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Chad, Education

Chad: Fighting Hunger Through Education

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” -Nelson Mandela

Education today is changing our world, and it provides positive outcomes by changing like the well being or general health of a country. Having an education gives us a knowledge of the world around us while also developing our opinions on the world and how to make it better. “Information can not be converted into knowledge without education,”(Doumbia). Such is not the case for Chad, a country in the Sahel belt of Africa, and because of the low income and already a mass of poverty close to none have access to education let alone food (“Chad”).

Chad is a landlocked country in the Sahel belt of Africa with a vast population of 15.8 million people which is growing at an accelerated rate of 3 percent of year (“Chad - Country Profile”). 76.94% of the population lives in a rural area and 23.06% of the population lives in urban areas (“Chad - Rural Population”).

The Chadian population is ethnically and culturally diverse with many different communities and religions. Chad’s capital is N’Djamena and its estimated population is just under 1 million (“Chad - Country Profile”). Chad is ranked the 4th least developed country and rated 187th out of 189th in the Human Development Index taken in 2019. The literacy rate for the country is just 22.3 % and the average years of schooling is a critical 2.4% (“Human Development Reports.”).

Education shortage is mainly seen in rural areas due to the fact that most children stay home to aid their parents in farming or because a family can’t afford it. Most people decide early on that they won’t go to school or decide not to send their kids because of the poverty factor. Unfortunately the cultural normalities in Chad cause problems because if you are poor you are essentially working for the rest of your life. Since there are these cultural mishaps it is important to teach new ways patiently and provide the developing countries with financial support to help them grow.

The problem is there isn’t access to a good quality education because of the resources Chad lacks as a country and has been lacking for a lengthy period of time (Doumbia). It all starts with the basic foundation of a government, and whether or not people are trying to help change things. Chad doesn’t have a healthy enough backbone government to support hardly anything and its social and economic sustainability is not appropriately leading enough right now that the economy as a whole as you can say, “is going down the drain.”

Many people have come up with solutions to these problems but trying to find a true solution that works for most of the country is challenging but crucial to help support Chad and boost its economy. The economic crisis is felt in impoverished countries with bitterness, which results in reducing foreign investment, and causes more people to migrate that weaken the local economy. Unfortunately education budgets are generally the first to deteriorate before anything else (Alvaro).

The mortality rate associated with household and current air pollution is 280 people per 100,000 similar to the mortality rate attributed to unclean water plus sanitation and hygiene services which is 101 per 100,000 people (“Human Development Reports.”). All these don’t matter unless people are educated. Only 6% of chadian people over 25 have a secondary education past primary schooling. Fixing the problems within a country first has to learn how to solve problems such as a degrading economy.

The average size of a family, city or village, is 6-7 children with 2 parents making a total of 9 direct family members. This doesn't include cousins or other family members who might live with other family members who are in a better well being financially. Young girls help their mother with taking care of their younger siblings and may cook or clean for the family. They also may sell vegetables and other various items in the market to help make money for their family. Young boys mostly vary in the city versus in small villages but in both places they are helping their dads in their business and trying to help make money as well for the family. In their families the kids do many chores so the parents can work and get more important work done. When they go to school they mostly just learn how to read, write and a little math but most villages if they have a school do not offer any special classes other than the basics (*Children's Page*).

In the U.S. the average size of a family is under 4 people in the household with no extra family members staying. Compared to Chad that is around 6-7 less people to take care of not counting if families in Chad have extra family members staying. Incomes over in Chad will not be suitable enough for supporting a family triple the size of an average american family. Younger women in America will grow up going to school and learning to do whatever they choose while in Chad many grow up and go into an arranged marriage or become a housewife/teacher. Young boys in America grow up to go to school without worry as well and grow up to get a job in America. Many young students in the U.S. don’t appreciate the studies they get here as well as not realizing most countries still don’t have many resources or food. Here not as many younger children do vigorous chores around the house and many don’t touch a single piece of equipment their whole life. I know in America many people still go hungry but focusing on one’s education is the most important thing.

