to FGM/C and Child Marriage in Mali". ODI Global, Plan International and UNICEF.



IN-COUNTRY PARTNERS

Joint Programme Country Partners

Number	List of partners*
8	Academy of Teaching (AE) and the Pedagogical Animation Centers (CAP) of Kayes, Nioro, Koulikoro, Sikasso, Ségou, Bamako, Association for the Progress and Defense of Women's Rights (APDF), Association for the Promotion of Rights and the Well-being of the Family (APSEF), Malian Association for the Monitoring and Guidance of Traditional Practices (AMSOPT), Ministry for the Promotion of Women, Children and the Family (MPFEF), National Program for the Abandonment of GBV (PNVBG), Reference Health Centers (CSREF), Regional Directorates for the Promotion of Women, Children and the Family of Kayes, Nioro, Koulikoro, Sikasso, Ségou, Bamako, Tostan

* List is a mix of implementing and strategic partners