Changing the News Narrative

Today is Impact Journalism Day, when 50 newspapers publish stories of initiatives that are helping to change the world.

Christian de Boissedon

"The first Impact Journalism Day, 50 newspapers initiated an initiative in 2016 in order to highlight stories that change the world. Reporters are encouraged to explore the many stories of hope and consequences of implementation.

Stories of changemakers tackling issues of climate change with innovative ideas, in order to make progress and find solutions. This year, the goal is to extend reporting, not only to illustrate our vision of the future, but to help these existing solutions be replicated worldwide.

The media plays a crucial role in telling the individual stories befitting the challenge.

That's why for the last five years, Groupe GDF Suez, a multinational company that focuses on sustainable energy, has partnered with World Press Freedom Day and Impact Journalism Day to promote the work of journalists that bring stories of change in the news.

Every year, these newspapers explore and publish an array of stories about initiatives that are already impacting change. So this year, we are publishing additional stories on the same day, reaching 200 million people worldwide in print and digital media. Many stories from the past Impact Journalism Days and from the current year have come to realize the impact of articles, and journalists are invited to submit their stories for another day of coverage.

For the 5th edition of Impact Journalism Day, the media are invited to organize a workshop around spreading these stories in a first step toward change. The stories will be reported on the website of the initiative as well as on Young World, which generally gathers around 1,500 young leaders from social and corporate enterprises who are interested in innovative initiatives. We hope you enjoy the content, and that you become part of the movement (impactjournalism.org), and share the stories that inspire you on Facebook and Twitter (impactjourn)."

Written by Jan Viktor R Mateo for the Philippine Star, the Philippines

Making the sea safe, in a land of 2,500 drownings a year

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In the province of the Philippines, an average of one of the best beaches in the country is said to drown every 10,000 people in the number of people who pass through the beach life which is a paradise for tourists. The Summer World Press Freedom Day and Impact Journalism Day in 2015 sought to find a solution for the problem that was happening on the beach in the Philippines.

"The province of the Philippines is a paradise for tourists, but it is also where many drownings occur. The province has many beaches and it is a popular destination for tourists, but many drownings occur every year. The province has taken steps to try to reduce the number of drownings, but it is still a problem."

Written by Lauren Crothers for Sparknews

Lifesaving hero rats with a nose for explosives

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Many usually walk by the sunken car on the road with no interest, and after the driver leaves, the car is already submerged in water. But for the driver, and his family, it is a different story.

A few days ago, we received a call from a distressed driver who had left his car submerged in water and needed help. Our team quickly arrived at the scene and were able to rescue the car from the water. We then worked with the family to get the car out of the water and ready for delivery. It was a challenging experience, but we were able to complete the task and get the car back on the road.

Written by Manny Massot for the Franco-Russian newspaper Le Courrier de Russie

Tattooing over the scars of domestic violence

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Sometimes between couple, 15 and 25-year-old women are tattooed to cover the scars of domestic violence. Women's groups in the Philippines think that the problem has been solved, but there are still many cases of domestic violence going on. The scars of domestic violence are often not visible on the skin, but they can be seen in the mental health of the victims. The scars of domestic violence can be seen in the way that the victims interact with their partners and in the way that they interact with society. The scars of domestic violence can also be seen in the way that the victims interact with their families. The scars of domestic violence can be seen in the way that the victims interact with their communities.

"After being stabbed by her husband, Lianie receives a tattoo to cover the scar in a garden. She is a victim of domestic violence in the Philippines."

"For the women who come to the studio, Esquina is an opportunity to be seen, she is also a space to access to services that are not available to them. It's a space to express themselves and to feel valued."

Offer services

Esquina is a space for women to engage with others without fear of violence. It is a space for women to express themselves and to feel valued.

Since February 2017, some domestic violence cases, such as those in places where there are no police at the first aid stations or in hospitals, are considered an emergency rather than an ordinary case. These cases are priority cases and have priority by the local authorities. It is important to be aware of these cases and to provide support to the women who are affected by them. In the future, we hope to be able to provide more support to these women in order to help them overcome the challenges that they face.

