

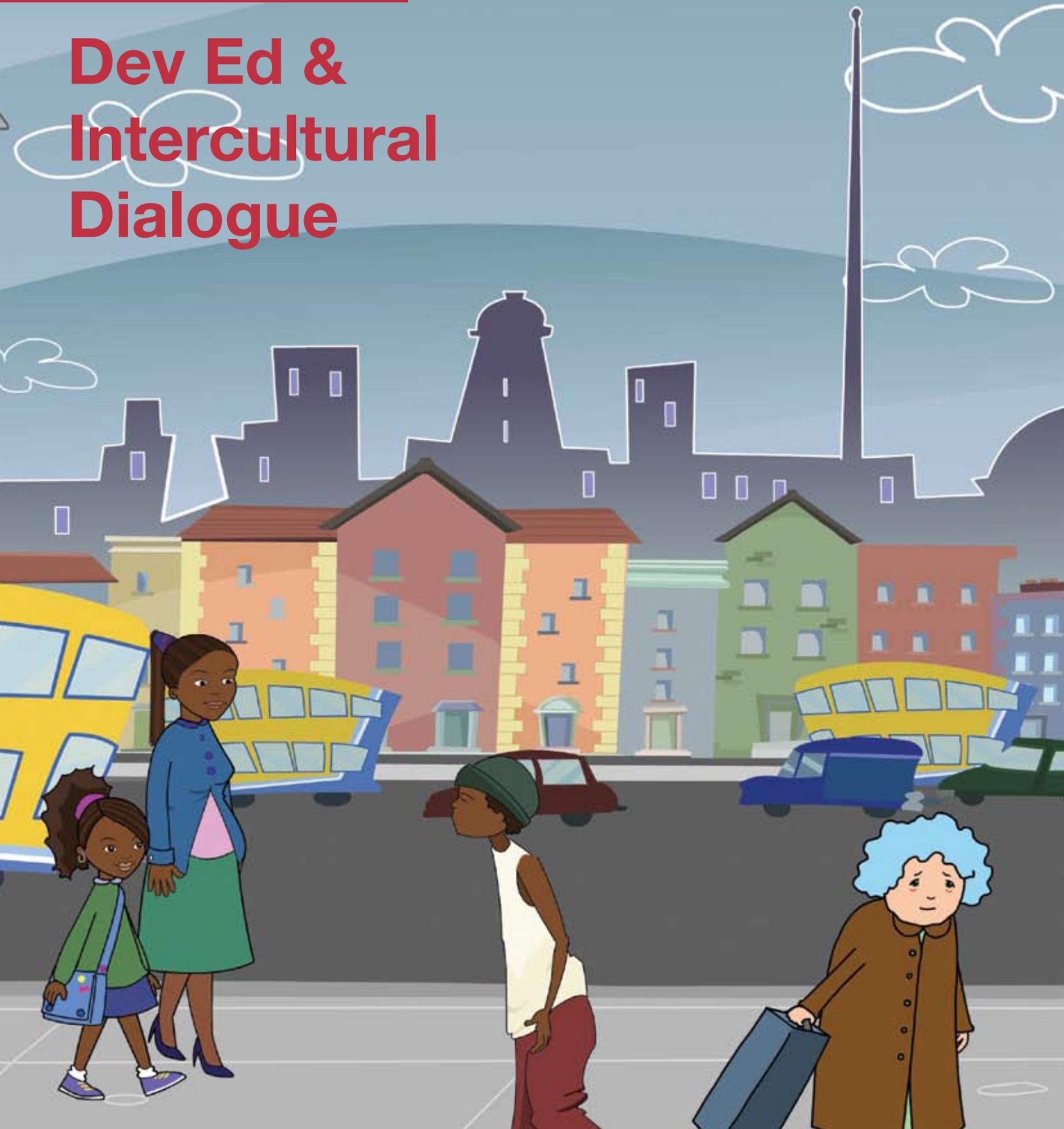
# INDEX

Issue 19 / April 2008



Irish Newsletter for Development  
Education Exchange

## Dev Ed & Intercultural Dialogue



# Editorial

Cultural diversity is something to be not just acknowledged, but embraced and celebrated. Dev Ed work, supported by the necessary dialogue, can do just that. However, it can also unwittingly reinforce racist stereotypes, endorse one culture over another, or replace Dev Ed activities with intercultural activities.

This issue examines the EU decision to make 2008 the Year of Intercultural Dialogue, and what this could mean for Dev Ed activity. Fionuala Cregan from the NCCRI highlights it as an opportunity to examine the ways in which Dev Ed and development agencies engage with ethnic minorities in Ireland. On page 4 Vipin Chauhan agrees with her, but argues that the Year is no alternative to grassroots community work. Further he stresses the need to ensure that all Dev Ed work actively challenges racism.

