

The Activist's HANDBOOK

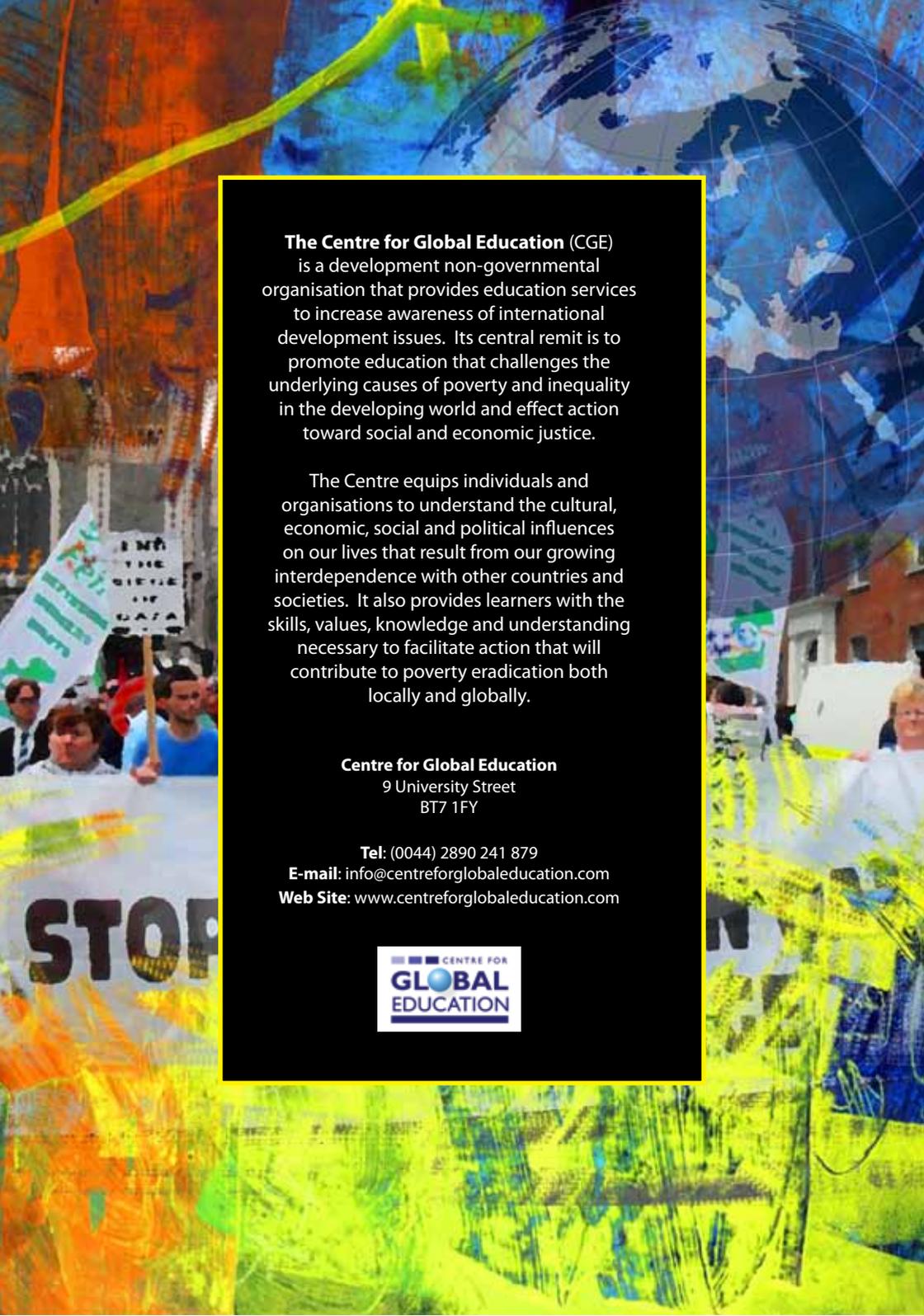
A GUIDE TO ACTIVISM ON GLOBAL ISSUES



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CENTRE FOR GLOBAL EDUCATION



The Centre for Global Education (CGE) is a development non-governmental organisation that provides education services to increase awareness of international development issues. Its central remit is to promote education that challenges the underlying causes of poverty and inequality in the developing world and effect action toward social and economic justice.

The Centre equips individuals and organisations to understand the cultural, economic, social and political influences on our lives that result from our growing interdependence with other countries and societies. It also provides learners with the skills, values, knowledge and understanding necessary to facilitate action that will contribute to poverty eradication both locally and globally.

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ISSN: 1748-136X

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Acknowledgements

Centre for Global Education wishes to acknowledge the contributions made by organisations and individuals in supporting the compilation of this publication. The contributors to this book are extremely busy individuals and yet took the time to either complete questionnaires or participate in interviews. We are indebted to you.

The Centre also owes a big debt of gratitude to Aisling Boyle who worked on this publication during her internship with the Centre in 2010 and brought considerable energy and enthusiasm to the project and ensured its completion on schedule.

Finally, this publication would not have been possible without the financial support of Trócaire which supported this initiative from its Mobilising for Justice Fund.

TRÓCAIRE
Working for a Just World



The Activist's **HANDBOOK**

A GUIDE TO ACTIVISM ON GLOBAL ISSUES

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Centre for Global Education

THE CENTRE FOR GLOBAL EDUCATION was established in 1986 by eight development agencies to provide education services that enhance awareness of international development issues. Its central remit is to provide learning that will enable individuals and organisations to address the causes of poverty, inequality and injustice at local and global levels. The Centre believes that in the current era of accelerated globalisation our society is becoming increasingly interconnected with the wider world. Development education equips individuals and organisations to understand the cultural, economic, social and political influences on our lives that result from our growing interdependence with other countries and societies. It also provides learners with the skills, values, knowledge and understanding necessary to facilitate action that will contribute to poverty eradication both locally and globally.

The Centre endorses the United Nation's definition of development education which states that 'the objective of Development Education is to enable people to participate in the development of their community, their nation and the world as a whole'. Development education practice is based on active learning methodologies that facilitate the full participation of the learner and encourage an action outcome. The Centre for Global Education provides training and resources to local target groups that tailor development education content and practice to their needs. We consider the development process in Ireland within the context of the developing world and support multiculturalism and mutual respect by providing opportunities to learn about other cultures, faiths and lifestyles. The Centre supports the view that we can learn more about ourselves and local communities by extending our knowledge and experience of the wider world.

Centre for Global Education Mission Statement

The Centre for Global Education believes in and works towards a just and equitable world.

We seek to promote an understanding of the interdependency of people across the world.

We will achieve excellence in our practice through the participation of users in our work and engagement with the increasingly diverse communities living in our society.

Our mission is to use education to challenge the causes of global poverty both locally and globally through action at all levels and in all sectors of society.

Centre for Global Education Mandate

Our mandate is to bring about change in the understanding of development issues and development education practice among those working in the formal and informal educational sectors. The mandate for our work comes from:

- Our founders who legally constituted the Centre,
- Our funders who finance our work and
- Our partners

Our mandate is dynamic and changes with the engagement and interests of our stakeholders. We will work creatively to develop new ways of fulfilling our mandate to our stakeholders.



Introduction - Stephen McCloskey, Centre for Global Education

This publication is offered as a practical tool to individuals and organisations interested in taking the step from concern about global injustices and curiosity about the wider world to active participation in campaigns and social movements that are trying to change the world for the better. There was a time perhaps when activism was something of an optional extra for those seeking broader social experiences at home and overseas or those with extra time on their hands and wanting to put it to good use. The 'luxury' of activism as a pastime and form of experiential learning has long since gone. Activism as the American author Alice Walker said 'is my rent for living on this planet'. She also rightly said that the 'most common way that people give up power is by thinking they don't have any' and under-estimating their social agency and capacity for change.

Hard won rights

It is important to recall that social, political and economic rights like the National Health Service in Britain, the minimum wage, the right to affiliate to a trade union, the right to vote and attend school have all been hard won through struggle rather than the outcomes of capitalist beneficence. Similarly, in a global context history is brimming with inspiring examples of social movements that have resisted the spread of global empires and rejected the inequalities inherent with colonialism and mis-rule. We particularly think of Latin America and the rapid recent emergence of new progressive governments and regional movements that have rejected the old hegemony of the 'Washington Consensus' which economically shackled this dynamic continent and have re-lit the torch of independence carried by Simón Bolívar in the 19th century.

But why has social activism become a necessary, rather than optional, part of contemporary living? Well, at a global level we are currently confronted by the unprecedented challenge of climate change and nothing less than the sustainability of the eco-sphere and the basis of all human and natural life. We also are confronted by an array of issues resulting from neo-liberal growth and globalisation including unfair trade rules, unregulated multinational corporations, and persistently high levels of unsustainable debt in many poor countries. Where all of this not enough, we are now grabbling with the most severe economic downturn in a generation resulting from a high-handed, irresponsible approach to growth and economic management. At a local level, Ireland is facing into a head wind of austerity with the return of mass unemployment and emigration; problems we thought were consigned to history by the Celtic Tiger.

Development Education and Social Activism

All of these factors demand greater public action and development education (DE) is well positioned to support social activism at local and global levels. Development education is a radical form of learning that shares skills, values and knowledge through interactive methodologies and enables individuals to take action toward social change. However, one of the traditional weaknesses of development education has been in enabling learners to transfer knowledge into action despite the action component representing a central plank of DE practice. One of the reasons for this action deficit is the lack of horizontal linkages established by the DE sector with social movements that can provide opportunities for social change. Development education has traditionally operated within vertical institutions in liberal democracies that have limited grassroots involvement or participation. DE organisations have consequently had limited opportunities to engage learners in actions in partnership with social movements.

This publication aims to help bridge the gap between DE and social activism. It contains three interviews with activists working at a local level on global issues: Nessa Ní Chasaide (economic justice issues), David Hickey (Cuba and healthcare); and Elaine Daley (Palestine). They offer inspiring stories of individuals responding to the needs of others while also recognising the lessons we can learn from communities in the global South. In section 2, the handbook provides examples of organisations and communities, locally and globally, that have campaigned on issues related to natural resources, human rights, justice, aid and fair-trade. In section 3, we profile local campaigning, development and activist groups with a global focus indicating the areas in which they operate, their main target groups, resources, campaigning activities and contact details. We are providing this information to enable the reader to identify which groups they might like to contact with a view to enhancing their activism. The Centre for Global Education hopes that this publication will also support the work of development organisations in helping their learners move from education to activism.

The Centre welcomes feedback on the publication. Any inaccuracies in the book are entirely the responsibility of the editors and we apologise in advance for any errors in the text. We hope you find the book useful.

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SECTION 1: Activist Interviews

ELAINE DALY

Question:

You have been involved in organising visits by activists from Ireland to the West Bank in Palestine. Could you explain what first led you to become engaged with the issue of Palestine? Did you have any previous involvement in activism on global/ development issues?

Elaine:

My interest in Palestine really started with an interest in Lebanon. I was born in 1971 in Newbridge, County Kildare, which is very near to the Curragh Army Camp. Many of the boys and girls in my primary school had fathers who had undertaken six month tours of duty with the Irish Army/ UN in Lebanon. My uncle was an army chaplain and he also served in Lebanon for maybe three or four terms of duty. When he was in Lebanon, we used to write to him and to watch the evening news to see what was happening in Lebanon. And through that I suppose I became interested in Palestine. My initial interest was drawn to Israel because of her actions in Lebanon and from then on, I followed her actions in Palestine and her treatment of the Palestinian people. So even as a school child in the 1980s I knew there was something going on there that wasn't right.

I had wanted to travel to Palestine for about 25 years, before I made my first trip there. Finally back in 2005 I found a tour company in the UK which organised olive harvesting trips to Palestine. I knew I would have to go to Palestine as part of an organised group (as I would not have had the nerve to travel on my own) and I did not want to go as part of a religious pilgrimage so when I saw this olive harvest trip I knew this was the right way for me to visit Palestine.

I arrived at my hotel in Bethlehem in the middle of the night, having been detained by Israeli airport security for about an hour or so. I remember standing in my hotel room listening to the call to prayer and starting to cry because I had finally made it to Palestine - twenty five years on. It was a very emotional visit for me.

The only difficulty I had with the olive harvest trip was that it was very expensive. Nonetheless I decided I was going to go every year. However, when I looked at the programme the following year I didn't like the itinerary because it didn't include the places I wanted to visit. I had been speaking to friends and colleagues

in Ireland telling them about the olive harvest trip and they thought it sounded great. I suddenly got this notion that I should organise a trip to the West Bank that suited me. So I contacted the tour company in Bethlehem that had looked after me during the olive harvest trip in 2005 - the Alternative Tourism group. I put it to them that I would locate Irish people to go on a visit to the West Bank. I would organise all the administration on the Irish side, answer queries and devise the itinerary. We would then become their responsibility when we arrived and they would make the local arrangements and look after us in the West Bank. I devised an itinerary and then started to promote it. The response was excellent.

The first trip I organised was in October 2006. Twenty six people signed up - I still can't believe it. This was a real leap of faith both for me - having been there just once before - and for the people who travelled with me. The situation today remains unchanged from that in 2006 (even though I now use a tour company called the Siraj Centre). I look after tour participants here in Ireland; devising the itinerary, negotiating prices, sourcing flights, sorting accommodation, answering queries and arranging transfers. But when we arrive in the West Bank we become the responsibility of the Siraj Centre. They determine whether it is safe for us to travel to a particular town or city on a particular day. I rely on their experience and knowledge when we are in the West Bank.

Every year since 2006 the visits have continued with those who have travelled to Palestine spreading the word about their experiences and encouraging others to travel to Palestine. There was never any master plan; it kind of just grew itself.

Question:

Have you got bigger numbers every year? How many visits have been organised and how many people have gone to the West Bank from Ireland on your tours?

Elaine:

The numbers go up and down. The biggest group I ever had was in February 2007, with thirty three people. The smallest group was February 2008, with fifteen people. In total, over eleven trips have been organised and two hundred and eighty people have travelled with me to the West Bank, which is a huge number. In 2006 there was just the one trip, in 2007 there were three, in 2008 there were four, in 2009 there were two and in 2010 there was just one. I have been with every group except in October 2008. At that time two trips were run concurrently - I looked after the first group, which consisted of people who were first time travellers to the region and two other people looked after the second group who were 'returnees' to the region. In October 2007, I had organised the trips so that when I brought the first group back to the airport, I collected the second group.



On the one hand this worked well because I saved money on flights (as it was only one return journey) and it also meant that I only had to go through Israeli airport security once. However, I was physically, mentally and emotionally exhausted after the week with the first group and I felt that the second group didn't get the energy or attention they deserved from me. I don't think I will ever organise trips in that format again.

Question:

What kind of things do you do when you're there?

Elaine:

When I went on my first visit to Palestine, in 2005, it was as part of an olive harvesting trip. We spent half the day picking olives and the other half was spent meeting Israeli or Palestinian groups in the region. Basically, we were just helping the locals harvest their olives. Sometimes, Israeli settlers would intimidate Palestinians or deny them access to their own olive groves. It was felt that the presence of thirty westerners working in an olive grove would reduce the likelihood of Israeli violence. I don't know how much physical help we were but I suppose it was our presence as opposed to our labour, which was important.

On the trips I now organise, we do not undertake olive harvesting or olive tree planting. Basically we visit various towns and cities around the West Bank and meet with Israeli and Palestinian individuals and groups who are working for peace and justice in the region. We listen to their presentations and hear about their experiences living under an illegal occupation. When time allows, we visit religious and tourist sites and places of interest in a particular city. However, we tend to be under time pressure, so don't get to do as much sight seeing as we might like.

Question

What did you hope to achieve through these visits?

Elaine:

Reflecting on previous visits, I can see that a lot has been achieved by these trips. Those who have travelled with me have seen for themselves the situation in the West Bank and they can make up their own minds as to the rights and wrongs of the situation. I hope people come away better informed having met with Israeli and Palestinian groups working for peace and justice. I hope they can speak with more authority, on the issue of Palestine, on return to their own country (most people that have travelled are from Ireland but I have had people from the UK,

Germany, Holland, China and the United States). It is very difficult to contradict someone who has been to the region and has seen the situation with their own eyes and that certainly adds more weight to their perspective on the situation there. And of course the visits contribute a huge amount of money to the local economy. Each participant will spend about €1,000 on the trip between the cost of transport around the West Bank, food, accommodation and personal spending money: all of which is spent in the West Bank. When we visit a women's group, a refugee camp or a special needs centre we purchase goods there. So we help those who need the greatest help.

I hope people come home with a different impression of Palestine. I hope that we see the courage, the humanity, the spirit of the Palestinian people. To travel to the Middle East can be quite daunting. When I travelled to the West Bank in 2005, I was very anxious and nervous. I hope that by coming to the West Bank as part of an organised trip that it gives people the confidence to visit the region again at some later point, perhaps to carry out voluntary work or simply to visit with friends.

Some aspects of the visit can be depressing or upsetting. It can be very difficult to see people queuing for hours to get through a checkpoint – only to be turned away without getting through. I personally find it very upsetting to see say a soldier in her twenties shouting at a woman in her sixties. I look at children passing through checkpoints on their way to school – filled with energy, life, and hope - and I wonder what the future holds for them. I still can't get my head around people being refused permission to leave Bethlehem to pray in Jerusalem (about 5 miles away). I reckon I've been to Jerusalem more often in the last 4 years, than the majority of people who live in Bethlehem have been, in the same time period, and there's something very wrong about that. I hope that people return to Ireland with a renewed realisation as to how lucky we are to live here, to be able to walk where we want, pray where we want, visit friends and family and go to bed at night safe in the knowledge that our home will not be demolished that night.

I'm sure you're thinking – well that sounds like a nightmare of a trip! But we also have good fun and make good friends and contacts among ourselves. It can be very validating for someone who might live in a small community or who may not have the support of family or friends to suddenly find themselves on a trip with twenty five other people with similar values and attitudes. That can be very encouraging. I would say that the majority of people who come on the trip are not actually Palestinian activists. They are usually people who have an interest in Palestine but they may not have actually done any solidarity work. However, they tend to be people active in women's groups, community groups or trade unions rather than activists on Palestine. They are people who have an interest in the



wider world, in justice, in fairness and in human rights.

In summary, what I hope to achieve, by running these trips, is an increase in the participants' knowledge of the situation, to see things with their own eyes and to hear the views of Israelis and Palestinians who are experiencing the situation on a daily basis. The trip should enable participants to speak with more authority on the situation and should lead to increased awareness of the situation in Palestine amongst the general Irish population (participants' families, friends, colleagues, neighbours etc). We are fed an awful lot of nonsense in the media about the situation in the Middle East. I believe you are more likely to listen to someone you know, who has been to the region and met people who are experiencing the situation on a daily basis, than to some sort of newspaper or news report from a media source whose bias is very obvious. In my experience, many former participants become active in solidarity work on their return home.

Question:

Do you meet as a group before you go on the trip? And do you disseminate information around the group between trips?

Elaine:

I email all the time mainly to offer reassurance to people and to build up trust. If people want to meet me in person, before they make a decision as to whether they'll come on the trip, I'll meet up for a chat. And of course, I'll talk to people over the phone. Sometimes after meeting up or talking on the phone people decide not to travel - and that's fine. I know that travelling to Palestine can be daunting for some people. What I find very interesting, is that once people are in Bethlehem, they become less anxious. Past participants encourage future participants to travel to Palestine so people must feel safe and secure when they are in the West Bank if they are encouraging friends and colleagues to participate in the trip.

