ACTION PROJECT PLANNER



CONCERN worldwide

ACTION PLANNER

Welcome to Concern's Action Planner, the one stop shop for both teachers and young people about to embark on an Action Project.

If groups successfully complete an action and send details to Concern Worldwide (details p9) we will send a certificate to each person involved and invite them to speak at our Agents of Change event in March. Agents of Change is a fantastic opportunity for young people to speak about or present their journey into activism while meeting likeminded students. Young activists attending Agents of Change will also have the opportunity to meet with Concern staff and discuss their action projects.

In this resource you will find **simple planning techniques** to get you started on your activism journey and also **4 sample Action Projects** on the following themes which relate to the work of Concern Worldwide:



What kinds of actions are included in this resource?

We have step by step guides on how to run a variety of actions such as Peer to Peer workshops, art displays and campaigns.

Who is this resource for?

- CSPE classes looking for ideas on how to kick-start their action projects
- TY groups
- Politics and Society students
- Anyone interested in making real change in the world!

Will we get an acknowledgement from Concern on our project?

YES! Each student will receive a certificate stating they are an Agent of Change and be invited to present their project at Concern's Agents of Change event in March. We ask that projects are based around the SDGs and have a focus on developing countries.

What will happen at the Agents of Change Event?

Concern's Agents of Change event is an opportunity for young people to present the action projects they have under taken to their peers and Concern staff. Each group will get roughly five minutes to speak about their activities and take questions from the audience. Students will also have the chance to display their projects and network with like minded young activists.

We are struggling to find information for our project. Where should we look?

Concern has a variety of easy to use resources which can be found here www.concern.net/get-involved/schools/resources Our staff is also on hand at schools@concern.net to help you and may be available to visit your school and facilitate a workshop on your chosen theme.

Why should I embark on an action project?

- To raise awareness of an issue people may not know about
- Get people on board to help your cause
- Make a real and lasting change about a pressing issue
- Highlight an issue to politicians, community or business leaders
- Because the world needs Active Citizens!

What are the Sustainable Development Goals?

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals will mobilize efforts around the world to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change by 2030, while ensuring that no one is left behind.
www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment

How do we get started?

- Find some like-minded people
- Decide how often your group will meet to discuss your action project and ask your teacher if there is a space you can use
- Decide on your theme (Hunger, Poverty, Climate Change etc)
- Check out the Planning Template below to help you get started!
- Delegate tasks to your group. Check out our Delegation list to help you!

NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL COMMITTED CITIZENS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD; INDEED IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS

Margaret Mead,
American anthropologist



ACTION PROJECT PLANNING CYCLE

PHASE 1
Agree the theme and type of action

What are key problems we have identified?

Who are we going to target? Young people? Teachers? Politicians? Community?

Plan your actions. How many actions are achievable and realistic?

PHASE 2
Create Change
Do the action

Carry out your activity

Highlight your successes or difficulties

PHASE 3
Time to Reflect
Evaluate the action

Review the journey

What did you achieve? How many people did you reach? Have they committed to take on your action?

Attend Agents of Change event and present your action project to Concern and your peers!

Where are we going to find research on our topic?

ACTION



Concern worldwide

ACTION PLANNER

Types of Action you can take:

Action Projects really should live up to their name – i.e. that you take an action and DO something that creates awareness and makes a positive change.

Below are some sample actions you could take.

- Survey
- Peer to peer workshop in your school
- Art Display
- Article in local paper
- Fundraiser
- Contact local TD or MEP
- Poster Campaign
- Animated video link
- Social media campaign – snapchat story, instagram story, take over of the school social media accounts
- Stop motion video
- Presentation to school staff or at an assembly
- Create a Drama
- Research ‘protest’ songs
- Host a Fashion show
- Quiz – Really good way to evaluate learning after a workshop or talk!

GETTING STARTED

ACTION PLANNER

Below are some simple questions for your group to fill in. They will give you an insight into how to start your project and what you can realistically achieve.

Which Sustainable Development Goal are you going to explore? What is the local and global aspect?

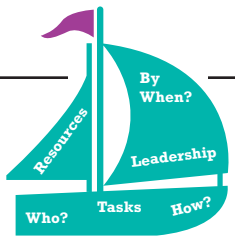
What change do you want to make?

Who will you target? (Young people, local community, TDs, teachers)

What information do people need to know about your chosen goal?

