

TOGO : CHILD PROTECTION SITUATION

GENERAL CONTEXT

- 69 people out of 100 live below the poverty line
- Almost half of the Togolese population is under 18 years old (2,839 million people)
- 29% of children between the age of 5 and 14 are used for economic and domestic work
- 1 out of 4 children is a victim of severe physical punishment
- More than a quarter of marriages are child marriages (under 18 years old)
- 50% of children are not registered at birth, preventing them from having a legal identity and from exercising their fundamental rights
- No reliable information is available for violence against children, sexual exploitation or child trafficking, although these abuses are frequent in Togo and are preventable

OBJECTIVES

➤ Priorities for 2008:

- The new Children's Act is disseminated and a system is in place for its implementation
- 1,810 people from legal professions (magistrates, lawyers) and other child protection professionals (police officers, gendarmes, teachers and social workers) are trained on the implementation of the Children's Act
- A community-based model for detecting and reporting child rights violations is in place in at least 200 villages
- 50% of social work training schools integrate modules on child rights and child protection into their curriculum
- The birth registration rate reaches 55%
- A data collection system and a mapping of interventions in the child protection area is created and made available, so that all child protection activities can be coordinated
- National strategies to fight against child violence, abuse, exploitation and trafficking are developed and adopted by the government and used to protect vulnerable children



Photo UNICEF Togo 2007 / Julie Pudlowski

The statistics in this document are taken from the MICS conducted in 2006.

How to help us?

3 \$ provides a vulnerable child with two meals a day, and enabling the child to attend school.

100 \$ allows a child who has been the victim of trafficking to reintegrate into the family and return to school.

120 \$ enables a victim of child sexual abuse to receive the appropriate medical and psychological care.

2007 what we did

- As part of a partnership with the Togolese government, UNICEF contributed to the adoption of the **Children's Act** by the parliament
- **11, 683** special court rulings allowed that number of children to be provided with a **birth certificate and a legal identity**
- 280 registrars have been **trained on birth registration**
- 108 people (members of the security forces and magistrates) have been trained as specialists on **human trafficking, particularly of women and children**
- 170 social workers and other institutional workers and 117 teachers **have been trained on child rights**
- **635 children (453 girls and 182 boys) victims of violations of their rights, such as a lack of parental care, child trafficking, worst forms of child labour, violence and sexual abuses as well as other forms of mistreatment received assistance**
- **178 specialized committees have been created at the community level for the follow-up, and monitoring of the respect of child rights**
- **During floods, 6,200 children benefited from essential non-food items (blankets, mats, tarpaulins, clothes), medical supplies (anti-malaria and anti-cholera kits), water and sanitation supplies (drinking water containers...), and 300 children living in an IDP (Internally Displaced People) camp were taken care of**



Photo UNICEF Togo 2007 / Julie Pudlowski

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Help us to improve children's lives**

For further information:
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