

# FGM/C and AI to achieve SDG 5th of 2030

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The chatbots' cognition was designed with the purpose of accounting for the vast variety of emotions that survivors experience while attempting to discuss FGC with their loved ones. "Mumkin is more of a conversation partner than a therapist," Goswami says, referring to the issue of whether discussions mechanised by algorithms and relayed via displays can heal scars as well as human treatment. Screens are used to convey these talks. The goal of this effort is to fill the void caused by the lack of a mentor or friend, as well as to provide emotional support and bring people together. The app's pilot version is meant to help Bohra women recuperate from khatna-related wounds. However, it also helps to forward the debate in order to remove future obstacles to consent and domestic violence. The SDGs seek to realise specific revolutionary promises until 2030, which are an epitome of justice and equality and embedded in human rights for the protection of women.

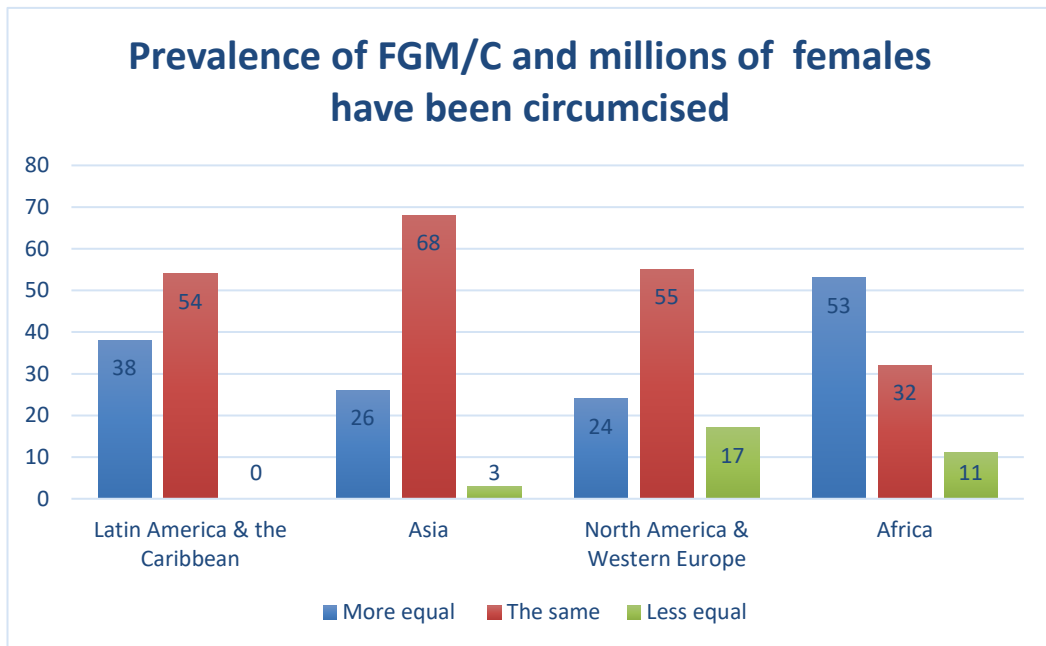
**Keywords:** chatbot, Mumkin, domestic violence, SDG 2030.

## 1. Introduction

The content of Mumkin's chatbot is primarily composed of natural language that has been processed using anecdotal evidence, personal experiences, and data that Goswami and Johari have accumulated over the course of their activism. As an illustration, Goswami and Johari have been engaging in lobbying strategies for several years. We are cognizant of the fact that certain women hide feelings of animosity toward their mothers who sent them to be cut, that others are in quest of closure, and that others are dealing with trauma and may experience feelings of arousal when discussing it. We are cognizant of all of these matters. According to Goswami, "We have constructed the cognition of the chatbots with the intention of taking into consideration the wide range of feelings that survivors experience when they attempt to discuss FGC with their loved ones." "Mumkin is more of a conversation partner than a therapist," Goswami continues, alluding to the question of whether or not conversations that are mechanized by algorithms and conveyed via displays can repair wounds as effectively as human therapy. Screens are employed to transmit these conversations. The objective of this initiative is to eliminate the vacuum that results from the absence of a mentor or

acquaintance, in addition to providing emotional support and uniting individuals. The pilot version of the app is intended to aid Bohra women who are recovering from the wounds caused by khatna. However, it also serves to advance the conversation in order to dismantle barriers related to consent and domestic violence in the future. SDGs aim to achieve certain transformative promises till 2030, which are an epitome of justice and equality and enshrined under human rights for the protection of women

