

Irish Aid — Ireland's official overseas aid programme

# CARING FOR OUR WORLD

**OUR WORLD IRISH AID AWARDS 2015**



**Irish Aid**

An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



# Hi there!

This magazine is especially for children and about children, and we hope you enjoy it!

We have put together stories, interesting information, pictures, games and activities about the lives of children in other countries.

You will also find useful information and ideas in the following pages to help with your Our World Irish Aid Awards project.

The theme for this year's Awards is: 'CARING FOR OUR WORLD'

More than half of the world's children are born into poverty, millions of children worldwide do not get the chance to go to school, and countless others die from preventable illnesses.

Around the world, countries are working together to fight hunger and poverty through the 8 Millennium Development Goals. In this magazine, we explain what these Goals are, and how working together to care for our world is a way of contributing to a better future for all the world's children. You will also learn how Ireland is helping children and their families around the world through the work of Irish Aid.

We hope you will have fun with the articles, stories, pictures and puzzles in this magazine and that they will give you great ideas for your projects for this year's Our World Irish Aid Awards.

## Contents

|      |                                                  |
|------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 3    | What is Irish Aid?                               |
| 4-5  | The Millenium Development Goals                  |
| 6-7  | Irish Aid's Partner Countries – Quiz             |
| 8-10 | Food and Farming in Ethiopia - Activities        |
| 11   | Our World Irish Aid Awards – How To Get Involved |
| 12   | Irish Aid workshops for primary students         |

This magazine for primary school children was produced by Irish Aid for the Our World Irish Aid Awards 2015. The Awards are organised by Real Youth on behalf of Irish Aid at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.



# WHAT IS IRISH AID?

Irish Aid is the Government's overseas aid programme which works to fight poverty in developing countries on behalf of all the people of Ireland.

Irish Aid:

- has 9 KEY PARTNER COUNTRIES where it works closely with the Governments so that those countries can develop, build better schools and hospitals, and grow more food,
- helps organisations such as Christian Aid, Concern, Gorta-Self Help Africa, Trócaire, UNICEF and many others to fight hunger and poverty in over 80 countries all over the world,
- supports long term development to help poor people to improve their lives,
- gives emergency aid when countries are hit by disasters such as famine or floods.



You or your family probably give money to development organisations that help people in poor countries. But did you know that the Government also gives aid on behalf of all of the people of Ireland, through a programme called Irish Aid? Irish Aid helps many of the poorest countries in the world to fight poverty. These countries are sometimes called developing countries.

We can all be proud because our overseas development aid programme is rated as one of the best in the world. Ireland is known as a world leader in the fight against hunger and poverty, and is working hard with other countries to try to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

## OUR PARTNERS

Irish Aid works with governments and communities in developing countries to take care of their environment, have better agriculture, and build schools and hospitals so that poor people in these countries can improve their lives. This sort of help is known as development aid.

Through its Irish Aid programme, Ireland has special partnerships with 9 countries, 8 in Africa: Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia, and 1 in Asia: Vietnam. This means we work with the governments and communities in these countries to fight hunger and poverty and improve the lives of the people.



## LOOK AT THE MAP ABOVE. CAN YOU SEE IRELAND'S 9 PARTNER COUNTRIES?

The countries are coloured in **RED** on the map. 8 of the partner countries are in Africa and 1 is in Asia.

Write the names of Irish Aid's 9 partner countries in alphabetical order. To help you, we've filled in the name of the first country - Ethiopia.

1. Ethiopia \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_

## THE WORD WALL

Use the boxes below to record any new words or phrases that you came across as you go through this magazine. When you have finished, you can ask your teacher to explain the words or phrases to you or look them up in a dictionary. Once you know what the words and phrases mean try to use them when you talk.

