



## MVC Ghana: Report, Praise & Prayer

The Million Village Challenge is a call to the church to take the Gospel to the poor and unreached in villages worldwide, multiplying disciples, planting churches, and lifting communities out of poverty. To achieve that goal, we hold million village consultations, bringing leaders of Christian missions and ministries together to learn the basic principles of Gospel-driven transformational ministry, taking them to see a model CHE village, and bringing them back together to adopt villages and create national strategies for reaching whole districts, countries, and regions.

At these consultations, Christian leaders come to understand CHE, not just in theory, but hearing the testimonies of the people, and seeing the results in the lives of individuals, families, and communities.

On January 23-25, we held a Million Village Consultation in Tamale, Ghana. We came to realize the significance of this location on the call to reach the multidimensionally poor of this world!

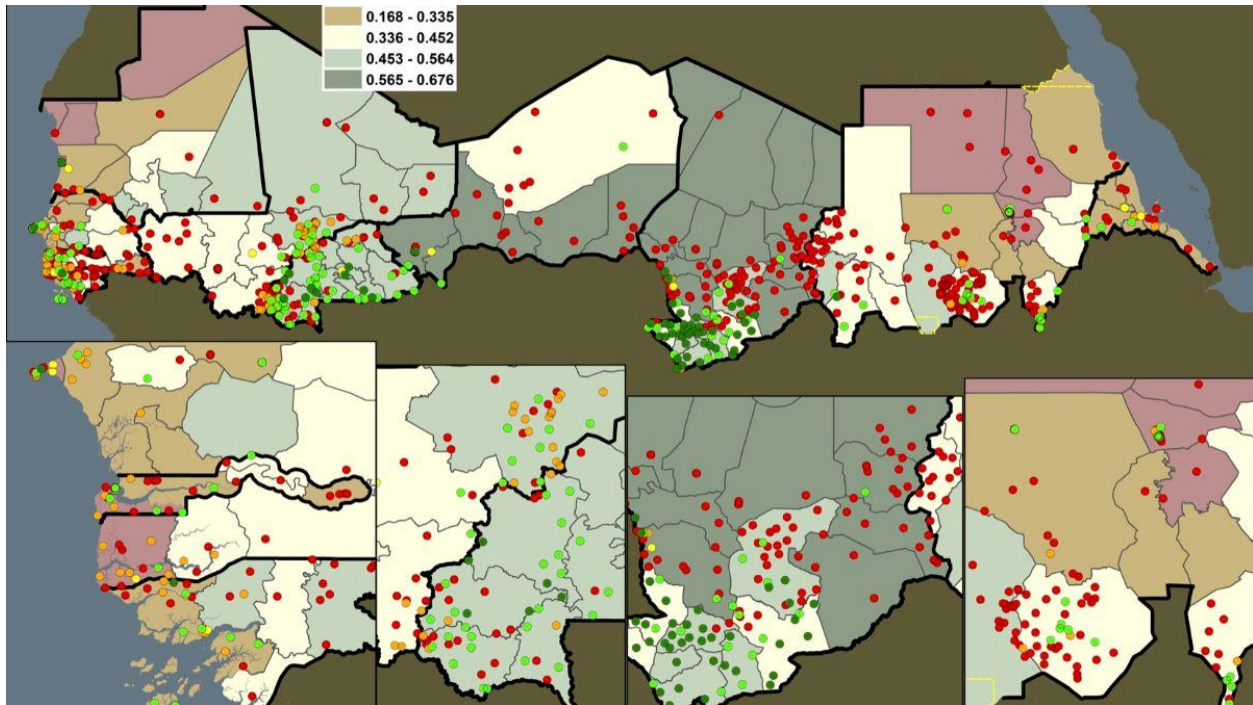
### Some Background: [What percentage of the unreached are multidimensionally poor?](#)

A little over a year ago, I asked the question, “What is the intersection between poverty and the unreached (ethnic groups with no Gospel witness among them)?” Or put another way, “How many of the unreached are multidimensionally poor?” The multidimensional poor, as classified by the United Nations Development Program, are people that suffer from multiple disadvantages at the same time including a lack of clean water, proper sanitation, food security, healthcare, education and economic opportunity.

I had a hunch that the percentage of unreached peoples that were also multidimensionally poor was very high. We studied the Sahel, a vast region that stretches along the southern rim of the Sahara to the Red Sea, home to 334 unreached people groups. These ethnic groups are spread out through nine countries including Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria, Chad, Sudan, and Eritrea. After gathering information related to poverty, I contacted Joshua Project and asked them to create a map of the Sahel that showed the extent of poverty experienced by unreached peoples they had identified in the Sahel.

### [The Results of the Study](#)

The following map reveals that 81% of the unreached peoples in these countries are multidimensionally poor, and another 8% are vulnerable.



The dots are people groups—green with gospel witness, red with no gospel witness. The colors which are pink are areas which are not considered multidimensionally poor, brown are vulnerable, white suffer multi-dimensional poverty and green very poor to destitute.

The results of this study clearly inform the kind of approach that is needed if we are to reach these peoples for Christ—an integrated approach such as CHE that ministers to the needs of the poor physically and spiritually.

### [An Integrated Approach with a Goal of Reaching Millions](#)

Community Health Evangelism is what we need to complete the Million Village Challenge—one million communities reached by 2033. For information on a training near you, contact [memberservices@chenetwork.org](mailto:memberservices@chenetwork.org).

You are also invited to join the International Wholistic Missions Conference (IWMC) which will take place in Phoenix, Arizona, May 15-17. Ricardo Luna will be among a host of plenary speakers and encouraging workshops. Go to [www.wholisticmissions.com](http://www.wholisticmissions.com) for more information.

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