

### THE NEEDS OF THE THIRD WORLD

SLIDEFOLIO  
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The people of the Third World have to solve many problems including most of the world's poverty, hunger and ill health. To do this they need to establish suitable economies. The needs of the people living in the different countries of the Third World cannot be seen directly in terms of the needs of people who live in other parts of the world. All people need food, water, shelter and the ability to enjoy lives free from unnecessary suffering and ill health. They need housing and clothing which are suitable for the part of the world and the society in which they live. Their other needs are also conditioned by their circumstances and beliefs. For example, not everyone believes that the purpose of work is to obtain material goods such as cars and television sets.

People living in the industrial, developed, countries (30% of the world's population) tend to judge the needs of the people in the Third World (70% of the world's population) in terms of their own type of society. When they controlled the countries of the Third World as colonies they gave the people of their colonies parts of their own culture, such as language and religion. They also made them part of the European

economic system, providing the raw materials and markets for European industries.

The people of the Third World see their own needs in terms of being able to re-develop their own cultures and to develop an economic system which is suitable for their own societies and which will solve their basic problems of poverty, hunger and ill health. Thus, in Third World countries, the development of craft industries in villages may be better than the development of big factories in cities. Using ox drawn ploughs may be better than using tractors. Producing goods for the local community may be better than making large quantities to sell abroad.

Education is necessary to enable people to discover what is best for them and how to bring about the necessary changes. To improve conditions the countries of the Third World need to be able to earn a living. To enable them to do this the industrial countries have to change their attitudes and not expect the Third World to remain as their traditional supplier of raw materials while they control most of the industry and enjoy a much higher standard of living.

1. Seventy per cent of the world's people live in the Third World where the population is rising more rapidly than in the rest of the world. This rise is closely connected with the problems of poverty and hunger but it is important not to think of the Third World and its needs in terms just of its problems. These problems are a part of those which face other parts of the world and with which they are also connected.
2. Better medicine and more clinics are needed to give improved care to babies and their mothers before and after they are born. As more babies survive people need to be educated in the advantages of having smaller families.
3. Many families are too large and cannot obtain a living because their plots of land are either too poor or, as here in Bangladesh, too small and there are only a few primitive tools available.
4. Larger plots of land and better tools are needed to increase production and support more people. Better iron ploughs drawn by oxen have caused a revolution on these farms in Indonesia where families have needed their land together.
5. New lands need to be brought into cultivation but it is expensive to do this on a large scale. The amount of land that is available and would make good farmland is limited. Small schemes on a local scale may be more successful than large scale developments. Here a well is being drilled to irrigate the land for a village in India.
6. In many parts of the Third World cattle are of poor quality, especially those in India, and eat more than they are worth. Better breeds are needed and in some areas diseases, such as nagana, carried by the tse tse fly, need to be controlled so that new lands can be made suitable for cattle rearing. These Indian cattle are holy and may not be harmed.
7. Many of the crops grown are wasted after harvesting. Better methods need to be found for caring for the harvest and keeping it free from pests which destroy a third of everything grown. Expensive new ways may not be needed as the old ways may be improved. Here corn is being pounded on an experimental farm in Upper Volta, West Africa.
8. People also need to be educated in the best foods to eat and, as here in South East Asia, shown ways of preparing them without the food being lost.

9. Most people in the Third World live and die without ever seeing a doctor. Those who are suffering from malnutrition, or are sick, cannot work and they remain poor. More hospitals are needed but there is a special need for clinics, doctors and nurses for communities not only in the cities but also in the remote country areas. This mobile bush clinic is in Kenya, East Africa.
10. There is an urgent need for clean water which is easily accessible. Most people have to walk, in many cases a considerable distance, to obtain supplies of water. Most disease in the Third World is carried by water and by insects which breed in wet areas. Malaria and bilharzia and, especially in the overcrowded cities where sewage contaminates the water, cholera are common diseases.
11. Even modest improvements in water supplies, such as this communal laundry in an Indian village, improve health and hygiene and reduce toil.
12. Most people in the Third World have no means of transport and must fetch and carry goods themselves. Many farmers must walk several hours along rough tracks to carry goods to and from market. This locally made foot bridge is in Nepal.
13. Improved transport is essential for the development of farming and for new industries in the villages and towns. New roads have been built in the Philippines for these farmers who can now get to market by bus or lorry or with animal-drawn carts.
14. New roads and railways are needed to open remote areas for new developments. This is part of a new network of roads to open the Amazon region of Brazil for mining, lumbering, cattle ranching and agriculture.
15. Ports, such as Dakar in Senegal, were built mainly to export raw materials to the industrial countries. New ports are needed to serve newly developing areas. Others need to be modernised to handle containers and to take new kinds of exports and imports.
16. Third World countries have few resources for coping with disasters such as droughts and floods, earthquakes and wars. Short term aid, such as this rice distribution in Vietnam, may help to prevent starvation. Many disasters could be avoided if resources were properly developed and farming improved.
17. Many farmers, such as these in Mexico, produce only a small surplus to sell. In times of difficulty they find themselves in debt to landlords and moneylenders. Higher production is necessary to improve their own living standards and also to contribute to the wealth of their country.
18. Many people live according to their local beliefs and traditions. Some are superstitious, as are these women who rely on a fortune teller in Bangladesh. To change their old ways for new ways is difficult.
19. Education is essential to bring about change. Most schools, such as this one in Laos, have few facilities. More schools and teachers are needed but it is important that the right kind of education is given.
20. Practical education is needed in, for example, improved farming methods, better techniques for local industry, building better homes and making roads. Education is of greatest use if it forms part of a programme of overall development. Such programmes need money, practical help and careful organisation. One such programme is The United Nations programme for the development of Peru, Chile and other countries in the Andes Mountains.
21. These students in Chile are being taught new craft industries. Many economists think that small scale industries and improvements to the traditional industries using better machines which are cheap and easy to handle are better than beginning large and complicated industries.
22. The Third World countries need a basic structure on which to build new industries. This includes adequate roads and supplies of electricity. This is the Guri Dam, for hydroelectric power on the Caroni River in Venezuela. Schemes such as this are expensive and require the help of experts from other countries. Most Third World countries cannot afford such expensive schemes and smaller developments may be better suited to them. Sometimes countries join together to share the costs and the benefits.
23. Improved tele-communications are needed not only within each country but also internationally to speed the movement of goods and to enable business and political decisions to be made quickly.

