

GAMS

BELGIQUE - BELGIË



Youth and FGM: Experience of GAMS Belgium



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GAMS BELGIUM IN A NUTSHELL



Groupe pour l'
Abolition des
Mutilations
Sexuelles féminines

Group for the Abolition of Female Genital Mutilation





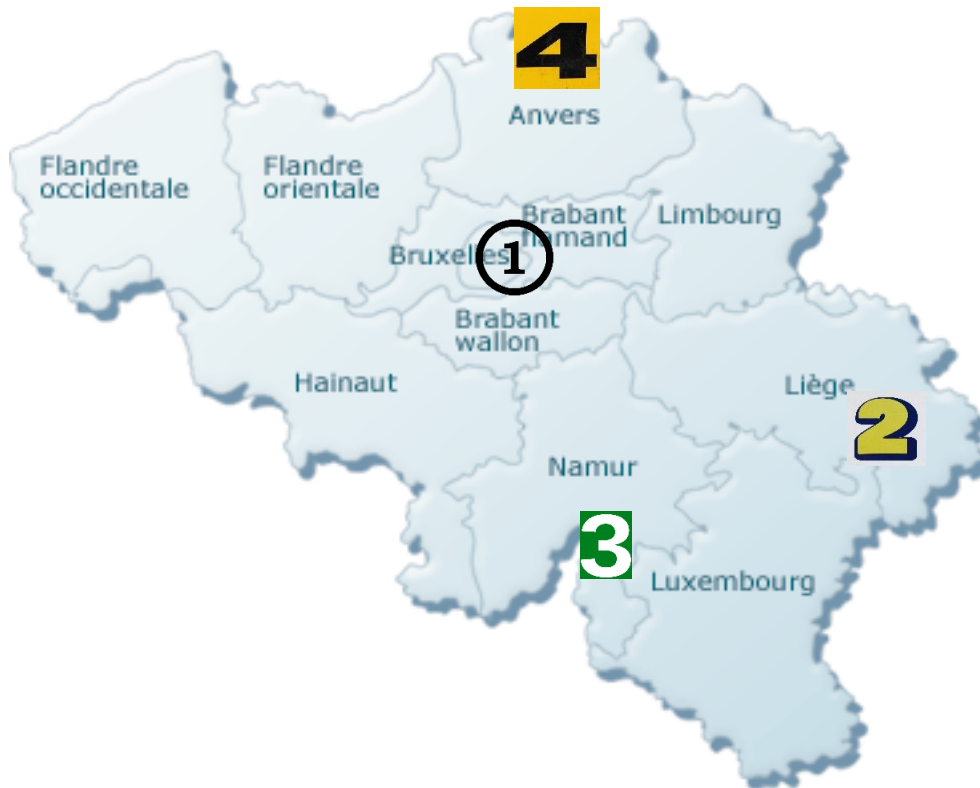
Team

- 6 community facilitators and/or social workers
- 2 psychologists
- 2 project officers
- 1 secretary
- 1 administrator
- 1 director (midwife)





4 branches



GAMS – Objectives and activities

Objectives	Activities
To prevent FGM among girls and women at risk living in Belgium	<p>Awareness raising and information of concerned communities, the general public and professionals</p> <p>Professional training</p>
To reduce the impact of FGM on psychological and social health by offering support to girls and women living with FGM	Individual and community psychosocial support
To promote consultation and crosscutting action, to plea at national and international level	<p>Concerted strategies for fighting female genital mutilation (national network)</p> <p>www.strategiesconcertees.com</p>
To support programmes for the abandonment of FGM in Africa	Vélingara Project



YOUTH AND GAMS: THE YOUTH GROUP AND SCHOOL INITIATIVE





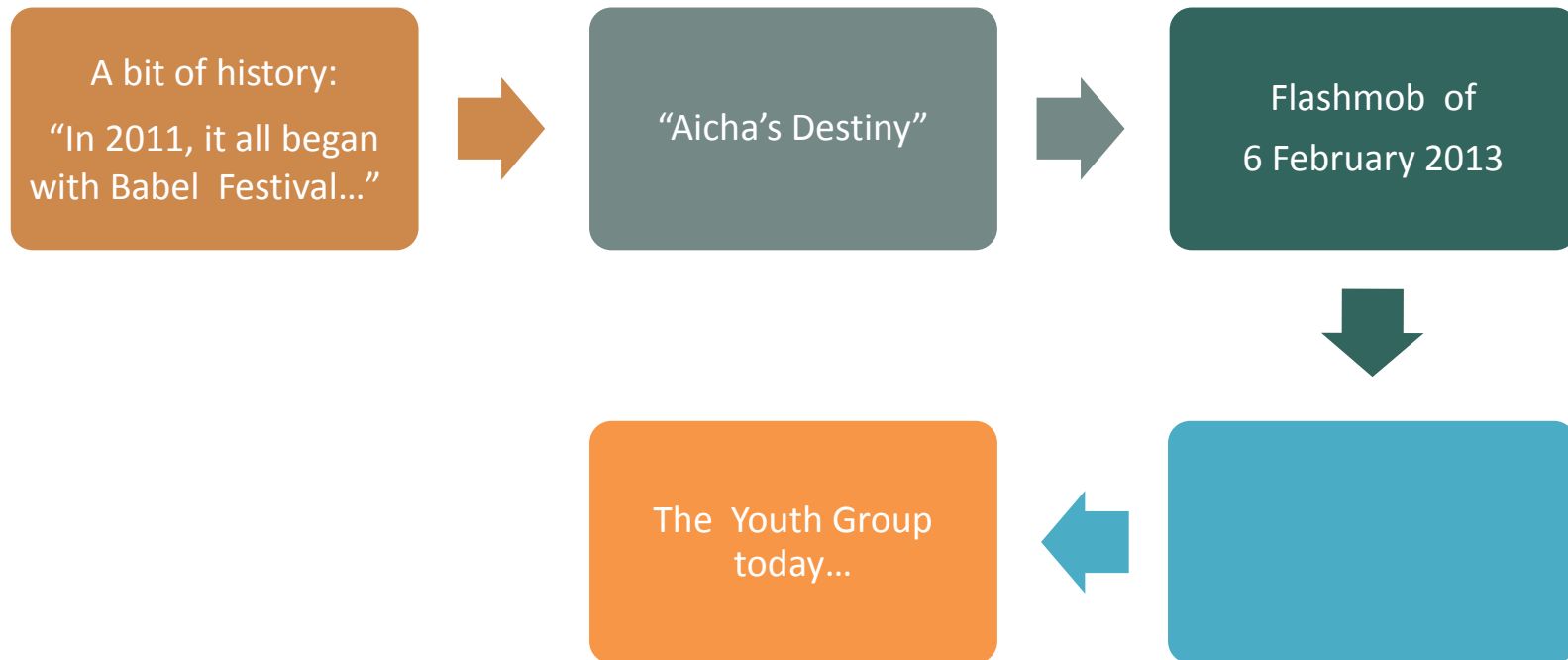
The GAMS Youth Group aims to:

