



## Taking Action: some questions to consider

<b>The justice perspective</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How is the world just or unjust?</li><li>• Who gains? Who loses?</li><li>• Why does injustice continue? How is it maintained?</li><li>• Is injustice inevitable? Unavoidable?</li><li>• How does it relate to me? How do I understand it?</li><li>• Where do I fit in?</li></ul>
<b>The global perspective</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How am I linked to others throughout the world?</li><li>• How do my/our actions affect them and vice-versa?</li><li>• Where does our country fit in?</li><li>• How do we see/portray others and vice-versa?</li><li>• What can we learn from others?</li></ul>
<b>Developing imagination, visions and values</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How could things be different?</li><li>• What are our visions and values for the future?</li><li>• How do we describe and share them?</li><li>• What steps do we take to get there?</li><li>• Where can we seek inspiration?</li><li>• How do we educate our social imagination?</li></ul>
<b>An action dimension</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How can I/we help to improve things?</li><li>• How does change come about?</li><li>• What skills/opportunities help me/us to decide what actions are appropriate?</li><li>• What are others doing and how can I get involved?</li><li>• Can we really change things?</li></ul>
<b>Linking local and global</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Why do we need to link local and global issues?</li><li>• Are they really the same?</li><li>• What are the benefits of linking? Its disadvantages?</li><li>• How do I/we do it?</li><li>• What are the key linkages?</li></ul>
<b>Using participative methods</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Why is participation important?</li><li>• What can I learn from others? Share with others?</li><li>• What are the benefits/difficulties of working together?</li><li>• What skills and approaches do we need for participation?</li></ul>



# Taking Action – some ideas

## Commitment – Contacts – Creativity

### Commitment

- Why do you want to plan an activity and what are you trying to achieve by undertaking it?
- You need to decide early what you are for and what you are against and why – events don't have to be for or against things – you may simply want to raise awareness but then again, you may be against something e.g. racism
- Successful activities need to have a clearly defined aim, decide what change you want or what information you wish to share and what methods might be most effective
- Who are you trying to reach with your activity - do you have a specific target audience (for example students, community groups, 'the public', women)?
- Decide on whether you want others involved and, if yes, who? Make sure you canvass their views and take them into account. How are you going to work together?
- What methods are you thinking of using?

### Contacts

- Remember, many other people will share your views and concerns, involving others will add strength and weight to what you do as well as increase creativity and experience and diversity of viewpoints
- When you plan your activity or event, think about making alliances and co-operation. Identify other groups, organisations and individuals that might be interested in your activity
- These groups might help you in organising the event, provide you with their contacts, and they can attend your activity to give it broader participation
- Maybe another group has already organised a similar event in your area. If you organise your event together, you can build on their experience and contacts
- Get in touch with others early on in planning the activity – don't invite them in after all the decisions have been made.

### Creativity

- The more creative and original your activity, the more attention the public and/or the media will give it and the more people it will reach
- Try to think of a good slogan or title - short, easy to understand and accurate for what you are planning or highlighting
- Think about the methods that you have decided to use and get 'expert' advice that may help improve its quality, effectiveness and impact – many 'experts' are very happy to be asked or to be involved
- Creativity doesn't necessarily mean doing 'a bit of everything' but developing the best possible methods to convey your messages in a fresh and 'original' way.

### In summary

- Decide what your activity should be about
- Try to find partners and benefit from their experience and help
- Think of the most effective way to get across your message to your chosen audience

***A very useful and helpful resource for planning and delivering your event or activity is that developed by Young Social Innovators on [www.youngsocialinnovators.ie/resources/resources-for-ysi-2007/planning-workbook/](http://www.youngsocialinnovators.ie/resources/resources-for-ysi-2007/planning-workbook/)***