

# ***BUILDING A BETTER WORLD***

## ***A RESOURCE FOR GROUP LEADERS***

*published by*

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## Chapter One

### Glad Tidings

*Building a Better World* is aimed at making CFMers more aware of the rich heritage of Catholic social teaching and helping them apply it to their daily lives. It is important that group leaders have a grounding in the basic principles of this teaching. In order to supply this we have included a document from the US Bishops in Appendix A. We suggest you begin by reading the appendix, *Seven Key Concepts in Catholic Social Teaching*, when you get your book. If you wish to read more, we suggest the documents *Follow the Way of Love* and *Everyday Christianity* from the US Conference of Catholic Bishops. Both of these are available from the US Catholic Bishops website. The other Church documents noted in the acknowledgement section of *Building a Better World* are all available online at either the Vatican or USCCB websites.

The purpose of the first chapter of *Building a Better World* is to set ground rules for the year. These topics can be quite challenging, and it is important that all understand that people of goodwill have different answers for applying these teachings in our society. The aim of this book is to examine each teaching, apply it and make judgments as necessary and act accordingly.

Chapters 2, 3, 4 examine the concepts of the dignity of the human person and the common good.

Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8 look at the issue of solidarity with the poor.

Chapters 9, 10, 11, 12 explore issues of stewardship.

Each section has an experiential learning situation, which will help participants understand the concept in a new way.

#### Useful links

[www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va) Use this site for documents authored by the Holy Father. Click on the English link at the opening page and use the document search engine for the specific title. You can search by Latin or English names.

[www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) Use this site for documents authored by US Catholic Bishops. The Department of Social Justice and World Peace has a good document on-line: *Sharing Catholic Social Teaching*. Additional resources can be purchased from the USCCB bookstore. *In the Footsteps of Jesus* is a good video that might be useful for the first meeting. It is 28 minutes long and \$14.95. Call 800-235-8722 for more information.

[www.osjspm.org/cst](http://www.osjspm.org/cst) provides an excellent overview of Catholic social justice teaching. There is an interesting link here: *101 Questions on Catholic Social Teaching*. There are many quotations here from various Church documents regarding the topics of *Building a Better World*.

These links should provide good information on all the topics for the year.

**Disclaimer:** Other links in this resource guide were chosen because they have relevance to the issue under study. In no way is their presence in this document meant to support every aspect of the organization in question. Websites were reviewed at the time of creation of this guide, but may have changed subsequently.

## Chapter Two

### Made In God's Image

The purpose of this chapter is to discuss the key concept of the dignity of the human person. All of Catholic social thought is founded on the concept that humans are made in the image and likeness of God and they have an inherent dignity because of that. The Church begins its thinking on every aspect of social policy from this premise.

#### Useful links

[www.ewtn.com/motherteresa](http://www.ewtn.com/motherteresa) Read more about Mother Teresa here.

[www.prolifeinfo.org](http://www.prolifeinfo.org) A prolife resource list.

[www.un.org](http://www.un.org) Follow the Human Rights link to find United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights

[www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org) Amnesty International website  
[www.hrw.org](http://www.hrw.org) Human Rights Watch

## Chapter Three

### Our Place in the World

An Internet search on the topic of family rights will reveal a number of sites that are illustrative of the frustration many feel at government intervention in family affairs. The point of this meeting is not so much to concentrate on this aspect of the problem, but to balance this viewpoint with a study of the legitimate concerns of government with the health of families and the duties of families in society. The US bishops' document, *Follow the Way of Love* is available at [www.usccb.org/laity/follow.htm](http://www.usccb.org/laity/follow.htm) and the pastoral letter on families *Familiaris Consortio* (available by searching vatican.va ) might be helpful here. Both have sections that reiterate that families cannot retreat from society, but must be involved in the political process. One of the purposes of *Building a Better World* is to stretch CFMers beyond doing charity into finding their place in a world of justice for all.

## Chapter Four

### Working Together--A Family Activity

The reason for this meeting is to explore the concept of the common good. Another key concept of Catholic social thought is that social judgments should be made on the basis of what is best for the whole while at the same time respecting the dignity of the human person. This meeting seeks to illustrate the concept through cooperative play. There are many sites on the Internet which have descriptions of games if you need ideas for other activities. Look for games that stress cooperation over competition.

