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15 million children have lost one or both parents to AIDS.

Many of them are losing out on an education.

AIDS is forcing children in developing countries to abandon school to care for sick loved ones and provide for their families. AIDS related illness and death pushes families further into poverty and deprives children of their basic right to an education.

Today is **World AIDS Day**. All over the world people are reflecting on the fight against HIV and AIDS. Ireland is a leader in the global response to HIV and AIDS.

Irish Aid works with community groups and governments in developing countries and international partners to ensure access to education at all levels for the poorest and most vulnerable children, including those affected by HIV and AIDS.

Find out more about what Irish Aid is doing on your behalf on www.irishaid.gov.ie

Figures quoted are UNICEF estimates, 2007