I'm in touch with people constantly via email and certainly in the 4 or 5 weeks prior to a trip, I'd be in touch at least 3 or 4 times a week - really just to keep people informed - to let them know which meetings have been confirmed, which have been cancelled, to distribute guidance notes, to offer advice on currency and vaccinations. About 2 or 3 weeks before our departure date, I arrange a short meeting in Dublin just to chat about any concerns or worries people may have and also to answer questions. I have found that holding this meeting helps to calm nerves about the trip and provides reassurance both to those individuals who are taking part in the trip and to their families. It puts faces to names and it is good for people travelling on their own so when they get to the airport they recognise one or two other people. I circulate a report of this meeting to those

who don't attend. I phone everyone the weekend before we depart for the West Bank, just to make sure that they are all sorted and to answer any final questions.

Question:

What have been the main outcomes of these visits? Are there any specific examples you can tell us about in regard to activism and public awareness on the issue of Palestine?

Elaine:

I feel there is a greater awareness of the situation in Palestine in Ireland though this is not due solely to the trips. It is also related to events in Palestine like Operation Cast Lead (the Israeli bombardment of the Gaza Strip) in the winter of 2008, the ongoing siege of Gaza and the flotillas (particularly the *MV Rachel Corrie* and the Israeli attack on the *Mavi Marmora* in May 2010) and greater effectiveness of the Boycott Israeli Goods Campaign. In fact, I have found that following Operation Cast Lead and the media coverage of the flotillas, there was an increased awareness of, and interest in, the trips to the West Bank. However, my views are subjective. There could be a whole range of situations contributing to increased knowledge and activism on Palestine in Ireland. But for the people who have been on the trips I feel that they certainly do influence their own circle of friends, family and workmates.

As regards to specific examples of activism, I have set up a very small media campaign to respond to factually incorrect articles published in the national newspapers about Palestine. We respond to these articles and many former participants have had letters published. Many former travellers have become involved in the Ireland Palestine Solidarity Campaign and in Sadaka (the Ireland Palestine Alliance). Some have become very active in different ways: for example writing articles in local newspapers, religious publications and union magazines. Others have organised local meetings, spoken at union meetings, given presentations to their work colleagues, organised fundraising events for various groups in the West Bank (including a special needs centre and assisting university students with their college fees). One person even organised a photographic exhibition.

Former participants have returned to Palestine as volunteers for groups such as the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme of Palestine and Israel (organised by the World Council of Churches) and the Al Haq Palestinian Human Rights Organisation. A psychologist and a doctor, who travelled to the West Bank in 2006 and 2007, also gave their time and experience to up skill local people. In 2009 and 2010 when the Israelis illegally intercepted aid ships bound for Gaza and detained Irish passengers on board, I contacted all former trip participants and asked them



to contact the Israeli Embassy in Dublin to enquire about the welfare of the Irish citizens and to urge their immediate release. One of the Embassy staff complained to me that Ireland was the only country with a campaign to get their citizens released. Some participants have returned to college to study International Relations and Middle Eastern Studies.

Most trips to the West Bank involve a visit to two schools in Hebron. As a result of these trips, approximately €20,000 has been donated to the schools and this has made a huge difference to the educational resources available to the children. Computer labs, a science lab, libraries, drama and sports equipment have all been purchased, so we have contributed to the development of the next generation. It will hopefully show these children that they are not forgotten by some of us in the west and that a bunch of Irish people are happy to help with their education.

Obviously, all of the above activities could have happened anyway, regardless as to whether people had travelled to the West Bank, but the trips must have had some sort of impact, even if only in a small way.

Question:

You organised these visits as an individual without organisational support. Why is that and how do you manage the workload?

Elaine:

I organise the trips on my own because I work better that way. I have very strong feelings as to how each trip should be run and the groups we should meet. I would not like to compromise this through partnerships with other organisations. Prior to devising an itinerary, I consult with former participants seeking their suggestions for groups we should visit. I take some of the suggestions on board. However, there are logistical, cost and time limitations involved while we are in the West Bank which need to be considered too.

I have three good friends who have travelled to the West Bank and I constantly run things by them and seek their advice. I just like to have full control, it is the way I am and I just find it easier to work that way. I say to people, both at the pre-trip meeting in Dublin and at our introductory meeting in the West Bank that I will do all I can to ensure that their visit to the West Bank is safe, meets their expectations and is a worthwhile experience but that at the end of the day, I'm the boss (in conjunction with the tour company in Bethlehem), that the buck stops with me, and that while I will try to take their suggestions on board, I am the person who makes the decisions.

With each trip the workload becomes easier; I know exactly what questions people are going to ask and I have a good working relationship with the tour

company in Bethlehem. It has all fallen into place now and the tour company and I have a system in place which works quite well.

It is a bit difficult sometimes because the trips use up the bulk of my annual leave (and it's certainly not a holiday for me!), especially in years like 2008 when I had 4 groups in one year. But at the same time, it is the only form of activism that I do for Palestine. This is where my energy, time and money go and I am very happy to do it. I know that the trips 'work' and that has been hugely satisfying for me. I have met a great bunch of people from all over the country who I would never otherwise have had the chance to meet. It is great when people return home and have gotten the message and are determined to do something for Palestine. As long as I get people on board I will continue to organise the trips. In fact, I would do ten trips a year if I could get enough people. My hope is that eventually there would be a trip out to Palestine every month. Not organised by me, obviously, but involving groups in the UK, Germany and Spain etc.

My motto in life is 'an injury to one is the concern of all'. Once people get on a bus in the West Bank and look out the window they get the message. And so my work is done!

Question:

How can others get involved in your visits?

Elaine:

I would love to hear from people who would consider travelling out to the West Bank with me. I hope to create a website in the near future (though I have been saying that for the past 2 years). The Ireland Palestine Solidarity Campaign and Sadaka promote the trips for me. I also ask former participants to spread the word about upcoming trips among their own contacts.

For further information

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DAVID HICKEY

Question:

You have been involved in raising awareness of the Cuban health system in Ireland and encouraging closer links between Cuban and Irish medical practitioners. What were the factors that led you to become involved with Cuba?

David:

I always liked the concept of Cuba but my first awareness of it came in the 1970s through watching the Cuban Olympic athletes Alberto Juantorena and Teófilo Stevenson. Juantorena won the Olympic gold medals in the 400 and 800 metres and Stevenson won the Olympic boxing heavyweight gold medal three times, one of only three boxers to achieve such a feat. Both athletes had great opportunities to run off to the United States and become multimillionaires but instead they chose to stay in Cuba. I subsequently met Juantorena and was surprised to find that he speaks six languages; he still lives in the same house and the children of the area all know him. He is totally committed to the Cuban concept of revolution and equality and the Cuban and Che Guevara concept that a new world and a new human being is possible. Such a world does not have to be greedy or need more than everyone else; it does not have to be based on market capitalism.

That was my initial introduction to Cuba, just watching and learning about these sporting and political role models and their commitment to revolution. However, afterwards I met a Cuban doctor while I was working in Lyon, France. He was there to learn how to perform pancreatic transplant surgery and we struck up a friendship which led to my first trip to Cuba in 1998. Sadly, once I got there he had died. He had been in a plane crash on a medical trip to Ecuador and passed away, aged thirty five. But I met his friends and colleagues and once I got down there and saw what was happening on the ground I was stuck on the concept.

One thing that would surprise you as you drive in from the airport in Havana is the number of people smiling, talking and playing baseball in the street. There are no children on Nintendos or on Playstations or chatting on mobile phones and there is no commercial advertising. Another thing that particularly struck me was a picture of a flower lying on a bench which had a little face with tears and the line which accompanied it read, 'Two hundred million children in the world live on the street. None of them are Cuban'. And that is a fact. There is nobody sleeping on the streets in Cuba. Everyone has a home, everyone has a job and everyone has healthcare, education and end of life care. These are things that we in the Western world can't provide with all of our billions of Euros and dollars. There is

great equality, justice, fairness and solidarity - there is very little crime in Cuba, it's a new world.

The Cuban health system is spectacular considering they have a fraction of the budget we spend on healthcare. Essentially their entire health budget is the same as that of Beaumont Hospital, for a population of eleven and a half million, yet they achieve healthcare indices in areas such as life expectancy, infant mortality, maternal mortality and vaccination rates which are better than we have here in Dublin. And they do it by prevention and promoting health rather than curing disease. We wait until we get sick before we deal with health problems whereas the Cubans use a preventative approach to medicine that is a more proactive and effective way of delivering healthcare. A lot of countries have gone to look at the Cuban health system. For example the Karolinska Institute in Sweden send thirty postgraduate students every year to study the public health system and John Hopkins University in the United States send a number of medical students to enrol on the courses offered at the medical school in Cuba. We haven't quite got there yet but Micheál Martin, the (then) Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs, visited Cuba in 2009 which may result in closer co-operation between Cuba and Ireland in the future. Also, Cuban doctors are going to be recruited in the near future to work in Ireland, due to huge staff shortages in the Irish health service.

Question:

You famously called for an end of the US blockade of Cuba when presented to the crowd in Croke Park at the 1999 Gaelic Football Final. Why did you decide to take that public step and what were the outcomes for you personally and the issue of Cuba in Ireland?

David:

I decided to take the step on the foot of my first trip to Cuba when I saw the genocidal injustice caused by US blockade in Cuba (and it is genocide on the basis of the 1948 Geneva Convention, depriving a population of the resources they need to maintain their lives). I saw children in the hospitals being deprived of anti-nausea drugs during chemotherapy and vomiting twenty or thirty times a day as a result. I saw all kinds of hardship being imposed. Machinery out of use because they could not get the parts they needed due to US legislation like the Cuban Democracy Act (1992).

If you go and see this for yourself, ordinary people get very angry, particularly when you think of the bogus philosophy that is behind the American blockade, which has very little support within the US and even less around the world. Every single country in the world apart from Israel and the US has voted against the blockade in



the United Nations General Assembly. For 19 successive years the General Assembly has supported a motion condemning the blockade with 187 countries backing the Cuban motion in 2010 and yet it still continues. It is particularly hypocritical when compared to the absolutely abhorrent human rights abuses carried out by, for instance, the Saudi Arabian or Chinese regimes. The only real human rights abuses carried out in Cuba are those perpetrated by the US government and its allies at Guantanamo Bay, Cuban territory illegally occupied by the US. The main reason why Cuba has been targeted by the US is because it has maintained its independent status since 1959.

These are the things that annoyed me and prompted me to take that step. I thought it was an opportunity to bring it to the attention of a very large Irish audience, particularly in the United States as that game is broadcast to about twenty US cities and is watched by about five or six million people in the US with Irish roots. These are some fairly significant movers and shakers in the business world in the US and I think that was the reason I chose to do it.

Question:

Since that protest what campaigning work have you done in respect to Cuba and what have been the main outcomes?

David:

My campaigning is mainly collaborative and in solidarity with Cuba. We have set up a cooperative between ourselves and Cuba through which we send young students out to Cuba to experience their health system. It enables young doctors who have recently graduated to learn some medicine as practiced out there. Also, we have taken some Cuban post graduates over here to show them our techniques in transplantation. We have also been able to gather some medical equipment that is considered a little out of date here because of certain legislative provisions but which is still very good and adequate. This equipment has been sent to Cuba.

In terms of political protest I would join any demonstration outside the American embassy but I haven't set up any formal political campaigning organisation. But I'm familiar with the work of Cuba Support Group (CSG) Ireland (www.cubasupport.com) who deliver a lot of effective campaigning activities in support of Cuba. When CSG invite me to deliver a talk or lend my support to their work I always make myself available. I think there has been an increased awareness of Cuba here, and also because of tourism many people from Ireland have visited Cuba and experienced the country for themselves. I haven't met anybody who has gone on holiday to Cuba and not been wowed by it. It is just so different and such a beautiful place too.

Question:

You are a Consultant Urologist and Transplant Surgeon. It's not very common for such eminent members of your profession to participate in campaigning work of this nature. How have your colleagues responded to your work on Cuba?

David:

Most would be indifferent or disdainful I suppose but there is a core group of people who have come out with me to Cuba. One year we had 26 medics from this hospital go and visit Cuba and I go every year as my wife is Cuban and also a doctor. But many would think me quaint and quirky and very typical of all those left-wing pinkos; attitudes that are quite common from those at the upper end of the economic scale here. Many of them don't really know what is going on in the world and would take the view of 'each to their own'.

Question:

You don't have an organisation behind you and have to manage from your own resources. How do you campaign on Cuba and still maintain a working life?

David:

I raise money to send containers of medical equipment to Cuba; a forty foot container costs €4,500. It is much more expensive to send supplies to Cuba because of what is known as the 'Cuban Democracy Act' which means that if a ship docks in Cuba it can't visit the United States for six months afterwards. This essentially means that a ship goes from Europe to Cuba which is 80 miles off the United States, the biggest market in the world, and it cannot go and load up on stuff to bring back so it is a very costly journey. I can only find one company here in Dublin, International Maritime, who actually does it. That is one of the reasons why it is so expensive to send containers of medical supplies to Cuba.

The outreach of this stupid blockade is pervasive. I raise the money through people who give me donations. For example I recently received some large individual donations from donors sympathetic to Cuba and funds raised through initiatives like pub quizzes. These donations funded the last container we sent out to Cuba and also paid for an Information Technology Centre in Havana University. I brought the money over to Professor Alfonso Guerra and told him to do his best with it and when I returned six months later they had built this beautiful centre with twenty computers and I got a list of receipts back and every cent of that money was spent on equipment. All the labour was provided by local people; the doctors, the nurses and the community. They built it, furnished it and put in the



windows. There was no handling charge, no advertising charge and no transition charge as you would have here for similar work. So people do donate money, often quietly, because they see the merit of what Cuba has achieved.

Question:

In the light of your experience on Cuba what steps do you recommend for us as individuals and for national governments? How can we get involved with the issue?

David:

First of all, I think you should go there on holidays and try to spend your money there rather than buying your holiday here. The problem with package holidays bought here is that a very small percentage of the money spent actually goes to Cuba. Secondly, get out into the countryside and meet the people. Go to their hospitals and their schools. Go there and see it. See things like the children reading books in the street.

I think there will be an opening up of Ireland's relationship with Cuba. There are already 10,000 visitors to Cuba a year from Ireland so if we could get Ryanair to offer a direct flight, as opposed to the Paris route which exists now and takes a whole day; we could easily double that amount. Ryanair could easily take that business off British Airways or Air France.

You need to go there and see what they have done, see their achievements. Maybe Ireland should look to Cuba and Latin America for inspiration in our hour of need rather than the US or Britain who are providing these exorbitant loans. We should have gone to Venezuela who actually prevented the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) from destroying the economies of Argentina and Brazil when they were in similar trouble. I believe Hugo Chávez, president of Venezuela, would love to receive an official invitation to visit Ireland. He has really supported the rise of socialism in Latin America and has helped his fellow countries. He has looked after Cuba well by providing very cheap oil which Cuba reciprocates by providing doctors to work with the poorest sections of the population in Venezuela. The US has tried to force him out of office twice but he has survived and remains in office.

Ireland is now part of the Third World because the IMF only deals with Third World countries and we better get used to that concept. Instead of trying to become part of the G7 and G20 we should look at the G77 which represents 90 per cent of the world where we belong and where we have great credibility. The Irish were saints and scholars when Europe was in the dark ages, we have had 800 years of revolution and a fight for independence (which we seem to have

lately handed right back) and we provided wonderful peacekeeping services to the United Nations. The Irish were always very accepted because of our lack of a colonial history and our general ability to get on with people. We have lots of ideas and resources that we could contribute internationally in the context of the developing world, rather than limiting our world view to Europe and the US.

For further information

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NESSA NÍ CHASAIDE

Question:

What is your background? How did you come to get involved in development work?

Nessa:

I got involved through being an activist at university level then working in the development sector straight after that. I lived in Kenya for a number of years working with a development organisation and met a lot of radical activists who really gave me my political education. I came back to study international relations in Dublin in order to strengthen my knowledge of political theory to underpin my political viewpoints. I then switched from working on funding support for organisations in the global South to policy and advocacy work because I was interested in changing my focus. I wanted to focus on the policies of the Irish government that are keeping Southern (developing) countries poor. I have worked for the Debt and Development Coalition for four years.

Question:

Can you describe the main activities of the Debt and Development Coalition? What are the main types of campaigning activities carried out by DDC? How do you assess their effectiveness and can you describe some successful campaigns?

Nessa:

We basically work on three levels and these three layers of our work are very much interconnected. First on research and policy in developing why we think debt and other global financial issues like taxation are keeping impoverished countries poor. That involves networking with the global justice movement, fighting for debt cancellation and tax justice. This first strand of work involves lobbying government, parliamentarians, the private sector and any of the stakeholders who have decision making power relating to these issues.

The second strand is our public education or development education work which is ensuring that people living in Ireland have an opportunity to learn about questions of financial injustice because there isn't really any other group which is doing public education in this area. We do that through developing education resources for formal and informal education; for formal education post primary level and informal education at adult level.

Thirdly we have our campaigning agenda which is mobilising people to take

action, to agitate and to pressure their local political representatives to support the position of the debt cancellation and tax justice movements. We engage in different approaches to campaigning: from traditional approaches such as petition signing and letter writing to the more creative approaches like street actions that are maybe somewhat creative or comic to catch the attention of the public. We try to explain our issues in a simple way, focusing on the big moral questions raised by them.

Typically in Ireland, to get the attention of our parliamentarians, it is important that people living in the constituencies of their parliamentarians show their concerns about our issues because that is how the Irish system works. If a TD feels that their voters and potential voters are concerned about international questions then those issues are moved up the agenda and raised in the Dáil. This is a key approach for us. We encourage people around the country to get in touch with their local representatives to show they are concerned and to get them to engage and learn about the issue and support the positions we are promoting.

Campaign successes can take a lot of time to achieve. In terms of the debt campaign, the success of the campaign historically has been to encourage the Irish government to be one of the more progressive governments on the debt question. After a lot of mobilisation in 2002, the Irish government supported the total multilateral debt cancellation of the poorest countries in the world. It was an important step forward and now we are in the middle of the next step of the campaign which involves persuading the government to update their debt policy and recognise the problem of illegitimate debt and the policy conditionalities of international financial institutions. We are awaiting the outcome of that phase of the campaign and we will know if it has been successful in the coming months. We have approached that campaign from the perspective of engaging with government officials and lobbying parliamentarians through their constituencies through actions like petition signing, drawing public attention to the issue and getting media coverage too. So coupling a public campaign with insider lobbying is very important.

Question:

How does the DDC try to engage the public in campaigning activities?

Nessa:

We engage in a few different approaches to campaigning. The critical element for the public is our development education work which ensures that there are spaces to educate and learn about our issues. This is attained by linking with other development education organisations which have established courses that



encourage members of the public to commit to more substantial learning on global justice issues. We supply the debt and tax learning part of those courses.

Another approach is through more open ended public meetings to ensure there are opportunities for members of the public to come, discuss and debate these issues even if they don't have time to give to a more structured development education course.

Also, we engage with the media by writing articles and sending press releases. Holding street actions mean engaging members of the public with our key campaigning issues, while also aiming to draw media coverage to a wider audience so that they will learn about the issues and their relevance.

Question

Do you find the public responsive or is it difficult to mobilise people on this issue?

