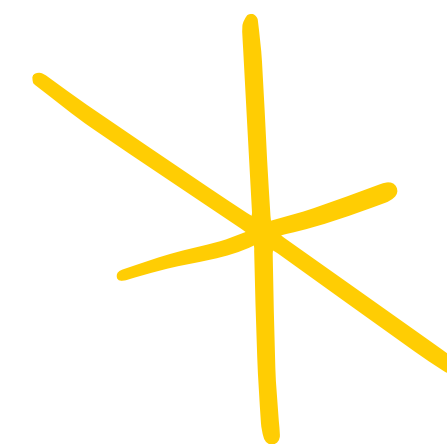


Today's Motion is:



**'Cities are essential
to tackling
climate change'**



Classroom Activity



Match the Capital to the Country

On the next slide, you will see a list of **capital cities** on the left hand side of the screen. On the right hand side of the screen, there will be a list of **countries which Concern works in**.

As a class, match the capital city to the programme country.

In the following slide, the answers will be revealed - good luck!



Classroom Activity



Match the Capital to the Country

Capital City

- Damascus
- Nairobi
- Mogadishu
- Dhaka
- Port-au-Prince

Concern Programme Country

- Haiti
- Somalia
- Syria
- Bangladesh
- Kenya



Classroom Activity



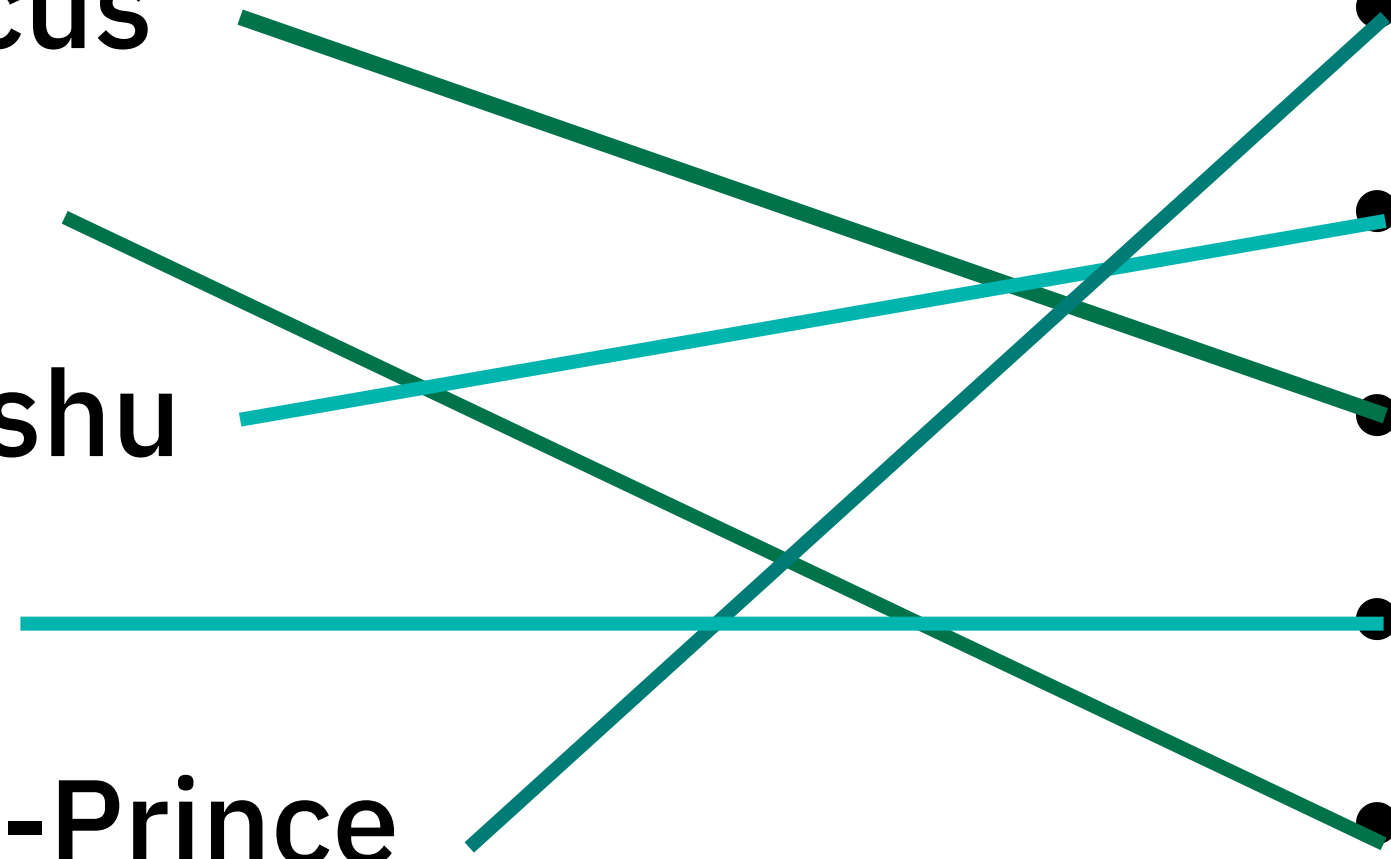
Match the Capital to the Country

Capital City

- Damascus
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Concern Programme Country

- Haiti
- Somalia
- Syria
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- Kenya



Let's breakdown today's motion..



City: a large town with amenities

Tackle: to try to deal with something or someone

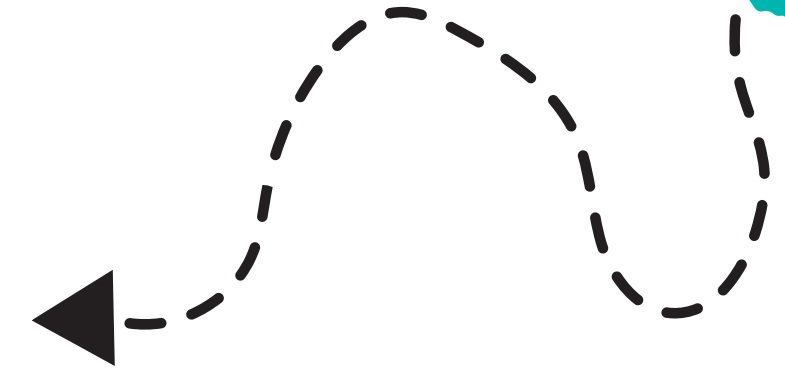
Climate Change: changes in the world's weather patterns, in particular the fact that it is getting warmer as a result of human activity increasing the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere



