

CHALLENGE

Female Genital Schistosomiasis (FGS) affects the health and wellbeing of an estimated

56 MILLION WOMEN AND GIRLS

in Africa; it is a co-factor in HIV infection and complicates the diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted infections and cervical cancer.



Women and girls with FGS are **3X MORE LIKELY**

to get HIV and two times more likely to get human papilloma virus (HPV), a cause of cervical cancer, than other women.

COALITION



APPROACH

RAISE AWARENESS AND SENSITISE communities, health providers and sexual and reproductive health stakeholders on FGS and its links to HIV, cervical cancer, infertility and other sexual and reproductive ill-health.

BUILD AND STRENGTHEN THE EVIDENCE BASE on FGS by supporting and facilitating research and translating evidence into programming.

INTEGRATE FGS into the essential packages of sexual and reproductive health services (SRHR) and NTD programming by building awareness and strengthening cross-sectoral linkages (eg WASH, Education).

DECREASE STIGMA AND VIOLENCE experienced by women and girls by including FGS in comprehensive sexuality education, anti-stigma, and violence prevention.

ENGAGE diverse stakeholders to collaborate, learn and take action together to expand and diversify funding for FGS, embedding FGS in global, regional and national policy and guidelines.

OUTCOMES



AWARENESS

Health providers, communities and SRHR stakeholders actively include FGS in their practice, policymaking, and budget allocations increasing community support to women and girls who experience FGS.



EVIDENCE

Improved the body of evidence on FGS and what works in SRHR integration to improve patient outcomes and commitment from stakeholders.



ENGAGEMENT

FGS recognised as a significant SRHR issue for women and girls with political will and commitment to implement and scale up sustainable FGS integrated interventions.



INTEGRATION

Comprehensive FGS prevention, diagnosis and management within national health systems and regional and global policy and funding mechanisms.



STIGMA

Women and girls affected by FGS/HIV/cervical cancer experience less stigma, discrimination and gender-based violence.

LONG-TERM GOAL

Improved awareness, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention for women and girls in Africa through sustainable integration of FGS into SRHR- including HIV, cervical cancer and STIs – and NTD programming.

IMPACT

FGS Integration Group will contribute to achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 3, 5, 6 and 10, by improving the health and wellbeing of millions of women and girls through better access to integrated sexual, reproductive health and NTD programmes and services.

