

Improving the Livelihoods and Health of Women and Youth in the Aowin-Suaman District, Ghana

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Short presentation at IPRMO in Ormea, Italy

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Outline of Presentation

- Introduction
- Achievements
- Current Activities
- Visits by our Partners

WTFSD: Establishment and Objectives

- Women and Youth Forum for Sustainable Development (WYFSD) was established in April 2004.

Specific Objectives

- WYFSD works to improve the livelihoods and health of women and youth, and education of children in rural and deprived communities in Ghana.

Strategies to achieve our objectives

These objectives are achieved through:

- Community-based initiatives in rural and deprived communities, with support from both national and international partners
- Capacity building
- Supply of teaching and learning materials to local schools
- Establishment of an Information Centre and
- Networking

Our Achievements

Establishment of a small Information Centre which serves the community and school



Our achievements

Establishment of a Skills Training Centre

- Where currently we organise all our training workshops and awareness raising events.



Establishment of an Integrated and Improved Cassava Processing Facility



Cassava processing – gari production



Training on Improved and Integrated Cassava Processing



Establishment of a Cassava Processing Facility at Boinso



Cassava Processing Facility at Boinso with Energy Efficient Stoves



Some equipment within the facility



Greening Ghana Initiative, 2007



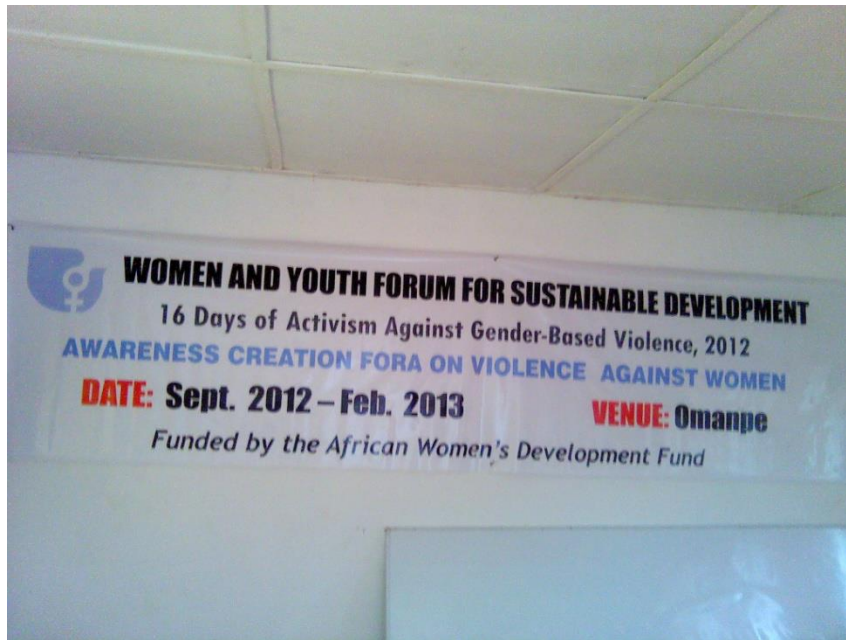
- WYFSD was involved in the Greening Ghana Initiative to mark Ghana's 50th Independence Anniversary - Ghana @ 50.
- Under this project, the Forum has coordinated 17 community groups, churches and schools to plant over 500 seedlings made up species such as Teak, Cassia and Cedrela in ten communities in the Aowin-Suaman District.
- The women were taught to use scientific methods in farming



Establishment of a Hair Clinic for the Training of Disadvantaged Girls



Awareness Creation Fora on Violence Against Women – 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence- 2012