## WHAT ARE THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS?

IN THE YEAR 2000, the leaders of 189 countries, including Ireland, came together in the United Nations **to look at the most serious problems facing the world. They wanted to find ways to take care of the world and make it a better place for all of us.** These world leaders of both rich and poor countries agreed to work together to get rid of world poverty. They decided to try to cut the number of people living in poverty in half by the end of the year 2015.

This is a big job so they came up with smaller steps to help them to achieve this. They **promised to work together** to try to achieve **8 development goals** to fight poverty and to improve our world for people everywhere. These are called the **United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)** because they were agreed in the Millennium year 2000.

## THE 8 MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1. End poverty and hunger
2. Make sure every child goes to school
3. Make sure women and girls get the same chances as men and boys
4. Reduce the numbers of small children and babies who die because of poverty
5. Improve the health of mothers when they are having babies
6. Fight infectious diseases
7. Protect the environment for the future
8. Countries will work together as partners to make the world a better place

Although there has been lots of good work done towards achieving the MDGs, not all the Goals will be achieved by the end of 2015, and there will still be lots of work to do to make the world a better place for everyone. Because of this, world leaders are now very busy trying to come up with a new set of goals. If all countries continue to work together the world will be a better place for children and their families everywhere. Fewer people will live in extreme poverty, more babies will survive, more boys and girls will go to school, and fewer people will die from illnesses.

To help you, your teacher has a big poster of the 8 Millennium Development Goals, or you can look at the child-friendly version of the MDGs on this page.



## OVER TO YOU...

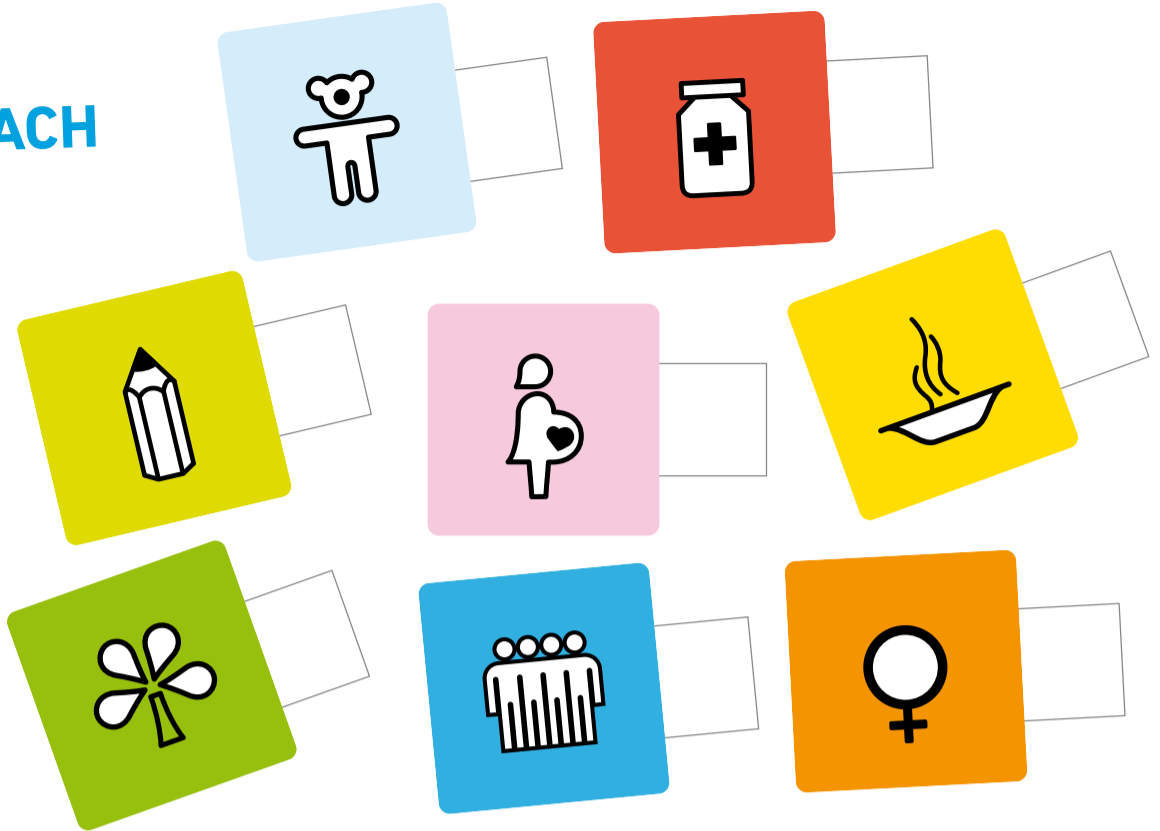
Let's look more closely at the Millennium Development Goals:

