

GOAL 4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning

THE FACT: Obtaining a quality education is the foundation to improving people's lives and sustainable development. Major progress has been made towards increasing access to education at all levels and increasing enrolment rates in schools particularly for women and girls. Basic literacy skills have improved tremendously, yet bolder efforts are needed to make even greater strides for achieving universal education goals.

THE FIGURES:

- Enrolment in primary education in developing countries has reached 91 per cent but 57 million children remain out of school
- More than half of children that have not enrolled in school live in sub-Saharan Africa
- An estimated 50 per cent of out-of-school children of primary school age live in conflict-affected areas
- 103 million youth worldwide lack basic literacy skills, and more than 60 per cent of them are women

WANEP acknowledges that many West African communities are still struggling to rebuild their societies in the aftermath of conflict and wars in an attempt to promote resilience to violence e.g.: Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria. It is also a known fact that young people are largely excluded in the processes of reconstruction and sustaining peace under the argument that young people lack the knowledge and skills needed for constructive engagement. The WANEP's Non-violence and Active Peace Education (NAPE) is a preventive peacebuilding mechanism which seeks to contribute to the promotion of a culture of non-violence and social responsibility among young people in West Africa. In this wise, WANEP adopts the strategy of collaborating with education experts to develop region specific curriculum, Peer Mediation manuals, Peace Education Implementation Guide, and initiated peer mediation programs and established peace clubs in selected schools in each country. In addition, the organization in collaboration with Ministries of Education in the Region developed teacher's manual for Peace Education and trained teacher trainers in all the 15 ECOWAS countries.