

# Socio-cultural and demographic risk factors for Female Genital Mutilation among immigrants in Hamburg

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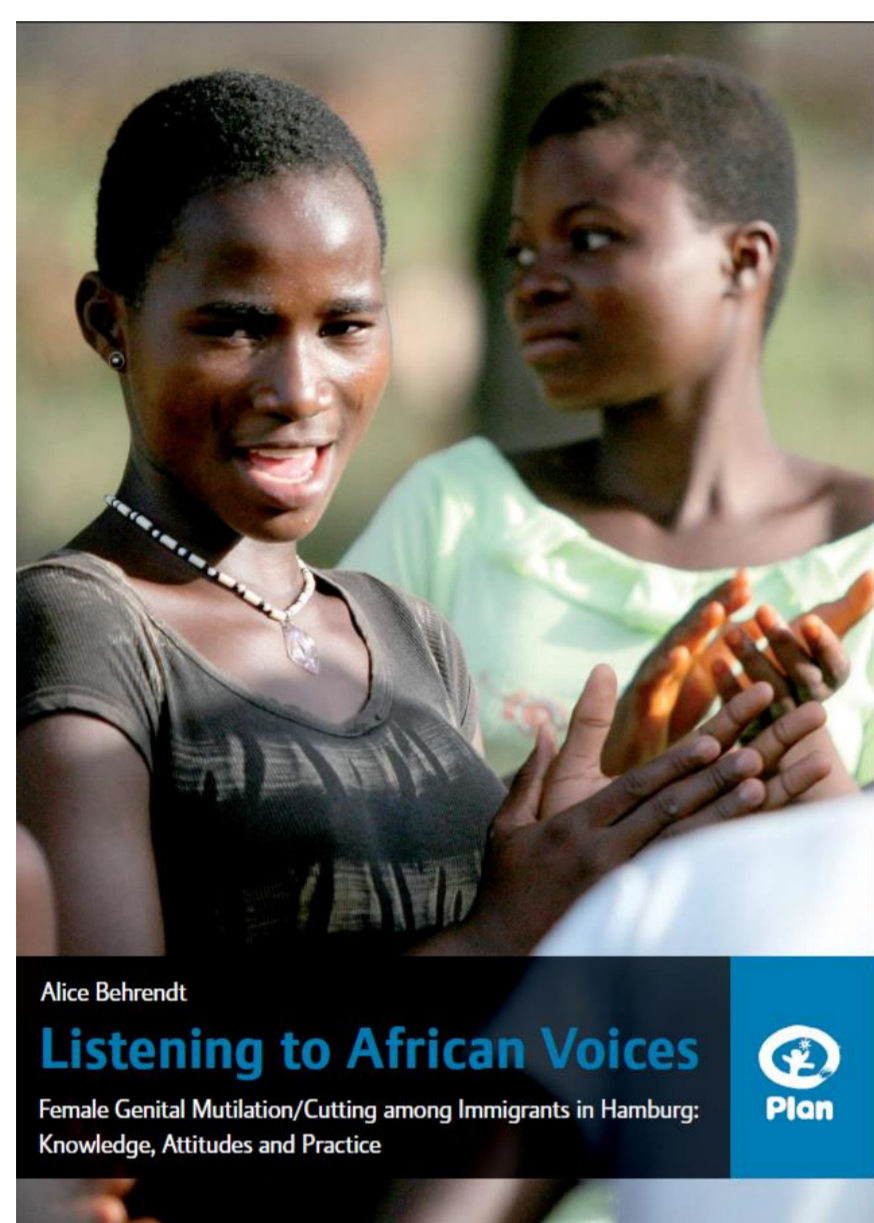
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## Background and Objectives

The main purpose of the research was to develop an affective and locally adapted approach to promote the abandonment of FGM/C among immigrant groups in Hamburg.

About **11.200** immigrants from **Sub-Saharan Africa** reside in Hamburg.