Source: Cambridge Dictionary

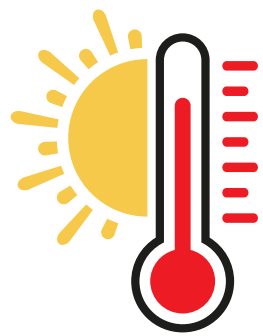


This motion links to the following SDGs;





Today, some 56% of the world's population – 4.4 billion inhabitants – live in cities.

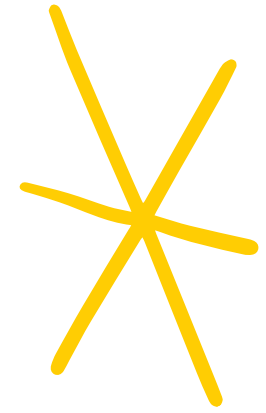


The year 2023 broke every single climate indicator and was the warmest year on record according to the World Meteorological Organization.



Greenhouse gases are gases in the Earth's atmosphere that trap heat. In Ireland, the single largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions is agriculture at 37.8%

How does this link to Concern?



In many of the countries where we work, people rely on the food gained from their land to survive. Extreme weather events such as drought and flooding, and threats such as locust invasions, can destroy these crops and have a devastating impact on people's ability to feed their families.




How does this link to Concern? *

Concern's approach to environmental protection aims to conserve natural resources and, where possible, to repair damage and reverse trends. As well as meeting immediate needs such as food and livelihoods support, we also work with farmers to help them adjust to climate change and build resilience for the future.





