



For Higher Education Students and Youth Active in Civil Society Organizations Call for Participation in the Competition: Sharing Successful Initiatives to Engage Boys and Men in Efforts to Combat Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

The International Planned Parenthood Federation – Arab World Region (IPPF) and the Center of Arab Women for Training and Research (CAWTAR) are honored to announce a call to spotlight the best initiatives for involving boys and men in efforts to combat Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

The participation of boys and men is crucial for achieving effective societal transformation toward eliminating this harmful practice. By involving all members of society, we can enhance awareness and advocacy for the rights of women and girls and ensure a safer and more dignified future for all.

FGM represents a serious violation of human rights and has harmful effects on physical and mental health. To ensure sustainable change, it is essential to actively engage boys and men through awareness campaigns, educational programs, community initiatives, or any other activities that contribute to raising awareness and encouraging the end of these practices.

We, therefore, invite all male students and young men to document successful and notable initiatives by men, organizations, and communities that work to involve boys and men in the fight against FGM. Submissions will be evaluated based on innovation, impact, replicability in other areas, and sustainability of the results achieved.

Participation Criteria:

1. **Scope:** The submitted initiative must focus on engaging boys and men in efforts to combat FGM locally and/or nationally.
2. **Innovation:** The initiative should include new and innovative methods for involving boys and men in awareness and community participation.
3. **Impact:** The initiative must have proven its effectiveness in making a tangible impact, either on individuals or communities.
4. **Replicability:** The initiative should be replicable in other communities or countries.
5. **Sustainability:** Please provide concrete examples of how the engagement of boys and men in anti-FGM efforts has been sustained.
6. **Timeframe:** Preferably, the initiative should have been implemented within the past five years.
7. **Methods for Engaging Boys and Men:** The mechanisms or methods used to engage boys and men, whether through education, training, or awareness-raising activities, must be clearly explained.

Initiative Documentation Template:

- Initiative Title
- Implementing Entity
- Nature of the Initiative (campaign, knowledge production, training, etc.)
- Implementation Duration
- Country/Region
- Initiative Summary (200 words)
- Detailed Description of the Initiative
 - Objectives
 - Specific Target Group
 - Activities and Methods Used
 - Why Boys and Men Were Chosen
 - Was the local community studied before the initiative began? (If yes, how specifically)
 - Mechanism for Engaging Boys and Men
- Results and Impact of the Initiative
 - Number of Beneficiaries
 - Impact of the initiative on changing behavior or awareness (how it was determined that the initiative changed the awareness and behavior of boys and men)
 - Lessons Learned
- Partners and Supporters (if any)
- Replicability in Other Communities
- Innovations (detailed)
- Challenges and How They Were Overcome

Prizes:

- First Initiative: \$1,000 USD
 - Second Initiative: \$500 USD
- The initiative will also be published on the specialized platform "Ending FGM: Arab Boys and Men Speak Out" <https://www.men-end-fgm.org/?lang=en>

Submission Deadline: December 15, 2024

Results Announcement: December 22, 2024

For submissions or inquiries, please contact: info@cawtar.org

Note: Additional information may be requested before or after the announcement of results.

Members of the Arab Network for Gender and Development (ANGED) are kindly requested to circulate this call to universities, colleges, and civil society organizations.