Which Countries Should We Loan To?

Microlending allows people like you and me to make a difference in our world by helping people who are living in poverty to start businesses, improve their homes, or send their children to school. Before we can be responsible lenders, though, we need to know a few things about the current conditions in the countries that we are interested in supporting.

Using the If It Were My Home website (www.ifitweremyhome.com), fill out the following table to learn more about four countries that you might want to make loans to.

Criteria	Country:	Country:	Country:	Country:
How much money does the average person make in this country?				
How long does the average person live in this country?				
What are the chances that you would be unemployed if you lived in this country?				
How much money does this country spend on health care?				
How likely is it that you or your child would die in infancy if you lived in this country?				
What is one more interesting fact about this country?				

REPRODUCIBLE

Working in your small group, consider the following questions.				
Of all of the statistics you collected, which one stands out the most? Which one is the most surprising? Shocking? Why? Which one leaves you wondering, and what does it leave you wondering about?				
Based on the information you collected, which country should we concentrate on loaning our money to? Why?				
Is there any other information you'd like to have before making a decision about where we should loan our money? Why would having that information help you to make a better decision?				