The ideas in this chapter come from two books: Reichert, Richard. *Simulation Games for Religious Education*. Winona, Minn. St. Mary's College Press, 1975.  
Chesto, Kathleen O'Connell. *Rituals and Icebreakers: Practical Tools for Forming Community*. Kansas City: Sheed & Ward, 1995.

## Chapter Five

### Peace and Security

Peace results from a just society according to Catholic social teaching. The famous quotation illustrative of this comes from Paul VI: "If you want peace, work for justice." This concept is explored from several different angles in this meeting. It may be necessary for leaders to limit the discussion to just one of the various conflicts at work in the world today. The idea that some

conflicts are based in religious differences is implied by Observe #3. The Virtual Religion website of the religion department at Rutgers, [religion.rutgers.edu/vri/index.html](http://religion.rutgers.edu/vri/index.html), should provide good information. It would be reasonable to focus on the area that was most important to the group as a whole.

### These website might provide action ideas:

[www.PaxChristi.net](http://www.PaxChristi.net) (Pax Christi is the international Catholic peace network promoting peace.)  
[www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov)  
[www.friendshipthrougheducation.org](http://www.friendshipthrougheducation.org) An organization which seeks to build friendships across international boundaries through a variety of approaches to student exchange  
[www.ipj-ppi.org](http://www.ipj-ppi.org) The Institute for Peace and Justice in St. Louis. Parenting for Peace and Justice and the Families against Violence Advocacy Network are found here. The Family Pledge Against Violence posted here is a resource to consider for this meeting.  
[www.cair-net.org](http://www.cair-net.org) The Council on American Islamic Relations  
[www.ajc.org](http://www.ajc.org) The American Jewish Committee

## Chapter Six

### The Cry of the Poor

This chapter concentrates on poverty in the US. The next chapter looks at hunger on a global scale.

[www.povertyusa.org](http://www.povertyusa.org) The Catholic Campaign for Human Development runs this website to distribute information about poverty in the United States. View the tour and consider showing it at your meeting if you have the technology available. This is the information referred to in the first Observe question. There are a number of statistics about the face of poverty in the US and a survey about attitudes toward poverty that would present a clear picture of poverty in the US. Some of the information from this website is included in a special section at the end of this document.

### These sites would give some action ideas.

[www.oxfamamerica.org](http://www.oxfamamerica.org) Oxfam America is affiliated with a worldwide charity.  
[www.habitat.org](http://www.habitat.org) Habitat builds houses for the poor on a global basis practicing Gospel economics in that no interest is charged for the purchase of the houses they build.

## Chapter Seven

### A Global Banquet

There are detailed instructions for the "Hunger Banquet" on the Catholic Relief website, [www.catholicrelief.org](http://www.catholicrelief.org) Do a search for Operation Rice Bowl to find detailed instructions "hunger banquet" materials. There are also classroom lesson plans for Operation Rice Bowl available under parish resources.

#### Other information that would be useful for action ideas can be found on these websites:

[www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org) Bread of the World, a Christian organization that works for justice in the area of hunger. Look under Hunger Basics for some information about hunger in the world.  
[www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook](http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook) Information about the countries listed in this activity.  
[www.serrv.org](http://www.serrv.org) International Goods  
[www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org) Is an imaginative organization that deals with poverty and hunger based on the "teach a man to fish" approach. Heifer provides animals to those living in poverty so that they can raise their standard of living.

## Chapter Eight

### One Human Family

This chapter focuses on the idea of solidarity. The Church teaches we have a kinship with peoples of all nations. This puts a human face on the problems of the world. For Observe question #3 an Internet search for the term child labor will bring up many websites or organizations that have this as a concern. One is run by the American Federation of Teachers. The website [www.behindthelabel.org](http://www.behindthelabel.org) can be searched for news stories about labor practices in countries around the world.

#### Other links:

[www.responsibleshopper.com](http://www.responsibleshopper.com) Research on business's adherence to fair trade laws  
[www.fspa.org](http://www.fspa.org) Franciscan Sisters of the Perpetual Adoration, Sister Thea Bowman's religious congregation

## Chapter Nine

### Work of Human Hands

This chapter begins a series of inquiries on aspects of stewardship.