Nessa:

It is difficult to mobilise the public on issues of global justice at present because there are currently such dominant, immediate concerns about the Irish economy. It can also be difficult to encourage people to understand the root causes of global inequality when there is such a low focus on this area through the media. There is very little space and debate to give serious attention to international issues and for many members of the public in Ireland it is a stressful time at present. It is difficult to get people to put time aside to think of questions of wider global justice.

At the same time the current financial crisis is potentially supporting greater concern for these questions and people are connecting problems with our international economic system with poverty in impoverished countries. Irish people are beginning to experience similar problems, living under debt in a period of economic uncertainty. As a result of the global financial crisis, there is a greater empathy and openness to understand the factors that got us into this mess and created so much social inequality. The tricky part is to engage people in such a way that they stick with the issues and gain confidence in learning about them in a more in-depth way that will result in action.

Question

How do you manage to balance public advocacy with government lobbying? Is it difficult to combine the two? What is your experience?

Nessa:

It is important to combine the two as politicians are more inclined to listen to you

if they recognise the organisation that you are working with has a public base; that you are not an organisation disconnected from the general public. So it is very helpful when you have campaign supporters who are reinforcing the messages that you are sending to government through their own actions, in their own communities or through individual actions like writing to government Ministers to show their concern.

Different approaches are appropriate. The approach employed depends on public and governmental attitudes to the campaign. For example when an idea is quite unpopular in government it can be a good idea to really focus on public campaigning to convince political representatives that this is an issue of concern. Then when there is more sympathy in government and in the parliament more generally, that can be a time to really engage government officials and parliamentarians on the substance of the issue. This approach can ensure that decision-makers understand what the campaign concern is which can result in the organisation being consulted before policy decisions are made. It is critical in any campaign that the decision-makers recognise the need to consult your organisation and constituency on key policy decisions. Such consultations are recognition that you have a moral argument that should be listened to and that you are prepared to make a lot of noise if the policies implemented are potentially damaging for poor countries.

Question

What are the challenges of working in today's financial climate in terms of policy and funding?

Nessa:

The challenge today is a fundamental one of survival. The cuts to the aid budget have really damaged the development education sector and while the development education funding focuses on our education activities and not on the other parts of our work, it is pivotal to our operations. So if development education funding is cut then it weakens our organisation in a fundamental way. Trying to find other sources of funding has slowed down our work in Debt and Development Coalition, and in development organisations that are already very small and financially vulnerable these cuts have been quite devastating.

It also raises the challenge of our generally high dependence within the sector on state funding. Though it is very difficult for development education organisations to source funding from elsewhere and there is an obligation, I believe, on the state to ensure that they continue to support open spaces for learning on global justice issues, the sector needs to broaden its funding base. However, development



education is not the sort of work that you can easily fundraise from the public on so widening our funding base is going to be a challenge.

Question

What would you encourage individuals interested in the issue of debt and development to do? What are your priorities?

Nessa:

We have a number of ongoing campaigns; our current priorities are on areas of debt policy and tax justice. We are asking people to support our campaign for justice centred on Irish debt policies. We have a petition that we are asking people to sign and send to the Minister for Finance and Minister for Overseas Development calling for: a justice centred debt policy; the cancellation of illegitimate debt; support for developing countries to audit their debts to see just how big they are and determine whether they should be repaid.

The second campaign focuses on tax justice and we are running it jointly with Christian Aid to call for tax justice from multinational companies. We are asking two multinational companies, Vodafone and Unilever, to support a new way of carrying out their financial reporting. The profits that they make in each country in which they operate and the tax they are paying will be made clearer to their shareholders and to citizens and governments in the global South. Essentially it is a campaign for greater transparency around financial reporting.

The reason we are campaigning for this new reporting mechanism, called country by country reporting, is because Southern countries are losing at least US\$160 billion per year due to tax dodging by multinational companies. Of course we are not saying that the multinational companies we are targeting, Vodafone and Unilever, are doing anything untoward in relation to taxation. Instead we are asking them to lead the way, support the campaign and assist in getting their auditing companies and other multinational companies in their sector to support the campaign.

Question

In a more general sense how do you feel the development sector as a whole performs in terms of engaging the public in work on global development? What are the strengths, weaknesses and challenges?

Nessa:

The development sector has achieved quite a high level of public awareness given that it is quite a small sector which is not always rooted in communities and yet has

been successful in drawing political and media attention to core issues. However, I think it has potentially over-invested in its communication on fundraising over and above communicating on matters of long term political change and the root causes of global injustice. As a result, I think there is a tendency in the media to cover issues of global justice in quite an insubstantial manner. I think that is an area that needs to be improved generally.

This is very challenging because it depends on how you commit to engaging the public. If it is through more of a marketing approach, the level of understanding is always going to be thin so I think there has to be a long term commitment to public education, a real development education approach, which commits to supporting people to gain confidence in understanding what is happening in the world around them and why it is happening in this way. The educational approach can also support members of the public in taking action and making decisions on how they want to change the world as well as understand it.

Some of the challenges are funding related so this means it will be very difficult to keep small organisations running that are working on a development education agenda. However, this raises a deeper flaw that work on development education and campaigning on global justice is very dependent on a small number of organisations. The challenge this presents is ensuring that we root concerns about our issues within the wider public so that if our organisations do not survive the financial crisis that there is still enough of a critical mass of people who will volunteer to continue working on the issues.

That is why public campaigning is really important and why development education work needs to be well rooted in communities built upon relationships with members of the public. Part of the problem in the development education sector is dependence on professionally trained staff whereby the work tends to be driven by paid staff rather than volunteers. It is really important to protect voluntary activism, self-education and learning and self-organised action as part of our organisational work otherwise we won't have left anything behind if development education organisations don't survive the current financial crisis. I hope that we will survive the economic downturn but it is going to depend on a much deeper relationship with members of the public than it ever did before.

Question

Can you tell us how to get involved?

Nessa:

Members of the public can become members of the Debt and Development Coalition as individuals or as part of an organisation and shape the future decisions



and work of the organisation through their membership. However, you do not have to be a member to engage with the organisation as we have a commitment to public education and awareness raising. We also have a monthly campaign group that people can join and come to every month to catch up on and discuss the issues. One of the challenges we face is being based in Dublin and supporting the people around the country to get involved so we are always looking for individuals who are willing to spread the word on the work of the organisation outside of the capital and the main urban centres.

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SECTION 2: Activism Case Studies

Bolivian Water Wars

Campaign Background

In the 20 year period prior to the election of Evo Morales as president of Bolivia in 2005, successive governments gradually sold or leased out the majority of Bolivia's public enterprises to corporate buyers, in compliance with International Monetary Fund (IMF) structural reforms created through debt relief in the 1980s. Its railways, telephone system, national airlines and hydrocarbon industry have all moved from public to private ownership as a result of the economic crisis that hit when Bolivia moved from a military dictatorship to a country with civilian rule in 1982.

The most extreme campaign for privatisation came in 1999 when the Bolivian Government sold the public water system in the country's third largest city Cochabamba to Aguas Del Tunari, a subsidiary of American construction company Bechtel and Italian energy supplier Edison. The deal meant that Aguas Del Tunari would gain ownership of the municipal water supply in addition to wells and rural irrigations systems built and paid for by local farmers.

Within a short period of ownership, Aguas Del Tunari increased water rates by up to 200 per cent. In a country with widespread poverty and a minimum wage of less than US \$70 per month, Cochabamba's residents were hit hard by monthly water bills of around US \$20.

The resulting unrest in Cochabamba's communities led to the formation of an opposition movement named La Coordinadora for the defence of Water and Life. The group was founded after a road block initiated by concerned Irrigation Unions in 1999 and was made up of both rural and urban protestors. La Coordinadora first sprang to action in 2000 in response to the rates increase and initiated the Cochabamba protests (or Cochabamba Water Wars) which took place between January and April 2000. Demonstrators joined the protests from all walks of life including *regantes* (peasant irrigators), *jubilados* (retired unionised factory workers), pieceworkers, sweatshop employees, street vendors, homeless street children and university students.

Timeline

In January 2000 protesters erected road blockades and went on strike, shutting down the city for four days. The government failed to address the rates increase



and in February peaceful protests turned violent. Fed up with government inaction La Coordinadora, led by union organizer Oscar Olivera, organised a peaceful demonstration in Cochabamba's city plaza. The Plaza was marred by violence for 2 days as riot police fought demonstrators with tear gas, injuring an estimated 175 and blinding two. In March, La Coordinadora decided to hold an unofficial referendum and found that a majority (96 per cent of 50,000 voters) opposed water privatization and Aguas Del Tunari's water contract in Cochabamba. Still government officials refused to terminate the contract. In April protests spread to La Paz and other cities and rural communities, with demonstrators protesting not only against the water-rate hikes, but the country's overall economic depression and high unemployment. They were also opposed to the neo-liberal programmes of the IMF and World Bank which supported a privatization agenda in Bolivia.

Olivera and his colleagues agreed to meet for discussions with government officials but were arrested at the talks. The President Hugo Banzer then declared a 'state of siege' for 90 days, which allowed for the arrest and detention of individuals without warrants and the enforcement of curfews and travel restrictions. During this state of emergency, five people were killed including a young man Victor Hugo Daza, aged 17, who was shot dead by a Bolivian army captain who opened fire into a crowd of demonstrators. The captain was later acquitted by a military tribunal. Although riot police continued to assault protesters with live ammunition and tear gas the protestors managed to close most of the main highways into Bolivia as the demonstrations spread into La Paz and Santa Cruz.

Outcomes

The last wave of protest-related violence culminated in a historic victory for the residents of Cochabamba and their supporters. After four days in hiding, Olivera signed an agreement with the Bolivian government that guaranteed the withdrawal of Aguas Del Tunari, granted control of Cochabamba's water to La Coordinadora, assured the release of detained protesters, and promised the repeal of water privatization legislation.

The protestors were supported by Evo Morales, an indigenous Aymara Indian who was head of the cocoa growers' union and a Member of Congress. The water wars were part of a series of social struggles that contributed to the radicalization of the Bolivian polity including campaigns for indigenous rights and public control of natural resources. These campaigns helped to propel Morales to electoral victory in 2005.

For further information:

<http://www.article19.org/work/regions/latin-america/FOI/pdf/waterwar.pdf>

<http://upsidedownworld.org/main/bolivia-archives-31/2583-reflections-from-bolivia-water-wars-climate-wars-and-change-from-below>

<http://www.counterpunch.org/joseph03262005.html>

Shell to Sea, Corrib Gas Field, Kilcommon

Campaign Background

Shell to Sea (in Irish, Shell chun Sáile) is a campaign based in Kilcommon parish, Erris, County Mayo. It opposes the proposed construction of a natural gas pipeline through Rosspport as well as the ongoing construction by Royal Dutch Shell, Statoil and Marathon Oil of a refinery at Bellanaboy intended to refine natural gas from the Corrib gas field. Campaigners maintain the proximity of a natural gas pipeline is a risk to local residents, wildlife and agriculture. The toxic waste from the terminal is to be pumped into Broadhaven Bay raising concerns about the possible destruction of stocks of salmon and crab upon which much of the local economy depends.

More opposition comes from what campaigners have called the 'the gas and oil giveaway'. The gas and oil discovered under Irish water is said to be worth €420 billion but this wealth will be leaving Ireland due to a deal struck between the Haughey Government and multinational oil companies. Minister Ray Burke (later jailed for corruption) changed the law in 1987, reducing the State's share in offshore oil and gas from 50 per cent to zero and abolishing royalties. In 1992, Minister Bertie Ahern reduced the tax rate for the profits made from the sale of these resources from 50 per cent to 25 per cent. While Ireland suffers a recession the oil companies of the world are preparing to remove Ireland's valuable natural resources and collect billions in profits. As a result, Shell to Sea is campaigning for an off shore site for the gas refinery. The stated aim of the campaign is that the gas be refined at sea, rather than inland, as is done with Ireland's only other producing gas field off County Cork. The campaigners suggest that by refining the oil at sea, it will travel through the pipeline with less intensity therefore pose less risk. Shell to Sea also campaigns for a better deal for the Irish people. Several countries have recently changed their laws to reclaim a greater share of gas and oil wealth and even if Ireland's gas and oil fields were not nationalised, hundreds of billions of euro could be raised if Ireland took a similar share in its own gas to that which applies in other countries.

Timeline

Shell to Sea (S2S) began their protests on the June Bank Holiday weekend in 2005 in support of the Rosspport Five. Five men from Rosspport had been jailed for contempt of court after refusing to obey a temporary court injunction forbidding them to interfere with work being undertaken by Shell on their land. The men vowed to stay in prison until they got justice while their families and supporters commenced round the clock picketing at Rosspport, Ballinaboy and Glengad.



In July 2005 national rallies took place in support of the Rossport Five in Castlebar, Belmullet, Ballina and Dublin. Meanwhile, Shell was ordered to dismantle three kilometres of gas pipeline that it had assembled in north Mayo as it breached consent previously given. However, in August, Shell was granted permission by Marine and Natural Resources Minister Noel Dempsey to lay 75 kilometres of pipeline from the Corrib Field to the North Mayo coastline. Protests continued.

In September family and supporters of the Rossport Five visited Norway to meet Statoil and public representatives while the men appeared before Mr Justice Finnegan in the High Court. Shell dropped the temporary injunction against the men after intense media and political scrutiny of the case.

In the months that followed S2S continued to rally and in February 2006 Shell HQ in Dublin was blockaded as part of a national and international S2S day of action. From this point onwards intense protests took place with the original Rossport solidarity camp reopening and blockades set up at the entrance of Shell machinery in Ballinaboy. Later in October hundreds of Gardaí breached the blockade and in November baton charged the protestors in order to let Shell convoys through.

In March 2007 Shell to Sea protestors entered the proposed refinery site at Ballinaboy while others occupied Shell HQ in Dublin to protest at the Gas Giveaway. In April six protestors were arrested while Willie Corduff, one of the Rossport Five, was awarded the Goldman Environmental Prize. Protests continued throughout the year and in November an area of conservation was restored after illegal drilling by Shell. In September 2008, another eight protestors were arrested as they kayaked into Broadhaven bay in protest at the arrival of the Solitaire, a pipe laying ship. Solitaire was later forced to leave the bay.

The current situation

After two public hearings in 2002 An Bord Pleanála announced its decision to deny planning permission to the onshore terminal in late April 2003. However in April 2004 Mayo County Council approved planning permission for a revised plan and appeals were again lodged. Following an Oral Hearing in May and June 2009, chaired by An Bord Pleanála, many discrepancies were uncovered and Shell & partners' plans were rejected once again by the Board chairman. A new Environmental Impact Statement was submitted to the Planning Board in May 2010 with a plan to bury the Corrib gas pipeline under the length of Sruwaddacon Bay. In June 2010 the Corrib gas project placed three separate planning notices for the project in newspapers giving one month for submissions to be entered. In July 2010 Shell commenced the boring of 80 boreholes in Sruwaddacon Bay to see what the underlying substrate is like,

with S2S campaigners kayaking and walking out to the rigs regularly to protest.

July 2010 also saw the release of Risteard O Domhnaill's film *The Pipe* which documents the events in Kilcommon over the past four years. The film has already won Best Documentary at Foyle Film Festival in November 2010, Honourable Mention at IDFA 2010, Best Documentary at Galway Film Fleadh in July 2010 and received an international premiere at the Toronto Film Festival in September 2010.

In November 2009, An Bord Pleanála ruled that up to half a previous pipeline route was unacceptable on safety grounds due to proximity to housing at Glengad, Rosspport and Aughoose. It advised the developers to come up with another plan, and suggested Sruwaddacon estuary. However, observers at the hearing highlighted that in 2003 a landslide on Dooncarton Mountain in Glengad left people homeless and washed graves out to sea and expressed concern about the impact of tunnelling close to Dooncarton.

Most recently Rosspport Solidarity Camp and Shell to Sea campaigners joined protests in Dublin outside the Oireachtas, the national parliament of Ireland, in advance of Finance Minister Brian Lenihan's presentation of the budget for 2011. In a street theatre protest an actor wearing a mask of Lenihan announced a solution to Ireland's economic crisis through which Fianna Fáil would reclaim Ireland's vast oil and gas reserves valued at €540 billion.

The aim of the street theatre protest was to highlight the fact that renegotiation of Ireland's gas supplies would create the economic potential to wipe out Ireland's debt and make loans from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) unnecessary. Like the deal with Shell and Statoil on the controversial Corrib gas field, which contains clauses allowing the government to renegotiate the State share in the gas, the deals on the oil and gas in Ireland's Atlantic Margin are open to renegotiation. However, to date the Government has found it easier to face down the Irish public rather than the powerful multinational oil corporations. Shell to Sea hopes to help build public pressure to renegotiate the deals with ongoing public events and campaigning activities.



How to get involved

- Sign the online petition calling for a suspension on all works on the Corrib Gas project pending independent investigations.
- Write to your local and national papers, contact local radio chat shows.
- Organise protests/boycotts/blockades/occupations/critical masses at government offices & Shell / Statoil garages & offices.
- Organise a Shell to Sea talk in your community centre/workplace/college - members of the movement can come to speak and show campaign films.

For further Information

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Friends of the Earth Ireland: Climate Challenge

Campaign Background

Friends of the Earth view climate change as the biggest challenge facing humanity. Getting Ireland to rise to that challenge and play its part in preventing climate chaos is the focus of their campaigning work. Currently, Friends of the Earth is running a major campaign to get the Oireachtas to pass legislation that gives Ireland's emissions targets the force of law. Putting long-term targets into law will give certainty to businesses and households. A law is the best way to make sure all departments across government and all governments across time take climate change seriously and take action consistently.

Ireland is still overshooting the Kyoto target, even though there has been a drop in the emission of pollutants. Unfortunately, the recent reduction in emissions is due less to government action than the results of the recession and reduced economic activity. As Ireland begins to recover economically, emissions will inevitably rise again. The solution is to restructure rather than rebuild our economy. Friends of the Earth believe that the cornerstone of a low-carbon recovery is a Climate Protection Act.

Timeline

In order to make a Climate Protection Act in Ireland a reality and on top of the political agenda, Friends of the Earth regularly carries out advocacy work and organises public campaigns and events. In June 2009 they made a presentation to the Dáil committee on climate and energy security and in September 2009 alongside Stop Climate Chaos, they organised a flash mob at music festival Electric Picnic during the countdown to the crucial UN climate summit in Copenhagen. A flash mob is a public assembly to carry out an action to make a political point or is a message communicated by social networks. In April 2010 Friends of the Earth marked the 40th anniversary of Earth Day with an exclusive live music event in April 2010 to make sure Ireland does its fair share to contain climate change.

In June 2010 Friends of the Earth, as members of the Stop Climate Chaos Coalition, took part in a mass lobby on climate change. Friends of the Earth members and supporters from all over the country went to Buswells hotel, across from the Dáil, in order to meet with their TDs. Campaigners asked TDs to commit to supporting a strong climate law in the Dáil, when the Bill comes before them this autumn. As a result of their lobbying efforts, over seventy TDs signed the climate commitment in Buswells on the day, and several have sent in signed climate commitments since then. In September 2010 they held a National Activism Gathering in Waterford to educate and plan for further action.



The current situation

After three years of campaigning the political negotiations on the Climate Change Bill have reached a crucial point. A cross-party majority of TDs have declared support for a strong climate change law in Ireland and new finance to help developing countries cope with climate change. In December 2009, as the global climate change talks were beginning in Copenhagen, the government committed to providing 'fast start finance' to begin to support poor countries deal with climate change. The Taoiseach promised that Ireland would provide €100m over the three years period 2010 - 2012. This promise was later encapsulated in the Copenhagen Accord.

