

SDG Advocate Training 2026

Become one of Ireland's Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Advocates!



Are you looking for an opportunity to develop your knowledge and skills in Global Citizenship Education (GCE)? Do you want to join Ireland's network of Active Citizens and create long-lasting positive change at a local and global level by contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals?

Apply today to become one of Ireland's SDG Advocates.



What is Global Citizenship Education (GCE)?

Irish Aid defines Global Citizenship Education as “*a lifelong educational process, which aims to increase public awareness and understanding of the rapidly changing, interdependent and unequal world in which we live. By challenging stereotypes and encouraging independent thinking, GCE helps people to critically explore how global justice issues interlink with their everyday lives and how they can act to build a better world. This is particularly important in an increasingly globalised world faced with immense challenges, such as the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, entrenched poverty and growing inequality, as well as misinformation-fuelled radicalisation.*” – Irish Aid.

What are the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) / Global Goals?

In September 2015, world leaders from 193 countries came together to adopt the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs became a framework to guide our social, economic and environmental actions to achieve a better future for all by 2030. As a result, everyone is responsible for making the SDG agenda a reality.

The Training

The 2026 SDG Advocate Training is a 7-month project that offers 23 Adult and Community Educators an opportunity to deepen their understanding of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Global Citizenship Education and be supported in the design and implementation of informed SDG Action Project within their practice. The closing date for applications is the 16th of March 2026. All applicants will be invited to attend an online information session on the 28th of March from 11am-1pm.

Our network

We offer a network of support through coaching, mentoring, learning and collaboration to encourage Advocates to develop on a personal and professional level.

Our training model

Our educational project is based on ‘informed action’. We incorporate experiential learning and support advocates to become multipliers in the field of Global Citizenship Education

Why take part?

You will – Broaden your awareness and understanding of the Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

You will - Gain practical action-orientated skills and experience. Discover best practices in creating social change.

You will - Enhance and strengthen your skills in Global Citizenship Education that will advance your professional development.

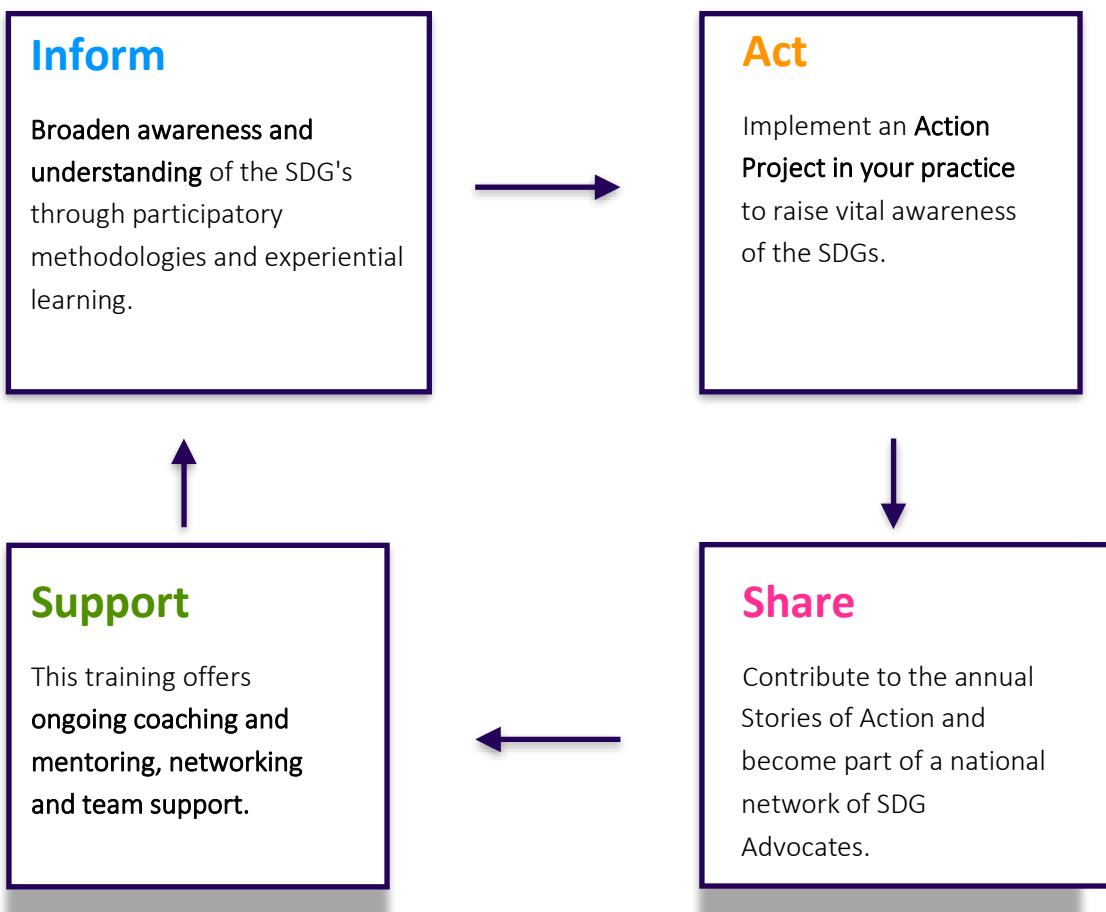
You will - Build your network and learn key engagement strategies to drive community involvement.

