



Photo: Gonzalo Bell



# Handy guide to the WEE BOX, BIG change appeal 2009

[www.sciafyouth.org.uk](http://www.sciafyouth.org.uk)

**SCI<sup>x</sup>AF**  
Scotland's aid agency

# Welcome to SCIAF's WEE BOX appeal for 2009!



John Sharp, SCIAF Schools Officer

**Choosing a theme for our WEE BOX, BIG change appeal usually involves a lot of negotiations and discussion. This year's theme was a no-brainer. Climate change is one of the biggest issues of our time and it threatens to leave hundreds of millions across the world without homes, food and water.**

The communities from El Salvador and Nicaragua featured in this pack are being hit hard by increasingly extreme and unpredictable weather: crops are dying and homes are being destroyed. Helping people develop strategies to survive climate change is now a major part of SCIAF's work in Latin America, Asia and Africa.

Thankfully, the world is waking up to the perils of climate change but not enough has been said about the impact it is already making to the lives of the world's poorest people. The sense of urgency is missing. SCIAF hopes that our WEE BOX, BIG change appeal in 2009 redresses that imbalance and gives a voice to those who are already suffering the effects of climate change.

Many of those whose voices we hear in this year's materials use the opportunity to express their sincere gratitude for the help given to them by SCIAF supporters. Your fundraising, awareness raising and campaign actions have changed lives. We hope the materials and videos in this resource demonstrate the impact you've made by supporting SCIAF. We also hope you'll be convinced of the need to take action and will join SCIAF in our Lenten pilgrimage to create a **climate for justice** for the world's poorest people.

Thank you so much for your continued and generous support. Please get in touch – we're really keen to support your activities in any way we can.



John Sharp  
Schools Officer

**“AT ITS CORE, GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE... IS ABOUT THE FUTURE OF GOD'S CREATION AND THE ONE HUMAN FAMILY. IT IS ABOUT OUR HUMAN STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S CREATION AND OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO THOSE WHO COME AFTER US.”**

- By 2025 two-thirds of the earth's population will suffer water shortages.
- Between 1900 and 2004, 73% of disasters were climate-related; 94% of disasters and 97% of disaster-related deaths occur in developing countries.
- The area of the world stricken by drought has doubled between 1970 and the early 2000s. In Africa fertile land is already turning to desert. By 2020, climate change is predicted to reduce some African farming harvests by 50%.
- Climate change brings the risk of increases in serious diseases such as malaria, dengue fever, yellow fever and polio.
- By 2080, an extra 600 million people worldwide could be affected by malnutrition.

# Seven reasons to support SCIAF

**SCIAF is Scotland's leading aid agency** and is the official international aid and development agency of the Catholic Church in Scotland.

**SCIAF helps the poorest communities –** regardless of religious background.

**SCIAF doesn't give handouts –** we give people a hand up. We support long term development projects that help people to escape from grinding poverty.

**SCIAF can respond immediately to disasters around the world** through our membership of Caritas Internationalis – the worldwide network of Catholic aid agencies which operates in 200 countries and territories.

**SCIAF tackles the causes of poverty –** not just the symptoms. Through our campaigns and lobbying, we challenge those in power to take decisions that help, not harm, the world's poorest people.

**SCIAF invests in educating people in Scotland –** having an informed, civil society is crucially important in the fight against global poverty. SCIAF's education programme empowers people in Scotland to see themselves as global citizens and to commit themselves to living in solidarity with those in need.

**SCIAF can be trusted to use your donations effectively.** With over 40 years of experience, SCIAF is a professional development organisation working with communities in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

# WEE BOX DVD-ROM

**Your WEE BOX DVD-ROM is packed full of resources!**

## Step 1

Insert the DVD-ROM in your computer and print off the **Teacher's Notes**. These notes contain the stories and background information you'll need to make the most of this year's WEE BOX materials.

