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End FGM
EUROPEAN NETWORK

STAND TOGETHER, TAKE ACTION:
BE PART OF **ZERO TOLERANCE WEEK**
TO END FGM



4-7 FEBRUARY 2025

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Tuesday

4

The Join Our Chain
International Conference +
End FGM EU Campaign Launch

10:00 - 13:00

Thursday

6

Y-ACT Event - AMREF Italy 14:30 - 18:00
"SPEAK UP - Giving Voice to
Silence to end FGM and promote
women's and youth empowerment"

Zero Tolerance Day For FGM!

Wednesday

5

GAMS Belgium Conference
Towards the eliminataion of FGM: A
coordinated national approach

12:00 - 14:00

ActionAid Italy 10:00 - 17:30
Conference with italian society
on reconstructive surgery

FGM Taskforce Greater LA
(Virtual Event) 18:00 - 20:00

Purple Chair Podcast Launch 12:00 - 14:00
AKIDWA Ireland

Friday

7

End FGM E-Campus 09:30 - 12:00
Stakeholder meeting - UK mission

DAY 1

JOIN OUR CHAIN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE END FGM EU ANNUAL CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

Tuesday 4th February, 2025

Brussels

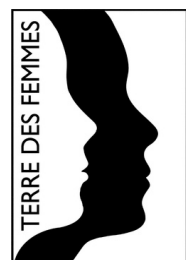
10.00 - 13.00 CET

Venue: European Parliament

EP room SPAAK 7C50

Co-hosted with MEP Maria Noichl

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CHAIN



act:onaid



9:00 - 10:00 Registration and arrival

10:00 - 10:15 Opening Remarks - **Marianne Nguena Kana**
(End FGM EU Interim Director)

10:15 - 10:30 End FGM EU - **Annual Campaign Launch**
#Invest2PreventFGM

10:30 - 10:50 Project Achievements



Petra Kappler
TERRE DES FEMMES
Project Coordinator



Fatou Mandiang Diatta
Community Trainer from
Germany



Stella Okungbowa
Community Trainer from Italy

Break

Fatou Mandiang Diatta will sing!

11:00 - 12:00 Panel Q&A - **Discussion and Exchange**



Riham Ibrahim
Good practices to end FGM and
EFM with reference to Italy



**Evariste Franz Kapnang
Tchaptchet**
Community Engagement
to end FGM

12:00 - 12:10

Wrap up - **Strengthening Advocacy & Partnerships**



Carla Mikhael
Community Trainer from Germany

12:10 - 12:20

Closing Remarks – **MEP Maria Noichl**
Maria Noichl is a Member of the European
Parliament representing Germany in the S&D
group since July 2014. She is a member of the
Committee on Women's Rights and Gender
Equality (FEMM)



12:20 - 13:00

Networking Reception

ABOUT THE EVENT & THE JOIN OUR CHAIN PROJECT

In anticipation of the International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM, the End FGM European Network will host a significant event at the European Parliament on 4th February 2025.

The event is co-hosted by MEP Maria Noichl, and marks the official launch of the Network's Annual Campaign for 2025.

Join our
CHAIN

The Join Our Chain project, an important initiative dedicated to preventing and eliminating Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Early and Forced Marriage (EFM). The conference celebrates the successful conclusion of the project, and serves as a platform to discuss strategies and actions necessary to eliminate FGM by the 2030 deadline.

Organized by the End FGM European Network and project partners: TERRE DES FEMMES (Germany), Action Aid (Italy), and Akidwa (Ireland), the event will provide an overview of the two-year project's achievements, including the outcomes of the three intervention chains developed in Germany, Italy, and Ireland.

Key stakeholders, community trainers, and policymakers will join the discussions highlighting the positive and transformative results of the project. The conference will be conducted in English, Italian, and German, with interpretation available in all three languages.

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actionaid



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DAY 2

NATIONAL CONFERENCE TOWARDS THE ELIMINATION OF FGM:

A COORDINATED NATIONAL APPROACH

Wednesday 5th February, 2025
Brussels 12:00-14:00 CET

Venue: Senate of Belgium, Room K
Rue de Louvain 7

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Places are limited to one person per association.