There are several approaches to dealing with the

issue of work. Among them are the spirituality of work, the dignity of work, the rights of workers, and the practices of employers. These must be considered in light of the dignity of the human person and promoting the common good. Again the leader will need to focus in on the topic that is most important to the group members. The CFM website has more on Cardinal Cardijn, [www.cfm.org](http://www.cfm.org).

#### These websites might stimulate action following this meeting.

[www.globalexchange.org](http://www.globalexchange.org) Explore the section on economic rights  
[www.fairlabor.org](http://www.fairlabor.org) Promoting adherence to labor standards  
[www.nlcnet.org](http://www.nlcnet.org) National Labor Commission

## Chapter Ten

### A Simpler Life

The opening of this chapter calls for the singing the song "Simple Gifts." Here are the words:

"Simple Gifts" - Shaker dance song by Elder Joseph Brackett, composed at Alfred, Maine in 1848

'Tis the gift to be simple,  
'tis the gift to be free,  
'tis the gift to come down where you ought to be,  
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,  
It will be in the valley of love and delight.

*Refrain: When true simplicity is gained,  
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed.  
To turn, turn will be our delight,  
'Til by turning, turning we come round right*

Habits of consumption are the focus of Chapter 10. One of the catch phrases heard among people who advocate a simpler life is "Live simply that others may simply live."

[www.globalissues.org/TradeRelated/Consumption.asp](http://www.globalissues.org/TradeRelated/Consumption.asp) Read more about consumerism.  
[www.SimpleLiving.org](http://www.SimpleLiving.org) Alternatives for Simple Living  
[www.CatholicWorker.org](http://www.CatholicWorker.org) The website of the Catholic Worker Movement founded by Dorothy Day.

## Chapter Eleven

### Stewardship of the Earth

Care of the environment is an issue that sparks debate in many sectors. John Paul II has been quite forceful in his connecting our Christian calling to care of the earth. This topic is explored in chapter 11.

[www.ucsusa.org](http://www.ucsusa.org) This website for the Union of Concerned Scientists is a source of reliable information.

[conservation.catholic.org](http://conservation.catholic.org) This is an unusual website devoted to Catholic social teaching on the environment.

[www.arboday.org](http://www.arboday.org) More information about the National Arbor Day Foundation.

## Chapter Twelve

### Caring for God's Creation

These organizations, among others, work in the area of shaping public opinion. The group may choose an action supported by one of these groups or another that is appropriate for your area.

[www.sierraclub.org](http://www.sierraclub.org) The Sierra Club is one of the oldest conservation organizations in America, founded by John Muir.

[www.ran.org](http://www.ran.org) Rainforest Watch

[www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org) The Nature Conservancy works with governments, businesses and individuals to protect habitat around the world.

## **Background information for Chapter 6, The Cry of the Poor**

### **Poverty USA: The State of Poverty in America**

The number of Americans living in poverty grew significantly in 2001, swelling to 32.9 million people - nearly one out of every eight people in the United States, 11.7% of the total population. (U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Sept. 2002.)

America's suburbs and the South experienced the largest increase in poverty; the number of poor people in suburban areas rose to 12 million in 2001, while the South's poverty rate rose to 13.5%, from 12.8% in 2000. (U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Sept. 2002.)

Although poverty touches every area of the U.S., the central cities bear the largest proportion; 13.3 million people, or 40% of America's poor, live in the inner city.

While the Census figures reveal a significant number of Americans living in poverty, many experts feel that the measures used by the federal government drastically underestimate the real scale of poverty in America - primarily because the official poverty thresholds are considered "too low." Many experts believe a more realistic poverty threshold for a family of four would be in the area of \$30,000 a year - and that a more accurate estimate of the poverty rate in America would be 30% of the total population. (Economic Policy Institute, 2001.)

Nine out of ten Americans believe the federal government has a responsibility to alleviate poverty. A strong majority believes that government should do more, not less, to help people move from welfare to work by providing skills needed to be self-sufficient. (Lake, Snell, Perry & Associates, Jan. 2002.)

### **Poverty USA: The Face of Poverty in America**

The number of poor families in America increased by more than 6% over the past year, with 6.8 million families - ten percent - living below the poverty line in 2001. The federal government classified a family of four as "poor" if its cash income was less than \$18,100; for a family of three, the poverty threshold was \$15,020; for a married couple, \$11,940; and for an individual, \$8,860. (U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Sept. 2002; U.S. Health and Human Services, Feb. 2002.)