- offer girls creative means to speak out
- empower young girls
- turn the participants into actors of transformation
- carry out political actions





History of the GAMS Youth Group





Working at schools

Workshop offered at schools' request

- To raise awareness and inform about FGM and forced marriage

“Je genre mon école” (project)

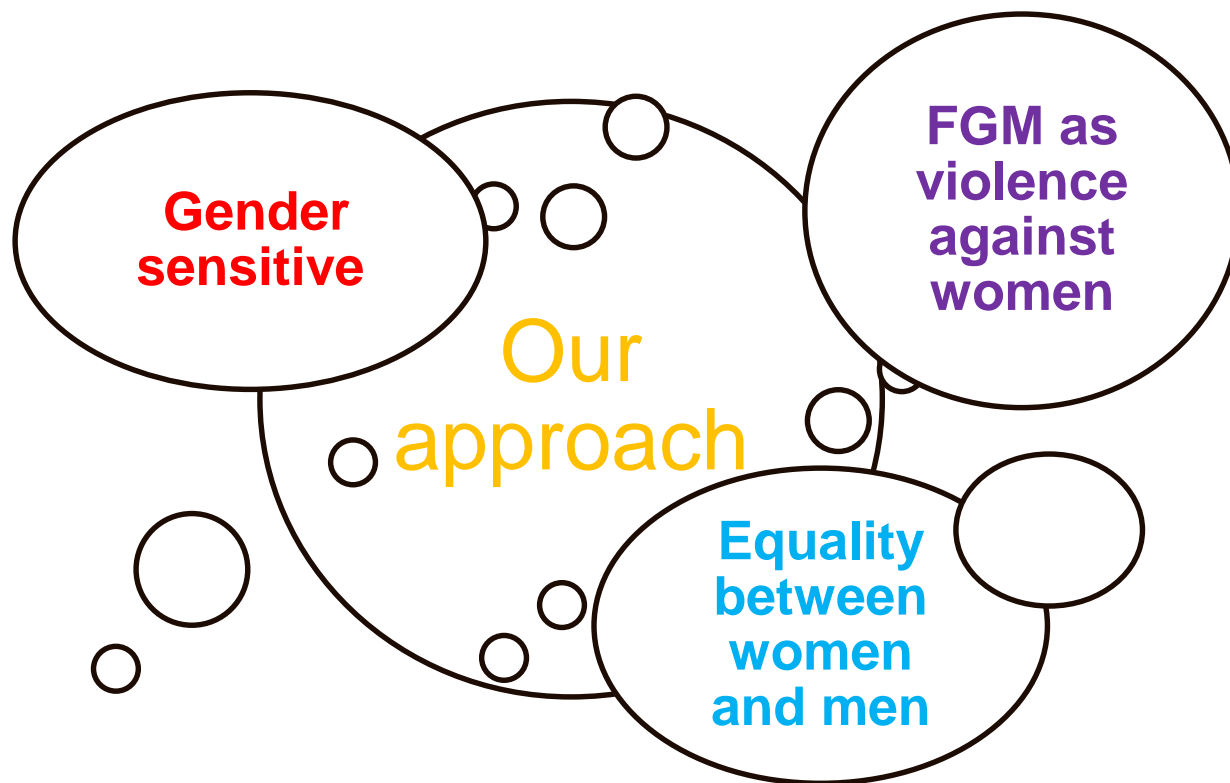
- Thematic board game

“Je l’aime, un peu, beaucoup” (project)

- To raise awareness about violence in love relationships of young people



FGM as a form of gender-based violence





**Gender violence is a global
societal problem**



Cultural claim cannot be
evoked to justify FGM
and forced marriage



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MAIN INGREDIENTS OF OUR RECIPE



Main ingredients of our recipe

- Deal with subjects in a comprehensive and concrete manner
- Allow better understanding of the practice
- Enable discussion of taboo subjects
- Refrain from stigmatizing
- Reach out to a target population which otherwise would have no access to this type of information
- Empower the participants
- Stimulate debate