- 11:30-12:00** Security check and entry
- 12:00-12:30** Welcome and sandwiches
- 12:30** Welcome address – Diariou Sow (President, GAMS Belgium)
- 12:40** Introduction to the Belgian context
Fabienne Richard (Director, GAMS Belgium) &
Katrien De Koster (Coordinator of activities in Flanders, GAMS Belgium)
- 12:55** Presentation of fieldwork with community voices
Mawda (Community Voices Manager, GAMS Belgium)
- 13:00** Social impact assessment of GAMS Belgium (ESSEC)
- 13:15** European Campaign #Invest2PreventFGM
Marianne Nguena (Interim Director End FGM European Network)
- 13:30** Q&A session (bilingual moderation)

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Places are limited to one person per association.



ABOUT THE EVENT

in Belgium, **35,000+** girls and women are affected by female genital mutilation (FGM). Although the country is often cited as an example for its efforts (prevalence, multidisciplinary care, training, hospital protocols), significant challenges remain, particularly in better informing families who have arrived through family reunification and strengthening prevention and support in Flanders, a region under-resourced in addressing this issue.

Together with federal parliamentarians, representatives from other administrations, and civil society we will explore the progress made so far in Belgium toward ending FGM, as well as the key priorities for the years to come. The event will be conducted in both **French** and **Dutch** and will feature an introduction to the Belgian context, a presentation of fieldwork with Community Voices, and an evaluation of the social impact of GAMS Belgium by ESSEC.

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DAY 3

SAVE THE DATE



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SPEAK

up

Thursday 6th February, 2025

Brussels

14.30 - 18.00 CET

Venue: European Parliament, Room 1G3

Co-hosted with MEP Cristina Guarda

Registration is required by Monday, February 3

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WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF



EVENT AGENDA

14:30-15:00 Registration & Welcome

15:00-15:45 Institutional greetings MEP Cristina Guarda (Verdi Italia) & Paola Crestani, President Amref Health Africa Italy

Y-ACT Project Presentation

Laura Gentile - Amref Health Africa Italia

Mehret Tewolde - Le Reseau

Noura Ghazoui - CoNNGI

Patrizia Farina - Bicocca University

2025 Annual Campaign END FGM EU Network Marianne Nguena Kana, Interim Director

15:45 - 16:00 VIDEO Hero Y-ACT Campaign Giving Silence a voice #thevalueofthegirl

16:00 - 17:15 Five pathways to a future without FGM

Dialogues between Y-ACT Youth leaders and European and African activists around FGM

TRADITION

Community: between identity and opportunities. The role of Youth in leading the change

Jasmina El Shouraky - Y-ACT Youth leader, Italy

Bitania Lulu Berhanu - Director – Y-ACT, Youth in Action Amref Health Africa Headquarters

Queralt Perarnau- Senior Project Officer End Fgm EU Network

TABOO

Intergenerational dialogue and practices to raise and promote the voices of youth belonging to FGM affected communities

Esraa Newir - Y-ACT Youth leader, Italy

Aminata SidiBé- END FGM EU Co President, Brussels and COP FGM Coordinator, Gams Belgium

Paola Magni - Amref Italy

UNAWARENESS

Women's and youth empowerment pathways to raise awareness and promote change

Perfection Oyelola Oke - Y-ACT Youth leader, Italy

Khady Koita - La Palabre, Belgium

Sharon Maitha - Communication and Social Media Officer Y-ACT, Youth in Action Amref Health

Africa Headquarters

TRAUMA Healing wounds to promote wellbeing and the importance of an inclusive, non-stigmatising approach to support survivors.

