

Dóchas NGO Impact News

No. 14 – March '10

How Dóchas, Dtalk, Comhlámh and IDEA can help your organisation

Over the past number of months, Dóchas has been working with IDEA, Comhlámh and IDEA to develop a shared capacity building strategy for Irish NGOs.

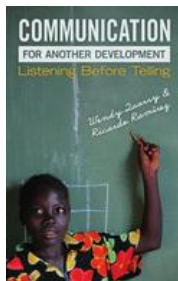
Available soon from above-mentioned organisations.



Do the "Change Readiness" Test

Click [here](#) to see how ready your organisation is for change.

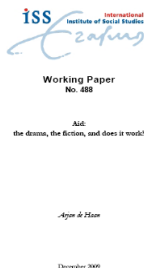
By completing this 5-minute online questionnaire you can discover how ready you are for radical change on 5 key dimensions: vision, competencies, incentives, resources and action plan. The questionnaire will produce an individual three page assessment scoring your readiness on each dimension. And you'll have the option of getting your score benchmarked against other charities.



Communication for Another Development

This lively book argues that communication is everything. The authors present a creative and innovative way of thinking that can permeate the overall approach to any development initiative. Free from jargon, and keeps a close look at how development is actually being implemented at ground level.

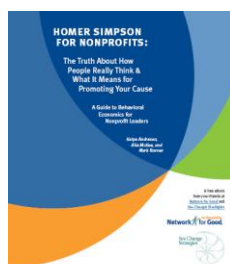
Available [here](#)



Aid: The Drama, the Fiction and Does It Work?

The international community is under increased pressure to show results from the money invested through aid agencies. This paper argues that much of the public debate tends to be counter-productive, and that great focus on the accountability towards both the funders and recipients of aid is required.

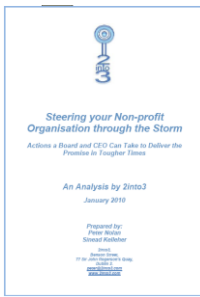
Available from the [ISS](#)



Homer Simpson for Non-Profits - The Truth about How People Really Think and What It Means for Promoting Your Cause

People are not rational beings, but the patterns of irrationality are consistent, and understanding them is key to effective marketing and fundraising.

Available from [Fundraising 123](#)



Steering your Non-profit Organisation through the Storm - Actions a Board and CEO Can Take to Deliver the Promise in Tougher Times

This new report from 2-into-3 looks at the impact of the down-turn on the Irish NGO sector, and suggests 10 sets of actions for NGOs to take to weather the storm.

Available from [2-into-3](#)



Change has Changed

In this article Kate Gilmore shares her thoughts on the high level challenges facing charities, INGOs and other civil society actors.

Available from [The Management Centre](#)



The Myth of NGO Superiority

Recent research suggests that non-governmental organisations (NGOs) do not provide better targeted or more efficient aid than state-run development agencies. They do not seem to even try to outperform the latter by focussing on the neediest or by working in particularly difficult environments.

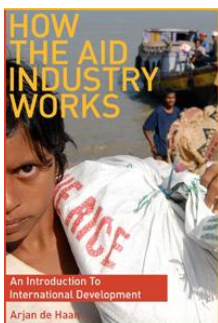
Article in [D+C Magazine](#)



Theory of Change

The Theory of Change approach applied to social change processes represents a thinking-action alternative to other more rigid planning approaches and logics.

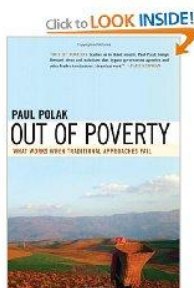
Available [here](#)



How The Aid Industry Works

This book provides a basic description of what aid practices are and how they evolved. The arguments of both proponents and opponents of aid are presented and analyzed, along with real-life examples of projects and programs in context.

Available from [Amazon](#)



Out Of Poverty

Polak explodes what he calls the "Three Great Poverty Eradication Myths": that we can donate people out of poverty, that national economic growth will end poverty, and that Big Business, operating as it does now, will end poverty. Polak describes how he and others have identified opportunities to reach the poorest, and have developed innovative, low-cost tools.

Available from [Paul Polak](#)

The Dóchas Impact News newsletter appears quarterly,
and is circulated to Dóchas member organisations.
Please contact media@dochas.ie if you want to receive a
copy of this newsletter direct to your email box.