

**Extreme Poverty and World Trade**

At the start of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, 1.2 million people, mostly women, lived in extreme poverty. Every day more than 50, 000 people die from causes linked to poverty. Poverty is not caused by nature but by politics and its eradication must be through political action especially in terms of international aid, world trade, international debt and protection of social programs.

Objective: to be aware of, and participate in, actions to eradicate world poverty.

Aspect	Content	Tools/resources
Information	The ideology and role of the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, international banks, World Trade Organization and the G8 Countries in the world economy	FI, CCODP, OFM Cap, Oxfam, UN, World Social Forum, Vatican documents.  Diocese of Saskatoon, Office for Justice and Peace ***
	Alternatives - Fair trade, economy of solidarity, fraternal economy, cancellation of debt, food sovereignty etc.	CCCB Pastoral Letter: <u>The Struggle Against Poverty: A Sign of Hope in our World</u> , 17 October 1996. ( e-copy available from Andrew)  Statement by Social Affairs Committee, The Assembly of Québec Catholic Bishops, 1 May 2006 (English e-copy available from Andrew)  FI: <u>Position Paper on Extreme Poverty and World Poverty: Franciscan Reflections</u> (available from FI <a href="http://www.franciscansinternational.org/">www.franciscansinternational.org/</a> under “Download our most recent publications”  <a href="http://www.makepoverty000history.ca/">http://www.makepoverty000history.ca/</a>  Food sovereignty: see below CCODP 2008 ****

Formation	Discover the similarities and differences between involuntary economic poverty and Catholic Social Doctrine and Franciscan spirituality	e.g. Lady Poverty; FI's prayers e.g. Way of the Cross*; Ilia Delio, osf, 2004, <u>Franciscan Prayer</u> , Chapter 4, 'Learning to Gaze: Poverty and Prayer'; Leonardo Boff, <u>Francis of Assisi, A model for Human Liberation</u> Chapter 2, 'Preferential Option for the Poor'; Josef Cardinal Ratzinger. <u>Instruction on Christian Freedom and Liberation</u> , Nos 66-68
	Re-read the Bible for references to poverty	e.g. Exodus 3:7-12; Deuteronomy 15:4 ; Jeremiah 22:3; Micah 3:1-5; Sirach 34:20-22; Ps 146; Luke 4:18; Mathew 11:5; parable of the Good Samaritan
	Understand the concepts of solidarity, common good, universal destination of goods, preferential option for the poor, social mortgage, etc	Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, CCCB **
Action	Participate in campaigns and sign petitions of FI, CCODP, Kairos, Oxfam Use Fair Trade coffee, tea & sugar Sign the Better Aid Bill petition	FI, CCODP, Kairos, Canadian Council of Churches, Oxfam <a href="http://www.makepovertyhistory.ca/">http://www.makepovertyhistory.ca/</a>
	Buy Fair Trade for personal use and use only Fair Trade coffee, tea & sugar at fraternity meetings	<a href="http://www.justcoffee.ca">www.justcoffee.ca</a>
	Financial donations to, and memberships in	FI, CCODP, Kairos

\*available at

[www.franciscansinternational.org/resources/prayint.php](http://www.franciscansinternational.org/resources/prayint.php)

\*\* The Compendium is available at

[http://www.vatican.va/roman\\_curia/pontifical\\_councils/justpeace/documents/rc\\_pc\\_justpeace\\_doc\\_20060526\\_compendio-dott-soc\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/pontifical_councils/justpeace/documents/rc_pc_justpeace_doc_20060526_compendio-dott-soc_en.html)

\*\*\*Diocese of Saskatoon, Office for Justice and Peace

[www.saskatoonrcdiocese.com/social\\_justice/social\\_justice.cfm](http://www.saskatoonrcdiocese.com/social_justice/social_justice.cfm)

Click on Backgrounders and look for World Trade.

\*\*\*\* See CCODP, 2008, Hunger and the pursuit of profit, Food system in crisis

click on : [www.devp.org/devpme/eng/advocacy/doc/DPFood.pdf](http://www.devp.org/devpme/eng/advocacy/doc/DPFood.pdf)