

# The Big Picture:

**An In-Depth Look at 25 Countries for CEF Outreach**



Since 1937

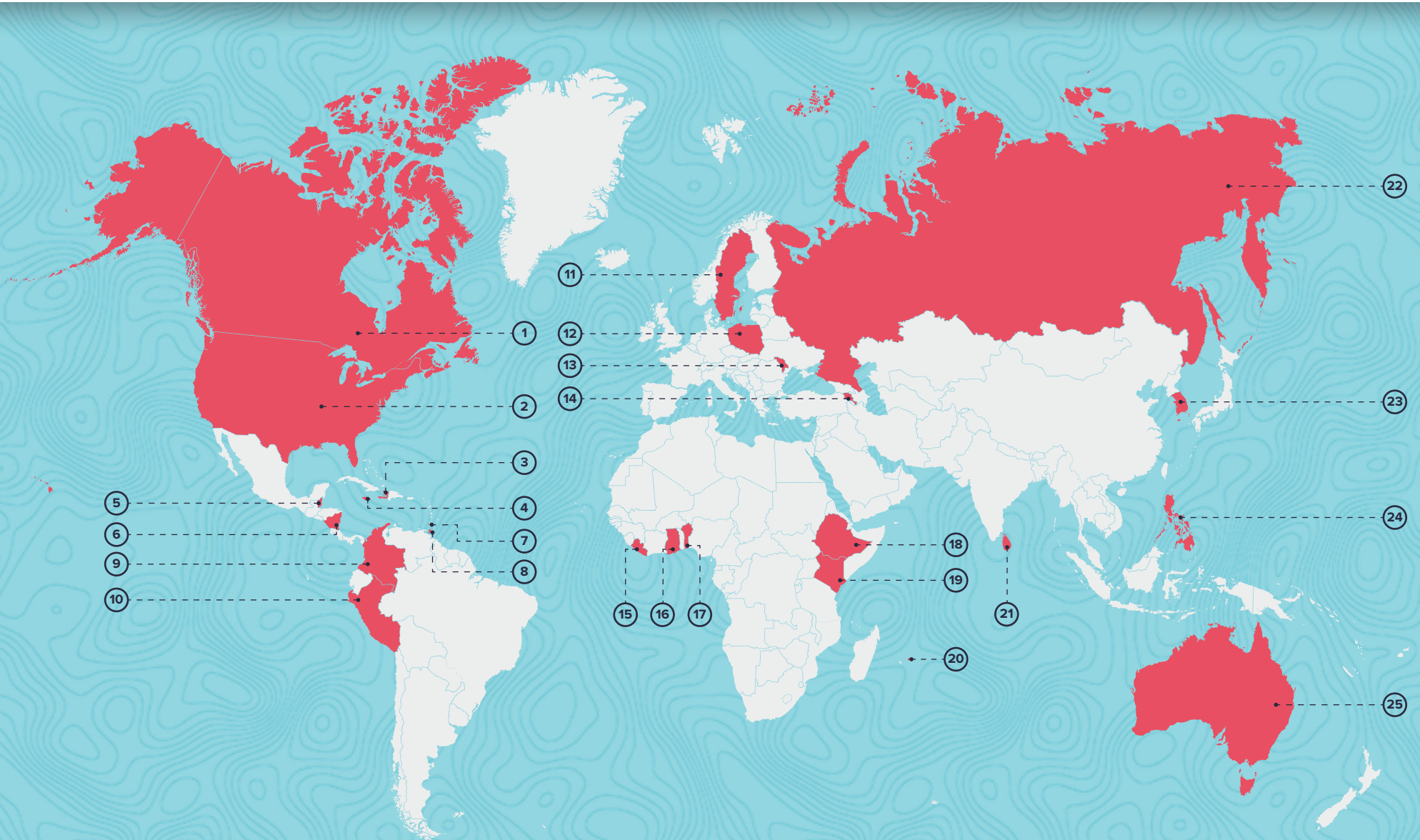
**CEF**  
CHILD EVANGELISM  
FELLOWSHIP®

*Reaching children worldwide®*



At CEF, our mission is to reach Every Child, Every Nation, Every Day . . . until all children have heard the Good News of the Gospel. We want to give you a background of what life looks like for these children in 25 select countries. Be sure to follow along in your email where you'll receive a new story from each of these countries and a snapshot of the work CEF is doing there.