Having bigger families is attributed to the education shortage in Chad because there are not many small village school teachers that teach a lot of kids. Many schools are made from clay and only one or two rooms and teachers have to one grade and then give them an assignment then start working with the other half. It is not beneficial to the kids to not be able to learn about other things as well as not learning the best they can. When it is the rainy season or harvest the kids will stay home and help on the farm with reaping and sowing the crops to provide the income for the family.

The students will not be sent home with any homework because they have to help out as soon as they get home until it's time to eat. Right after they have eaten they go clean up and go straight to bed and wake up early morning to walk to school again. In the mornings their mother will make cereal from a past from the evening before and send them off to school and maybe without an adequate amount of breakfast so it causes the lack of education (*Children's Page*).

Our first step in fighting hunger through education is making sure Chadians are aware of the crisis. Parents need to be taught how important it is for children to learn and eventually grow their communities to boost economic standings for a better healthy country. Failing to teach people the importance of learning deprives them of the knowledge we need in everyday life and developing countries for a better world environment.

There should be more support for helping change education standards as well as donating to charities that go out and help underdeveloped countries. There are many commercials about donating money to animal shelters but almost none about fighting education. It would be a great idea to get more commercials or ads out because more people would see how big of a problem it is and how countries are lacking education and need support.

More importantly, teachers today just are not trained well in Chad or they do not have access to certified teachers who can pay for college. Most people in Chad will just grow up with their mother's or father's teaching them and then eventually take over a family business or go into an everyday work situation and neither of those work opportunities pay well to support a family adequately. Since more people inherit the family business the economy has no room to grow and gain more money for the people, town, and country. If we can provide more adequate ways to make more teachers available and more educationally certified teachers then we can also fight the problem.

We can create a program for teachers over the summer to spend time in an underdeveloped country and help out teachers in these countries. Individually the countries that are affected need to make acquiring an education easier to start with because if teachers can not get an education how are students supposed to?

Previous solutions have been similar but none have been significantly effective: a new plan involving creating awareness, opening a donation website, and creating a dropoff area for school supplies for used textbooks to give teachers in developing countries. There also needs to be support from world wide organizations such as the World Food Bank, Freedom From Hunger, and UNICEF. UNICEF is an immense agency that is responsible for implementing advancing and humanitarian aid to children internationally. If we can get these agencies and organizations to help support this idea we can help fight back against hunger through providing a healthier, and substantial life through education. When creating an adequate program for a country you need support from organizations so you can fund a project.

The type of foreign aid that would be most successful would include greeting donation banks for school supplies and money donations. There would also need to be more trainers for teachers in Chad and more teachers for the smaller communities/villages because there are bigger families in rural communities. There just needs to be more volunteers to help with getting the education in Chad to a higher standing to help provide more skilled jobs for Chadians in the future for creating a better economy.

Cooperation from community members in Chad is needed as well as government support of the project I would plan to make, EFRC, Education for Rural Chad. The plan involves setting up a website base for donations, involving other agencies (like the ones listed above), implementing new techniques through a teacher-to-teacher aid program, and involving the Chad government to help take action to make a bigger budget for schools due to the lack of money.

By creating awareness of the problem of malnutrition and hunger in children it's more straightforward on why we need an education boost; because education provides you with a lifetime of skills and learning abilities to help solve our world problems. If we didn't learn from previous experiences we wouldn't be able to help fight this problem in Chad.

For this project to be successful we would need certain policies in order which would be decided by the EFRC and the Chadian government. Such would be a code of ethics to make sure to have honest people working in the organization as well as people who provide help for the teachers. There would also be a

spending policy to make sure there are no scams and to make sure the people who need help are the ones who are getting help (“Top Ten Policies and Practices for Nonprofit Organizations.”).

Personally I think this will be a great program for children in Chad to help get an education rather than going to work and not make enough money when they have preceded the child age and become adults.

Many people will be trained adequately for this program so it is successful for many years and generations to come. The future company (if created), EFRC, plans to hire Chadians so we can build a better Chad life for the people there and surrounding areas. Since they have had a recent civil war many teachers left because they did not want to be caught in the crossfire between the two sides. That is why the Chadian government needs our help now to help find the support and create a stable government where people can be educated so another civil war can be prevented. Since Chad had a civil war it caused many infrastructure problems in the country’s government and they cut back their sufficient budget for education, now spending as minimal as possible on one of the most important things.