Awareness Creation Fora on Violence Against Women



Sensitisation and Training on Improvement of Female Hygiene

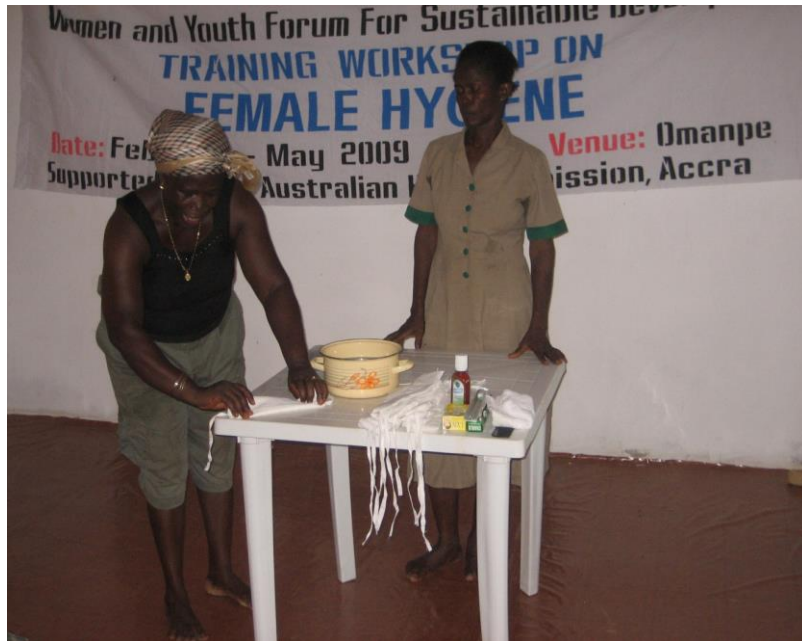
- We have organised training workshops on Improvement of Female Hygiene in four communities on how are to keep themselves clean, particularly during their menstrual periods.
- Hand washing after visiting the toilet, the use of tooth paste and tooth brush and hair combing were also taught.
- Female hygiene kits composed of sanitary pads, tooth brushes, tooth paste, combs, towels and disinfectant such as dettol were supplied to the women and girls.



Participants at Sensitisation and Training Workshops on Improvement of Female Hygiene



Training on Washable and Re-usable Sanitary Pads



Training on Design and Production of washable and re-usable Sanitary Pads

- The women and girls have also been trained in the design and fabrication of re-usable and washable sanitary pads using locally available resources.
- The sanitary pads, which are re-usable and washable, were designed by the organisation with the assistance of some friends from outside the country.
- We have *established a Small Cottage Industry* containing three sewing machines to produce these pads for the production of these sanitary pads.



Training on the Production and Use of Calendar Beads

- During the improved female hygiene training workshops, participants were also trained to prepare calendar beads using locally available resources.
- Calendar beads are used to determine menstrual periods and also to assist the women, in particular, to plan their families.



Supply of Hygiene Kits to Women and Girls in Rural and Deprived Communities



Some beneficiaries of training workshops and hygiene kits



Awareness Creation And Training Workshops on Breast Cancer

- Various workshops have been organised in four communities at Omanpe and Boinso to create awareness on **Breast Cancer** and to train women and girls on **Breast Self Examination**
- These workshops were facilitated by **Dr and Sister Thueson, Medical Advisor for Missionaries, Africa West Region, LDS**, together with nurses from the near-by Community Clinic. This was the first time that such events have been organised in the area.
- Only one Community Clinic serves the over 30 communities and access is limited .



Training on Breast Self-Examination

- 505 women in four rural communities were screened and trained on Breast Cancer Self-Examination.
- Most women in these communities are now able to self-examine their breasts for cancer symptoms.
- Our plan is to cover as many as possible communities which have requested us for assistance when funding is secured.



Donation of various items to near-by Community Clinic by WYFSD

- We have donated a number of items including books and resuscitating kits to the near-by Community Clinic.



Visit to WYFSD by the Second Councillor, Australian High Commission, Ghana



Visit to WYFSD by AWDF and NEPAD Officials



WYFSD End of Year Party, 2009 for deprived women and children



Muddy roads to WYFSD Project Area in Aowin-Suaman District, Ghana



International Workshop on Resource Mobilization in Kampala, Uganda

The Executive Director participated in an International Training Workshop on Resource Mobilization in Uganda in 2012, sponsored by African Women's Development Fund (AWDF)



FIRST CONFERENCE OF WOMEN OF THE MOUNTAINS AT UTAH VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY



Eliminating violence against women

- The organization is currently implementing a project to eliminate violence against women in six communities in the Aowin District in Ghana.
- The project is funded by the African Women's Development Fund (AWDF).

THANK YOU