



Cameroon	Yaounde Email: ywcacame@yahoo.fr
Poverty alleviation and HIV prevention	For many women, poverty and vulnerability to HIV infection go hand in hand. Recognising that providing accurate information on HIV and AIDS would not lead to behaviour change if women's financial situation forced them into high risk activities, the YWCA added another component to their AIDS work. Women are being trained in a number of skills that can be used to generate income. In addition to learning how to dye materials; make soaps, beauty creams, toothpaste and other products, participants learn the basics of running a business and how to get start up funds. By providing a way out of poverty, the YWCA is enabling women to take control over their sexuality and their health
Cameroon	Yaounde Email: ywcacame@yahoo.fr
Training in income generating activities	500 women received training in dyeing, yogurt making, fruit drying, smoking fish, smoking chicken, making soap, making toothpaste and making natural fruit juice. All women were trained on how to run a micro project and women's development.
Ethiopia	Addis Ababa Email: ywcaeth@telecom.net.et
Literacy and Education	In Ethiopia, many young girls do not finish their schooling and without professional skills, many turn to prostitution. In order to provide alternatives to these young women, the YWCA provides an education programme in Addis Ababa, which equips them with English and Amharic language training, as well as communications and vocational skills. The YWCA also bridges their move into formal employment by organising traineeships with prospective employers.
Ghana	Accra Email: ywca@africaonline.com.gh
Gwabe women's bakery	Armed with a kneading machine and training from the YWCA, the women of Gwabe are baking their way to financial freedom. Having been trained in bread-making as well as how to start a small scale bakery, the women are working together to raise enough money to expand their enterprise. Through the sale of bread and renting the kneading machine to women in neighbouring villages, the Gwabe women aim to purchase a new oven and backup generator.
Ghana	Accra Email: ywca@africaonline.com.gh
Poverty alleviation-- Livestock project	In Kpone, Bawaleshi and Mobole the YWCA is tackling poverty using a method that has proved effective in many countries. Livestock, such as cows, goats and sheep are given to selected families to aid in providing nutrition and extra income. The first batch of offspring from these animals is then passed on to other families in the village. This ensures that the benefits spread and the entire community is able to rise from poverty.
Ghana	Accra Email: ywca@africaonline.com.gh
Personal development programme for adolescent girls	Young girls are trained in personal development and self sufficiency. Adolescents are drawn from selected schools in ten regions. At the training centre they are exposed to a range of issues including leadership techniques, communication, the situation of the girl child, common diseases in Africa such as malaria, diarrhea, and HIV and AIDS, teenage pregnancy and abortion, immunisation and biblical teaching. Participants are also introduced to marketable crafts such as wall hangers, mosaics, soap making, and bead decoration. Training takes place during the summer holidays and lasts three weeks.
Kenya	Nairobi Email: info@kenyaywca.org
Clean Water	In the village of Rwanyange in the Meru district of Kenya, women wanted clean drinking water for their families. Together with the local YWCA of Meru, they organized into a self-help group and designed the Muguna B Water Project. With each family sending at least one member to help, they dug a channel and laid pipes to carry clean water from tanks to residents' homes. The community provided \$30,000 worth of volunteer labor for the project and raised \$11,500 through walks, the sale of handicrafts, and other efforts.



	Suddenly, access to clean water created other improvements. Women and girls could now engage in more productive activities than carrying water. Their health improved because of better sanitation and reduced inhalation of firewood smoke.
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Kenya	Nairobi Email: info@kenyaywca.org
Integrated Youth and Women Development Programme	The aim of this programme is to build the capacities of women and girls at the community level and to enable them to improve their living standards and those of their families and communities. The programme achieves these goals through training in leadership skills, vocational skills, small-scale business management, primary health care and environmental education. The programme also offers revolving loans to women entrepreneurs and exchange programmes. The programme assists with the construction of VIP latrines, home made water jars, and energy saving stores as well as with the planting of trees. This programme is active in the YWCA branches of Kissi, Nairobi, Mombassa, Kisumu, Siaya and Tana River.

