

The theme of this year's Our World Irish Aid Awards is

**LEAVE NO ONE
BEHIND!**



Did you know that there is an international children's network whose work has been based on this theme for over 50 years?

Welcome to the world of



**Our motto: "We want all children
to have the same chances."**

The Tapori Movement

Children everywhere dream of a world where there's no more poverty, where each child can live in peace and have friends.

The Tapori movement is an international network of children's groups, whose purpose is to engender **friendship** and **solidarity** between children of all backgrounds, including those living in poverty, through fun, creative activities such as art, music, discussions and games.



Inspired by children's inherent sense of fairness and sensitivity towards others, Tapori participants are encouraged to look beyond the surface and reach out to children who find themselves excluded, through the promotion of values such as solidarity and inclusion, throughout activities.



Tapori participants are encouraged to take part in discussions around the roles that children can play in preventing social exclusion. Rather than creating an 'allow us to us help them' dynamic between countries, communities or individuals, Tapori endeavours to foster a sense of friendship,

equality and solidarity among children both within their own communities and on a global scale, regardless of their background.



Tapori groups exist in many cities and towns around the world including cities in Asia, Europe, the Americas and Africa.

Although some groups meet regularly, in a designated location such as a community hall or parish centre Tapori is flexible and can be spontaneous. It can be as simple as a grandparent or an older sibling facilitating a Tapori activity with children playing in the street or a teacher deciding to do a Tapori activity with their class.

The Newsletter

Children in more isolated locations stay in touch with the network through a newsletter shared every two months, which shares stories of friendship, solidarity and resilience from children around the world. It also suggests fun, creative activities, although groups also base activities on suggestions from facilitators and participants or can even be inspired by events reported in the media.

The letter is published in French, German, English, Spanish and Dutch, with some issues translated into Thai, Tagalog, Chinese, Madagascan, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Esperanto and Polish.



Background

Tapori is the children's branch of All Together in Dignity (ATD), Fourth World.

"The worst part about being poor is being alone, rejected, and misunderstood. You finish by *thinking you're not a child like the others...*
Friendship is the most important thing we can give."



During a trip to India, Joseph Wresinki, founder of ATD Fourth World, met children who lived on the streets or in train stations. They were called "Tapoori."

These children collected the leftover food that travellers left on the trains. They then shared with the other children from their group so each had something to eat.

When he got home Joseph wrote to other children,
"You're like the Tapoori when you do whatever you can to try to build a world of friendship, where there's no more poverty."

He named the network of friendship that he created Tapori to honor these children who had a difficult life but knew how to stick together.

**For more information and ideas
for your "Leave No One Behind"
One World Irish Aid Awards project, visit:**

<http://en.tapori.org>

