



Female genital mutilation in the EU: actions and challenges

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6 February, Brufut, The Gambia



A concern in the EU

Sweden (2011)
59 409 girls
3-19% at risk

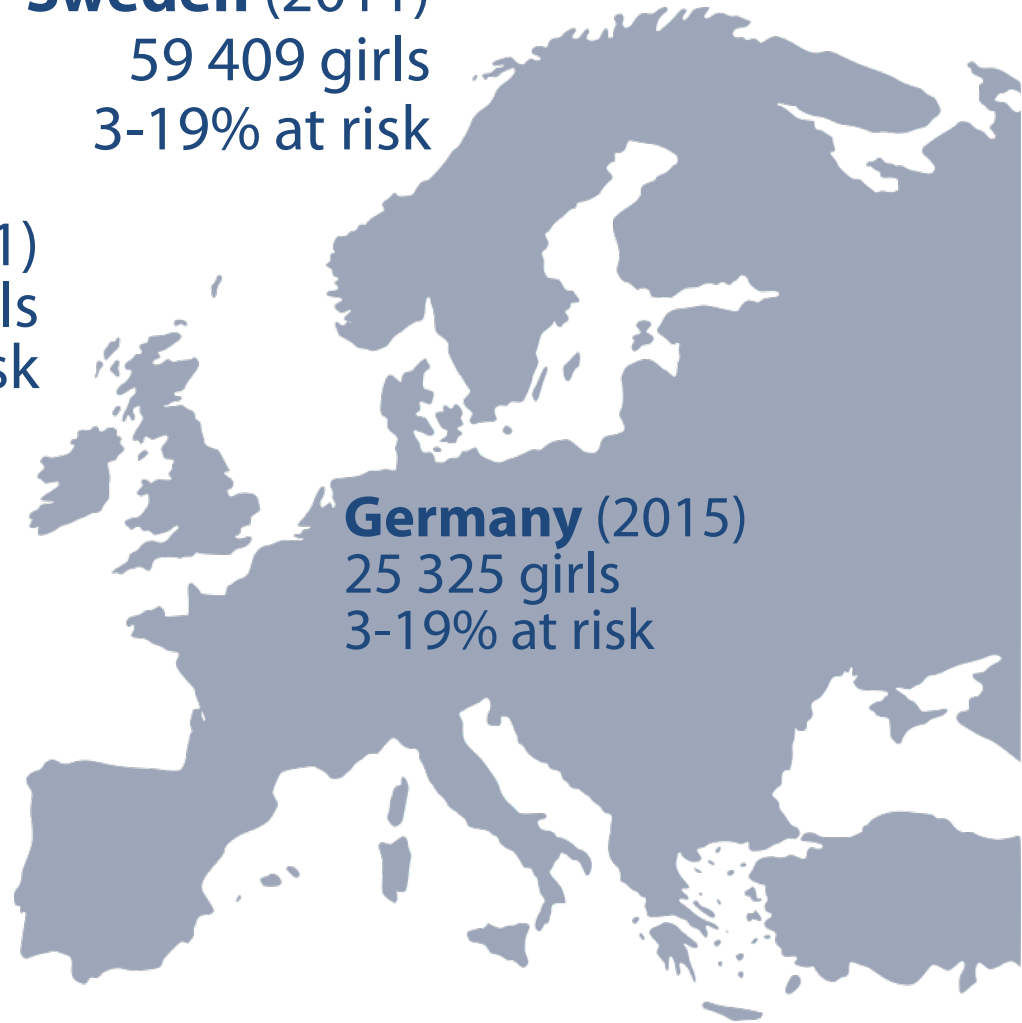
Ireland (2011)
14 577 girls
1-11% at risk

Estimating the risk of FGM



Portugal (2011)
5 835 girls
5 -23 % at risk

Germany (2015)
25 325 girls
3-19% at risk



COMMITMENT TO END FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION

EU framework and actions

- 2013 Communication Towards the elimination of FGM
- 2017 year of focused actions GBV
- Learning platform UEFGM.org
- EC funding REC programme

