

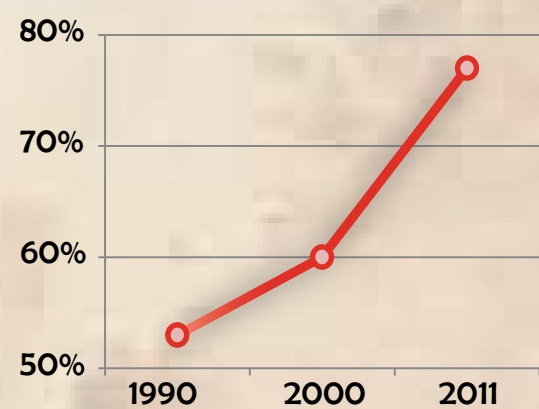
20/20: PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES IN AFRICA

Nelson Mandela's release from prison in 1990 marked the beginning of a 20-year period of amazing progress in Africa. Many factors contributed to this progress, and here are a few indicators:

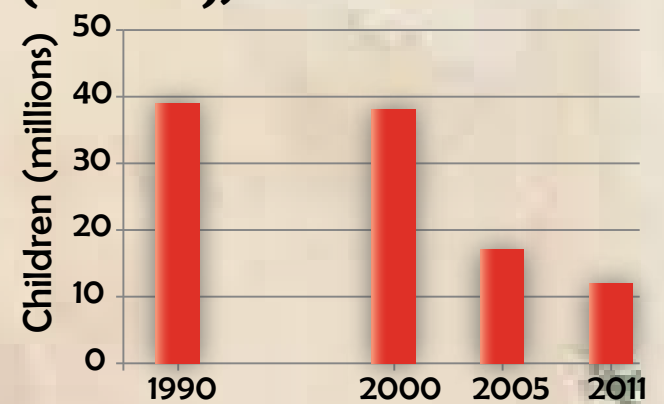


EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT ¹

Primary Education Enrollment Rate in Sub-Saharan Africa