Perfection Oyelola Oke - Y-ACT Youth leader, Italy

Valerie Lolomari - Mental health practitioner/CEO/Founder Women of Grace UK

Mariama Bah - Brussels and Wallonia Community Voices Coordinator

SC_MGF Coordinator, GAMS Belgium

HEALTH Rights to health, safety, physical integrity, sexual and reproductive health and self-determination for girls

Marwa Adam Soliman - Y-ACT Youth leader, Italy

Comfort Momoh - Women's Health campaigner, UK

Edell Otieno-Okoth - FGM Expert, Plan International Germany

17:15-17:45 Presentation of the communities' Manifesto for the abandonment of FGM - Youth and Adults from Y-ACT Project Communities

Jasmina El Shouraky, Esraa Newir, Perfection Oyelola Oke, David Agbonifo, Marwa Adam Soliman - Youth Leaders Y-ACT Project

Mona Naem, Anab Mohamed, Evelyn Nwabiani Nwaokenie, Innocent Otuomasirichi Uzochukwu,

Mona Khalil - Members of CoPs Y-Act Project

Q&A

Closing remarks - Veronica Lattuada, Program Coordinator, Amref Health Africa Italia

Event Moderator: Mehret Tewolde

Join us for the networking aperitif at 18.00

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ABOUT THE EVENT & THE Y-ACT PROJECT

On the occasion of the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), the event, hosted by **Cristina Guarda** (Member of the European Parliament, Greens/EFA – European Green Party), will feature the participation of the **END FGM EU Network** and will provide an important opportunity to hear from 5 Youth Leaders, trained during the Y-ACT Project, who will lead talks titled “Five Pathways to a Future Without FGM.”

The discussions will be supported by the presence of 10 activists from various European and African countries. Following this, 5 young people and 5 adults from the involved communities will present the **Commitment Manifestos to abandon FGM**, developed during the project.

The Y-ACT (Youth in ACTION for Change) Project, co-financed by the European Union through the CERV program, is led by Amref Italia in partnership with Associazione Le Reseau, CoNNGI, and Bicocca University of Milan. The project promotes lasting cultural change through the empowerment of young people with migration backgrounds and their communities, aiming to address gender-based violence and female genital mutilation.



Registration is required by Monday, February 3

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DAY 3

V SUMMIT

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ZERO TOLERANCE
AGAINST FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION
'PREVENT, HEAL, REBUILD'

Thursday 6th February, 2025

10.00 - 17.30 CET

Venue: Sala Consiglio, Palazzo Isimbardi
Milan, Italy and Online

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ABOUT THE EVENT

In commemoration of 6th February, the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), **SICPRE** (Italian Society of Plastic, Reconstructive, Regenerative, and Aesthetic Surgery), in collaboration with **ActionAid Italy**, presents the 5th Summit on the topic.

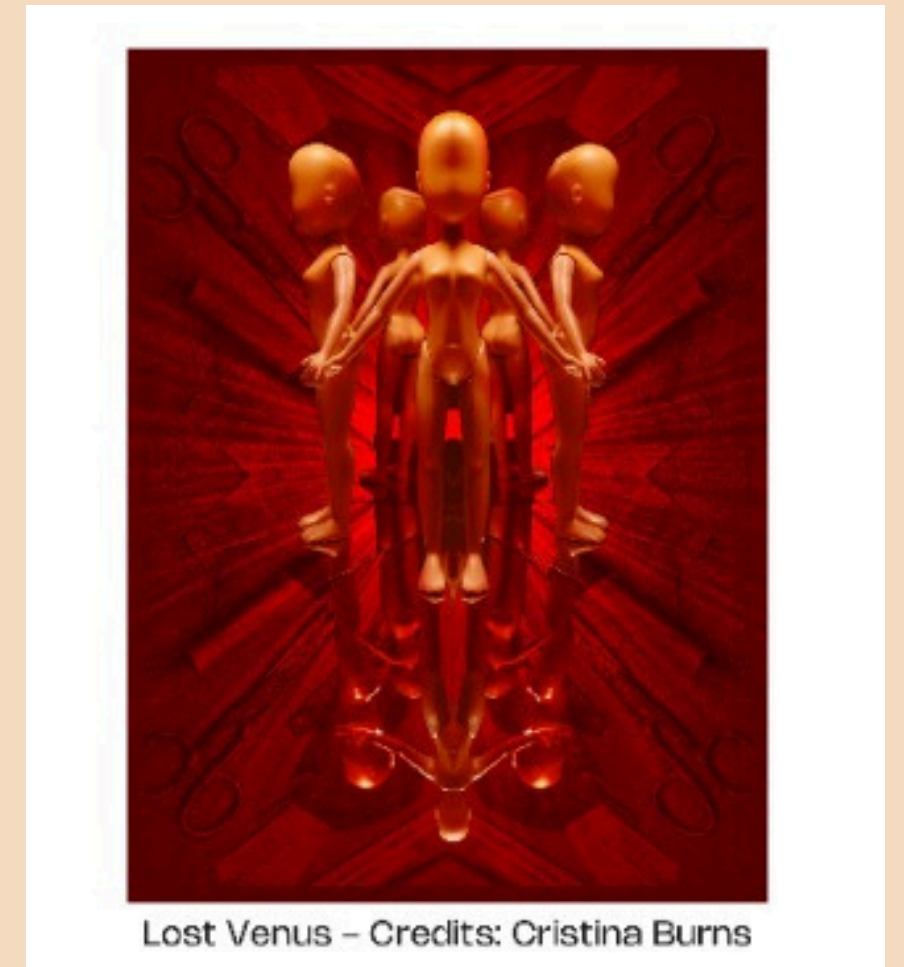
The summit aims to bring together institutions, associations, and the healthcare sector to strengthen prevention, protection, and support for women and girls at risk or who have already undergone FGM.