Kenya	Nairobi Email: info@kenyaywca.org
Literacy - Mombassa	The aim of this project is to enhance female participation in development activities in their communities, by instructing women in literacy and numeric skills. Fifty-five women completed the training in the first year, where they learnt basic reading, writing and arithmetic. On evaluation, it was found that more fluency was needed and thus the project is continuing with the first group as well as accepting more participants. This training also provides awareness training on socio political rights, roles in development, and cultural issues.

Kenya	Nairobi Email: info@kenyaywca.org
Microcredit	The Juhudi Credit Scheme began in 1992 with a grant from the World YWCA. It provides credit and business training to local women's groups. The scheme also develops and implements small enterprise projects to improve the socio-economic status of low income women and their families, including poultry keeping, hairdressing, cereal production, craft work, welding, retail shops and fishing. Women gain greater economic independence from their husbands through the project, along with enhanced leadership and organisational skills. The scheme also builds their confidence in loan repayment and banking procedures. Individual loans are given through a group repayment system.

Kenya	Nairobi Email: info@kenyaywca.org
HIV and AIDS education and economic empowerment youth project	The purpose of this project is to provide HIV and AIDS education to young people and their communities and to provide small loans to increase self-sufficiency. The project also seeks to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS through workshops, peer counselling, HIV and AIDS awareness days and training in counselling. The YWCA of Kenya holds HIV and AIDS campaigns in all of its branches to achieve these goals. They also participate in networking and collaboration among the branches and other organisations including participation in District AIDS Committees and collaboration with local health structures.

Kenya	Nairobi Email: info@kenyaywca.org
Uniform production project	The Uniform Production Project endeavours to improve the socio economic status of youth in Vohovole by teaching them how to produce sweaters and uniforms, which are then sold to nearby institutions. The youth are instructed in knitting and tailoring for six-month periods and then are trained in business and credit management. After the training, the participants gain access to credit facilities through a revolving fund. They can then earn income through the sale of their goods.

Kenya	Nairobi Email: info@kenyaywca.org
Young women's skills training project	This programme is part of a larger one called Young Women Leading the Way which was originally funded by the YWCA of Australia. The purpose of the project is to improve the welfare of the Maasai girl child through skills training and awareness raising on reproductive health issues. One hundred girls from the Kajiado District are taught vocational skills in beadwork and embroidery. They also receive information on human rights and reproductive health, especially the consequences of early and forced marriages



	in the Maasai Community. The course utilizes poems, songs and drama with an educational message.
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Kenya	Nairobi Email: info@kenyaywca.org
Home based care and support - YWCA of Kisumu	To combat HIV & AIDS in local communities in Kisumu through home based care, income generation and anti-stigma events. Kisumu branch is located in Nyanza province, Kisumu district where the number of PLWHAS and orphans increases every day and the gap between the demand for and availability of health care services continues to widen. Following a distribution of emergency supplies of food and clothing according to need, the YWCA, in order to strengthen family and community networks, is providing funds and giving training (2 on site trainings for 15 families) to 30 affected families to help them run micro businesses to cover their own basic requirements of food and clothing. The YWCA is also sponsoring 10 orphans to attend vocational trainings at affordable rates. 20 care givers and Community Health Workers are receiving residential training on treatment, care and support services to PLWHAS. At four outreach events 200 households are being sensitized on the myths surrounding AIDS in order to reduce stigma and increase people's willingness to know their own status.

Kenya	Nairobi Email: info@kenyaywca.org
Home based care, orphans and vulnerable children	To improve the living standards of persons living with and affected by HIV and AIDS through support, care and socio-economic empowerment activities The YWCA of Siaya in collaboration with church leaders and ministry of health staff, is implementing activities in Siaya and Bondo where it has already carried out home-based care activities, orphan support, peer educator trainings, community sensitization campaigns etc. The YWCA is expanding home-based care activities due to increased demand. Current community health workers are training new workers in nursing care, counseling, and training on self-care. 20 orphans are being provided with support to continue education and 10 supported for basic home requirements, seven young people are receiving vocational training and three widows have been given a start up grant to participate in the YWCA micro credit programme.

