



Wherever the Need

The alleviation of poverty

**Foundations First:
Sanitation, Water
and Livelihoods**

What is Poverty?

Poverty is hunger. Poverty is losing a child to illness caused by lack of sanitation and dirty water. Poverty is lack of shelter. Poverty is being sick and not being able to see a doctor. Poverty is not having access to school and not knowing how to read. Poverty is not having a job. Poverty is fear for the future. Poverty is living one day at a time. Poverty is powerlessness. Poverty is lack of representation and freedom.



Children living and playing in a rubbish dump

In the region of US\$100 billion is donated each year in development aid (ODA, 2006), but why is there no corresponding reduction in poverty? Aid appears to be a bottomless pit, where the return does not reflect the investment. You keep giving and giving, but there seems to be little material change to the amount of poverty on the planet.

Do you often wonder if development aid works and if not, why not? Do you worry that a large part of your donation is lost in admin, mis-management or corruption? Do you know exactly how your money is being spent? Why do so many downtrodden people who receive help all the time seem to be trapped in the poverty cycle? Talk to us and we may be able to answer your questions.

www.wherevertheneed.org.uk

The Alleviation of Poverty

Our objective is the alleviation of poverty. This is not possible unless people are healthy, and to achieve good health, sanitation and clean water are vital. The foundation of any community, school, family or individual must be good health. You cannot do anything without it. If you are sick, you simply don't operate at anything close to your potential.

What is the point of building a beautiful school if your pupils are continually ill? Do you send your child to school when they have bad diarrhoea or similar? What is the point of a nutritional programme if the people you are working with have intestinal disease? What is the point of a dispensary if you are just treating the symptom rather than the cause? The list goes on.

Effective sanitation and clean water provide the foundations for good health and once achieved, we can build a solid, self-sustaining structure through the provision of livelihood options.

Healthy people are ready to take on the potential of opportunity, to work their own way out of poverty. Even if they want to, sick people cannot.

To be self-sufficient, a person needs to provide for themselves the basics of shelter, food and clothing. The key element is the provision of an income that is locally sustainable and will no longer need external intervention. It is about the provision of fishing rods, not fish. Independence, not dependence.

We want to make sure donor money is spent effectively rather than returning to the same project time and time again. Without this approach, you will not alleviate poverty and your money will be wasted once more.

We are committed to using your donation effectively, offering the poorest people in the world the opportunity to a sustainable future. Further information on our work can be found in our sanitation, water and livelihood leaflets.

Please donate today.



Children deserve a life and a future



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Wherever the Need

Eco-Sanitation · Water · Livelihoods · Environment · Empowerment