Alice Behrendt  
**Listening to African Voices**  
Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting among Immigrants in Hamburg: Knowledge, Attitudes and Practice

## Results

**40%** come from families where FGM/C is commonly practiced

**70%** associate FGM/C with advantages:

- Social acceptance
- Decrease in women's sexual desire
- Improved marriage prospects

**18%** see FGM/C as a religious requirement

**80%** support the abandonment of FGM

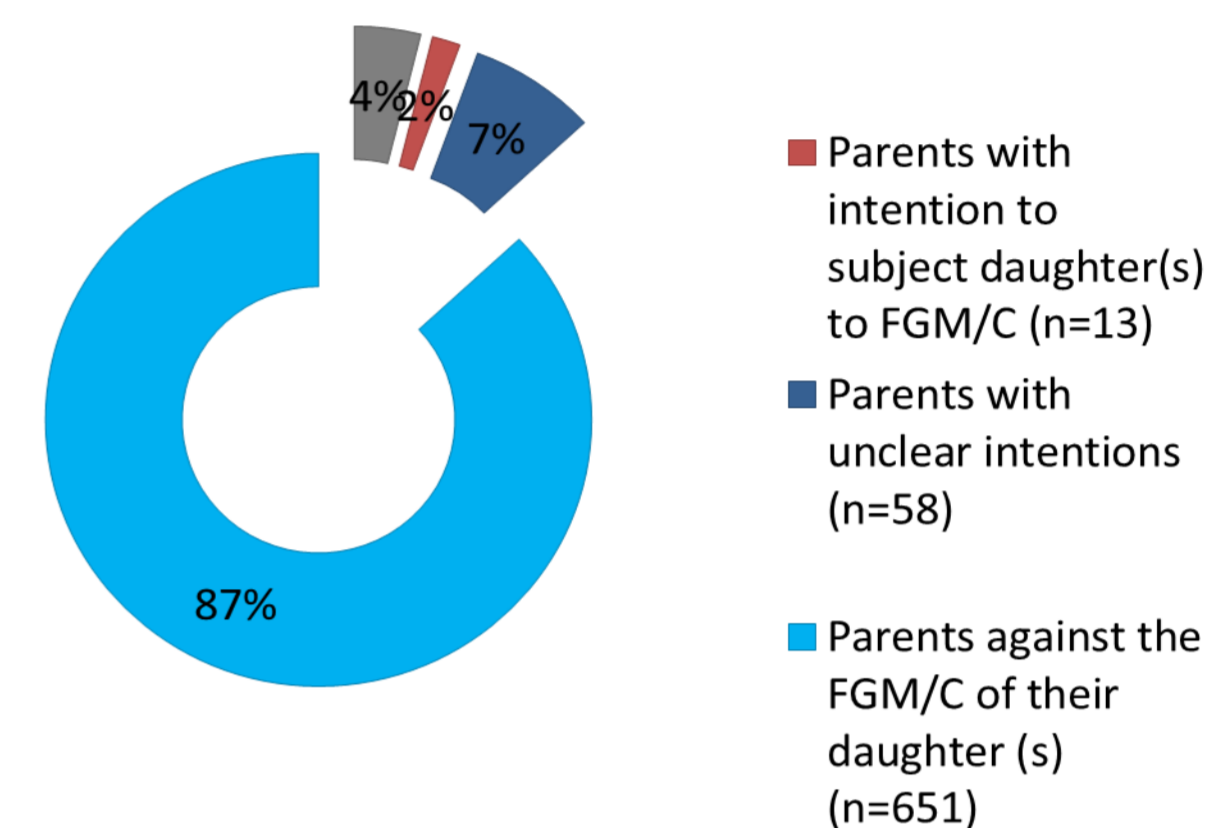
**20%** advocated for the continuation of FGM or report uncertainty