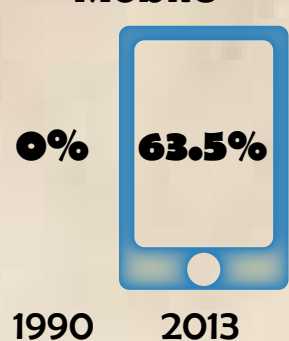


Number of out-of-school children of primary age (millions), Sub-Saharan Africa

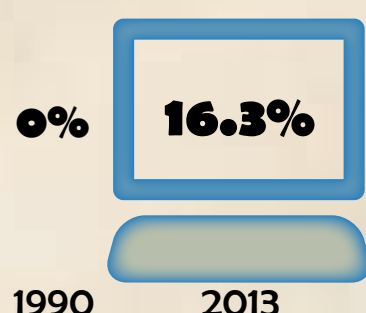


COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS ²

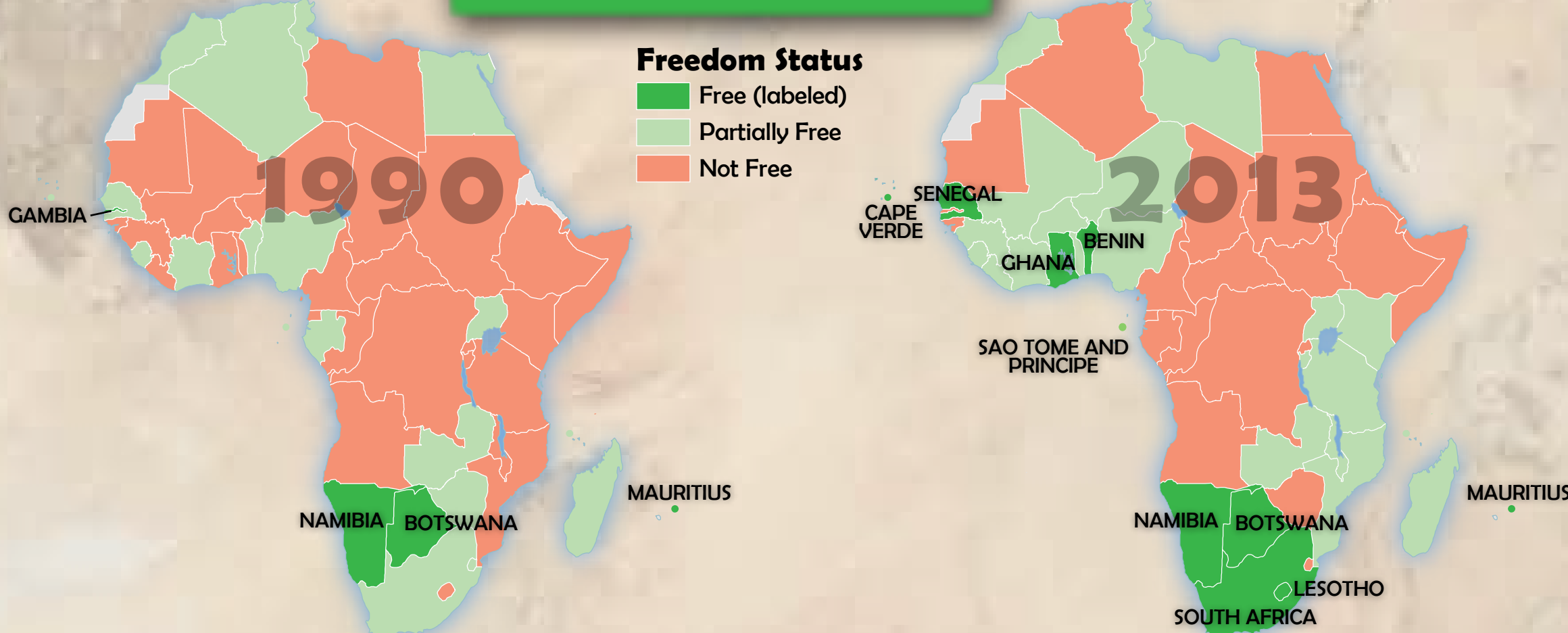
Mobile



Internet Use

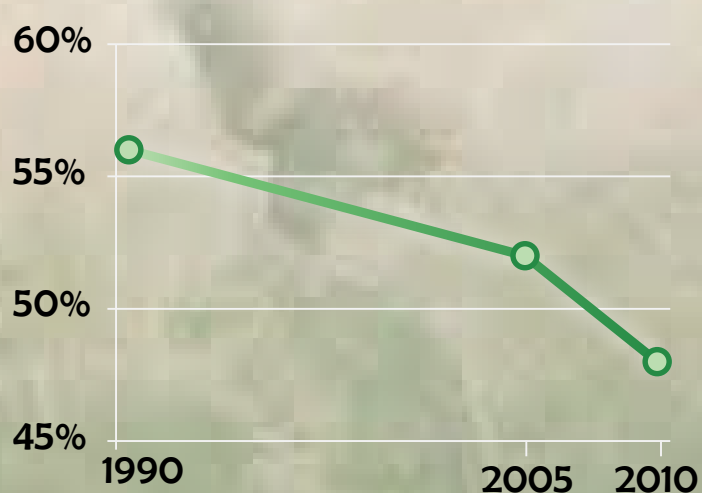


GROWTH OF FREEDOM ³

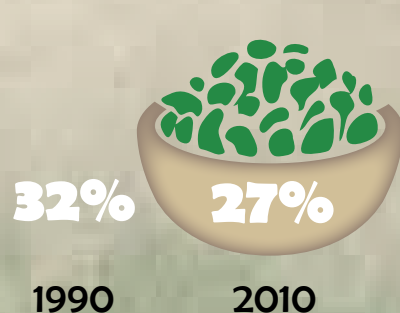


ECONOMIC GROWTH ¹ REDUCTION IN EXTREME POVERTY:

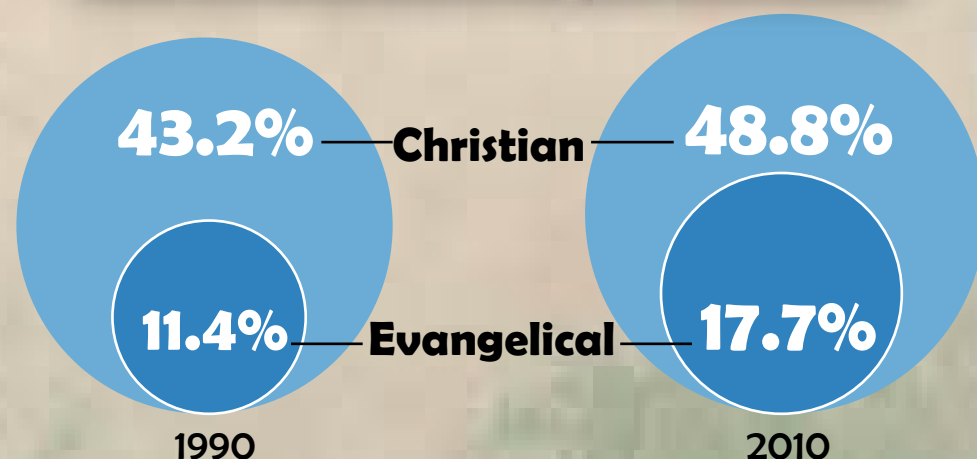
Proportion of people living on < \$1.25 a day in Sub-Saharan Africa



Proportion of people under-nourished in Sub-Saharan Africa



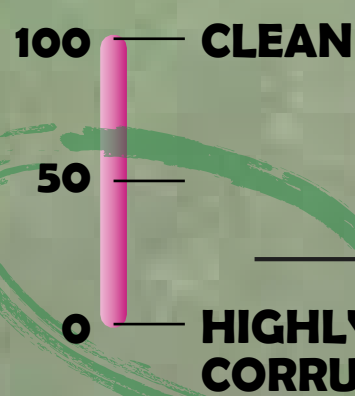
CHRISTIAN GROWTH ⁴ (As a proportion of population)



WHAT'S NEXT: CHALLENGES TO FACE IN THE NEXT 20 YEARS

How will the increasingly Christian population in Africa address the challenges facing the next generation?