What is the best way to communicate your information to your chosen audience? Social media, Art Display, Drama etc?

Who do you need to have on board for the project to be successful?
How will you get them on board?



Name the people on your team and their responsibilities. Example: Sinead: project leader, Cian: researcher, Isabel: social media etc.

What could throw you off course? What issues could you encounter that would halt your project?

What resources do you need to make your plan happen?

OUR SKILLS

ACTION PLANNER

Who on your team has been involved in an action project or campaign before?

What lessons did they learn?

Who is a confident public speaker?

Are there any artists on your team?

Are there any musicians on your team?

Who is particularly skilled when using social media?

ACTION PROJECT TASK TRACKER

One of the problems many groups face is a breakdown in communication. Often times you will hear a group member say “oh I thought you were going to do that” or “I didn’t know the action was planned for *this* Tuesday”. By filling in the task tracker everyone will have a clear idea of who is doing what, to who, by when as well as the skills needed for a successful action.

Task	By who	By When	Target Audience

Skills

Task	By who	By When	Target Audience

Skills

Task	By who	By When	Target Audience

Skills

Task	By who	By When	Target Audience

Skills

Want to share the findings of your project?

Want to meet like-minded young people?

Want to speak with Concern Worldwide staff?

Attend Concern's Agents of Change event in March!

Scan and complete the application form below and ask your teacher to email it to **schools@concern.net** A Concern staff member will be in touch about attending our exclusive event for young activists!

AGENTS OF CHANGE

SCAN ME

Action Project Title:

SDGs focused on in project:

School name and address:

School Roll Number:

Year (i.e 1st/ 2nd):

Teacher name:

Teacher (email, phone number):

Number of group members:

Age range of group members:

Did you receive a workshop from Concern or have you participated in any other Concern activities?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If, YES please state:



Permission to run activities in school

You may come up with some fantastic creative activities to run in your school or class group. One thing to note is that schools are very busy places with numerous extra-curricular activities taking place. You may want to visit each class in the school with your message but ensure first:

- You have a clear plan on why you may need to disrupt class time or use a school space for your campaign
- Make sure you have the permission of a teacher well in advance of any planned activity as they may need to inform the principal or other members of staff. This way, if you are unable to proceed you will have plenty of time to regroup and focus on a new activity. E.g if you want to run a social media campaign in school- do students have permission to access their phones in school?
- If, for example, you want to run a social media campaign in school, make sure you have permission for students to access their mobile phones.
- Keep your teachers informed about what you are doing. They may give you great advice on when would be best to run any campaigns or stunts in your school



Ok we did our actions… Now what?

- Now it is time to evaluate your actions
- Did you achieve what you wanted to?
- Did people in your school learn more about an issue because your actions?
- How many people did your message reach?
- Fill in the Action Project Evaluation on the next page!

ACTION PROJECT EVALUATION

Please describe in brief your action project and what SDGs linked to your theme or campaign.

Did you achieve your overall aims and objectives? Please explain (e.g. Were there unexpected achievements?)

How many people did you reach as part of your actions and campaign? (Outline how many people attended an event/workshop, clicked on social media post etc)

Knowledge. Explain briefly what you learned about your topic and its corresponding SDGs

Attitude. Has your attitude to speaking out about global issues changed? Explain?

Values. Agree or Disagree: Global issues are my Concern. Please give reasons for your answer.

Did any students involved with your campaign/action, declare that they would do something as result of what they learned? Please provide documentation (social media links, photographs, video, evaluation results)

ACTION PROJECT EVALUATION

Did you use skills within the group as expected? Did you gain new skills?

Did your action receive any media coverage?

Yes ☐ **No** ☐

If yes, please give the name of the newspaper, radio station or TV station, or a link to the social media site:

If you used social media, how many hits/likes/tweets did you receive?

As a group, how would you rate the success of your action? Success can be how much you learned; for example, learning how you would improve the project in the future, even if it wasn't as successful as originally anticipated this time. Please explain below.

Very successful ☐ Successful ☐ Neutral ☐ Not successful ☐ Not at all successful ☐

Write a few sentences about how successful you felt the project was:

Do you have future plans to expand on the action? If yes, please give details of your plans here:

As a group, how enjoyable would you rate your experience of this project?