We also highlight two intercultural resources; the Memory Box - an animated film and teaching pack, and Watoto – a pre-school teaching pack. We look at intercultural work happening in Ireland and online in our profiles of the NYCI's intercultural work and the "Through Other Eyes" project

As usual we have news of what's going on in Dev Ed in Ireland and Europe, upcoming courses and events to put in your diary, international days and ways to celebrate them, and a cartoon.

INDEX is a communications tool for the Dev Ed sector. This is your voice so we encourage you to use it for discussion. We welcome your feedback on the news and topics we feature. Do let us know if you have any events, courses, resources, or news you'd like us to include in the next issue, due out in July. Email [index@comhlamh.org](mailto:index@comhlamh.org) or call the Dev Ed team on 01 478 3490.

***"The important thing is this:  
To be able at any moment  
to sacrifice what we are for  
what we could become"***  
– Charles Dubois

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[www.comhlamh.org](http://www.comhlamh.org)

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*The editorial committee are: Ali Leahy (Comhlámh), Matthias Fiedler (DICE project), Johnny Sheehan (NYCI), Jenna Coriddi (CGE, Belfast), and Aoife Rush (Trócaire)*

# Dev Ed & Intercultural Dialogue



**D**ev Ed is about intercultural dialogue – in other words a dialogue between cultures leading to a greater understanding of global inequalities and North South interdependence. The European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008 provides the Dev Ed sector with a unique opportunity to highlight its work, but also to assess its own progress in an Ireland which has experienced rapid inward migration and increased ethnic diversity in the past decade, and where 10% of the population is now non-Irish.

The Year is being coordinated in Ireland by the National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism (NCCRI) which through a consultation process with key stakeholders between October and December 2007 developed a strategy for the Year. This strategy focuses on emphasising the importance of dialogue as a key component in building an intercultural society which values diversity, equality, and interaction, but which also values a shared sense of place and cohesion.

The rapid demographic changes over the past decade have led to the rise of a number of black and ethnic minority lead organizations, many of whom have an interest in development issues and, who, with their own direct experiences of living in the global south and/or migrating to Ireland can speak at first hand about development issues.

The Africa Centre with its Dev Ed Project and its “Africa Also Smiles” poster campaign has been working to create awareness of positive images and messages about Africa and Africans in Ireland. Similarly members of the Federation of Student Islamic Societies (FOSIS) have been organising Islamic Awareness weeks at University campuses nationwide. These include events such as fashion shows, music, food festivals, and talks, all of which aim to challenge stereotypical images of Islam. In conjunction with the National Women’s Council of Ireland NCCRI has been organizing a number of roundtable meetings with groups of women from minority ethnic communities, including Irish Traveller women’s groups. These have created local and global links, and have looked at ways the women can learn from each other’s similar and yet different experiences.

*“...many Africans in Ireland are not impressed with Development NGOs. What then can these NGOs do to engage with this new segment of the Irish population?”*

The Year provides a space to build on initiatives such as these but is also an opportunity for meaningful dialogue about what the changing ethnic and religious make up of Irish society means for the Dev Ed sector.

While increased involvement of minority ethnic lead organizations and individuals has enabled a more meaningful and powerful exploration of Dev Ed issues, to what extent do they feel any ownership of the process? And more broadly, do minority ethnic communities in Ireland relate to the cultural values implicit in the ways in which larger Development NGOs frame the Dev Ed agenda? An informal opinion poll carried out by Dóchas and the Africa Centre revealed, for example, that many Africans in Ireland are not impressed with Development NGOs. What then can these NGOs do to engage with this new segment of the Irish population?

While these issues will be part of ongoing discussions within both the Dev Ed sector and a changing Ireland, the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008 is an excellent platform for open and honest debate and for promoting greater collaboration among NGOs, including black and minority ethnic lead organizations, to ensure that the stories being told are representative, meaningful, and based on values of respect, equality, solidarity, and justice.

*Fionuala Cregan, Project and Information Officer, NCCRI, [www.nccri.ie](http://www.nccri.ie)*

# Intercultural or Just Into Culture?

**T**he declaration of 2008 as the EU Year of Intercultural Dialogue reflects a pressure within EU countries to create more cohesive societies and to ensure difference and diversity are at least better tolerated, if not embraced positively. An alternative view is that it distracts from the real grassroots community work that needs to be done to build inter-community relations and counter the hostile attitudes of indigenous people to EU expansion and the arrival of new migrants into their countries.

The declaration seems to be continuing attempts to control 'non-white' Diaspora communities and the emergence of multi-ethnic, multi-faith, multi-cultural, and multi-lingual societies. Arguably then, it is a superficial attempt to engage on a reciprocal, mutual basis with Diaspora communities, while squeezing Diaspora people into uniform cultural silos without appreciating the true challenges that this is likely to pose, its desirability, or without giving proper accord to the dignity and rights of Diaspora European citizens.