It all comes down to having a great education to lead a successful, healthy, and strong life so you can provide for yourself and family. With no education you will not have an adequate living situation without hard work but even most hard work doesn't pay off if you don't know or understand how to build a better economy.

If you don't have education you can't have future leaders, people to solve world wide problems, and people who can cure cancer. Helping to give someone an education is one of the best things you can do because for some people that's the greatest thing in their life and you'll never know how far they'll go if they don't get a chance.

Even if kids today don't plan on going to college in Chad it is definitely useful to have an education to provide input to a job to improve your work ethics and grow to your best ability. Many jobs today such as plumbing, construction, and building houses don't require a secondary schooling and are very good for the economy but many people think then it's just okay to not provide an education, or think it's not as important. In turn the government of Chad has not been spending or providing a sufficient amount of money to it's public education schools.

There needs to be ways to provide an attractive, yet, better school system in order to support these ideas. If you don't have the government cooperating it makes it difficult but I know in the past they have had previous organizations and companies/corporations that make donations of school supplies. That is not effective or efficient enough, it is all different corporations and agencies and not one centralized solution to help disentangle the problem where there are enough supplies for Chad's public schools.

In all honesty most countries in Africa are similar to the situation in Chad and we can help create education boxes to help provide materials and also really form that teacher-to-teacher program to generate a bond between people. Providing a program like this will assist Chad educators on becoming well known on topics and to help provide in classroom feedback and knowledge of how to better your classroom everyday.

In underdeveloped countries many people suffer from hunger and major necessities that developed countries don't. A quality, and strong education gives children the knowledge and skills they need to face daily life challenges. They can then take advantage of economic and lifelong learning opportunities. It is

also key for reducing poverty, increasing economic growth, achieving gender equality, and social development.

Underdeveloped countries' teaching is very poor and children who complete primary school lack certain basic skills in reading, writing, and arithmetic. This results in younger people lacking the crucial knowledge that would help them later in life to get a higher paying job (Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development).

Since now having a tough situation in America right now with Covid-19 providing foreign aid to other countries seems like a terrible idea but providing a safety net for other countries during this time can form strong country alliances. We can convince the government and American public by providing the stats to show how underdeveloped Chad's education is and how they need government assistance. I would have to argue against anyone who doesn't think foreign aid to another country right now would be a bad idea because providing Chad with education help will help produce better outcomes for food and have more trade with Chad could open up a good relationship between the U.S. and Chad. Opening another trade area with Chad would be great for its economy and people so more people will be less hungry and to help fight the education shortage.

By creating a new program it will be more effective in evaluating and providing education needs for the country of Chad. These things most of which include more teachers, better school supplies if getting school supplies in the first place, and the need to more funding for public schools.

Through a better system we can create a better school system for Chad and provide jobs for people within our country all to battle against hunger. Previously stated a few times we need to have education to be able to build a better world and a more forward thinking environment.

Education is the key to providing an adequate future for generations to come. In conclusion, it may seem easy to just say all this but our future depends on learning, more or less learning from mistakes and turning it into knowledge to grow our futures and change the world and fight against hunger.

Having success with the program will benefit many generations to come for the Chadian community to help provide an education for their country. When the education is increased there will be a rise in healthy living with more food retention. There will also be less poverty due to more people gaining skills to help provide for their households.

Many people would benefit from a better education in Chad because it will provide more jobs, eventual money, and better life situations. Providing more jobs is very important because people need to make enough money to support their families which helps fight against the cause of poverty. If people are making more money it will help boost the economy and it is helping these families to stay afloat in the world by having more education to create more money. Creating a better life situation is what it is all about because we want to make sure every student no matter who they are, or their living situation, can have an adequate education to help further the future of the world, especially since recently it has been a little tough for many countries including the U.S.

My closing remarks would have to be remembering there are other countries out there and it is very important to help provide them with help even if my home country is a little shaken at the moment.

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