

## Ending wars

This is Adjir, a youth who lost his parents when he was 13 years old.

Following an attack by rebel armies, Adjir was enlisted by force. He really didn't have a choice. However, after spending time with all the other rebels, Adjir became convinced that it was the fault of the existing government that his parents and his brother were dead.

Two months ago, the group of child soldiers that he belonged to was captured. At first Adjir was outraged, but he began to see life from a completely different angle. He left the transit camp



where he received psychological support to help him demobilize and reintegrate the community. Tomorrow he will start a training

programme that will equip him for a job.

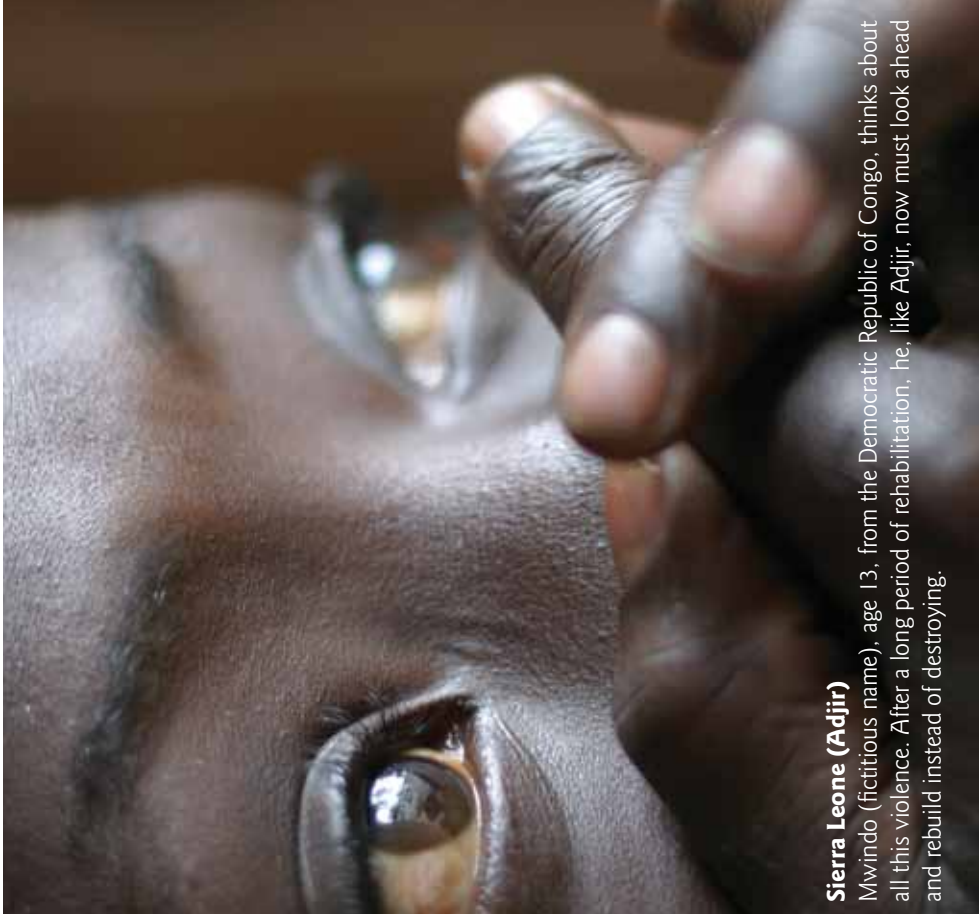
With a half-smile, he tells everyone who speaks to him that

his parents and his brother will live on in the reconstruction of his country.

