

# WEST AFRICA AREA REPORT

TUESDAY, 30 AUGUST 2016

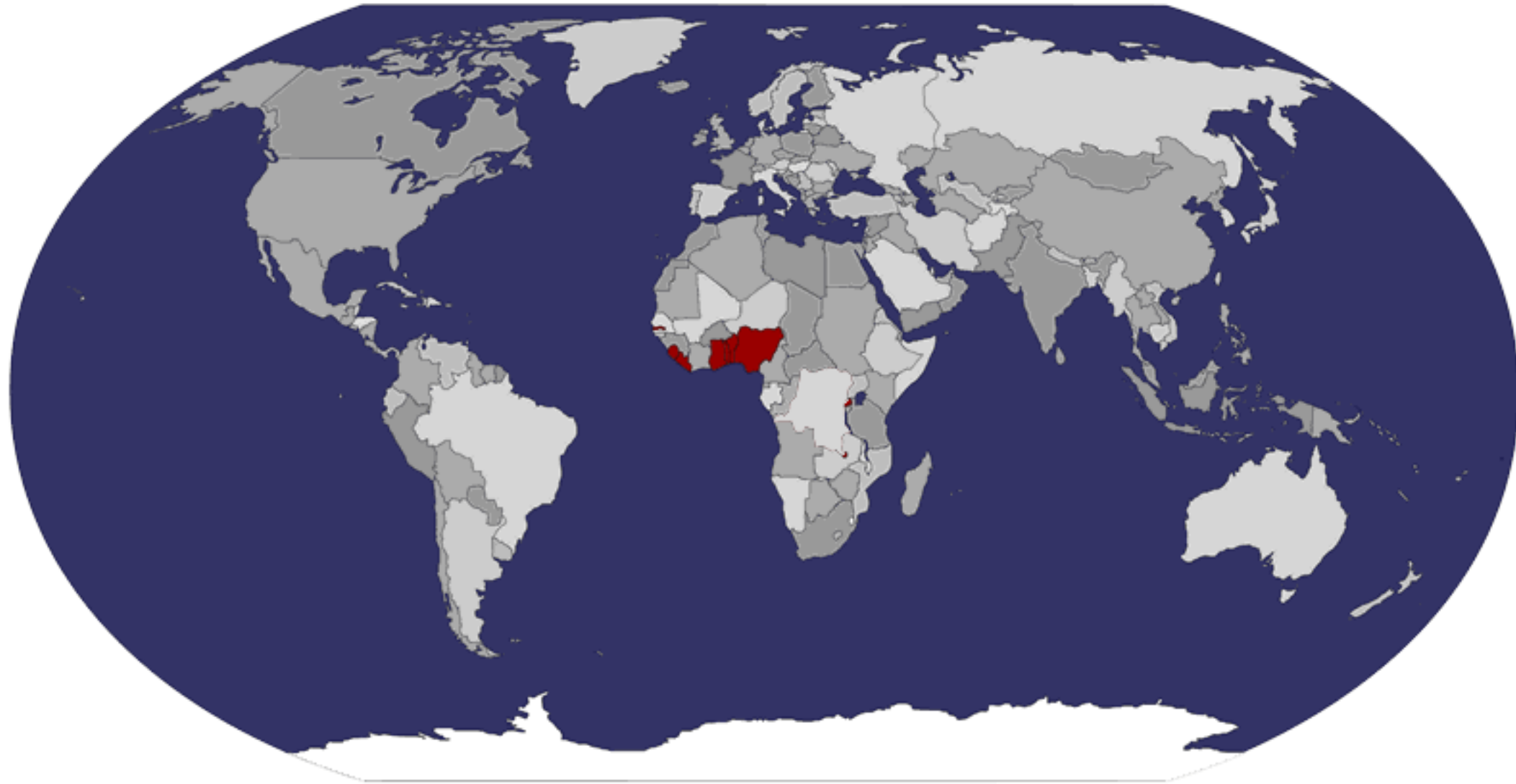


World Federation of Methodist & Uniting Church Women

**13<sup>th</sup> World  
Assembly 2016**

Houston, Texas, USA

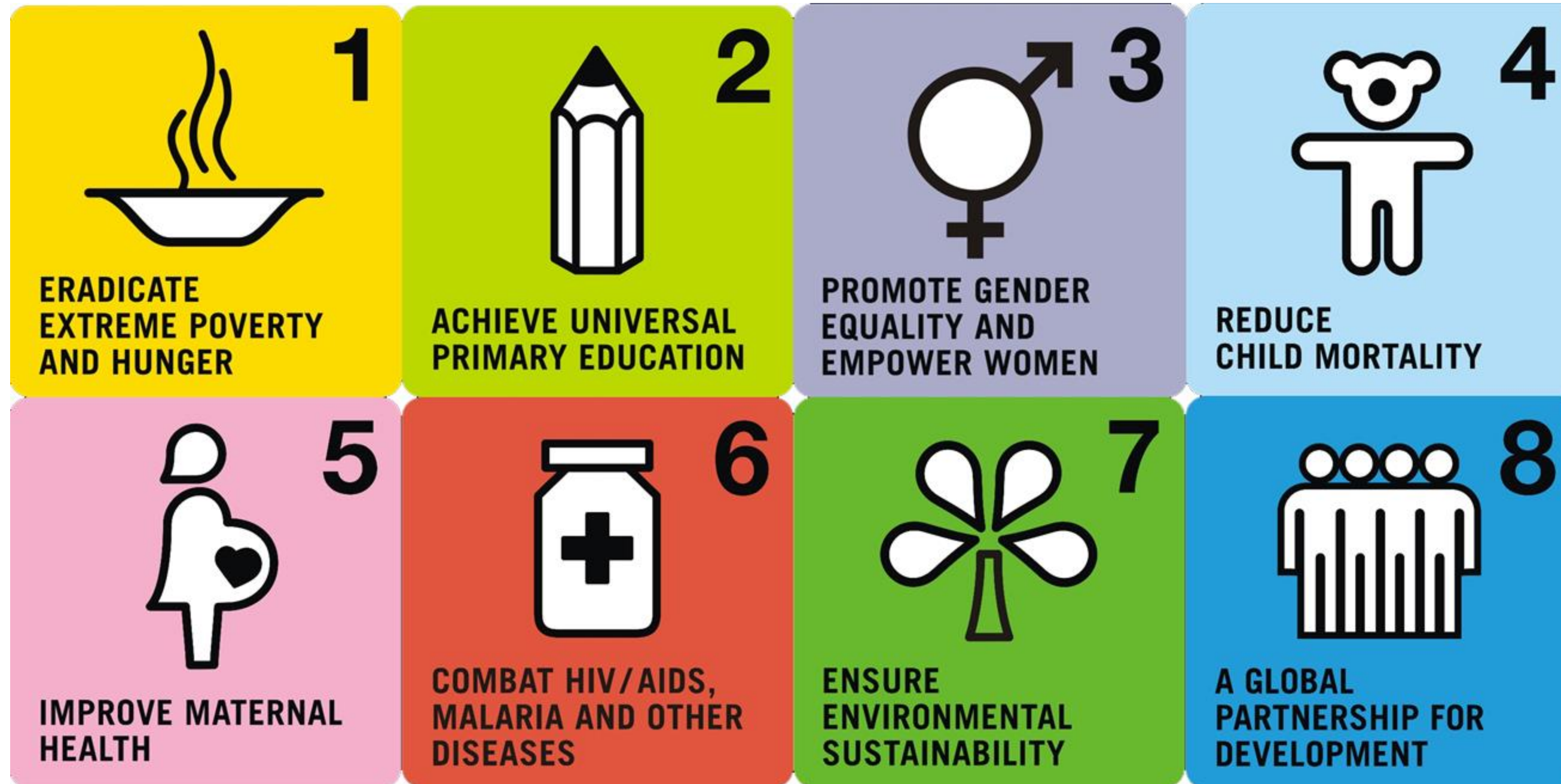
# WEST AFRICA AREA



**World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women**

# **WEST AFRICA AREA WOMEN RACE TO 2016**

# MDGs - MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS



# WEST AFRICA AREA SEMINAR

The West Africa Area of the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women held its Area Seminar in Banjul the Gambia from 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> May 2013.