The number of "severely poor" - those with family

incomes less than half the official poverty level - also grew, increasing by almost 6%, to 13.4 million in 2001. (U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Sept. 2002.)

Nearly 12 million children were living in poverty in 2002 - one out of every six children in America. The number of poor children living in extreme poverty increased, from 4.8 million in 2001 to 5.1 million in 2002. Children still represent the largest population group living in poverty. (U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Sept. 2002.) Minorities continue to experience higher poverty rates than whites:

- 24.5% of American Indians and Alaska Natives (more than three times the rate of whites)
  - 22.7% of African-Americans
  - 21.4% of Hispanics
  - 10.2% for Asians and Pacific Islanders
  - 7.8% of Caucasians
- (U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Sept. 2002.)

### **Poverty USA: The Working Poor**

Twenty-nine percent of working families in the United States with one to three children under age 12 do not earn enough income to afford basic necessities like food, housing, health care and childcare. (Economic Policy Institute, 2001.)

Nearly 40% of America's poor over the age of 16 worked either part-time or full-time in 2001 - yet could not earn enough to secure even the basic necessities of life.

Three out of four children in poverty lived with a family member who worked at least part time. And one out of every three children in poverty lived with someone who worked full-time, year round. (U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Sept. 2002.)

A single parent of two young children working full-time in a minimum wage job for a year would make \$10,712 before taxes - more than \$4,300 below the poverty line. (U.S. Department of Labor; U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, March 2001.)

*Source: povertyusa.org, Catholic Campaign for Human Decelopment*

## **Background information for meeting 7, A Global Banquet**

All statistics are from the CIA World Fact Book 2002

### **Definitions:**

\*The GINI index is a measure of distribution of family income. A lower number indicates more even distribution; a higher number indicates greater inequality of distribution.

\*\* Literacy rate is the percentage of the population age 15 and over that can read and write

### **First World by the Numbers**

#### **Australia**

**Distribution of family income - Gini\* index:** 35 (1994)

**GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity** - \$27,000 (2002 est.)

**Household income or consumption by percent share:** lowest 10%: 2% highest 10%: 25% (1994)

**Literacy\*\*:** 100% male: 100% female 100%

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 0.15% (1999 est.)

**Infant Mortality rate:** 4.9 deaths/1,000 live births (2002 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth:** total population: 80 years female: 83 years (2002 est.) male: 77.15 years

**Labor force - by occupation:** services 73%, industry 22%, agriculture 5% (1997 est.)

**Unemployment rate:** 6.3% (2002)

#### **France**

**GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity** - \$25,700 (2002 est.)

Household income or consumption by percentage share: lowest 10%: 3% highest 10%: 25% (1995)

**Literacy\*\*:** total population: 99% male: 99% female: 99% (1980 est.)

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 0.44% (1999 est.)

**Infant mortality rate:** 4.41 deaths/1,000 live births (2002 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth:** total population: 79.05 years

female: 83.14 years (2002 est.) male: 75.17 years

**Labor force - by occupation:** services 71%, industry 25%, agriculture 4% (1997)

**Unemployment rate:** 9.1% (2002 est.)

#### **Italy**

This capitalistic economy remains divided into a developed industrial north, dominated by private companies, and a less developed agricultural south, with 20% unemployment.

Most raw materials needed by industry and more than 75% of energy requirements are imported.

**GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity** - \$25,000 (2002 est.)

**Distribution of family income - Gini\* index:** 33 (1995)

**Literacy\*\*:** 98% (1998)

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 0.35% (1999 est.)

**Infant mortality rate:** 5.76 deaths/1,000 live births (2002 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth:** total population: 79.25 years female: 82.63 years (2002 est.) male: 76.08 years

#### **Japan**

**Distribution of family income - Gini\* index:** 25 (1993)

**GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity** - \$28,000 (2002 est.)

**Household income or consumption by percentage share:** lowest 10%: 5% highest 10%: 22% (1993)

**Labor force - by occupation:** services 70%, industry 25%, agriculture 5% (2002 est.)

**Unemployment rate:** 5.4% (2002)

**Literacy\*\*:** 99% (1970 est.)

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 0.02% (1999 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth:** total population: 80.91 years female: 84.25 years (2002 est.) male: 77.73 years

