

# Preventing Female Genital Mutilation in hard to reach communities

FRIDAY 26TH OF APRIL 2019  
9.00 AM - 4.30 PM  
BRUSSELS

*Maison des Associations Internationales, Rue Washington 40, 1050 Brussels*



## **Aim of the conference:**

To overcome barriers between communities and support services (psych-social-medical) to improve FGM prevention and care.

- What do we mean by 'Hard to reach'? What barriers do some communities face in accessing services?
- What are the consequences of not working with certain communities affected by FGM?
- Understanding FGM in different contexts : examples on Iraqi Kurdistan, the Bohra community (India), and Egypt.
- Sharing good practices on current work with FGM affected communities, such as:
  - People who are temporarily in the country (transmigrants)
  - People who speak languages for which there are no accessible translators
  - People from communities who are not known by specialised services



Translation in **English, French and Dutch**

## **More information:**

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**9h00:** Reception

**9h30:** Introduction – **Fabienne Richard** – GAMS Belgium

**9h45- 11h00: Panel 1. What defines 'Hard to reach'? / Which are the barriers for reaching communities affected by FGM?**

**Moderator:** **Fiona Coyle** – The End FGM European Network  
**Isabelle Coune** – Coordinator of the Intercultural mediation Unit, GD Health Care, (MOH), Belgium  
**Solomon Amare Zewolde** – Forward, UK  
**Solomie Teshome** – Finnish League for Human Rights, Finland  
**Valentina Rossi** – Oasis, Belgium

**11h00:** Coffee break

**11h15 – 13h00: Panel 2. Understanding different contexts on FGM and how to work alongside with communities**

**Moderator:** **Stéphanie Florquin** – GAMS Belgium  
**Houzan Mahmoud** – Women's rights and peace activist, Iraqi Kurdistan/UK  
**Sérénade Chafik** – Women's rights activist, Egypt/France  
**Jaria Hussain-Lala** – WeSpeakOut, India/UK  
**Isis Elgibali** – WADI, Middle East/Belgium

**13h00 – 14h00:** Lunch break (sandwich provided)

**14h00 – 15h00: Panel 3. Sharing good practices on current work with FGM-affected communities**

**Moderator:** **Isma Benboulerbah** – The End FGM European Network  
**Carolina Neira Vianello** – GAMS Be, and **Céline Glorie** – Médecins du Monde, Belgium  
**Habiba Al-Hinai** – Change agent at Terre des Femmes, Women's rights activist, Sultanate of Oman/Germany  
**Asha Ismail** – Save A Girl Save A Generation, Spain

**15h00-15h30: Conference wrap up**

**Moderator:** **Isma Benboulerbah** – The End FGM European Network  
**Shamsun Nahad Chowdury** – Akidwa, Ireland  
**Fatima Awil** – The End FGM European Network Ambassador

**Bianca Debaets** – State Secretary (Brussels-Capital) and Member of the Board of the Flemish Community Commission – **Closing**

**15h30 – 16h30: Networking Coffee**