For Dev Ed, intercultural dialogue can be a useful tool for educating people in the Global North about other peoples' cultures, lifestyles, values and beliefs. At another level, it can be useful as a tool for enabling individuals and groups to question their own prejudicial values, beliefs, perceptions, and stereotypes about the Global South and/or people from the South living in the North.

However, there has to be more to intercultural dialogue than this – it needs to be rooted in a rights-based, anti-racist framework which recognises the need to challenge individual, popular, institutional, and state racism. Historically, in the North, intercultural dialogue (albeit in the guise of cultural exchange programmes, or the simple sharing of different foods) has tended to be about how white communities learn about the cultures and lifestyles of Black and minority ethnic (BME) communities.

Such dialogue never seems to be a truly reciprocal exchange between equals or about how we plan to change white society. It almost always seems to be about how we will make BME communities fit into pre-determined social and cultural niches based loosely on a perceived notion of national identity. The language and

*“...there has to be more to intercultural dialogue than this – it needs to be rooted in a rights-based, anti-racist framework which recognises the need to challenge individual, popular, institutional, and state racism.”*

the underlying rationale behind intercultural dialogue tends to be about the assimilation of BME people into white society i.e. about BME people giving up all aspects of their individual and collective identities if they want to live in white society.

Development educators have to acknowledge the power and race dynamics that underpin intercultural dialogue. Such dialogue is more than just a mutual sharing of cultures with the hope that meaningful change will result. The need to tackle racism in all aspects of the development educator's work has to be central to meaningful intercultural dialogue. Concrete actions and progress towards targets and outcomes are essential. For instance do you invest in and/or create resources which challenge racist stereotypes? Do you undertake any staff training around this? What about the schools and other contexts in which you work – are you able to assert your anti-racist credentials in such environments?

Ultimately, development educators need to ensure that their work is not used as a tool for perpetuating racist stereotypes but is actively and consciously addressing racism and global poverty through intercultural dialogue. The true value of intercultural dialogue to development education is its potential to help challenge attitudes and inform actions at individual, organisational, communal, societal, and global levels. Dev Ed and intercultural dialogue without meaningful action is like the earth without the sun.

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[lotus@vipin.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:lotus@vipin.freeserve.co.uk)



# The Memory Box



**T**he Memory Box is a six-minute animated film produced by FOMACS (Forum on Migration and Communications) at the Dublin Institute of Technology. This award-winning film is accompanied by a new teaching pack written by practicing teachers, Liz Morris and Niamh McGuirk.

The Memory Box is part one of a three-part series, titled *Abbi's Circle*, focusing on the topic of immigration in Ireland with a particular focus on 'family reunification'. The series follows the adventures of a young girl named Abbi and her growing circle of friends. Through Abbi's eyes we experience the obstacles facing migrants who want to be reunited with family members who are still overseas.

The story begins as Abbi is about to graduate from primary school and is preparing a 'memory box' containing all her treasured mementos of her previous school years. Abbi wants her dad, Kunle, who lives in Lagos to be there for her graduation. In order for this to happen Abbi and her mother, Lillian, must go through the cumbersome, often confusing process, of applying for a visitor's visa.

The strength of the teaching pack accompanying the film is its focus

on the primary curriculum, offering suggestions for use in SPHE, History, Geography, Visual Arts, Mathematics, and more. The pack consists of two sections: background information for teachers, and a comprehensive set of lesson materials outlining creative and exciting ideas for use in any lesson plan.

The 'Teachers' Information' section features a detailed list of books and resources; a guide to using images in the classroom; useful links and contacts that relate to the topics of cultural diversity and inclusion; and in addition a glossary of terms and definitions.

The second section of the pack sketches a range of topics that can be covered in the classroom through lesson ideas or discussion points. These include: Family, Cultural Diversity, Schools, Diversity in the Classroom, Visas and Passports, Country of Focus, Communications, Cityscapes and Transport. The teacher may choose to cover some or all of the topics and some or all of the suggested activities, depending on what is relevant to the needs of the class. The pack thus offers a pick-and-mix rather than a prescriptive approach.

Barbara O'Toole of the Marino Institute of Education describes The

*“Through Abbi's eyes we experience the obstacles facing migrants who want to be reunited with family members who are still overseas.”*

Memory Box as a 'refreshing new resource in a medium sure to grasp children's attention... a welcome addition to every teacher's portfolio of materials for intercultural education in the primary school classroom' (In Touch, 2007). Feedback from the pilot phase has also been positive and schools around the country – from Sligo, Galway, Meath, and Dublin – have responded with enthusiasm, rating the pack as an excellent and timely classroom resource.