6th February 2025 | From 10:00 AM - **Language of the event Italian**

To attend in person, please register via the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/jEh3ysedac>

The event will also be available online: [link for streaming](#)

[Link to the program \(PDF\)](#)



Lost Venus – Credits: Cristina Burns



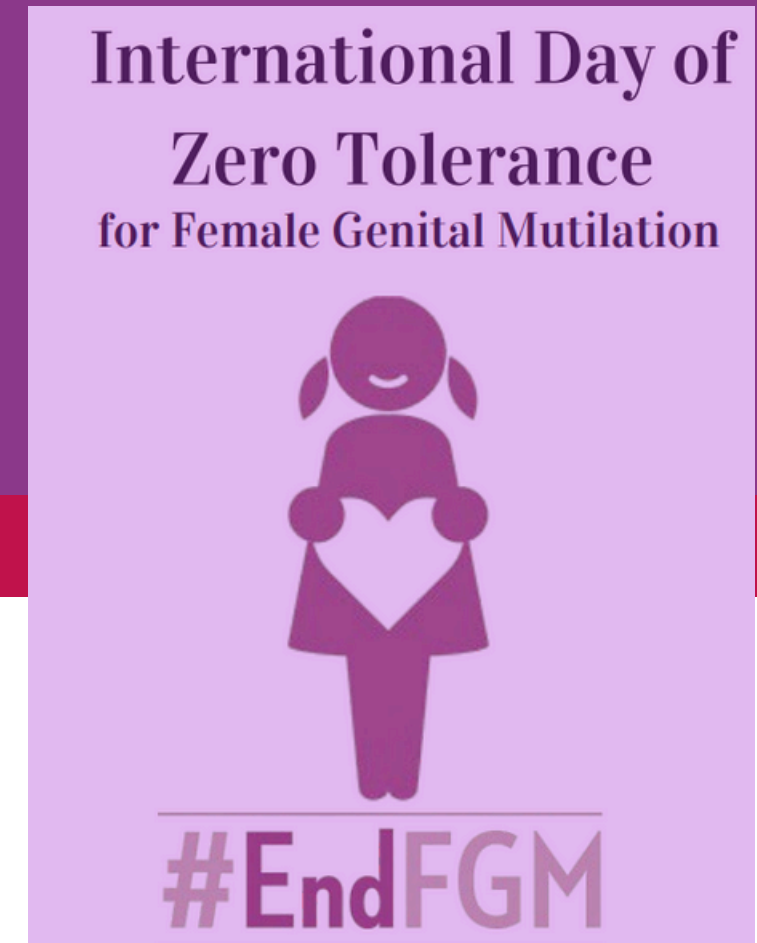
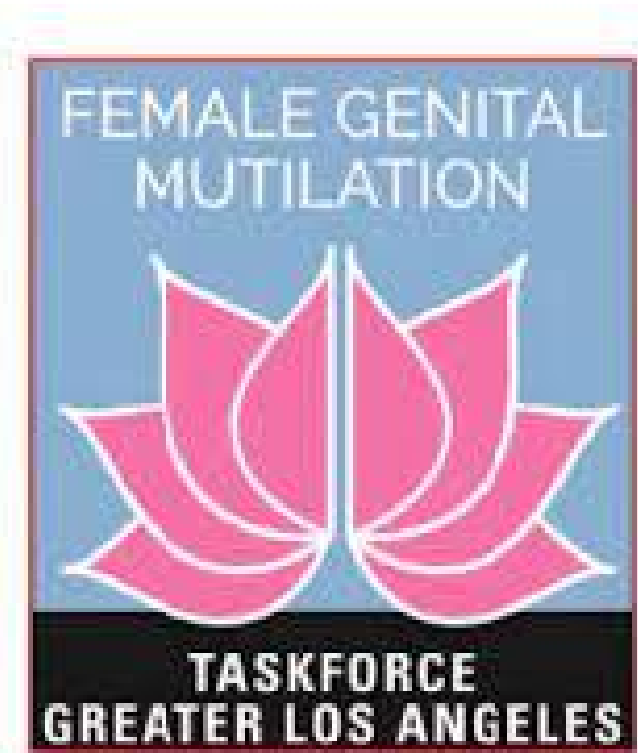
DAY 3

