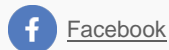


Forward this e-newsletter to anyone else that may be interested in Misean Cara updates.

[View this email in your browser](#)



MissionAid
January 2016
Issue 100



Welcome to the January Issue!

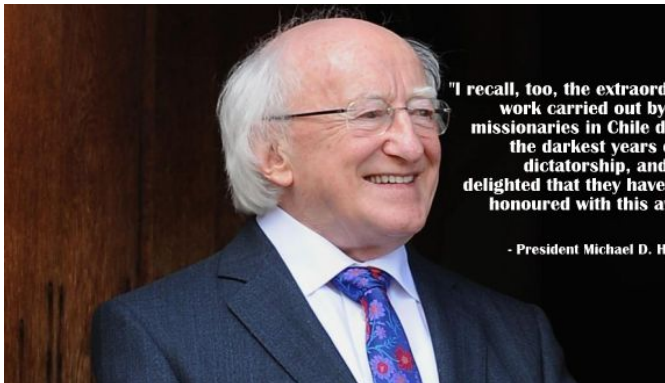


Students take a break from their exams in Ndeini Primary School in Kenya. The school is located in Kibwezi a town in Makueni County that suffers from severe drought as rain only comes once a year. Managed by Edmund Rice Development, the school provides access to education to some of the poorest children in the area, many of whom are orphans. Photo: Lar Boland.

A Message from our CEO

A very big welcome back to you all after the festive season and a Happy New Year! This year offers us a chance to further the work we started last year with renewed vigour. It's a pleasure to work with you all as we start this year's journey.

Earlier this month I attended a reception for President Michael D. Higgins as he received the Diploma of Honour from Chilean Foreign Minister Mr. Heraldo Muñoz in recognition of his work and solidarity during Chile's military dictatorship. From 1973 - 1990, the regime left over 3,000 people dead or missing, and more than 20,000 Chileans were forced into exile. President Higgins was honoured for speaking out during this bitter time in Chile's history. As President Higgins accepted the award, he paid homage to Irish missionaries who were instrumental in documenting human rights abuses, and mobilising the people.



These next few months promise to be full of events and activities. Since the New Year, we have been busy planning for this year's AGM. It will take place on Wednesday 29 June 2016 in the Milltown Institute. Further details will be shared with you in due course as we finalise arrangements.



CEO Heydi Foster

News Stories

[Women can change the world. Pontifex, Hear Us.](#)

[Pray for us. Pontifex, Hear Us.](#)

[The Long Road To Justice](#)

[Making Human Rights Work for People Living in Extreme Poverty](#)

[Walk with us. Pontifex, Hear Us.](#)

[The Joy of Seeing Pope Francis in Kenya](#)

[The Presidential Distinguished Service Award Is Affirmation of Missionary Work](#)

As you know the Learning and Development Team have been in touch with all MDOs about the upcoming visit of our four Development Mentors to Ireland from 8 - 12 February 2016. I am pleased to announce that a special event to meet and greet the mentors will take place from 10.30am - 12.30pm on Thursday 11 February 2016 in the Misean Cara office. I encourage all MDOs available to come and meet the mentors over some light refreshments. If you are interested in attending then please contact Seth Wheeler swheeler@miseancara.ie to register. If you cannot make this timeslot then we have set aside some time in the afternoon on the same day for you to meet with mentors one-to-one. Seth is taking bookings so email swheeler@miseancara.ie to register.

We have also set the date for the next Members' Meeting as Thursday 3 March 2016, and I encourage you to save the date. The meeting will take place in Marino Conference Centre, Griffith Avenue, Dublin 9. During the meeting we will give key updates, including the results and the funding schemes review. One of our members will showcase a project, and share key learnings and best practices.

This month we also welcomed a new member of staff to the Misean Cara family. I'm pleased to welcome Jacqueline McAuley to the organisation in the position of Project Officer specialising in health.