In December 2010 the Cabinet finally agreed to a Climate Bill with Minister for the Environment John Gormley revealing the Framework for the Climate Change Bill on 11th December 2010. This followed a sustained campaign by FOE to have the Bill's framework in place before the Green Party leave government in 2011. However, the Bill was not published before the collapse of the Irish government in January 2011 and announcement of elections in February. More positively however, all of the main parties have pledged to pass climate change legislation in the new Dáil.

How to get involved

Ensure that local politicians and parties keep their pledge to pass climate change legislation in the new Dáil. Visit the Friends of the Earth web site for details on how to get involved (see below).

For further information

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Brazil's Landless Workers Movement/ Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra (MST)

Campaign Background

MST emerged in response to land seizures and evictions in the dictatorial period between 1979 and 1983. It is the largest social movement in Latin America, made up of an estimated 1.5 million landless members and diverse landless peasant organisations, organized in 23 out of 27 states. MST campaigns for the rights of its members to live and grow their own food on unused lands. It carries out long-overdue land reform in a country mired by unjust land distribution. In Brazil, 1.6 per cent of the landowners control roughly half (46.8 per cent) of the land on which crops could be grown. Just 3 per cent of the population owns two-thirds of all arable lands.

Timeline

During the 1970s a military dictatorship ruled Brazil. As a result of this regime, the intense mechanisation of agriculture left no place for salaried farm workers, renters or sharecroppers. However, amidst this crisis, there were rural workers who believed that they could organise themselves and defend their rights to work the land. As a result, on 7 October 1979, landless farmers from the state of Rio Grande do Sul occupied the Macali land in Ronda Alta.

From this point on, the MST went on to organise more encampments and occupations of large farms and headquarters of public and multinational entities, as well as to eliminate fields of genetically modified crops. To draw attention to their campaign they carried out marches, hunger strikes and other political actions such as the National March for Employment, Justice and Agrarian Reform in April 1997.

As MST families are conscious of the need to preserve the natural environment and human health, in September 1999, landless families introduced Bionatur seeds to their crops, produced without any pesticides, herbicides, or other chemicals.

Campaigning continued in August 2000 at the 4th National Congress in Brazil, when 11,000 landless Brazilians participated in protests against broken promises made by the Brazilian government in regard to land reform. February 2002 marked the beginning of the MST's participation in the opening of the Continental Campaign against the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), a regional free trade agreement. MST members marched alongside more than 50,000 people during the World Social Forum, held annually by members of the world justice movement in Brazil.

During Brazil's National Week of Culture in March 2002 the MST held a forum



in conjunction with UERJ (State University of Rio de Janeiro) which included days of debate around culture and agriculture and cultural presentations, highlighting the assets of the Brazilian people.

Outcomes

Land occupations are rooted in the Brazilian Constitution, which says land that remains unproductive should be used for a 'larger social function'. Through occupations of idle land, MST has settled more than a million people on fifteen million acres. Since 1985, the MST has peacefully occupied unused land where they have established cooperative farms, constructed houses, schools for children and adults and clinics, promoted indigenous cultures and a healthy and sustainable environment and gender equality. The MST has won land titles for more than 350,000 families in 2,000 settlements as a result of MST actions, and 180,000 encamped families currently await government recognition.

MST has forced agrarian reform to the top of the national political agenda with Brazil's government officially recognising MST's rights to farm idle lands. MST has succeeded in reducing malnutrition, joblessness and poverty in its settlements while increasing literacy rates. Its success lies in its ability to organise and educate. Members have not only managed to secure land, therefore food security for their families, but also continue to develop a sustainable socio-economic model that offers a concrete alternative to today's globalization that puts profits before people and humanity.

For further information

FRIENDS OF THE MST

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Jubilee Debt Campaign

Campaign Background

Jubilee Debt Campaign calls for 100 per cent cancellation of unpayable and unjust poor country debts. They point out that the world's most impoverished countries are forced to pay millions of dollars every day to the rich world in debt repayments, while poverty kills millions of their people. Meanwhile, creditors use their power over indebted countries to force them to privatise their services, open up their markets to foreign imports or cut essential spending on public services like health and education. These debts are left over from the 1970s when an economic crisis led to a sharp increase in the price of oil. The world's leading oil producing countries deposited their profits in commercial banks in the West and began looking at options for further returns on their money by identifying borrowers. As Western countries were experiencing economic recession in this period, the banks turned their attention to poor developing countries eager to borrow large sums to finance development.

The banks initiated a bonanza of lending to the developing world with penal interest rates on loans which quickly mounted into a mountain of debt; as interest rates grew, so too did debt. This is a problem that has persisted over a generation to the point that the total external debt owed by developing countries in 2007 was \$3.4 trillion, and over the course of that year they paid \$540 billion in servicing these debts. These are the latest figures available - there has been some debt cancellation in 2008 and 2009, but there also have been new debts taken on, particularly in response to the global financial crisis. If anything, the latest figures are likely to be higher than this. Jubilee Debt Campaign believe that if we are to see a permanent end to the scandal of debt repayments killing people in poor countries, unpayable and unjust poor country debt must be cancelled fully, quickly and without conditions, through a fair and open process.

Timeline

In the mid-1990s, while the Debt Crisis Network was organising a series of high-profile meetings on debt with African leaders, a wide coalition of aid agencies, trade unions, churches and campaigning groups was raising the profile of debt issues amongst their own supporters. This activity went on to build an informed and motivated mass movement which led to the creation of the Jubilee 2000 campaign.

Jubilee 2000 was an international coalition movement in over 40 countries that called for cancellation of Third World debt by the year 2000. This movement coincided with the Great Jubilee, the celebration of the year 2000 in the Catholic



Church. Jubilee 2000 staged demonstrations at the 1998 G-8 meeting (Group of Eight leading industrialised countries) in Birmingham, England where between 50,000 and 70,000 demonstrators participated in a peaceful protest in an effort to put debt relief on the agenda of Western governments. In the run up to the protests staff and volunteers from Christian Aid, CAFOD (Catholic Overseas Development Agency), World Development Movement (WDM) and Tear Fund organised and spoke at meetings, distributed leaflets, wrote articles, mobilised petitions, staffed stalls, and chained themselves to railings! On the day of the G-8 meeting, the protestors formed a giant human chain around Birmingham City Centre while waving banners and distributing leaflets.

As a result of the protests and the worldwide media attention they drew, British prime-minister Tony Blair expressed his commitment to alleviating the debt while the US Government promised multimillion dollar bilateral and multilateral debt relief. However, at the end of the Jubilee 2000 campaign, it was clear that policies on debt cancellation weren't matching these declarations and in response Jubilee movements in many countries vowed to continue the struggle.

From early 2001, Jubilee 2000 split into an array of organisations around the world; Jubilee South (encompassing many former Jubilee campaigns in Africa, Asia and Latin America); Jubilee Debt Campaign (a coalition of national organisations and local groups around the UK), Jubilee Scotland, Jubilee Research, Jubilee USA Network, Jubilé 2000/CAD Mali in Mali, and many more. All are co-ordinated through a loose global confederation.

Outcomes

The campaign continued and the Jubilee debt campaign in the UK had some success. In September 2004, after campaigners lobbied MPs and ensured that tens of thousands of Call for Change postcards were sent, the UK unilaterally cancelled its share of many multilateral debts. In 2005, as activists spread the Wipe out Debt campaign even further, the UK government led the way in calling for further debt relief, offering 100 per cent cancellation of World Bank and IMF debts for some countries. Chancellor Gordon Brown explicitly acknowledged the impact of campaigners, saying that ministers had acted because 'we know the eyes of the public are upon us'.

How to get involved

The Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD) is a British Government department which uses taxpayers' money to back exports to the developing world. All too often, it underwrites dodgy deals which lead to human rights abuses, corruption, climate change and conflict. What's more, when these deals

go wrong, they become Third World debts. Over 90 per cent of developing country debt to the UK is now export credit debt. Take action by writing to or emailing the Secretary of State for Business, Vince Cable, and ask him to end this practice.

Help to freeze Pakistan's debt repayments - which currently dwarf emergency aid given to the country - and cancel Pakistan's enormous and unjust debts. Call on governments and international institutions to provide aid in the form of grants rather than loans by emailing or sending letters to International Development Secretary Andrew Mitchell and Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne.

For further information

Jubilee Debt Campaign

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Act now on 2015

Campaign Background

The Millennium Summit in 2000 saw 189 world leaders' sign up to the Millennium Development Goals. These goals represent an explicit agreement between all the world's major economic players, with poor countries pledging to improve policies and governance and increase accountability to their own citizens, and wealthy countries pledging to provide the necessary resources.

For the first time, entire governments are jointly committed to the elimination of global poverty and have agreed to measure their performance. The Goals are not just lofty statements of intent: precise monitoring mechanisms have been put in place, in the form of national Millennium Goals reports and the Secretary General's reports to the General Assembly.

The Goals are clearly achievable. Individual Goals have already been achieved by many countries in the space of only ten to fifteen years. Countries like Ethiopia, Tanzania, Bangladesh, Nepal, The Gambia, Rwanda, Eritrea, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger, Honduras, Egypt, Uganda, Zambia, South Africa or Vietnam have achieved remarkable success in getting on track to meet certain Goals, often in the face of extreme poverty, war, natural disasters and other major challenges. The Millennium Development Goals can be met in every nation. Governments must simply make the achievement of the Goals a priority, invest the necessary resources and ensure accountability to their citizens.

Since the Millennium Summit, Ireland has repeatedly stated its support for the MDGs, and it is showing leadership in relation to HIV & AIDS, hunger and aid effectiveness. In support of the MDGs, Ireland pledged to increase its overseas aid (Official Development Assistance - ODA), so that we would reach the UN target of spending 0.7 per cent of national income on overseas aid. However, since its original pledge in 2000, the Government has twice shifted the date for achieving this international commitment, and now states that its aim is to reach the UN target of a minimum 0.7 per cent by 2015 at the latest.

This year, 65 organisations have come together in a joint campaign to prevent the potential failure of Ireland's commitment to the MDGs. 'Act now on 2015' has a simple goal: to ensure Ireland keeps its promise to the world's poorest people. Ireland has often been praised for its overseas aid programme, and we have proof that our aid works. In more ways than one, Ireland's calling card to the world is our reputation that will not tolerate injustice and human suffering. But this reputation is at risk, as a result of the repeated cuts to Ireland's aid budget.

The current situation

2011 is a critical year for the international community's efforts to make poverty history with four years to go until the deadline for the eradication of the worst forms of poverty, promises made by governments like that of Ireland, need to be turned into action. We cannot afford to undo progress made towards achieving the MDGs. As time is running out, we need to redouble our efforts, take stock at what has been achieved, renew our joint commitment, and demand world leaders to keep their promises and accelerate progress towards the MDGs.

In September 2010, Heads of State met again at the United Nations headquarters in New York to review the successes, to learn from the failures, and to discuss the launch of detailed plans on how to ensure the attainment of the MDGs by 2015. It was an important opportunity to galvanise new political commitment, spur the collective action and efforts needed to meet the MDGs by the 2015. In the run up to the summit 'Act now on 2015' mobilised campaigners to, 'Make Noise for MDGs' through a series of attention grabbing public actions aimed at illustrating the support for the achievement of the MDGs. As a result the government recommitted us to spending 0.7 per cent of GNP on overseas aid by 2015 to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

However, with the release of Ireland's 2011 Budget, it is clear that this commitment will once again be put on the back burner. The recently announced National Recovery Plan has outlined plans to deduct a €35m from the aid budget in 2011. This is a drop of over one quarter in the amount being pledged by Ireland to some of the poorest people in the world and means Ireland is moving further and further away from 0.7 per cent target. Despite the strained economic situation facing Ireland's citizens it is unacceptable to overlook the world's poorest people. The government should protect Ireland's aid programme and Act now on 2015 if they intend to reach the 0.7 per cent goal.

How to get involved

The 'Act Now on 2015' campaign wants to send a clear message to our leaders that we want Ireland to be a country that keeps its word. We have not yet delivered on the promises we made to the world. Write or send an email to the Taoiseach, to remind him of our aid promise, and to urge him to act now. Write or email you local TD asking them to also write to the Taoiseach.

For further information

Dóchas

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Bil'in: Struggling for Justice and Equality in Palestine

Campaign Background

Bil'in is a Palestinian village located in the Ramallah and al-Bireh Governorate of Palestine, twelve kilometres west of the city of Ramallah and four kilometres east of the Green Line, the border with Israel. Bil'in has a population of 1,800, mostly Muslims and since the signing of the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in 1995 it has been administered by the Palestinian National Authority.

The main economic activity in Bil'in is agriculture but it is a village struggling to safeguard its land, its olive trees, its resources and its liberty. Israel has annexed close to sixty percent of Bil'in's land for the building of settlements and the construction of Israel's separation wall. Every day the wall encircles more of the village and absorbs more land, creating an open air prison for Bil'in's inhabitants.

Separation Barrier

The Israeli West Bank wall is a separation barrier constructed by Israel along and within the West Bank. The barrier is a fence with vehicle-barrier trenches surrounded by an on average sixty metre wide exclusion area and an eight metre tall concrete wall. The barrier is built mainly in the West Bank and partly along the 1949 Armistice line, or 'Green Line' between Israel and the Palestinian West Bank. Twelve per cent of the West Bank area is on the Israel side of the barrier. When Israel began constructing the separation wall on Bil'in's land, the village was cut in half to ensure that Modi'in Illit, an Israeli settlement of over 42,000 inhabitants, and its future growth would be on the 'Israeli side' of the wall.

Israel argues that the wall is justified by the need for security for its citizens but if that were the case, it would adhere to the existing border between Palestine and Israel, and ensure that the entire Palestinian population was on one side of the wall. In fact the wall deviates substantially from the Green Line to make major incursions into Palestinian land and annexes large tracts of fertile farming land. Many Palestinian farmers have lost their livelihoods, dispossessed of a generational source of work and income, and forced to live in open prison-like conditions surrounded by the wall. In 2004, the International Court of Justice gave an advisory opinion that stated that the construction of the wall is 'contrary to international law' and called for it to be removed.

Resistance in Bil'in

In March 2005, the residents of Bil'in began organising direct actions and demonstrations against the construction of the wall which pushed this small

village into the cockpit of resistance against Israel. Bil'in has become an internationally recognised and supported popular movement with large numbers of foreign nationals joining residents in their weekly protest against the wall. The Bil'in villagers consider the support of activists in Israel and from other parts of the world as important in raising awareness of their campaign for justice and to reclaim their land. International activists join Bil'in residents every Friday in peaceful demonstrations in front of the 'work-site of shame'. The protesters march from the village to the site of the barrier with the aim of halting construction and dismantling already constructed parts of the wall.

An example of a protest was one that coincided with the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin wall, in which the villagers created their own mock Berlin wall that contrasted the collapse and failure of one failed means of separation and division with the continued construction of another. The protesters march from the village to the site of the barrier with the aim of halting construction and dismantling already constructed parts of the wall.

Israeli forces typically intervene to prevent protesters from approaching the barrier, responding with violence, both physical and psychological. Since the protests started, the Israeli forces have used sound and shock grenades, water cannon, rubber-coated steel bullets, tear gas grenades, tear gas canisters and 0.22 calibre live ammunition against protesters. The army has also systematically arrested members of the Bil'in committee in charge of organizing the non-violent resistance actions in attempts to discourage Bil'in residents and reduce their resistance to the occupation.

On 17 April 2009, local activist Bassem Abu Rahma was shot and killed by the Israeli military during a Bil'in protest when hit in the chest by a high-velocity tear gas projectile. The non-violent actions during the protests aim to dismantle the fence and protestors regularly suffer tear gas inhalation. But the importance of the protests resonates beyond the local struggle in Bil'in. They maintain the international profile of the Palestinian struggle and highlight the injustice of the wall, the settlements and land annexations with Bil'in encapsulating the struggle of wider Palestine.

Timeline

In the 1980's Israeli colonies were established on some of the village lands and between 1991 and 2004 hundreds of acres of Bil'in agricultural lands were confiscated for the construction of Israeli settlements. At the same time the Israeli army posted the construction order for the separation wall.

January 2005 saw the creation of the Bil'in Committee of Popular Resistance against the Wall and settlements and in February daily non-violent demonstrations



began in Bil'in. During the following months, they protested twice a week and finally the Committee decided to hold the demonstrations once a week, on Fridays.

In October 2005, after several attempts Bil'in filed a complaint with the Israeli Supreme Court, which was not rejected. It demanded that the construction of the Wall and housing units in the East Matityahu area be stopped, as the construction plans were not approved by Israeli civil administration, and the Wall path passed well beyond the housing units where it was supposed to act as a 'security' fence.

In December 2005, documents revealed the illegality of settlement constructions on the lands of Bil'in (lack of permit and use of false documents). The Palestinian villagers set up a trailer on the lands that has since been confiscated from them - the first Palestinian outpost! Within hours the trailer was destroyed by the army. Bil'in villagers then set up a more permanent shack with a roof and windows respecting Israeli construction standards, which prevented its destruction. In February 2006, the villagers built a second house on Bil'in confiscated lands. Together with the first outpost set-up in December 2005, these two houses became 'Bil'in West': the first 'Palestinian settlement'. The first year of Bil'in's peaceful fight was marked by a conference on non-violent resistance.

In March 2006 new documents were uncovered showing an illegal network of land acquisition in the West Bank. The Israel Court maintained its decision preventing construction of more housing units in the Modi'in Illit settlement while condoning the existing illegal constructions. In July 2006 the Israeli High Court of Justice maintained the interdiction to build in East Matityahu and in August 2006 the Israeli Court of Justice ordered the demolition of two structures in East Matityahu.

However, in January 2007, the Movement for Israeli Urbanism legalised the illegal construction in Modi'in Illit, in spite of the complaint filed by Bil'in and the ongoing investigation regarding the companies involved in the construction activities. The companies are two registered in Canada (Green Park and Green Mount) and two Israeli companies, Ein Ami and Heftsiba.

In February 2007 a discovery was made of underground water pipes and telephone lines on lands belonging to Bil'in as well as the discovery of pipes and a reservoir for waste water belonging to the East Matityahu settlement, and shallowly buried in a parcel of Bil'in's lands later on in the year. The second successful edition of the Conference of non-violent resistance in Bil'in was held in April 2007.

In September 2007, the Israeli Supreme Court unanimously adjudicated that the Wall's path was prejudicial to Bil'in and had to be altered. This decision should have allowed Bil'in to recoup close to fifty percent (about 100 hectares) of the lands that have been confiscated in late 2004. In parallel to this decision in favour of

Bil'in, the Court issued another decision ordering the preservation of the buildings already built on the village lands.

The third annual Conference on non-violent resistance took place in June 2008 but during the demonstration soldiers began shooting with live ammunition. Twenty six year old Ibrahim Burnat, was shot three times in the leg.

In July 2008, Bil'in began legal proceedings against the two Canadian companies, Green Mount Inc and Green Park Inc who were building and selling condominium units in Modi'in Illit, a settlement spread on lands that were confiscated from Bil'in under pretexts of 'security'.

The Adalah-NY rights group quoted articles from Israeli media, dated 2005 and 2006, indicating that the Israeli-American billionaire Shaya Boymelgreen is the CEO of Green Park Inc and Green Mount Inc. Further evidence found by Adalah-NY showed that the building of settlements was entrusted by Shaya Boymelgreen, in the name of Green Park, to the Israeli company Danya Cebus, a branch of Africa Israel, owned by Lev Leviev, the Israeli-American billionaire with whom UNICEF had cut all ties in June 2008 after his implication in settlement development in Israel.

