

Rights and Rites

The Potential of Alternative Rites of Passage in
Contributing to FGM Abandonment in Tanzania

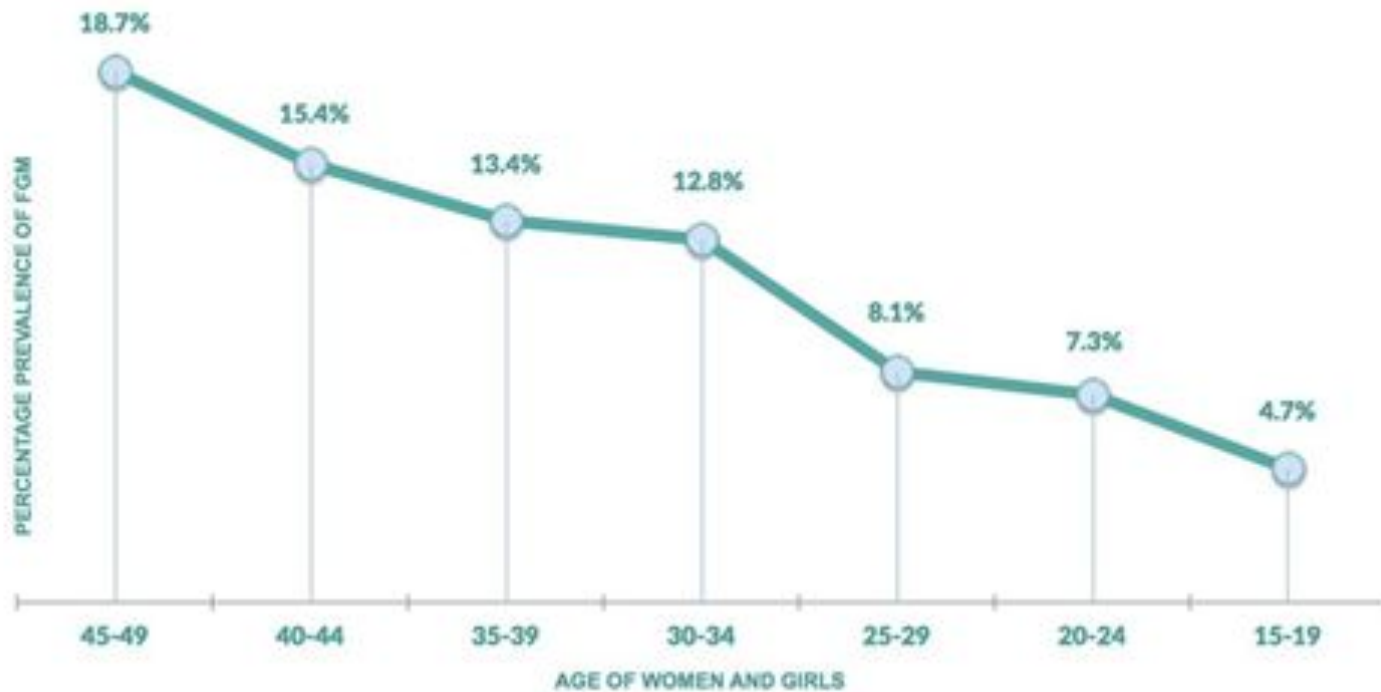




Female Genital Mutilation FGM in Tanzania

- Prevalence Rate: 10% (down from 18% in 1996)
- 5 Regions where prevalence exceeds 30%
- Various interventions (including criminalisation, health based approaches, education, feminism, human rights, cultural relativism) have been used to date in an attempt to end the practices. Results have varied.

FGM PREVALENCE BY AGE IN TANZANIA



SOURCE: DHS 2015-16 | GRAPHIC © 28 TOO MANY



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An Overview of Alternative Rites of Passage

- Alternative rites of passage are gaining momentum.
- The approach derived from a need for more culturally competent interventions.
- Alternative rites of passage (ARP) also known as a 'ritual without cutting' aims to mimic key aspects of traditional rites of passage, without the cut taking place.
- Generally the intervention comprises of three core pillars including;

-Community sensitisation

-Empowerment and education of girls in seclusion

-A traditional but adapted ceremony



From Research to Practice

A comprehensive review of literature (peer reviewed and grey literature) was conducted which explored the potential of ARP to contribute towards FGM elimination in Tanzania.

This research then informed recommendations for National Guidelines on Alternative Rites of Passage in Tanzania.

