

## **VULNERABLE CHILDREN - FACT FILE**

**All-age service, Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

### Orphans and abandoned children

- It is estimated that 132 million children worldwide are orphans
- Every day nearly 6,000 children become orphaned
- Over 400,000,000 abandoned children live on their own on the streets of hundreds of cities around the world

### Child labour

- There are 168 million children worldwide who are child labourers - almost 11 percent of the overall child population
- In the world's poorest countries, nearly one in four children are engaged in work that is potentially harmful to their health

### Violence

- Every year, between 500 million and 1.5 billion children worldwide endure some form of violence
- Every 5 minutes a child dies as a result of violence

### Trafficking

- Trafficking affects 1.2 million children, and their families, every year  
(Definition: A child has been trafficked if he or she has been moved within a country, or across borders, whether by force or not, with the purpose of exploiting the child.)

### War and conflict

- There are over 250 million children living in countries affected by conflict
- 1 out of every 8 babies born in the world is born into conflict
- There are 30 million children who have been forced from their homes

### Refugees and Migrants

- There were 19.5 million refugees in 2015; half of them were children
- Children accounted for 27 percent of the more than 1 million refugees and migrants who entered Europe in 2015
- 10,000 unaccompanied migrant children are missing in Europe

### Poverty

- Children represent almost half of all people living in extreme poverty although they make up roughly a third of the world's population

### Malnutrition and undernutrition

- There are 62.8 million children worldwide who suffer from acute malnutrition
- A child dies every 15 seconds as a result of malnutrition. Millions more live with the lifetime effects - physical disabilities and learning difficulties
- Close to one-fifth of all children under five remain undernourished
- Nearly half of all deaths in children under 5 are attributable to undernutrition
- 66 million primary school-age children attend classes hungry across the developing world, with 23 million in Africa alone

## Disease

- Pneumonia remains the leading infectious cause of death among children under-five, killing 2,500 children a day. Mortality due to childhood pneumonia is strongly linked to poverty-related factors such as undernutrition, lack of safe water and sanitation, indoor air pollution and inadequate access to health care
- Diarrhoea is a leading killer of children, accounting for 9 per cent of all deaths among children under age 5 worldwide in 2015. This translates into over 1,400 young children dying each day, or about 530,000 children a year, despite the availability of simple effective treatment. Most cases of diarrhoea occur due to a lack of safe water, sanitation and basic hygiene
- In 2015, 800 children under the age of 5 died from malaria each day. In sub-Saharan Africa, malaria kills one child every minute
- Deadly diseases like measles, polio, tetanus, tuberculosis, diphtheria and whooping cough are all easily and cheaply preventable by immunisation. Yet every day, 17,000 children under five die, usually because they don't get the health care and life-saving vaccines they need

## HIV/AIDS

- Approximately 3.3 million children under the age of 15 were living with HIV at the end of 2014
- As of 2014, an estimated 13.3 million children worldwide had lost one or both parents to AIDS

## Education

- 124 million children and adolescents are out of school
- As of the start of 2014, 1 in 11 children of primary-school age were out of school, totalling 59 million children