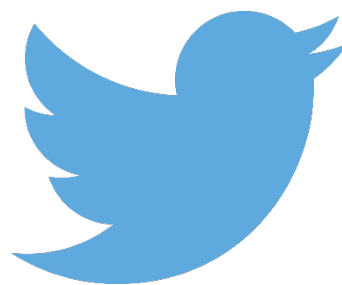
[I'd like to share a video of Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for January 2016. I hope you find it uplifting, and inspiring for your work as much as I do! Click here to watch the video.](#)

Kind regards,
Heydi

[Pope Francis in Kenya: A Private Audience with the DREAM Clients and Staff](#)

Send us your photos and videos!

We want to help showcase the work of our members by sharing photos, stories and videos of the wonderful work you do on our website, Facebook Page and MissionAid. If you have a photo, story or video to share then please email Tara Finglas tfinglas@miseancara.ie



Connect with us on Twitter!

Follow Misean Cara [**@miseancara**](#) or check out <http://www.twitter.com/miseancara> for updates.

Follow our CEO Heydi Foster [**@HeydiFoster**](#) or check

Heydi Foster

out <https://twitter.com/HeydiFoster>
for updates.

P.S.

I am now on Twitter! Connect with
me@HeydiFoster <https://twitter.com/HeydiFoster>

We Want To Promote The Wonderful Work You Do!

We want to help showcase the wonderful work you do
by sharing stories; updates; photos; and videos of on
our website, Facebook and LinkedIn Pages, Twitter
account, and in our monthly e-newsletter MissionAid.

If you have a story, update, photo, or video to share
then please email our Communications Officer Tara
Finglas tfinglas@miseancara.ie

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<https://www.linkedin.com/company/misean-cara>



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news and updates.

Funding Deadlines

- MPSS (greater than €10,000) Round 1 – Friday, 26 February 2016.
 - PSS Round 2 2016 (including multi-annual, multi-partner and capacity development) – Friday, 27 May 2016.
 - MPSS (greater than €10,000) Round 2 – Friday, 9 September 2016.
 - MPSS under €10,000. Applications may be submitted at any time. The final deadline for submission of such applications in 2016 is Friday, 4 November 2016.
-

Learning & Development Update

1. Mentorship

Our mentors, Paul, Andrea, Joe and Michael will be in Dublin from 8th - 12th February. We have set aside a day on Thursday 11th February for meetings with MDOs, either one-to-ones or a group meeting, depending on the preference of members. Please also note that our external evaluation of the mentorship programme is ongoing, out of which we hope to circulate a revised mentor role description to all members.

2. MDO Inductions: Dates for 2016

The following dates have been set for MDO induction workshops during 2016

- Monday 18th – Friday 22nd April 2016.
- Monday 3rd – Friday 7th October 2016.

Each workshop will run for five days. The first two days will take place in Misesan Cara's offices, with a focus on our policies, funding schemes, how we work, the MDO role, etc. This will be followed by a workshop on project cycle management over a three-day period in Kimmage Development Studies Centre. The MDO Inductions are designed with newly appointed MDOs in mind, but anyone interested in a refresher is also welcome. Further details and a registration form will be circulated soon.

3. Construction Guidelines

A set of guidelines for construction projects have been developed. These guidelines arise out of recommendations from an evaluation of all education construction projects in Zambia during 2015. The evaluation found that in general members are achieving good value for money in such projects. It also recommended that guidelines be developed to provide greater clarity in

this area. These guidelines will be circulated to all members and posted on the members' section of our website in February.

4. Effectiveness Reviews

As part of Misesan Cara's evaluation programme for 2015, we undertook a series of four thematically-focussed effectiveness reviews. The reviews focussed on 15 projects by 14 members, and the lives of intended beneficiaries. Overall the reviewers were impressed by the quality of work they visited and mapped out a number of factors that had contributed to the success of these projects. The review team presented their findings to MDOs and staff in mid-January and reports are currently being finalised. Learning from this review will be circulated to all members over the coming months.

Stories from the field

Winning The Battle Against Ebola



For all of us in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, the tragic unfolding of events of 2015 still walks with us. The start of the year is filled with hope and we continue to light a candle rather than curse the darkness (Rahner).

