

Outline, purpose and values of the grant scheme

Introduction:

The Global Citizenship Education Grants Scheme was introduced in 2012 as a part of Concern's commitment to tackling the root causes of extreme poverty. Twelve years on, the grants scheme has diversified to include organisations from the youth and community community sector, and adult education sector. Projects served by the grant have used innovative and creative ways to connect with their specific audiences and have allowed Concern to reach communities across Ireland that may be more difficult to access.

Going into the future, the grants scheme will adapt to streamline the process and to ensure alignment to Concern's values and the Global Citizenship Strategy 2023-2027).

Purpose of the grants scheme:

- **To raise awareness and understanding** of current global challenges, with a focus on exploring the root causes of poverty, inequality and conflict.
- To support projects which will **engage and include people from all different backgrounds, sectors and interests** with particular focus on hard-to-reach communities who have less or otherwise no access to GCE
- **To support the development of a society** which understands the need for both work in communities that Concern work with around the world, and ways which the root causes of challenges can be tackled through campaigning, political engagement and collective action
- **To work in partnership with organisations** in Ireland to support the development of an informed public which is committed to a local and global responsibility to making the world a better place for everyone now and into the future

Values of the Grants Scheme

The values underpinning the grants scheme reflect Concern's organisational values, as well as the key principles of GCE in the [IDEA Code of Good Practice for GCE](#). We encourage all applicants to be familiar with the code, and if suitable for their organisation, to sign up to the code of good practice.

1. Projects **focus on the root causes of current global challenges** and **supports participants' capacity to be active global citizens** through collaborative or individual actions, which are solution-focused and contribute to our collective efforts to build a better world
2. Projects aim to **develop participants critical thinking skills** and capacity to interpret information from different sources
3. Projects use **information which is accurate and aims to combat stereotypes** and misinformation

Eligibility:

The grants scheme is open to applicants who intend to deliver a Global Citizenship Education (GCE) project. Concern defines GCE as *“a lifelong learning process, based on the values of solidarity, equality, inclusion and co-operation. It enables people to move from basic awareness of international development priorities and sustainable human development, through understanding of the causes and effects of global issues, to personal and community involvement and informed action”*. We accept that definitions of GCE differ slightly and so will use rational and judgement on this when reviewing applications.

The grants scheme is open to organisations who intend to work with:

- Youth in the non-formal education sector
- Adult and community education sector
- Higher Education Sector/Third Level institutes
- The Global Citizenship Education sector to build the profile of GCE or for advocacy purposes

Organisations must work with communities on the Island of Ireland.

Organisations from across Ireland are encouraged to apply.

The process:

- The grants call will be open from October to December each year
- The deadline for the Concern Grants Scheme is: **1st January of each year**
- The grants committee will meet to review applications
- Feedback and a decision will be given to applicants at the start of each February, with grants awarded at the end of February
- Reports (on the reporting template) will be sent to Concern by 1st March at the end of the grant period

Note: If you have an active grant but are reapplying, we will arrange a short meeting to discuss and check in on the progress of your current grant as part of the application process.