After ten months of waiting and a new injunction from the Supreme Court President, Israel finally announced a new alternative path for the separation wall. In September 2007, the Supreme Court ordered that a new path be drawn within a 'reasonable' period of time. However, the proposed alternative path would allow Bil'in to get back only 200 on the 2,000 dunums of confiscated lands the villagers were hoping to recoup.

On the 3 August 2008, following a two-hour hearing the High Court of Justice concluded that the new route of the barrier in Bil'in is in violation of the Court ruling released on September 2007. The Court ordered the state to present within forty five days a new route, which would uphold the principles of the ruling and allow the plaintiffs and the other sides to respond on the new route within 21 days.

The Current Situation

Bil'in has recently experienced a series of night raids by Israeli soldiers in attempts to arrest anti-Wall activist Ashraf Khatib. The soldiers have raided houses in the middle of the night without showing a warrant, frightening families and friends and preventing local reporters and activists from entering or getting near the houses raided.

On 6 October 2010, in continuation of their struggle for justice in the face of unlawful appropriation and construction of settlements on their land, the residents of the Bil'in village filed an application before the Supreme Court of Canada to grant permission for appeal in the case against Green Park International, Inc and



Green Mount International, Inc who have been involved in the construction, marketing and selling of residential units in the illegal Jewish-Israeli settlement of Modi'in Illit. They are awaiting developments.

In December 2010 Israel Defence Forces soldiers resumed the use of prohibited tear gas canisters to disperse demonstrations in the West Bank. These tear gas grenades are in effect 40 mm rounds with a range of 250 metres and have previously caused serious injuries. Soldiers from the Carmeli reserve brigade fired the extended-range tear gas canisters after teenagers threw rocks at them. Several shells bearing the words 'extended range' were visible on the ground after the incident.

How to support the village of Bil'in

Please visit the Bil'in web site <http://www.bilin-village.org> and find out how you can support the village in its struggle to recover its land and prevent the construction of the wall. Support is currently needed for the release of activists arrested by Israel for organising protests against the wall. Please join the campaign for their release by clicking on the following link:

<http://popularstruggle.org/content/ask-william-hague-act-abdallah-abu-rah-mahs-release>

For further information

Website: <http://www.bilin-village.org>

Email: contact@bilin-village.org

Fairtrade Mark Ireland

Campaign Background

Fairtrade Mark Ireland is an independent non-profit organisation that licenses use of the FAIRTRADE Mark on products in Ireland in accordance with internationally agreed Fairtrade standards. Fairtrade Mark Ireland was established in 1992 and is the Irish member of Fairtrade Labelling Organisations International (FLO), which unites 21 labelling initiatives across Europe, Japan, North America, Mexico and Australia/New Zealand as well as networks of producer organisations from Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.

The FAIRTRADE Mark is an independent consumer label which is a guarantee that the products containing the Mark have been certified against internationally agreed Fairtrade standards. The Mark indicates that the product has been certified to give a better deal to the producers involved - it does not act as an endorsement of an entire company's business practices.

FLO has overall responsibility for developing Fairtrade standards, supporting producers, and operating global certification and auditing systems. It is based in Bonn, Germany and is composed of two separate organisations: FLO International is a non-profit multi-stakeholder association involving 23 member organisations; and FLO-CERT GmbH is a limited company that coordinates all tasks and processes all information related to the inspection and certification of producers and traders.

What is Fairtrade?

Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. By requiring companies to pay sustainable prices (which must never fall lower than the market price), Fairtrade addresses the injustices of conventional trade, which traditionally discriminates against the poorest, weakest producers. It enables them to improve their position in the market and have more control over their lives.

The Fairtrade minimum price defines the lowest possible price that a buyer of Fairtrade products must pay the producer. The minimum price is set based on a consultative process with Fairtrade producers and traders and guarantees that producers receive a price which covers the cost of sustainable production. When the market price is higher than the Fairtrade minimum price, the market price is payable. Whatever the price of the product on the shelf, only the FAIRTRADE Mark ensures that the producers have received what has been agreed to be a fairer price, as well as the social premiums to invest in the future of their communities. The Fairtrade price applies at the point where the producer organisation sells to the next person in the supply chain (usually an exporter or importer). It is not



calculated as a proportion of the final retail price, which is negotiated between the product manufacturer and the retailer.

Current Situation

Despite the recession Fairtrade has been going from strength to strength. Belfast hosted its first Fairtrade conference in January 2010, sponsored by Belfast City Council and the European Commission. Guest speakers included representatives from the UK Fairtrade Foundation and Fairtrade Mark Ireland, who looked at the concept and benefits of Fairtrade, including a detailed explanation of the financial, social and environmental benefits, including pricing mechanisms, expanding ranges and Fairtrade certification.

2010 also saw the conversion of iconic brands such as Cadbury Dairy Milk, four-fingered Kit Kat and all of Ben & Jerry's ice cream - to Fairtrade. This was great news for the Fairtrade movement as Kit Kat is the best selling chocolate biscuit in Ireland and Dairy Milk is the best selling chocolate bar. Cadbury has made a 10-year commitment to cocoa producers with its £45m Cadbury Cocoa Partnership in 2008. It aims to secure the sustainable socio-economic future of cocoa farming in Ghana, India, Indonesia and the Caribbean. Cadbury's decision will increase sales of cocoa three-fold for Fairtrade farmers in Ghana. More good news is on the horizon as Cadbury Dairy Milk Buttons are also set to go Fairtrade along with Green & Black's, Cadburys organic chocolate maker, who intend to move their entire chocolate and beverage range to Fairtrade by the end of 2011.

Nestlé's launch of the global Cocoa Plan, which involves a €72m investment over the next 10 years, will address economic, social and environmental issues across the cocoa farming community. Sustainability initiatives funded by the Cocoa Plan will lead to improved quality of yields by the provision of 12 million stronger, more productive cocoa tree plantlets to farmers as well as teaching farmers more sustainable methods, such as effective tree pruning and bean drying.

Many small Irish companies are also now adopting Fairtrade into their operations. For example, the 2009 launch of county Meath firm Áine's Chocolates Fairtrade range of organic bars won the company a gold medal at last year's Great Taste Awards for their 70 per cent Dark Chocolate bar. Another example is Kinsale's Alan Clayton who started up his own snack and confectionary company, Wish4 Fairtrade, as he saw an untapped niche in the Fairtrade sweet market. Ireland's first distributor of his brand was Bewley's in Cork and Clayton says that other cafés are now also showing interest. The selection of Fairtrade products across Ireland has long exceeded the sales of teas and coffees. In fact Ireland's largest Fairtrade supplier Kinsale Distribution Company (KDC) now carry over four hundred lines of Fairtrade-certified products.

Fairtrade Towns

Fairtrade Towns is another scheme that has become a well recognised way for people throughout Ireland to show their support and belief in Fairtrade. Working towards Fairtrade Town status will bring together neighbours, groups, the local authority and businesses towards a common goal and a shared achievement. Becoming a Fairtrade Town is a lot of work, good fun and a great way to bring people together. It will also be an achievement everyone can celebrate and a powerful message about how your community wants trade to work.

Peter Gaynor, Chief Executive of Fairtrade Mark Ireland, describes Fairtrade Towns as a useful way to address international development issues at a local level. It involves volunteers in a town, village or parish coming together to form a Fairtrade steering committee who convene to ensure continued commitment to its Fairtrade Town status. The voluntary group work to raise awareness of Fairtrade by educating the public about Fairtrade through the media and through school curriculum materials as well as by encouraging businesses and retailers to support Fairtrade.

To become a Fairtrade Town candidate towns must meet six recommended guidelines and when the town feel they have met these criteria they can apply to become an official Fairtrade Town. Fairtrade Mark Ireland assesses the progress that they have made and award the status as attained. The title itself has more of a symbolic status but is important in illustrating the town's commitment to helping developing communities; the scheme is intended to help the town helps others.

Gaynor points out that there is a lot of competition between towns striving to attain the title and many towns want to take part. He suggests it works because people really do have the desire to support others in developing countries. It has proven a very successful scheme with 74 voluntary groups around the entire island working on the criteria, 45 of which have already met the criteria. Fairtrade Towns is now a global initiative with voluntary groups in the UK, France, the US and Japan having already attained the Fairtrade Town status.

How to get involved

Fairtrade is easy to get involved in and is a good entry point for work on trade justice issues. Many people start with Fairtrade issues and branch out to work in the development sector, on development issues or in the trade justice area. However, getting involved can be as easy as simply rethinking the way you shop, purchasing Fairtrade products in place of non-Fairtrade brands.

Fairtrade Mark Ireland highlight the number of businesses in Ireland who now stock Fairtrade goods listing as legitimate Fairtrade suppliers; Esquires Coffee Houses, Marks & Spencer, Lidl, Dunnes Stores, Tesco, Celtic Chocolates, Java



Republic, Centra, Supervalu and Oxfam. Oxfam operate an online Fairtrade shop which features numerous Fairtrade products including gifts, cards, home wares and hampers.

As well as groceries a number of cosmetics can now be purchased which carry the Fairtrade Mark. These products include lip balms, face masks, body butters and shower gels from five companies including Boots, Essential Care, Lush and Neal's Yard. Each of these products contains one or more Fairtrade-certified ingredients.

Fairtrade Fortnight is an annual event in which fair and ethical trading values are celebrated. This annual scheme hopes to load the FAIRTRADE Mark with meaning by Fairtrade consumers telling people about the tangible difference Fairtrade makes to producers. Interested members of the public are encouraged to get involved in Fairtrade Fortnight or coordinate an application with the local community to become a Fairtrade town.

For Further information

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SECTION 3: Campaign/ Activist Group Profiles



Afri (Action from Ireland)

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Membership

Non membership based organisation.

General aims, goals and activities

Afri is a justice, peace and human rights organisation, probably best known for the Annual Famine Walk, which takes place in Co. Mayo in May each year. The Famine Walk commemorates the Great Famine in Ireland while also raising awareness about contemporary national and international justice and human rights issues. Other events include the Afri Hedge School in autumn and the Féile Bríde festival in spring. Afri also organises Education for Liberation days in schools where young people are encouraged to reflect on peace, justice and human rights issues and explore how they can contribute to the creation of a more just and equitable society.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

Afri uses creative methodologies, such as music, art and drama, as part of its work for global justice, peace and human rights.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Community Organisations
Sustainable Development	Youth Groups
Climate Justice	Women's Groups
Trade Justice	Adult Education
Development Education	Government Departments/ Bodies

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Support materials produced in-house	Letter Writing
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Petitions
Press releases	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Seminars/conferences	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Position papers on Government policy and strategic papers	Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
E Bulletins	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	
Blogs/discussion forums	



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9c Abbey Street Lower

Dublin 1

Contact: Mbemba Abdulie Jabbi

Email address: mbemba@africacentre.ie

Website: www.africacentre.ie

Membership

Over 200 members (individuals and organisations)

General aims, goals and activities

The Africa Centre advances attitudes, policies and actions that promote justice, social inclusion and meaningful participation for African communities in Ireland and encourages a more positive Africa-Ireland exchange. Based in central Dublin, the Centre works to advocate, educate and network towards a just and inclusive society in Ireland.

The principal aims for which the organisation was established are to reach out to the developing African immigrant community in Ireland and to promote their participation in society. Also to engage in community development and poverty alleviation projects that improves African community living standards and advance public education and knowledge on intercultural and anti-racism issues. The organisation also aims to promote links between Ireland and Africa and advance co-operation, dialogue and partnership on development issues. Another goal is to build capacity and resources, where people may engage in social and cultural activities/ training and where they may engage in research on issues relating to Africa and Africa-Ireland exchange. Africa Centre also aims to network and collaborate with persons and bodies working among immigrants or active in global justice issues both at the local and international levels.

Africa Centre's values are those of respect and equality, anti-racism, inclusion, learning, a just society, belonging, stability and creativity as well as the spirit of 'Ubuntu' - of our connectedness as

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Black and Minority Ethnic Groups
Sustainable Development	Community Organisations
Trade Justice	Youth Groups
Development Education	Adult Education
Single Issue/ Country Campaign	Development Organisations
Community Empowerment	Developing Country(ies)
	NGOs in the Global South
	Schools and Colleges

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Curriculum resources/ teaching materials	Letter Writing
Teacher training	Petitions
Student Workshops	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Advocacy about Education Policy	Boycotts, Sanctions and Divestment
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Non Violent Direct Action
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Press releases	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Seminars/conferences	Strike Action on Global Issues
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	



Association of Teachers & Lecturers

16 West Bank Drive
Belfast
BT3 9LA
Contact: Mark Langhammer
Email: mlanghammer@atl.org.uk
Website: www.atl.org.uk

Membership

160,000 members throughout the UK

General aims, goals and activities

An education trade union for teachers, lecturers and general education, Association of Teachers & Lecturers (ATL) supports thousands of members across Northern Ireland.

From advice and representation on a range of professional and employment issues to training courses leading to Masters Qualifications, ATL meets members' needs throughout their career.

ATL Northern Ireland's offers support to teachers, lecturers, support staff and leaders in maintained and independent schools and colleges.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

ATL is active in Education International and campaigns including Justice for Colombia. ATL also plays an active role in the Global Campaign for Education (CGE), which brings together child rights activists, teachers' unions and development organisations from around the world united in their determination to make the right to education a reality.

ATL supported GCE's 1 GOAL campaign, which used the World Cup in South Africa to raise awareness about the 72 million children worldwide unable to access primary education.

Hundreds of ATL members participated in the campaign's 2009 action week, making it the biggest to date, with more than a million children and 6,000 schools across the UK participating in activities designed to raise awareness of the plight of the world's 75 million children who don't go to school.

ATL is also a member of Education International, which represents nearly 30 million teachers and education workers from over 400 member organisations operating in 172 countries and territories, from pre-school to university. ATL is committed to growing our work with Education International to help protect the rights of every teacher and education worker, and every student they educate.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Trade Unions	Adult Education
	Trade Unions

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Curriculum resources/ teaching materials	Letter Writing
Teacher training	Petitions
Advocacy about education policy	Non Violent Direct Action
Resource production	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Support materials produced in-house	Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Position papers on Government policy and strategic papers	
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	
E Bulletins	
Press releases	
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	
Blogs/discussion forums	



Bóthar

Anna House
37a Upper Dunmurry Lane
Belfast
BT17 0AJ
Contact: Aoibheann Fearon
Email: aoibheann@bothar.co.uk
Website: www.bothar.co.uk

Membership

Non membership based

General aims, goals and activities

Bóthar is an international non-profit organisation dedicated to helping families and communities worldwide overcome hunger and poverty and restore the environment in a sustainable way. To do this, Bóthar specialises in improved livestock development and supports related training and community development in our project work.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Sustainable Development	Community Organisations
Education for Sustainable Development	Women's Groups
Climate Justice	Development Organisations
Development Education	Developing Country(ies)

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
School Assemblies	Letter Writing
Student Workshops	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Support materials produced in-house	
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	
E Bulletins	
Press releases	
Social networks: Facebook/ Bebo/Twitter	



Centre for Global Education

9 University Street

Belfast

BT7 1FY

Contact: Stephen McCloskey

Email: stephen@centreforglobaleducation.com

Website: www.centreforglobaleducation.com

Membership

100 members, individuals and organisations

General aims, goals and activities

Centre for Global Education is a development education centre (DEC) that provides education services to learners that aim to provide knowledge and understanding of the causes of poverty and inequality at local and global levels. CGE seek to promote an understanding of the interdependency of people across the world and, most importantly, encourage learners to take action that will effect social justice and equality. CGE's mandate is to bring about change in the understanding of development issues and development education practice among those working in the formal and informal educational sectors. CGE's mandate for work comes from its founders who legally constituted the Centre, its funders who finance our work and its partners. CGE's aims to work creatively to develop new ways of fulfilling its mandate to our stakeholders. CGE's activities include the delivery of training on global issues; the production of resources, training materials and pamphlets / books on development and the organisation of conferences, seminars and workshops on international development.

Human Rights	Black and Minority Ethnic Groups
Sustainable Development	Community Organisations
Education for Sustainable Development	Youth Groups
Climate Justice	Women's Groups
Environment Education	Adult Education
Trade Justice	Government Departments/ Bodies
Development Education	Green/Environmental Organisations
Development Aid	Development Organisations
	NGOs in the Global South
	Trade Unions
	European Union

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Curriculum resources/ teaching materials	Letter Writing
Teacher training	Petitions
School Assemblies	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Student Workshops	Boycotts, Sanctions and Divestment
Advocacy about education policy	Non Violent Direct Action
Resource production	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Support materials produced in-house	Media Activism - Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	
E Bulletins	
Press releases	
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/Twitter	
Blogs/discussion forums	



Children in Crossfire

2 St Joseph's Avenue

Derry

BT48 6TH

Contact: Helen Henderson

Email: helen.henderson@childrenincrossfire.org

Website: www.childrenincrossfire.org

Membership

Non membership based

General aims, goals and activities

Children in Crossfire envisage the creation of a safe environment where every child can realise their rights, develop to the fullest and reach their potential. The Development Education team are in a learning process together with people locally to explore how Children in Crossfire can create a sense of shared solidarity where everyone can all play an active role in creating a more fair and equal world. Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

Creative arts: Children in Crossfire have produced a play that has toured around schools, and is going to show at a conference for policy makers, politicians, media and business people in 2011. Children in Crossfire have also used street theatre to engage people in global issues, finding out what they do and signposting them to local and global campaigns.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Development Education	Black and Minority Ethnic Groups
	Youth Groups
	Women's Groups
	Adult Education
	Formal Education - teacher support and training

Resources used and/or provided to public
Curriculum resources/ teaching materials
Teacher training
Student Workshops
Resource production
Support materials produced in-house
Seminars/conferences
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/Twitter



Christian Aid Ireland

Linden House
Beechill Business Park
96 Beechill Road
Belfast
BT6 9ED
Contact: David Thomas
Email: dthomas@christian-aid.org
Website: www.christianaid.ie

Membership

Non membership based

General aims, goals and activities

Christian Aid is a Christian organisation that insists the world can and must be swiftly changed to one where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty. Christian Aid works globally for profound change that eradicates the causes of poverty, striving to achieve equality, dignity and freedom for all, regardless of faith or nationality. It is part of a wider movement for social justice and provides urgent, practical and effective assistance where need is great, tackling the effects of poverty as well as its root causes. The essential purpose of Christian Aid is to expose the scandal of poverty and to work in practical ways to root it out from the world while also challenging and changing structures and systems that favour the rich and powerful over the poor and marginalised.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

Christian Aid's core audience are the members and leaders of its sponsoring churches, of which there are 41 sponsoring denominations (seven in Ireland). It provides materials to encourage churches to raise global issues in their services and sermons. These include special liturgies, sermon guides, all-age talks, Sunday school materials and prayers. Staff and volunteers also go to speak in churches and church youth groups about global issues.