International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation

#EndFGM

Thursday 6th February, 2025
09:00 - 11:00 PST
(18:00 - 20:00 CET)

Venue: Online
Organised by FGM Taskforce
Greater Los Angeles



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ABOUT THE EVENT

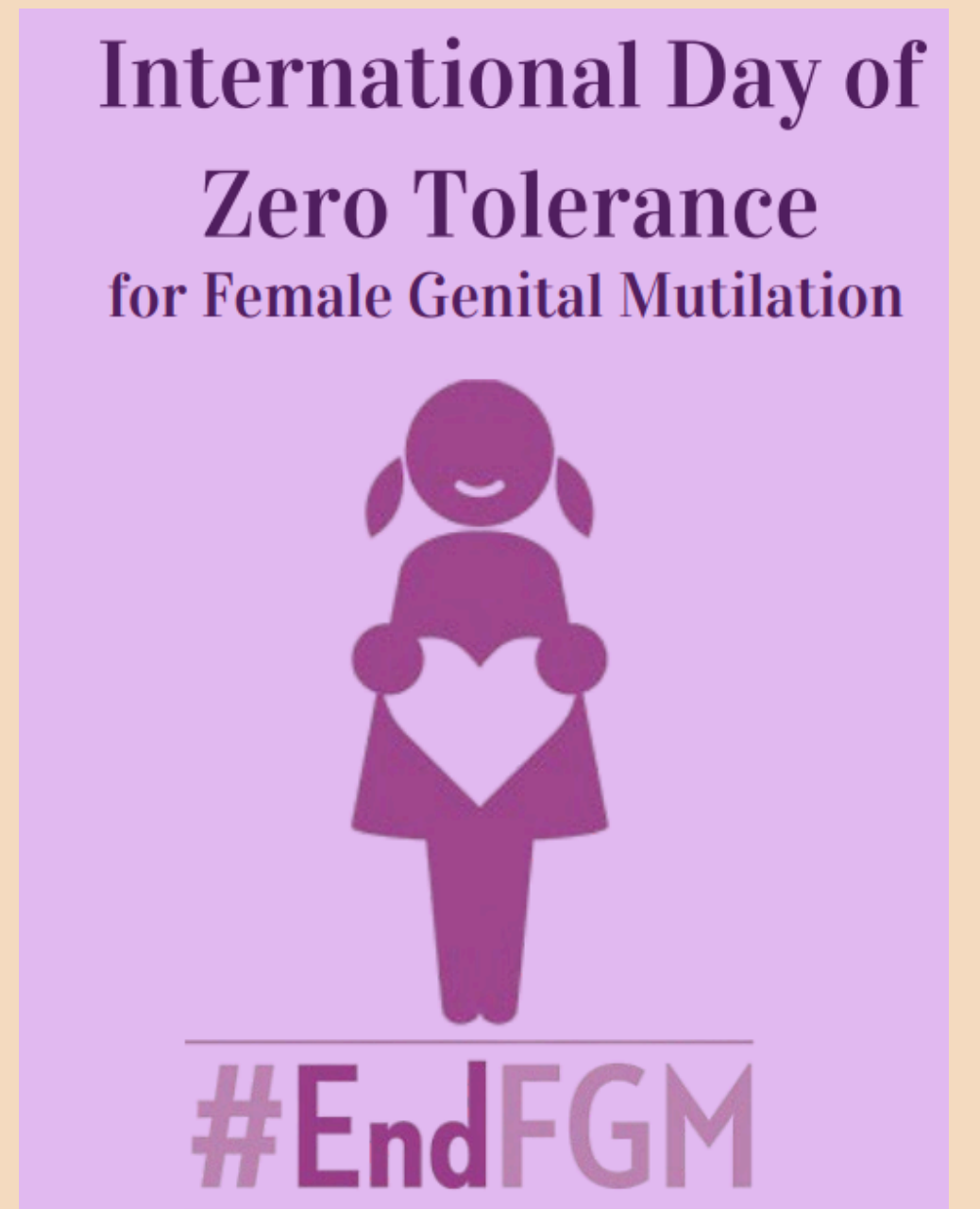
The **FGM Taskforce Greater LA** is a multi-disciplinary, community-based coalition that advocates to end FGM. This year's event focuses on alternative platforms that offer effective and meaningful learning about FGM, and for this, we will showcase **Nina's opera**.