CORRUPTION ⁵



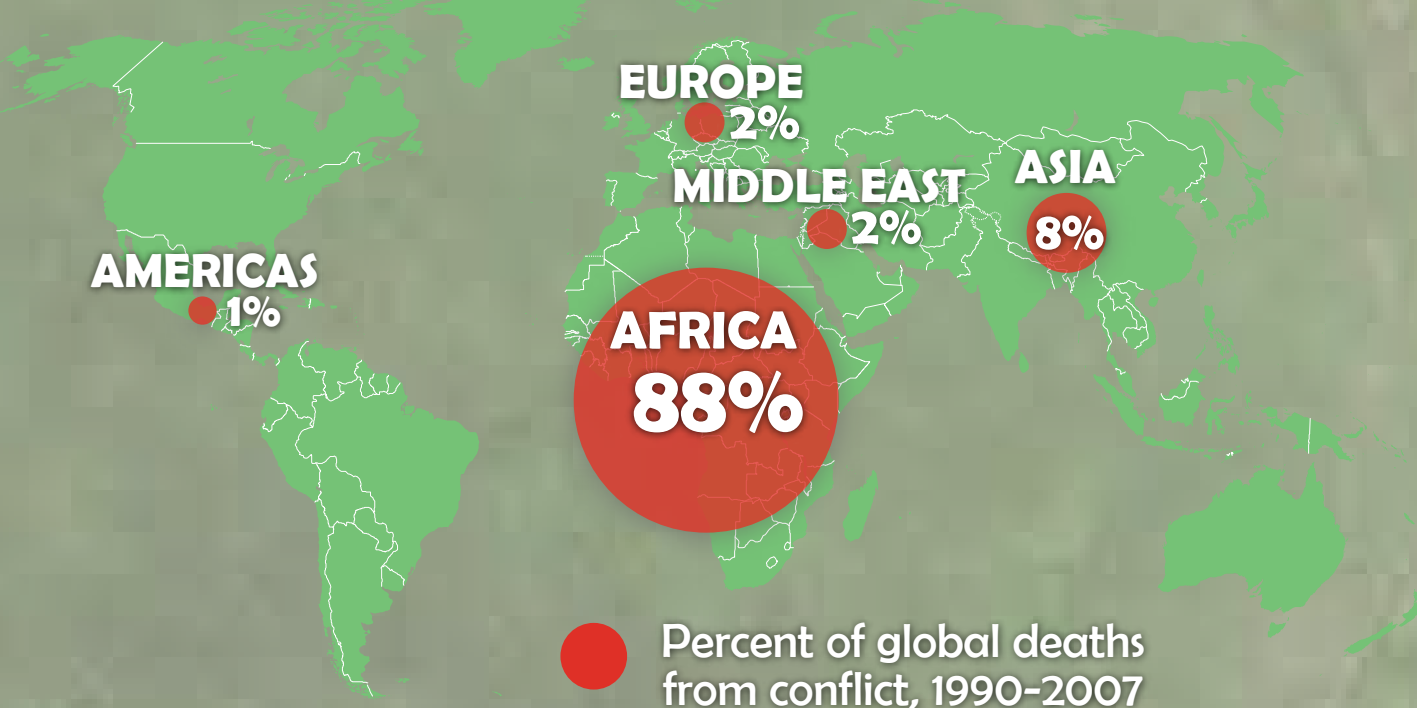
The Corruption Perception Index scores and ranks countries based on the perception of public sector corruption. Scores are from 0-100, where 0 is perceived as **HIGHLY CORRUPT** and 100 is perceived as **CLEAN**.

90% of the countries in Sub-Saharan Africa are below 50 on the Corruption Perception Index.

The Regional Average for Sub-Saharan Africa is 33.

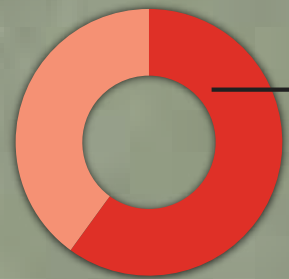
TRIBAL / CLAN CONFLICTS ⁶

The global death toll from conflicts between 1990 and 2007 is highest in Africa:



ECONOMIC DISPARITIES ⁷

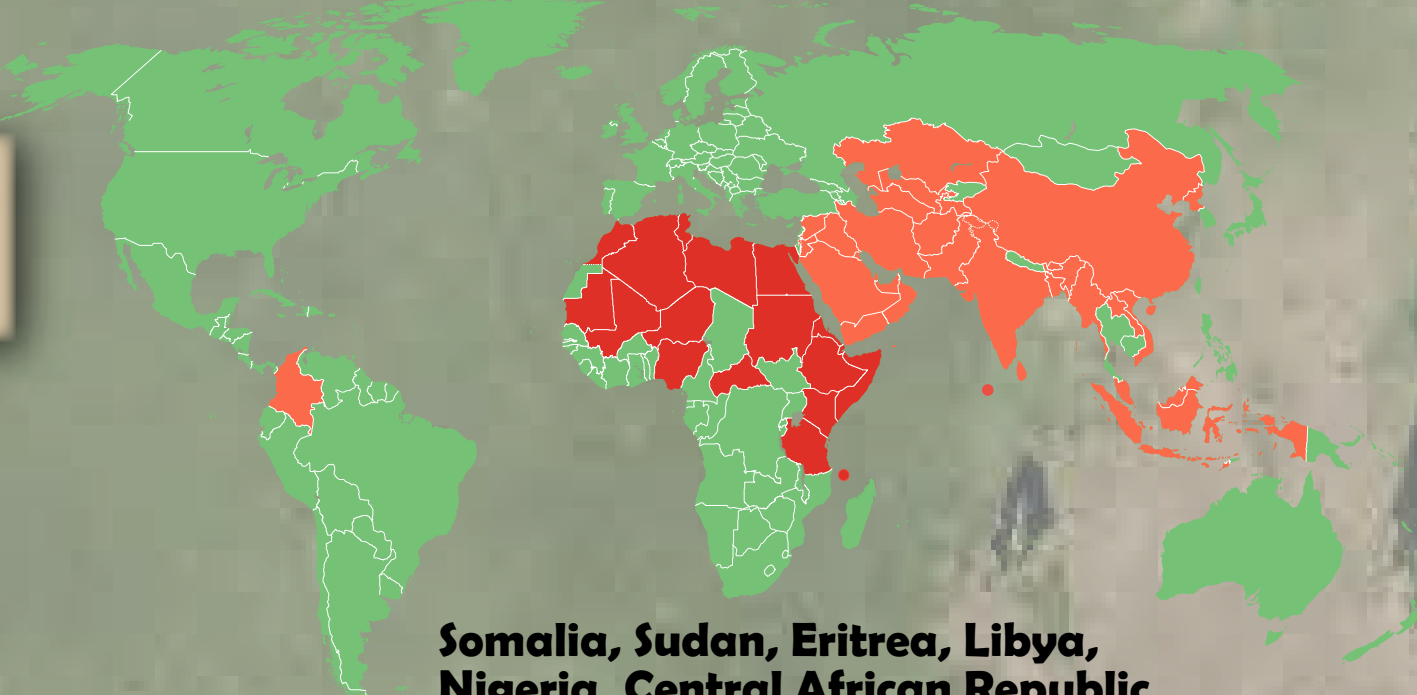
Africa is the world's **second most inequitable region** after Latin America. Inequalities have not diminished over time.



In 2010, **SIX OUT OF THE 10** most unequal countries worldwide were in Sub-Saharan Africa, and more specifically in Southern Africa.

RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION ⁸

18 African countries are on the top 50 World Watch List of countries with religious persecution compiled by Open Doors Fellowship.



Somalia, Sudan, Eritrea, Libya, Nigeria, Central African Republic and Ethiopia are in the top 20 countries with the highest levels of religious persecution.

HOW CAN AFRICAN CHRISTIANS INFLUENCE THE NEXT 20 YEARS IN AFRICA?

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9 (ESV)

African Christians can emphasize **evangelism and discipleship** that address the following important Christian qualities:

- Modeling justice in social and economic interactions
- Modeling integrity in business and government dealings
- Modeling generosity in the face of hunger and poverty
- Modeling courage in the face of persecution
- Modeling inter-tribal forgiveness and cooperation

If Christians model these things, in another 20 years statistics should show a night and day **DIFFERENCE** between the **CHRISTIAN** region of Africa and the Islamic region. **What a magnificent tribute that would be to God's life-giving influence.**

WE DON'T ALWAYS HAVE 20/20 VISION REGARDING HOW GOD IS INVOLVED IN HISTORY, BUT WE KNOW THAT HE WANTS US TO LIVE OUT OUR FAITH IN ALL OUR SPHERES OF INFLUENCE.

¹ Sources: ¹ The Millennium Development Goals Report 2013, United Nations.

² ITU (International Telecommunications Union).

³ Freedom House

⁴ Operation World 2010.

⁵ Transparency International, CPI 2013.

⁶ Stealth Conflicts, Virgil Hawkins.

⁷ African Development Bank, http://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Policy-Documents/FINAL_Briefing_Note_5_Income_Inequality_in_Africa.pdf

⁸ Open Doors Fellowship, World Watch List 2014.

Photo of Nelson Mandela from Wikipedia.



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