



## Information for Junior Certificate Religious Education

### 1. About Trócaire

Trócaire is the official overseas development agency of the Catholic Church in Ireland. We work with some of the world's poorest people, supporting communities and delivering long-term change to people's lives. Established in 1973, today Trócaire works in over 20 countries on pressing issues including livelihoods, human rights, gender equality, HIV, climate change and emergency relief.

When Trócaire was set up in 1973 by the Irish Catholic bishops, they agreed that Trócaire would be responsible for two main areas. The first responsibility was to those in developing countries; working for a more just and equal world, where people's dignity is ensured, their human rights respected and their basic needs (like food, clothes water and shelter) are met; where everyone is equal, wealth is shared and people are the creators of their own destiny. The second area that Trócaire is responsible for is Education in Ireland; we feel that it is our responsibility to educate people all over Ireland about problems and issues that affect people in developing countries so that the people of Ireland can begin to fight for a more just and equal world. This dual approach and the values which the organisation holds is what inspired me to join Trócaire.

Trócaire was set up in 1973 by the Bishops of Ireland to express the concern of the Irish Catholic Church for the suffering of the world's poorest people. At that time, the Bishops issued a 'Pastoral Letter' on development, informed by the core principles of Catholic Social Teaching. You can read this letter online:

[trocaire.org/whatwedo/pastoral-letter-bishops-ireland-establishing-trocaire](http://trocaire.org/whatwedo/pastoral-letter-bishops-ireland-establishing-trocaire)

## 2. What is Trócaire's vision (why do we do our work?)

Trócaire envisages a just and peaceful world where people's dignity is ensured and rights are respected; where basic needs are met and resources are shared equitably; where people have control over their own lives and those in power act for the common good.

We support communities in the Global South in their efforts to improve their lives, meet their basic needs and ensure their human dignity. This support is offered regardless of race, gender, religion or politics.

In Ireland, Trócaire encourages Irish citizens to campaign for global change and an end to poverty as a matter of justice.

## 3. Where does Trócaire work?

Trócaire builds long-term partnerships with local organisations in countries across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East, supporting their work to build a better world for people living in poverty.

The map below illustrates Trócaire's impact in some of our focus countries:



## Where we work:

AFRICA	LATIN AMERICA	ASIA & THE MIDDLE EAST
Democratic Republic of Congo Ethiopia Kenya Malawi Rwanda Sierra Leone Somalia South Sudan Uganda Zimbabwe	El Salvador Guatemala Haiti Honduras Nicaragua	Cambodia India Israel/Occupied Territory Myanmar Pakistan Palestinian

Not forgetting our important work here in **Ireland** where we challenge stereotypes and educate students like yourself/yourselves about human rights so that you can become active citizens and challenge injustice in your world!

#### 4. How many people has Trócaire helped?

We celebrated our 40th anniversary in 2013. From 1973 to today, we have delivered ground-breaking work with communities at risk across our world, supporting thousands of people (children and adults) to access their human rights. Without the support of the Irish people, this work would simply not have been possible. See our timeline highlighting key moments in our history:

[trocaire.org/whatwedo/forty-timeline](http://trocaire.org/whatwedo/forty-timeline)

See what Trócaire can achieve in a year:

[trocaire.org/blogs/how-your-donations-made-difference-2014](http://trocaire.org/blogs/how-your-donations-made-difference-2014)

#### 5. How is Trócaire different to other organisations?

Working through local partners is what makes Trócaire different. No matter where we work in the world, one factor is common; people want to have control over their own lives and the decisions affecting them. That's why we work in partnership with local organisations around the world to carry out our work.

Partnership means that we use our experience, funding and staff to support people in changing their communities. We don't do the work for them, but we're there every step of the way to guide, advise and make sure they have the skills and tools to reach their goals. We've been around a long time and we've built up a network of professional locally-based organisations, our 'partners', with which we work. These organisations have a distinct knowledge of their own regions, they are trusted and they know the people well.

As no two communities are the same, there's no room for a 'one size fits all' approach. With our partners, and local people, we build unique courses of action together. The beauty of this is the lasting difference it brings, change that's owned by local people, that enhances their skills and that encourages dignity and self-belief within people who have all the potential in the world.