- Can you think of three things that might help to achieve MDG 1?
- Why do you think that a pencil is used as the logo for MDG 2?

- What do you think MDG 3 is about?
- Can you see any connections between MDG 4, MDG 5 and MDG 6?
- Name one thing you already do to help to achieve MDG 7?
- MDG 8 is about countries working together to make the world a better place. Can you think of some reasons why working together is a good idea?

## PUT THE CORRECT NUMBER BESIDE EACH OF THESE GOALS

Many people think that all the Goals are equally important and that no Goal can be achieved without the others. For example, if you take care of the world and protect the environment (MDG 7), this helps farmers to produce food to make sure that you have enough to eat (MDG 1) which helps you to stay healthy and fight diseases (MDG 6), and this also means you can learn well at school (MDG 2).



### The world you want...

Countries all around the world have been working together to achieve the 8 MDGs, and they have done really well on some of the Goals, like reducing the number of people living in extreme poverty by half (MDG 1), from 2.4 billion to 1.01 billion. But, not all the Goals will be achieved by the end of 2015, and there will still be lots of work to do to make the world a better place for everyone. Because of this, world leaders are now very busy trying to come up with a new set of goals from 2015 onwards, to help people everywhere to care for the world and build a better life for themselves and for their children.

What do you think is needed to make the world a better place? How can you show that you care for the world and all the people in it? In the space provided on the left draw what you think a better world would look like.

# MAPS AND FACTS

## LOOK AT THE FLAGS OF IRISH AID'S 9 PARTNER COUNTRIES.

- For each of the flags locate the correct country on the map and colour in using the flag colours.

## READ THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE 9 PARTNER COUNTRIES.

- Use what you have learned to help you to do the Quiz on page 7.



### Uganda

**Capital City:** Kampala  
**Life expectancy:** 59 years  
**Population:** 37.6 million  
**Main exports:** coffee, tea, cotton and tobacco

**One example of MDG progress:** Irish Aid contributed to a Ugandan government programme which meant that by 2013 67% of girls and boys in Uganda were completing primary school.

**FUN FACT:** 16.35 million Ugandans, or about 43% of the population, have mobile phones.



### Ethiopia

**Capital City:** Addis Ababa  
**Life expectancy:** 63 years  
**Population:** 94 million

**One example of MDG progress:** Irish Aid supports the Ethiopian Government's work to stop babies and small children dying because of poverty. The numbers dying fell by 44% between 2005 and 2013.

**FUN FACT:** Ethiopia won 7 medals for track and field events in the 2012 Olympic Games in London - 3 gold, 1 silver and 3 bronze, and all the Ethiopian gold medalists were women.



### Lesotho

**Capital City:** Maseru  
**Life expectancy:** 49 years  
**Population:** 2.1 million

**Size:** about half the size of Ireland

**One example of MDG progress:** By 2013, Irish Aid had helped over 6,000 very poor families to create their own vegetable gardens, which provided food and income.

**FUN FACT:** Lesotho is famous for dinosaur footprints and the country even has a dinosaur named after it - Lesothosaurus was a metre long lizard who lived on plants.