The theme was:

**“FOOD SECURITY AND WOMEN’S  
EMPOWERMENT”**



# MDGs - MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS  
**ERADICATE  
EXTREME POVERTY  
AND HUNGER**  
#MDGmomentum



1

Goal 1 - Who are the poor? - WOMEN

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS  
**ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL  
PRIMARY EDUCATION**  
#MDGmomentum



2

Goal 2 - Who are the illiterates? - mostly WOMEN

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS  
**PROMOTE GENDER  
EQUALITY AND  
EMPOWER WOMEN**  
#MDGmomentum



3

Goal 3 - Who does gender inequality and lack of empowerment affect most? - WOMEN



# MDGs - MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS  
**REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY**  
#MDGmomentum



4

Goal 4 - Who does child bearing and infant mortality directly affect? - WOMEN

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS  
**IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH**  
#MDGmomentum



5

Goal 5 - Maternal refers to who? - WOMEN

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS  
**COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES**  
#MDGmomentum



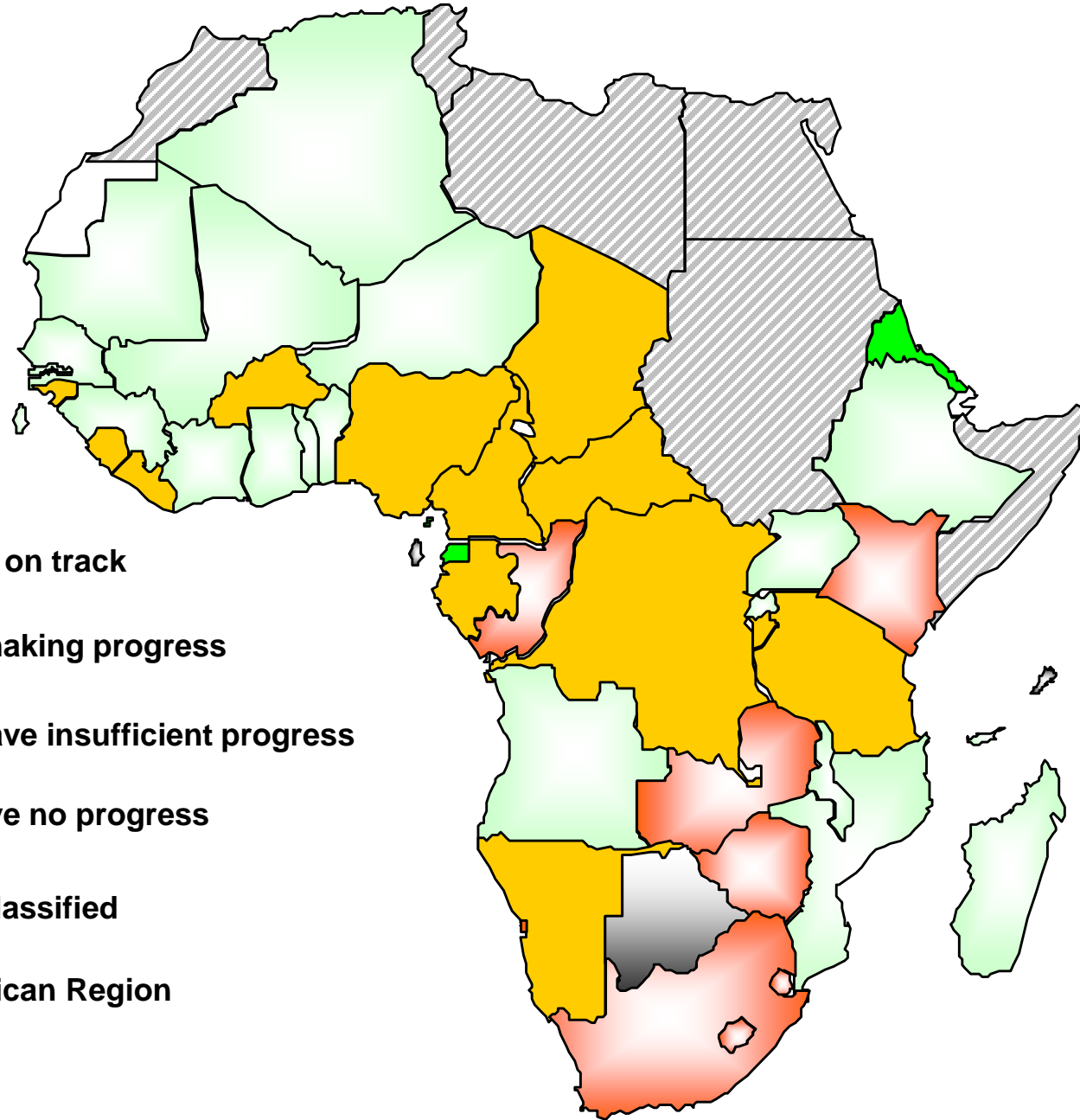
6

Goal 6 - Who are the most infected with HIV/AIDS and STIs - WOMEN

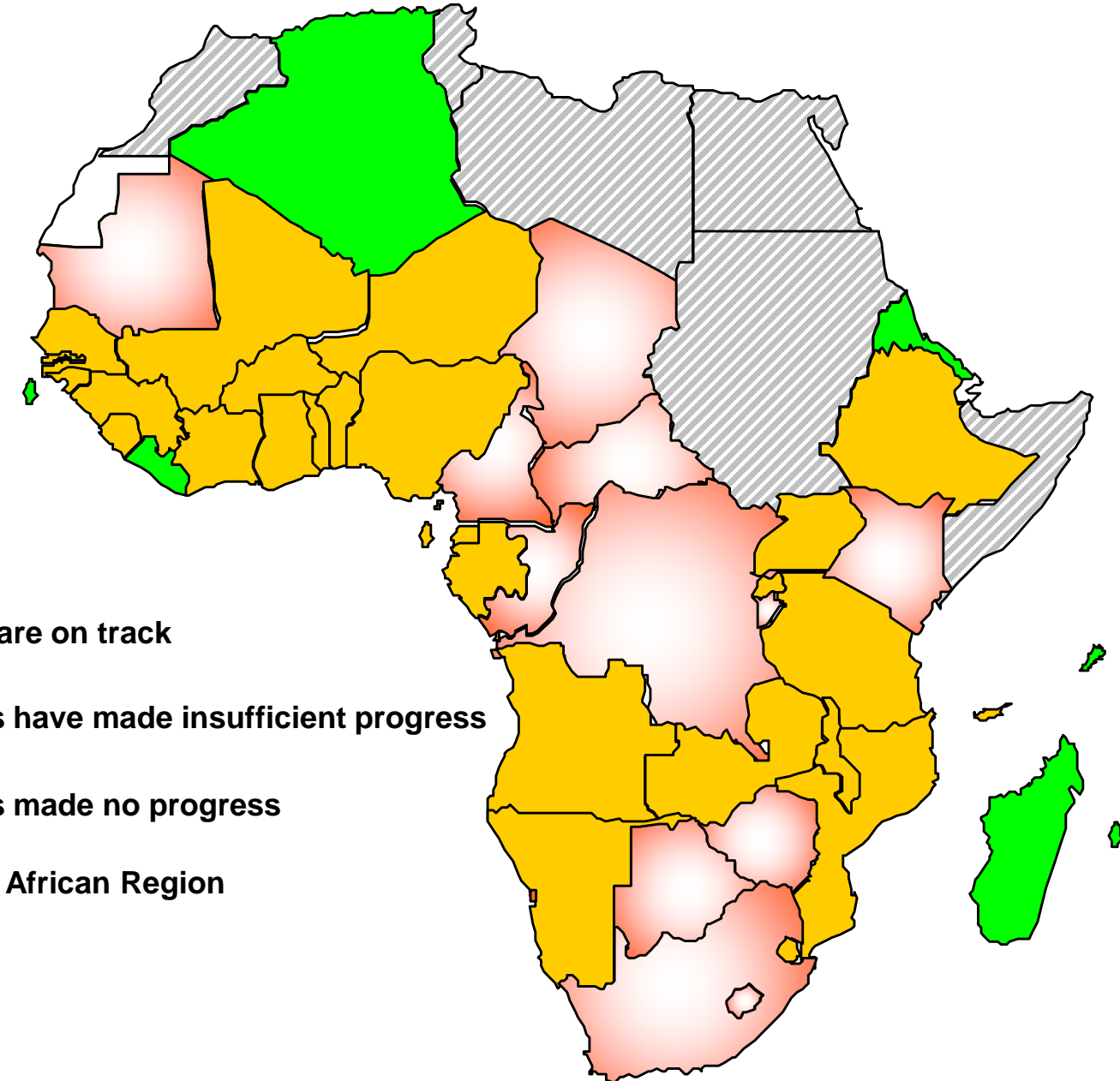


# MDGs - MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

## Tracking African Countries on MDGs 4 and 5



- 2 Countries are on track
- 20 Countries making progress
- 13 Countries have insufficient progress
- 7 Countries have no progress
- 4 - No data/unclassified
- Not in WHO African Region



- 7 Countries are on track