## 6. Trócaire's Income

### i. Our Commitment

As well as supporting life-changing programmes in the Global South, we have important obligations to our supporters here in Ireland. Trócaire takes the trust you place in us very seriously. In return for your commitment to our work we make this commitment to you. As a young Trócaire supporter, you are entitled to:

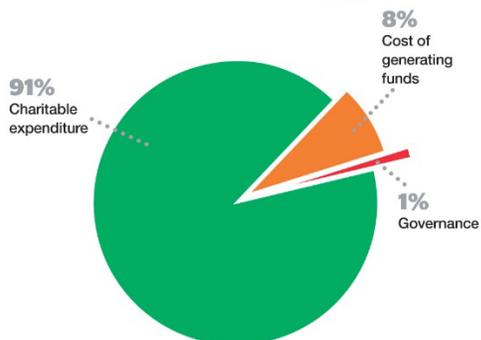
- Information concerning the projects which Trócaire supports
- Confidentiality and a choice as to whether you wish to receive further information from Trócaire in the future. If you are under 18 years of age, we do not hold your contact details or get in touch unless you request information

You can be assured that as a charity supported by public donations Trócaire will always:

- Prepare fully audited accounts, which are available to you for inspection, in accordance with the *Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities*: [trocaire.org/whatwedo/annual-report](http://trocaire.org/whatwedo/annual-report)
- Keep governance (the running of Trócaire) and fundraising costs to a minimum. For example, for every €10 donated to Trócaire just 80 cent is spent on governance and fundraising. 92 cent out of every €1.00 donated by our supporters is spent on direct charitable expenditure
- Members of our board serve a maximum of two three year terms, to constantly refresh ideas and skills. Board members do not receive any remuneration
- Trócaire does NOT give salary top ups or bonus payments to any personnel

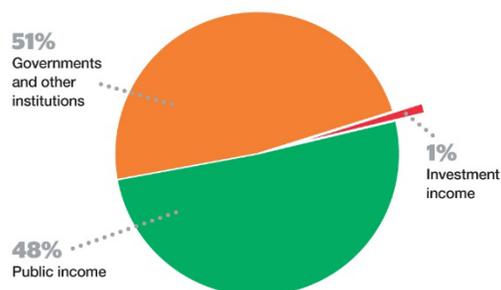
This table outlines Trócaire's income and expenditure for the financial year ending 28<sup>th</sup> February 2014:

## Expenditure 2013-14



	2013-14 Expenditure €
<b>Charitable Expenditure</b>	
Preparing for and responding to Emergencies	29,398,000
Governance and Human Rights	10,697,000
Building Sustainable Livelihoods	11,635,000
Promoting Gender Equality	3,285,000
Addressing the HIV and AIDS Crisis	2,855,000
Public Engagement (e.g. Development Education)	2,967,000
<b>Total Charitable Expenditure</b>	<b>60,837,000</b>
<b>Cost of Generating Funds</b>	<b>5,218,000</b>
<b>Governance Costs</b>	<b>445,000</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>66,500,000</b>

## Income 2013-14



	2013-14 Income €
<b>Public Income</b>	
Lenten Campaign	7,357,000
Syria and Philippines Appeal	7,221,000
Voluntary Income (excl Lent and Emergencies)	15,009,000
<b>Total Public Income</b>	<b>29,587,000</b>
<b>Investment Income</b>	<b>500,000</b>
<b>Income from Governments and Other Institutions</b>	<b>31,056,000</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>61,143,000</b>

Our full financial statements for year-ended 28 February 2014 are available on [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org). These are prepared according to the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities (SORP), which is recommended best practice by the Accounting Standards Board (ASB). Our financial accounts are independently audited.

### ii. Does Lent play a big part in raising money for Trócaire?

Lent is the most important time of the year for Trócaire. It provides us with a platform to educate the Irish public about the root causes of poverty and injustice; encourage local activism and political action; demonstrate the real and lasting impact of our work; thank supporters like you for your ongoing commitment to Trócaire; and raise vital funds to continue our life-changing work with the communities we serve. In 2014, our Lenten Campaign raised €7.3 million for which we are incredibly grateful to the Irish people.

