

Factsheet: *Fixing the Broken Promise of Education for All*

Out-of-school children of primary school age

- 58 million primary school-age children (9%) are denied the right to education. Of these, 25 million will probably never enter school if current trends continue.
- *Sub-Saharan Africa*: About 33 million children (18 million girls) are out of school, down from 44 million (24 million girls) in 2000. One-third of the global number of out-of-school children live in West and Central Africa. Here more than 1 in 4 children (31% of all girls and 23% of all boys) are excluded from education.
- *South Asia*: Almost 10 million children (about 5 million girls) are out of school, down from 33 million (22 million girls) in 2000. This accounts for the biggest regional decrease in the number of out-of-school children.
- *Rest of world*: More than 15 million children (about 8 million girls) are out of school, down from 23 million (13 million girls) in 2000. The number of out-of-school children has slightly increased in Latin America and the Caribbean and in Western Europe, North America and Australasia by a combined total of 1 million.
- There has been virtually no progress in reducing the global rate and number of out-of-school children since 2007. The stagnation is due in part to the rapid population growth in sub-Saharan Africa.

Out-of-school adolescents of lower secondary school age

- About 63 million adolescents of lower secondary school age (17% of 12- to 15-year-olds) are out of school. While adolescents are fewer in number, they are nearly twice as likely to be out of school as children of primary school age.
- The global reduction to 63 million (down from 97 million in 2000) is largely the result of progress in *East Asia and the Pacific*, where their number fell by more than two-thirds since 2000 from 25 million to 7 million and *South Asia* (from 37 million to 26 million). This decrease is largely due to progress made in China and Indonesia.
- *Sub-Saharan Africa*: Since 2000, the number of out-of-school adolescents has barely moved from 22 million (12 million girls). West and Central Africa is the only region in the world where the number has grown, from 11 million to nearly 13 million since 2000. The increase is a direct consequence of high population growth.