# It's About Us! Overview.

IT'S ABOUT US
CSPE WORKSHOPS



It's About Us! will inform, inspire and enable young people to participate in discussions about the world they want. While global discussions take place on progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, we want to hear from young people in Ireland about their priorities for the future as we start planning for the Post-2015 development agenda. UNICEF Ireland has designed **fourteen interactive CSPE workshops** to support you and your students to begin these conversations in your classroom!

Students will explore the lives of children living around the world, which will **further their understanding of children's rights, inequality.** and **sustainable development.** The issues addressed in these workshops will have a deep impact on both present and future generations. Students will therefore focus on **the role of the individual in affecting positive change** and ultimately decide on actions that will empower them to **be the change!** 











## Workshops-

- 1. Our Rights: Explore the Convention for the Rights of the Child locally and globally.
- 2. Our World: Introduce the concept of Sustainable Development and our shared values.
- 3. Our Environment: Gain insights into environmental issues facing the global community.
- 4. Our Wealth: Gain insights into global inequality.
- 5. **Our Choices:** Gain insight into ethical consumerism.
- 6. Our Peace: Discuss conflict, its root causes, the impact on children and conflict prevention
- 7. Our Priorities: Discuss and decide on Sustainable Development Goals.
- 8. **Our Education:** Learn about the role of education in affecting change.
- 9. Our Gender: Learn about why gender matters in 2014.
- 10. Our Responsibility: Learn about the role of the individual in affecting change.
- 11. Our Actions: Decide on actions we can take on a personal level to affect change.
- 12. Our Future: Review learning and commit to change for future generations.

#### How to use the resources?

These workshops are designed to be carried out online where you can access the background resources and video materials via the hyperlinks on the workshop sheets. Student's experience will be enhanced using these profile videos and cards, which act as real companions throughout the workshops.

Teachers are encouraged to select those workshops that most satisfy the interest of your students. **It is not necessary to carry** out all workshops consecutively, any number or combination of workshops can be selected. 'Workshop 1, Our World' provides a comprehensive overview of It's About Us and is recommended as the best place to start. Everything after that is up to you!

A critical part of these workshops are the **Action Projects and feedback**. UNICEF Ireland want you and your class to let us know the outcomes and actions from your discussions. We aim to **connect young people in Ireland with their peers** to ensure that ideas are exchanged and action can be taken.

Workshops can be completed during a single class period of 35 - 40 minutes. While the discussions are stimulated in class, the resources and website support broader conversations at home, amongst friends and into the wider community.

## These symbols will guide you through each of the workshops:



**Objectives** 



View



Discussion



**Group Work** 

Art Activity



Handout



Closure



At Home



**Action Project** 

#### How to give feedback and get more involved with UNICEF Ireland?

UNICEF Ireland has created a safe online community where your students can share their thoughts, Action Projects and any campaign actions. Find us on Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, Tumblr using #itsaboutus.

We aim to connect classrooms and students around the country. It's About Us! is a live project so UNICEF Ireland will share updates, additional resources and information along the way to support your classroom discussions and actions. You can <u>register</u> here.

We actively encourage both you and your students to share in this platform - it enables us to capture these views and offer groups and students who are particularly interested, the opportunity to further engage in dialogue with other young people and UNICEF staff, both here in Ireland and around the world. It's our world. Let's change it together!

#### Further information and useful websites:

UNICEF will continue to build a portal of useful websites and resources to support your discussions. Let us know what you need!

- It's About Us
- What are Children's Rights?
- What are the Millennium Development Goals?
- <u>UNICEF and the Millennium Development Goals</u>
- UNICEF and the Post-2015 Development Agenda
- Voices of Youth
- My World 2015
- Additional Tools and Resources for Action Projects