Kenya	Nairobi Email: info@kenyaywca.org
Micro-credit Project Kisii Branch 2nd Grant	60 new members were trained on both leadership and business management. 40 applied for loans and 30 were approved. 2 groups held elections which were free and fair. The training on business management enabled 30 women to start their own businesses through provision of small loans. Illiteracy among the women remains a challenge. Agnes the mitumba seller: Agnes Okwaya from Momanya women group was one of the beneficiaries of the loans. She had never received any loan from any micro finance. She first heard of YWCA during a public awareness session in Momanya village. She then influenced her group to join YWCA. Agnes went through all the trainings and got a loan of 10000 with which she bought a bale of second hand clothes. She managed to repay successfully and from the profits bought a cow. She is happy because her family can now get milk and can also sell some for her upkeep. She says she would like to take a 2nd loan of 20000 with which she will buy 2 bales of clothes and sell at wholesale price. She says her dream of becoming a dairy farmer will eventually come true.

Lesotho	Maseru Email: lesotho.ywca@yahoo.co.uk
Peka poultry project	The Peka Poultry Project aims to generate basic income for the participants by providing a poultry service to part of the community and reinvesting the profits in order to make the project self-sufficient. This community also benefits from this project through better nutrition. The project is located in Peka North District, in Lesotho, which is a rural area located about three hours from the main city. Meat is very expensive there and malnutrition and lack of protein are common problems. Bad road conditions make access to the area very difficult thus the project is very important to the health of the community.

Lesotho	Maseru Email: lesotho.ywca@yahoo.co.uk
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Children: community centre & workshop	The purpose of the community centre is to cater for the needs of pre school children. The day care community centre accepts the enrolment of children from 2 to 6 years of age, with preference given to those with physical and mental disabilities.
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Lesotho	Maseru Email: lesotho.ywca@yahoo.co.uk
Poultry Project in Tajane	In December 2002 the YWCA set up a poultry site and secured this with a strong fence, work began on construction of a building, which was completed in February 2004. 300 chickens were bought and they began laying, after two weeks, an average 10 trays of 30 eggs per week. Members sell to local schools. The Basotho Mining Association taught the Tajane branch members book keeping.

Liberia	Monrovia 10 Email: ywca_118@yahoo.com
Skills development for young women sustainable livelihoods	Empower young women through skills training for economic sustainability Following civil unrest, the economic and social sector of Liberia is in ruins, women are often head of households and do not have enough income to meet basic social needs. After consultation with the young women participants on the best ways of earning an income, the West Point YWCA branch office in Bushrod Island set up courses in cosmetology (hair styling, hair cutting, permanent waving, hair colouring, skin care, and make up) and sewing. Registration took place in February and classes are running from April to December, to be followed by a two months apprenticeship period. Based on the results of this training, the YWCA may propose other training courses

Liberia	Monrovia 10 Email: ywca_118@yahoo.com
Refugee women literacy programme	The aim of the refugee women literacy programme is to teach refugee women to read and to write. Adult literacy classes for refugee women are held in two camps including the Voice of America Camp (VOA-1). The women are also taught soap making and tie dying, at their request, in order to bring in income.

Liberia	Monrovia 10 Email: ywca_118@yahoo.com
Project planning and management workshop	The project planning and management workshop provides leadership training to women with an emphasis on skills development, project planning and management. The women learn how to plan and manage projects efficiently. This training is part of a larger programme conducted by the New Africa Research and Development Agency.

Liberia	Monrovia 10 Email: ywca_118@yahoo.com
Youth work	The YWCA of Liberia works closely with the youth in its communities; each local branch has a youth coordinator. They hold community programmes for young girls, establish Y teens in high schools, offer skills training for drop outs and Saturday activities for kids and young girls, and collaborate with other youth groups.

Madagascar	Antananarivo Email: fikrizama.ywca@dts.mg
Microcredit	The YWCA operates a micro-credit programme with 30 women farmers from the region of Antsirabe, which aims to reduce poverty and help women become self reliant. These women, who live on very small incomes, are given FMG 1,100,000 (USD 200) in order to start or develop small businesses selling food -- usually rice or corn. The YWCA works closely with the Ministry of Population in Madagascar, who provide technical support for the farmers. A storehouse has also been purchased for women to keep their produce fresh and ready for sale at local markets. A project manager monitors the use of funds and negotiates repayment timelines, which are based on a woman's economic circumstances and chosen activities, but usually range from one to six months. These women are able to use the fund five times over a maximum period of 30 months, after which the fund is extended to a new group of women.

