



# Person Affected Journey: Nathaniel C. Gwiah

My name is Nathaniel C. Gwiah from kudabyepass community. I'm 55 years old, married with eight children and three grandchildren. I'm a farmer and nurse aid at Martha Tubman Memorial Hospital. I'm carrying a condition called leprosy and this started since 2017. I am co-chair of the peer support group in Tchien District. We have meetings to encourage each other about our conditions and share stories and also go out to encourage others with the same condition to come and join us, so that they can be able to get their treatment too from the clinic or hospital. Taking part in the photos voice process was a good beautiful thing in my life. Because all of those pictures that I took had a reason when it's comes to my condition and I never knew that a common picture can speak actually from I got to know.



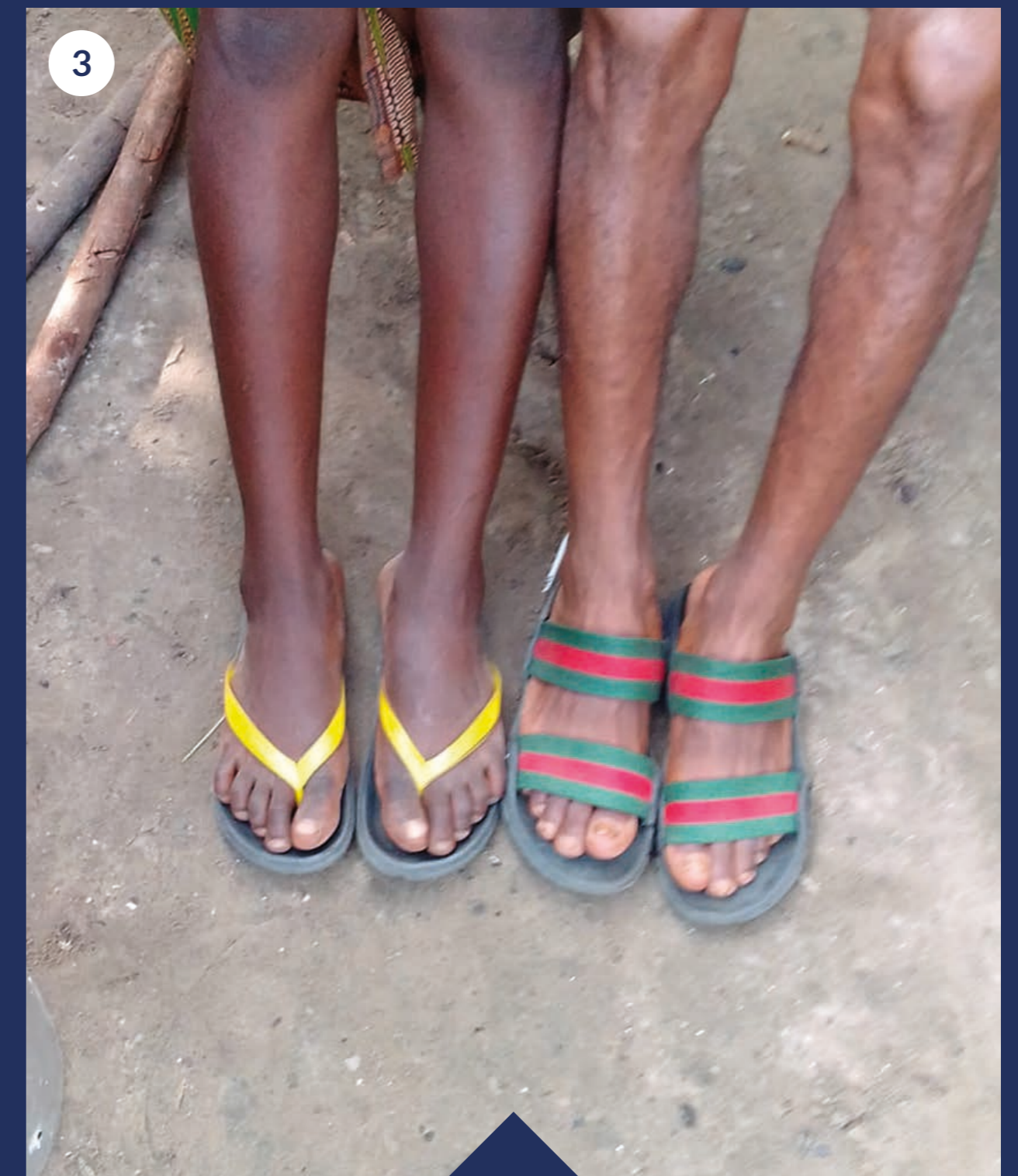
## Diagnosis and anticipated stigma

These are group of rock, and you see another rock sitting far. Okay, when I was diagnosed, at the time treatment has not begun. This was my thinking that... there will be a time when... I will be neglected by people... Community may not want me. That's what I was thinking about... This is the group of people that I will not enter if this condition gets worse. When it gets worse, I may not be able to go among people. The message I have for this photo is that if you get this condition, the only thing you need to do is to seek care from the hospital and the hospital will help you.



## Mental health impact

This photo represents my worry of what to do and what not to do and whether the condition will be cured or not from the very beginning of the condition. Photo stands for sadness and worriedness that I was going through. Whenever I see this photo, I reflect on my condition.



## Family support

This is my daughter and I. I took this photo to show that my family did not neglect me instead, they were with me throughout. The photo there, indicate that I have not being neglected by my people... as you seen, my little daughter and myself sitting there.