- 27 Countries have made insufficient progress
- 12 Countries made no progress
- Not in WHO African Region



# MDGs - MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

#MDGmomentum



Goal 7 - Who are engaged mostly in unsafe environmental conditions - especially in third world countries? - WOMEN (daily use of charcoal and/ or firewood)



Briquettes in Rocket Stove



Firewood in Firewood Forno



Charcoal on Charcoal Forno



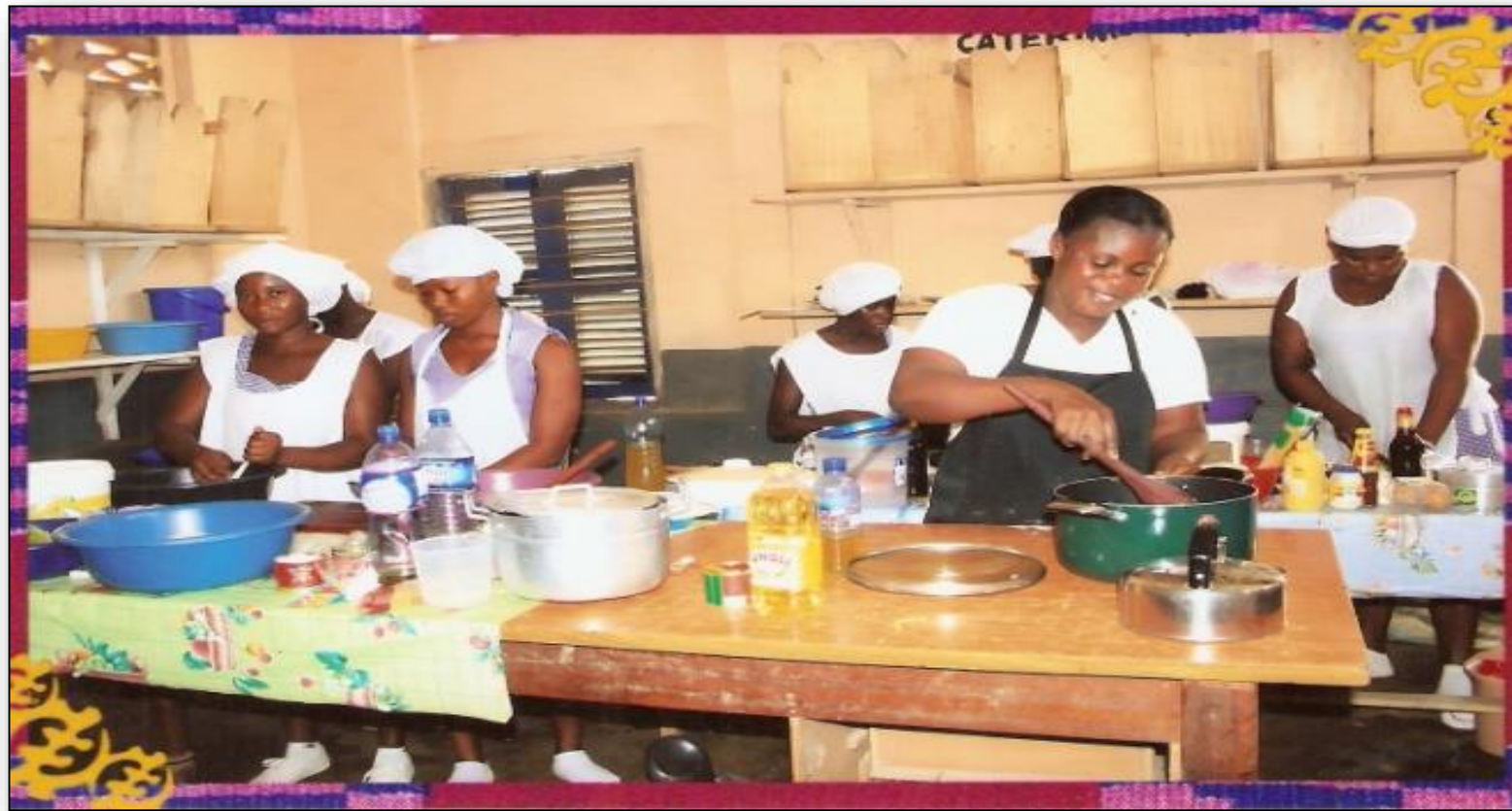
# MDGs- MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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The MDGs are women related issues which activists, CSOs and faith based organizations have been advocating and lobbying for, for a long , long time. Now, they have all been recycled, repackaged and presented as the MDGs at international level.