In Russia, some cases of domestic violence are not met as an emergency.
Orchestral manoeuvres in Afghanistan put girls first

By Hassan Karimi for Hashsh c Subh, Afghanistan

A teacher at the institute, Mohammad Musaibzhikzai, says: “The orchestrations for the Zohra Orchestra come from a girl student here. The duet arranged by Dr Nasser Mohammad, safety, we’re extending the orb in order to ensure the participation of young girls.”

Unfortunately, due to some technical problems, the girl who composed the duet has had to cancel her performance, and there will be another iteration in the near future. Missing in our repertoire from last year’s 12-13-year-old girls, there will be some young girls with other international programmes, such as the World Food Programme.

Despite the weight of adolescence, we have had a small generation, each group in their late teens, depending on their progress, either in a different or similar setting.

In the water, in the blue light and the full moon, the orchestra can be seen standing with the performers in the centre of the orchestra. In the summer, the orchestra can be seen in the centre of the orchestra.

But when it comes to the winter season, the orchestra is ready to tackle winter, the weather can be difficult.

A teacher at the institute, Anas Akbari, says: “We are mothers of young girls and we are proud of our part in the orchestra.”

The orchestra has been a catalyst for many girls, and it has given them the opportunity to express themselves in a creative way. The orchestra has been able to bring together girls from different backgrounds and help them to develop their potential.

The orchestra is a platform for girls to express themselves and take pride in their achievements. It has been a catalyst for change, and it has given girls the chance to be heard.

Written by C Hallé for Monique du Quotin, France

Sustainable streetlight switches on when you see coming

Elegant in Las Vegas, the Las Vegas Unity Streetlight Switches smart, using new technology that switches itself on and off when it sees pedestrians.

Locally, in the middle of the day, at the highest peak of illuminated buildings throughout the year, making it the most protected in the world.

In the evening, in the high season, the company TES Las Vegas protects a few square meters of the city’s surrounding area.

The light is controlled by an electronic system that manages the light intensity of the streetlights.

The switch is controlled by a sensor that reads the amount of light in the surrounding environment.

When pedestrians walk, the city lights, the energy consumption is reduced. Thank you for small generation, each group in their late teens, depending on their progress, either in a different or similar setting.

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FoodCloud has a massive new Dublin hub which shows how the food waste initiative is expanding, writes Catherine Cleary

Waste not

A oibheann O’Brien still remembers that first box of food five years ago. She and Isieul Ward picked it up at the Honest 2 Goodness Farmers Market in Glasnevin in Dublin and dropped it off to the Don Bosco youth services centre.

It was a sunny June bank holiday weekend. “We thought, ‘we feel great about this’. It was artisan sausages and really nice sourdough bread and I think there was raw milk as well, which is so funny, because everyone goes mad for raw milk.”

The delivery was a dummy run for FoodCloud, a college project set up by the two women. It became a tech startup connecting businesses that had surplus food with charities who needed food.

Five years on and 8,300 tonnes of food or more than 18 million meals have been diverted from landfill, and FoodCloud employs 30 people tackling food waste from almost 2,000 businesses here and in the UK.

At their new headquarters in Tallaght’s Brookmill Business Park, the visitor book sits on a stand made from a timber pallet, in a nod to the idea of usefulness over waste.

The bright offices were painted by prisoners on day release from an open prison. A tech team is working on the ground floor while upstairs a call centre team is fielding calls from supermarkets in the UK, where more than 1,600 branches of Tesco and three Waitrose stores are posting donations of food. Waitrose is trialling it with a view to expanding it to more branches.

Until late last year FoodCloud transactions involved small consignments of food collected by individual charities from the delivery bays of supermarkets and shops. Now in the 15,000sq ft warehouse the scale of their new operation, FoodCloud Hubs, is visible.

“There’s a lot wasted at retail level but there are huge volumes that go to waste before they even get to a supermarket and they’re in big bulk,” O’Brien explains. So this warehouse, and two others in Cork and Galway, take pallets of food from 100 Irish businesses including supermarket distribution centres and food producers, and delivers it to charities around the country.

