

GOAL 3: GOOD HEALTH & WELLBEING

Access to Healthcare and Medicines

INTRODUCTION – Why is this a Global Justice Issue?

The Global Goals are a great way to engage students in global justice issues. As WWGS is a Global Citizenship Education programme-it's important to use the Global Goals targets and thematic areas that are relevant to global justice. Good health and wellbeing is vital for all people, no matter where they live. Goal 3 of the Sustainable Development Goals aims to ensure that all people, at every stage of life, can live healthy lives. If exploring health and wellbeing with your students in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals, it's important to look at equal access to healthcare for everyone in the world. Does everyone have access to medicines and vaccines? Does everyone have a health facility nearby that they go to if they are sick? What are the barriers to this? Why is our access not equal? Why does the government not have enough funding to ensure universal health care? Why does the government not have the funding to cover basic healthcare? What parallel systems to a public system exist?

Covid 19 has highlighted many of the existing inequalities as regards access to health care between individuals, communities, regions, countries and continents and can be a good starting point for a conversation about this goal. Countries have responded differently according to whether they are individualistic or collective societies, whether their government is driven by profit and growth or its population's wellbeing.

'The public health community's mantra for coping with COVID-19 encapsulates the systemic neglect of those living in poverty. The pithy advice to "stay home, socially distance, wash hands, and see a doctor in case of fever" highlights the plight of the vast numbers who can do none of these things. They have no home in which to shelter, no food stockpiles, live in crowded and unsanitary conditions, and have no access to clean water or affordable medical care'. Philip Alston UN Special Rapporteur on Poverty and Human Rights 2014-2020

Wellbeing is a state of being comfortable, healthy or happy. The true meaning of economy is the management of the wellbeing of the people-is this really the case? Does society value profit over people?

Wellbeing comes from a combination of factors such as physical health, emotions, feeling secure or safe and leading a life where a person can feel satisfied. Wellbeing is important for people everywhere as a lack of wellbeing can lead to physical and mental illness. Poverty, hunger, gender inequality and disaster can have a negative impact on wellbeing that if not addressed, may cause long-term problems for a person.

STEP 1: IDENTIFY TARGET GROUP

The Wellbeing Framework offers an opportunity and the timetable to look at Global Health and Wellbeing but also a broader look at Global Citizenship Education as it has a clear indicator of connectedness. Many schools have a set GCE module as part of their wellbeing framework.

SUGGESTED CURRICULUM LINKS:

Science, Biology, Chemistry, Wellbeing, SPHE, Home Economics, Economics, Geography

STEP 2: PICK A GLOBAL THEME

GLOBAL GOAL INDICATORS ON HEALTH:

3.c Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce

3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.

A good overview of the Global Goal on Health and Wellbeing can be found here

<https://www.developmentperspectives.ie/SDGChallenge/InformationPacks/SDG%203%20Good%20Health%20and%20Wellbeing%202019.pdf>

SUGGESTED AREA OF FOCUS:

- Access to healthcare-what are governments prioritising instead of healthcare? Is there enough investment? What is preventing the government taking any action on this?
- Access to medicines-what is preventing this happening?
- Life Expectancy

STEP 3: EXPLORE THEME

TEACHING AND LEARNING MATERIALS:

When exploring any theme, be sure to read for guidance on the approach:

- WWGS How to Guide <http://www.worldwiseschools.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/GCE-How-to-guidebook-web.pdf>
- Teaching for sustainable development through ethical global issues pedagogy: <https://globaldimension.org.uk/resource/guidance-on-teaching-complex-global-issues-resource-for-secondary-teachers/>
- This blog on www.developmenteducation.ie helps to frame the Goal in a real global context: <https://developmenteducation.ie/blog/2019/01/health-wealth-inequalities-in-well-being-across-the-world/>
- A selection of resources on this theme can be found here: <http://www.worldwiseschools.ie/resource-item/goal-3-good-health-and-wellbeing/>

Short Video Clips:

- What is Global Health?
- Goal 3: Good Health and Wellbeing

- Hans Rosling's 200 Countries, 200 Years, 4 Minutes - The Joy of Stats - BBC Four-good for exploring life expectancy
- First principles of health justice: a human right to be healthy

Blogs:

- <https://developmenteducation.ie/blog/2019/01/health-wealth-inequalities-in-well-being-across-the-world/>

INFORMATION WEBSITES and ARTICLES:

- Track Goal 3-Good Health and Wellbeing
- Good article comparing response to Covid 19 and Climate Change in the Development Education Review: <https://www.developmenteducationreview.com/issue/issue-30/climate-change-and-coronavirus-confluence-two-emergencies-learning-and-teaching>

STEP 4: STUDENTS COLLABORATE & RAISE AWARENESS

- Have a World Health Day (7th of April) or World Aids Day event (1st Decemember) in your school and use the opportunity to get more students involved with the actions outlined below.
- Look at our How to Guide to Global Citizenship Education for other ways in which students can share their learning.

STEP 5: CREATE MEANINGFUL CHANGE

- Go to www.Uplift.ie. This is a good platform to find out what grassroots campaigns are happening. You can also start your own campaign here too.
- **Campaign for better access to health and medicines** [MSF Access Campaign-looks at access to medicines](#)
- Campaign with MSF for affordable vaccinations: <https://www.afairshot.org/>
- **Campaign for tax justice** so much needed tax can be used for health care facilities. WWGS advise you do the simple Christian Aid lesson here on essential services at with the students. <https://www.christianaid.ie/sites/default/files/2018-02/lesson-2-a-taxing-issue.pdf>
- **Campaign to write off debt repayments with Financial Justice Ireland**-there is a particular campaign to write off the debt especially in Covid 19 times as debt repayments could be used on healthcare investment to cope with Covid instead. Link in with **Financial Justice Ireland** www.financialjustice.ie and the Jubilee Debt campaign in the UK <https://jubileedebit.org.uk>. For most up to date information follow them on Twitter to find out about the latest news on campaigns.