Prevention

- Istanbul Convention
- Victims' Rights Directive
- FGM is a crime in all MS
 - EU Asylum legislation
- Training legal practitioners
- Analysing court cases

Protection
prosecution

- Data collection priority
- EIGE'S risk estimation methodology
- DAPHNE funded prevalence methodology

Knowledge

- International cooperation
- Funding projects in non-EU countries

External
action



Increasing knowledge

EU-wide
mapping

Good
practices

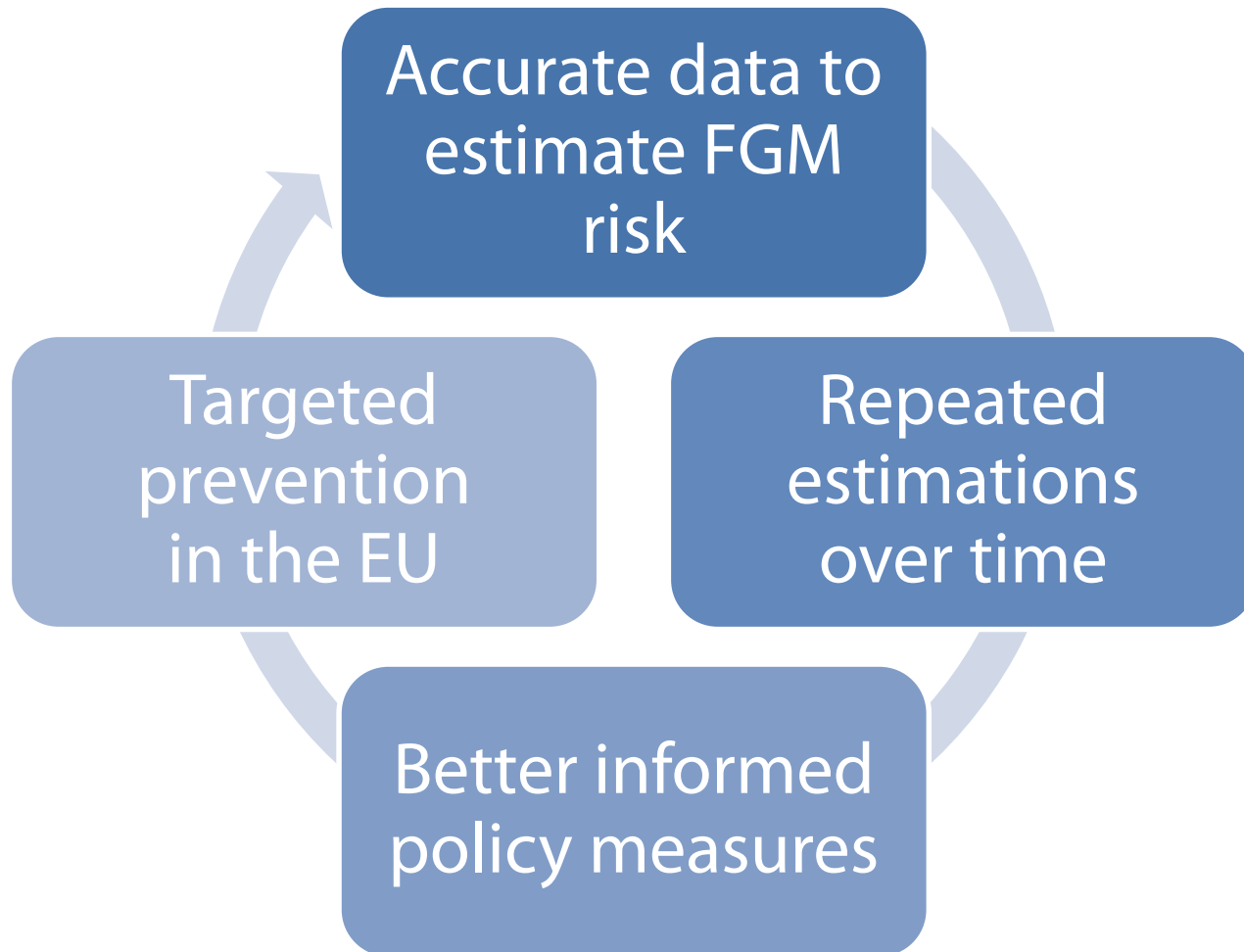
Country
factsheets

Risk
estimations

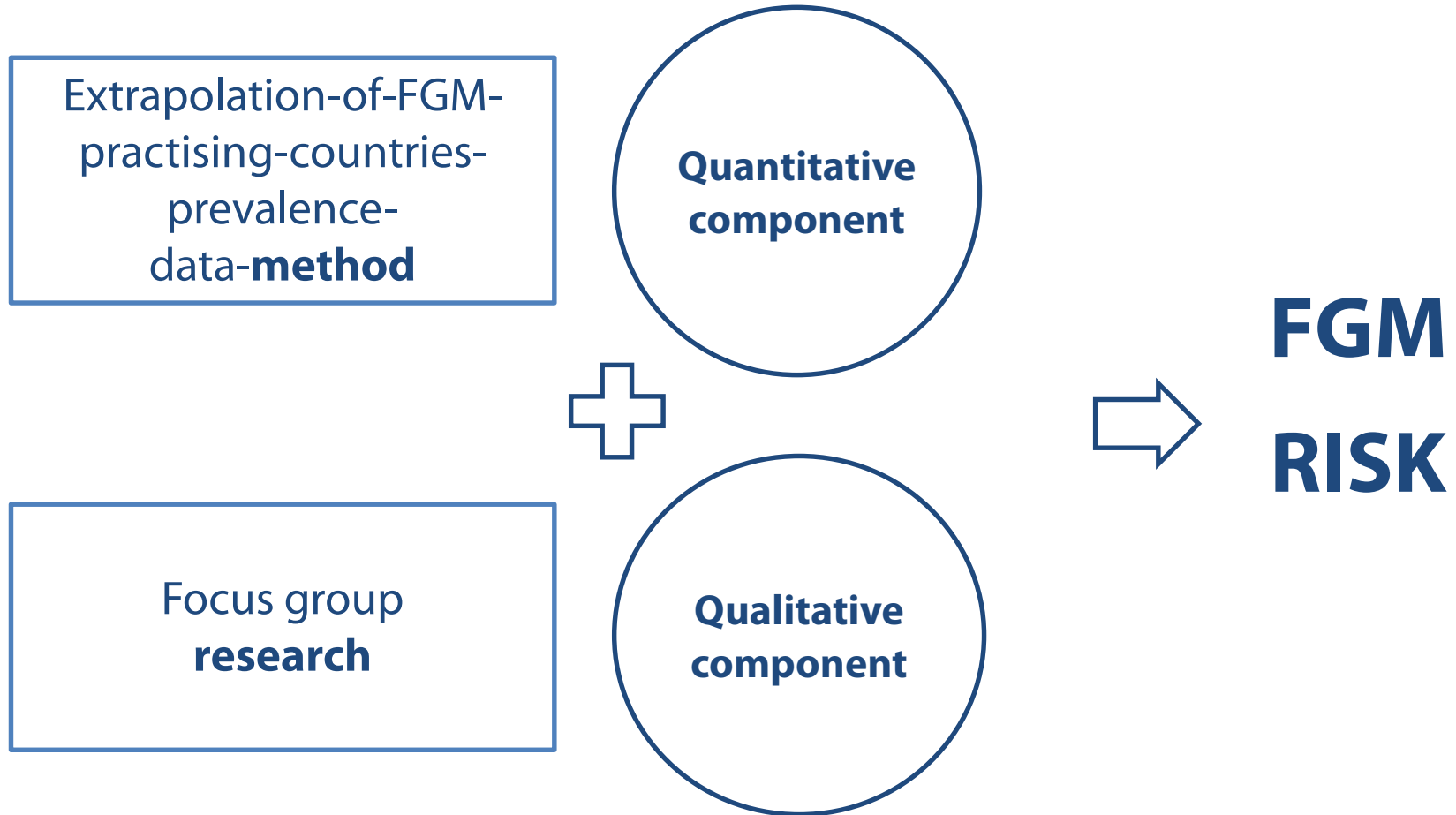
Developing
methodology



Supporting prevention



Developing methodology