Photo: Chris Gagnon/Concern Worldwide



Concern promotes Climate Smart Agriculture. These are agriculture approaches and methods that sustainably increase the amount of crops that a community can produce under conditions of climatic variability.

Mcfreson Aaron is a farmer in the Mwanza District in Malawi. He uses a solar powered irrigation pump and other climate smart agriculture practices help his crops and his village.



Peterson (9) and mother Ciciliya with a family chicken. Peterson has 2 siblings and his parents are farmers. They live in Chanzuzika village, TA Ndakwera, District Chikwawa which is in Malawi.

Does your family have chickens?
Do you live on a farm?

Photo: Chris Gagnon/Concern Worldwide

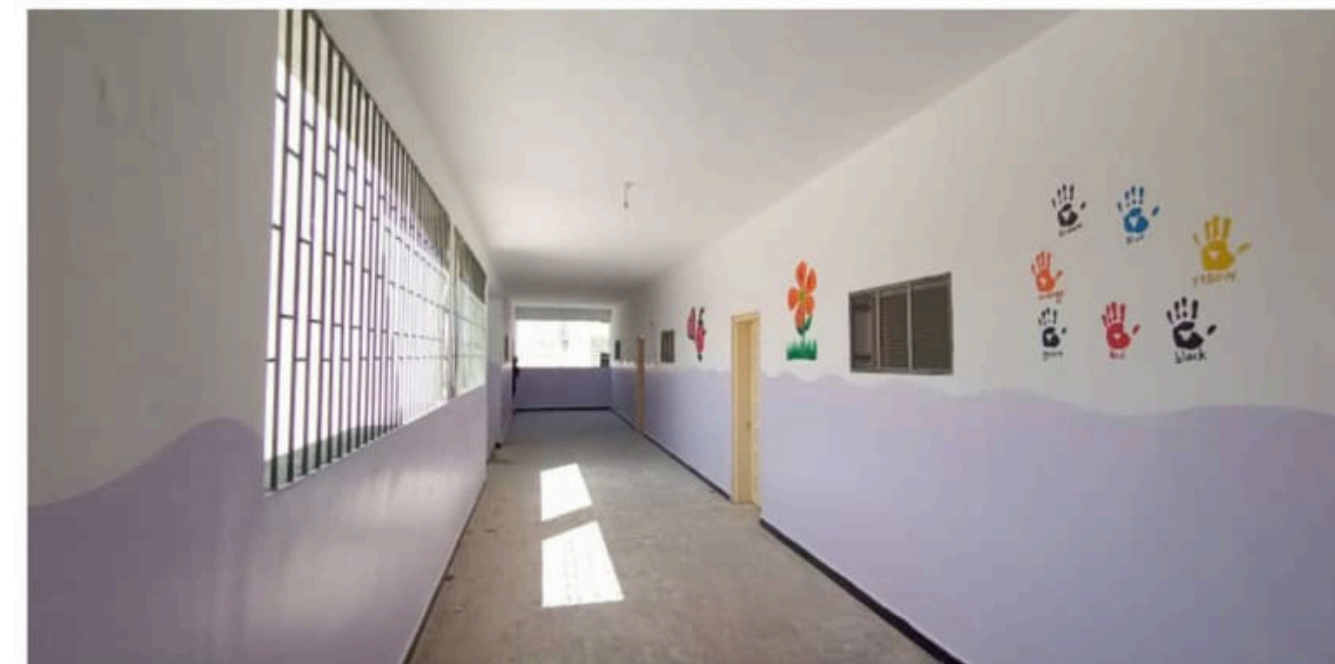
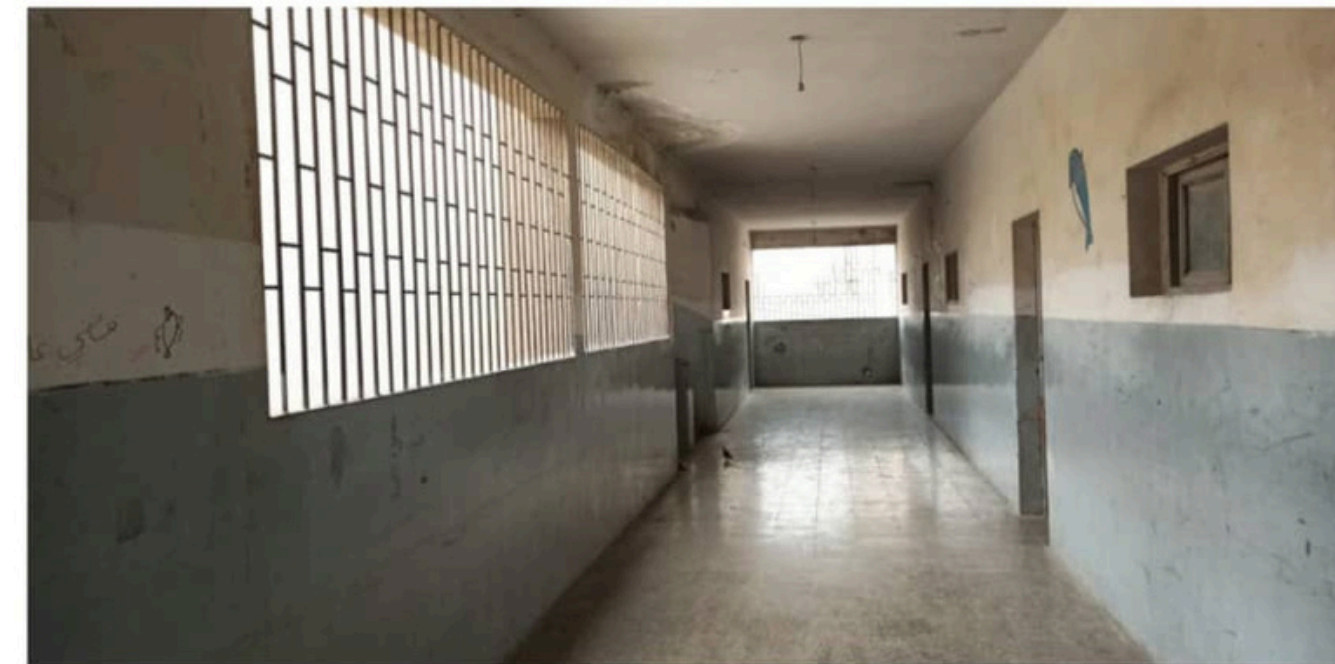