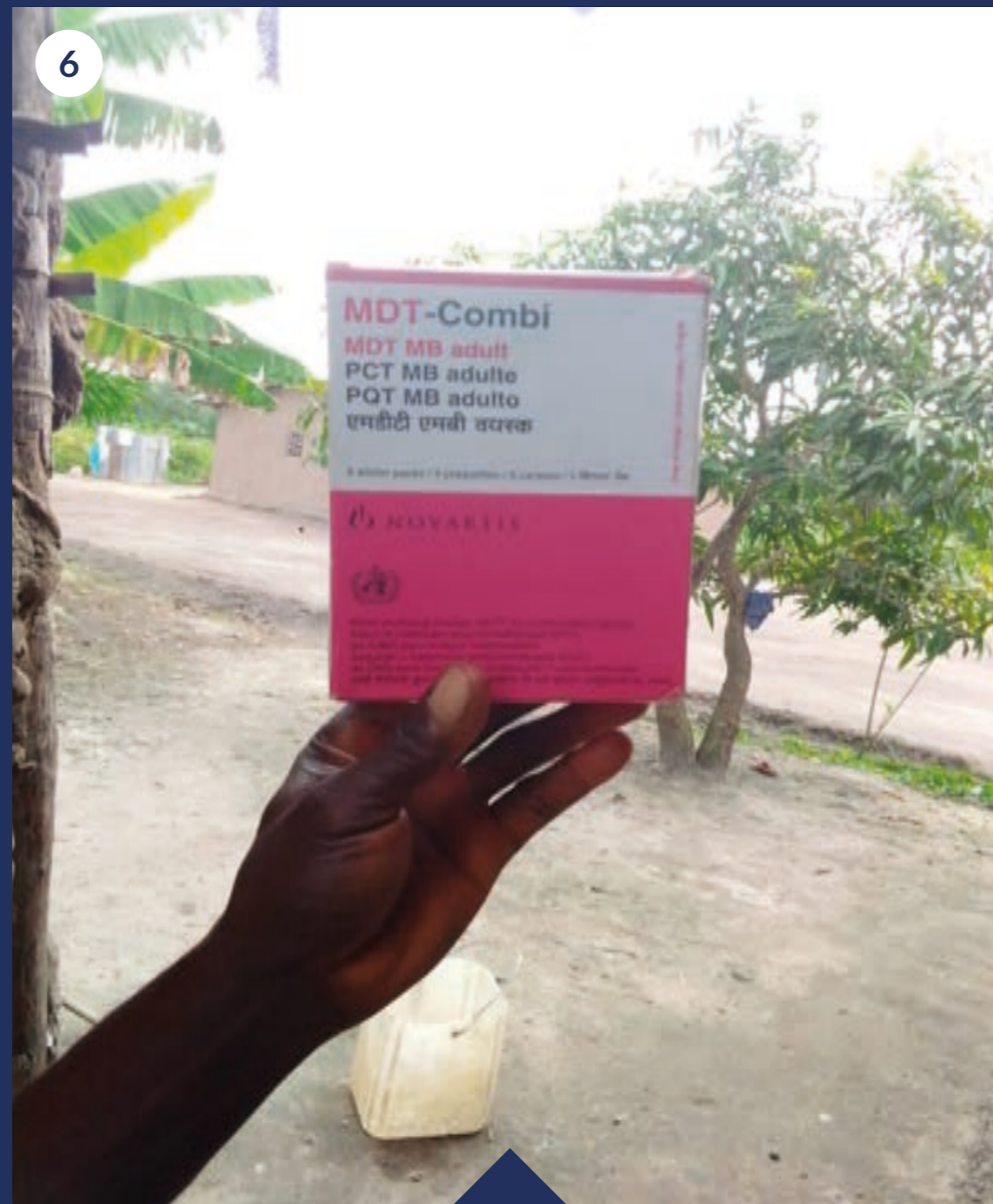
## Journey to care

This is what I use when going to the hospital to get my treatment or medicine. So, to get to the hospital, you had to take bike. This is the bike that I was riding to go to the hospital for my care. The message extends here that whenever you get this condition, you must go to the hospital. Going to the hospital, if you get the funding to pay your transportation, you can pay your transportation or if you get the strength to walk, you can walk gradually and reach to the hospital.



## Accessibility: Journey to care

This is the road that I used to go to the hospital to seek medical care. It's a street car road. Not just ordinary road, but a car road. And I'm telling people that this road is the road that lead to the hospital. So, whenever you get your problem, please seek the hospital care.



## Receiving treatment

This show that my condition have treatment at the hospital, so people don't have to go to the traditional healers for cure. That is medicine. To really prove to the community that there is curative from the hospital. This is the medicine that I took that got me well today. So, Anybody who get this condition should go to the hospital. There is medicine to get rid of it. Instead of keeping yourself, maybe going to African, which we call country medicine to get your condition worse. Hospital is here and there is medicine provided in the hospital that can help you with this condition.



## Support group and livelihoods

This picture represent the support and help that REDRESS is giving to the affected people. REDRESS send us money that we should use and be able to help ourselves. This money, if we divide, it will finish. But the only thing we need to do is to try to put it into at least business that small money will be there all the time to help our members. So, Redress have done it for us and we want to really play the role of making it important to ourselves. So, this is the photo that I took for that. The key message is if you get this foot, if you get this problem, whether it is on you or it is finished, once you come to us and we know you, you will be part of this help.