

# Galway One World Centre

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# ANNUAL REPORT 2007



# Galway One World Centre

## Who we are

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 organisation in Ireland and abroad.

The GOWC was set up in 1992 as a result of a feasibility study carried out by students of a community development course at NUI Galway. The study looked at existing development education centres, potential NGO support for the setting up of a centre in Galway as well as interest amongst people involved in development education.

## Vision & Aim

Vision:

Galway One World Centre's vision is to work towards creating an inclusive society:

- that is no longer damaged by injustice, oppression and exploitation.
- where power and resources are justly shared.
- where people live with dignity, freedom and self-determination.

Aim:

Working in partnership with organisations, groups and individuals, Galway One World Centre's mission is to create educational opportunities in Galway that develop a critical analysis of the unequal power relationships that historically and currently exist between diverse groups, both locally and globally. Galway One World Centre's aim is to empower people through education and networking to create a world where all people have equality of rights, opportunities and respect.

## What we do

The GOWC carries out educational programmes within both the formal and non-formal sectors. This includes workshops on specific development themes in primary & secondary school, Teacher training (both in-career and pre-service), ongoing development of capacity of local schools in development education, working with youth groups & youth workers. It operates a resource centre which provides information and support to individuals and groups active in development education in Galway. It carries out an ongoing public education programme through a series of public talks, debates and partnership with local arts bodies. We also support organisations wishing to include development education perspectives within their work as well as proactively develop partnerships with likeminded organisations. The GOWC influences national policy on development issues through our active participation in IDEA and Dochas.

## Structure

The organisation is based on a membership model and members are individuals or groups with an interest in development education and solidarity work that links local and global issues. At present there are seven members on the Management Committee this number includes the Co-ordinator and a staff member who is the Company Secretary. GOWC is a Limited Company and is governed by its Articles of Association. The Management Committee are also Directors of the Limited Company. The Committee meets monthly to review work plans and make strategic decisions on the focus of the work of the Centre. Day to day authority and responsibility is delegated to the Coordinator. From time to time working groups are set up when required to carry out specific tasks and are made up of Management Committee members, staff and volunteers (such as local educators or activists). At present all staff are part time.

# Centre Annual Report 2007

## Work with Schools

This year the GOWC continued its working relationship with primary and secondary schools in the City and County, providing workshops for RE, CSPE and TY students, and support for class projects for the 2007 Connect World competition. We also started working with WorldWise, the Irish Aid funded linking & immersion scheme for secondary schools.

In collaboration with Baboro International Children's Festival, the GOWC arranged international storytelling for primary schools in Glenamaddy, Tuam, Kinvara and Galway. Andrew McKenna from Australia kept his young audiences in thrall with stories from all corners of the world. For the first time, the Coole Park Educational Programme included our storytelling workshops which took place in primary schools in Gort and Kiltartan.

2007 also saw the development of guidelines focussing on diverse faiths in the primary schools which was developed and piloted with Annie Asgard, teacher and Intercultural officer at the Claddagh National School.

In relation to national formal sector work, we delivered workshops at the Compass seminar for EAL educators and Comhlamh's *Diversity in the Arts* in-career course for Primary teachers.

## Outreach & Public Education

2007 saw the start up of our monthly debates with five debates in the Spring and a further four debates in the autumn of the year. Topics included 'Climate Change or Climate Chaos?', 'International Adoption – who benefits?', 'Globalisation – good or bad?' etc.

We also organised events for Latin America Week and hosted meetings with the One World Society at Trinity College, Padres Unidos, the Trade Justice Coalition as well as the annual One World Week workshop organised nationally by the Youth Council of Ireland.

In 2007 the GOWC in conjunction with SpunOut.ie and the Media Forum organised the first ever Media Moves conference. This conference featured speakers addressing exclusion from different perspectives and three training sessions on how to deal with media. It was attended by over 70 people and feedback was very positive.

Continuing to build on our relationship with the Galway Film Society, we sponsored a screening of 'Water' by Deepa Mertha, in conjunction with Amnesty International.

The centre received €2000 from Dochas for a Southern Speaker tour which we coincided with the 'Development Futures' conference at NUI Galway. We organised meetings with a number of different organisations which attended stimulating discussions on the effectiveness of aid in the aftermath of the Tsunami (by Malathi de Alvis) and on community development in Cuba (by Jose Israel Rodriguez Martinez).

## Networking

The GOWC continues to be very involved in furthering development education at national level. To this end we are active members of the Irish Development Education Association (IDEA) and Dochas, the network of overseas NGOs.

In conjunction with the Development Education Centres in Belfast, Waterford and Tralee we produced a paper on Development Education Centres and their role in the Irish context.

Linking Local and Global: In conjunction with AKiDwa, the GOWC designed and delivered a programme of workshops for women's groups around the country.

The GOWC continues to participate in:

- Galway City Anti-Racism Strategy Advisory Group
- Irish Development Education Association
- Dochas
- Galway City Fair Trade Steering Committee
- Development Education Research Network

# Dochas Code of Conduct on Images and Messages

This year saw the formal adoption by the GOWC management committee of the Dochas Code of Conduct on Images and Messages. This Code has been developed by the Development Education Group of Dochas to improve images of and messages about the Global South as used by Non-Governmental Organisations. In adopting this Code, the organisation commits itself to:

- Choose images and related messages based on values of respect equality, solidarity and justice;
- Truthfully represent any image or depicted situation both in its immediate and in its wider context so as to improve public understanding of the realities and complexities of development;
- Avoid images and messages that potentially stereotype, sensationalise or discriminate against people, situations or places;
- Use images, messages and case studies with the full understanding, participation and permission of the subjects (or subjects' parents/guardian);
- Ensure those whose situation is being represented have the opportunity to communicate their stories themselves;
- Establish and record whether the subjects wish to be named or identifiable and always act accordingly;
- Conform to the highest standards in relation to human rights and protection of the vulnerable people.

The GOWC very much welcomes feedback from members of the public as to how effective it is in implementing these principles. If you have any comment, you may do so by phone (091 530590), by e-mail ([info@galwayowc.org](mailto:info@galwayowc.org)) or in person by calling in to our office (GOWC, Bridge Mills, Dominick Street, Galway).

## Finances

## Thanks to ...

### Income

Irish Aid	€117,500.00
Trocaire	€6,000.00
Pobal	6,254.00
Community Foundation Ireland	€500.00
Fees & Memberships	€2,845.00
Conferences & Workshops	4,880.00
Other income	1,533.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>€139,512.00</b>

### Expenditure

Salaries & tax	€87,058.00
Project Spending	€19,918.00
Administration & Overheads	€9,001.00
Rent	€14,000.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>€129,977.00</b>

The Galway One World Centre would like to thank the following people and organisations for their support:

- Sean Conneally (Chairperson)
- Mairead Lineen (Secretary)
- Mary McKeown (Treasurer)
- Ruairi McKiernan (MC member)
- Jürgen Ullmann (MC member)
- Lauren Bari (MC member)
- Louise Borre (Mc member)
  
- Development Education Unit, Irish Aid
- Trocaire
- Pobal
- Community Foundation of Ireland

Special thanks are due to the staff without whose commitment the GOWC could not function:

- Heike Vornhagen (Co-ordinator)  
Rhea Fitzpatrick (Education Worker until September 2007)  
Sharon Murphy (Anti-Racism Worker)  
Vicky Donnelly (Education Worker)  
Eilis Gallagher (Administrator until October 2007)  
Sarah Clancy (Education and Public Outreach Worker since November 2007)  
Trisha Buddin (Administrator since November 2007)