Human Rights	Community Organisations
Sustainable Development	Youth Groups
Climate Justice	Women's Groups
Development Education	Government Departments/ Bodies
Development Aid	Developing Country(ies)
Economic Justice (e.g. Tax Justice)	NGOs in the Global South
	Churches

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Curriculum resources/ teaching materials	Letter Writing
School assemblies	Petitions
Support materials produced in-house	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Media Activism - Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
E Bulletins	Postcard campaigns / E-Actions / Campaign stunts
Press releases	
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	
Blogs/discussion forums	
Films (often shared on You Tube) / Campaign packs / Briefings	



Climate Camp Ireland

Geographical Remit: All-Island
Contact: Catherine Friedrich
Email: joinclimatecamp@gmail.com
Website: www.climatecamp.ie

Membership

Not membership based

General aims, goals and activities

Climate Camp Ireland aims to take direct action against the root causes of climate change, the key agents responsible and those who profit from causing climate change. Climate Camp Ireland calls on all people in Ireland to join them - not just during the camp but beyond in your own neighbourhoods and communities.

Climate Camp Ireland aim to build a resistance movement that can bring down climate polluters and carbon traders, demand climate justice and implement sustainable solutions. But beyond this, they are building a movement that can bring down the structures that have caused the climate crisis and support communities in finding their own answers. Climate Camp Ireland aim to build a lasting movement that nurtures resistance to all forms of injustice and oppression, and supports people in implementing their own solutions.

The camp also aims to create a space for education and provide a safe, positive space, enabling people to be informed about and empowered through engagement in struggles for a better world. The camp brings together people who wish to become active and people already campaigning on climate change and many other issues. It provides resources for, and facilitates the needs of, people who wish to campaign on climate change and enables them to meet, discuss, plan, create links, have open dialogue and debate, and develop new ideas.

Climate Camp Ireland aim to demonstrate and promote viable alternatives to our current wasteful way of life and the failed economic system that is driving the climate crisis. The camp will show that solutions exist –based on direct democracy, co-operation and consensus and social justice - we just need to start living them.

Climate Camp Ireland's activities include the organisation of a camp once a year where they try to live up to and implement their aims.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Climate Justice	Youth Groups
Environmental Education	Green/ Environmental Organisations
Social Justice	Development Organisations

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Newsletter, magazines, flyers, website	Non Violent Direct Action
Press Releases	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	



Communication Workers Union (UK) (Northern Ireland Region)

CWU Office BT TE
35 Trostan Avenue
Ballymena
Antrim BT43 7BW
Contact name - Lawrence C. Huston
Email: cwu.ballymena@btinternet.com
Website: www.cwuniregion.org.uk

Membership

6,000 members in Northern Ireland and 265,000 members across the UK. Formed in January 1995 when the Union of Communication Workers joined forces with the National Communications Union.

General aims, goals and activities

The Communication Workers Union exists to protect, advance and serve the interests of its members throughout the communications industry. In pursuit of its aims the union seeks to provide first class collective and individual representation for all CWU members and to campaign against all forms of discrimination. It aims to achieve security of employment for all members and to offer individual membership services of the highest quality. CWU aims to expand trade union membership throughout the communications industry and to promote, by industrial and political means, the success of the industries in which our members work. One of the CWU's main aims is 'to promote workers' solidarity in the world and to develop and strengthen free and democratic unions'. CWU aims to further these objectives by promoting the influence of the union throughout the national and international community.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Black and Minority Ethnic Groups
Trade Justice	Community Organisations
	Women's Groups
	Trade Union

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Support materials produced in-house	Letter Writing
Position papers on Government policy and strategic papers	Petitions
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
E Bulletins	Boycotts, Sanctions and Divestment
Press releases	Non Violent Direct Action
Seminars/conferences	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Blogs/discussion forums	Strike Action on Global Issues
Seminars/conferences	Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
	Development education training events: Network of Global Solidarity Champions



Community Workers' Co-operative

Unit 4 Tuam Road Retail Centre
Tuam Road, Galway
Contact: Ann Irwin
Email: annirwin@cwic.ie
Website: www.cwic.ie

Membership

Approximately 800 members

General aims, goals and activities

The Community Workers' Co-operative aims to promote and support community work as a means of achieving positive social change. The CWC national office is based in Galway City and the CWC also has a regional office in Letterkenny in County Donegal

The objectives of the CWC are to ensure the inclusion of, and to bring about equality of outcome for, those currently experiencing social exclusion and inequality. To promote anti-oppressive, anti-sexist and anti-racist community work, with a particular emphasis on the inclusion of women. CWC aims to develop partnership and co-operation within the community sector. It seeks to positively influence the economic and social development policies of the State and its agencies and to seek to promote community work and influence policies at EU level. CWC supports the development of models and institutions of participatory democracy which will enable the participation of marginalised communities in planning, decision making, implementation and evaluation at local, regional and national levels. CWC also supports the recognition and inclusion of the community sector as a social partner in order to articulate the interests of those who experience social exclusion and inequality. CWC aims to promote a global perspective on justice issues and seek to make constructive links with the sector and development issues in the 'Third World'.

To attain these aims and objectives CWC produces relevant publications & materials and provides information and opportunities for capacity building. It promotes standards for quality community work and engages with the community sector on important issues and themes. CWC represent the community sector on various forums and engages with the social partnership process, primarily through engagement with the Community Platform.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Disarmament	Community Organisations
Development Issues	Government Departments/ Bodies

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Student Workshops	Letter Writing
Resource production	Petitions
Support materials produced in-house	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Media Activism - Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
E Bulletins	
Press releases	
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	



Comhlámh

Ballast House
Aston Quay
Dublin 1
Contact: Ruth Doggett
Email: ruth@comhlamh.org
Website: www.comhlamh.org

Membership

Comhlámh currently has approximately 240 members. Membership is open to individuals only and those members tend to be returned developments workers, volunteers and activists who have an interest in Comhlámh's area of work.

General aims, goals and activities

Comhlámh's mission is to challenge society on the root causes of global poverty and inequality and empower people to demand equality in global relations. As an organisation, Comhlámh's role is to be a critical voice on development and global justice by articulating the case for global equality through challenging public understanding on the root causes of poverty and inequality. Ultimately Comhlámh strives to build the will to change the structures that cause global injustice. Comhlámh aims to achieve these by communicating and educating on global development issues and by supporting and engaging returning development workers, volunteers and human rights activists towards action in Ireland.

Strategic objectives include the promotion of good practice to those engaged in the volunteering continuum; protecting, supporting and empowering development workers, volunteers, and activists through a range of services thereby enabling them to actively engage with development issues both in Ireland and overseas. Comhlámh also aims to create linkages and pathways for critical and informed engagement in effective active global citizenship, on local and global development issues. Comhlámh ensures its work is informed by critical perspectives and underpinned by good practice approaches.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

Comhlámh are actively involved across the sector in key alliances and make important contributions by mobilising activists for key moments. The organisation believes in the use of multipliers to maximise impact and encourage target groups to become engaged in social movements and networks, such as Bloom, as a platform for activism. Targeted training and workshop opportunities provide the public with opportunities to improve development education, campaigning and media skills and become aware of their own use of images and messages.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Sustainable Development	Black and Minority Ethnic Groups
Education for Sustainable Development	Community Organisations
Climate Justice	Youth Groups
Trade Justice	Women's Groups
Development Education	Adult Education
Development Aid	Government Departments/ Bodies
	Green/Environmental Organisations
	Development Organisations
	NGOs in the Global South
	Trade Unions
	European Union
	United Nations
	International Financial Institutes such as the IMF, WTO or World Bank

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Student Workshops	Letter Writing
Curriculum resources/ teaching materials	Petitions
Teacher training	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Resource production	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Support materials produced in-house	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Involvement in membership groups including the Trade Justice Group, Focus Magazine Editorial Group and the Options and Issues group.
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	
E Bulletins	
Press releases	
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/Twitter	
Blogs/discussion forums	



Concern Worldwide

47 Frederick Street
Belfast
BT1 2LW
Contact: Karen Gallagher
Email: karen.gallagher@concern.net
Website: www.concern.net

Membership

Non membership based but with a supporter base in NI of approximately 35,000 regular givers.

General aims, goals and activities

Concern Worldwide is an international humanitarian organisation dedicated to reducing suffering and ending extreme poverty. It works with the very poorest people in the world's poorest countries to help them bring about long-lasting change in their lives and realise their fundamental human rights; to food, to health, to education, and ultimately to a life of dignity. Together with local and international partners, and with poor people themselves, Concern responds to emergency situations and undertakes long term development work. Through working across the world to promote a better understanding of extreme poverty and hunger, Concern campaigns for local and global action that will help to end them for good.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Sustainable Development	Developing Country(ies)

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
School assemblies	Letter Writing
Student workshops	Petitions
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
E Bulletins	
Press releases	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	
Blogs/discussion forums	



Cuba Support Group Ireland

15 Merrion Square

Dublin 2

Contact: Simon McGuinness

Email address: cubasupport@eircom.net

Website: www.cubasupport.com

Membership

240 members

General aims, goals and activities

Cuba Support Group Ireland aims to raise awareness of the significance of the Cuban Revolution to people in Ireland and combat media distortions about the nature of Cuban society. Cuba Support Group - Ireland was formed in 1993 in recognition of the urgent need to draw public attention to the desperate plight of the Cuban people. The exemplary achievements that had been secured by this small Caribbean island since the 1959 Revolution; advances that have set Cuba apart from other 'developing' nations and made it the envy of many developed ones; risked being crushed as the United States continued to tighten its blockade against Cuba and tried to bend its people mercilessly at its will. Cuba Support Group brings together people from across the political spectrums that believe in Cuba's right to trade, develop and determine its own future.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

Cuba Support Group Ireland delivers up to date information on Cuba through the media, public meetings, and a newsletter. They organise Work Brigades and Study Tours to Cuba as well as representations to politicians, political parties, trade unions, government departments, solidarity groups and other interested bodies and individuals. Regular activities include opposition to the US blockade and exposure of the effects of the blockade on the Cuban people. CSG also promotes a peaceful resolution of the differences between the US and Cuba, organises fundraising events, film screenings and lecture tours.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Government Departments/ Bodies
Sustainable Development	Green/Environmental Organisations
Education for Sustainable Development	Development Organisations
Climate Justice	Trade Unions
Trade Justice	European Union
Development Aid	Political Parties
Single Issue/ Country Campaign	
Global economic alternatives	

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Support materials produced in-house	Petitions
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
E Bulletins	
Press releases	Advocating / lobbying for Policy Change
Seminars/conferences	Media Activism - Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Social networks: Facebook/ Bebo/Twitter	
Blogs/discussion forums	



Debt and Development Coalition Ireland

Unit F5
Spade Enterprise centre
North King Street
Dublin 7
Contact: Nessa Ní Chasaide
Email: nessa@debtireland.org
Website: www.debtireland.org

Membership

The Debt and Development Coalition Ireland (DDCI) is composed of organisations and individuals who share a deep concern about the injustice of the debt crisis and a commitment to work together for an effective, fair and speedy solution to the crisis.

The Coalition was established in 1993 by a number of development, environment, missionary and solidarity groups in Ireland who were concerned about the devastating effects of debt on developing countries. Over 50 organisations and individuals are now members of DDCI. The Coalition is funded through its member organisations and individual members with additional funding from Irish Aid.

General aims, goals and activities

The Debt and Development Coalition Ireland is calling for the cancellation of debt (the payment of which undermines people's right to secure and fulfilled lives and which arose from illegitimate and irresponsible lending) and the setting up of a fair and independent arbitration procedure to deal with issues relating to developing world debt.

DDC work by raising awareness across Ireland about the debt crisis, lobbying the Irish government and the EU to take a strong stand on the debt issue, and pressing the World Bank, IMF and G20 for radical change in their policies.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Community Organisations
Sustainable Development	Adult Education
Education for Sustainable Development	Government Departments/ Bodies
Debt and tax justice	International Financial Institutes such as the IMF, WTO or World Bank

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Curriculum resources/ teaching materials	Letter Writing
Teacher training	Petitions
Resource production	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Support materials produced in-house	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website.	
Seminars/ Conferences	
Press Releases	



Dóchas

12 Harcourt Street
Dublin 2
Contact: Hans Zomer
Email: anna@dochas.ie
Website: <http://www.dochas.ie>

Membership

45 member organisations

General aims, goals and activities

Dóchas is the association of Irish Non-Governmental Development Organisations. Dóchas provides a forum for consultation and co-operation between its members and helps them speak with a single voice on development issues.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

Dóchas works with its member NGOs to help them improve the coherence and effectiveness of their public communications. It has a communications Code of Conduct and helps NGOs distil shared messages, and coordinate the use of those messages in media and lobby work.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Development Aid	Government Departments/ Bodies
	Development Organisations
	European Union

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Resource production	Letter Writing
Support materials produced in-house	Petitions
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
E Bulletins	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Press releases	
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	
Blogs/discussion forums	



ECO-UNESCO

The Greenhouse

17 St. Andrew Street

Dublin 2

Contact: Elaine Nevin

Email address: elaine.nevin@ecounesco.ie

Website: www.ecounesco.ie

Membership

Membership programme with 8,000 programme participants in 2009.

General aims, goals and activities

ECO-UNESCO is Ireland's environmental education and youth organisation which is affiliated to the World Federation of UNESCO, Clubs, Centres and Association. ECO-UNESCO aims to raise awareness, knowledge and understanding of the environment with young people, to promote the protection and conservation of the environment, to promote the personal development of young people and to promote the ideals of UNESCO. ECO-UNESCO promote environmental awareness, empowerment, raising of self-esteem and civic-mindedness in order to promote the personal development of young people and raise environmental awareness through practical environmental projects.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

ECO-UNESCO provides a wide range of programmes and services, which include Environmental Youth Programmes, training programmes for young people and trainers within non-formal and formal education and environmental education resources including publications, CD-ROMs and posters for primary and secondary school teachers, youth groups and community groups. ECO-UNESCO also offers consultancy services to groups and agencies that want a specialist approach to environmental education, environmental youth work and Education for Sustainable Development.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Sustainable Development	Community Organisations
Education for Sustainable Development	Youth Groups
Environmental Education	
Development Education	

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Curriculum resources/ teaching materials	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Teacher training	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Advocacy about education policy	
Resource production	
Support materials produced in-house	
Newsletter, magazines, flyers, website	
E Bulletins	
Press Releases	
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	



80:20 Educating and Acting for a Better World

St Cronans BNS

Vevay Road

Bray

Co.Wicklow

Contact: Colm Regan

Email: info@8020.ie

Website: <http://www.developmenteducation.ie>

Membership

Non membership based

General aims, goals and activities

80:20 Educating and Acting for a Better World aim to educate on development and human rights issues.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

80:20 makes extensive use of art in education and extensively uses research and popular education methodologies such as cartoons.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Development Education	Formal Sector Education
	Popular Education
	Adult Education
	Schools

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Curriculum resources/ teaching materials	Target groups are encouraged to decide themselves in which type of activism they wish to be active.
Teacher training	
Student workshops	
Resource production	
Support materials produced in-house	
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	



Education for Sustainable Development Forum

89 Loopland Drive

Belfast

BT6 9DW

Contact: Iona Meyer

Email: eef@nienvironmentlink.org

Website: <http://www.new.eefni.org.uk/>

Membership

The forum comprises 92 members from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors.

General aims, goals and activities

The Education for Sustainable Development Forum has a stakeholder interest in environmental education and education for sustainable development.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Education for Sustainable Development	Youth Groups
	Government Departments/ Bodies
	Green/Environmental Organisations
	Development Organisations

Resources used and/or provided to public
Curriculum resources/ teaching materials
Student workshops
Resource production
Support materials produced in-house
E Bulletins
Seminars/conferences



Fairtrade Mark Ireland

Carmichael House
North Brunswick Street
Dublin 7
Contact: Emelia Main
Email: emelia.main@fairtrade.ie
Website: <http://www.fairtrade.ie>

Membership

Non membership based

General aims, goals and activities

Fairtrade Mark Ireland are a small Third World charity that awards a consumer label, the FAIRTRADE Mark, to products which meet internationally recognised standards of Fairtrade. Supported by Action Aid Ireland, Amnesty International (Irish Section), Christian Aid, Comhlámh, Concern, Friends of the Earth, Irish Aid, Irish Congress of Trade Unions, Oxfam Ireland and Trócaire. Fairtrade Mark Ireland are active throughout Ireland via a supporter network of dedicated volunteers, involved in the promotion of Fairtrade, the Fairtrade Towns project, and FAIRTRADE Mark products. Fairtrade Mark Ireland is the Irish Member of the Fairtrade Labelling Organizations International (FLO) and works for better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. By requiring companies to pay sustainable prices (which must never fall lower than the market price), Fairtrade addresses the injustices of conventional trade, which traditionally discriminates against the poorest, weakest producers. It enables them to improve their position and have more control over their lives. Fairtrade Mark Ireland promotes Fairtrade and encourages companies and individuals to buy on Fairtrade terms and to take more responsibility for the goods that they buy.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

Fairtrade Mark Ireland hosts workshops in Ireland and Internationally. The Fair Trade Towns scheme is successful through the island of Ireland and is also now a global initiative with Fairtrade towns recognised in the UK, France, the US and Japan.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Adult Education
Sustainable Development	Government Departments/ Bodies
Education for Sustainable Development	Green/Environmental Organisations
Climate Justice	Development Organisations
Environment Education	Developing Country(ies)
Trade Justice	Trade Unions
Development Education	European Union
Development Aid	General public
Single Issue	Consumers
Fairtrade	

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Curriculum resources/ teaching materials	Letter Writing
Teacher training	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
E Bulletins	Buy or stock Fairtrade products
Press releases	
Seminars/conferences	
Social networking tools: Facebook/ Bebo/Twitter	
Resources produced by INTO	



Foundation Nepal

3 New Road

Galway

Contact: Amanda Milne

Email: info@foundation-nepal.org

Website: www.foundation-nepal.org

Membership

Non member based

General aims, goals and activities

Foundation Nepal (formerly The Nepalese Children's Foundation) is an Irish registered charity that helps the most vulnerable in highly disadvantaged Nepali communities to work their way out of poverty. It operates in remote Himalayan villages in the most impoverished part of Nepal, one of the poorest countries in the world. Chronic food shortages are common, with sixty five percent of children under five suffering from malnutrition, and in some communities, only seventy percent of children living to see their fifth birthday. Foundation Nepal works mainly with women and low caste families, enabling them to help themselves through food production, micro-finance and micro-business opportunities. It also provides healthcare and educational support where it is needed most.

Target Group(s)
Developing Country(ies)

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Curriculum Resources/ Teaching materials	Letter Writing
School Assemblies	Petitions
Support materials produced in-house	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Cultural awareness - photographic exhibition / cultural sharing
Press releases	
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	
Blogs/discussion forums	



Front Line - the International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders

81 Main Street

Blackrock

Dublin

Contact: Jim Loughran

Email: jimloughran@frontlinedefenders.org

Website: www.frontlinedefenders.org

Membership

Non membership based

General aims, goals and activities

Front Line was founded in 2001 with the specific aim of protecting human rights defenders at risk and people who work non-violently for any or all of the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). Front Line aims to address the protection needs identified by defenders themselves and seeks to provide rapid and practical support to at-risk human rights defenders. It does this through international advocacy on behalf of human rights defenders at immediate risk, grants to pay for the practical security needs of human rights defenders, training and resource materials on security and protection (including digital security), rest and respite (including the Front Line Fellowship).