Among the vast haul are two pallets of Nutrigrain bars, which would have ended up in landfill or in an anaerobic digester because their best-before date is looming. Earlier in the season they had a consignment of pullet eggs, deemed too small for retail, from a West Cork egg producer. In a cold store whole ducks and turkeys from Aldi’s Easter range are stored frozen to extend their life. Glanbia, Kerry Group and Pallas Foods are assessing FoodCloud Hubs as a potential food waste solution for their businesses. It’s a long way from that first box of bread, milk and sausages.

O’Brien first got excited about food and sustainability when she was living in London on a graduate scheme with investment bank, JP Morgan. A law and accounting graduate she returned to Dublin to do a masters degree and decided to volunteer with a food waste project in Dublin. The nearest thing was a redistribution hub run by the charity, Crosscare.

She went to pitch the idea of a surplus food café at a social enterprise event and met Trinity business student Isieul Ward, who loved the idea. The two women decided to start FoodCloud as a college project.

“We spotted a gap in the market for this super-prestige level surplus,” O’Brien says. “That’s where we thought it was really interesting because in the same communities there was surplus and scarcity. We thought, wouldn’t it be amazing if you could bring it all together. You had all these multiples [throwing out food] and then you’d walk down the street and there’d be a sign for raising money for St Vincent de Paul.”

They quickly learned that in the complexity of the modern food system there were barriers to that simple idea of connecting surplus to scarcity. “In the US there was a guy doing it in Chicago so we spoke to him, but when we talked to a more established hub model they said, ‘oh retail is very difficult because it’s small volumes, end of life. It’s more hassle than it’s worth in terms of the food. And it’s just really tricky to do it.’”

But they were undaunted.

Instead each barrier became a problem to be worked out. With solicitors A&L Goodbody they drew up legal contracts so charities agreed to be responsible for the safe delivery of the food once they received it in good condition. The not-for-profit ethos of sharing meant they could tap into other resources.

“The guy in Chicago was like, ‘here, use my app’. The guys in London were giving us their contracts.”

In October 2013 they got their big break when Tesco Ireland came on board. “Until then it would have plodded along with a couple of cafes and bakeries.” They quickly went from one to 13 stores and by the following summer they had a national roll-out with Tesco, and they hired their first staff. Now 274 Irish food retailers connect with 303 charities through FoodCloud.

There are still plenty of challenges as FoodCloud grows, not least keeping the operation financially sustainable and getting food out quickly so it doesn’t go to waste in their warehouses. They are, O’Brien says, just one strand in a massively complex

But the feedback has been encouraging.

One Dublin charity has saved up to €3,000 on its annual food budget by incorporating waste food ingredients into its menu. The chief executive of a women’s shelter told O’Brien that the FoodCloud initiative was one of the most powerful things it had done. “Because all of the women come out of their rooms to see what’s there, have a chat, have a laugh about what food is there, because it can be quite random. They get to engage with each other and talk about things. So they [the shelter] said it just shows the power of food. It’s not just food. It’s about bringing people together and sharing.”

Running a growing business is a huge leap from a college project but O’Brien and Ward are still excited about its potential to reach other sectors.

The new hub enables them to work with businesses at several levels “whether you’re an egg producer or a massive manufacturer or a store manager in inner city Dublin, that’s really exciting to us. It fits in with the Origin Green idea of sustainability. Food waste and food poverty have to be part of that sustainable food conversation but that’s where we see there’s huge potential for Ireland to be a leader in that.”

Ideally they would like to see food waste eliminated and the data they’ve gathered will help do that. In the meantime they try and ensure surplus food gets to people who need it.

“There’s a lot of energy and loads of people behind it. That’s what’s really amazing. You can start something but you need a lot of people throwing their weight behind it to keep it going.

“You see all of these diverse people getting behind it, from a Tesco senior leadership team to the charities that put up with the teething problems and stuck with it. People felt intuitively that this was a really good thing to do.”

Today, 50 of the world’s leading newspapers are publishing 80 positive innovations that are changing the world.

#StoryOfChange
See Weekend Review for more articles

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