## Health care

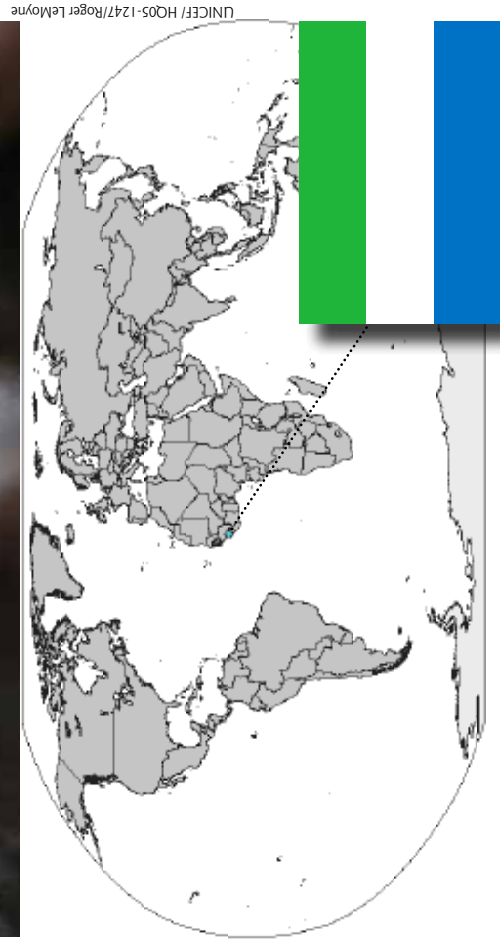
Dear diary,  
 today I don't feel very well. The fever and headache and diarrhea are really bothering me. They tell me I've got malaria, probably from an insect bite. In spite of everything, though, I'm lucky not like my Congolese grandmother, who died in 2000. I can pull myself out of it and get better, thanks to the work of a number of international healthcare organizations that come to help us. Today, I am told that there are a number of ways to prevent this situation, including the possibility of sleeping under netting that acts like a mosquito screen. Several organizations (such as UNICEF and Oxfam) can supply us with nets to put over our beds at night, as the mosquitoes come out mostly in the evening and at night.





**Sierra Leone (Adjir)**

Mwindo (fictitious name), age 13, from the Democratic Republic of Congo, thinks about all this violence. After a long period of rehabilitation, he, like Adjir, now must look ahead and rebuild instead of destroying.



UNICEF/HQ05-1247/Roger LelMoynne



**Angola (Gloria)**

Dominga, this volunteer from Angola, feeds 5-year-old David, so that he, like Gloria, can have a healthy childhood and a life full of possibilities.

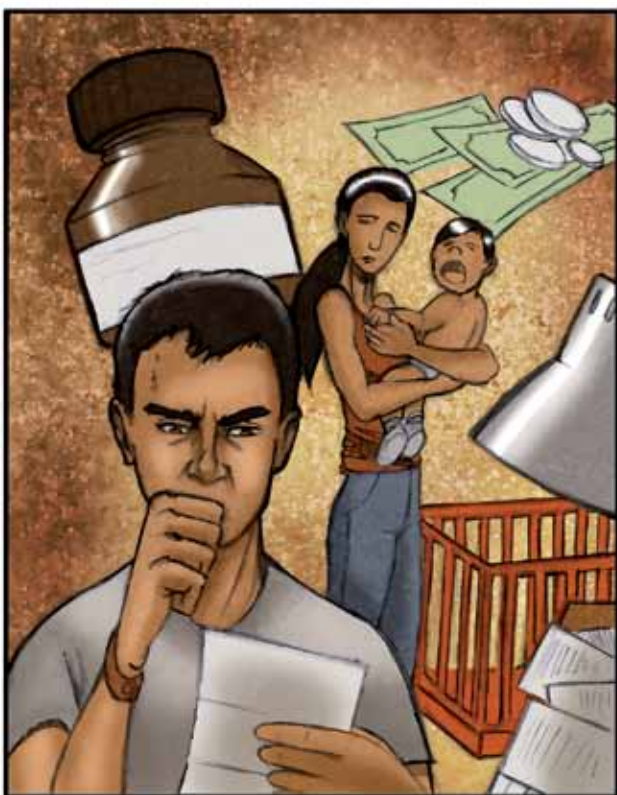


UNICEF/HQ02-0439/Giacomo Prozzi

## Ending the vicious circle of poverty

Juan and Celestina love each other very much. They have a baby named Carlos, who is sick. His medication is expensive, so Juan has to work more hours to earn more money. He is tired and Celestina is afraid that he will get sick as well.