Madagascar	Antananarivo Email: fikrizama.ywca@dts.mg
Street children -	Through this programme street children are provided with education, primary health care



les enfants de bon dieu	and food 5 days a week.
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Madagascar	Antananarivo Email: fikrizama.ywca@dts.mg
Addressing HIV and AIDS	To reduce the incidence of HIV and AIDS in Madagascar through training facilitators to raise awareness in the local community The YWCA of Madagascar says that most of the young people in Madagascar do not believe in the existence of HIV and AIDS since sex is a taboo subject difficult to talk about at home, in public and especially in church. As a result prostitution is high among young girls and there is a high rate of drug abuse and rape. As a first stage of a three-year plan the YWCA, with assistance from two trainers from the CNLS (Centre Nationale de la Lutte contre le SIDA) is holding a five day workshop for 20 women from Ambatomaro and Andavamamba to teach them how to carry out awareness raising on HIV and AIDS in their communities. In order to encourage members of local communities, especially young people, to participate, and to provide alternative activities for community members, the 20 women are receiving training in running programmes on learning about computers and the internet, taking part in sports events and singing in a choir.

Malawi	Blantyre Email: ywca_malawi@yahoo.com
Clean water	In 2003, when the women of the Mondwa Village of Malawi continuously missed literacy classes being offered by the YWCA because they had to spend their valuable time fetching water, the YWCA set out to improve the quantity and quality of water in the village. Their goals were to reduce the risk of disease and the burden on women. In discussions with residents, the YWCA got support to pursue the construction of a piped water system for the village. With a \$5,600 grant from the World YWCA's Women and Development Fund and money raised through local fundraising efforts, the YWCA hired contractors and drilled boreholes in order to provide potable water to the community. As part of the sustainability of the project, the YWCA provides fresh water management training to the residents. The result: the women of Mondwa Village no longer have to get up at 2:00 am to queue for water and their water source is no longer plagued by health risks like Cholera. Women have also turned up to YWCA literacy classes in numbers.

Malawi	Blantyre Email: ywca_malawi@yahoo.com
Safe Water for the Women of Mondwa Village	The Blantyre Water Board was contracted for the connection of water at Mondwa village and borehole constructors employed. By April, the two boreholes were ready to be handed over to the YWCA, but the Blantyre Water Board did not produce the piped water until after much insistence by YWCA members. The YWCA used the balance of funds for women to manage the business of selling water, paying bills to the Water Board, and having a savings account. As well as providing water this will be an income generating activity for the women.

Namibia	Windhoek Email: ywcanam@mweb.com.na
Cloth weaving project	At the Asaba branch women are taught cloth weaving. This provides employment for women leading to empowerment and self-reliance. It answers a need in the community and helps to create a good relationship between community and political leadership, and YWCA.

Namibia	Windhoek Email: ywcanam@mweb.com.na
Single mothers' programme	Counselling, support and training are provided for pregnant teenagers (referred from local hospitals) and single, unemployed mothers in the community. Participants receive training in parenting, reproductive health, relationship and life skills. Training in income generating skills such as making body lotion and bead work is also offered.

Namibia	Windhoek Email: ywcanam@mweb.com.na
Peer Counselling	In the urban areas of Namibia, 20% of the population has HIV and AIDS and half of those infected are between the ages of 15-24 years. The YWCA of Namibia developed a peer counselling programme in 1999, in response to the alarmingly high incidence of HIV and AIDS in their country. The programme trains community facilitators to give young people