24. People are flooding into the cities of the Third World to seek new opportunities and because they have nowhere else to live. Many find no jobs and have to live in shanty towns and slums. In many cities it is impossible to cope with the needs of these people.

If conditions were better in the villages fewer would come to the cities. These people are co-operating to rebuild, with help from their government and the United Nations, the slum area of Singapore in which they live.

The pictures and notes in this set are not intended as a complete treatment of the subject. They provide a core of material to which the teacher can add further materials and questions. Additional sets in the series will provide a useful library of pictures to illustrate the general themes of development studies in the Third World. There is a large amount of case study material available, such as that published by Oxfam and the Centre for World Development and Education. Well illustrated studies of these general themes may be found in "The Third World" by R.Clare (Macdonald Educational : World Topics. Colour Units) and other books in the same series.

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**THE NEEDS OF THE THIRD WORLD : QUESTIONS**

**(Numbered to correspond with the related slides)**

1.
  - a. Why does a high birth rate cause problems in many Third World countries?
  - b. Find out why the causes of many of the problems of the Third World are not to be found in the Third World alone.
  
2.
  - a. Why must people be educated in 1. the care of babies and 2. family planning?
  
3.
  - a. Where is Bangladesh?
  - b. How is this land being farmed?
  - c. What will be some of the problems facing this family?
  - d. Suggest what may be needed to solve these problems.
  
4.
  - a. Where is Indonesia?
  - b. How is the land being ploughed?
  - c. These people in Indonesia had problems similar to those of the family in the previous picture. How have their needs been met?
  
5.
  - a. How is this land being irrigated?
  - b. Why are irrigation schemes needed, especially on a small scale, in many parts of the Third World?
  - c. Why is it necessary to 1. improve old farms and 2. bring new land into cultivation?
  
6.
  - a. Why is it necessary to improve 1. the quality and 2. the number of cattle in most Third World countries?
  - b. Why are there too many cattle in India?
  
7.
  - a. How is this harvest being prepared for storage?
  - b. Why are better methods of 1. storing and 2. preparing the harvest necessary?

8.
  - a. What has been prepared for this meal?
  - b. Why is education necessary in 1. better diets and 2. food preparation?
  
9.
  - a. Why are many more doctors and nurses needed?
  - b. How can they be trained?
  - c. What are the advantages of this mobile clinic?
  
10.
  - a. Why are supplies of clean drinking water the most essential need in many parts of the Third World?
  
11.
  - a. How might these clothes have been washed before the laundry was built?
  - b. What is necessary if traditional, poor methods of hygiene are to be changed?
  
12.
  - a. How does this bridge limit the method of transport used?
  - b. What are the disadvantages of having to fetch and carry like this?
  
13.
  - a. What may be carried on this bus?
  - b. Why are more roads necessary?
  - c. Is it only motorised transport that is needed?
  
14.
  - a. Why has this road been built?
  - b. Find out about some of the disadvantages of opening up new lands in the forests of the Amazon region for development.
  
15.
  - a. Find Dakar on a map of Africa.
  - b. Name some other ports in Africa.
  - c. Why were most of these ports built?
  - d. Does Dakar appear to have good facilities?
  - e. Why are new and better ports needed in many Third World countries?

16.
  - a. Why are Third World countries unable to cope with disasters?
  - b. Why is some form of international organisation needed to handle disaster relief to the best advantage?
  
17.
  - a. Why are Third World farmers frequently in debt?
  - b. Are these farmers likely to have a productive day selling their goods?
  - c. What are the advantages if a farmer is able to pay higher taxes?
  
18.
  - a. How can superstition hold back development?
  - b. How can it be overcome?
  
19.
  - a. What is being taught?
  - b. What are the most useful subjects that might be taught in 1. a rural and 2. a city school?
  

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20.
  - a. What and where is the Programa Andino?
  - b. Why is practical instruction given on a development project a good way to educate people?
  
21.
  - a. What kind of instruction is being given?
  - b. What are the advantages of improving the traditional industries?
  - c. Why must the industrialised countries be prepared to buy products made in the Third World and pay a fair price for them?
  
22.
  - a. Find the Caroni River on a map of Venezuela.
  - b. Why do Third World countries need to industrialise?
  - c. What kind of basic structure does a country need to have before it can industrialise?
  - d. Find out what might be the disadvantages of receiving aid from the richer countries for large and expensive developments.
  - e. What will happen when the experts from other countries leave if a Third World country does not have a good training programme?

23. a. What kind of repair is being made?
- b. What else will form part of a country's national and international tele-communications system?
- c. Why does a development country need a good tele-communications system?

24. a. Why are people leaving the countryside for the cities?
- b. Find out about conditions in Third World cities.
- c. Why are many blocks of cheap homes needed?
- d. Why must most of the work be done with hand labour?
- e. Who pays for the materials and for the services such as roads and electricity?