Perceptions of progress on equality between women and men in the last five years by region (Percentages)



Source: Equal measures 2030, data 2018

Note: Number of respondents by region Latin America and the Caribbean=39, Asia=68

North America & Western Europe=58, Africa=76

“Millions of women have been circumcised due to which many communities made the declaration regarding abandonment of FGM due to determinants about obstructed labour due to previous cases of FGM, advocated by various communities<sup>1</sup>. SDG 3 highlights that there is a need to reduce maternal mortality rate and FGM acts as a catalyst in this way and provides harmful effects to the body of females and also contravenes the agenda of international goals and therefore it is considered as an extreme violation of rights of a female body. After this surgery is performed the infection grows so high that it becomes very difficult for that

<sup>1</sup>Equal measures 2030 data driving change introducing EM2030 SDG Gender Index, EM-Data-report-v8-1.pdf, p.18, accessed on 31.10.2023, available at [https://www.google.com/search?q=DATA+DRIVING+CHANGE+INTRODUCING+THE+EM2030+SDG+GENDER+INDEX&rlz=1C1CHBD\\_en-GBIN1025IN1025&oq=DATA+DRIVING+CHANGE+INTRODUCING+THE+EM2030+SDG+GENDER+INDEX&gs\\_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIKCAEQABiABBiiBDIKCAIQABiABBiiBNIBCTM3MjNqMGoxNagCALACAA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8](https://www.google.com/search?q=DATA+DRIVING+CHANGE+INTRODUCING+THE+EM2030+SDG+GENDER+INDEX&rlz=1C1CHBD_en-GBIN1025IN1025&oq=DATA+DRIVING+CHANGE+INTRODUCING+THE+EM2030+SDG+GENDER+INDEX&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIKCAEQABiABBiiBDIKCAIQABiABBiiBNIBCTM3MjNqMGoxNagCALACAA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)

mother to fight against those urinary tract infections and many times she could rarely survive. The normal functioning of female's genital organs gets disturbed which results into immediate consequences such as uterine infections and swelling, urine retention bladder enlargement, introitus is enlarged during delivery and many times due to tight circumcision it causes injury to genital tissues due to profuse bleeding re-surgery is needed to be done which largely affects that area, immense pain during menstrual cycle, tetanus, other than these physical problems certain psychological problems nervous shock, depression and brain haemorrhage also occurs amongst females"<sup>2</sup>. Long term consequences may include recurrent formation of cysts, keloids formation, vulvar complication, reduced sexual pleasure, risk in the birth of a child, death of a new born child, enhancement of mortality rate. The practice of FGM though tried to be justified by practitioners in its traditional and customary form of practice, as it has deep roots since ancient times therefore, we will continue it in the light of salvation but it cannot in any way be justified medically. Many people continue it in fear of social harassment and community boycott. Further, FGM is practiced in various forms in these forms as this practice is performed upon females under the age of 0-14 and 15-49, the girls feel severe pain as at times it is performed without anaesthesia. This sufferance directly correlates with education and financial instability in majority situations. The practice is continued as a mark of virginity and due to it the females are compelled for early and forced marriages due to which they generally drop out their primary and secondary education and it affects their growth and economic development in the society at large, they get sidelined from the exercise of their exercise of right to education in its fullness. This in turn affects rights of females in social, economic and political aspect both in the national and international regime. Several organizations, including as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Amnesty International's END FGM European Campaign, have emphasized that it is of the highest significance to ensure the effective and coherent implementation of the European Union's asylum acquis. This is something that has been emphasized by a number of groups. In order to guarantee that complaints of female genital mutilation (FGM) are investigated in a manner that is considered to be impartial throughout the whole of the European Union, this is done. As a result of the consultation that was conducted by the European Commission on the subject of preventing female genital mutilation (FGM), this has come about as a consequence. The consultation was carried out with the purpose of collecting information on the subject matter. Female genital mutilation (FGM) is a kind of gender-based violence that, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), constitutes persecution or significant injury. This definition comes from the European Union Qualification Directive (Recast). Those who are subjected to female genital mutilation (FGM) are afforded international protection as a result of this justification. "The fact that female genital mutilation (FGM) causes a great deal of pain, both emotionally and physically, is the foundation upon which this categorization is built. The campaign is demanding that the European Commission issue interpretive guidelines on the topic of female genital mutilation (FGM) and international protection in respect to the practice. This request is being made as part of the campaign's efforts to put an end to the practice of FGM. When it comes to the creation of these principles, the principles on gender-based persecution that were established by the United Nations High