- |                  |              |             |               |                 |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. Canada        | 6. Nicaragua | 11. Sweden  | 16. Ghana     | 21. Sri Lanka   |
| 2. United States | 7. Grenada   | 12. Poland  | 17. Benin     | 22. Russia      |
| 3. Haiti         | 8. Trinidad  | 13. Moldova | 18. Ethiopia  | 23. South Korea |
| 4. Jamaica       | 9. Colombia  | 14. Armenia | 19. Kenya     | 24. Philippines |
| 5. Belize        | 10. Peru     | 15. Liberia | 20. Mauritius | 25. Australia   |





# Canada

**2,046**

NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED

**88**

NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED

**23.6K**

CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL

*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Canada is the second largest country in the world by total area, covering 3.85 million square miles as it extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific and northward into the Arctic Ocean. Overall, it's sparsely populated, with the majority of its inhabitants living in urban areas, many near the southern border.

Canada is one of the most educated countries in the world and ranks first world-wide with the number of adults having a post-secondary education. Canada has no official church, and the government is officially committed to religious pluralism. The practice of religion is generally considered a private matter, and the majority of Canadians consider religion to be unimportant in their daily lives.





# United States

**37.7K**

NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED

**6,081**

NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED

**717K**

CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL

*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

The United States is the third most populated country in the world. It is a highly developed country and has the world's largest economy as measured by gross domestic product. Though its population is only 4.3% of the world total, the United States holds 33.4% of the total wealth in the world, the largest share of global wealth concentrated in a single country. It's the foremost military power in the world, making up a third of global military spending, and is a leading political, cultural, and scientific force internationally.



# Haiti

**945**

NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED

**197**

NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED

**37.5K**

CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL

*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Once a very wealthy country over two centuries ago, Haiti is now among one of the poorest countries in the world as well as one of the most corrupt. Because of its position in the Caribbean over a major blind thrust fault, the country is greatly affected by natural disasters. In 2010 a major 7.0 magnitude earthquake significantly damaged Haiti's infrastructure and economy.

The majority of the population lives on less than \$2 per day. And of the 10 million people that make up the small country, over half are under the age of 20.



# Jamaica

**350**

NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED

**151**

NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED

**76.2K**

CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL

*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Discovered by Christopher Columbus in the 16th century, Jamaica was ruled by Britain up until 1962 when they gained their independence. This drew a number of immigrants to the beautiful island but was followed by corruption and violence in the 1970s.

Half of Jamaica's economy is supported by tourism. However high unemployment encourages drug trade and violence. Jamaica's positioning in the Atlantic Ocean Hurricane Belt has also affected their economy significantly over the years.





# Belize

**31**NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED**25**NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED**7,162**CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

The country of Belize places a high emphasis on education for their children, even though they have one of the lowest literacy rates in the Western Hemisphere. Part of this is attributed to the large income gap between rich and poor.

Belize has the highest HIV/AIDS rate in all of Central America, in addition to many food and waterborne diseases. The people of this country are greatly impacted by these diseases and poor quality of health care.





# Nicaragua

**538**

NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED

**633**

NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED

**41.9K**

CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL

*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

This country has seen unrest for many decades, but it's most well known for the 1970s Marxist Sandinista guerrillas that operated the country through much of the 1980s. Despite the violence and corruption over many decades, Nicaragua is one of the safest countries in Latin America.

This small country has placed a big emphasis on education and has a large number of post-secondary institutions that provide specialized areas of education that promote economic development, such as electronics and computer systems.



# Grenada

**43**

NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED

**9**

NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED

**273**

CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL

*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Grenada is known as the “Island of Spice” for its large production of spices, providing 20% of the world’s supply. This small island in the Caribbean Sea is also known for its natural beauty.

Strong production in the areas of construction and manufacturing, paired with a growing revenue from tourism, has helped the country place a higher emphasis on its education system for children.



# Trinidad

**306**

NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED

**61**

NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED

**19.3K**

CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL

*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Unlike many other Caribbean countries, Trinidad is recognized by the World Bank as one of the highest income countries in the Western Hemisphere due to its production of petroleum and petrochemicals.

As a result, they have a very well-developed communication sector, bringing in almost \$1 billion dollars annually to the country's economy. The country also has a state-owned airline, Caribbean Airlines, voted the best airline to fly in the Caribbean.





# Colombia

**709**NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED**217**NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED**51K**CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Colombia is one of the world's most ecologically diverse countries, with Pacific and Caribbean coastlines, as well as tropical grasslands and Amazon rainforests. It is also home to some of the most prolific literature writers in all of Latin America.

Despite the drug trade that wreaked havoc on the country well into the 1990s, the economy has grown significantly due to production of things like oil and coffee. The country is rich in many natural resources that are exported throughout North and South America.



## Peru

**305**NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED**10**NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED**2,889**CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Since it democratically elected its first president in 2006 after decades of military rule, Peru has turned its position around to be one of the most successful and economically strong countries in all of Latin America. Both the healthcare and educational systems have slowly improved, yet many poor children still receive inadequate education.