*The pack is available for purchase through FOMACS. For further details, please contact Maeve Burke at 01 402 3006 or by email: [maeve.burke.fomacs@dit.ie](mailto:maeve.burke.fomacs@dit.ie).*

*Siobhan Twomey, Media Content Manager, FOMACS, (Forum on Migration and Communications), [siobhan.twomey@dit.ie](mailto:siobhan.twomey@dit.ie)*

## Courses

### Comhlámh's Coming Home Weekend May 2008

This residential weekend offers an opportunity for returnees to meet, relax, and have fun while sharing tips on readjusting to the 'culture shock' of being home. The weekends are run by other returned development workers, supported by Comhlámh staff.

**Date:** May 23rd-25th Fri evening to Sun inclusive

**Venue:** Dromantine Centre, Newry Co. Down

**Cost:** No fee (to anyone who has been overseas for 3 months or more in a developing capacity)

**Contact:** Deirdre on [deirdre@comhlamh.org](mailto:deirdre@comhlamh.org)

### Comhlámh's Understanding and Engaging with the Irish Political System Course for Immigrants

This course aims to introduce immigrants to the workings of the Irish political system and its institutions, so as to facilitate their greater engagement in Irish society as educators and community actors. The course will take place over two weekends, and will offer a basic introduction to the Irish political system and its related institutions, as well as covering strategies and methods for influencing policy and practice through active political engagement. It will also include a visit to the Dáil and an opportunity to meet Irish TDs. The course is open to legally resident immigrants. There are some bursaries available for asylum seekers. There are some contributions towards transport and childcare costs available for all immigrants. Funded by the Immigration Integration Fund, Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform.

**Date:** May 10th, 11th, 14th (evening), 17th, 18th

**Venue:** Carmelite Community Centre, St Teresa's, Clarendon St, Dublin 2

**Cost:** €5 asylum seeker and unemployed migrants, €20 all other migrants

**Contact:** Jim & Geraldine on 01 478 3490 or [info@comhlamh.org](mailto:info@comhlamh.org)

### Graduate Certificate in Development Education

This one-year distance-learning programme with on-line components, combined with face-to-face classroom contact during three residential weekends is run by Comhlámh in association with DCU. It aims to strengthen the knowledge base of participants on global issues, to build on participants' facilitation and pedagogical skills, to reflect upon and clarify on their values base and its impact on their practice, and to position participants to examine their roles as educators. It is intended for recent graduates, for those working or involved in Dev Ed, and for those who would like to integrate aspects of Dev Ed into their work (e.g. teachers, adult educators, community and youth workers).

**Contact:** Eileen Connolly in DCU School of Law and Government on 01 700 5536 or visit [www.dcu.ie](http://www.dcu.ie) under the School of Law and Government's Taught programmes prospectus.

### Dtalk – Development Training & Learning @ Kimmage Development Studies Centre

#### How to be a Successful Trainer

6 – 9 May

#### Mainstreaming Priority Development Issues

12 -13 May

#### Introduction to the Dochas

#### Code of Conduct on Images and Messages

20 May

#### Creative Facilitation

23 -25 June

#### Working Effectively within a Rights Based Approach

23 -25 June

#### Can't draw for toffee

26 June

#### Open Space Facilitation

26 June

#### Creative Facilitation - Previous Participants Course Refresher

27 June

**Contact:** Kathleen Cox, Programme Administrator on 01 4064307, email [kathleen.cox@kimmagedsc.ie](mailto:kathleen.cox@kimmagedsc.ie), [www.dtalk.ie](http://www.dtalk.ie)

### Kimmage Development Studies Centre

#### MA/Post Graduate Diploma in Development Studies

**Dates:** Starts September 2008

**Closing date for applications:** 31 May

#### BA Degree in Development Studies

**Dates:** Starts September 2008

**Closing date for applications:** 25 July

**Contact:** Phone 01 4064386/4064380, email [info@kimmagedsc.ie](mailto:info@kimmagedsc.ie), or visit [www.kimmagedsc.ie](http://www.kimmagedsc.ie).

### Anti-Racism and Intercultural Awareness Programme

This one-day programme is aimed at members of community groups in Newry, Mourne and Louth. The main aim of the session is to help participants acquire the necessary awareness to understand and meet the challenges associated with living and working in a multi-ethnic society.

**Dates:** 21 April from 10.00 am-4 pm

**Venue:** Altnaveigh House, Newry

**Contact:** Justyna McCabe on 028/048 30250799 or email [justyna.mccabe@newryandmourne.gov.uk](mailto:justyna.mccabe@newryandmourne.gov.uk)

### ECO-UNESCO's Training Programme 2008

#### Introduction to Sustainable Development (FETAC Accredited Module – L5)

This 10 week evening course provides an understanding of the interactions between society, economics and the environment in the content of sustainable development.

**Dates:** 24 September - 17 December (excluding school holidays)

#### ECO-Education

This one-day training course explores how to introduce environmental education in educational activities with young people.

**Date:** 14 August

#### Waste Watchers

Focuses on understanding waste consumption and how participants can address this issue by introducing practical sustainable solutions into

their daily lives.