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<sup>2</sup> United Nations General Assembly "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," United Nations, 2015, accessed November 16, 2024, <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>

Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Guidance Note on female genital mutilation (FGM) need to be given the necessary degree of attention. A detailed explanation of the duties that are put on member states in accordance with the framework is another need that must be included in the guidelines. This requirement must be met within the guidelines. The European Asylum is able to provide a significant contribution to both of these organizations via the training that it offers and the activities that it participates in that are related with information regarding countries of origin. Both of these organizations recognize the significance of this contribution. Each of these groups places a special emphasis on the significance of engaging the people whose lives are affected by female genital mutilation (FGM) and increasing the understanding of professionals who are confronted with the practice. This is something that is of great relevance. There are individuals who are responsible for making choices about asylum policy, as well as social workers and health practitioners, who are members of this association of specialists<sup>3</sup>. "It is necessary to conduct additional research in order to acquire a more comprehensive understanding of the manner in which women and girls who are seeking asylum from countries of origin that engage in the practice of female genital mutilation (FGM) are treated throughout Europe, how their applications are processed, and how they integrate into the communities in which they ultimately settle. This understanding is necessary in order to acquire a more comprehensive understanding of the situation. This is in accordance with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), which has said that there is a need for greater study. It is projected that around 20,000 women and girls from countries of origin that engage in the practice of female genital mutilation (FGM) seek shelter in the countries that are members of the European Union. This data is supplied by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), which is an international organization. There is a potential that one thousand nine hundred of them have already been dismembered. This is another option<sup>4</sup>. "There is a significant correlation between the practice of female genital mutilation, which is often referred to as FGM, and the filing of around one thousand asylum requests inside the European Union over the course of each year. Globally harming millions of women and children, female genital mutilation (FGM) is a widespread human rights violation. Deeply ingrained cultural, societal, and gender conventions drive the practice even if deliberate attempts to remove it continue in many societies. Artificial intelligence (AI) has become a transforming instrument in recent years that may greatly forward world development targets. Particularly with regard to FGM and Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG 5), which emphasises gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, artificial intelligence may be rather important. This paper explains how artificial intelligence may support gender equality, fight FGM, and hasten efforts towards SDG 5 attainment. One of the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals, SDG 5 seeks to "achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls." It has particular objectives to eradicate harmful practices such FGM, child marriage, and other kinds of violence against women. Targeting all harmful practices, including FGM, SDG 5 aims to eradicate all of them by 2030. Governments, NGOs, and civil society organisations have to make use of every weapon at hand if they are to reach this audacious target. Here is where artificial intelligence may revolutionise things

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<sup>3</sup> M. A. Khader, 'FGM: The Need for a Multidisciplinary Approach' (2019) 22(1) *Health Policy* 45.

<sup>4</sup> C.Mackenzie "AI Applications in Public Health: A Case Study on FGM," *Journal of Global Health*, vol. 14, no. 2, 2022, pp. 122-134.

