

Schools Newsletter

2024



**Self Help
AFRICA**



Sophie McElligott from St Joseph's Secondary School, Navan, took part in the schools visit to Zambia.

www.selfhelpafrica.org/ie/education

SCHOOL WORKSHOPS

Self Help Africa's team are available to do workshops in your school, this year.

Our schools programme covers a range of topics that we can workshop with your students, addressing such issues as **climate justice, gender equality, sustainability of food systems, poverty eradication, ethical fashion** and the role that **science*** can play in creating a more just world for all. *(*more on this can be found elsewhere in this newsletter).*

Our workshops have been devised principally for the Transition Year cycle. But they can also be tailored to other school classes where you believe there is an opportunity within your timetable.

Our workshops are part of an Education programme funded by Irish Aid, and is available at no cost to your school.

Should you be interested in learning more please contact us at: schools@selfhelpafrica.org or leave a message at **(01) 6778880** and we will respond to your inquiry.



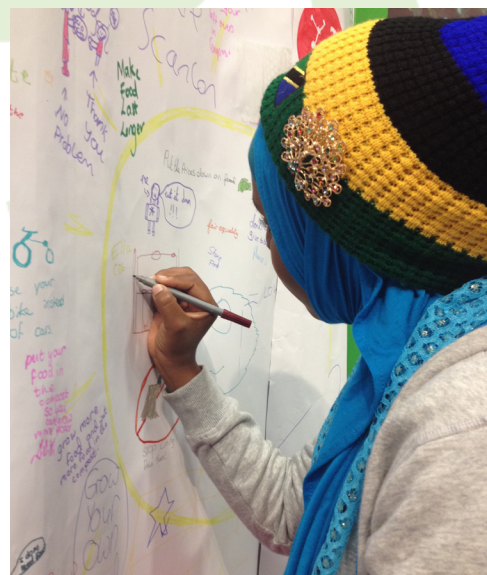
Students from Maynooth University

OUR EXPERIENCE

For more than 20 years, we have been working with schools across Ireland.

Our network of educators have collaborated with over 150 post primary schools, delivered teacher training activities at Third Level institutions, and worked with community groups, Fair Trade groups, Youthreach and other organisations. We have also presented exhibitions in libraries, schools and public spaces.

A primary schools programme was piloted last year, and will be developed further in 2023-24 school year.



BT YOUNG SCIENTIST AND TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION

Self Help Africa's 'Science for Development Award' has become one of the most popular prizes awarded at the annual BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition, each year.

For almost 20 years, Irish Aid has sponsored the award - which provides the winning students and teacher with a travel bursary to take part in a week-long Self Help Africa schools study visit to Africa.

The 'Science for Development Award' aims to encourage science students to design projects that address, in a practical or theoretical way, a challenge that affects communities in the Global South.

Winning projects have included students who proposed methods to preserve and refrigerate food without electricity, devised low cost testing for malaria, provided fuel efficient cooking methods. The 2024 winners created bandages made from banana peels. Social science winners have addressed issues of religion, gender and race.



Rachel Hamm and Ella Ryan from Moate Community School won the 2024 award with their project, Banana Bandages.

Self Help Africa's team is available to attend your school and workshop ideas with students and teachers who are interested in submitting entries that might address some of these challenges. Online webinars on the topic are also hosted by the Development Education team annually.

Self Help Africa and Irish Aid also organise an annual 'Science for Development Showcase.' This is an event that exhibits a selection of projects featured at that year's BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition, which address 'Science for Development' topics and issues. It is held at Iveagh House, the HQ of the Dept of Foreign Affairs, in late Spring.

SCIENCE WINNERS VISIT ZAMBIA

Past winners of Self Help Africa's 'Science for Development Award' travelled on an Irish Aid sponsored Schools Study visit to Zambia, last November.

The winners of the award from 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 - from Mercy Secondary School, Navan; Castletroy College, Limerick; St. Louis Secondary School, Dundalk; and Sutton Park School in Dublin - made the trip, and visited the University of Zambia, a number of Self Help Africa projects, and were guests at a reception hosted by the Irish Ambassador to Zambia. This special trip was organised as a schools trip did not take place during the COVID-19 pandemic.





Winners of Self Help Africa's 'Science for Development Award' travelled on an Irish Aid sponsored Schools Study visit to Zambia, November 2023.

RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Self Help Africa has a wide range of teaching resources available to download from our website.

These include toolkits, articles and other information and resources that can support you in bringing Development Education topics alive in your classroom. We also have pictorial exhibitions available that you could mount in your school.

Whether your students are interested in gender issues, African culture, food production, technology, human rights

or climate change, you can access and download them to support your students to become engaged and active global citizens.

If you would like to speak to one of our team about these materials and how we can support you to use them in your school, please contact us at:

schools@selfhelpafrica.org

CONTACT US:

Drop a line to **schools@selfhelpafrica.org** or give us a call at: 01-6778880 if you'd like to book workshops or speak to a member of the team about some other aspect of our schools programme. You can also find out more about our organisation's work at: **www.selfhelpafrica.org**



Irish Aid

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