# THE MDGs AND THE CHURCH

- Setting up Skills Centres
- Establishing Vocational Training Schools



Catering Class in Session, Ghana



Hairdressing Demonstration

# THE MDGs AND THE CHURCH

Methodist Mission Agricultural Programme (MMAP) The Gambia

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Train women in income generating projects such as:

- Agricultural produce processing - (jam making, local fruit juices, hot pepper sauce)
- Charcoal production
- Small scale animal husbandry - (piggery, poultry, sheep rearing)
- Plant and vegetable Nurseries

# THE MDGs AND THE CHURCH

Methodist Mission Agricultural Programme (MMAP) The Gambia

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Community projects include:

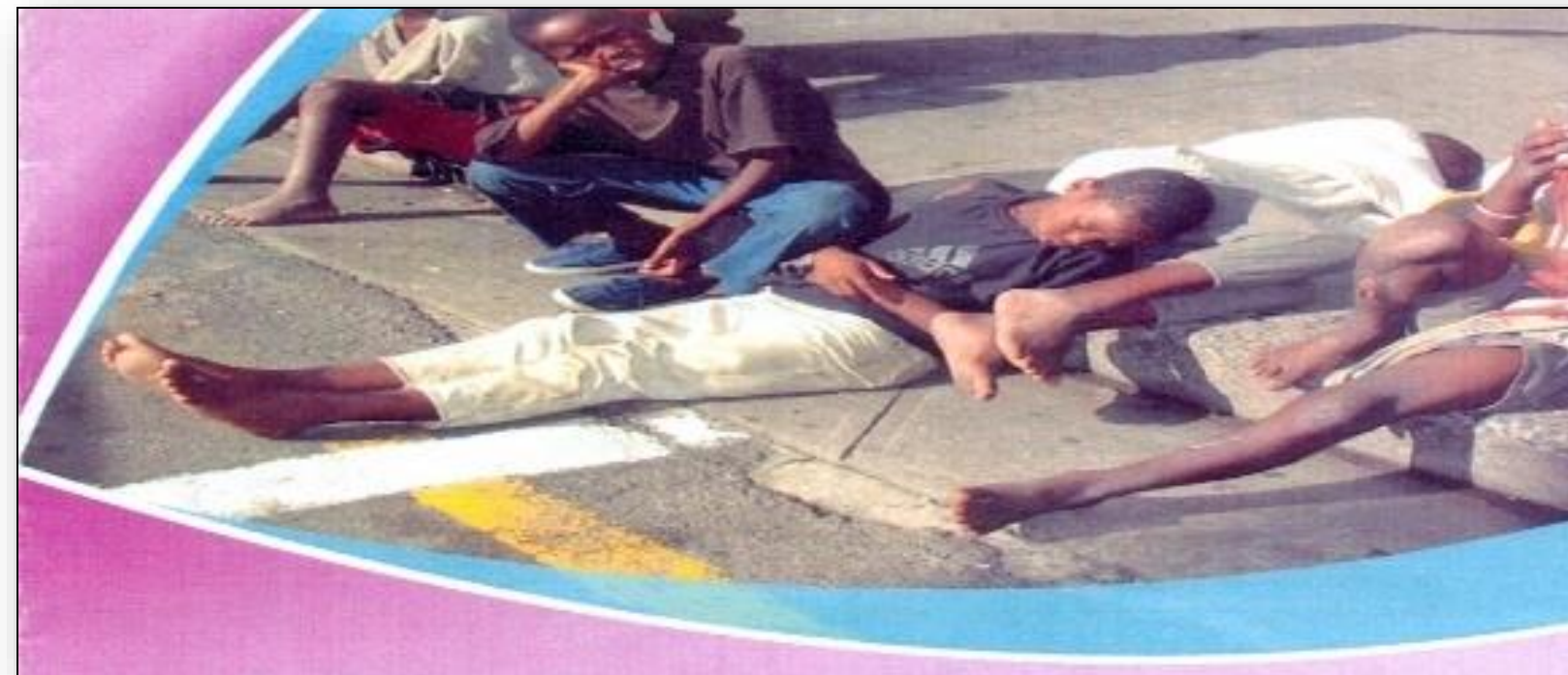
- Well digging projects
- Provision of Milling machines
- The Methodist Church is engaged in the provision of healthcare through its-
- Health Centres
- Dental Clinics