### Sierra Leone

**Capital City:** Freetown  
**Life expectancy:** 45 years  
**Population:** 6.1 million

**History:** There was a civil war in Sierra Leone from 1991-2002.

**One example of MDG progress:** Irish Aid has worked with the Government in Sierra Leone to establish centres around the country to make sure babies and young children are well-fed. Since the outbreak of the Ebola virus in May 2014 Irish Aid has provided €1 million in humanitarian funding to help families affected by the disease.

**FUN FACT:** There is an island called Dublin Island off the coast of Sierra Leone. The people who live there are descendants of freed slaves from the Caribbean.



### Vietnam

**Capital City:** Hanoi  
**Life expectancy:** 75 years  
**Population:** 91.7 million

**Number of ethnic minorities:** The Vietnamese government recognises 54 different ethnic groups, each with its own language, lifestyle, and cultural heritage.

**One example of MDG progress:** Irish Aid contributes to a Vietnamese government programme to clear land mines and educate people about the risks of land mines which were buried during the Vietnam War (1954-1975).

**FUN FACT:** In the past villagers in Northern Vietnam put on water puppet shows when their rice paddies flooded. Nowadays water puppet shows happen in special theatres. A pool of water is the stage and the puppets are attached to a long stick which is controlled by the puppeteers who stand behind a bamboo screen.



### Mozambique

**Capital City:** Maputo  
**Life expectancy:** 50 years  
**Population:** 25.8 million

**Geographical feature:** Mozambique has one of the longest coastlines in the world, with 6,942 kilometres along the Indian Ocean.

**One example of MDG progress:** Farmers in Niassa region have been helped by the Government in Mozambique and Irish Aid to

grow more orange fleshed sweet potatoes. These sweet potatoes are very rich in Vitamin A which helps children to grow and develop.

**FUN FACT:** The Blue Dragon or Glaucus Atlanticus, is a tiny rare sea slug that is found floating upside down off the coast of Mozambique. Although it looks like a Pokémon character the Blue Dragon is poisonous and can be deadly to much bigger creatures.



### Zambia

**Capital City:** Lusaka  
**Life expectancy:** 58 years  
**Population:** 14.5 million

**Number of official languages:** 8 - including Nyanja which is the language spoken by most of the people who live in the capital, Lusaka.

**One example of MDG progress:** Irish Aid has supported a Zambian government programme to give cash payments to very poor women with the result that their children eat more and better food.



**FUN FACT:** The Victoria Falls waterfall, one of the seven natural wonders of the world, is located in Zambia. Victoria Falls is known locally 'the smoke that thunders' because of the spray and the noise, as the water falls over the 100 metre drop.

## Tanzania



**Capital City: Dodoma**

**Life expectancy: 61 years**

**Population: 49.3 million**

**Geographical feature:** Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain, is located in north eastern Tanzania.

**One example of MDG progress:** With support from Irish Aid, the Tanzanian government set up a dairy milk hub to create better conditions for farmers. This has helped 1,200 farmers to get better prices for their milk.

**FUN FACT:** The Serengeti National Park, in northern Tanzania, is visited by tourists from all over the world. Over 200 species of birds, as well as lions, giraffes, elephants and zebras can be found in the park. It is also home to the black rhinoceros, which is an endangered species.



## Malawi



**Capital City: Lilongwe**

**Life expectancy: 55 years**

**Population: 16.4 million**

**President:** Joyce Banda became the first female president of Malawi in 2012.

**One example of MDG progress:** Irish Aid supports a government programme to distribute anti-mosquito bed nets in central Malawi. These nets help to stop young children from getting malaria, a disease that is spread by an infected mosquito. As a result, the number of people getting malaria in this region has fallen by 58%.

**FUN FACT:** Many people believe that J.R.R. Tolkien (author of *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*), who visited Malawi in the 1930s, was inspired by his travels there to create the Hobbits and the Shire.