by offering creative ideas to quicken advancement. Using artificial intelligence against female genital mutilation AI presents numerous interesting directions to solve the intricate social and cultural elements sustaining FGM: AI-powered systems may examine vast databases to pinpoint areas most likely to have FGM occurrence. Organisations may identify hotspots and more effectively distribute resources by use of satellite images, natural language processing, and social media analysis. Predictive analytics helps to estimate areas where FGM instances are expected to rise, therefore allowing preventative actions”<sup>5</sup>. The second is Community Knowledge and learning virtual assistants and artificial intelligence chatbots may interact with local populations in their own tongue to bust FGM misconceptions. These instruments may provide culturally relevant knowledge and techniques, thereby promoting communication on the human rights consequences and health hazards. Targeting certain groups, AI-driven social media ads raise awareness among at-risk groups and encourage behavioural change. Reporting mechanisms and hotline support by prioritising calls linked to FGM and utilising speech recognition to identify distress signals, “AI-based solutions may improve helplines. Particularly in outlying regions, these hotlines may provide real-time assistance and information. Mobile applications loaded with artificial intelligence may anonymously record FGM events, therefore enabling authorities to react sooner and more successfully. To find females at risk of having FGM, machine learning techniques may examine medical records, school attendance statistics, and societal variables. Social workers and health professionals may use this information to act before it is too late. AI techniques may also evaluate the success of intervention projects, therefore guiding policies to lower FGM rates. Moral Issues and Considerations Though artificial intelligence offers great promise, ethical issues need to be resolved. Security and Privacy Gathering private data about FGM via artificial intelligence begs questions regarding privacy, particularly in nations without strong data security policies. Maintaining victims' and whistleblowers' anonymity is very vital in order to guard against reprisals. If taught on biased data, artificial intelligence systems might unintentionally feed prejudice. Predictive algorithms could, for instance, unjustly target certain neighbourhoods, therefore aggravating social stigma. Minimizing bias requires open methods and varied data sources. The third is Sensitivity to Culture Solutions have to be catered to the particular cultural setting of societies where FGM is performed. Community acceptance depends on involving local leaders and adding cultural subtleties into AI solutions. The Way Forward: Group Projects for Ecological Effect Effective use of artificial intelligence in the fight against FGM to forward SDG 5 depends on cooperative efforts: One should do Public-Private Collaborations

Governments, NGOs, and technology businesses have to work together to create AI-driven solutions catered to particular local settings. To scale significant actions, these alliances may provide the required financing, technical knowledge, and community involvement. Capacity Sustainable development depends on local communities and businesses learning artificial intelligence technologies. Developing local capability guarantees ethical and efficient use of AI technologies even if outside help stops. Policy and Advocacy Policymakers have to design rules that encourage moral use of artificial intelligence in societal projects. This covers strong data security rules, AI deployment guidelines, and encouragement of nonprofit sector innovation under direction. In conclusion AI might be a

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<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

strong friend in the battle against FGM and in the progress of SDG 5”<sup>6</sup>. Leveraging AI's strengths in data analysis, predictive modelling, and community involvement can help us to hasten the elimination of negative behaviours and advance gender equality. “To guarantee that these technologies are utilised responsibly and inclusively, nevertheless, it is imperative to solve the ethical questions raised by their implementation. Reaching SDG 5 by 2030 calls for a multifarious strategy combining community action, policy, and technology. AI can enable every woman and girl to be free from the possibility of FGM and enabled to realise her full potential by means of appropriate investments and tactics. Building upon the Intersect of AI, FGM, and SDG 5 Introduction As described in Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG 5), the battle against Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) remains one of the most urgent obstacles in attaining gender equality and empowering women and girls. Even if improvement has been achieved, FGM still affects millions, mostly in Africa, the Middle East, and certain sections of Asia. Due to its strong cultural entrenchment, abolishing the practice has been challenging even with cultural changes, legal frameworks, and grassroots initiatives. Emerging technologies specially artificial intelligence offers creative solutions for these problems. Including artificial intelligence into current systems can help us to hasten initiatives towards eradication of FGM and progress of female equality. This enlarged article will explore further the ways artificial intelligence may be used, the ethical and logistical issues raised, and techniques to guarantee continuous development. Recognising the Motives of FGM Complicated Motivations Underlying the Practice FGM's continuation is motivated by a convergence of socioeconomic, cultural, and religious elements. FGM is a rite of passage in many societies that marks marriageability, social approval, or purity. Further entrenches the behaviour are false ideas about religious responsibilities, sexual control, and hygienic practices.

Social pressure and ingrained customs make change difficult even with government, international organisation, and non-governmental initiatives to abolish FGM. Women who object to FGM might experience extreme social shame, rejection, or violence. Thus, any intervention plan—including artificial intelligence-based solutions—must take these cultural sensitivities into account if it is to be successful. Applications and Creative Solutions Geographical Mapping and Predictive Geospatial mapping driven by artificial intelligence allows governments and NGOs to monitor FGM hotspots and pinpoint highly prevalent locations. AI can provide heatmaps identifying areas more likely to have FGM by examining demographic, financial, and health data”<sup>7</sup>.