Celestina gets a job, too, but she has to take time off to look after Carlos. Her boss fires her. Without that money, she can't



buy the medication. Without the medication, Carlos could die or become disabled.



Juan and Celestina have to choose between food for the family and medication for Carlos,

and they run the risk of getting sick in turn...

## Respecting rights



Hello. I am Chang. At the age of 10, I was pulled out of school to go and work in a factory. Every day I had to work 12 hours in a large shed that was cold and dirty, to assemble small toys that were sold at a very low price. I had to work hard for so



little... and my meagre salary was sent directly to my parents. Whenever I made fewer toys, my boss yelled insults at me and beat me. He said I could do better, that I was worthless, that my parents should throw me out on the street, and so on and so forth.



I rebelled and I was kicked out on the street, full of cuts and bruises. I decided that I deserved better than that. I went to the community centre in my village and explained my situation to a number of elders, who suggested various projects. That evening when I went



home, I had a plan to propose to my father...

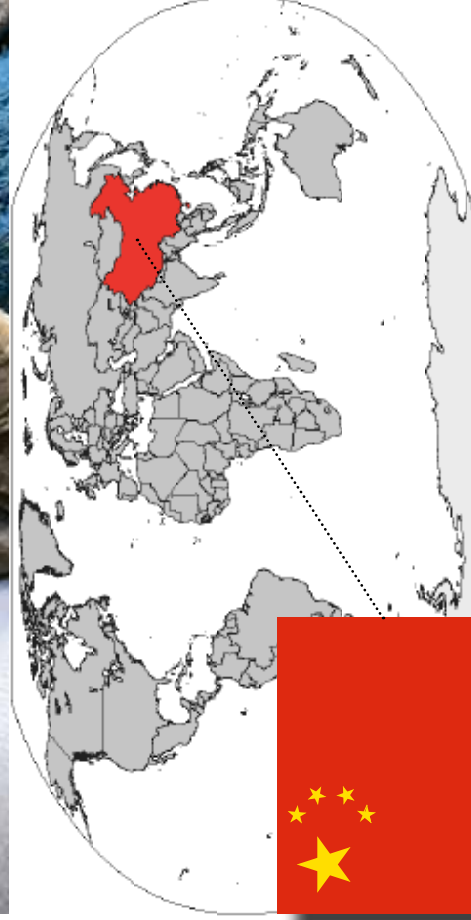
Today, luck was with me. I have a new evening job, which means I can continue to help my parents... and I have the possibility of going to earn a degree so I can get a better job later.

## Case history - Children's rights / China



**China (Chang)**  
These young boys are holding each other's hand as they visit a store. This reminds us a little of Chang's life when Chang worked to supply some boutiques, earning a meagre salary and working under not very desirable conditions.