## Irish Aid and the MDGs

You already know that Ireland's overseas development aid programme is rated as one of the best in the world. Irish Aid is working hard to fight hunger in its partner countries. One of the ways Irish Aid does this is by helping small farmers to grow more food and at the same time to improve the environment. For example, some farmers are supported to grow groundnuts. As groundnuts grow, nitrogen is released into the soil, so groundnuts act as a natural fertiliser. This means that the quality of the soil is improved and the farmers can grow more and better crops.

Look back at the list of the 8 MDGs on page 4. Which of the MDGs is Irish Aid helping to achieve by helping farmers to grow groundnuts?



## QUIZ

YOU CAN EITHER ANSWER THE QUIZ QUESTIONS ON YOUR OWN, OR ASK YOUR TEACHER TO ORGANISE A TABLE QUIZ.

1. Africa is a .....  
(complete the sentence)  
a. Continent  
b. Country  
c. Region  
d. City
2. The continent of Africa is made up of ..... countries.  
(fill in the blanks)  
a. 8  
b. 21  
c. 40  
d. 55
3. How many people live on the African continent?  
(circle the correct answer)  
a. Approximately 2 million  
b. Approximately 500 million  
c. Approximately 1 billion  
d. Approximately 50 billion
4. What country has a dinosaur named after it?  
(circle the correct answer)  
a. Vietnam  
b. Malawi  
c. Tanzania  
d. Lesotho
5. In ..... people are expected to live until 50 years of age.  
(fill in the blanks)  
a. Mozambique  
b. Ethiopia  
c. Zambia  
d. Malawi
6. There are 54 different ethnic minority groups living in .....  
(fill in the blanks)  
a. Uganda  
b. Tanzania  
c. Vietnam  
d. Sierra Leone
7. Irish Aid has supported projects which help 67% of children in ..... to finish primary school.  
(fill in the blanks)  
a. Ethiopia  
b. Zambia  
c. Uganda  
d. Lesotho
8. There is an island called Dublin Island in S..... L.....  
(complete this sentence)
9. The highest mountain in Africa is located in Tanzania. What is the name of this mountain?  
.....
10. Vitamin A is important because it helps children grow and develop.  
(True or false)  
.....
11. Irish Aid has helped to distribute anti-mosquito bed nets in central Malawi. These nets help to prevent the spread of a disease called .....  
(complete the sentence)
12. There is a town in Co Offaly called B..... which shares the name of the money used in Ethiopia.  
(fill in the blanks)

# FOCUS ON ETHIOPIA

## ETHIOPIA - Country File



**Location:** East Africa  
**Population:** 94 million  
**Capital city:** Addis Ababa  
**Official language:** Amharic  
**Exports:** Coffee, leather, live animals, meat, oilseeds and pulses

Ethiopia is one of Irish Aid's 9 partner countries. Can you find Ethiopia on the map on page 3?

### LET'S MEET BERIHUN FROM ETHIOPIA...



Ask your teacher to explain any difficult words to you or look them up in a dictionary and write them into the Word Wall on page 3.

### BERIHUN'S STORY: THE PROBLEM

Hi! Teanastellen! Selam! My name is Berihun (pronounced "bear – e – hune"), which means 'let him guide us'. I'm from Ethiopia, in East Africa. Ethiopia is a beautiful, high country with mountains in the north and hot, flat plains in the south and east. I live in Gegera, which is in the Tigray Region in the north of Ethiopia. Gegera is dry and rocky. 10,000 people live in this region. A few years ago we had a terrible crisis in my area, which threatened us all with hunger and even famine, but we managed to find solutions to our problems.

well. We had no money to buy farm tools or fuel for our fires, so we had to chop down even more trees. Because there were fewer trees, plants and grass, the bees in our beehives produced less honey and our cows produced less milk, so we had nothing to sell.