Very enjoyable ☐ Enjoyable ☐ Neutral ☐ Not enjoyable ☐ Not at all enjoyable ☐

Below you will find some sample actions you can take on a variety of development issues. These are only samples and we would encourage you to run as many actions as you like on your given topic. Please refer to Concern's resource packs for more information on issues from Gender to Climate Change and lesson plans for workshops.

SAMPLE ACTION PROJECT

Hunger + Food Waste

2 ZERO HUNGER

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

POVERTY - Poverty is one of the basic causes of human underdevelopment and is also a result of it. The majority of the world's poor are unable to feed themselves and their families. Their diets are based on starchy foods with very few vegetables or meat and therefore very little nourishment.

CLIMATE CHANGE - Climate change is making it harder for small farmers to predict harvests leading to extended 'hungry periods'. Rising temperatures and increased rainfall is wreaking havoc in poor communities.

AGRICULTURE - Poor farming skills, lack of basic tools, seeds and land lead to large numbers of people going hungry.

CAUSES OF HUNGER

GENDER INEQUALITY - It is common that more women than men are suffering from the effects of hunger as boys tend to be given priority over girls in regards to both nourishment and education. If girls are growing up uneducated and malnourished, more than likely their children will be born malnourished and the cycle continues.

DISEASE AND ILLNESS - Hunger and malnourishment can lead to disease and illness which in turn makes individuals weak and unable to work/ go to school.

FOOD WASTE

- 1 million tonnes of food wasted in IRELAND each year
- 1.3 billion tonnes of food wasted WORLDWIDE each year

Sample Actions to Take:

Create a display on statistics of hunger in your school hall. You could find statistics on hunger here in Ireland and compare them to a country Concern works in to create awareness. Keep it bright and colourful!

Food waste when not composted correctly ends up in landfills and is the third largest emitter of green house gases. If you school does not have a compost bin, write a letter to your principal and board of management requesting a brown bin.

Organise a workshop with first year groups. Use Concern's Hunger resource for ideas and activities. The biscuit game activity on p3 is a great activity that really shows the stark reality of hunger.

Evaluate your workshops with a quiz at the start and at the end for each student. Note if there is an increased learning after your workshop.

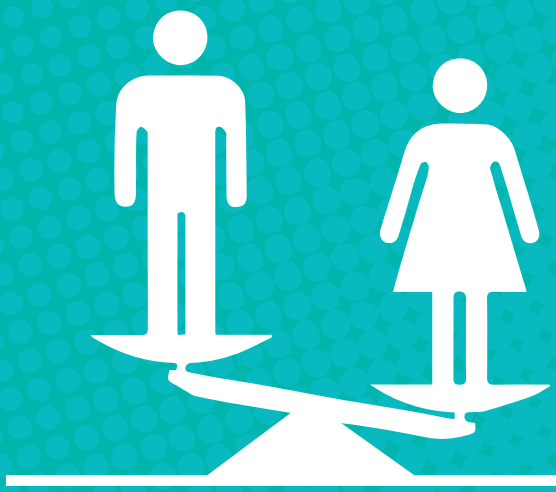
- **TOP TIP!** Keep your workshop and presentation interesting by using homemade memes, video and social media if possible!

Permissions

- Decide what teacher would be best to ask to facilitate workshops.
- Draft a letter detailing your intentions and what you hope to achieve by facilitating these workshops.
- Contact your tutor or year head to ensure you can take time from you own classes to facilitate workshops

SAMPLE ACTION PROJECT

Gender Equality



5 GENDER EQUALITY

GENDER INEQUALITY STATISTICS IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

- **62 million girls** are denied primary education
- **310 girls are forced** into child marriage every minute
- 3 billion people living on $2.50 a day - **70% of these are women**
- Women spend **125 million hours** each day fetching water
- If women farmers had the same access to resources as men, the number of hungry in the world could be **reduced by up to 150 million**

Sample Actions to take

Infographic Awareness

Creating an infographic is an easy way to present a lot of statistics in a simple easy to read manner. Use some of the statistics above or research a particular country and present your findings on gender equality. Vibrant hand drawn illustrated infographics can draw the eye and make an issue come alive. If your team do not feel too artistic, visit https://www.canva.com to create an online infographic - perfect for sharing on social media!



Meme Posters

Use a meme generator online to promote statistics on gender in an engaging manner. Meme posters around your school will help create awareness about Gender Equality and draw student's attention.