In the wake of Ebola many lives have been shattered. We have spent the past months listening, supporting and walking with those who are trying to put their lives back together again. They mourn loved ones. Children dream about their mothers and fathers and wonder why they don't come home anymore. Recently a little six year old, Hawa, recalled in a tear-filled voice the dream of the night before. Her much loved mother visited her and tried to console her

but the little one instead woke crying and desolate. She begged her father to please bring her mother back to all of them. [Read now.](#)

Peace Is Made Each Day



Last month, Pope Francis visited Africa in a historic trip that inspired millions, and spread a message of peace to people of all faiths and backgrounds. It was my privilege to witness his time in Kenya and to provide commentary on his trip for television news. I was struck by so much of the Pope's inter-religious message to the African people but one quotation stuck with me – words that are so central to our work at the Shalom Center for Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation.

“Peace,” said Pope Francis, “is not a document that is signed and then put up some place. Peace is made each day. Peace is a craft, a handiwork.” [Read now.](#)

Forging a Future



There is abundant bad publicity about South Sudan, some deserved, some over-stated and some not fully depicting the human tragedy that has afflicted the lives of so many people. Yet there are many courageous young people who continue to pursue their hopes and dreams. They know that just because a person is from another tribe, does not make that person one's enemy. Indeed, they have formed strong cross-tribal friendships while living and studying together for the past three years in our Catholic Health Training Institute (CHTI) in Wau, or for two years in our Solidarity Teacher Training College (STTC) in Yambio. Although there is fear of other tribes and uncertainty about safety in parts of South Sudan, they have persisted with their studies and our academic programmes have continued uninterrupted this year. [Read now.](#)

Living Positively Inspires Change



Imagine living in the largest urban slum in Africa where electricity, and running water are non-existent. Where this year, some families cannot afford to send their children to school. Despite these challenges, young people like Musila John Muisyo are overcoming adversity to change the course of their lives.

"I am a 22 year old young man born, raised and still living in the largest informal settlement known as Kibera, which is inhabited by approximately a million people today," says Musila, "people from other places see Kibera as a slum but I will always see it as home." [Read now.](#)

Save The Date: Members' Meeting

The first Members' Meeting for 2016 will take place on Thursday, 3 March from 9.00AM - 3.30PM in the Marino Conference Centre, Griffith Avenue, Dublin 9. The meeting will focus on key updates, including the results and the funding schemes review. One of our members will also showcase a project, and share key learnings and best practices. If you are interested in attending this meeting please contact your Mission Development Officer.

Investing Ethically for People and Planet - Ending Irish investments in Fossil Fuels

Trócaire is hosting an event on "Investing Ethically for People and Planet - Ending Irish investments in Fossil Fuels" from 10.00am – 3.30pm in Renshan Hall, Maynooth University on Tuesday 16th February 2016. The event is multi-disciplinary in nature examining the global case for divestment from fossil fuels, its importance to climate justice advocacy, and what this means for Ireland. The Keynote Speaker is Mark Campanale, Founder and Executive Director, Carbon Tracker Initiative, featuring inputs by Dr. Cara Augustenborg from Ireland's first Climate Leader in Al Gore's Climate Reality Project and Climate Change Lecturer at UCD, Paul Harris, ISI Centre Director (formerly Green IFSC), and more! A light lunch will also be provided. If you are interested in attending please RSVP to Susan Cullen at 01 5053218 or susan.cullen@trocaire.org

Upcoming Events & Training Courses:

- [Kimmage Development Studies Centre](#)
- [Child Safeguarding - Organisational Self Audit Tool \(Free\)](#)
- [The International NGO Training and Research Centre \(INTRAC\)](#)

Misean Cara is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. It is registered in Dublin, Ireland, No: 381117. Its registered office is: 563 South Circular, Kilmainham, Dublin 8. It has been granted tax exemption by the Revenue Commissioners in Ireland and has a charitable tax exemption number: CHY15772.