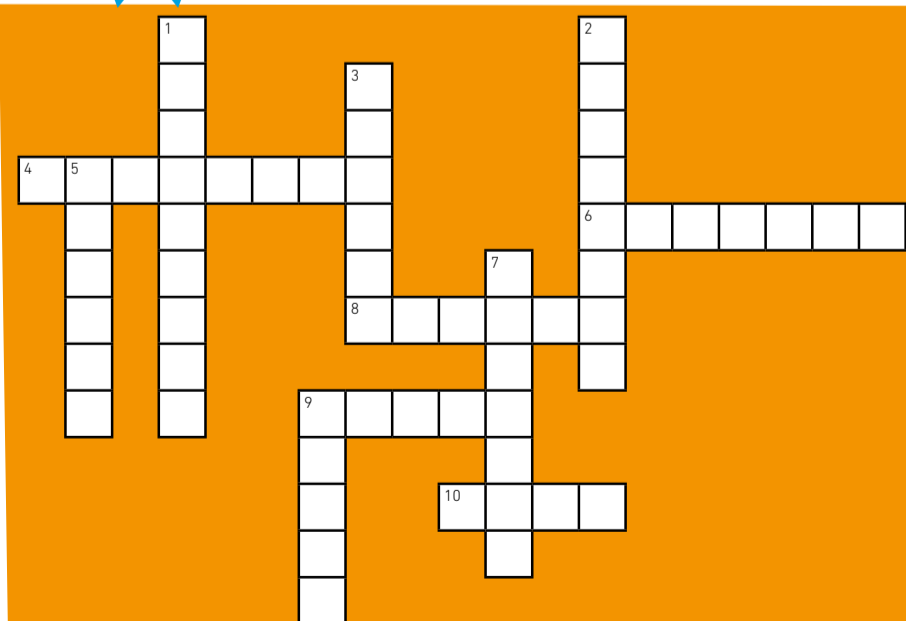
To make matters worse the weather changed. There was sometimes no rain at all for months (drought), and at other times heavy flooding washed all the fertile topsoil away.

In Gegera people have always grown their own food to feed their families, and kept cows and bees to earn money. But a lot of trees had been chopped down to make more farms, so the soil was poor and our crops were not growing very

Families were running out of food. Women and girls were walking further to get water and find firewood. Boys had to take the cows miles away to find grass. Children were too exhausted to go to school. Everyone was tired and hungry and small babies were becoming ill and dying.

### BERIHUN'S STORY: FINDING SOLUTIONS

We decided to do something to help ourselves. We wanted to get help for the people who were most badly in need of money and food, but we also wanted to improve our farms and find ways of coping with drought and flooding. A group of men and women from our district, went to our local Government office and explained our problems to the officials in charge of our district. Irish Aid heard about the problems in Gegera and offered to help.



#### ACROSS

- 4. Country in East Africa
- 6. An Ethiopian boy's name
- 8. Somewhere where children in both Ethiopia and Ireland go to get an education
- 9. Bees lives in these
- 10. We get this from cows

#### DOWN



- 1. People who are like this are able to cope when something bad happens
- 2. After School Berihun likes to play this with his friends
- 3. Africa has 54 of these
- 5. Gegera is in this region in Ethiopia
- 7. This layer of soil is rich in nutrients
- 9. Bees produce this



**When the group from Berihun's district met with the local government officials to discuss the problems they were having, they asked lots of questions. With the help of the government officials they came up with some good solutions.**

Draw a line between each of the questions asked by the villagers from Gergera, and the solutions that they came up with. To make this activity easier we've drawn the first line for you...

## QUESTIONS

-  How can we stop the rich topsoil being washed away on our farms?
-  How can we help the poorest people in our villages, with no money or food at all?
-  How can we produce honey again?
-  How can we save more water for when there is drought?
-  How can we protect our environment for the future?
-  How can we improve the topsoil to make it rich?
-  How can we grow better crops?

## SOLUTIONS



Farm advisors trained our community in improving their crops.



We made terraces on higher ground.