	advice, information and support in dealing with issues such as HIV and AIDS. The facilitators are also young people, who are often unemployed or in part time work, and develop their leadership skills and sense of self worth through the project. The peer counselling method has proved effective in empowering young people to make informed decisions about issues that affect their lives. Since 1999, the 20 young people who were initially trained, have gone on to train and share information with another 150 young people from eight schools who now act as peer counsellors in their areas.
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Namibia	Windhoek Email: ywcanam@mweb.com.na
Horticultural garden	The YWCA of Nigeria's Horticultural Garden aims to improve the quality and vitamin content of local food and provide employment for women and school leavers in the local community. The project takes place at the Akure branch in Ondo State. The local YWCA owns the land, the soil is good and access to water easy. Working in rotation, 25 women prepare the soil, plant the seeds and water and weed regularly. Although financial gain was small at first it has increased over time. The women grow flowers, fruit (oranges, bananas, cashew, pawpaw, pineapple, etc) and vegetables for home use and sale. Seeds produced are sold to farmers. The produce is sold at different local markets and the Ministry of Agriculture has been identified for assistance in selling even more produce.

Namibia	Windhoek Email: ywcanam@mweb.com.na
Fish pond project	Two fish ponds have been built to produce fish for sale. Community women manage the ponds and sell the fish. More than providing income, the project provides a good source of protein and so helps curb nutritional deficiencies in the community

Namibia	Windhoek Email: ywcanam@mweb.com.na
Vocational centre	Vocational training classes provide many women with a means of earning an income. These classes take place at the Kaduna branch. Initially 15 under privileged women and girls were taught fashion design and tailoring and short term computer course and secretarial studies. This number will increased to 20 full time and part time participants. The Federal Ministry of Education provides technical support for the project, though the YWCA's long term vision is that the centre will be self supporting through fees and sales.

Rwanda	Gitarama Email: ywcarwa@yahoo.fr
Holistic anti-AIDS programme	Economic empowerment, education, nutrition and care are all part of the YWCA of Rwanda's holistic HIV and AIDS programme. The programme is part of the YWCA's wider agenda to improve health conditions in rural areas. It provides reliable information about HIV and AIDS, micro-credit loans, as well as counselling and assistance for people living with HIV and AIDS and their caregivers. The YWCA has set up counselling centre in the Muhunga District in Rwanda, which aims to break the silence and shame on traditional practices and cultural norms which contribute to the vulnerability of women and girls to HIV and AIDS. Nearly 40 women have been trained as trainers on counselling methods and the facts about HIV and AIDS.

Rwanda	Gitarama Email: ywcarwa@yahoo.fr
Work with refugees	Projects are being run in two local Rwandan YWCAs to assist in the resettlement of refugees. With the small loans provided, some members have purchased bicycles to hire out as taxis. The Ruli club in Gitarama purchased a grinder for cassava, maize, sorghum etc. and built a structure to house it. Members use it without charge but the community pays for its use and the income is saved. A Children's Dance Troupe was formed in Gitarama to reintroduce children to their rich culture lost since the war. Two revolving loan programmes exist in Gitarama. Using membership fees, members of the Kigali branch have opened a small store to sell soap, soda, beer, etc. With the income gained the women buy supplies and the balance of the money is saved.

Rwanda	Gitarama Email: ywcarwa@yahoo.fr
Clean water and sanitation	Through the efforts and entrepreneurship of the YWCA of Rwanda, a group of mothers working together brought clean water to the nearly 300 people in the rural area of Gatenzi, and 780 children attending the local primary school. To develop the water



	<p>system, women performed the labour needed to transport materials such as stones, cement and water; families in the community pooled together their resources to contribute to the costs of the needed materials. Women involved in the project also received health care training about how to combat disease through good hygiene measures.</p> <p>Prior to implementation of the project, diseases such as diarrhea and malaria were common in the area as mothers were using dirty pond water to cook and drink. These diseases have now been overcome among those accessing the water system, and with renewed health and less time spent collecting water each day, women are able to join literacy and micro credit programmes - and their children are able to participate effectively in primary education.</p>
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Tanzania	Dar es Salaam Email: ywca.tanzania@africaonline.co.tz
Seed Oil milling	The local YWCA of Mbozi has enable women in the Vwawa Township to produce oils from a variety of sources such as groundnuts, sunflower, finger millet and simsim, and thereby increase their earnings. Previously, women in this community made their living through the sale of nuts and seeds. By producing the more valuable oils from these seeds the women's earnings have gone up. The YWCA contributed the oil milling machinery and equipment such as tins, bottles, etc. to get the enterprise off the ground.