Methods for Scaling AI Solutions to Fight Female Genital Mutilation “The following approaches should be taken into account if one is to properly use artificial intelligence for FGM elimination and SDG 5. Encourage multi-stakeholder cooperation. Governments, technology corporations, NGOs, and community organisations working together is very vital. Combining knowledge and resources will help these players create scalable AI-driven solutions tailored to local requirements. Make that AI initiatives give women's and girls' safety, dignity, and privacy first priority and follow ethical guidelines. Provide moral direction for the development and use of artificial intelligence particular to

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<sup>6</sup> Tostan International, "Community Empowerment Program: Leveraging SMS for Anti-FGM Education," Tostan Publications, 2022, accessed November 16, 2024, <https://www.tostan.org/community-programs>.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

social interventions.

Invest in Local Capacity Development provides artificial intelligence tools to local businesses and medical professionals so they may autonomously gather data, examine patterns, and implement treatments. Local capability guarantees sustainability even beyond outside assistance. Longitudinal Studies and Feedback Loops Use ongoing observation and assessment of AI treatments to evaluate their effect. Longitudinal studies may help to reveal the long-term success of AI-powered initiatives, therefore supporting flexible methods. Rising awareness, supporting survivors, enabling anonymous reporting, and community education have helped many mobile applications created to fight Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) battle awareness of the practice. These are among of the most powerful digital tools and applications meant to combat FGM. One should Say NO; unite to eradicate FGM. Developer: UNFPA, the Population Fund By offering instructional tools and information on women's rights, this app increases knowledge of the risks and repercussions of FGM. Features: Resources for communities wishing to stop the practice, victim testimony, and a wealth of knowledge on the health concerns of FGM accessible to users. Encouragement of users to join campaigns against FGM provides a forum for advocacy as well. My Body, My Rights: An App seeks to enable young women and girls to recognise their rights—including their right to bodily autonomy.

FGM, child marriage, and reproductive health rights quizzes. It facilitates users' interactions with nearby support systems and businesses. App MAGRIBI, of "North Africa," is aimed at nations in North Africa still using female genital mutilation. • Features: Provides a private area where people could learn about the legal ramifications and health hazards of female genital muteness. It also has an anonymous reporting mechanism to let NGOs and government handle FGM instances. How These Tools Advance the Fight Against Female Genital Mutilation These smartphone apps use technology to close gaps in reporting, assistance, and education. These are some ways they help to fight FGM: one. Awareness and Education: These applications help destroy stereotypes and advance cultural transformation by offering easily available knowledge on the risks of FGM<sup>8</sup>. Many of them are designed to be readily accessible for populations at danger by being available in many languages and user-friendly. Some applications enable survivors of FGM receive the necessary assistance by linking them with psychological support groups, legal aid, and medical professionals. Difficulties and Thoughts of Action although mobile applications are quite useful tools, their deployment might provide difficult.

Cultural Sensitivity: Dealing with a strongly rooted cultural practice like FGM calls for respect of regional customs and sensitivity. Effective applications usually rely on local businesses to guarantee their material is culturally relevant. Particularly for applications involving the reporting of FGM incidents, users' confidentiality must be firstly ensured. The safety of users depends on strong data security policies. Offering scalable solutions for education, reporting, and assistance, mobile applications represent a potential front line in the battle against FGC. To maximise their influence, however, these digital tools have to be

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<sup>8</sup> Orchid Project, "Using Mobile Technology to Address FGM," Orchid Reports, 2023, accessed November 16, 2024, <https://www.orchidproject.org/technology-fgm>.

