



Case Study: Eduardo

Eduardo, 12, from Angola, now goes to school. But he's lucky – for most of his life he couldn't go to school because of the war in his country.

'When my school began we first met outdoors under a tree. At school we study maths and Portuguese, the national language of Angola,' he says.



Eduardo from Angola

'The sun made my eyes hurt and when it rained we either ran home or waited under the branches for it to stop. It's not very good when you and all your notebooks get wet. I prefer to study inside.'

'Thankfully all the people in my village worked together and we built a school because we really needed a roof and some shade. I was proud to get involved with building my school.'

'Before we moved to this village I lived in the forest with my family. We were always running and trying to escape from the war. We didn't have any food, shelter, blankets, tents – nothing. We lived like that for one or two years and soldiers would chase us. One time we hid in the river to escape.'

'I didn't like living like that because I was afraid I was going to die and I was always hungry. We had to scavenge for food and whenever we heard there was any cassava (a bit like sweet potato) nearby we would start walking to that place and digging for the roots to eat. I was so happy when the war finished because we could leave the forest.'

'The first time I came to school was when we moved to this village. I hope to continue with my studies and eventually go to the grown up school in Mavinga, a nearby town. When I finish school I'd like to be a teacher or a driver. I'd love to be able to drive my parents back to their home village.'

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75 million children are missing out on an education