UNICEF/HQ06-1035/Planti Mohan

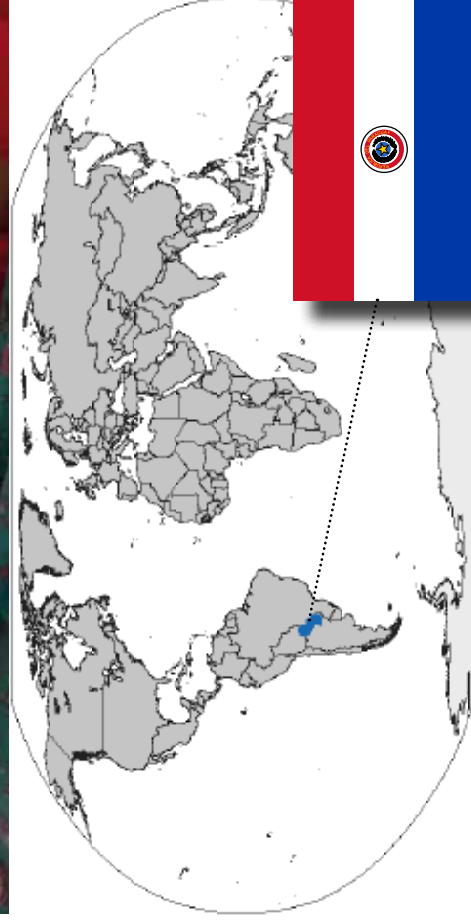


## Case history - poverty / Paraguay



**Paraguay (Juan and Celestina)**  
Zaida Guerra and her 5-year-old son, Juan Andres Conrado, are from Venezuela, and they live in conditions similar to those of Juan and Celestina. Poverty affects their living conditions on a day-to-day basis and education is the only lifeline that helps them preserve their identity and their culture.

UNICEF/HQ06-2426/Susan Markisz



## Eradicating HIV/AIDS

My father just married off my elder sister, Ramatou, to an older man. She was shocked, as she had met a young man from a neighbouring village and would have liked to marry him. Our father disapproved of her choice, however, and decided to block the whole thing.

After a few months of married life, Ramatou came to visit us. I was so happy to see her! She arrived in tears. She had just learned some good news and some bad news:



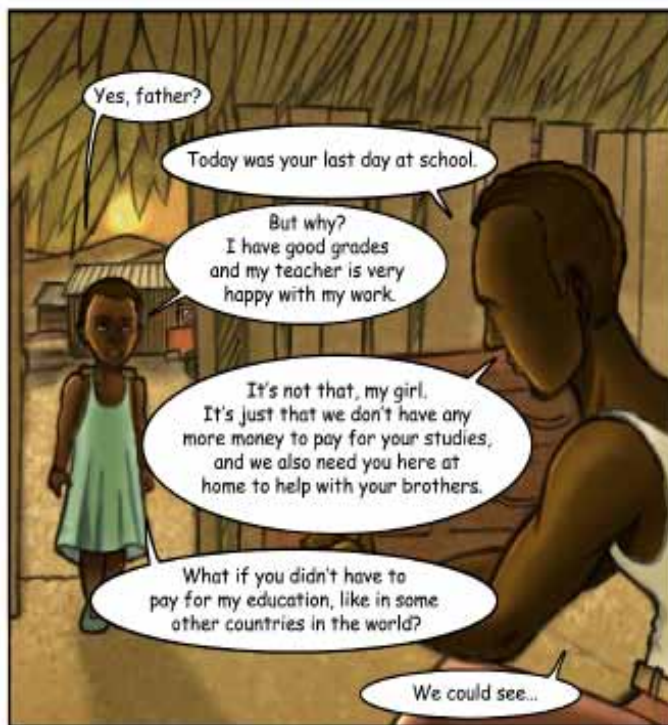
- she was expecting a child;
  - she had contracted HIV.
- She told me she would like to get the vaccines that help a



child live a 'normal' life, available in many other countries, but she doesn't have the means to do it.

I was very sad, so I went to see what I could do at the community centre, to find out a bit more.

## Access to a better education



Hadiza talked about her problem to her teacher and found a project headed by a humanitarian aid organization that could help her get the education she needs to carry out all her plans. She knows that she has to work hard, as the project won't solve everything for her, but it's worth the effort.