## Step 2

Explore the great resources on the DVD-ROM which include:

- Nine video clips
- A climate change reflection
- Climate change facts
- Assembly materials
- Photos and stories
- Printable versions of all the materials

## Step 3

Come up with a plan to make use of the materials in your class or across the school. Don't keep the resources to yourself – others might be keen to get their hands on them too, such as the:

- Assembly guru in your school
- Environmental Studies coordinator
- Eco-School group
- Religious Education, Modern Studies and Geography Departments
- Charity committee
- School chaplain

## Step 4

If everyone is fighting over the one DVD-ROM, don't fall out, resort to fisticuffs or keep it in a locked cupboard. Use the A4 form in this pack to order more FREE copies of the materials to share around. Better still, invite other teachers to add their name to our mailing list so they get their own copy of the materials sent to them direct next year.

### ***Win the admiration and affection of your modern languages colleagues***

Seven of the videos in the DVD-ROM feature families from El Salvador and Nicaragua talking about their lives and climate change. The interviews have been subtitled since they were conducted in Spanish. We've also provided the videos without subtitles so modern languages departments can get maximum use out of them. Pass the WEE-BOX DVD-ROM to them and win some major brownie points!



**SCIAF's youth website is a fantastic resource to support all your WEE BOX activities and much more. Add it to your favourites list this Lent to get your hands on great classroom resources.**



- Games
- Video walls
- PowerPoint resources
- Movies
- Downloadable photos
- Factsheets
- Fundraising ideas
- Real-life stories



## Going for a song!

If you've got a great rock or music band in your school then ask them to donate a song to SCIAF's new online music store at [www.sciafyouth.org.uk/music](http://www.sciafyouth.org.uk/music) - it'll give them a great platform to launch their career and will also raise money for SCIAF. The 'pay for download' site was kicked off in 2008 when the *School of Rock* band from Whitelees Primary in Cumbernauld wrote their own Fair trade song and raised £1000 for SCIAF.



## Become SCIAF's School of the Week

Send pictures and a blurb about all your exciting SCIAF activities and we'll showcase your pupils on the *School of the Week* section on our youth website at [www.sciafyouth.org.uk](http://www.sciafyouth.org.uk)



## Book a school visit

If you're interested in hearing more about SCIAF's inspiring work around the world, get in touch to arrange for a SCIAF speaker to visit to your school to talk at an assembly or speak to class or year groups. We'll visit any school in Scotland.



## Find out your school total

At SCIAF we make sure every penny is counted. Give your fundraising a massive boost by contacting us to find out how much your school has raised in the last 15 years. You'll be amazed how it all adds up!



## Got the T-shirt?

SCIAF's new range of ethical T-shirts are a must-have for all your SCIAF events and activities. The T-shirts are available in three colours (bright red, saltire blue and khaki) and carry the inspiring quote from Nelson Mandela, "Sometimes it falls on a generation to be great." T-shirts cost £7.50.



## Forgot your pencil?

SCIAF's ethical pencils mean your pupils never have to go without. Order a stash of pencils for your class and invite pupils to put 20p in the WEE BOX if they forget theirs. SCIAF's pencils are made from recycled plastic cups.



## Stay in touch

SCIAF will be introducing two exciting ezines in 2009 – one for teachers and one for young people. These will keep you abreast of SCIAF events and activities as well as keeping you in the loop about all the great new content that will be going live on our youth site in 2009 and beyond. Visit [www.sciafyouth.org.uk/signup](http://www.sciafyouth.org.uk/signup) to find out more.



## Contact us

The Schools Team will be happy to help. **Tel:** 0141 354 5555. **Email:** [youth@sciaf.org.uk](mailto:youth@sciaf.org.uk)

# Supporting your Lenten journey

**Lent is the time when Christians all over the world prepare for our Lord's Passion and Resurrection. It is a time for prayer, fasting, repentance and almsgiving; a time to reflect on the progress we have made personally, and as a global community, in building God's Kingdom on Earth. SCIAF has developed the materials in this pack to help your school on its Lenten journey through giving, reflecting and acting.**

## Give

To help you this year with your fundraising during Lent we have some ideas that you could use in your school.