part of a larger plan including community involvement, legislative lobbying, and cooperation with nearby companies. Under SDG 5, we may hasten development towards eradicating FGM and attaining gender equality by using technology with grassroots initiatives. Knowing SDG 5.2 and Its Part in Stopping FGM Established by the United Nations, Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG 5) is to achieve gender equality and empower every woman and girl by 2030. Target 5.2, under this overall aim, is especially focused on eradicating violence against women and girls including damaging practices like Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). Goals of SDG 5.2: SDG 5.2 has the particular phrasing as follows: "Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation," says 5.2. Although this aim generally covers all kinds of violence, it includes initiatives to eradicate practices like FGM, which is acknowledged as a serious form of gender-based violence and a breach of human rights. Global Strategies and Protocols for Eliminating FGM Under SDG 5.2 Reaching SDG 5.2 calls for a coordinated, multi-level strategy including legal systems, community involvement, data collecting, and global cooperation. These are a some of the main procedures, plans, and measures being use right now to eliminate FGM: One could say Developing and Implementing Legal Systems Many nations have established legislation against FGM, therefore criminalising the procedure whether it is performed, facilitated, or promoted. "Penalties for offenders and protection for those at danger are part of enforcement. Governments are urged to apply obligatory reporting rules for social workers, teachers, and healthcare professionals suspicious of FGM incidents. This guarantees early detection of instances and action upon them. Treaties such the Maputo Protocol (African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) oblige member governments to abolish FGM. Second. Monitoring and Collecting Data UNICEF and WHO are collaborating with countries to gather accurate FGM prevalence statistics. This information facilitates tracking of progress towards SDG 5.2. Using AI and mobile technology for real-time reporting and geographic mapping will enable FGM hotspots to be found and intervention efficacy to be

- Awareness campaigns: It is very vital to teach societies the legal ramifications of female genital mutilation as well as its hazards. To guarantee cultural sensitivity and acceptability, campaigns may call on traditional and religious authorities. Programs with survivors telling their experiences may be effective change agents, shattering the silence surrounding FGM and motivating others to speak out. Engaging males and Boys: Essential for cultural transformation is changing ideas of masculinity by include males in discussions about FGM.

Fourth. Services in Healthcare and Support Medical practitioners get instruction on spotting, treating, and documenting FGM incidents. This includes offering survivor's trauma treatment and psychological assistance. Particularly in places with limited access to healthcare, mobile clinics may provide communities education and support services. digital platforms and technologies, UNFPA, WHO, and local NGOs cooperate to carry out anti-FGM campaigns, exchange best practices, and provide tools under partnerships with NGOs and international organisations. Donor nations and international organisations fund anti-FGM projects including legislative changes, healthcare services, and educational campaigns financially.

SDG 5.2

Often used to stop FGM and achieve SDG 5.2 are these protocols: Plans of national action.



With an eye towards law, education, healthcare, and protective services, governments create National Action Plans outlining methods for eradicating FGM. These strategies guarantee responsibility and measure development using quantifiable benchmarks. All-encompassing Safety Policies Creating legal help programs, hotlines, and safe havens for girls at danger of FGM. Working with educational institutions to train staff members how to spot FGM symptoms and help at-risk adolescents. Including anti-FGM policies into medical systems Developing policies for trauma treatment, counselling, reconstructive surgery, and medical professionals' interaction with FGM survivors. Requiring anti-FGM teaching to be included into medical training courses. Monitoring and Evaluating Systems Creating instruments for ongoing observation of FGM prevalence as well as therapeutic efficacy”<sup>9</sup>. Working with research institutes to assess anti-FGM program long-term effects. Obstacles in Reaching SDG 5.2 to End FGM Cultural Roots: FGM is tough to modify as it is often related to cultural identity. Finally, towards a day when FGM is to end and achieving SDG 5.2 and eliminating FGM by 2030 is an ambitious but realistic target requiring a multi-pronged strategy including technology, community involvement, legal enforcement, and international collaboration. We may get closer to a day when no woman or girl endures the physical and psychological anguish of FGM by tackling the underlying reasons of the practice, empowering women and girls, and using creative techniques. Important conclusions: Sustainable development depends on strong legal frameworks, accurate data collecting, and community-driven methods.

## **2. Conclusion:**

Digital technology and artificial intelligence have transforming power in helping to identify at-risk groups and supporting initiatives for reporting and intervention. of Long-term success depends on changing the social conventions and cultural ideas that support FGM thus guaranteeing that change is both institutional and permanent. The route to eradicating FGM fits the larger SDG 5 goal of building a society in which every woman and girl may live free from prejudice and violence. Finally, SDG 5's goal of gender equality, artificial intelligence might revolutionise the worldwide campaign against female genital mutilation. Using artificial intelligence for data analysis, real-time monitoring, predictive treatments, and community involvement can help us to fast eliminate negative habits and empower women and girls. But responsible and ethical use of artificial intelligence is very vital to guarantee that technical interventions are fair, efficient, and respectful of the rights of people they seek to defend. Given that it is done carefully and cooperatively, integrating artificial intelligence into anti-FGM plans presents a special chance to effect long-lasting change as we go towards 2030.

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