# CHRISTIAN WOMEN AND THE MDGS

How Do We Relate These Goals To Women In The Church?



As Christian women we can provide hope for the poor (Isaiah 41 v17, Matthew 19 v2)



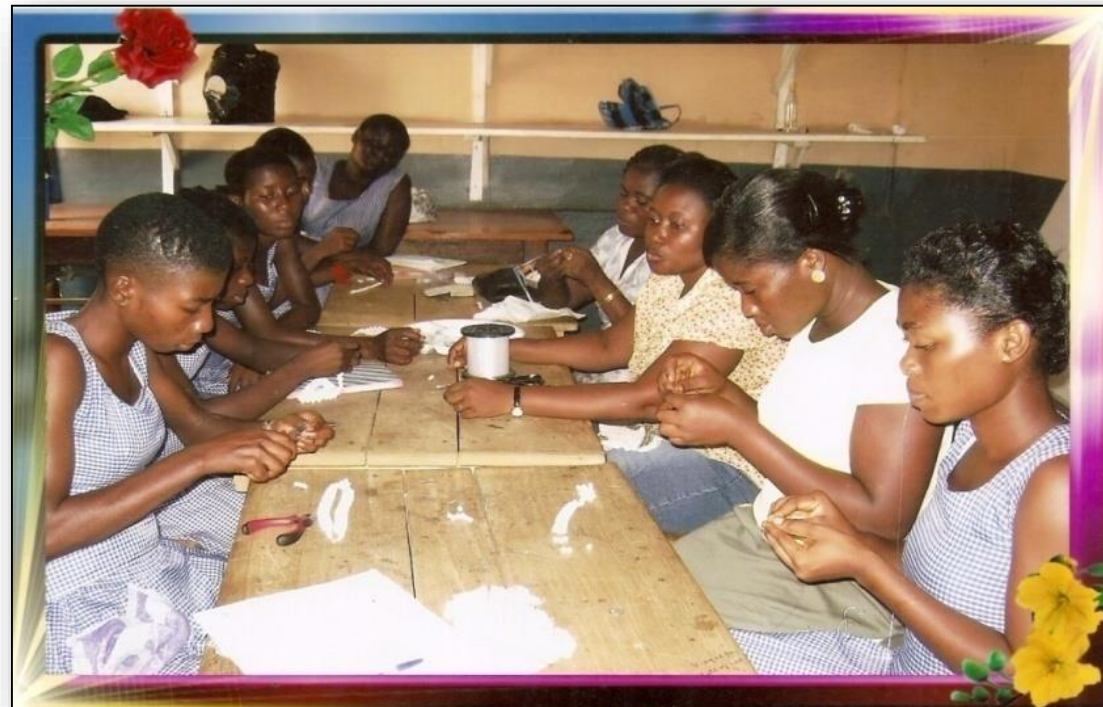
Street Children Rehabilitation Programme, Ghana

# CHRISTIAN WOMEN AND THE MDGS

How Do We Relate These Goals To Women In The Church?



