

# World Food Crisis

## A Divided World

**Aim:** That young people will understand how the worlds' food is divided globally and how this inequality impacts on people's rights.

**Time:** 30 minutes

**You need:** Paper and pens. 30 bananas to represent food.

### **Instructions:**

- Around the room stick up 7 sheets of paper with one of the countries/ continents below written on each sheet.
- Explain that the group represent all of the millions of people living in the world. Ask three volunteers to guess how many people should stand beside the various sheets and to divide the group accordingly.
- Now divide the group according the figures in the next page, which reflect the relative break down of the world's population.
- The leader now displays the food divided into 30 pieces and explains that this represents all the food in the world. Each country/ continent group must now decide how much of the worlds food, i.e. how many of the 30 bananas their country/ continent gets in reality.
- They then feed back their guess to the whole group.
- Now the real division is make as indicated below, e.g. China gets 4 bananas, Asia gets 1 and a half bananas, and so on.

### **Discussion suggestions:**

- Think about the way food is divided globally. Do you think this is fair?
- Do people have the right to food? What if they can't afford it?
- Who is responsible for ensuring this right?
- If you didn't have enough food, how would this affect you?

This game is sourced from 'The Rights Stuff!', an education resource on the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child 1998. Therefore although the figures below may not be an accurate reflection of the current statistics, the inequity in food distribution continues to be a recurrent theme.

<b>Country</b>	<b>World populations (for a group of 30)</b>	<b>World populations (for a group of 20)</b>	<b>The number of bananas for each group</b>
<b>China</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Asia</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1 ½</b>
<b>Russia</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5 ½</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8 ½</b>
<b>Africa</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>½</b>
<b>North America</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8 ½</b>
<b>South America</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1 ½</b>