It remains one of the world's fastest growing economies with one of the most biodiverse countries in the world, vertically extending from the Andes Mountains to the Amazon Forest.



# Sweden

**27**NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED**2**NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED**173**CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Sweden is one of the most northern European countries, with portions of it touching the Arctic Circle. It maintains a strong economy and educational and health care systems. However, because of the large number of immigrants who've migrated there in recent years, student test scores have dropped more than any other European country.

Sexual liberalism is increasing in Sweden, and it has extremely liberal laws toward gender neutrality and homosexual marriage. Cohabitation is on the rise from teenagers to elderly couples with overall marriages decreasing in recent years.





# Poland

**50**NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED**28**NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED**4,014**CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Located in central Europe, just east of Germany, it's largest trading partner. The country's population is quite large, although has been diminishing due to many people leaving in search of better job opportunities and wages in places like Germany, The United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States.

It is a largely homogeneous population with over 96% of people identifying Polish as their ethnicity. As one of the most religious countries in Europe, majority of the population claim Catholicism as their religious, while just 52% of the population actually practices it.

Hospitals are prevalent and education is readily available to everyone.



# Moldova

**602**

NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED

**61**

NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED

**14.9K**

CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL

*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Most of modern-day Moldova became a province of the Russian empire in 1812, until the end of World War I when it unified with Romania. After World War II, this territory merged with the Soviet Union until Moldova declared independence in 1991. This has resulted in a multi-ethnic makeup that has caused some tension and unrest, especially among the identity of its citizens and the primary language spoken.

Moldova is one of the poorest countries in Europe with over 20% of the population living below poverty. In 2014, Moldova joined the European Union in hopes of improving its economy, which relies heavily on agriculture. High crime rates, corrupt police, and human trafficking plague the population, and alcohol consumption is high among its citizens.



# Armenia

**529**NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED**590**NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED**25.3K**CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Armenia is the world's first country to formally adopt Christianity as its official religion. However, much of Armenia's history is overshadowed by the genocide that took place during the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, where over 1 million Armenian lives were taken by the hands of the government.

Conflict arose yet again in the 1980s between Armenia and Azerbaijan over the possession of the Nagorno-Karabakh region, which has greatly impacted the economies of both countries. To this day, Armenia has only two open trade borders due to this ongoing conflict. These limited trade options have left Armenia particularly vulnerable to economic challenges.

Armenia has a largely homogeneous population with strong family-oriented core values and very hospitable citizens.





# Liberia

**741**NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED**180**NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED**12.9K**CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Liberia began as a settlement of freed American slaves between 1822 and 1847. The settlement declared its independence from the United States in 1847, becoming Africa's first modern republic. But its independence was not recognized by the United States until 1862, during the American Civil War.

Corruption is rampant in the Liberian government and poses a major issue to the Liberian people. It is one of the poorest nations in the world with high rates of unemployment and illiteracy. In addition to poor education, health is a major concern with a high rate of infectious disease and many food and waterborne illnesses. Girls in the rural bush schools often must undergo tribal rituals that include female genitalia mutilation, which affects two-thirds of women and girls in the area.



# Ghana

**3,742**NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED**995**NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED**449K**CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Ghana has a population of 27.5 million people, over half of which are under the age of 25. It is an impoverished country that is very vulnerable to drought and floods with little access to transportation, markets, and fertile farming land. Poor health care and high rates of infectious diseases plague the population, as well as a high mortality rate due to AIDS infection.

Most of Ghana's economy is built on agriculture and market-based business, with very few barriers to trade. Ghana is also flush with natural resources like gold and oil. However, many of Ghana's healthcare and education professionals have emigrated to other countries in search of a better life, leaving Ghana to its disparities.



# Benin

**1,547**

NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED

**353**

NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED

**27K**

CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL

*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Benin is a small country in West Africa tucked between Nigeria and Togo. In this culture where more than half the population earns less than \$1 a day, families have very little resources.

These high rates of poverty, unemployment, and increased costs of living drive more and more natives to migrate to other West African countries. Nearly 40% of the country's population lives in poverty, which drives families to send their children to work as servants in wealthy households or be sold into voodoo convents for as little as \$8. Although it's been abolished, attending school used to come with a fee and has resulted in one of the lowest literacy rates in the world with less than 40% of the population being able to read or write.