We will open with a brief video on the opera and then invite questions from the audience. Audience questions will be addressed at the end of all panelists' presentations.

Our *Policy & Advocacy Officer*, **Nejma Sayeh** will join the discussion talking about **FGM in Europe**, the unique challenges posed by the stigma associated with immigrants, what is currently happening in Europe and shed some light on Zero Tolerance activities there.

Other panelists will include:

- **Athia Carrim** | Director of Education & Interfaith, International Institute of Tolerance
- **Aarefa Johari** | Journalist and Feminist Activist, based in Mumbai, India
- **Ann Marie King** | Reverend & Human Rights Activist
- **João MacDowell** | Brazilian Composer & Activist
- **Dr. Nina Smart** | Human Rights Activist, Sociologist, & Author in Sierra Leone, U.S.



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DAY 4

STAKEHOLDERS MEETING



AN ONLINE TOOL FOR PRACTITIONERS

Friday, 7th February 2025

09.00 - 12.00 CET

**Venue: British Residence, Rue Ducale 17,
1000 Brussels**

Co-hosted with UK Mission to the EU



UK Mission to the
European Union

[**Register here**](#)



09:00-09:30 **Welcoming Breakfast**

9:30-10:15 **Opening Remarks**

Overview & interactive navigation of the End FGM E-Campus Platform

Aminata Sidibe, GAMS Belgium (Co-President of the End FGM EU)

[**Register here**](#)

10:15-10:30 **Coffee Break**

10:30-11:15 **Interactive Group Activity: Enhancing Stakeholder Collaboration**

11:15-11:30 **Closing Remarks**

11:30-12:00 **Networking reception**



ABOUT THE EVENT & THE END FGM E-CAMPUS

The End FGM E-campus project is an EU-co-funded project coordinated by MIGS (Cyprus) and implemented in partnership with AIDOS (Italy), APF (Portugal), CUT (Cyprus), End FGM European Network (EU-level), GAMS (Belgium).

The event aims to emphasise the importance of capacity-building tools in the anti-FGM sector by presenting the End FGM E-Campus as an essential resource for professionals. It seeks to introduce the platform to potential collaborators and endorsers while fostering dialogue on effective practices at national and European levels.

The End FGM E-Campus project contributes to preventing and responding to female genital mutilation (FGM) through a free European e-learning platform for professionals across sectors. The goal of the platform is to build the capacity of professionals and support survivors by providing high quality, comprehensive, holistic, and interdisciplinary theoretical and practical knowledge on FGM. The platform presents 5 different modules available in 5 languages: English, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, French. [Register on the platform](#)



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