



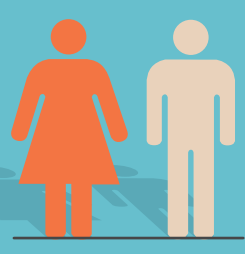
INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY 2013

MILLIONS OF CHILDREN ARE DESTINED TO GO THROUGH LIFE UNABLE TO READ OR WRITE

Every year the number of adults who can't read or write declines. Thanks to greater access to education, young adults are much more likely to be literate than their parents. But millions of children are still out of school, and millions more leave primary school without basic literacy skills. In short, these children of the 21st century, most of whom are girls, are destined to live on the social and economic margins of our world. We need to keep our promise: Education for All.

LET'S BREAK IT DOWN

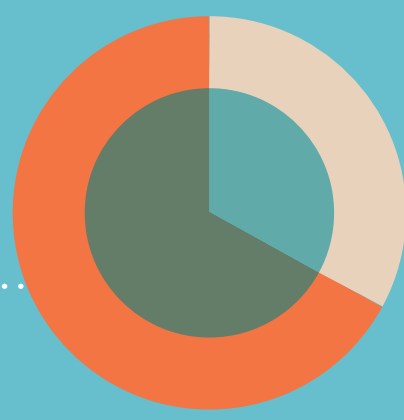
THERE ARE
774 MILLION
illiterate **ADULTS** (>15 years old)



2/3

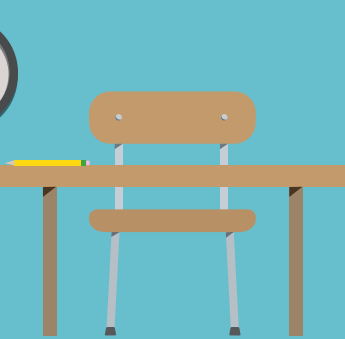


493 MILLION
are women

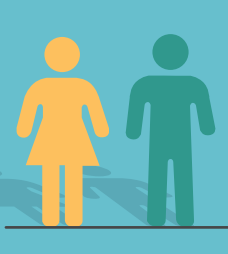


They struggle to read a prescription, fill out a form or send a text message.

Learning to read as an adult takes time and effort many poor women can't spare.



THERE ARE
123 MILLION
illiterate **YOUTH** (15-24 years old)