**Dates:** 17 July & 9 October

### Energy Watchers

Provides participants with the knowledge and skills to explore the concepts relating to energy consumption.

**Dates:** 19 June & 27 November

### ECO Choices

This course explores an alternative approach to drug prevention education by introducing environmental education as a resource for positive personal development and building of self-esteem.

**Dates:** 22 May & 10 July

### What is Education for Sustainable Development?

This course demonstrates how education can be used as a tool to help to achieve Sustainable Development.

**Dates:** 5 June & 11 September

**Contact:** Sorcha O'Brien, on 01 6625491 or email [training@ecounesco.ie](mailto:training@ecounesco.ie).

## Events

### Dóchas Breakfast Seminar Series New Communities in Ireland: A Challenge for Development NGOs: Speaker: Philip Watt, NCCRI.

**Date:** 11 April

### Civil Society Organisations: Professionalisation and Mobilisation: Speaker: Nessa Ni Chasaide, Debt & Development Coalition Ireland

**Date:** 12 May

### Non-Profits in the 21st Century: Speaker: John Healy, Trinity Centre for Non-Profit Management.

**Dates:** 11 June

### Development NGOs need to re-connect with Irish society: Speaker: Paddy Maguinness, Niall Mellon Trust (TBC).

**Dates:** 11 July

Pre-registration is essential.

The closing date for registration is one week before each seminar. Participation open to Dóchas members and other Irish Development NGOs.

**Contact:** [anna@dochas.ie](mailto:anna@dochas.ie) if you wish to attend

### Implementing Dóchas' Code of Conduct on Images & Messages

Dóchas members are invited to participate in this seminar.

**Date:** 30 April (details subject to confirmation).

**Contact:** the Dóchas office, phone 01 4053801, email [anna@dochas.ie](mailto:anna@dochas.ie).

### Comhlámh First Wednesday Debates

Media: Reality TV, New Media and Development – Is the Truth Out There? All welcome!

**Date:** 7 May, from 6.15 – 7.45 pm

**Venue:** Bewley's Café Theatre, Grafton Street, Dublin 1

**Cost:** Free, No reservations needed.

Early arrival advised as space allocated on first-come first-served basis.

**Contact:** Fleachta Phelan, on 01 4783490, email [Fleachta@comhlamh.org](mailto:Fleachta@comhlamh.org) or at [www.comhlamh.org](http://www.comhlamh.org)

### Re-imagining Development Education Conference

The Centre for Global Education's annual Dev Ed Conference supported by Irish Aid will explore new methodologies and actions supported by current practice and will discuss Dev Ed's future trajectory on the basis of recent policy and practice changes in the sector.

**Date:** 9 April

**Venue:** St Mary's University College, Belfast.

**Contact:** Jenna Coriddi, at [jenna@centreforglobaleducation.com](mailto:jenna@centreforglobaleducation.com), phone 0044 2890 241879.

### Global Campaign for Education's annual Global Action Week

This week aims to raise awareness and lobby for the attainment of the Education for All Goals. Around the world millions of children, young people, teachers, and campaigners are inviting their politicians BACK TO SCHOOL. You can take part in the

World's Biggest Lesson on 23 April at 9 am or 4 pm. Your lesson could go towards breaking a Guinness World Record.

**Date:** 21-27 April.

**Visit:** [www.campaignforeducation.ie](http://www.campaignforeducation.ie) for further information.

### Comhlámh's Development Forum & AGM

The AGM is not just about accounts and voting, but is also a think-tank and discussion forum for everyone attending. It is also a great opportunity to meet staff and fellow members in a social context.

**Date:** June 7th

**Venue:** Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel

**Contact:** Paul on [paul@comhlamh.org](mailto:paul@comhlamh.org) or on 01 4783490

### Africa Day 2008

Africa Day 2008 will celebrate African diversity and success and highlight the potential that exists on such a vast and varied continent. Events will be open to the public and will promote a more comprehensive understanding of Africa in Ireland. Africa Day is supported by Irish Aid.

**Date:** May 25th

**Contact:** [www.irishaid.gov.ie](http://www.irishaid.gov.ie)

### Annual DICE Conference

'Challenging Perspectives – A primary education conference on teaching globalisation and diversity in today's knowledge society'.

This conference aims to challenge perspectives on the role education plays in the 21st century in educating young children as global citizens with a critical awareness of media representations. **Date:** June 6 and 7

**Venue:** Froebel College, Blackrock, Co. Dublin

**Contact:** Visit [www.diceproject.org/upcoming\\_events\\_dice.aspx](http://www.diceproject.org/upcoming_events_dice.aspx)

# EU Corner

## European Year of Intercultural Dialogue

Fionuala's article on page 3 outlined how development educators can engage with this theme. Below are just a few of the activities happening around Europe. To find out more visit [www.dialogue2008.eu](http://www.dialogue2008.eu). For further information on what's happening in Ireland and a calendar of events go to [www.nccri.ie](http://www.nccri.ie). If you are organizing an event as part of the Year, contact [fionuala@nccri.ie](mailto:fionuala@nccri.ie) to include it in this calendar.