**Infant mortality rate:** 3.84 deaths/1,000 live births (2002 est.)

## United States

**GDP per capita** -- \$36,300

**Distribution of family income - Gini\* index:** 41 (1997)

**Household income or consumption by percent share:** lowest 10 %: 2 % highest 10 %: 31 %

**Unemployment** 5 %

**Labor force - by occupation:**

managerial and professional 31%, technical, sales and administrative support 29%, services 14%, manufacturing, mining, transportation, and crafts 24%, farming, forestry, and fishing 2% (2002)

**Population below poverty line:** 13 percent

**Life expectancy at birth:** total population: 77.4 yrs *male:* 74.5 yrs *female:* 80.2 yrs (2002 est.)

Since 1975, practically all the gains in household income have gone to the top 20% of households.

**Literacy\*\*:** *male:* 97% *female:* 97% (1979 est.) *total population:* 97%

## Second World by the Numbers

### Czech Republic

**Household income or consumption by percentage share:** lowest 10%: 4% highest 10%: 22% (1996)

**Distribution of family income - Gini\* index:** 25 (1996)

**Inflation rate (consumer prices):** 2.2% (2002 est.)

**Labor force - by occupation:** agriculture 5%, industry 35%, services 60% (2001 est.)

**Unemployment rate:** 8.5% (2002 est.)

**Literacy:** *total population:* 99.9% (1999 est.)

**Infant mortality rate:** 5.46 deaths/1,000 live births (2002 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth:** *total population:* 74.95 yrs *female:* 78.65 yrs (2002 est.) *male:* 71.46 yrs

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 0.04% (1999 est.)

### Hungary

**GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity** - \$13,300 (2002 est.)

**Distribution of family income - Gini\* index:** 24 (1998)

**Household income or consumption by percentage share:** lowest 10%: 4% highest 10%: 21% (1998)

**Inflation rate (consumer prices):** 5.3% (2002 est.)

**Labor force - by occupation:** services 65%, industry 27%, agriculture 8% (1996) (1996)

**Unemployment rate:** 5.8% (2002 est.)

**Literacy\*\*:** *total population:* 99% *male:* 99% *female:* 98% (1980 est.)

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 0.05% (1999 est.)

**Infant mortality rate:** 8.77 deaths/1,000 live births (2002 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth:** *total population:* 71.9 years *female:* 76.55 years (2002 est.) *male:* 67.55 years

### Poland

**GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity** - \$9,500 (2002 est.)

**Population below poverty line:** 18% (2000 est.)

**Distribution of family income - Gini\* index:** 32 (1998)

**Labor force - by occupation:** industry 22%, agriculture 28%, services 50% (1999)

**Unemployment rate:** 17% (2002 est.)

**Literacy\*\*:** *total population:* 99% *male:* 99% *female:* 98% (1978 est.)

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 0.07% (1999 est.)

**Infant mortality rate:** 9.17 deaths/1,000 live births (2002 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth:** *total population:* 73.66 years *female:* 78.05 years (2002 est.) *male:* 69.52 years

## Russia

**GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity** - \$8,800 (2002 est.)

**Distribution of family income - Gini\* index:** 40 (2000)

**Household income or consumption by percent share:** lowest 10%: 2% highest 10%: 34% (2001 est.)

**Inflation rate (consumer prices):** 16.2% (2002 est.)

**Labor force - by occupation:** agriculture 11%, industry 28%, services 61% (2001 est.)

**Unemployment rate:** 8% (2001 est.), plus considerable underemployment (2002 est.)

**Population below poverty line:** 40% (1999 est.)

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 0.18% (1999 est.)

**Literacy\*\*:** total population: 98% male: 100% female: 97% (1989 est.)

**Infant mortality rate:** 19.78 deaths/1,000 live births (2002 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth:** total population: 67.5 years female: 72.97 years (2002 est.) male: 62.29 years

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 0.18% (1999 est.)

