



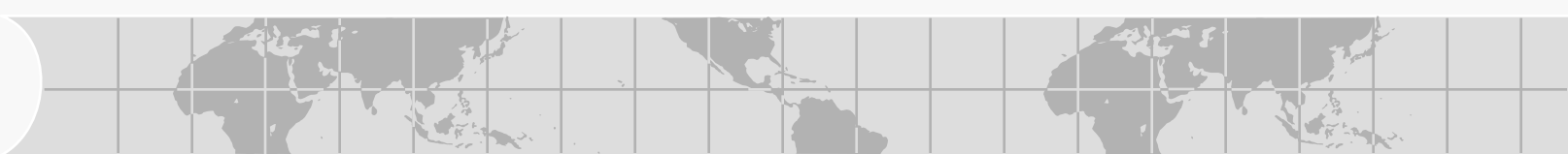
World YWCA



Africa



Presentation on Young
Women Leadership
Hendrica Okondo
24 Jan 2011



The Context- Africa

- Low status of women ,women's limited participation in politics and decision-making,
- High level of illiteracy, limited access of girls to education
- Poor sexual and reproductive health indicators
- HIV/AIDS infection rate high among girls and women,
- Conflict Natural Disasters and Violence against Women
- High population of refugee women and internally displaced women,,
- Poverty, Globalisation ,Trade liberalisation and Unemployment
- Harmful traditional practices,
- Culture tradition and religious constructs of gender roles

The YWCA Outreach-Africa

31 Associations,

28 Affiliated

*Angola , Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo DR Congo,
Gambia ,Ghana, Kenya , Lesotho, Liberia , Madagascar, Malawi,
Mauritius , Mozambique , Namibia, Nigeria , Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra
Leone, South Africa, Sudan Tanzania Togo Uganda, Zambia and
Zimbabwe*

and 3 developing

Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast and Mali

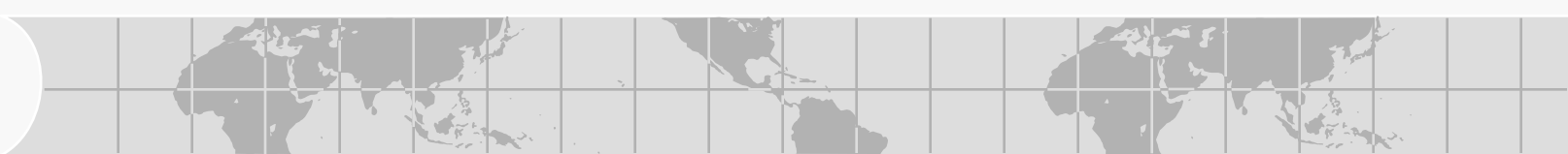
In the 4 year questionnaires

*Africa has 42,253 members, (of these young women were 18876) and
Volunteers, are 5,504*



The YWCA Outreach-Africa

- The 28 affiliated associations have a total of 515 national branches that work in 287 towns and work with more than 10,000 communities
- The associations have hotels, hostels, schools and kindergartens that provide income and safe spaces for women and girls



Developing YWCA Groups

- **Mali**
- **Burkina Faso**
- **Cote D'Ivoire**
- **These groups are already active and provide training for young women and girls in 49 localities and villages**



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Programme Priorities : SRHR and Hiv

- Promoting the right of young women to access services and information which will enable them to reduce their risk and vulnerability to infection
- Protecting the right of Hiv positive young women to access reproductive health services and ARVs
- Ensuring Voluntary Counselling and Testing services are responsive to young women's needs
- Providing Nutritional support and Home Based Care
- Partnering with networks that facilitate access to services for young women

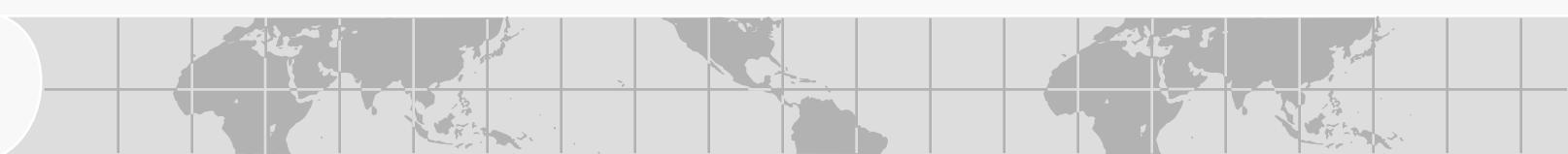


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Programme Priorities :

Violence against women

- Creating awareness among young women of the existing mechanism for protecting their right to life free of violence-CEDAW, African Protocol on Women's rights , national laws on domestic violence and SGBV through participation in coalitions and networks
- Providing shelter and referrals to networks that provide medical and legal services
- Providing safe spaces for survivors to tell their story and heal
- Promoting faith based community initiatives that protect young women and educating young men on behaviour change



Programme Activities:

Economic Justice

- Crafts and dress making
- Legal Literacy for domestic workers
- Micro credit and revolving funds for groups
- Hostel /Hotel Management and Food production
- Kindergarten training and Day care centres



Programme Priorities: Peace with Justice

- Mobilising women to participate in peace initiatives and coalitions of organisations promoting peace
- Documenting women and girls experiences in political crisis and conflict situations
- Providing shelter and trauma counselling for survivors of violence during conflict
- Enhancing access to justice and leveraging space for young women from faith communities to speak to policy makers
- Advocating for the implementation of UN SCR 1325

World YWCA-organised Regional Training Institutes (RTI)

- The World YWCA organized the African Regional Training Institute (ARTI) hosted by the YWCA of Nigeria in Lagos, Nigeria, from June 6th to June 13th 2009, around the theme: ***African Women Creating Safe and Secure Communities: Enhancing the Capacity of YWCAs to Strengthen the Response to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, HIV and AIDS and Violence Against Women.***

World YWCA-organised Regional Training Institutes (RTI)

- . The African Regional Training Institute brought together 141 women leaders including 37 young women under 30 years old (including 3 openly positive young women) from 29 African countries . The young women had their own closed one-day consultation, *the Young Daughters of Africa Leadership Dialogue*, where they were able to share, discuss and plan in a safe space



Partners:

- Other YWCAs at regional and global level
- National Governments
- Packard Foundation
- UNDP
- UNIFEM
- UNICEF
- UN_ECA
- African Council of Churches
- African Women Development Fund
- Global Fund
- African Union
- Femme Afrique Soldarity
- Urgent Action Fund
- IPPF
- Red Cross
- World Day of Prayer
- Church World Service
- ICCO
- EED
- WAGGS
- NCA
- Realizing Rights

Challenges

- ❁ Attracting and retaining young women
- ❁ Limited technical capacity
- ❁ Transport and financial resources for sustaining activities
- ❁ Getting a balance between service provision and advocacy
- ❁ Increasing conservatism among faith groups limiting young women's access to accurate information

Opportunities

- Substantial compliance to Standard of Good Management and Accountability
- Young women leaders managing programmes
- Proximity to faith and community based young women
- Highly skilled volunteers
- Participation in global regional and national networks of faith, youth and women advocates for social justice
- Support from World Office providing information and capacity building opportunities for young women

BEST PRACTICES

- Model of intergenerational leadership in the Governance (Board and Council)- Young women leaders – form 30%
- Combining services with mobilisation of young women for collective advocacy action for access to health education peace and dignity
- Partnerships, voice & visibility of young women,- internship exchange progs attending key meetings
- Building a strong sustainable financial base and access to national regional and international resources