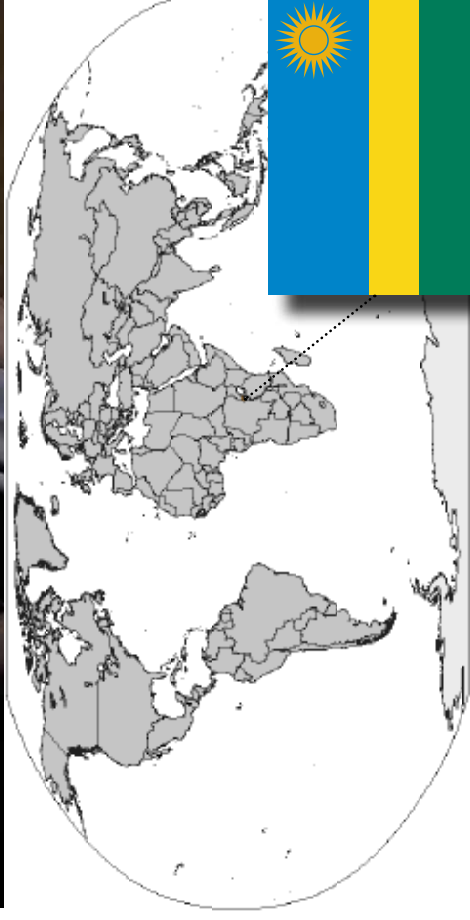
## Case history - #HIV/AIDS / Rwanda



### Rwanda (Ibupa)

HIV affects everyone, future parents and their children alike. On one hand, there is Ibupa's sister Ramatou, who has contracted the HIV virus. She is now pregnant and doesn't know what to do for her baby. In the photo, we see 9-year-old Lawino from Uganda who lives alone in her family hut, because both her parents died of AIDS.

UNICEF/ HQ05-1988/Shehzad Noorani



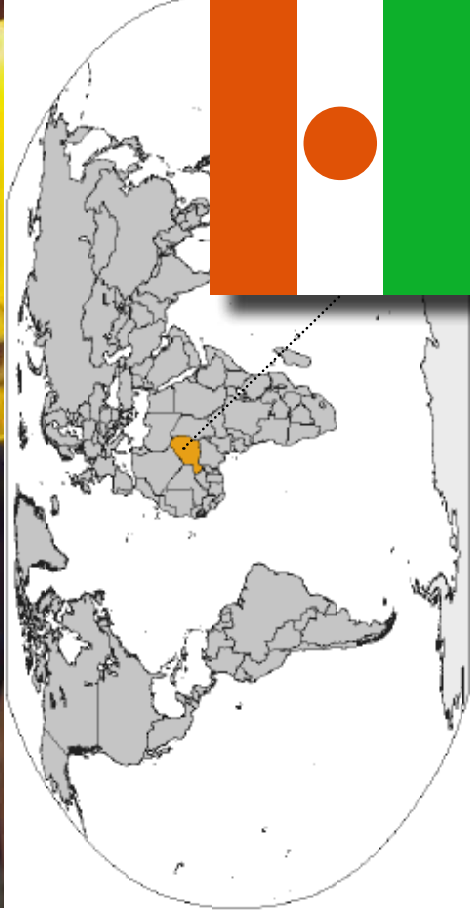
## Case history - Rights to education / Niger



### Niger (Hadiza)

This girl from Sao Tomé and Príncipe, like Hadiza, expresses the same desire and determination to get an education so she can develop herself and be involved as a citizen who wants to develop a more just world.

