

# Female Empowerment

## The Need:



**Vulnerable Girls in Africa are at risk to:**

- Child Marriage
- Female Genital Cutting (FGC)
- Unplanned/Forced Pregnancy
- Forced Removal From School
- Domestic Violence

## Who We Are:

Amref Health Africa is an Africa-based non-profit committed to improving the health of people in Africa by partnering with and empowering communities. The cornerstone of our work is training local health workers in the communities we serve and building strong health systems from the grassroots level up. We use African solutions to tackle African health challenges with African expertise.

## What We Do:

**Ending FGC:** FGC is the harmful practice of the partial or full removal of a girl's genitals that signifies her passing into adulthood. Girls as young as eight are "cut", and often forced into marriage shortly after. We work hand-in-hand with communities to collectively abandon the practice by sensitizing them to the dangers of FGC and adopt an alternative that was designed by a Maasai community. The alternative combines traditional ceremonies, such as a procession of the girls and blessings from elders, with three days of reproductive health education and empowerment to stay in school.



Over  
**14,000**  
girls in Kenya and Tanzania  
have been rescued from  
undergoing FGC

## **Expanding Access to Reproductive Health Education and Services:**

We empower both girls and boys with reproductive health education so they can make informed decisions and even educate their peers. We train teachers and health workers to ensure that comprehensive health education is taught in school and that quality youth-friendly services like STI testing and contraceptive information are being provided. By creating an environment where reproductive issues are openly discussed and by making services available, young girls have ownership of their reproductive agency. When the whole community is empowered, child marriage, unplanned pregnancies, school drop outs, and even domestic violence can be eliminated.



learn more at  
[www.amrefusa.org](http://www.amrefusa.org)