Photos: Concern Worldwide

Before and after photos of Althawra School in Manbij city in Syria.

Concern supported the rehabilitation of the existing toilet blocks and building 3 new classrooms and 1 staff room. This school has 1020 students (499 boys and 521 girls).



Classroom Activity

Walking Debate

Divide the classroom into the **'Agree'** side of the room and the **'Disagree'** side of the room. As a class, you will be asked a variety of questions by your teacher. Students will go to the side of the classroom they agree with: **'Agree' or 'Disagree' or perhaps somewhere in the middle!**

One student from each side will be asked to give one argument. As the activity progresses, you can switch sides!



Classroom Activity

Walking Debate

‘It is better to live in a city than in the countryside’

‘Public transport is most important for people living in cities’

‘Every house should have solar panels’

‘Climate change affects everyone in the same way’

‘Ireland isn’t experiencing climate change yet’



The Motion is:

**‘Cities are essential to tackling
climate change’**

This means the proposition
team agree with this motion and
want to support it!



THE PROPOSITION MAY MAKE AN ARGUMENT SUCH AS THIS ONE:

“Since more than half of the world’s people live in cities, they’re a great place to make big changes that help the planet.”

The World Bank noted in 2021 that approximately 56% of the world population live in urban areas, according to their World Development Indicators. By using clean energy, like solar and wind power, and by making it easier to use public transport, cities can make a huge difference. When cities switch to cleaner energy and improve buses, trains, and bike lanes, they help millions of people reduce pollution!

The International Energy Agency (IEA) and UN-Habitat both report that cities account for over 70% of global carbon emissions mostly from cars, buildings, and factories using energy from fossil fuels like coal and oil. This data highlights how important it is for cities to lead the way in cutting down pollution and using clean energy sources.