## Third World by the Numbers

### Bolivia

**GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity** - \$2,600 (2001 est.)

**Distribution of family income - Gini\* index:** 59 (1997)

**Population below poverty line:** 70% (1999 est.)

**Household income or consumption by percentage share:**

lowest 10%: 1%, highest 10%: 46% (1997)

**Infant mortality rate** -- 57.52 deaths/1,000 live births (2002 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth:** total population: 64.42 years female: 67.1 years (2002 est.), male: 61.86 years

**Literacy\*\*:** total population: 83.1%, male: 90.5%, female: 76% (1995 est.)

### Cameroon

**GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity** - \$1,700 (2001 est.)

**Population below poverty line:** 48% (2000 est.)

**Unemployment rate:** 30% (2001 est.) **Labor force - by occupation:** agriculture 70%, industry and commerce 13%, other 17%

**Infant mortality rate:** 68.79 deaths/1,000 live births (2002 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth:** total population: 54.36 yrs, female: 55.23 yrs (2002 est.), male: 53.51 yrs

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 7.73% (1999 est.)

**Literacy \*\*:** total population: 63.4%, male: 75%, female: 52.1% (1995 est.)

### Ethiopia

**Distribution of family income - Gini\* index:** 40 (1995)

4.6 million people need food assistance annually.

**Population below poverty line:** 64% (1996)

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 10.63% (1999 est.)

**Infant mortality rate:** 98.63 deaths/1,000 live births (2002 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth:** total population: 44.21 years female: 45.09 years (2002 est.) male: 43.36 years

**Literacy\*\*:** total population: 35.5% male: 45.5% female: 25.3% (1995 est.)

### Haiti

**GDP - per capita purchasing power parity** - \$1,700 (2001 est.)

About 80% of the population lives in abject poverty.

More than two-thirds of the labor force do not have formal jobs (2001)

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 5.17% (1999 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth:** total population: 49.55 years female: 51.29 years (2002 est.) male: 47.88 years

**Literacy\*\*:** total population: 45%, male: 48%, female: 42.2% (1995 est.)

## Peru

**GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity** - \$4,800 (2001 est.)

**Distribution of family income - Gini\* index:** 46 (1996)

**Household income or consumption by percentage share:**

lowest 10%: 2% highest 10%: 35% (1996) (1996) **Unemployment rate:** 9%; widespread underemployment (2001 est.)

**Population below poverty line:** 50% (2000 est.)

**Infant mortality rate:** 38.18 deaths/1,000 live births (2002 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth: total population:** 70.59 years *female:* 73.12 years (2002 est.) *male:* 68.18 years

**Literacy\*\*:** total population: 88.3%, *male:* 94.5%, *female:* 83% (1995 est.)

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 0.35% (1999 est.)

## Rwanda

**GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity** - \$1,000 (2001 est.)

**Distribution of family income - Gini\* index:** 29 (1983-85 )

**Population below poverty line:** 70% (2000 est.)

**Household income or consumption by percent share:** lowest 10%: 4% highest 10%: 24% (1983-85)

**Infant mortality rate:** 117.79 deaths/1,000 live births (2002 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth: total population:** 38.66 years *female:* 39.2 years (2002 est.) *male:* 38.14 years

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 11.21% (1999 est.)

**Literacy\*\*:** total population: 48% *male:* 52% *female:* 45% (1995 est.)

## Senegal

**GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity** - \$1,580 (2001 est.)

**Household income or consumption by percentage share:** lowest 10%: 1% highest 10%: 43% (1991)

**Distribution of family income - Gini\* index:** 41 (1995)

**Literacy\*\*:** total population: 39.1% *male:* 51.1% *female:* 28.9% (2001 est.)

**Infant mortality rate:** 55.41 deaths/1,000 live births (2002 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth: total population:** 62.93 yrs *female:* 64.61 yrs (2002 est.) *male:* 61.29 yrs

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 1.4% (2001 est.)

**GDP - composition by sector:** agriculture: 19% industry: 21% services: 61% (2000 est.)

**Population below poverty line:** 54% (2001 est.)

## Tajikistan

**GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity** - \$1,140 (2001 est.)

**Unemployment rate:** 20% (2001 est.)

**Inflation rate (consumer prices):** 33% (2001 est.)

Tajikistan has the lowest per capita GDP among the 15 former Soviet republics.

80% of its people continue to live in abject poverty

Servicing of the debt, owed principally to Russia and Uzbekistan, could require as much as 50% of government revenues in 2002.

**Literacy\*\*:** total population: 98% *male:* 99% *female:* 97% (1989 est.)

**Infant mortality rate:** 114.77 deaths/1,000 live births (2002 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth: total population:** 64.28 yrs *female:* 67.46 yrs (2002 est.) *male:* 61.24 yrs

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** less than 0.01% (1999 est.)