**2/3** are aware of the risks and harm

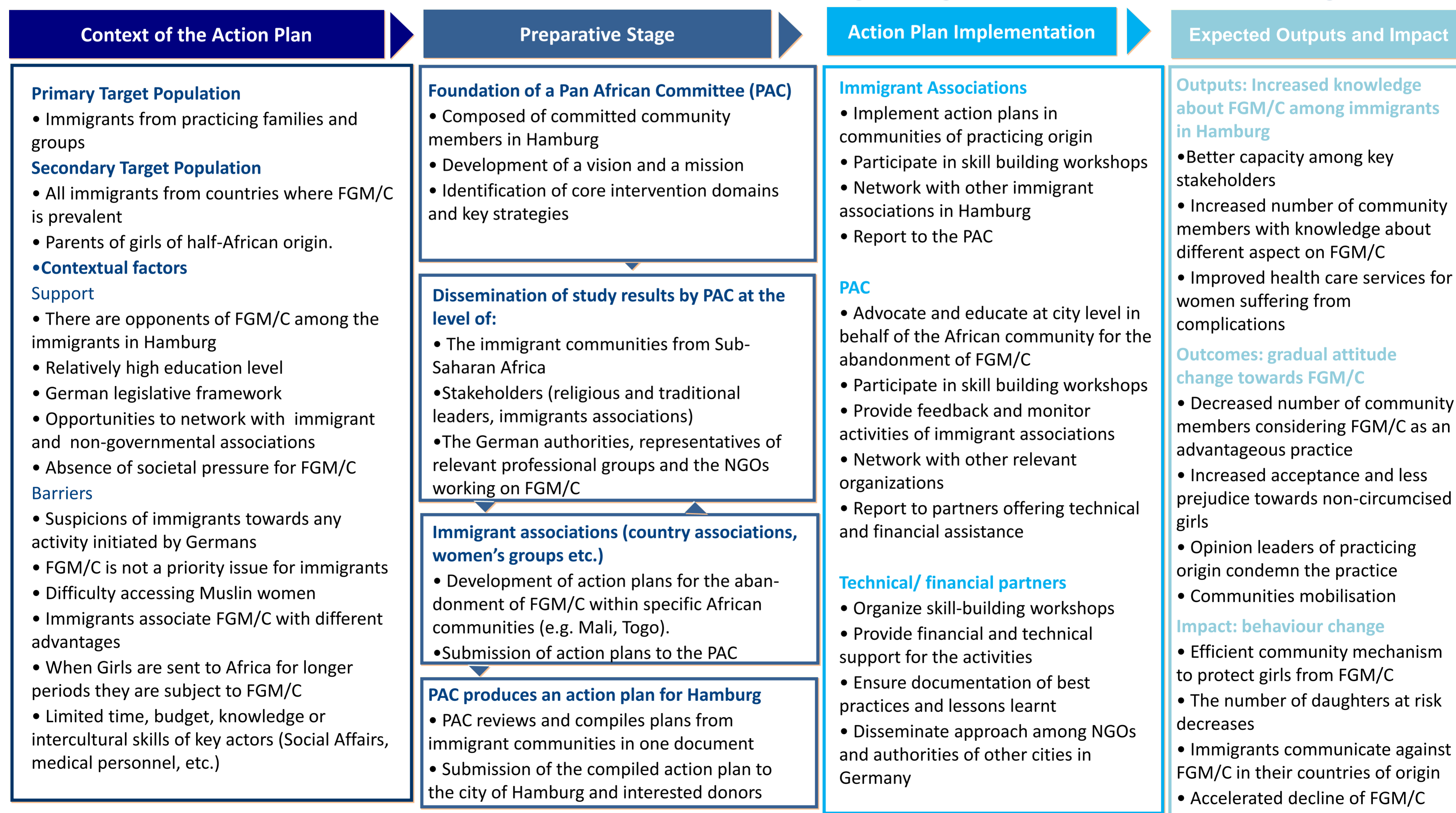
**German legal system** has a strong dissuasive effect on parents who are in favour of FGM/C

