

# **Waterford One World Centre Annual Report 2015**



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# Waterford One World Centre

The Waterford One World Centre has worked extensively in the field of Development Education since 1990. We see Development Education as a way of understanding the complex issues that govern our world. We see the promotion of Development Education as a means of enabling people to work effectively for change in their lives and in the world as a whole. With the adoption of our 2015-2016 Strategic Plan, the WOWC narrowed our focus to come in line with our expertise. The WOWC works primarily on issues related to Ethical Consumerism and Fair Trade.

The Centre's role is to bring information and understanding to people, particularly young people, and help them to effectively take action to create a more just and balanced world. The Centre organises workshops, projects and events for schools and community groups that focus on development issues. We use active and participatory methods to explore a wide range of issues and themes.

In 2015, the Centre was funded by Irish Aid through its Development Education Grants as well as via WorldWise Global Schools and Africa Day, as well as Concern, Waterford City and County Council, Agenda 21 and the European Union via its Development Education and Awareness Raising Grant. The WOWC is a member of the Irish Development Education Association (IDEA) and subscribes to the Dóchas Code of Conduct on Images and Messages.

## Our Vision

Our vision is of a world where trade is fair and people use their power as consumers for positive social change, social justice and human dignity. Our mission is to empower the people of Waterford to engage and act on issues of global justice specifically in relation to Ethical Consumerism and Fair Trade (EC/FT).

Although some Irish voices are calling for us to forget about the rest of the world and simply look after our own needs, another view is that global/ development education is needed now more than ever. We need critical thinking skills to help us to understand and challenge poverty and injustice, locally and globally. We need to learn to see the world through the lens of human rights and to build solidarity with marginalised people all over the world. Most importantly, we need to remind ourselves that 'another world is possible'.

We have adopted the following Strategic Objectives to help us achieve our vision:

- Selected educators have the skills and knowledge necessary to integrate FT/EC into their work
- Selected young people understand the global justice implications behind the FT/EC symbols.
- The Waterford community uses its power as consumers for ethical concerns
- The WOWC delivers effective results from our FT/EC programme

# 2015 Project Highlights

## SUSY



The SUSY Project kicked off in 2015 with a meeting of all 26 partners (representing 24 countries) in Bologna. SUSY aims to promote the Social Economy which includes Social Enterprise, Credit Unions, Fair Trade, and other forms of economic activity that prioritise people and the community over profits. We identified Ballybeg Greens as an example of Good Practice in Social Economy and produced a wonderful video about that organisation which is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBnE5kdLUyM>. Funded by DEAR.

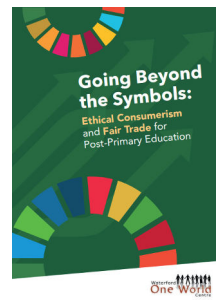
## FAIR TRADE IN WATERFORD

We continued our holistic approach to Fair Trade awareness raising with work being done in Primary Schools (funded by Irish Aid), Post-Primary (funded by WorldWide Global Schools), and Community Groups (funded by Irish Aid). We hosted a visit from Maria Genoa, a banana farmer from the Dominican Republic (funded by Fairtrade Ireland) and an event with over 300 primary pupils who had a million questions for Maria, all of which she answered.

## GLOBAL SCHOOLS

In 2015, the WOWC worked with 32 Transition Year Students from 7 schools around Waterford. We focused on the Sustainable Development Goals and the TYs designed an excellent workshop which they then delivered to approximately 700 primary pupils. The TYs also wrote a series of blogs, published by *The Munster Express*, which focused on practical ways we can live more sustainably. This project was funded by Concern.

## GOING BEYOND THE SYMBOLS



The Centre produced two resources in our Going Beyond the Symbols Series which provides an in-depth look at why supporting Fair Trade initiatives are a matter of global justice and looks at the issues behind the Fair Trade symbols. Resources targeting second-level and the youth sector were published and are available for download from the Centre's website and [www.developmenteducation.ie](http://www.developmenteducation.ie).

These resources were funded by Irish Aid and WorldWide Global Schools.



Shown are the Transition Year Students, who participated in the 2015 Global Schools Programme, looking fantastic.

*Photo by Thomas Grace Photography, 2016*

## WINTERVAL

The Centre delivered workshops to local primary pupils as part of their tour of Waterford's Winterval Festival. This year we looked at the issue of Food Waste. This project was funded by Agenda 21 with space provided by Greyfriars Gallery and the City Library.

## Message from Lucy Whittle, Coordinator, Waterford One World Centre

We would like to thank our funders who have been very supportive of our work over the years. We would also like to thank our partners in Development Education including the schools and universities we work with around Ireland, national support structures and fellow NGOs.

The activities described in this report could not be carried out so successfully without the commitment and efficiency of a dedicated staff and I take this opportunity to sincerely thank them for their work. I also wish to thank the Management Committee who have given so much of their time and expertise to ensure that the Centre continues to grow. As we move into a new era of the Centre, we feel that we are able to rise to any challenges and look forward with enthusiasm to the next year.

### Finances

#### *Income*

Irish Aid	20,000
WorldWise Global Schools	21,659
Africa Day	9,000
EU DEAR	35,772
Concern	5,000
Waterford Council	450
Agenda 21	1,950
Facilitation Income	600

Total 94,431

#### *Expenditure*

Formal Sector	44,739
Non-Formal Sector	40,250
Overhead	9,442

Total 94,431

### With thanks...

#### *Management Committee*

Siobhan Moore, Chair  
Pamela Bartley  
Parisch Browne  
Helen Byrne  
Dorothy Maduewesi  
Kevin Mascarenhas  
Marc Mbanda  
Pat O'Driscoll

#### *Staff*

Lucy Whittle, Coordinator  
Jennifer Harris, Education Officer  
Hannah Doran, Administration  
and Finance  
Paula Long, Administration and Finance  
Michelle Tubbritt, Project Support  
Worker