

Country Fact File

Zimbabwe

Population : 13 million

% of under 18 yr olds : 46%



Life expectancy (34 for women and 37 for men) is the lowest in the world so protection and care of vulnerable children is paramount. The country has been rocked by a severe economic and political crisis and rising markets combined with poor harvests have led to chronic food shortages. In addition, Zimbabwe suffered a terrible cholera outbreak in 2008 and a collapsed health service and poor water sanitation did nothing to prevent the spread of the epidemic.

More than 1 million children have lost their parents to HIV/AIDS and some have dropped out of school in order to run households. Therefore there are high levels of vulnerability for children who are caring for parents, or who have been orphaned by the disease. Additionally, there are children who have suffered psychological trauma through political violence or cholera.

Approximately 1.5 million children need help to access education, with school fees, basic resources and uniforms creating issues. There has also been a huge loss in the number of qualified or experienced teachers.

Country Fact File

India

Population : 1.2 billion

% of under 18 yr olds : 40%



India's economy has boomed in recent years, with the country becoming a world leader in technology. An estimated 50 million now earn over \$10,000/year. However, that is still only 5% of the population. Another 300 million are living in poverty, earning less than \$1 a day.

India is often hit by natural disasters, such as the 2004 tsunami, the Kashmir earthquake in 2005 and floods of 2007 and 2008. An estimated 3.1 million people are living with HIV and overcrowding in urban areas is a huge problem.

With approximately 40% of the population under the age of 18, many children do not get a consistent education. Although 85% enrol in primary school, four in ten drop out before they've completed five years of study. Millions of children are unable to get medical treatment when they are ill, do not have an adequate or balanced diet and child labour is rife, causing many to quit their studies to support their families.

At school, teaching methods are often very traditional, based on rote learning methods. Corporal punishment is common in some areas, and children can find themselves being taught in a language they don't understand.

Country Fact File

Mozambique

Population : 21 million

% of under 18 yr olds : 51%



Since the end of the war in 1992, Mozambique has enjoyed relative stability and peace, but it is still a poor country. UNICEF estimates that 3/4 of the population live on less than \$1.25 per day.

Over half of Mozambique's population is under 18 years of age, with 1.4 million orphans. Many of the children miss out on an education, particularly girls.

As a result of this lack of access to education, the country suffers from a scarcity of skilled workers, such as teachers, health workers and business people who could help build the economy and provide basic services.

Country Fact File

Haiti

Population : 9 million

% of under 18 yr olds : 44% (approx)



Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere, with over 70% of Haitians living on less than \$1 per day. On average, life expectancy is 52 years. Rates of infant, child and maternal mortality are among the highest in the region and one in four children are malnourished.

Before the 2010 earthquake over 200,000 children were HIV /AIDS orphans, but as thousands of parents have now lost their lives in the disaster, the number of children without parents is estimated to be much, much higher. In the chaos following the earthquake many children found themselves alone, without food, shelter or security. They have been vulnerable to abuse and trafficking and have suffered severe psychological trauma.

The earthquake has left up to 200,000 people dead, 300,000 injured and around 800,000 to 1 million people homeless.