



Botswana



Introduction to BOTSWANA

THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA has been one of the most successful countries in Africa since its independence from Britain in 1966. It boasts a growing economy, comprehensive social programs, and a focus on ecological preservation. Sadly, the landlocked nation just north of South Africa is also home to some of the highest HIV/AIDS rates in the world.

The MOTSWANA people

Total population:	1,990,876
Children under 15:	692,457
Average Life Expectancy:	61.85 years
Per capita annual income:	\$13,900
% children in primary school:	83.99%
Average years of education:	12 years
Literacy rate:	81.2%
Internet users:	120,000
Cell phones in use:	1.486 million
Major/official language(s):	Setswana, Kalanga, English, tribal

Risk issues impacting children:

- HIV/AIDS affects at least a quarter of the population. Sexual abuse and rape increase the vulnerability of girls and women to HIV/AIDS.
- Flooding exposes many children to water-borne diseases.
- Almost a quarter of the population lives on less than one dollar a day.

More about BOTSWANA

Capital city:	Gaborone
Type of government:	Parliamentary Republic
Square kilometers:	581,730
General terrain:	Flat with gently rolling tablelands, Kalahari desert in the southwest.
Major industries/jobs:	Diamonds, copper, nickel, salt, textiles, livestock
National motto:	"Rain"
Major airport(s):	Sir Sereste Khama, Maun, Kasane

Reaching BOTSWANA

Currently classified as World C: Christian

Major religions:

Christian	- 71.6%
None	- 20.6%
Badimo	- 6%
Other	- 1.8%

Christian groups:

Independent	- 55.1%
Other	- 19.7%
Protestant	- 18.3%
Roman Catholic	- 5.9%
Anglican	- 1%

Unreached People Groups:	1 (negligible % of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.042
Average annual baptisms:	35,802
Foreign missionaries:	420
Per million:	228.77
National Christian workers/pastors:	1,000
Per million:	544.68
Number of churches/congregations:	3,415

Children's ministry in BOTSWANA

- Overview:**
- In cities, there are quite a few children's ministry activities happening. There is a core group of trained leaders working in the nation, as well as resources from established Christian institutions.
 - In the rest of Botswana, much of it wilderness, children's ministry is uncoordinated and unfocused. The need for committed children's leaders with a vision to reach children is great.
 - National and local church leadership does not understand the opportunities for and potential of children. Greater advocacy for children's ministry is a primary necessity in Botswana.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
3,415 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
692,457 children for Christ