2/3



76 MILLION
are female

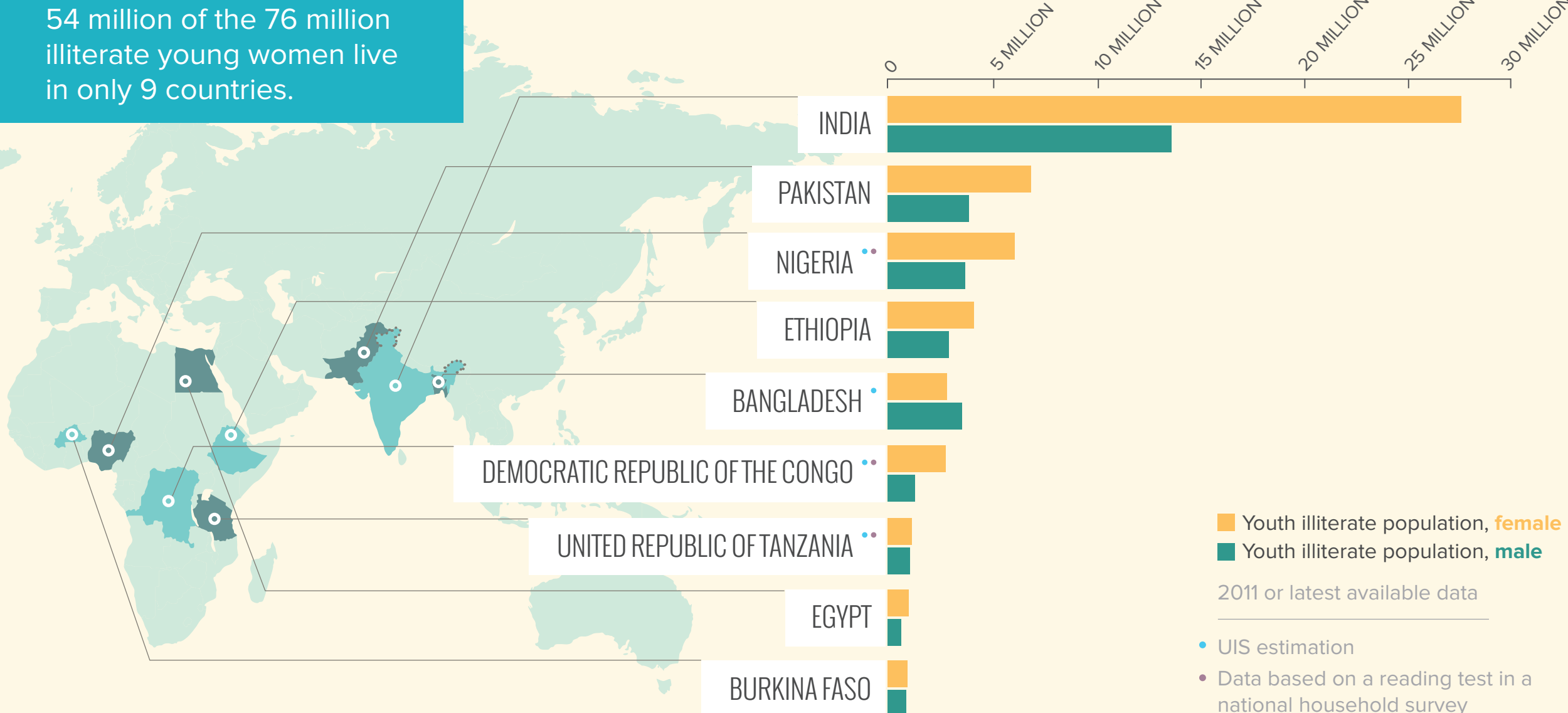


! PUZZLING

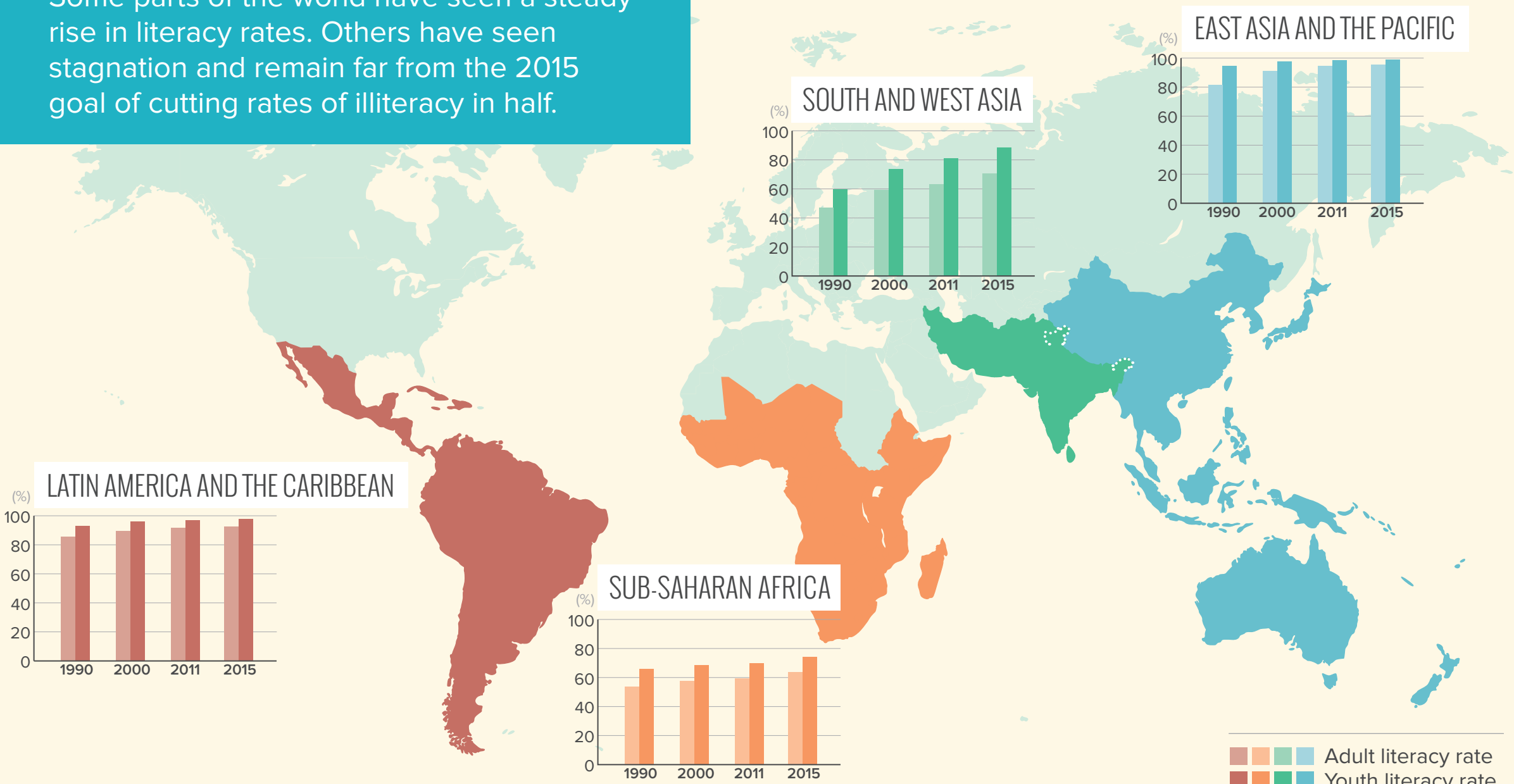
THE NUMBER OF YOUTH WHO CAN'T READ OR WRITE IS GETTING SMALLER, BUT THE PROPORTION OF YOUNG ILLITERATE WOMEN ISN'T.