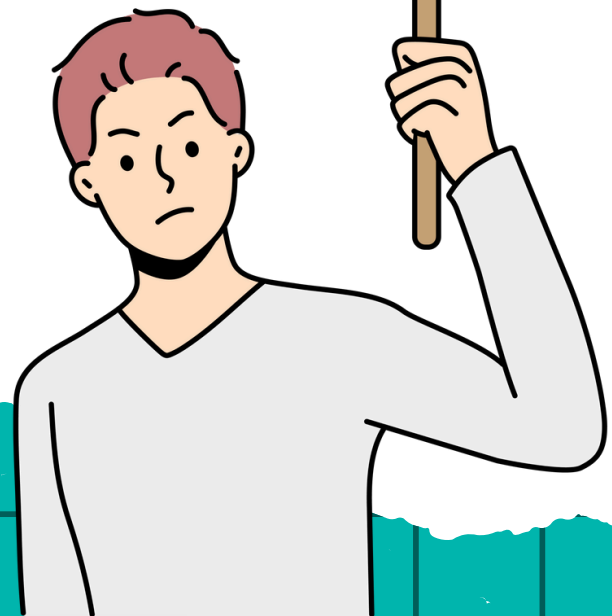


The Motion is:

**‘Cities are essential to tackling
climate change’**

NO!

This means the opposition team
disagree with this motion and
want to disprove it!



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Department of Foreign Affairs



**CONCERN
Primary
Debates**

THE OPPOSITION MAY MAKE AN ARGUMENT SUCH AS THIS ONE:

“Places outside of cities—like forests, farms, wetlands, and oceans—play a big role in keeping our planet healthy.”

Trees are amazing because they absorb a gas called carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the air. CO₂ is one of the main greenhouse gases that cause climate change. Just like a sponge soaks up water, trees "soak up" CO₂ and store it in their trunks, leaves, and roots.

According to the Global Forest Watch and World Resources Institute, forests around the world absorb about 2.6 billion tons of CO₂ each year. That's like taking millions of cars off the road! So, protecting forests in the countryside and planting new trees in open green spaces help keeps our air cleaner, fighting climate change.



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Department of Foreign Affairs



**CONCERN
Primary
Debates**

Classroom Activity



Take Action, Climate Action!

Take a moment to reflect on your nearest city, town or village.

At your table, write down **5 ways it could become more sustainable and fight climate change.**

Hint: Develop public transport, open a community garden, use solar street lights or reduce food waste.

Could your class campaign for one of these changes to be made by reaching out to a local councillor or community group?



Learn More:



