

Here are some quick development facts about Africa and Uganda for use in lessons. They highlight the need for Send a Cow's work towards food security, a better income and training for many people in Africa. However, this is only one side of Africa and it is also important to recognise some common misconceptions about Africans. You could address these by reminding pupils that Africans are as friendly, hard working and 'normal' as people in the UK, referring to some of the information in the Africa Background document and using the Africa section of Cowforce.com.

African Facts

- More than 40% of Africans do not have the ability to get enough food on a day-to-day basis.
- Over 30 million Africans are at risk of starvation or facing severe food shortages.
- Over 80% of farmers in Africa are women.
- Half of Africans below the Sahara live on less than \$1 a day.
- Only 57% of African children are enrolled at a primary school.
- Less than 1 person in 5 in Africa has electricity.
- Only 1.5% of Africans have a telephone line and 0.8% have access to the internet.
- In 1960, Africa used to export more food than it imported from other countries; now it imports one third of its grain.
- For an African farmer, conventional fertilisers cost two to six times more than the world market price.
- Less than half of Africans have access to basic medical care.
- More than 50% of Africans suffer from a water disease of some kind.
- In 2003, children in Africa lost 860,000 of their teachers to HIV/AIDS.
- Nearly a million people die from malaria in Africa every year.
- Sub-Saharan Africa has 10% of total world population, but has 60% of the world's AIDS population.

Sub-Saharan Africa is the one region of the world where the number of people living in poverty has increased over the last 20 years.

“Sub-Saharan Africa is the last frontier in the fight against abject poverty.”

Foreword, Industrial Development Report 2004, UNIDO

Uganda – general

- People in Uganda have a life expectancy of 46 years. In the UK it is 78.
- In Uganda over half (55%) of people live in poverty (below the poverty line).
- 1 in 4 children under 5 years of age are malnourished.
- Ugandan children usually live in the countryside (8 out of 10 people in Uganda live in rural areas).
- Over 8 out of 10 people in Uganda work in farming (86%).
- Only 4 out of 10 people can easily get to safe drinking water.

**For more general information about African countries, visit: www.sendacow.org.uk
www.cowforce.com www.countryreports.org**

Statistics compiled from various sources: UN Millennium Project 2003, UN Development Programme 2004, UNIDO 2004, UN Human Development Report 2003.

These country facts can be used in Geography LEDC/MEDC comparison exercises. *Earnings figures in pounds can be affected by exchange rates.

UGANDA

Population: *26.7 million*

Capital: *Kampala*

Area: *247,000sq km*

Languages spoken:
*English, Luganda, Swahili
and many others*

Life expectancy:
*45yrs (men)
47 yrs (women)*

Average salary:
£15 per month

UK

Population: *60.4 million*

Capital: *London*

Area: *217,000 sq km*

Languages spoken:
*English, Welsh, Bengali
and others*

Life expectancy:
*76yrs (men)
81 yrs (women)*

Average salary:
£2,000 per month

RWANDA

Population: *8.5 million*

Capital: *Kigali*

Area: *26,000sq km*

Languages spoken:
*French, Rwandan,
English and others*

Life expectancy:
*38yrs (men)
40 yrs (women)*

Average salary:
£11 per month

USA

Population: *295.7million*

Capital: *Washington DC*

Area: *9,631,000sq km*

Languages spoken:
*English, Spanish and
others*

Life expectancy:
*75yrs (men)
81 yrs (women)*

Average salary:
£1,800 per month*