

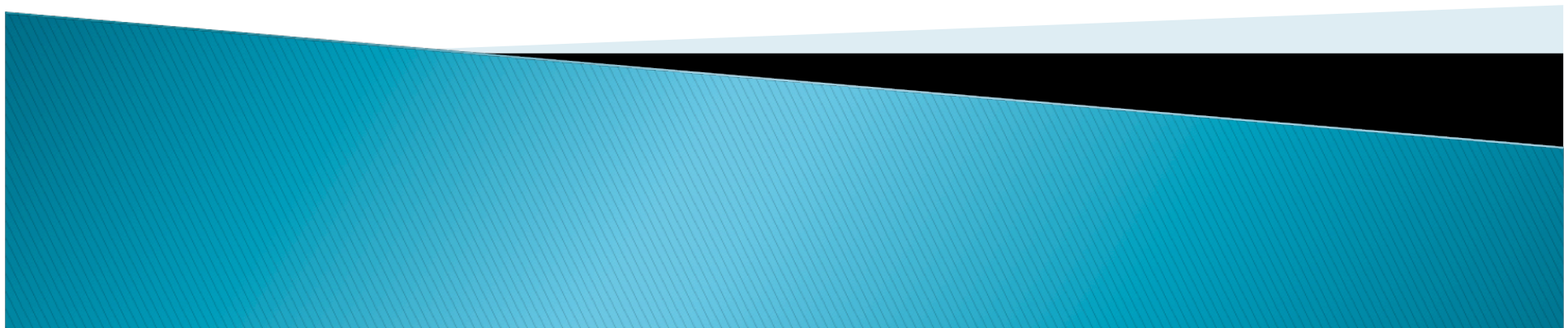


# CHANGE

## Consortium meeting

8-9 July 2013

Zahra Naleie



# Outline

1. Introduction
2. Background information Religion & FGM
3. Findings REPLACE 1 on Religion
4. Recommendations



# 1. Background information Religion & FGM

- ▶ Religious base for FGM
- ▶ Role of Religious leaders
- ▶ National and International interventions



## 2. Findings REPLACE 1 on Religion

- ▶ People have abandoned the “extreme” Type 3
- ▶ There is a shift to “Sunnah”

### Conclusion:

*“REPLACE found that religious beliefs were important in relation to FGM for those who took part. Religious beliefs can either support the ending of all forms of FGM or provide support for the continuation of the practice. Religious beliefs, particularly those relating to the „sunna” type of FGM, pose a significant barrier to behaviour change. The findings suggest that „sunna” type of FGM has become more associated with Islam, whereas Type III (infibulation) has not.”*



### 3. Recommendations

1. We need to abandon the word “Sunnah.”
2. More intervention programs aimed at religious leaders, such as training.
3. The religious leaders need to make a clear statement about Religion & FGM.