We built wells and dams to keep the soil and water safely in place.



We planted new trees, shrubs and grasses and made sure to keep the cattle away from young plants.



We improved the soil, so our bees flourished, and we got new and better bee hives.



We were given small stoves so when we cook we don't need to burn as much firewood. This saves trees and helps to protect the environment.



The poorest people were given cash or food, and in return they built walls and dams, and planted trees.



**My brothers and sisters and I go to school now and after school we have the time and energy to play football. Because of the support we've had, and all of our hard work, life is much better for us in Gergera now and we can plan for the future.**

# Gergera and the MDGs

Think about everything that happened in Berihun's village. Which MDGs can you link to the different ways that the villagers responded to their problems?

Women and girls are usually in charge of collecting water, which often takes a long time because they have to walk long distances to reach the water sources. Digging good wells close to the village means that it doesn't take Berihun's sister as long to collect water and so she gets a chance to go to school. This helps to achieve MDG 3 and MDG 7.

**PUT A TICK BESIDE ANY OTHER MDGS YOU THINK ARE LINKED TO THE DIFFERENT THINGS THAT HAPPENED IN GERGERA.**

- |                                     |                                                                               |                                     |                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 1. End poverty and hunger                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 5. Improve the health of mothers when they are having babies                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 2. Make sure every child goes to school                                       | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 6. Fight infectious diseases                                                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 3. Make sure women and girls get the same chances as men and boys             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 7. Protect the environment for the future                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 4. Reduce the numbers of small children and babies who die because of poverty | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 8. Countries will work together as partners to make the world a better place |



IMAGINE YOU ARE EMAILING BERIHUN. TELL HIM...

**What you found most interesting about his story:**

**What you would like to know more about:**

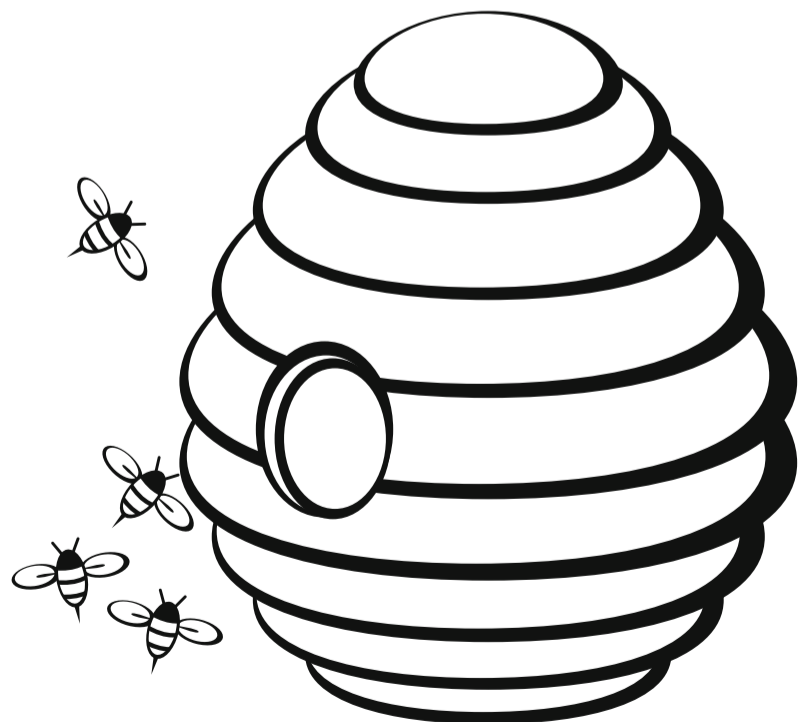
**What things you are doing to protect the environment:**

## MDG BEEHIVES

Berihun and the other villagers planted new trees, shrubs and grasses. Within a few seasons they had flowers again, their bees flourished and they got new and better beehives and produced honey for sale again.