Identifying challenges

Allow for
trends and
comparison

- Accurately and regularly estimating the risk of female genital mutilation

Quantitative
-qualitative
data

- Availability of data to estimate the risk of female genital mutilation

New
patterns of
migration

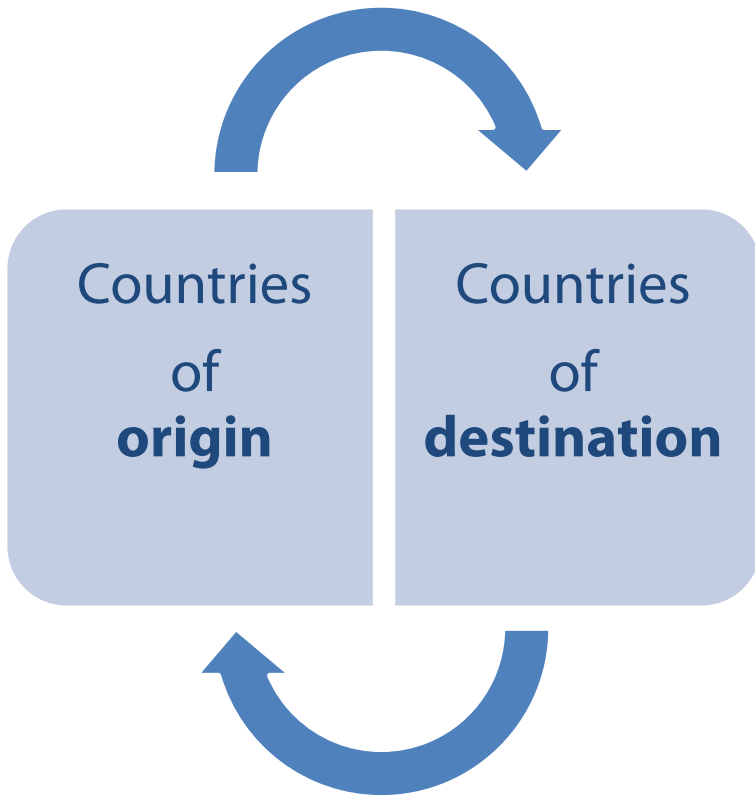
- Migrant, refugee and asylum seeking populations

Sensitive
issue

- Interpret results with caution

2017-2018 Study Preliminary findings

Engaging with communities



Understanding the practice:

in-depth focus groups

Effectice policies:

co-created with communities involved

Advocating for change:

White ribbon ambassadors

A better legal framework

Istanbul Convention ratified by 16 Member States and signed by the EU.

Further ratification needed

Common European Asylum System changes entered into force since 2013.

Gender sensitive asylum procedures needed

Legislation in Member States in place and specialising.

Gaps exist and legal differences impact sanctioning ways

Implementing laws

Stronger legal
framework

Stronger law
enforcement

Preventing
FGM

- Implementing the law and prosecute
- Training for people implementing the law
- Awareness raising of the legislation amongst communities involved

Policies focus on health

The **national strategies on FGM vary across the EU** Member States.