Permissions

- Ask your Art teacher if you could have access to the art room and supplies to create your infographic. If you decide to go the online route, ensure you speak to your IT teacher if you can have access to a PC/Laptop/ Tablet to create your infographic and have a access to a colour printer.
- Ask your teacher for permission to place the completed infographics in your classroom or on a display wall.

TOP TIP – Copy and paste your infographic into a PowerPoint presentation to save space and to present your stats in an interesting manner. You could also use it as an Instagram post!

SAMPLE ACTION PROJECT

Water

Water is vital to life: We use it for drinking, cooking, hygiene and growing food. However 663 million people in the world do not have access to clean water with huge consequences.





WATER INSECURITY – A DEFINITION

Water insecurity is when a population doesn't have access to a sustainable source of water, and there isn't an adequate amount to sustain the needs of the population. Water is vital to human and animal life, and impacts on poverty, health, access to education and inequalities.

- Around 2 billion people live in areas of water scarcity, and another 1.6 billion live in places where there isn't access to necessary infrastructure to move water from lakes and rivers to communities.
- By 2025, 1.8 billion people are expected to live in areas of absolute water scarcity… as in little to no access to water!

Each year 65 MILLION GIRLS miss or leave school each year in order to help collect water

Sample Actions to Take:

Organise a water walk in solidarity with women across the world

- 65 million girls each year miss school as they are busy walking long distances carrying heavy Jerry cans full of water (up to 20 litres)
- Why not plan a short route near your school to replicate this journey and to create empathy and solidarity with millions of women and girls across the world?
- Get in touch with Concern Worldwide and request to borrow some Jerry cans for your walk
- Once you have your route picked and permissions secured by your school, create posters to raise awareness of the walk and its purpose
- Decide how long people will carry the Jerry cans for- they can be very heavy!
- Once the walk is to commence, have designated persons from your group to give a brief introduction at the start of the walk detailing why you have organised this and the links to women in the global south.
- Have a debrief session back in your school after the walk
  - How did it feel carrying the Jerry can?
  - Would you like to do this every day before and after school?
  - Why do you think it's mostly women who collect water?
  - What can we do here in Ireland to help solve this?

Permissions

- A walk outside of the school premises can be a big ask. Make sure you speak to your Year Head and have a set number of students you can invite on your walk. Ensure you plan your event with enough time.
- Concern Worldwide would be happy to loan out Jerry cans to help support your event

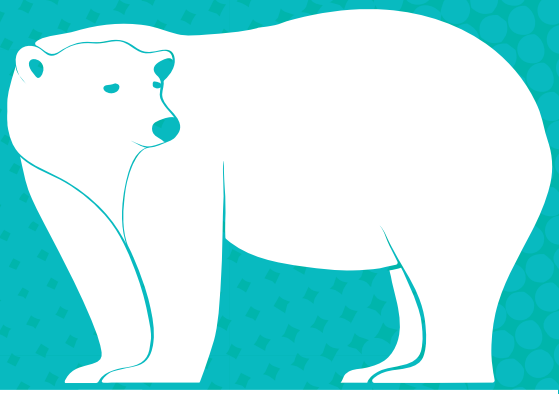
Sample Action Project

Climate Change



Climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing the global community. Climate change can be defined as long term shifts in weather patterns or average temperatures. Expected weather patterns are changing, which is causing problems for many people. For us in Ireland this means an increase in average temperatures, an increase in rainfall and a reduction in the number of frost days.

Climate change is disruptive to the lives, livelihoods and communities of people both in Ireland and around the world. It's a problem for everyone, but in all countries, the biggest impact will be on people and communities that are already marginalised. The most vulnerable people in any society will struggle the most to manage the effects of extreme weather.



Sample Actions to Take:

Ireland was voted the second worst in the EU on climate change action in 2018.

Countries where Concern works like Ethiopia and Malawi are facing issues of drought and crop production due to climate change and yet these countries emit far less $C0_2$ than Ireland. Organise for one of your local TDs to speak in your school about Climate Change and what Ireland is doing about it. Encourage your group or class to prepare questions for your TD. Make sure to focus on the universality of the SDGs and if Ireland could be doing more on Climate Change and making it a door stop issue.

Follow up

Stop Climate Chaos is a group of NGOs and environmental groups that have come together to help tackle the causes and consequences of Climate Change. Check out their page here and see if they have any events in your area! https://www.stopclimatechaos.ie

Permissions

Speak to your teacher/year head BEFORE inviting a TD to speak in your school. Ensure you have a space to host the TD that suits your school's time table. Ensure the audience are prepped for the purpose of the TD's visit (climate change and Ireland).