## Cultures on my street

Grab your camera and start the photo conversation! "Cultures on my street" is a pan-European photo initiative of the European Year 2008. Anyone living in the EU regardless of age or origin is welcome to join the competition and show what "Intercultural Dialogue" means for them. After the deadline for entries on 30 June 2008, four winners will be selected. Three of the winners will be chosen by a jury of established artists and leading figures on intercultural issues. The fourth will be selected by online voting on the competition website. To read more visit [www.street-cultures.eu](http://www.street-cultures.eu)

## Slovenian conference on Intercultural Dialogue in Development Education

SLOGA - the Slovenian NGDO platform for development cooperation and humanitarian aid is holding a conference on "Intercultural Dialogue in Development Education, the way towards the implementation of the European Consensus on Development - the contribution of development education and awareness raising", in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on the 9th and 10th of June 2008. For further info visit [www.sloga-platform.org](http://www.sloga-platform.org) or contact [conference@sloga-platform.org](mailto:conference@sloga-platform.org).

## Debates on Intercultural Dialogue in Brussels

Seven debates will be held in Brussels during 2008 chaired by journalist Shada Islam. The debate in March looked at "Integrating Conversations: The Impact of Migration on Intercultural Dialogue". Other topics include "Arts and Culture" and "Interreligious Dialogue". For more information please contact [info@dialogue2008.eu](mailto:info@dialogue2008.eu) or visit [www.interculturaldialogue2008.eu/408.0.html](http://www.interculturaldialogue2008.eu/408.0.html)

## European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008 in Romania

On March 5 the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008 was launched in Romania. The year will be marked by a number of events including movie projections, an intercultural dialogue bookstall, workshops, the presentation of the PUZZLE national project, and the presentation of the virtual museum of the Modern Romanian. For more information on these events visit [www.interculturaldialogue2008.eu](http://www.interculturaldialogue2008.eu)

## International Dates to Remember

### 7-14th April 2008 Intercultural & Anti-Racism Week

The theme this year is 'Education', focusing on all aspects of both formal and non-formal education. A calendar of events happening locally raising awareness will be circulated to NCCRI's mailing list. Contact [kate@nccri.ie](mailto:kate@nccri.ie) visit [www.nccri.ie](http://www.nccri.ie)

### 21 May World day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development

Development isn't just about saving lives, it's about protecting culture, community, and dignity. This day provides an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the values of cultural diversity and to focus on the crucial relationship between culture and development. [http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL\\_ID=12508&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL_ID=12508&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

### 31 May World No Tobacco Day

This year focuses on protecting young people from becoming regular tobacco users by banning all forms of advertising. Visit [www.who.int/tobacco/wntd/2008/call\\_action/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/tobacco/wntd/2008/call_action/en/index.html) for facts and suggested activities.

### 4 June International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression

Violence and abuse against children may take place anywhere: at home, at school, on the streets. It happens in every country in the world and cuts across all social, cultural, religious and ethnic lines.

### 12 June World Day against Child Labour

More than 200 million children in the world today are involved in child labour, doing work that is damaging to his or her mental, physical and emotional development. Get involved in Concern's Stop Child Labour campaign at <http://stopchildlabour.concern.net/>

### 20 June World Refugee Day

Some 40 million people worldwide have been forced to flee their homes not only because of persecution and war but also injustice, exclusion, environmental pressures, competition for scarce resources, and all the consequences of dysfunctional states. Visit [www.un.org/depts/dhl/refugee/index.html](http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/refugee/index.html)

# National Youth Council of Ireland



The National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI) is the umbrella body for voluntary youth organisations in Ireland. NYCI believes that developing a more inclusive and intercultural society requires inclusion by design, not as an add-on or afterthought.

In response to specific measures in the National Action Plan against Racism, NYCI has taken the lead on developing an Intercultural Strategy for Youth Work in collaboration with a range of stakeholders, including the Department of Education and Science, national youth organisations, and the National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism (NCCRI).

As part of its ongoing commitment to intercultural youth work, NYCI will be undertaking a number of initiatives during the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008.

These include documentation and sharing of good practice in intercultural youth work, development of equality policies and anti-racism codes of practice for youth organisations, and outreach work at a local and regional level with mainstream youth organisations and cultural and minority ethnic groups, including Travellers.

On April 14th, as part of Intercultural and Anti-Racism Week, NYCI is hosting a seminar, 'Taking the Initiative on Intercultural Youth Work', exploring the challenges and opportunities for promoting inclusive and intercultural youth work.