Togo	Lomé Email: ucfywcatogo@yahoo.fr
Literacy and education	Togo is a country with a high rate of illiteracy. Fifty-two per cent of population is illiterate and women represent more than 70% of that percentage. In Vogan and Kpome women are taught to read and write Ewe, the local language, and French, so that they can participate in decision making and economic and social issues. Good health, housekeeping, management, accounting, and human rights are also taught. This helps women to take on leadership roles in their communities.

Togo	Lomé Email: ucfywcatogo@yahoo.fr
Soap and Mat Making as Income Generating Activities for Grassroot Women	Short term training in soap making and mat weaving for 35 women in YWCA-YOH local branch has been completed. Soap is sold in the village and mats in nearby town. Women initiated the preparation of medicinal soap made of herbs that treat some illnesses such as malaria, and stiffness and skin spots. Initial participants are training others. 48 beneficiaries now form four groups of 12 members. YWCA of Togo plan to TOGO extend this project to its local branch of Kpome.

Uganda	Kampala Email: ywca@utlonline.co.ug
Savings and credit	The YWCA in Uganda operates a savings and credit scheme to enable women with little savings to receive small loans at a subsidised interest rate, in order to accumulate saving. The association has also begun a rabbit management project designed to curb malnutrition among young women, and offer a future source of income. The project targets young mothers and early school leavers, and has trained 98 young women in rabbit management, vegetable growing and nutrition.

Uganda	Kampala Email: ywca@utlonline.co.ug
Literacy	The YWCA of Uganda is committed to increasing adult literacy in Uganda to enable women to raise their educational, economic, health and political standards. The YWCA Literacy Project reaches grassroots women in Uganda who are illiterate, with little or no income, and who live in remote villages without sufficient infrastructure. The YWCA of Uganda tackles the problem at multiple levels - training women from these communities in professional teaching methods to be able to deliver educational services in their communities, as well as producing education materials in the many different local languages. These materials are provided free of charge to students and form part of the YWCA's integrated programmes for women, which include health care and economic empowerment to meet the full development needs of the individual.



Zambia	Lusaka Email: ywcazambia@yahoo.co.uk
Microcredit and income generation	The economic empowerment of women is a major priority for the YWCA of Zambia. They operate many empowerment projects through work in eight regions. Projects include farming maize, groundnuts, rice and sunflowers, and making handicrafts. The YWCA offers small loans through a revolving fund to allow these projects to come to life. Through this source, they are also supporting vital non-income earning activities such as care-giving and counselling of HIV and AIDS patients.
Zimbabwe	Amby Email: ywcass@ywca.co.zw
Programmes for rural women	To enable rural and migrant women to set up small enterprises, the YWCA of Zimbabwe initiated the Business Skills Development Programme. The programme provides training in a variety of marketable skills including farming, appropriate technology, tree planting, building drum ovens, mud refrigerators, and food preservation. In addition to these skills participants also learn business management, accounting, how to access loans, draft business plans and establish good relations with funding institutions. Participants are encouraged to form co-operatives for their projects which have included poultry farming, gardening, bee keeping and flower shops.
Zimbabwe	Amby Email: ywcass@ywca.co.zw
Outreach and income generation	To provide technical advice and support for the HIV and AIDS home based care pilot project, and to improve the administration and financial management, and monitoring of vocational schools YWCA of Zimbabwe is currently facing the challenge of fuel shortage which is hindering outreach programmes, so a grant was provided to enable national staff to provide technical support, training, and monitoring to the vocational schools and local branches. The vocational school financial recording cannot function without regular visits from national finance department staff. Local branches require support and guidance, especially following the development of programmes on HIV and AIDS, where the YWCA of Zimbabwe initiated a pilot project on home-based care following the Africa Regional Training Institute. The current YWCA president needs to carry out branch visits for face-to-face reporting, members input is needed for the development of the strategic plan for the next five years, new branches need to be enrolled, and staff and volunteers need to be given leadership training.