The goal of the guideline is to advise actors working towards ending FGM on **whether ARP** are an appropriate intervention for their context and if so, how to **comprehensively** design and implement an ARP that does no harm.

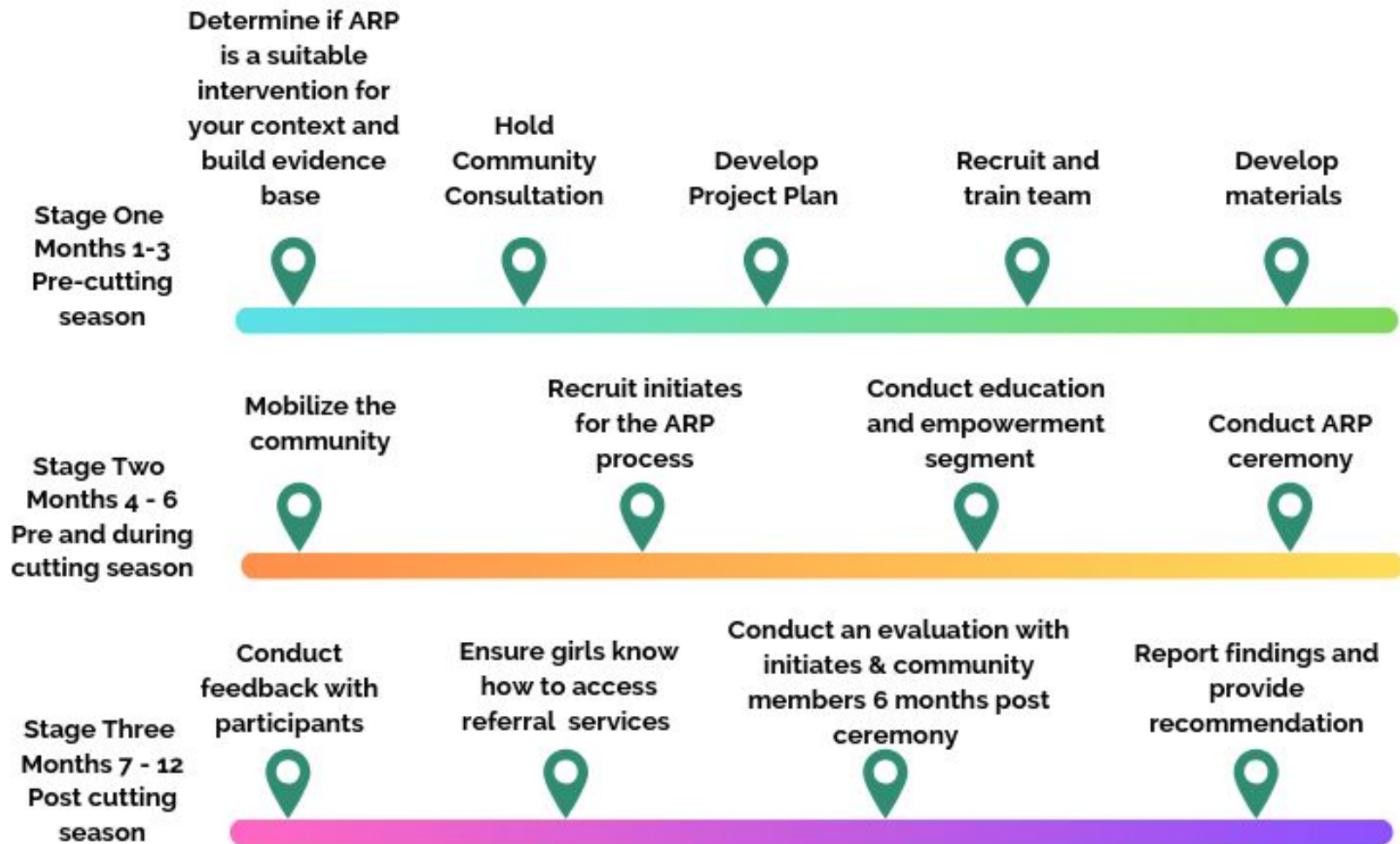


The Principles underpinning the Recommendations for National Guidelines on ARP

- Being evidence based
- Community led
- Promoting positive alternatives and positive aspects of culture (social norm theory)
- Do no harm
- Rights based approach
- Gender transformative

Who can utilise the guidelines?

- Government actors
- NGOs
- Community Groups
- Faith based organisations
- Other actors working to end FGM



THANKS FOR Listening

Any further questions?

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