**More than 30 %** of the interviewed women appear to have undergone FGM

## Girls in Hamburg in danger of undergoing FGM/C

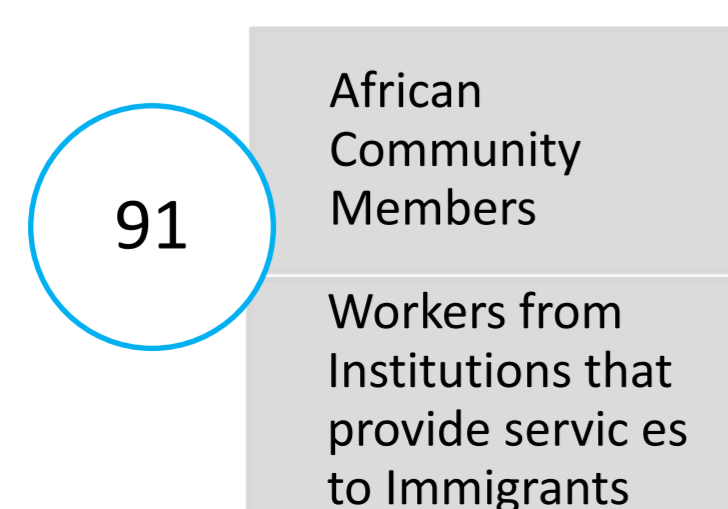


## BEHAVIOUR CHANGE MODEL: Abandonment of FGM/C among immigrant communities in Hamburg

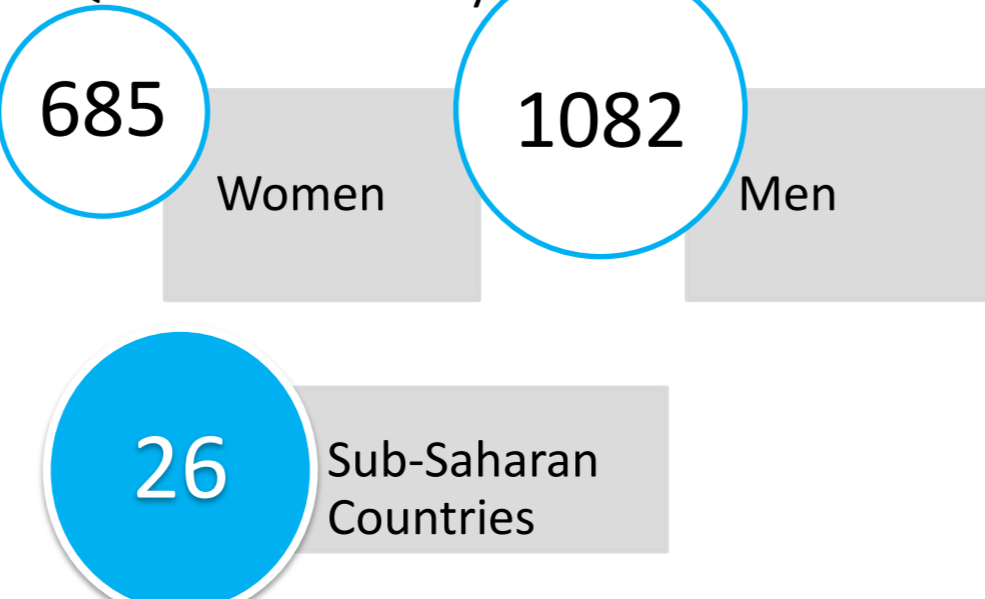


## Methodology and Sampling

❖ Qualitative Interviews



❖ Quantitative Survey



The **CHANGE Project** is coordinated by Terre des Femmes and implemented with partners in Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden and the UK. Community members are trained as change agents on FGM and develop action plans to raise the awareness in the communities and initiate behaviour change in their communities towards FGM/G. Plan is coordinating the activities in Hamburg.