**Which MDGs can you link to this?**

Draw or write the MDGs on the beehive and colour it in. Use your thoughts to inspire you when you colour the MDG Beehive. Be creative – use words, MDG logos, pictures etc.



**ENTER**

# OUR WORLD IRISH AID AWARDS 2015

**REMINDER!**  
CLOSING DATE IS 13TH MARCH 2015 -  
IF YOUR TEACHER HASN'T RECEIVED  
A PACK ON HOW TO TAKE PART, THEY  
SHOULD CONTACT  
[OURWORLD@REALNATION.IE](mailto:OURWORLD@REALNATION.IE)  
OR SEE  
[WWW.OURWORLDIRISHAIDAWARDS.IE](http://WWW.OURWORLDIRISHAIDAWARDS.IE)



You've been reading all about how Ireland, through the work of Irish Aid, is helping to fight poverty and hunger and to improve the lives of children and their families in some of the poorest countries in the world.

Well now's your chance... The theme for this year's Our World Irish Aid Awards is: 'Caring for Our World'.  
**Read on and find out more about the Awards and how to get involved.**

Would you like to learn more about Irish Aid's work in developing countries, and have lots of fun along the way?



## OVER TO YOU...

Talk to your teacher about the Our World Irish Aid Awards...

What projects might you be able to do?

Brainstorm some ideas!

### WRITE IT

Write a short story or a letter or a poem; compile a diary or a blog or a newspaper or magazine.

### RECORD IT

Make a movie; act out a story as a drama; audio-record a story or an interview.

### PICTURE IT

Take photographs; create a photo diary; use photos to show contrasts, to show possibilities, to show what can be done.

### DRAW, PAINT OR MAKE IT

Design a poster; paint a wall frieze or a collage; build a model; invent a board game; make a map or a project book.

### ASK IT

Set up an interview; do a vox pop at your school or shopping centre; carry out a small survey of what people know, or of what people think about a poverty question; organise a quiz in your school.

### SING IT

Write a song; make up a rap; put new words to a popular song.

If you do well enough, you and your class or group may receive an Our World Irish Aid Awards plaque for your school at special events around the country. Or, you may even be part of our exciting Awards ceremony in Dublin, where pupils with the most outstanding projects will receive their award, and find out which school gets the overall Our World Irish Aid Awards trophy.



For more photos and Our World Awards projects see  
[www.ourworldirishaidawards.ie](http://www.ourworldirishaidawards.ie)

**Quiz Answers:**

- (1) a. Continent; (2) d. 55 – according to the African Union; (3) c. Approximately 1 billion; (4) d. Lesotho; (5) d. Mozambique; (6) c. Vietnam; (7) c. Uganda; (8) Sierra Leone; (9) Mount Kilimanjaro; (10) True; (11) Malaria; (12) Birr.



## Primary Schools Summer Workshops on Food & Farming in Africa

Bring your class to take part in the  
Irish Aid Centre, 3 Clonmel Street, Dublin 2

**Workshops are free of charge  
and include:**

Activities, games and music to explore the links between our lives and the lives of people in other parts of the world.

Learn how protecting the environment can help to improve the lives of people in poor countries.

The Summer Primary Schools Programme is specially designed for pupils aged 10 to 12 years and will be relevant for the Human Environment Strand of the SESE, Geography curriculum as well as SPHE and Music. It will be highly participative and is designed to be as enjoyable as possible.

Workshops will take 1 hour and 30 mins and will take place at 10.00 and 12.00 daily from Monday to Friday, classes of 30 need to be accompanied by 2 adults, including one teacher. Advance booking necessary.

**To book or for enquiries contact:**  
Ruth Powell - 01 408 2832 or  
ruth.powell@dfa.ie

Irish Aid Centre, 3 Clonmel Street,  
off Harcourt Street, Dublin 2

**FREE**

**For:**  
**5th & 6th  
classes**

**When:**  
**May & June  
2015**