It also offers opportunities for networking and exchange between human rights defenders such as the biennial Dublin Platform, the annual Front Line Award for Human Rights Defenders at Risk and an emergency twenty four hour phone line for human rights defenders operating in Arabic, English, French, Spanish and Russian. In emergency situations, Front Line can facilitate temporary relocation of human rights defenders. Front Line promotes strengthened international and regional measures to protect human rights defenders including through support for the work of the UN Special Reporter on the situation of human rights defenders. Front Line seeks to promote respect for the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

Front Line has identified human rights defenders as key agents of social change who, through their work, aim to end the cycles of poverty marginalisation and violence thereby creating more just and equal societies based on the principle of human rights for all.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Black and Minority Ethnic Groups
	Community Organisations
	Women's Groups
	NGOS in the Global South

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Resource production	Letter Writing
Support materials produced in-house	Petitions
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
E Bulletins	
Press releases	
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	
Photo Exhibitions	



Galway One World Centre

Bridge Mills
Dominick Street
Galway
Contact: Mick McGaughan
Email: info@galwayowc.org
Website: www.galwayowc.org

Membership

50 members

General aims, goals and activities

The GOWC is a Development Education Centre based in the West of Ireland. It offers training to educators, youth and community workers as well as working directly with students, youth and community groups and the general public to provide in depth and up to date information on global development issues through workshops and resources in our centre. The centre also facilitates people to get in touch with similar organisations in Ireland and abroad.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

Members are encouraged to take action however they are free to choose for themselves a method of activism.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Development Education	Black and Minority Ethnic Groups
	Community Organisations
	Youth Groups
	Adult Education

Resources used and/or provided to public
Curriculum resources/ teaching materials
Teacher training
Student workshops
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website
E Bulletins
Press releases
Seminars/conferences
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/Twitter
Blogs/discussion forums



GMB Trade Union

1a Victoria Road

Hollywood

BT18 9BA

Contact: Michael Mulholland

Email: michael.mulholland@gmb.org.uk

Website: www.gmb.org

Membership

640,000 members

General aims, goals and activities

GMB campaigns on issues at a local, national and international level while promoting fairness and equality within the workplace. The goal is to represent the interests of members with employers at all levels and main activities include working with employers, members and Government to promote good industrial relations across all areas of society in Northern Ireland and the UK as well as Europe.

'Trade unionism does not stop at international borders and in today's globalised economy it is essential that GMB plays a role on the world stage'. With this in mind GMB has supported workers on Costa Rica's pineapple plantations who endure appalling working conditions and anti-union employers. The union has also supported the Global March against Child Labour.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Black and Minority Ethnic Groups
Sustainable Development	Community Organisations
Environment Education	Youth Groups
Trade Justice	Women's Groups
Development Education	Adult Education
Single Issue/ Country Campaign	Government Departments/ Bodies
	Trade Unions
	European Union

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Resource production	Letter Writing
Position papers on Government policy and strategic papers	Petitions
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
E Bulletins	Boycotts, Sanctions and Divestment
Press releases	Non Violent Direct Action
Seminars/conferences	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
	Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio



Irish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

P.O. Box 6327

Dublin 6

Contact: David Hutchinson Edgar

Email address: irishcnd@gmail.com

Website: www.irishcnd.org

Membership

More than 300 individual members with structures for groups / organisations to affiliate to Irish CND

General aims, goals and activities

Irish CND campaigns for the abolition of all nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction and the abolition of military alliances. It campaigns for a policy of active Irish neutrality and the transfer of military spending towards ending world poverty.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Disarmament	Community Organisations
Development Issues	Government Departments/ Bodies
	Development Organisations
	United Nations

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Letter Writing
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Petitions
E Bulletins	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Press releases	Boycotts, Sanctions and Divestment
Seminars/conferences	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Annual commemorative event(s) for victims of atomic bombings	



Irish Centre for Human Rights

National University of Ireland Galway

Galway

Contact: Andrea Breslin

Email: andreabreslin@gmail.com

Website: http://www.nuigalway.ie/human_rights

Membership

Non membership based

General aims, goals and activities

The Irish Centre for Human Rights is one of the world's premier university-based institutions for the study and promotion of human rights and humanitarian law. Since its establishment in January 2000, the Centre has developed a global reputation for excellence in the field of human rights teaching, research and advocacy, which has enabled the institution to attract high quality students to its acclaimed masters programmes and to build a thriving community of doctoral researchers.

The Centre currently has six permanent full-time staff faculties, comprised of a director and five lecturers, four additional lecturers who serve in an adjunct or visiting capacity, three doctoral fellows, two post-doctoral fellows and three administrative assistants. Whilst the Centre is autonomous in its physical location and day-to-day operations, its academic staff are members of the Faculty of Law at the National University of Ireland, Galway, with whom the Centre is linked and maintains a close and cooperative working relationship.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Adult Education

Resources used and/or provided to public
Curriculum resources/ teaching materials
Support materials produced in-house
Seminars/conferences



Ireland-Palestine Solidarity Campaign (IPSC)

Unit 5

64 Dame Street

Dublin 2

Contact: Kevin Squires

Email: info@ipsc.ie

Website: <http://www.ipsc.ie>

Membership

Over 200 members

General aims, goals and activities

The IPSC campaigns for justice for the Palestinian people and to build support for their struggle for human, civil, political and national rights. IPSC do this through raising public awareness of human rights abuses in the occupied territories, the violations of international law and the historical causes of the injustices to the Palestinians that lie at the heart of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. The IPSC lobbies the Irish government and the EU, campaigns on the streets and urges the implementation of a vigorous boycott, divestment and sanctions campaign similar to the one that played a part in ending Apartheid in South Africa. The IPSC also holds public talks with Israeli and Palestinian speakers and various cultural and fund-raising events.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

IPSC work to get Irish companies and companies that have a definite link to Ireland (e.g. Veolia) - that profit from the occupation of Palestine to divest from the interests that generate this profit. IPSC also accept speaking positions at any conferences, annual general meetings and debates and try to encourage Palestinian voices to be heard at these and similar events. IPSC also attempt to promote Palestinian culture in this country.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Youth Groups
Development Education	Women's Groups
Single Issue/ Country Campaign	Adult Education
	Government Departments/ Bodies
	Green/Environmental Organisations
	Trade Unions
	European Union
	United Nations
	General Civil Society Groups
	General Public

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Curriculum resources/ teaching materials	Letter Writing
Resource production	Petitions
Support materials produced in-house	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Boycotts, Sanctions and Divestment
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Non Violent Direct Action
E Bulletins	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Press releases	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Seminars/conferences	Strike Action on Global Issues
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	
Blogs/discussion forums	



Irish Congress of Trade Unions

31-32 Parnell Square

Dublin 1

Contact: Stellan Hermansson

Email: stellan.hermansson@ictu.ie

Website: www.ictu.ie/globalsolidarity

Membership

ICTU is the umbrella organisation for 55 trade unions in the north and south of Ireland, representing 832,000 members.

General aims, goals and activities

Congress seeks to achieve a just society - one which recognises the rights of all workers and citizens to enjoy the prosperity and fulfilment which leads to a good quality of life. Quality of life embraces not just material well-being, but freedom of choice to engage in the arts, culture and all aspects of civic life. This vision applies in the context of Ireland, Europe and the wider world and challenges the existing economic order. In Congress' Global Solidarity Programme the two main goals are development education and international solidarity work. The development education project is funded by Irish Aid and aims at raising awareness of the Global Solidarity issues amongst union members. The international solidarity work is the duty, interest and commitment of Congress. In these times of worldwide recession international trade union solidarity is more important than ever.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

Global Solidarity Champions training courses and Global Solidarity Summer Schools. The Global Solidarity Champions training course offers interactive teaching, dynamic discussions and concrete solidarity work. The five day course is the central plank in ICTU's development education programme. Each training course has been evaluated by the participants and contributes to developing a more comprehensive and interlinked programme. Today the course covers many different issues but the structure of each day tries to logically link things together. For example at the latest course, the first day started with a discussion about what global solidarity and equality means to each of the participants and if there is a difference between charity and solidarity. The vast majority of the participants in the training courses so far, have actively engaged in the global solidarity work after becoming Global Solidarity Champions.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Adult Education
Sustainable Development	Government Departments/ Bodies
Education for Sustainable Development	Developing Country(ies)
Climate Justice	Trade Unions
Trade Justice	European Union
Development Education	United Nations
Concrete International Trade Union Solidarity Programmes	
Trade Unions	International Financial Institutes such as the IMF, WTO or World Bank

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Resource production	Letter Writing
Support materials produced in-house	Petitions
Position papers on Government policy and strategic papers	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Boycotts, Sanctions and Divestment
E Bulletins	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Press releases	Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	



Irish Woodworkers for Africa (Just Forests)

Rathcobican

Rhode

Co Offaly

Contact: Tom Roche

Email: woodlife@justforests.org

Website: www.justforests.org

Membership

Membership based

General aims, goals and activities

Irish Woodworkers for Africa aim to highlight society's dependence on forests, wood and the need to source timber needs from responsibly-managed forests worldwide.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

On a number of occasions, Tom Roche has gone on hunger strike outside a particular building, that he suspects uses illegally-logged timber, in order to engage the press. He has made presentations to two different Dáil Committees at Government on the widespread use of illegally-logged timber in Ireland and how that impacts on communities in developing economies.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Adult Education
Sustainable Development	Government Departments/ Bodies
Education for Sustainable Development	Green/Environmental Organisations
Climate Justice	Development Organisations
Environment Education	European Union
Trade Justice	Timber and Forest Industry
Development Education	Architects
Fair Trade in timber and wood-based products	Local Authorities
	Woodwork Teachers

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Teacher Training	Letter Writing
Resource production	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Support materials produced in-house	Non Violent Direct Action
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Media Activism - Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Press releases	
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	
Blogs/discussion forums	



Latin America Solidarity Centre

5 Merrion Row
Dublin 2
Contact: Azucena Bermúdez Pérez
Email: azu@lasc.ie
Website: www.lasc.ie

Membership

80 members

General aims, goals and activities

The aim of LASC's Work Programme 2009-2012 is to work in solidarity with alternative and grassroots movements towards social justice and with a special focus on food sovereignty in Latin America. LASC is involved in development education and awareness raising about the understanding and critical analysis of the root causes of social injustices and lack of food sovereignty in Latin America and the provision of tools for action.

One of LASC's objectives is solidarity, research, media, networking and lobbying to engage and support LASC members and target groups in designing and running a campaign of solidarity with the people of Latin America in their struggle to achieve food sovereignty.

LASC members take part in outreach and activism to increase the number of people active in LASC and contributing to its campaigns by facilitating deeper involvement and participation of LASC members and activists in its work and increasing the overall level of LASC membership.

Another objective is organisational development to strengthen LASC's visibility, accountability and capacity in order to fulfil its mission of solidarity with Latin America and deliver its programme effectively and independently.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Community Organisations
Trade Justice	Youth Groups
Development Education	Adult Education
Global solidarity	Food Movement

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Support materials produced in-house	Letter Writing
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Petitions
E Bulletins	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Press releases	Boycotts, Sanctions and Divestment
Seminars/conferences	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	Media Activism - Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Photo Exhibitions	
Latin America Film Festival	
Latin America Week	



Lourdes Youth & Community Services Ltd (LYCS)

Lower Sean McDermott Street

Dublin

Contact: Sarah Kelleher

Email: sarah.kelleher@lycs.ie

Website: www.lycs.ie

Membership

Over 300 participants from the local area in the north east inner city of Dublin

General aims, goals and activities

LYCS aims to provide educational, training and social programmes for local people of all ages through four programmes of work: a crèche, youth programme, adult education programme and community training centre for early school leavers.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

Experience shows that the most effective way to engage people from disadvantaged communities is through word of mouth, primarily as literacy levels are very poor. LYCS do this through workshops, discussions and events.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Community Organisations
Sustainable Development	Youth Groups
Development Education	Adult Education
Community Development	Development Organisations
	Disadvantaged Communities

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Resource production	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Support materials produced in-house	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	
Blogs/discussion forums	



Multi-Cultural Resource Centre (MCRC)

9 Lower Crescent

Belfast

BT155DZ

Contact: Margaret Donaghy

Email: margaret@mcrc-ni.org

Website: www.mcrc-ni.org

Membership

Non membership based

General aims, goals and activities

The Multi-Cultural Resource Centre is part of the Bryson Charitable Group. MCRC is a regional organisation working as a conduit advocating and promoting human rights and equity through empowerment, collaboration and support of Black and Minority Ethnic communities and individuals.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Black and Minority Ethnic Groups
Migration/ Immigration	Community Organisations
	Women's Groups
	Adult Education
	Government Departments/ Bodies

Campaigning Activity
Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change



Northern Ireland Environment Link

89 Loopland Drive

Belfast

BT6 9DW

Contact: Sue Christie

Email: sue@nienvironmentlink.org

Website: www.nienvironmentlink.org

Membership

Northern Ireland Environment Link (NIEL) is the networking and forum body for non-statutory organisations concerned with the environment of Northern Ireland. Its 58 full members represent over 90,000 individuals and 262 subsidiary groups and have an annual turnover of £70 million and manage over 314,000 acres of land.

General aims, goals and activities

NIEL's mission is to facilitate understanding of environmental issues and enhance the capacity of groups and individuals to speak and act in a co-ordinated way in the interests of the natural and built environment. NIEL carries out work through its five strategic aims; Strategic Leadership; Networking; Information; Policy; and Membership Services.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Sustainable Development	Community Organisations
Education for Sustainable Development	Government Departments/ Bodies
Climate Justice	Green/Environmental Organisations
Environment Education	Development Organisations
	Trade Unions
	Engagement with NI's elected representatives

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Teacher training	Letter Writing
Advocacy about education policy	Petitions
Resource production	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Support materials produced in-house	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	
E Bulletins	
Press releases	
Seminars/conferences	



Northern Ireland Public Service Alliance (NIPSA)

54 Wellington Park

Belfast

BT9 6DP

Contact: Geraldine Alexander

Email: geraldine.alexander@nipso.org.uk

Website: www.nipso.org.uk

Membership

NIPSA is the largest trade union in Northern Ireland representing over 46,000 members employed across the public service including the Northern Ireland Civil Service and its agencies, Local Government, Education and Library Boards, the Health and Personal Social Services, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive as well as a host of Non-Departmental Public Bodies (NDPBs). NIPSA also represents a significant number of members in the voluntary and community sector.

General aims, goals and activities

The objectives of the union are to represent, protect and promote the interests of its members, to participate in the regulation of relations between its members and their employers for the purpose of furthering and protecting the interests of its members. The union aims to provide such benefits and services for its members and employees and for such other persons, as may be determined by the General Conference. It also aims to co-operate with those trade unions affiliated to the Irish Congress of Trade Unions in order to protect and advance the interests of working people generally. NIPSA seeks to promote equal opportunities for all members and to develop positive policies to promote equality of opportunity regardless of colour, race, ethnic or national origins, political opinion, religious belief, sex, disability, age, marital status, or sexual orientation.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

NIPSA produces a quarterly Development Education Newsletter and delivers regular development education seminars aimed at NIPSA members on a range of topics. It produces regular articles on various topics for NIPSA Reports (monthly) and NIPSA News Incorporated, a Global Solidarity webpage within the NIPSA website linking to various campaigns and initiatives. It also issues Branch Secretary Circulars raising awareness about global and local campaigns e.g. Fair-trade fortnight, ICTU's postcard campaign to Champion Fair and Ethical Trade in Ireland etc. A global issues section is incorporated into the NIPSA Reps' Training

Course. NIPSA also conducts presentations at Branch Annual General Meetings, conferences and other meetings on the work of the NIPSA Global Solidarity Committee and the projects supported through the NIPSA Developing World Fund. The union also produces a Branch Resource Action Pack.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Black and Minority Ethnic Groups
Sustainable Development	Community Organisations
Education for Sustainable Development	Youth Groups
Climate Justice	Women's Groups
Environment Education	Adult Education
Trade Justice	Government Departments/ Bodies
Development Education	Green/Environmental Organisations
Development Aid	Development Organisations
Single Issue/ Country Campaign	Developing Country(ies)
	NGOs in the Global South
	Trade Unions
	European Union
	United Nations
	International Financial Institutes such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Trade Organisation (WTO) or World Bank

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Resource production	Letter Writing
Support materials produced in-house	Petitions
Position papers on Government policy and strategic papers	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Boycotts, Sanctions and Divestment
E Bulletins	Non Violent Direct Action
Press releases	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change



Oxfam Ireland

115 North Street

Belfast

BT1 1ND

Contact: Suzie Hamilton

Email: suzie.hamilton@oxfamireland.org

Website: www.oxfamireland.org

Membership

Oxfam Ireland is a member of Oxfam International, a confederation of fourteen organisations.

General aims, goals and activities

Oxfam's vision is of a just world without poverty. Oxfam believe that with the right support poor people can take control and solve their own problems. That's why it funds the work of experienced local organisations in East, Central and Southern Africa. Because the best people to help the poorest communities are community members themselves. Through Emergency responses Oxfam Ireland has helped to rebuild lives in over thirty emergencies around the world. All of the money raised in Oxfam's emergency appeals goes directly to the people affected, ensuring that they get clean water, food, shelter and security.

Oxfam believe that, as well as providing much needed assistance on the ground overseas; it must fight on an international level to change the unfair systems that trap countries into poverty. Oxfam wants you, your friends and your family to join it in making a difference to millions of peoples' lives. The louder our voices the better we're heard.

Something is very wrong with world trade, and Oxfam is doing its best to put it right through campaigning for trade justice, and through its four dedicated Fair Trade shops.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Government Departments/ Bodies
Climate Justice	European Union
Trade Justice	United Nations
Development Aid	International Financial Institutes such as the IMF, WTO or World Bank
Single Issue/ Country Campaign	

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Support materials produced in-house	Letter Writing
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Petitions
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
E Bulletins	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Press releases	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	



Peace & Neutrality Alliance

Dalkey Business Centre
17 Castle Street
Dalkey
Dublin
Contact: Roger Cole
Email: info@pana.ie
Website: www.pana.ie

Membership

PANA is an organisation of 36 affiliated groups.

General aims, goals and activities

PANA advocates that Ireland should have its own independent foreign policy pursued primarily through a reformed United Nations and that positive neutrality should be a key component of that policy.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Community Organisations

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Advocacy about education policy	Letter Writing
Support materials produced in-house	Petitions
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
E Bulletins	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Press releases	
Seminars/conferences	



Residents against Racism (RAR)

c/o Connolly Books
43 East Essex Street
Dublin 2
Contact: Rosanna Flynn
Email: rar.info@yahoo.ie
Website: www.residentsagainstracism.org

Membership

20 dedicated members and several supporters.