You will - Become one of Ireland's leading SDG Advocates.

You will - Be offered the opportunity to showcase your project and represent your organisation, institute or community at a national event.



Project Structure



About the SDG Advocate Training

The project is designed in three phases

First phase – Explorative

The first phase consists of one full day workshop in early May and an online group Coaching and Mentoring session scheduled for late May. An introduction will be provided on the concept of Global Citizenship Education, Sustainable Development Theory, The Sustainable Development Goals and what these terms mean in an Irish and Global context. There will be an emphasis placed on Critical Analysis, Problem Solving and our role as Active Citizens. Participants will also be introduced to the IDEA Code of Good Practice for Development Education.

Second Phase – Action

The Action phase will consist of an exciting yet challenging 3-day Experiential Learning residential in Bru Moytura, Co Sligo in June. Using Global Citizenship Education, we will delve deeper into the three pillars of the SDGs inviting advocates to engage theoretically and practically in the process.

The emphasis will be placed on Design Thinking, Discourse Analysis, Joseph Campbell's Hero's Journey, Systems Thinking, and Value and Frames.

Individual Coaching and Mentoring sessions will take place in July and August with further in-person workshop scheduled for mid August in Sonairte Ecology Centre, Laytown, Co. Meath. The Action phase is planned to support Advocates in the process of design and the implementation of informed SDG Action Projects.

Third phase - Reflection and Next Steps

The final 2-day residential will take place in Common Knowledge, Co. Clare in October focusing on reflection, evaluation and creative methodologies multiplying the individual Stories of Action.

Read about previous Advocates Action Projects and Reflections on Development Perspectives website:

Video - [SDG Advocate Training 2025](#) – Watch a short video of the 2025 SDG Advocate journey.

Booklet - [Stories of Action 2025](#) – Read about previous Advocates Action Projects

Resources - [SDG Information Packs](#)

How we work

We use a range of educational training techniques and approaches throughout the seven-month GCE journey to ensure that everyone is engaged, interested, and has an opportunity to contribute and develop personally and professionally.

Participant Profile

- Preference will be given to Adult and Community Educators.
- Who have some basic knowledge and/or experience of Global Citizenship Education.
- Who demonstrate a desire and willingness to design and implement an Action Project to further the achievement of the SDGs in Ireland.
- Who can commit to the full duration of the training course.
- Who show a willingness to participate in the Stories of Action and contribute to the national SDG Advocate network.



Logistics

Closing date for applications – 16th of March 2026

Online Information session for all applicants – 28th of March (11-1 pm)

Placement offers - offers will be sent out by email on the 7th of April

Project Timeline

Explorative Phase	What	When	Time	Venue
	Workshop	May 9 th	10am – 4.30pm	The Lark Theatre, Balbriggan
	Group Coaching and Mentoring	May 21 st	7pm – 9pm	Online

Action Phase	What	When	Time	Venue
	Residential	June 12 th – 14 th	3 days	Bru Moytura Eco Lodge, Co. Sligo https://www.brumoytura.org/venue
	Individual Coaching and Mentoring	July/August	Scheduled with each Advocate	Online
	Online training	August 15 th	10am-1pm	Online
	In-person training	August 16 th	10am-4.30pm	Sonairte Ecology Centre, Laytown Co. Meath https://sonairte.ie/
	Group Coaching and Mentoring	September 10 th	7pm – 9pm	Online

Reflection and Next Steps	What	When	Time	Venue
	Residential	Oct 9 th – 11 th	3 days	Common Knowledge, Co. Clare https://www.ourcommonknowledge.org/
	Stories of Action	October	N/A	N/A

Financial Considerations

- All residential accommodation, venue, food and facilitation costs will be met by Development Perspectives
- Travel costs will be met by Advocates
- €100 non-refundable contribution must be made upon acceptance of a place by May 1st, 2026.

Email for further information: applications@developmentperspectives.ie

Closing date: March 16th, 2026

Apply today: <https://developmentperspectives.ie/what-we-do/projects/advocate/>

TAKE THE CHALLENGE - BE THE CHANGE!



This training course is funded by Irish Aid at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Irish Aid is the Government's overseas development programme which supports partners working in some of the world's poorest countries. Irish Aid also supports global citizenship education in Ireland to encourage learning and public engagement with global issues.



Irish Aid
An Roinn Gníomha Eacnamaíochta
Department of Foreign Affairs