WHERE DO THEY LIVE?

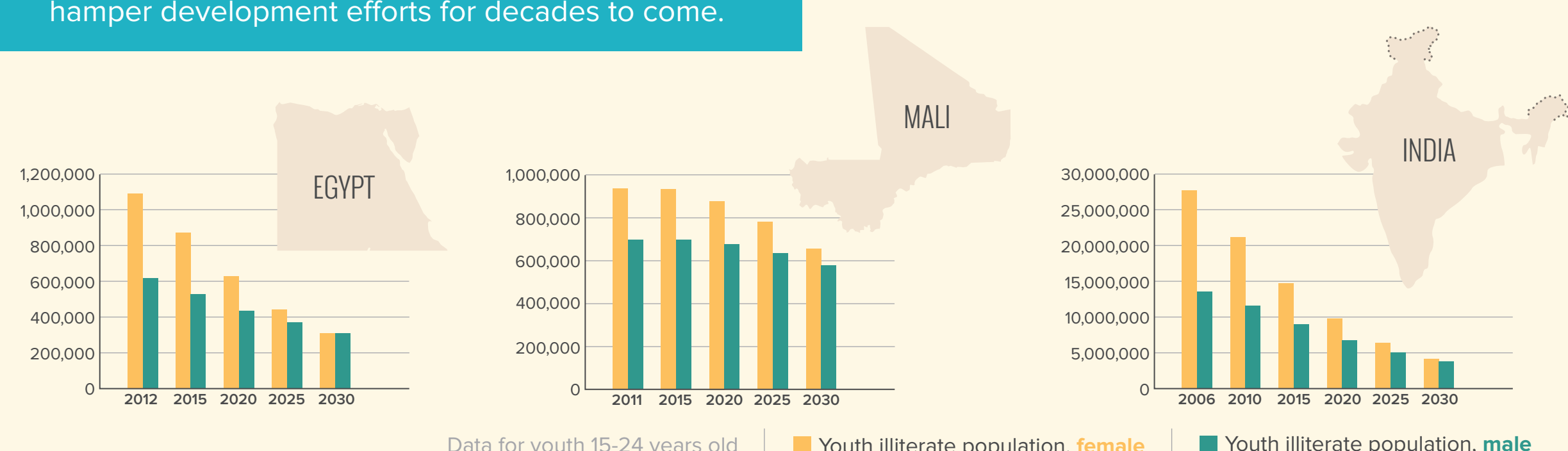
54 million of the 76 million illiterate young women live in only 9 countries.



Some parts of the world have seen a steady rise in literacy rates. Others have seen stagnation and remain far from the 2015 goal of cutting rates of illiteracy in half.



If nothing changes, some countries will continue to suffer from high rates of illiteracy. This fact will hamper development efforts for decades to come.



WHO WILL BE ILLITERATE IN THE FUTURE?

57 MILLION
out-of-school children

1 in 2
lives in sub-Saharan Africa

1/2 will **never** enter a classroom
1/2 have **dropped out** or will **start late**



GLOBALLY
250 MILLION children of primary school age, whether they are in school or not, lack basic reading and writing skills.*

*Education for All Global Monitoring Report, 2012

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR THEM?



POVERTY



INEQUALITY



UNSTABLE, POORLY PAID JOBS

UNFULFILLED INDIVIDUAL POTENTIAL AND A LIMITED ABILITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE WELL-BEING OF THEIR FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

How can we change their destiny?

Let's keep our promise

EDUCATION FOR ALL



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

UNESCO
INSTITUTE
for
STATISTICS