National Youth Dev Ed Programme, NYCI – National Youth Council of Ireland, 3 Montague Street, Dublin 2, Check out our website [www.youthdeved.ie](http://www.youthdeved.ie)

## Through Other Eyes

The Through Other Eyes project has developed a free online programme of study, designed to enable educators to build up a set of tools that will help them to reflect on their own knowledge systems and to engage with other knowledge systems. It aims to enhance equity in North-South dialogue and set a practical and theoretically sound framework for the introduction of global perspectives in the classroom.

Very often approaches to global citizenship education in Europe address the agenda for international development in a manner that leaves assumptions unexamined and ignores how this agenda is re-interpreted in other contexts. Not addressing these different readings may result in the uncritical reinforcement of notions of the supremacy and universality of 'our' (Western) ways of seeing, which can reproduce unequal relations of dialogue and power and undervalue other knowledge systems.

Through Others Eyes is designed to enable learners:

- to develop an understanding of how language and systems of belief, values, and representation affect the way people interpret the world
- to identify how different groups understand issues related to development and their implications for the development agenda
- to critically examine these interpretations – both Western and indigenous - looking at origins and potential implications of assumptions
- to identify an ethics for improved dialogue, engagement, and mutual learning

- to transfer the methodology developed in the programme into the classroom context through the analysis and piloting of sample classroom materials Through Other Eyes is hosted by Global Education Derby in partnership with the Centre for the Study of Social and Global Justice at the University of Nottingham. It is currently in a piloting and review stage. Check the website from September 2008 for the final version of the course.

Global Education Derby, 12 Bramble Street, Derby DE1 1HU, United Kingdom  
Tel/fax:(00441332) 298 185  
[www.throughothereyes.org.uk](http://www.throughothereyes.org.uk)



Artist: Mereanna Taki

## Dev Ed News

### Images of the Global South Guidelines

Compass - Development Education in the Primary School (Comhlámh) recently launched a free leaflet for teachers working with photographs from around the world. It provides criteria on how to choose images, suggestions for developing photo-literacy, ideas for incorporating image work across the curriculum, and further resources. Contact Lizzie Downes at [lizzie@comhlahm.org](mailto:lizzie@comhlahm.org) or call 01 4783490, download from [www.comhlahm.org](http://www.comhlahm.org).

### Winner of 'Science for Development' Award

Leaving Certificate student Tara McGrath from Presentation Secondary School in Loughboy, Kilkenny, was presented with the Irish Aid sponsored 'Science for Development Award', at the BT Young Scientists Exhibition 2008 for her design for a fuel efficient stove which also preserves nutrition while it cooks. Tara will travel to Ethiopia with Self Help where she will have an opportunity to further investigate and test her hybrid pressure stove design.

### Irish Aid Volunteering and Information Centre Now Open!

The centre officially opened on January 23rd. It has a strong focus on Dev Ed and a workshop programme on development issues. As well as an interactive exhibition space the Centre hosts a range of events, displays, and exhibitions on development. Visit [www.irishaid.gov.ie/centre](http://www.irishaid.gov.ie/centre) or contact [irishaidcentre@dfa.ie](mailto:irishaidcentre@dfa.ie).

### Irish Aid Our World Global Schools' Award

This year the awards scheme focused on the theme of poverty in developing countries. The winning entry from Clonburris National School in Clondalkin, Dublin entitled 'The Good, The Bad and The Ugly', was researched and created by three eleven year-old pupils. Their colourful, one hundred-page project, focused on child labour in the gold mines of Burkina Faso in West Africa.

## Funding

### Simon Cumbers Media Challenge Fund

This grant scheme is funded by Irish Aid and run by Connect-World. It is a grant scheme aimed at assisting and promoting more and better quality media coverage of development issues in the Irish media. For more information go to [www.connect-world.net](http://www.connect-world.net) and follow the Simon Cumbers media Challenge Fund button. Upcoming Deadlines: Standard Grant Round I: 30 April

### Irish Aid's Dev Ed Funding Scheme

Visit the Irish Aid website for information on their Development Education funding scheme at [www.irishaid.gov.ie](http://www.irishaid.gov.ie). Upcoming Deadline: Applications for Round two must be received before 5pm on the last Friday in June.

To find out about the Development Education Grants approved by Irish Aid in 2007 visit [www.irishaid.gov.ie/article.asp?article=1127](http://www.irishaid.gov.ie/article.asp?article=1127). For information on research funding granted between 2000 and 2007 visit [www.irishaid.gov.ie/article.asp?article=1167](http://www.irishaid.gov.ie/article.asp?article=1167)

## Resources

### Compass Directions issue 4 now available!

This e-mag, aimed at primary school teachers, is produced and distributed at the start of each school term. Its aim is to make it easier for teachers to integrate development issues across the curriculum. The theme of this e-mag is Sustainable Development. Contact [lizzie@comhlahm.org](mailto:lizzie@comhlahm.org) to receive a free copy.