- Train women on income generating schemes - soap making, tie and dye, bead making, preservation of local foodstuffs, sewing etc.



Bead making class



Dress making & Needle work

# CHRISTIAN WOMEN AND THE MDGS

How Do WE Relate These Goals To Women In The Church?



As Christian women, we can provide hope for Learners (Colossians 2 v2-3)

- Advocate for children to get uninterrupted education
- Encourage mothers to be educated (so as to understand the educational needs of the child)



# CHRISTIAN WOMEN AND THE MDGS

How Do We Relate These Goals To Women In The Church?



As Christian women, we can provide hope for Equality (Galatians 3v27-28)

- Women can bring up their boys and girls equally and make them treat each other with respect
- Sunday school and fellowships meetings are responsible to provide leadership training for both sexes
- Women can help other women and girls discover their self worth (uplift their self confidence and esteem)

# CHRISTIAN WOMEN AND THE MDGS

How Do We Relate These Goals To Women In The Church?

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS  
**REDUCE  
CHILD MORTALITY**  
#MDGmomentum

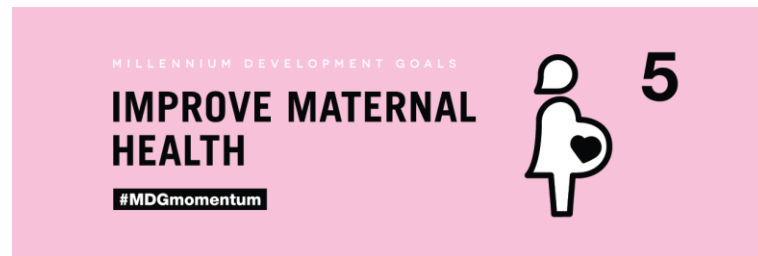


As Christian women, we can provide hope for the children (Matthew 18 v1-5)

- Provide counseling for young girls on the dangers of teenage pregnancy
- Raise awareness on the problems of child birth faced by mothers and young girls

# CHRISTIAN WOMEN AND THE MDGS

How Do We Relate These Goals To Women In The Church?



As Christian women, we can provide hope for mothers (Mark 7 v24-30)

- Family life education and life skills
- Advocate for creche facilities at workplaces
- Advocate for exclusive breast feeding for the first six months of the baby's life

# CHRISTIAN WOMEN AND THE MDGS

How Do We Relate These Goals To Women In The Church?



As Christian women, we can provide hope for wholeness (Matthew 12 v15)

- Be more informed about HIV and AIDS
- Promote the welfare of People living with HIV and AIDS
- Campaign against stigma and discrimination of infected persons
- Visit regularly the victims and orphans
- Conduct counseling for sufferers and their families

# CHRISTIAN WOMEN AND THE MDGS

How Do We Relate These Goals To Women In The Church?



As Christian women, we can provide hope for wholeness (Matthew 12 v15)

- Set up income generating activities for victims
- Educate others on malaria, TB and other diseases
- Engage in the distribution of bed nets to families

# CHRISTIAN WOMEN AND THE MDGS

How Do We Relate These Goals To Women In The Church?



As Christian women, we can provide hope for creation (Isaiah 41 v17-20; Matthew 28v 18)

- Women can encourage families to recycle
- Use clean water at all times
- Determine ways of using new sources of energy and fuel
- Educate families on the importance of a sustainable environment

# CONCLUSION

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Taking into consideration all of these issues, West Africa's women's race to the MDGs is still on. We may not get there this time, **BUT WE WILL SURELY GET THERE IN GOD'S TIME.**

*Mrs. Matilda Johnson*

Area President,  
West Africa Area  
WFM&UCW

*"To Know Christ and to  
Make Him Known"*





# WEST AFRICA AREA

