

GUATEMALA – EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Guatemala is a country in Central America where the majority of the population is indigenous. The country's social and economic situation is marked by serious problems, particularly a significant increase in poverty, specifically among the rural and indigenous population.

In 2014, the country is ranked 125th out of 187 countries in the United Nation Development Programme report (UNDP).



Demographic characteristics

Population	15,082,800
Population under 18 years of age	7,174,000
Percentage of rural population	49.8%
Life expectancy at birth	71.8 ans

Source: UNICEF 2012



In Guatemala, the educational system is based on the Spanish-language culture and certain urban realities; the system does not sufficiently take into account the needs of the indigenous and rural population.

Some rural areas lack any form of educational structure, and the course material does not consider realities of the bilingual and intercultural nature of the majority of the population. As a result, in certain regions, close to 80% of the indigenous population cannot read nor write.

Data related to education

Enrolment rate in primary	98%
Rate of children reaching the last year of primary school	68%
Literacy rate among young men (15 - 24 years)	89.3%
Literacy rate among young women (15 – 24 years)	85.6%
Literacy rate for adults	75.9%

Source: UNICEF 2008-2012

Enfants du Monde, in collaboration with local partners, is committed to improving school enrolment rates and to improve the quality of education, in order to respond better to local needs.