UNICEF/ HQ97-1196/Giacomo Prozzi



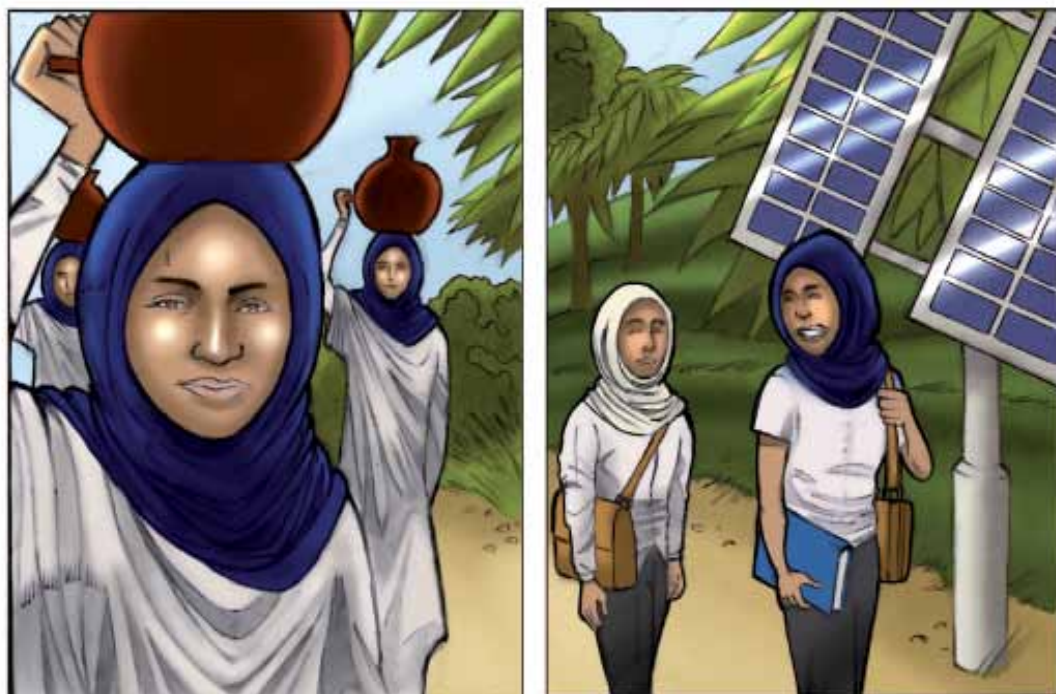
## Ending exploitation, abuse and violence

Isabela hears screaming. Marie-Carmen has arrived from work, injured. Isabela hears people arguing in the kitchen.



## Protecting the environment

Greetings,  
I live in Malaysia. Here, as in many other areas, the people who are responsible for getting water for the family are girls and women.



### Before:

Girls couldn't attend school because they spent all their time going to get water, and the water they found was of dubious quality. Most of rural Malaysia had no access to safe water. People got their water from the marshes, where the water was contaminated by livestock.

### Now:

Solar water pumps are supplied by UNICEF for the village. I walk a shorter distance to get water, so I have more time to attend school. This means I have a better chance of going further in my studies, and will then be able to help my family and my country to develop.

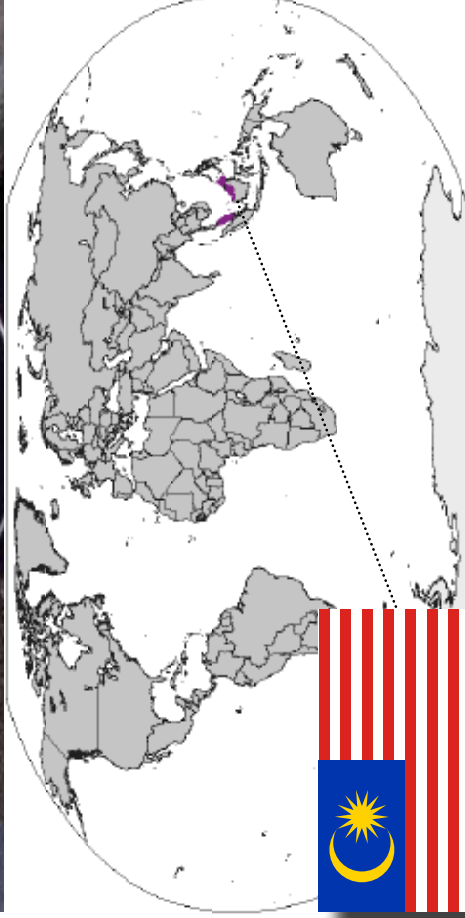
## Case history – Environment / Malaysia

### Malaysia (Noriah)

This girl, like Noriah, illustrates the necessity of new techniques to supply safe water and thereby allow greater emphasis to be placed on education aimed at developing her country.



UNICEF/HQ96-1011/Shehzad Noorani



## Case history – Abuse and violence / Mexico

### Mexico (Isabela)

Like Isabela's sister Marie-Carmen, this 10-year-old Native girl from the Añu tribe, Yuruli Rodriguez, sees education as pivotal in developing her possibilities and participating as a full-fledged citizen in creating a more viable world.



UNICEF/HQ06-2421/Susan Markisz

