

Haile Gebrselassie with Trócaire campaigners

# ACT

A unit for post-16 General RE  
Suitable for use with the  
Pope John Paul II  
Award (Unit 3)

**TRÓCAIRE**  
Working for a Just World

**TRÓCAIRE**  
Lent is what you do



Pope John Paul II  
Award



# Teaching Objectives

**At the end of this unit, you will have:**

- Explored possible actions for your service project.
- Decided what actions to undertake and developed a plan of action.



Sally O'Neill (Trócaire),  
Digna Labelie Portillo Amador (5),  
Honduras

# What difference can one person make?

A lot of people think their actions will not make a huge impact on improving conditions for their global family but even the smallest of actions can make a real difference.

*“Do your little bit of good where you are; it’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”*

– Archbishop Desmond Tutu



# Are you up for the Challenge?

There are a range of challenges you can undertake:

- **Media Challenge**
- **School Challenge**
- **Community Challenge**
- **Campaign Challenge**



*Imelda May, Graham Canty and Katie Taylor  
'Give it up Campaign 2011'*

# Media Challenge


The aim of this challenge is to use media to spread your message.  
Some ideas would be:

- Featuring in local or national newspapers.
- Featuring on local radio or TV.
- Creating a 'Global Social Awareness' page on your school website.



# Working with the Media

- More and more people are listening to their local station instead of a national station.
- They're still buying their local newspaper. So, think global but act local!
- Media is a powerful medium through which to bring your message to your wider community.



*Bono supports  
'Keep Our Word' campaign*

# Tips for working with the Media

- **KIS – Keep It Simple!**
- **ALWAYS** prepare for an interview – ask yourself,  
*What is my message?                      Who do I want to reach?                      How can I make it interesting?*
- **Only speak in facts and use human interest stories to illustrate facts & figures.**

*Funarte/Trócaire campaigners  
collaboration on Grafton St, Dublin*




# School Challenge

The aim of this challenge is to bring your message to the school community.  
Some ideas would be:

- Make a display board in your school.
- Do a workshop or presentation for your school mates or other classes.
- Organise a prayer service in your school.
- Support the Trócaire Lenten campaign and Global Gifts.





*Woman treated at Ban Tractor clinic  
Karenni Camp, Burma*

# Community Challenge

The aim of this challenge is to bring your message to the wider community.  
Some ideas would be:

- Make a display board for your local supermarket or library.
- Create links and work with another local community group.
- Organise a prayer service or Mass in your local church.
- Do a workshop in local primary schools.
- Organise a community fundraising event.



*Public demonstration on human rights abuse in Zimbabwe, Belfast City Hall'*

# Tips for Organising Public Meetings and Events

- **Once a date has been agreed, you can begin to prepare and advertise for your event.**
- **If your event is taking place in a public space, you need to check with the local PSNI/Garda if permission is necessary.**
- **Assign somebody to all the different tasks that need to be carried out before, during and after the event.**
- **Issue a Press Release – your local media might like to come along!**

**St. Nicolais Frankfield school  
Pakistan collection, Ireland**



# Visiting Primary Schools

## Before the visit:

- Write a letter explaining who you are and what you are hoping to tell the students about global issues.
- Explain that you would like the opportunity to talk to a class/es.
- Your letter should be signed by both you and your teacher.
- Follow-up your letter with a phone call – you will need to know the number in the class, their age group, the length of your session and the date and time of the session.



# Visiting Primary Schools

## Preparation:

- Plan your session and read up on your information.
- Familiarise yourself with any activities you will use – you might like to have a dummy run with your group.
- Prepare the materials you will need on the day e.g. markers, posters, world map etc.
- After the session ask the teacher how s/he felt the session went – use any suggestions for amending future sessions.



# Campaign Challenge

There are many ways to campaign on behalf of Trócaire and the aim of this challenge is to effectively use these tools to communicate your message.

Why not:

- Email or visit your local politician.
- Organise a postcard campaign or petition.
- Take part in Trócaire's rallies or organise your own march.
- Get involved in Trócaire's online campaign at [www.trocaire.org/getinvolved](http://www.trocaire.org/getinvolved)

*Bike to Bolivia challenge, St. Mac Dara's, Dublin, Ireland*




# Plan for Greatest Impact – Diamond Ranking

In groups of four a set of post-its write down 12 possible actions you could take to highlight the issue you are exploring.

Arrange the twelve cards in a diamond pattern: the single actions at the top and the bottom of the diamond are the most and least preferred; the two/three actions below and above these are in the next order; the three actions across the centre are of middle-order importance.

Consider which actions would have the biggest impact in school, the local area, country and world. Select the best three/four actions to undertake.



*Women wait at a mobile health clinic  
outside of Lodwar, northern Kenya*

# Action Plan

Now that you have selected the actions you will undertake, you need to write down a plan for action.

For each action you commit to you need to decide:

- How you are going to do it? (Evidence)
- What the expected measurement of its success will be? (Indicators)
- What would you like the result to be? (Outcome)

A photograph of Father Eamon Graham, a man with a white helmet and a white t-shirt with the Trócaire logo, smiling as he abseils. He is holding a rope and has a climbing harness on. The background shows a body of water and some structures.

*Father Eamon Graham supports Trócaire by abseiling, Derry*

## Stay Motivated

You have **become aware** that everyone in the global family has the right to equality and the right to live in a just world. Based on your Christian values you **care about** your fellow man and have a duty to stand in solidarity with the poor and needy throughout the world. Remember you can make a difference through **acting** in your local community to address the root causes of poverty.



**Women obtaining water from a pump  
in Mozambique**



## Inspirational Words

***“Commit yourself to the noble struggle for human rights. You will make a greater person of yourself, a greater nation of your country and a finer world to live in.”***

– Martin Luther King, Jr.



*Young musicians from Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, Bernadette Connaughton, Eilis Murphy, Ciara Murphy and Keri Power play in Supermacs, O'Connell St. in Dublin for the launch of the "Trad for Trócaire" campaign.*

## Keep in Touch

Trócaire wishes you every success in carrying out your service actions and would love for you to keep us updated on all of your efforts.

Why not let us know what you are doing. We would love to see photos and read any articles you have produced in furthering the Church's efforts towards creating an equal and just world.

*Digna Labelie Portillo Amador  
(5) from La Confianza,  
north Honduras.*

## Join Trócaire on:

- Facebook:** [facebook.com/trocaireireland](https://facebook.com/trocaireireland) – connect with us.
- Twitter:** [twitter.com/trocaire](https://twitter.com/trocaire) – keep up with our latest tweets.
- YouTube:** [youtube.com/trocaire](https://youtube.com/trocaire) – see the people you support.
- Flickr:** [flickr.com/trocaire](https://flickr.com/trocaire) – see our growing photo gallery.

Mural at Esteli, Nicaragua



## Papal Message:

***Dear young people of every language and culture, a high and exhilarating task awaits you: that of becoming men and women capable of solidarity, peace and love of life, with respect for everyone. Become craftsmen of a new humanity, where brothers and sisters — members all of the same family — are able at last to live in peace.***

— Pope John Paul II