This little book contains a summary of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The SDGs are a series of 17 goals which were launched in 2015 by the United Nations (UN). The SDGs are set up to act as a framework which all countries will use to shape their development agendas over the next 15 years. They focus on areas such as providing quality education for all, putting an end to global hunger, and ensuring that life both on land and below water is sustainably managed and protected.

This Little Book of Sustainable Development Goals has been designed to inform you, guide you and to invite you to take action to help create a more equal and sustainable world.
GOAL 1 – End poverty in all its forms everywhere.

DID YOU KNOW? 1 billion people continue to live in absolute poverty; just under one fifth of the developing world's population; one third of them are children.

Source: 80:20 Development in an Unequal World

WHAT CAN I DO? Top up your knowledge by watching this short film on Global Wealth Inequality. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uWSxzjyMNpU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uWSxzjyMNpU)
GOAL 2 – End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

DID YOU KNOW? Small-scale food producers feed 70% of the world’s population, producing food for local markets and communities using ecological techniques. But this is under threat by the growing dominance of corporations in the global food system. Global agribusiness is grabbing more land, pushing privatised seeds, and promoting mass usage of expensive farming chemicals. As big corporate powers make profits, small farmers struggle to keep control of land, seeds and their sustainable way of life.

Source: http://www.globaljustice.org.uk/campaigns/food

WHAT CAN I DO? Visit http://www.globaljustice.org.uk/campaigns/food to find out about the global food system, and get involved in their campaigns.
GOAL 3 – Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

DID YOU KNOW? Across the world there are 400 million people who do not have access to basic health services.

Source: World Health Organisation

WHAT CAN I DO? Support campaigns in Northern Ireland and UK to protect the National Health Service (NHS) from privatisation. This state supported service is under threat, and yet provides a vital service which is accessible to all.
GOAL 4 – Ensure inclusive and equitable education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

DID YOU KNOW? Around the world 59 million children of primary school age are being denied an education, and almost 65 million adolescents are without access to a secondary school.

Source: Global Citizen

WHAT CAN I DO? Lobby your government to invest resources in national education, and talk to your MEPs about how they are working to achieve SDG 4 at a global scale.
GOAL 5 – Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

DID YOU KNOW? Since 2000, we have seen remarkable progress in our work towards achieving gender equality. However, there are still huge inequalities in the labour market, with women systematically denied equal access to jobs. Globally, there also still exists a huge inequity in pay.

WHAT CAN I DO? Find out more about gender inequality at https://www.internationalwomensday.com/ and get involved in the international women’s day campaign.
GOAL 6 – Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

DID YOU KNOW? The biggest barrier to improving access to water and sanitation has been chronic under funding and a lack of political will to prioritise these areas. There is also minimum aid investment in water with only 4.4% of all overseas aid being allocated to water and sanitation.

Source: 80:20 Development in an Unequal World

WHAT CAN I DO? Call on the government to legislate for access to water as a human right, and get involved in Right2Water Campaigns http://www.right2water.ie/
GOAL 7 – Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

DID YOU KNOW? Between 1990 and 2010, the number of people with access to electricity increased by 1.7 billion. However, across the world there still exists 1.3 billion people who lack access to modern electricity.

Source: UNDP Goal 7

WHAT CAN I DO? Support the transition to a fossil fuel society by investing in solar and alternative forms of energy for your home.
GOAL 8 – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

DID YOU KNOW? The Living Wage Foundation is an independent movement of businesses, organisations and people who believe a fair day’s work deserves a fair day’s pay.

WHAT CAN I DO? Become a supporter of this movement by logging onto www.livingwage.org.uk and signing yourself up.
GOAL 9 – Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation.

DID YOU KNOW? The transition towards environmentally friendly infrastructures will result in a sustainable industry which protects the earth’s natural resources whilst also creating jobs.

WHAT CAN I DO? Lobby your local council for a sustainable infrastructure which favours low-carbon solutions.
GOAL 10 – Reduce inequalities within and amongst countries.

DID YOU KNOW? 1% of the richest and most powerful people have more wealth than the rest of the world combined. If the richest people stopped hiding their money to avoid paying tax, then world poverty and hunger could be solved. In 2013, at least $18.5 trillion was hidden by wealthy individuals in tax havens worldwide, representing a loss of more than $156 billion in tax revenue.

Source: oxfam.org.uk

WHAT CAN I DO? Find out more from Debt and Development Coalition Ireland, and support their campaigns to address unjust tax systems https://www.debtireland.org/
GOAL 11 – Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

DID YOU KNOW? 828 million people across the world are currently living in slums, and this number is on the increase.


WHAT CAN I DO? Explore and support local co-housing initiatives and other alternatives for community living. Find out more here: https://cohousing.org.uk/
GOAL 12 – Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

DID YOU KNOW? Plastic bags take up to 1,000 years to fully break down!

WHAT CAN I DO? Become a ‘zero waste’ consumer – only buy products with minimal or no packaging.
GOAL 13 – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

DID YOU KNOW? The global food system - from fertilizer to manufacture to food storage and packaging - is responsible for up to one-third of all human-caused greenhouse-gas emissions.

Source: Nature International Weekly Journal of Science

WHAT CAN I DO? Find out more from https://www.greenpeace.org.uk/ and support their climate justice campaigns.
GOAL 14 – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

DID YOU KNOW? Between 2008 and 2014, trends in overfishing slowed down dramatically. However, as much as 40% of world oceans are still heavily affected by human activities, including pollution, depleted fisheries, and loss of coastal habitats.

Source: World Wildlife Funding

WHAT CAN I DO? Organise a clean-up event of your local beach.
GOAL 15 – Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reserve land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

DID YOU KNOW? Animal, plant and marine biodiversity comprise the "natural capital" that keeps our ecosystems functional and economies productive. However, although the pace of deforestation has slowed globally since the 1990s, it remains high with annual deforestation of about 13 million hectares, affecting critical animal and plant habitats.


WHAT CAN I DO? Plant as many native trees in community spaces and private gardens as you can.
GOAL 16 – Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

DID YOU KNOW? In recent years a lot more citizens around the world have gained access to a better justice system. However, progress promoting peace and justice, together with accountable and inclusive institutions remains uneven across regions.

WHAT CAN I DO? Organise a political hustings around a social justice issue you feel passionate about. Invite along as many political representatives as possible, and hold them accountable afterwards.
GOAL 17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

DID YOU KNOW? We as citizens can be active in holding our governments to account in reviewing progress of the SDGs. Regionally, countries will share experiences and tackle common issues, while on an annual basis, the United Nations will take stock of progress at the global level, identifying gaps and emerging issues, and recommending corrective action.

WHAT CAN I DO? Take part in the #SDGchallenge! Visit http://www.developmentperspectives.ie/sgdchallenge/ to sign up.
“Ours can be the first generation to end poverty and the last generation to address climate change before it’s too late”

– Ban Ki Moon, Secretary General of the United Nations

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