### iii. Does our government give any financial aid to Trócaire?

Irish Aid is the Irish government's programme for overseas development. Trócaire and Irish Aid have a long history of working in partnership toward the common development goals of eradicating poverty and inequality in our world.

In 2012, Trócaire and Irish Aid entered into a new four-year strategic funding relationship. The aim of this is to ensure that poor and marginalised women and men experience less poverty, violence and exclusion by holding governments to account for their use of resources and power. Trócaire received a funding grant of €15.7 million that supports the following programmes areas:

- Governance and human rights: [trocaire.org/justice](http://trocaire.org/justice)
- Tackling HIV: [trocaire.org/hiv](http://trocaire.org/hiv)
- Promoting Gender Equality: [trocaire.org/whatwedo/gender](http://trocaire.org/whatwedo/gender)
- Sustainable livelihoods and climate change: [trocaire.org/whatwedo/climate-change](http://trocaire.org/whatwedo/climate-change)
- Humanitarian emergencies: [trocaire.org/emergencies](http://trocaire.org/emergencies)

These programmes are being rolled out in the following countries: Myanmar, India, Pakistan, Israel/ Occupied Palestinian Territory, Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Malawi, and Zimbabwe.

In November 2013, Trócaire received €400,000 from Irish Aid to support our work in the Philippines following Typhoon Haiyan.

## 7. Volunteering with Trócaire

The support we receive from the Irish public and particularly schools is incredible. This comes in many forms from students donating to the Trócaire box; to teachers using our educational resources in schools; to young people (16-18 year olds) participating in our Climate Change Challenge Weekend. Find out more about our development education programme:

[trocaire.org/education](http://trocaire.org/education)

Trócaire has many different kinds of volunteers. Currently, we have 50 committed active regional volunteers who support Trócaire in a variety of important ways. We hope to grow this programme in the coming years. More information on volunteering for Trócaire can be found here:

[trocaire.org/getinvolved](http://trocaire.org/getinvolved)

Our regional volunteers are over 18. However, many schools also volunteer their time to Trócaire through special project work and fundraising initiatives. Please see [trocaire.org/education/school-projects](http://trocaire.org/education/school-projects) for information on the innovative activities organised by young people across Ireland to raise awareness about global justice issues.

Each Lent, we distribute 1.2 million Trócaire boxes across the island of Ireland. In local communities, it is the clergy and parishioners who give these boxes out to people. They also collect the boxes after Lent, count the coin and return it to Trócaire. It takes immense people power and support from these volunteers to successfully roll-out our Lenten Campaign. It simply would not be possible without them.

## 8. Why do I work for Trócaire?

Trócaire's dedication, commitment and perseverance in **working for a just and fair world** is what drew me to the organisation. I have been deeply inspired and motivated by this excerpt from our founding document:

**"We are a rich nation to some extent because others are poor.** Part of our prosperity is due to the fact that people in the developing countries are not getting a fair deal... The aim of Trócaire will be two-fold. Abroad, it will give whatever help lies within its resources to the areas of greatest need among the developing countries. At home, it will try to make us more aware of the needs of these countries and of our duties towards them. **These duties are no longer a matter of charity but of simple justice.**"

(Pastoral Letter of the Bishops of Ireland on the establishment of Trócaire, 2nd February, 1973)

## 9. About my work

I work on Trócaire's Development Education programme. **Development Education is an active and creative educational process to increase awareness and understanding of the world we live in.** It challenges perceptions and stereotypes by encouraging optimism, participation and action for a just world. Trócaire's Development Education work engages children, young people and educators through a process of interaction, reflection and action. It supports people to make connections between their own lives and international social justice issues, and be empowered to make a positive difference in the world. We try to challenge people about many of the issues affecting the world that we live in and make people aware of our responsibilities to our local communities as well as how our actions affect those in other parts of the Globe. We also promote awareness for people's human rights on the ground here in Ireland and we campaign in Ireland for the human rights and dignity of others throughout the world by lobbying and asking questions of our public representatives and representatives of the Catholic Church.

I am constantly blown away by youth in Ireland; the resourcefulness, innovation and passion they demonstrate in challenging how we think about, and see the world. I thrive on supporting young people to channel this passion into positive action that can bring about *real* change and tackle the greatest injustices of our time. This is why I love my job!