18 cover specifically it in recent initiatives

Actions most visible in the **health and education** sectors

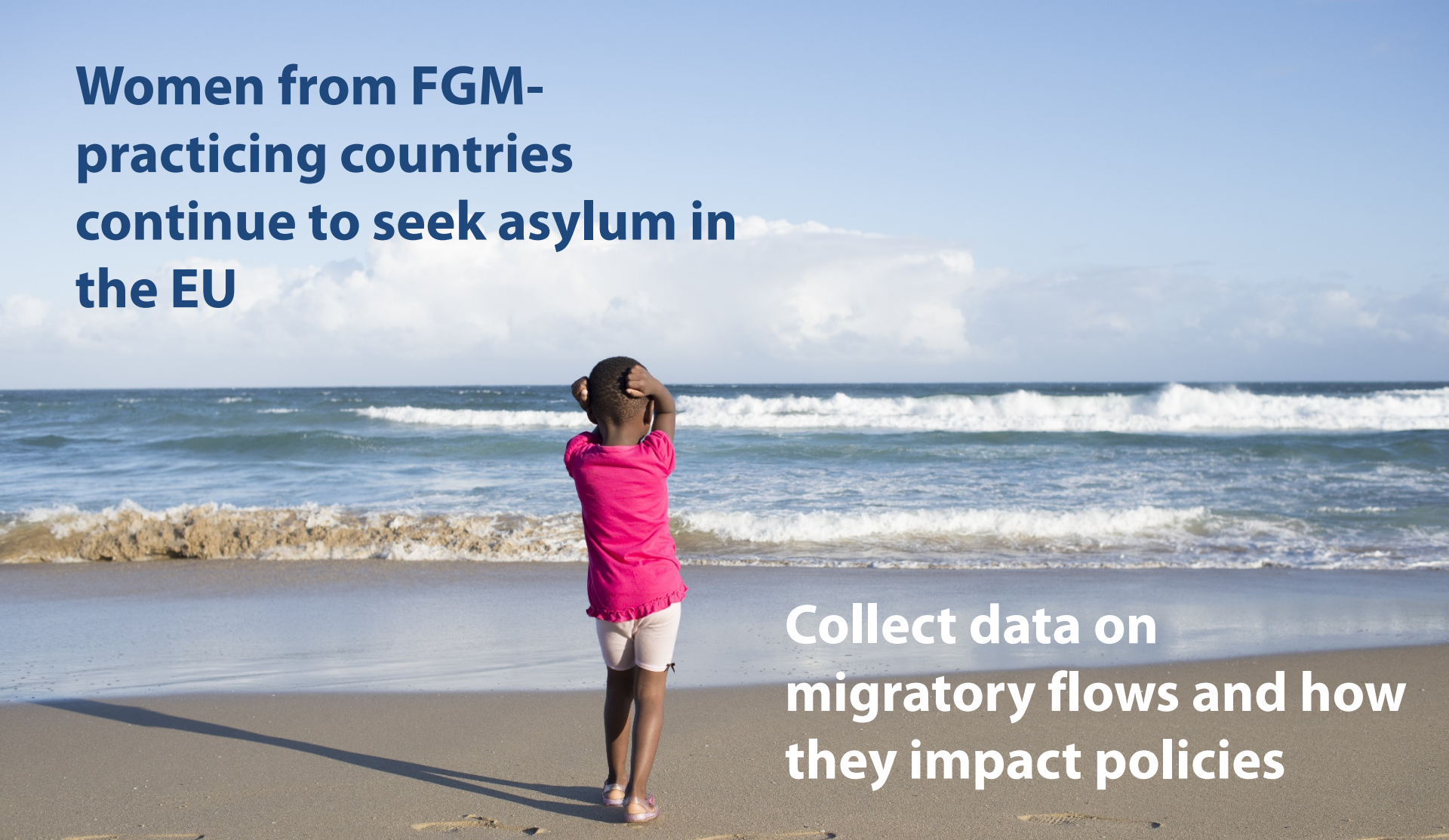
Strategies involving men or communities rare

National guidance for professionals on how to deal with FGM

10 EU Member States developed a framework

New patterns of migration

**Women from FGM-
practicing countries
continue to seek asylum in
the EU**



**Collect data on
migratory flows and how
they impact policies**

Understanding FGM

Discoureaging factors

- Awareness of laws and campaigns
- Stigmatisation
- Health and psychological impact
- Loss of desire

Motivating factors

- Social pressure and fears (promiscuity, infidelity, unwanted pregnancy)
- Purity and aesthetics
- Marriageability

Qualitative
results impact
quantitative
results

Towards a comparable picture in the EU: next steps

Comparable data on the number of girls at risk of female genital mutilation in **10 Member States**

Supporting Member States to undertake risk estimations



Increasing knowledge, Informed policy making, targeted actions



Let's talk



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<https://twitter.com/eurogender>



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