

As the #YouthForChange youth panel, we represent the vision and voices of young people from across the world. FGM/C and CEFM are violations of human rights and they affect everyone. But as those most severely affected we offer unique insights and innovative solutions.

As young people we are committed to eradicating these harmful traditional practices and believe that this is within our grasp. This is why we are striving for a global movement to end FGM/C and CEFM around the world in a generation. We understand that each country and community is unique and must initiate positive change in its own way, as young people we will continue to take action in our communities and raise awareness across nations. National and global media must also commit to joining the fight against FGM/C and CEFM in order to make the necessary change possible.

FGM/C and CEFM are not issues that we should have to solve alone. This is everybody's business. We are determined that young people's voices heard at Girl Summit and the #YouthForChange event will spark an international youth movement for girls and women's rights. A movement strong enough to hold everyone to account for their commitments to end FGM/C and CEFM in a generation.

We believe **you** can create change today by acting on our recommendations below:

Education increases understanding and helps create new opportunities.

- ◆ All governments must make it compulsory to educate young people on FGM/C and CEFM. Schools are the perfect environment for working together with all young people to prevent these practices.
- ◆ Non-governmental organisations must broaden and increase their education campaigns on CEFM and FGM/C, working with young people to have maximum impact.
- ◆ As young people we will continue to educate each other, to enable and encourage girls, boys, young men and young women to speak out.

Laws that protect human rights and challenge FGM/C and CEFM are critical.

- ◆ Governments must uphold international human rights laws and ban these practices, as well as raise awareness of and enforce existing laws.
- ◆ Governments and non-governmental organisations should train people that work directly with those affected, giving them the skills to know when to act what to do and how to reach those affected.
- ◆ As young people we will continue to break the silence on FGM/C and CEFM and campaign for laws and their enforcement to protect us and others from harm.

Empowering girls, boys, young women and young men individually and collectively is critical in building a successful movement to end FGM/C and CEFM.

- ◆ Governments must ensure that education is free, available to all and gives all young people the confidence to speak out on these issues, and that they work with young people to know what works.

- ◆ Non-governmental organisations must work together with young people and governments, especially in affected communities, to create safe and supportive spaces so young people can speak out freely and confidently.
- ◆ As young people we will encourage, motivate and support each other to speak out and drive forward an international movement for girls' rights.

Men and boys are critical to ending FGM/C and CEFM.

- ◆ Governments must work to end gender inequality which is at the centre of violence against women and girls
- ◆ Non-governmental organisations and governments must ensure that more men and boys are engaged in these issues and speak out. They must also create spaces for more conversations between girls, women, men and boys.
- ◆ As young people, we will work together as boys and girls to communicate openly with all. This will ensure that the silence surrounding FGM/C and CEFM is broken.

Communities must encourage and engage in dialogue, uniting to end FGM/C and CEFM.

- ◆ Governments must commit continuous investment in order to tackle discriminatory social norms and taboos across entire communities.
- ◆ Non-governmental organisational and governments must engage all community members, especially parents, grandparents and influential leaders, so they understand that culture is dynamic and change can be positive.
- ◆ As young people we will continue to work within and across our communities, targeting those most affected, to inspire positive change.

Services needed to support those affected (including health, social, child, justice, educational services etc...), must be designed, implemented and monitored together with young people.

- ◆ Governments must provide inclusive, appropriate and accessible services for young people that ensure they can receive advice, be protected and be supported.
- ◆ NGOs need to utilise their expertise to ensure that government services are adequate and effective for young people. They need to ensure young people they work with are aware of and are accessing these services
- ◆ As young people we will commit to working with the government and NGOs to create services that are right for us. We will actively and responsibly use these services.