# Ethiopia

**23.8K**NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED**4,455**NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED**311K**CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Ethiopia is populated by over 105 million people. The steady increase in population has put a great strain on the region's natural resources and has left the people vulnerable to famine and drought. Over 40% of the population is under the age of 15, and most of the population live in rural areas where poverty is rampant. Education is becoming more accessible, but even still, over half of the population remains unable to read or write.

Human rights pose a huge issue to the people. Infants and children who are born with physical deformities are believed to be ritually impure and will bring evil upon other people, often resulting in their murder. Many young girls are also subjected to female genitalia mutilation. Disease, malnutrition, and poor sanitation pose a major health risk, and the lack of doctors and medical professionals exacerbates the problem.



# Kenya

**8,419**NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED**636**NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED**1.6M**CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Kenya lies on the equator in east Africa. The capital city of Nairobi is home to one of the largest slums in the world.

Despite its diverse agricultural economy, many Kenyans go hungry and rely on food aid. Agricultural business in Kenya is very inefficient and underdeveloped. Poverty is rampant, and many Kenyans live on less than \$2 per day. Education is not easily accessible, and child labor is prevalent. It's estimated that 30% of young girls work as prostitutes.

Disease is widespread and good health care is also hard to come by as many lay-people open unlicensed medical practices.



# Mauritius

**55**

NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED

**62**

NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED

**1,559**

CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL

*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Mauritius, a small, tropical island off the coast of Madagascar, is known as one of the most business-friendly environments on the entire continent of Africa. Its main religion is Hindu, and its well known for its stable democracy, economic and political freedoms, and positive human rights actions. The population is highly diverse in ethnicity, languages, cultures, and religions. There are no indigenous people in Mauritius.

Education is free and easily accessible, leading to a high literacy rate.





# Sri Lanka

**1,975**

NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED

**1,258**

NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED

**41.6K**

CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL

*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Sri Lanka is an island south of India in the Indian Ocean with a population of over 22 million people. Because the land is small and it's an island nation, the population is dense. Sri Lanka is very ethnically and culturally diverse. There is no official religion, but most people practice Buddhism, Hinduism, and Islam.

Disease is common, and 26% of children are underweight. Suicide rates are high due to poverty and high stress environments. Government corruption is a major problem and has led to a lot of criticism from human rights groups. Child marriage is commonplace in Sri Lanka. Muslim girls can be married at the age of 12 or even younger if approved by a judge.





# Russia

**39.6K**NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED**2,572**NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED**241K**CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Russia, the largest country in the world, has a population of over 142 million people and accounts for nearly one eighth of the earth's land. Russia had the 12th largest economy in the world. Corruption is rampant and costs the nation a lot of money in lost taxes from people hiding their incomes.

Russia has a largely native Russian population, but does have a bit of ethnic diversity as well with over 100 languages spoken within the country. Health care is free to the Russian people; however the Russian financial crisis has put a huge strain on the industry and caused a lot of cuts in health spending. Medical facilities are severely understaffed, and people are now having to pay for some services.



# South Korea

**44.5K**

NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED

**3,070**

NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED

**296K**

CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL

*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

In 1945 Korea divided into North and South territories. South Korea has since developed its own unique culture. It's a mostly homogeneous population with little ethnic or cultural diversity.

Education is highly valued by the South Korean people. It's one of the world's mostly highly educated nations especially in literacy, math, and science. Higher education is considered a major foundation of South Korean life and is a major consideration when determining one's social status and even marital prospects.

South Korea has a very high suicide rate, particularly among teens, and is often attributed to the competitive educational pressures placed on students.



# Philippines

**8,253**

NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED

**8,708**

NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED

**1.5M**

CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL

*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

The Philippines is located in the Pacific Ocean in southeast Asia. It's comprised of 7,641 islands, and it's geographic location makes it vulnerable to earthquakes and typhoons.

A few years ago, healthcare spending was very low at around only \$7 per person, which has led to many medical professionals going overseas in search for work. Poverty is fairly common, especially in the southern Philippines.

Filipino culture is very conservative and has strong beliefs against divorce and abortion. However, half the children born in the Philippines every year are born to young, unwed mothers. Because of the strong stigma in the culture of being an unwed mother, many of these women end up resorting to prostitution.





# Australia

**221**NUMBER OF  
TEACHERS TRAINED**17**NUMBER OF GOOD NEWS  
CLUBS® ESTABLISHED**1,921**CHILDREN PRESENTED  
WITH THE GOSPEL*Ministry Statistics from 2017.*

Australia is the driest inhabited continent. Because of this, it faces a lot of climate and environmental difficulties. Australian culture is largely based on British culture. There is no official state religion, but many Australians identify as Christian, Catholic, or having no religion at all.

Australia is plagued by an array of health issues. It has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world, and many of its citizens smoke and are overweight.