### Focus Action Magazine issue 81

This issue of Comhlámh's magazine on development issues looks at alternatives to current neoliberal economic systems. Free from [info@comhlahm.org](mailto:info@comhlahm.org) or 01 4783490.

### Study of the Opportunities for Dev Ed at Senior Cycle now available

This study was carried out by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) and funded by Irish Aid. It provides a valuable resource for educators to help integrate Dev Ed into their subject areas. Available at [www.developmenteducation.ie/resources/](http://www.developmenteducation.ie/resources/)

### Oxfam Education Website for Global Citizenship

Free resources to encourage a Global Citizenship approach to education across the curriculum. Includes award-winning interactive resources, and ideas for teaching topics such as Fair Trade, climate change, diversity, and identity. Visit [www.oxfam.org.uk/education](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/education).

### World Mapper

This website hosts a collection of maps visualising the globe in original and innovative ways. These maps comprise an original and refreshing look at the world in which we live. Visit [www.worldmapper.org/](http://www.worldmapper.org/)

### Developing Global Learners

This handbook illustrates how cultural diversity and race equality work can be enhanced through improving staff awareness about their own 'culture' and by incorporating a global dimension in the curriculum. Available from DEC(SY), email: [info@decsy.org.uk](mailto:info@decsy.org.uk), tel: 0845 458 2957 or 0114 241 2750.

### Critical Literacy: Theories and Practices

The second issue of the journal 'Critical Literacy: theories and practices' has been published online at [www.criticalliteracy.org.uk/journal](http://www.criticalliteracy.org.uk/journal). The deadline for submissions for issue 3 (for publication in July 2008) is 10 May 2008.

## WATOTO - Children from around the world - a resource pack for pre-school educators

by Kathy Carroll, Pre-school teacher, St. Helenas

Watoto is an educational resource pack which is designed to assist pre-school teachers to explore different cultures and facilitate young children's learning in developing a heightened awareness, understanding, and respect for children from different socio-economic backgrounds from around the world. The pack can be incorporated into or added to existing pre-school curricula. It offers fresh and new learning ideas, and covers all areas of development for the pre-school child.

The pack is clearly defined into four separate sections, each focusing on a child from a different country; Amy from the Philippines, Ever and Melissa from Honduras, Cecilia from Kenya, and Luis from Bolivia. Each section has its own specific learning objectives and a wide range of activities. It also has clear colourful pictures reflecting the child's cultural background and a segment on the corresponding tape which teaches the pre-school child simple greetings in four different languages including Bisaya, the language of the Philippines.

As a pre-school teacher working with 3-5 year olds I decided to focus

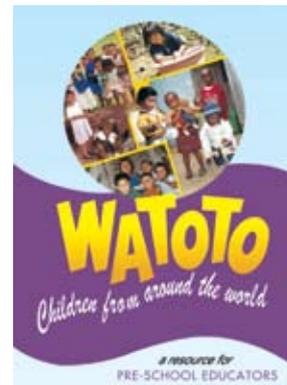
on one element of the pack - 'Amy from the Philippines'. Before starting this project I used the resource list provided in the pack and ensured that I had a world map and a globe. These proved to be invaluable in extending the children's learning in this area. I introduced the children to Amy, and her friends and family, through Amy's own story and the pictures provided. The majority of the children's learning came from open group discussions and conversations amongst themselves about the pictures; comments and observations the children made independently led to a lot of spontaneous learning.

Some of the background information on the Philippines I left out as I felt it was too detailed to hold the group's interest. Instead I used the globe to show the children where Amy lives in relation to where they live. The children went on from there to put stickers on the countries they'd visited and we spoke briefly about the different cultures and the different languages spoken in those countries. What interested the children most was seeing Amy with her pre-school friends as they could identify similarities between themselves and Amy. They were also fascinated by

Amy's house and the fact that it was on stilts, made from bamboo, and had animals living under it. It was interesting for them to reflect on how they themselves live and the different materials their houses are made from.

Overall I found the pack to be an invaluable tool in assisting young children to develop an appreciation and respect for cultural diversity both in the growing multicultural society we live in today and in the wider world itself.

*'The Watoto pack costs €25 and is only available from Trocaire offices or from [resources@trocaire.ie](mailto:resources@trocaire.ie)'. For more information and to see other available resources visit <http://trocaire.org/education/educationresources.php>.*



Cartoon courtesy of 80:20'

## Have you ever used cartoons as a resource for Dev Ed?

Cartoons can be used as a very accessible tool to get discussion going. Each issue we feature a cartoon you can cut out and adapt for your particular needs. Why not build up your toolkit? For a great introduction and insight into ideas and activities for using cartoons in education go to [www.developmenteducation.ie/cartoons](http://www.developmenteducation.ie/cartoons)

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