General aims, goals and activities

Residents against Racism is a human rights group whose aim is to campaign against any form of racism, marginalisation and injustice in Irish society. RAR's activities include but are not limited to peaceful rallies, helping the needy within its scope, making recommendations to the government, attending human rights educational functions and having weekly meetings to keep members and supporters abreast with happenings that may affect them.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Black and Minority Ethnic Groups
Single Issue/ Country Campaign	Community Organisations
	Youth Groups
	Women's Groups
	Government Departments/ Bodies
	European Union
	United Nations

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Support materials produced in-house	Petitions
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
E Bulletins	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Press releases	
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo /Twitter	



Save the Children

15 Richmond Park

Belfast

BT10 0HB

Contact: Corrine Heaney

Email: c.heaney@savethechildren.org.uk

Website: www.savethechildren.org.uk/northernireland

Membership

Non membership based

General aims, goals and activities

Save the Children are outraged that millions of children worldwide are still denied proper healthcare, food, education and protection. It works to promote justice for children globally and locally. Here at home Save the Children is determined that child poverty is eliminated, that children get a good quality and inclusive education and that child rights are protected and promoted.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Community Organisations
Development Education	Youth Groups
Development Aid	Government Departments/ Bodies
Single Issue/ Country Campaign	Developing Country(ies)

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Student workshops	Letter Writing
Advocacy about education policy	Petitions
Resource production	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Support materials produced in-house	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	
E Bulletins	
Press releases	
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	
Blogs/discussion forums	



Self Help Africa

Annefield House

Dublin Road

Portlaoise

Contact: Patsy Toland

Email: patsy.toland@selfhelpafrica.org

Website: www.selfhelpafrica.com

Membership

Non membership based

General aims, goals and activities

Self Help Africa is an NGO working with nine African countries for sustainable rural development.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

SHA has a development education programme that is focused on second level schools in Ireland. This compliments its development aid programme in Africa. Students have been supported to produce resources and publications themselves. These include an ongoing book series 'Towards Twenty fifteen' and 'Poverty Week'. School activities focus on student empowerment to act on their own on a wide range of issues in their own schools, in their community and beyond.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Sustainable Development	Developing Country(ies)
Climate Justice	Secondary Education
Development Education	
Development Aid	

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Curriculum Resources/ Teaching materials	Letter Writing
Teacher Training	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
School Assemblies	Media Activism - Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Student workshops	
Advocacy about education policy	
Resource production	
Support materials produced in-house	
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	



SPIRASI

213 North Circular Road
Phibsborough
Dublin 7
Contact: Greg Straton
Email: gstraton@spirasi.ie
Website: www.spirasi.ie

Membership

Non membership based.

General aims, goals and activities

SPIRASI is a humanitarian, intercultural, non-governmental organisation that works with asylum seekers, refugees and other disadvantaged migrant groups, with special concern for survivors of torture. In partnership with others, SPIRASI enables access to specialist services to promote the well-being of the human person, and encourages self-reliance and integration into Ireland.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Black and Minority Ethnic Groups
	Adult Education

Resources used and/or provided to public
Curriculum Resources/Teaching materials
Resource production
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website
Awareness raising in schools



Sport against Racism Ireland (SARI)

135 Capel Street

Dublin 1

Contact: Ken McCue

Email address: info@sari.ie

Website: www.sari.ie

Membership

Non membership based.

General aims, goals and activities

Sport against Racism Ireland works for cultural integration and social inclusion through the medium of Sport on local and global stages.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

Through its strategic alliance SARI work with Streetfootballworld, Football against Racism Europe, UNHCR and Concern International.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Black and Minority Ethnic Groups
Education for Sustainable Development	Community Organisations
Development Education	Youth Groups
Development Aid	Women's Groups
Anti Racism and Anti Child Labour	Adult Education
	Government Departments/ Bodies
	Development Organisations
	Developing Country(ies)
	NGOs in the Global South
	Trade Unions
	European Union
	United Nations
	Sports Governing Bodies

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Curriculum Resources/ Teaching materials	Letter Writing
Teacher Training	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
School Assemblies	
Student Workshops	
Advocacy about Education Policy	
Resource Production	
Support materials produced in-house	
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	
Press releases	
Seminars/ Conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/Twitter	
Festivals	



Stop Climate Chaos Northern Ireland

C/O NIEL

89 Loopland Drive

Belfast

BT6 9DW

Contact: Sean Kelly

Email: info@stopclimatechaosni.org

Website: www.stopclimatechaosni.org

Membership

SCCNI is a membership based organisation with over 20 member organisations including: Centre for Global Education; Chartered Institute of Environmental Health; Christian Aid; Concern Worldwide; Conservation Volunteers NI; Friends of the Earth; Irish Congress of Trade Unions; The National Trust; NICVA; NIEL; Oxfam Ireland; QUBSU; RSPB; Sustainable NI; Sustrans; Tearfund; Tidy NI; Tools for Solidarity; Ulster Wildlife Trust; and WWF NI.

General aims, goals and activities

The goals of SCCNI are to raise awareness of climate change and to change behaviour and public policies to deliver local and global benefits. The coalition recognises that the behaviour of people in Northern Ireland is, through climate change, having disproportionately negative impacts on those living in many parts of the developing world. By working together SCCNI hope they can help people here recognise that individual and political action in Northern Ireland can make a difference both here and internationally.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Sustainable Development	Northern Irish Society
Climate Justice	Northern Ireland's elected representatives
Environment Education	

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Resource Production	Letter Writing
Support materials produced in-house	Petitions
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Public Demonstrations / Assemblies
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Advocating / lobbying for Policy Change
Press releases	Media Activism - Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	



Sustainable Northern Ireland

89 Loopland Drive

Belfast

BT6 9DW

Contact: Patricia Mackey

Email: patricia@sustainableni.org

Website: www.sustainableni.org

Membership

Non membership based

General aims, goals and activities

Sustainable Northern Ireland provides help for local government to develop and deliver Sustainable Development Implementation Plans. It encourages sustainable development thinking and action primarily within district council and the community and voluntary sector. The Sustainable Development Strategy for Northern Ireland means that many of Sustainable Northern Ireland's future activities will involve helping local authorities and others to implement sustainable development in their areas.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Sustainable Development	Government Departments/ Bodies
	District Councils
Environment Education	

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Support materials produced in-house	Letter Writing
Position papers on government policy and strategic papers	Petitions
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Seminars/conferences	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	Media Activism - Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
	Media Activism - Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	



Tools for Solidarity

Unit 1b, 1 Edenderry Industrial Estate
326 Crumlin Road
Belfast
BT14 7EE
Contact: Stephen Wood
Email: tools.belfast@virgin.net
Website: www.toolsforsolidarity.com

Membership

More than 50 members.

General aims, goals and activities

Tools for Solidarity (TFS) is a voluntary charitable organisation, based in Belfast and Downpatrick, which supports artisans and communities in some of the poorest countries in the world by providing high quality refurbished hand tools and machines.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

TFS operates two workshops; one in Belfast which is run by 10 full time volunteers, while in Downpatrick many volunteers give their input, sometimes for an hour, sometimes for most of the week. TFS seek wherever possible to keep costs to a minimum, e.g. all shelving in the workshop and crates made for shipping tools are made from scrap wood. TFS has three basic aims;

It aims to provide people, communities and projects in sub Saharan Africa with basic hand tools and machines so that they may practice their skills and improve the quality of their own and their community's life. The tools enable the people who receive them to establish small co-operative and community businesses as well as provide training in vocational schools and opportunities for employment for disabled and women's groups.

It aims to raise awareness throughout Northern Ireland (NI) about the issues of sustainable development within our own society as well as in the so called Third World or Majority World. These issues include the environment, waste and recycling, appropriate technology, self-reliance, sustainability and community development. TFS seek to improve and question what we do and work with others to challenge the wasteful, destructive and unequal growth pattern of our society and globe.

It aims to provide opportunities for people in NI to participate in worthwhile

and valuable work. TFS is particularly committed to working with all sections of the community in NI and to focus on providing sheltered placements for people with special needs and those normally excluded from being able to contribute to society in a positive way.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Sustainable Development	Community Organisations
Development Education	Youth Groups
	Women's Groups

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Curriculum Resources/ Teaching materials	Boycotts, Sanctions and Divestment
School Assemblies	
Support materials produced in-house	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	
Blogs/discussion forums	
	Media Activism - Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	



Trócaire

St Patrick's College
Maynooth
Co Kildare
Contact: Joanne McGarry
Email: jmcgarry@trocaire.ie
Website: www.trocaire.org

Membership

Non membership based

General aims, goals and activities

Trócaire is the official overseas development agency of the Catholic Church in Ireland and works through global Catholic networks and with local partners on the ground. When Trócaire help people, it works with them so that they drive the entire process themselves. Solutions are not imposed on the people Trócaire help. Instead, they become the authors of their own destiny. In summary, Trócaire is working for a just world, where people can live in dignity and be the owners of their own development. Trócaire try to work on the roots causes of poverty, injustice and inequality and well as the solutions.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

There is a large database of Trócaire supporters who are targeted with e-actions and communications, depending on the supporter's area of interest. This is a useful way of getting supporters to contact decision makers to effect policy change. Trócaire also have a campaigner's programme which provides training to small groups of interested campaigners on the issues it works on and provides them with opportunities to publicly campaign on these issue for Trócaire. As it is a Catholic agency, Trócaire can reach out to religious leaders and their congregations for support on the campaign and issues, through outreach at masses, with diocesan representatives and through church groups that are set up in parishes.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Community Organisations
Sustainable Development	Youth Groups
Education for Sustainable Development	Women's Groups
Climate Justice	Government Departments/ Bodies
Trade Justice	Green/Environmental Organisations
Development Education	Development Organisations
Development Aid	Developing Country(ies)
	NGOs in the Global South
	European Union
	Church groups and congregations, general public

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Curriculum Resources/ Teaching materials	Letter Writing
Teacher Training	Petitions
Student Workshops	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Advocacy about Education Policy	Non Violent Direct Action
Resource Production	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Support materials produced in-house	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	
E Bulletins	
Press releases	
Seminars/ Conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/Twitter	
Blogs/discussion forums	



The Services, Industrial, Professional and Technical Union (SIPTU)

Liberty Hall

Dublin 1

Contact: Anne Speed

Email: aspeed@siptu.ie

Website: www.siptu.ie

Membership

The Services, Industrial, Professional and Technical Union (SIPTU) represents over 200,000 Irish workers from virtually every category of employment across almost every sector of the Irish economy.

General aims, goals and activities

SIPTU is a trade union advocating, organising and collectively bargaining for workers interests and rights. SIPTU provides the expertise, experience and back-up services necessary to assist workers in their dealings with employers, government and industrial relations institutions. In addition to its daily activities in workplace bargaining with employers, SIPTU campaigns on a wide range of issues - some at local level and some at national level in order to improve the quality of life of its members and of the wider community.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	Black and Minority Ethnic Groups
Sustainable Development	Community Organisations
Trade Justice	Youth Groups
Single Issue campaign	Women's Groups
	Government Departments/ Bodies
	Trade Unions

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Curriculum resources/ Teaching materials	Letter Writing
Resource production	Petitions
Support materials produced in-house	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
Position papers on Government policy and strategic papers	Boycotts, Sanctions and Divestment
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
E Bulletins	Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Press releases	
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	



The Wheel

10 Grattan Crescent
Inchicore, Dublin
Contact: Ivan Cooper
Email: ivan@wheel.ie
Website: www.wheel.ie

Membership

880 member organisations.

General aims, goals and activities

TheWheel is a support and representative organisation for charities and community groups in Ireland. The Wheel represents the shared interests of community groups to Government and other decision-makers and promotes a better understanding by the public of them and their work. We are a one stop shop for and about the charity sector in Ireland.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Service, Support and representation for CV organisations	Community Organisations

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Newsletter, magazines, flyers, website	
E Bulletins	
Press Releases	
Seminars/ conferences	
Social networks: Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	
Blogs/discussion forums	
Seminars/conferences	
Social networks Facebook/Bebo/ Twitter	



Voluntary Service International (VSI)

30 Mountjoy Square
Dublin 1
Contact: Tom Ryder
Email: info@vsi.ie
Website: www.vsi.ie

Membership

Between 300 and 400 members.

General aims, goals and activities

Voluntary Service International (VSI) is the Irish branch of Service Civil International, a worldwide peace movement that began in 1920. VSI works to promote peace, social justice, sustainable development and intercultural understanding through volunteering abroad and in Ireland.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Sustainable Development	Youth Groups
Development Education	General Public
Volunteering;	
Peacebuilding	

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Student workshops	Letter Writing
Workshops for volunteers	Petitions
Stands at music festivals	



West Bank Trips

Elaine Daly
14 Roseberry Terrace
Newbridge
Co. Kildare
Email: dalyelaine1@eircom.net

Membership

Non membership based.

General aim, goals and activities

West Bank Trips organises visits to the West Bank, Palestine to enable people to see for themselves the situation there and to meet with Israeli and Palestinian human rights and development organisations working for peace and justice.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Human Rights	General Public
Single Issue/ Country Campaign	

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Resources for those who have travelled to West Bank	Letter Writing
	Petitions
Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies	
	Boycotts, Sanctions and Divestment
	Non Violent Direct Action
	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
	Media Activism- Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio



YMCA Ireland - Global Youth Work Team

Donard Park
Newcastle
Co. Down
BT33 0GR
Contact: Michele Taylor
Email: michele@ymca-ireland.org
Website: www.ymcaireland.org

Membership

Non membership based.

General aims, goals and activities

YMCA is a voluntary youth work organisation that works with children, young people, families and the community, with particular regard to those who are disadvantaged and disaffected. Underpinned by Christian principles, each YMCA responds to local need and seeks to share and learn from being a part of a national and international movement. The main programme areas of YMCA Ireland are Youth Work, Vocational Training, Community Relations, Health Education, Family Youth Work, Outdoor Education, Youth Leadership and Global Youth Work.

Methods/activities used to engage/educate the public in global issues

We have used street drama in the past to raise awareness with general public on various global justice issues. We also support young people to get involved in the national campaigns of Irish NGO's. As part of our Global youth work programme we have developed a campaigning and lobbying programme for young people interested in taking action on global issues.

Area of Activity	Target Group(s)
Development Education	Youth Groups

Resources used and/or provided to public	Campaigning Activity
Support materials produced in-house	Letter Writing
Position papers on government policy and strategy papers	Petitions
Newsletters/magazines, flyers, website	Public Demonstrations/ Assemblies
E Bulletins	Advocating/ lobbying for Policy Change
Seminars/conferences	Newspapers, Magazines, Television, Radio
Blogs/discussion forums	

SECTION 4: Appendices

Case Study Sources

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Indymedia Ireland, 2010. *The Saga of the Corrib Gas Field*. [Online] Available at: <<http://www.indymedia.ie/article/66344>> [Accessed 8th October 2010].

Indymedia UK, 2010. *Beat the Boreholes continues*. [Online] Available at: <<http://www.indymedia.org.uk/en/2010/07/456249.html>> [Accessed 11th October 2010].

Jim Shultz, The Democracy Center, 2010. *Bolivia's war over water*. [Online] Available at: <http://www.democracyctr.org/bolivia/investigations/water/the_water_war.htm> [Accessed 8th October 2010].

Jubilee Debt Campaign, 2010. *Drop the Debt*. [Online] Available at: <<http://www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk/>> [Accessed 18th October 2010].

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Trocaire, 2010. *Ireland's aid budget must be protected*. [Online] Available at: <<http://www.trocaire.org/resources/blogs/ireland%E2%80%99s-aid-programme-must-be-protected>> [Accessed 10th December 2010].

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Wikipedia, 2010. *Jubilee Debt Coalition*. [Online] Available at: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jubilee_Debt_Coalition> [Accessed 18th October 2010].



Useful Websites on International Development

Activists / Authors

Chomsky, Noam	www.chomsky.info
Curtis, Mark	www.markcurtis.wordpress.com
Indymedia Ireland	www.indymedia.ie
Klein, Naomi	www.naomiklein.org
Monbiot, George	www.monbiot.com
Open Democracy	www.opendemocracy.net
Pilger, John	www.johnpilger.com
Vandana Shiva	www.navdanya.org
Z-Net	www.zmag.org

Black and Minority Ethnic Groups

Chinese Welfare Association	www.cwa-ni.org
Multicultural Resource Centre	www.mcrc-ni.org
NICEM	www.nicem.org.uk
Refugee Action Group	www.refugeeactiongroup.com

Campaign Organisations

Campaign against Arms Trade	www.caat.org.uk
Cuba Support Group Ireland	www.cubasupport.com
Debt and Development Coalition	www.debtireland.org
Fair Trade	www.maketradefair.com
Global Call to Action against Poverty	www.whiteband.org
Global Campaign against HIV & AIDS	www.stopaidscampaign.org.uk
Jubilee Debt Campaign	www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk
Palestine Solidarity Campaign	www.palestinecampaign.org
Trade Justice	www.tjm.org.uk
World Development Movement	www.wdm.org.uk

Children and Young People

Anti-racist, Intercultural Website	www.eurokid.org
Children's website (aged 7-12)	www.globalgang.org.uk
Oxfam's cool planet (site for teachers & pupils)	www.oxfam.org.uk/education
People and Planet	www.peopleandplanet.org
Photos & Stories by Palestinian Children	www.savethechildren.org.uk/
eyetoeye	
Student Action for Refugees (STAR)	www.star-network.org.uk

Young Citizens in Action (VSB)	www.youngcitizens.org.uk
Young People's Rights around the World	www.savethechildren.org.uk

Developing World

African Development Bank Group	www.afdb.org
SADEP Solidarity for African Development	www.sadep.net
Third World Network	www.twinside.org.sg
Third World Network Africa	apps.twnafrica.org/blog
Zapatista Movement (EZLN)	enlacezapatista.ezln.org.mx

Development Agencies

ActionAid Ireland	www.actionaid.ie/
Christian Aid	www.christian-aid.org.uk
Concern Worldwide	www.concern.net
Eirene	www.eirene.org
Oxfam Ireland	www.oxfamireland.org
Save the Children	www.savethechildren.org.uk
Tools for Solidarity	www.toolsforsolidarity.org.uk
Trócaire	www.trocaire.org
War on Want	www.waronwantni.org

Development Education Sites

BOND - UK network of Voluntary Organisations in International and Development Education	www.bond.org.uk
Centre for Global Education	www.centreforglobaleducation.com
Children in Crossfire	www.childrenincrossfire.org
Cyfanfydd (Welsh Development Education Association)	www.cyfanfyd.org.uk
Development Education Association	www.dea.org.uk
Development Education Ireland land.org	www.developmenteducationireland.org
Dochas	www.dochas.ie
Global Dimension	www.globaldimension.org.uk
IDEA	www.ideaonline.ie
IDEAS (International Development Education Association of Scotland)	www.ideas-forum.org.uk
The Big Pic	www.bigpic.biz



Environment Sites

Amazon Watch	www.amazonwatch.org
Envirolink	www.envirolink.org
Global Footprints	www.globalfootprints.org
World Climate	www.worldclimate.com

European Union

Concord	www.concordeurope.org
Development Education	
Exchange in Europe Project	www.deeep.org
Development Education Times	www.deeep.org/english/news/de_times/index.php
European Commission	www.europa.eu.int
Peace and Neutrality Alliance	www.pana.ie

Gender and Development

Gender and Development	www.adb.org/Gender
Women in Development Europe (WIDE)	www.wide-network.org
Women in Development Network (WIDNET)	www.focusintl.com/widnet.htm
Women's Environment and Development Network	www.wedo.org
UNDP	www.undp.org/gender

Human Rights Organisations

Amnesty International	www.amnesty.org
Committee on the Administration of Justice	www.caj.org.uk
Human Rights Commission	www.nihrc.org
Human Rights Watch	www.hrw.org
International Criminal Court	www.icc-cpi.int
UN High Commissioner for Refugees	www.unhcr.ch

Information on Global Issues

Images from the South	www.majorityworld.com
Information on global issues	www.globalissues.org
New Internationalist Magazine online	www.newint.org

Social Forum

European Social Forum	www.fse-esf.org
Indymedia	www.indymedia.ie
World Social Forum	www.forumsocialmundial.org.br

Transnational Corporations

Baby Milk Action

Clean Clothes Campaign

Corporate Reform

Corporate Watch

Global Exchange

Killer Coke

McSpotlight

www.babymilkaction.org

www.cleanclothes.org

www.citizenworks.org

www.corporatewatch.org.uk

www.globalexchange.org

www.killercoke.org

www.mcspotlight.org



