

### **What is the World Development Group?**

The Diocesan World Development Group (WDG for short) is a small group of people - lay and ordained - from various parts of the Diocese of Blackburn. It works as an agency of the diocesan Board of Social Responsibility.

### **What does the Group do?**

Tackling poverty abroad as well as at home is a vital part of our calling as Christians - of 'loving our neighbours as ourselves'.

So the Group encourages churches and church schools in the Diocese to play their part in rooting out poverty from the poorest places on earth.

### **How does the Group do this?**

In three main ways: - through

- the Bishop of Blackburn's annual Harvest Appeals
- promoting Fair Trade in churches and church schools
- campaigning for economic justice for the poor

### **The Bishop's Harvest Appeals**

Each year, the Bishop decides on two overseas development projects carefully selected to benefit from collections taken at Harvest celebrations in the Diocese. The Group then arranges for Appeal posters and leaflets to be produced and distributed to churches and church schools. Details of the chosen projects, sermon notes and guidelines for children's talks are made available on the diocesan website.



The Bishop's Harvest Appeal raises between £25,000 and £30,000 per annum to support projects to improve living standards in two of the poorest areas on earth.

### **Fair Trade**

The Fair Trade movement promotes the buying and selling of goods for fair prices - that is, prices which are fair for poor producers, who rely on them to make a decent livelihood for themselves and their families and to develop their communities.



The Group helps churches and church schools in the Diocese to become (or remain) Fairtrade Parishes or Schools - places committed to buying, using and/or selling goods whose products have been awarded Fairtrade certification by the internationally recognised Fairtrade Foundation.

## Campaigning

The way things are organised at the moment is such as to favour mainly rich companies, consumers and the countries they live in at the expense of mainly poor producers and their families, communities and countries.



The Group encourages church members to support campaigns to remedy matters, including campaigns for Trade Justice - that is, for legally enforceable arrangements which will prevent the rich from profiteering and ensure that the poor receive their just deserts.

## What can I do to help?

As regards the Bishop's Harvest Appeal:

- ☺ **give generously yourself, and encourage your church or school to collect for it .**

As regards Fairtrade:

- ☺ **if it isn't already a Fairtrade church or school, turn your church or school into one; and buy goods with the Fairtrade mark in the shops and at your church or school.**

As regards Campaigning:

- ☺ **Support campaigns for economic justice for the poor; find out more from our website.**

## For more information, contact:

[www.blackburn.anglican.org](http://www.blackburn.anglican.org),

(click on 'Social Responsibility', then follow the link on 'Social Responsibility Groups' to 'World Development')

Revd Frank Kendall (Chairman, WDG)  
01772-748021; [fandbkendall@52kingsway.co.uk](mailto:fandbkendall@52kingsway.co.uk)

Mr Arton Medd (Secretary, WDG)  
01524-64730; [arton.medd@btinternet.com](mailto:arton.medd@btinternet.com)

Mrs Cath Greenlees (Member, WDG)  
01772-613500; [catherinegreenlees@hotmail.com](mailto:catherinegreenlees@hotmail.com)

Rev Gary Lewis (Member, WDG)  
01524-63249; [lewis\\_gary@talktalk.net](mailto:lewis_gary@talktalk.net)



*'The fields of the poor may produce abundant food, but injustice sweeps it away.'*

(Proverbs, chapter 13, verse 23)

**An introductory leaflet**