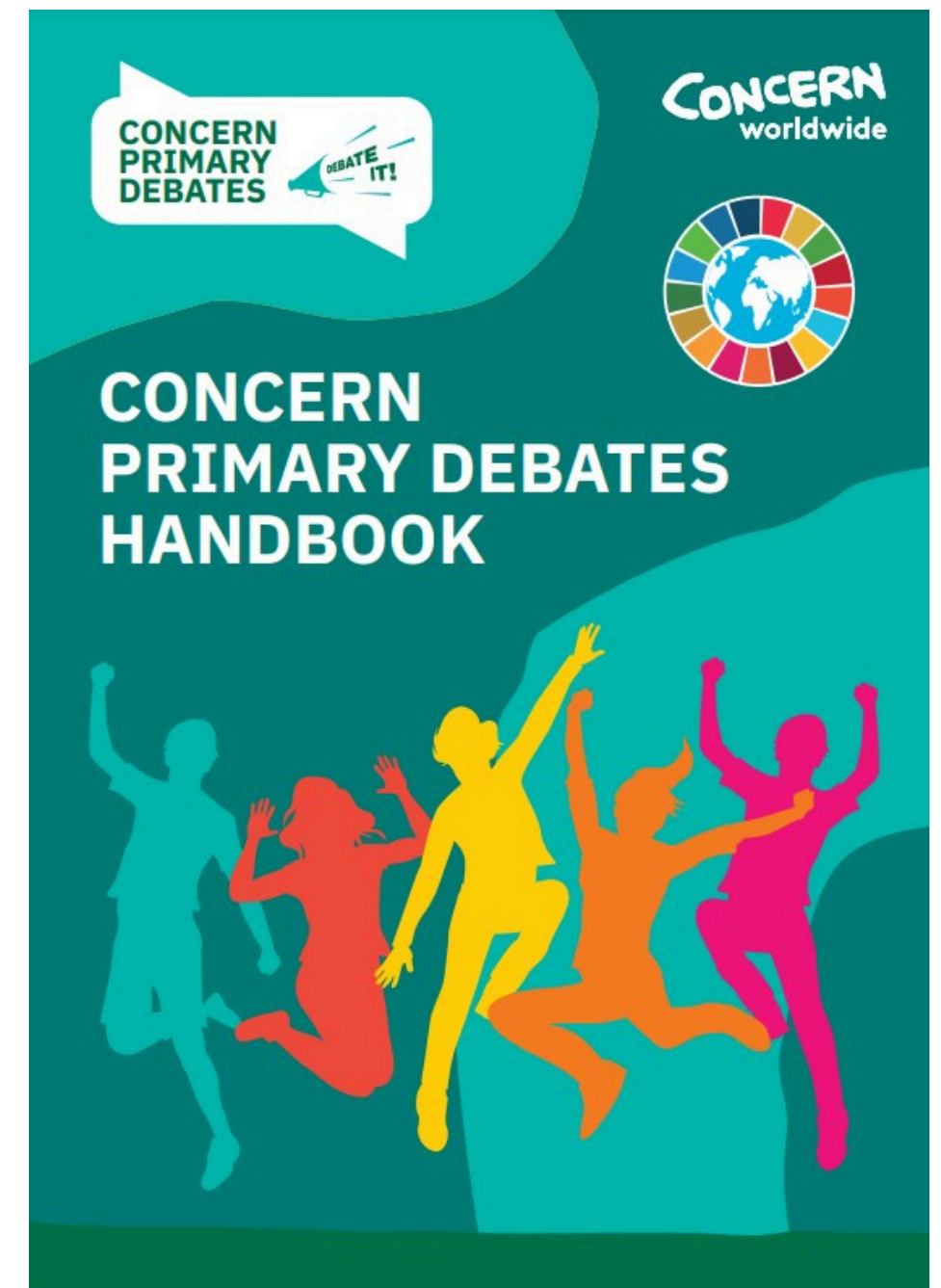
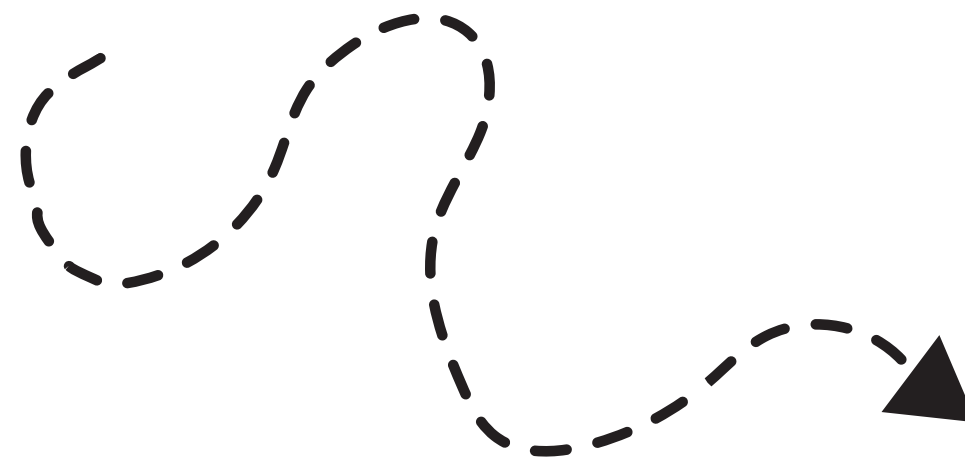
Handbooks, marking sheets and training videos all available on the **Concern Primary Debates materials webpage**



Primary Debates Playlist on YouTube



**Contact Concern
primarydebates@concern.net**



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