

## Press Release FXB International

### Your Voice is their Future 8th World AIDS Orphans Day, May 7

**Geneva, 5th May 2009** - In 2002, FXB International founded World AIDS Orphans Day to draw attention to the plight of millions of children orphaned and made vulnerable by AIDS around the world. Every May 7th, FXB and a coalition of advocates raise awareness of the plight of these children.

In 2007, UNAIDS officially estimated that 15 million children worldwide had been orphaned by AIDS. They are the just the tip of the iceberg, as millions more children have been orphaned due to other causes and of millions of vulnerable children, who drift away from civilization. Not helping them is the same as not raising a whole generation of children and future adults. Join our pledge by asking **governments to direct at least 10% of their overall HIV and AIDS funding to support AIDS orphans and vulnerable children.**

The needs of children affected by AIDS are neglected. Despite progress in funding, preventing and treating AIDS, we are ignoring the basic needs of millions of vulnerable children:

- Global political commitment and resources are insufficient.
- Poor families are supporting affected children with minimal assistance, including from their governments.
- 90% of the more than 2 million children living with HIV are infected before or during birth. Yet only one in three pregnant women with HIV in low- and middle-income countries receive the treatment they need to help prevent infection of their babies.

Few resources are reaching the families and communities that provide the front-line response, even though they provide the vast majority of care and support to orphaned and vulnerable children. A generation will be lost if we do not take urgent measures to support the basic rights of children, and the families and communities that care for them. We can fight AIDS if we organize a long-term response supported by strong political will.

**About FXB:** This 8th World AIDS Orphans Day also marks the 20th anniversary of FXB International, which was founded in 1989 by Albina du Boisrouvray to assist AIDS orphans and vulnerable children through community programs designed to foster lasting socio-economic development. In 20 years, 800,000 children in over 20 countries have benefited from FXB International's programs.

FXB has developed a global intervention strategy that allows these children, and the communities that raise them, to advance out of poverty permanently. FXB methodology is based on the community and encourages a constant dialogue with the population.

Approximately 95% of children orphaned by AIDS live with extended family. From there, FXB has established an original and effective concept of participative, economic and social development: the "FXB-Village". Composed of a network of 80 to 100 families (500 beneficiaries) directly affected by poverty and AIDS, this program allows the beneficiaries to pursue economic and social empowerment within three years and to reintegrate into society orphans and vulnerable children through the income-generating activities (farming, cultivation, petty trade), which allows to reach a stable and sufficient income to support families. Simultaneously, FXB supports beneficiaries until autonomy by investing for the quality and their access to health, medical, educational and economic services.

For Albina du Boisrouvray, Founder and President of FXB International, "this day gives a visibility, a voice to a dropped generation, dropped because it does not vote and does not buy and does not count in the global game. Alone we can nothing, together we can everything. "

[www.fxb.org](http://www.fxb.org)

[www.worldaidsorphans.org](http://www.worldaidsorphans.org)

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