TOP TIP – Using Concern's Climate Change resource, run an activity with the group who will be in audience for the TD. This will introduce them to the issue of climate change and give confidence to the group to ask the TD questions.



LIST OF USEFUL ACTIVIST CONTACTS:

CONCERN WORLDWIDE
52-55 Lower Camden Street | Dublin 2 | Ireland
T +353 1 4178078
www.concern.net

Irish Aid
T: +353 1 408 2000
E: developmenteducation@dfa.ie
W: www.irishaid.ie

Action Aid Ireland
T: +353 1 878 7911
E: info@actionaid.ie
W: www.actionaid.ie

Action from Ireland (Afri)
T: +353 1 882 7581
E: afri@iol.ie
W: www.afri.ie

Africa Centre
T: +353 1 865 6951
E: info@africacentre.ie
W: http://www.africacentre.ie

Amnesty International Ireland
T: +353 1 863 8300
E: info@amnesty.ie
W: http://www.amnesty.ie

BeLonG To
T: +353 1 670 6223
E: info@belongto.org
W: www.belongto.org

Celtic Youth Bray
T: +353 86 063 5195
E: celticyouthbray@hotmail.com

Centre for Global Education
T: +44 28 90241879
E: info@centreforglobaleducation.com
W: www.centreforglobaleducation.com

Childfund
T: +353 1 676 2128
E: info@childfund.ie
W: www.childfund.ie/

CIT Crawford College Art & Design
T: +353 21 433 5224
E: catherine.fehily@cit.ie
W: www.cit.ie/ccad

Comhlámh
T: +353 1 478 3490
E: info@comhlamh.org
W: www.comhlamh.org

Crosscare
T: +353 1 836 0011
E: info@crosscare.ie
W: www.crosscare.ie

Debt and Development Coalition Ireland
T: +353 1 617 4835
E: campaign@debtireland.org
W: www.debtireland.org

DevelopmentEducation.ie
T: +353 1 286 0487
E: tony@developmenteducation.ie
W:www.developmenteducation.ie

Development Perspectives
T: +353 41 980 1005
E: bobby@developmentperspectives.ie
W: www.developmentperspectives.ie

DICE Project (Development and Intercultural Education)
E: siobhan.sleeman@spd.dcu.ie
W: www.diceproject.ie

Dóchas
T: +353 1 4053801
E: anna@dochas.ie
W: www.dochas.ie

ECO-UNESCO
T: + 353 1 662 5491
E: Info@ecounesco.ie
W: www.ecounesco.ie

Fairtrade Ireland
T: +353 1 475 3515
E: info@fairtrade.ie
W: www.fairtrade.ie

Friends of the Earth
T: +353 1 639 4652
E: info@foe.ie
W: www.foe.ie

Friends of Londani
T: +353 21 462 1748
E: info@friendsoflondiani.com
W: www.friendsoflondiani.com

Galway One World Centre
T: +353 91 530590
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W: www.galwayowc.org

GOAL
T: +353 1 2809779
E: info@goal.ie
W: www.goal.ie

Gorta-Self Help Africa
T: +353 01 677 8880
E: info@selfhelpafrica.org
W: www.selfhelpafrica.org/ie

IDEA (The Irish Development Education Association)
T: +353 1 661 8831
E: info@ideaonline.ie
W: www.ideaonline.ie

Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU)
T: +353 1 889 7777
E: congress@ictu.ie
W: www.ictu.ie

Irish Environmental Pillar
T: 01 8780116
E: office@ien.ie
W: www.environmentalpillar.ie

All Together in Dignity - ATD Fourth World Ireland
T: +353 1 855 191
E: pfklien@atd-fourthworld.org
W: www.atdireland.ie

Irish Red Cross Youth
T: +353 1 642 4600
E: info@redcross.ie
W: www.redcross.ie

National Youth Council Of Ireland
Tel: +353 (0)1 478 4122
Email: info@nyci.ie
Web: www.youth.ie

LIST OF USEFUL ACTIVIST CONTACTS:

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W: www.phoenixyouthproject.com

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E: info@plan.ie
W: www.plan.ie

SARI
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E: info@sari.ie
W: www.sari.ie