- **Tree of life** – see the enclosed A4 sheet which explains how you can turn this idea into a great fundraiser in your school.
- **Sponsored fast** – encourage the pupils and/or teachers in your school to give up food for 24 hours in solidarity with the 800 million people who go to bed hungry each night. Sponsor forms are available on the DVD-ROM.
- **SCIAF fun day** – take a day off-timetable and organise a host of activities including sponsored bounces, Weakest Link quizzes, X-Factor competitions, obstacles course, face-painting....
- **WEE BOX** – make sure you have a WEE BOX in your class, or better still, order one for every pupil to take home.

## Reflect

In addition to the prayer bookmarks, SCIAF has provided the following material on the DVD-ROM to support prayer and reflection activities in your school:

- School assembly (PowerPoint)
- Climate change reflection (video)
- *Stations of the Cross* book with children's liturgy
- Prayer from Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador

## Act

Thanks to the efforts of SCIAF, and others, the Scottish Government was persuaded to include stringent carbon emissions targets in the recent Scottish Climate Change Bill. This legislation, if adhered to, will make Scotland a world leader in tackling climate change. SCIAF is also working at the highest level to keep up the pressure on the UK Government and other international bodies to take tough action on climate change. We need your support to make a big impact.

- Please get as many people as possible to sign our climate change campaign action card.
- Sign up as a SCIAF campaigner at [www.sciaf.org.uk/campaignsignup](http://www.sciaf.org.uk/campaignsignup)

## Fair trade

- Visit [www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk) to find out about all the things you can do to support Fairtrade Fortnight.
- Visit [www.fairtrade.org.uk/schools](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/schools) to find out more about becoming a Fairtrade school.



Many schools are using *Curriculum for Excellence* to create innovative, effective and challenging learning experiences for their young people – often involving taking a day off-timetable to carry out an interdisciplinary or rich task. We would like to encourage your school to prepare for a massive category-five hurricane coming your way tomorrow. Everyone will need to work together as a team to ensure your community is ready for the impending storm. We've sketched out a survival plan below but you'll need to adapt it for your local circumstances. The stories and videos on the WEE BOX DVD-ROM will help you. Good luck!

## ICT

- Monitor the path of the hurricane using the internet and mobile devices
- Set up communications equipment and community warning sirens

## Geography/ Environmental Studies

- Identify the areas most at risk from flash flooding and landslides
- Set up weather equipment in key areas to collect meteorological data & monitor risk levels
- Coordinate disease prevention in the aftermath of the disaster

## Modern Languages

- Rescuers will need to be briefed on key phrases since the disaster zone is a multilingual area
- Instructions for key emergency equipment and videos are also in a foreign language

## Science

- Survivors will need purified water and oral rehydration salts
- Water samples will need to be lab tested & equipment sterilised

## Modern Studies/ History

- Develop an emergency relief strategy outlining the role of the UN, government, NGOs and civil society
- What is the best type of aid? What lessons can be learned from previous disasters?

# Hurricane Disaster Day

## English

- Set up a communications hub to coordinate emergency activities and inform those at risk

## Technology

- People will need to make rafts, boats, floats and stretchers
- They'll need to secure and strengthen structures to withstand the force of the storm

## PE

- Getting aid to people in need is a highly physical activity
- People will need to climb ropes and overcome obstacles to get to safety
- Awareness of life-saving techniques and first-aid is essential

## Religious Education/ RME

- Moral dilemmas are your specialty. Who should be rescued first?
- How much money can you afford to spend? What is the role of the Church/faith groups?

## Art/Drama/ Expressive Arts

- Design signs to guide people to camps and explain evacuation procedures
- Actors should take on role of casualties and introduce scenarios in the course of the day

## Maths

- Logistics and statistics - quantify numbers affected and quantities of aid required
- Calculate the quickest way to get vast quantities of aid to those in need

## Home Economics

- Develop high-energy nutritious food aid for disaster survivors
- Develop a health and hygiene action plan to minimise disease and prepare homes for return

## Music

- Prepare music for broadcast on emergency radio station
- Play to survivors in emergency relief shelters

# Climate change is already claiming lives



# SCIAF is already helping people adapt and survive



Maybe yours could save a life...



SCIAF, 19 Park Circus, Glasgow G3 6BE.  
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Visit: [www.sciafyouth.org.uk](http://www.sciafyouth.org.uk)



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