

The SDG Challenge Schools

Dear Teacher,

We are thrilled to extend an invitation to you and your students to participate in this year's **"SDG Challenge Schools."** The project offers a unique opportunity for teachers and students to explore and engage with global issues, develop invaluable skills (critical thinking, problem solving, active citizenship) and to take meaningful action towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Project Summary

The project will support teachers in incorporating a Global Citizenship Education (GCE) ethos into their schools and to support their students in leading a project addressing an issue related to the SDGs. The trainings for teachers and workshops for students will take place across the academic year with the SDG Action Project Challenge element beginning on the 8th of January 2024. Teachers and students can begin their project at any time, but must officially enter their project into the competition from this date. The Challenge will culminate with students submitting their projects via a short video to a panel of experts in global citizenship and sustainability on the 18th May 2024 to win a prize for their school! More details on this later!

The recommendation is that all teachers attend the first and last training and choose at least one other training which they have an interest in. Please note, student workshops are available to a limited number of schools and require schools to pitch a theme for the workshops to focus on at the start of the academic year. Students will then be supported on their active citizenship journey through three workshops across the academic year which will take place in school. Schools can participate in the Challenge regardless of whether they participated in student workshops, but there must be at least one teacher engaged from the school to enter. All key dates are outlined on the next page.

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Key Dates

Registration opens: Monday, the **25th of September 2023**

Registration closes: Monday, the **16th of October 2023**

Challenge starts: Monday, **8th of January 2024**

Challenge ends: Friday, the **18th of May 2024**

Teacher Trainings

Training One: Introduction to Global Citizenship Education and the SDGs

Date: Tuesday, the **24th of October 2023**

Time: 10:30 - 3:00

Training Two: Further Developing GCE Skills and SDG 4 Quality Education

Date: Thursday, the **14th of December 2023**

Time: 10:30 - 3:00

Training Three: SDG 5 Gender Equality, SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth, and SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production

Date: Thursday, the **18th of January 2024**

Time: 10:30 - 3:00

Training Four: Active Citizenship Skills and SDG 17 Partnership for the Goals

Date: Thursday, the **22nd of February 2024**

Time: 10:30 - 3:00

Training Five: Intercultural Learning and SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities

Date: Thursday, the **21st of March 2024**

Time: 10:30 - 3:00

Training Six: Reflecting on our Methods and Next Steps

Date: Thursday, the **9th of May 2024**

Time: 10:30 - 3:00

Venue

Development Perspectives' Offices

The Mall, North Quay, Drogheda, A92 PY68

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Costs

The project is completely free for teachers and students to participate in. This is thanks to the grant we received from WorldWise Global Schools. Find out more about WorldWise Global Schools here: <https://www.worldwiseschools.ie/>



Irish Aid

An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha
Department of Foreign Affairs

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Resources

As a participating teacher you will have access to an abundance of resources through our “GCE Tools for Teachers” resource drive. This has hundreds of resources specifically developed for teachers at post-primary level endeavouring to incorporate an ethos of GCE into their curriculum and school. Additionally, all teachers will receive a welcome pack with a hard copy of WorldWise Global Schools’ “A How-To Guide to Global Citizenship Education,” a pack of SDG Tiles to facilitate learning around the SDGs and a sustainable surprise!

Next Steps

To register your interest, please fill out this two minute [form](#) by the 16th of October 2023.

As a teacher you play a crucial role - your expertise, enthusiasm, and commitment will be the cornerstone which paves the way for your students on their Global Citizenship journey! We are looking forward to your participation and all of the wonderful and innovative solutions your students bring to the Challenge!

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the project coordinator Katie Martin via email katie@developmentperspectives.ie or on 0860795556.

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Warm wishes,

Katie Martin

SDG Challenge Schools Project Coordinator

Website: <https://developmentperspectives.ie/>