Scouting Ireland
T: +353 1 495 6300
E: questions@scouts.ie
W: www.scouts.ie

Serve
T: +353 91 781 231 Ext: 2043
W: www.serve.ie

Spun Out
T: +353 1 675 3554
E: info@spunout.ie
W: www.spunout.ie

Stop Climate Chaos
T: +353 1 639 4653
E: info@stopclimatechaos.ie
W: www.stopclimatechaos.ie

Tearfund
T: +353 1 878 3200
E: enquiries@tearfund.ie
W: www.tearfund.ie

Trócaire
T: +353 1 629 3333
E: info@trocaire.ie
W: www.trocaire.org

EIL Intercultural Learning
T: +353 (1) 21 455 1535
E: info@eilireland.org
W: www.eilireland.org

Pavee Point Traveller & Roma Centre
T: +353 1 878 0255
E: info@paveepoint.ie
W: www.paveepoint.ie

Voluntary Service International (VSI)
T: +353 1 855 1011
E: info@vsi.ie
W: www.vsi.ie

Waterford One World Centre
T: +353 51 873 064
E: info@waterfordoneworldcentre.com
W: www.waterfordoneworldcentre.com

World Vision Ireland
T: +353-1-498 0800
E: ireland@wvi.org
W: www.worldvision.ie

Young Friends of the Earth
T: +353 1 639 4652
E: youngfoe@foe.ie
W: www.youngfoe.ie

Young Social Innovators
T: +353 1 645 8030
W: www.youngsocialinnovators.org

Youth Work Ireland
T: +353 1 858 4500
E: info@youthworkireland.ie
W: www.youthworkireland.ie

YMCA Ireland
Tel: +353 21 485 0015
E: ivan@ymca-ireland.net
W: www.ymca-ireland.net

80:20 Educating and Acting for a Better World
T: +353 1 2860487
E: info@8020.ie
W: www.8020.ie

Irish Girl Guides
T: +353 1 668 3898
E: info@irishgirlguides.ie
W: www.irishgirlguides.ie

UNICEF Ireland
T: +353 1 878 3000
E: info@unicef.ie
W: www.unicef.ie

LASC – Latin America Solidarity Centre
T: +353 1 676 0435
E: info@lasc.ie
W: www.lasc.ie

Léargas
T: +353 1 887 1260
E: info@leargas.ie
W: www.leargas.ie

Liberties College
T: +353 1 454 0044
E: info@liberties.cdetb.ie
W: www.libertiescollege.ie

Lourdes Youth and Community Services (LYCS)
T: +353 1 836 3416
E: lycs@lycs.ie
W: www.lycs.ie

Maynooth University
T: +353 1 708 3743
E: appliedsocialstudies@nuim.ie
W: www.maynoothuniversity.ie/applied-social-studies

Migrant Rights Centre Ireland
T: +353 1 889 7570
E: info@mrci.ie
W: www.mrci.ie

One Foundation
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E: info@onefoundation.ie
W: www.onefoundation.ie

OXFAM Ireland
T: +353 1 672 7662
E: info@oxfamireland.org
W: www.oxfamireland.org

CONCERN SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

www.concern.net/get-involved/schools/resources

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Working with the world's poorest people to transform their lives

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Home

Resources for teachers and students

Whether you are a teacher looking for information, a student working on a project or just a passerby, we have something for you!

Our new resources are designed to help teachers and students navigate through development issues whilst linking in to subjects such as Geography, English, CSPE and RE. Each resource has three easy to follow activities and action points to be carried out as a class group. To find out more about our resources, email resources@concern.net



Rainbow resources

Activities and information for teachers and facilitators to address issues link to the Sustainable Development Goals. Suitable for upper primary and post primary aged students.

- Educational resources information booklet (PDF)
- Development education: a guide for teachers and facilitators (PDF)
- The Sustainable Development Goals (PDF)
- SDG 1 - No Poverty (PDF)
- SDG 2 - Zero Hunger (PDF)
- SDG 3 - Good health and well-being (PDF)
- SDG 5 - Gender equality (PDF)
- SDG 6 - Clean water and sanitation (PDF)
- SDG 12 - Responsible consumption and production (PDF)
- SDG 13 - Climate action (PDF)
- SDG 16 - Peace and conflict (PDF)

Country Profiles

How money is spent



Related links

› Major donations

For organisations

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Other ways to help

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› Major donations
› Involve your company

Get active!

› Twitter

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Irish Aid
An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

CONCERN worldwide