

# SHRIMPS, PHONES AND LOTS OF CAT T-SHIRTS

STEP 6

## ACTIVITY KEY CARD

Suggested amount of participants: 8-80

Estimated time: 100 minutes

Materials: Paper, Markers, Pens, Resources



**DIG IN**

*Dig In aims to illustrate the many facets of Sustainable Development through educational activities that connect participants worldwide.*

*We aim to foster active global citizenship by developing individuals' attitudes, skills and knowledges on the area.*

Have you ever wondered what the story behind our everyday objects is? In this activity we focus on the younger members of CISV and JB and let them, through theatre, discover and discuss some of the most detrimental products they consume. In our short stories we highlight not only the environmental impacts of phones, clothes and scampi, but also the social and economical impacts the production of these items have on the local and global level.

We hope to spark a lasting interest and a questioning attitude in the participants towards behaviours they barely knew was unsustainable before the activity. If you're attending a camp, we suggest doing this activity before shopping day.

*The Dig In team.*

# ASK

## Attitudes

- *Willingness to question consumption habits of oneself, family members and CISV as an organisation.*

## Skills

- *Ability to analyse what consequences consumption or specific products have in other parts of the planet and on the planet as a whole.*

## Knowledge

- *Knowledge of some products whose production are among the worst examples of socially, environmentally and economically unsustainable practises.*

## Before you start

- Make sure you have an overall understanding of the activity before running the activity.
- You will find instructions to specific resources through the activities. You can find such resources at the end.
- Don't forget to take pictures and send these along with your name, number of participants, and where it was run to [digin@ijb.cisv.org](mailto:digin@ijb.cisv.org)!
- Looking to print the activity? There is a print friendly version available ([bit.ly/digin-6](http://bit.ly/digin-6)) to help you save ink!
- Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Issuu](#).

## **PART 1**

**10 minutes**

Split the participants up into groups of five. Each group is lead by a facilitator and taken to an area where the groups can't interact with one another. The facilitator tells the group that he/she will read a story to them that they should try to act out as they go along.

## **PART 2**

**20 minutes**

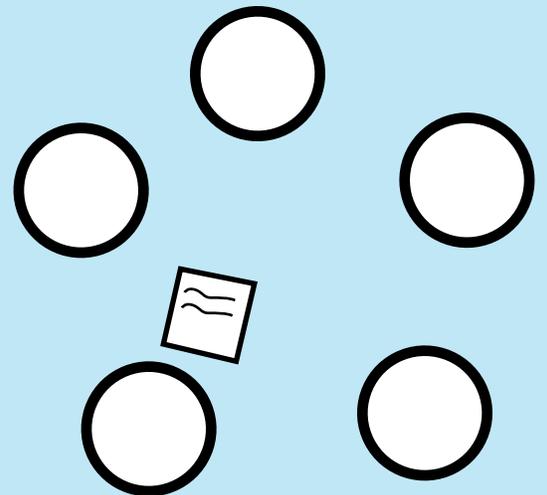
After the story has been read, the group has to create a skit (a short play) on the story to present to the other groups. Things can be added and taken away from the story as long as the gist of the story remains the same.

## **PART 3**

**30 minutes**

Gather all the groups and let each of them present their skit. After each skit, ask the participants to talk to their neighbours in pairs of 2-3 about the reflect questions related to each story.

**DO**  
60 minutes



***Resource 1***  
*You will find the stories  
for each group in the  
resources section.*

Ask the following questions according to the story assigned.

## SCAMPI

- What controls do you think could be put in place to lessen the environmental impact of shrimp farming, bearing in mind the consequences of these actions on people whose livelihood rely on the industry?
- *Optional: In what ways would you say this is an issue of sustainability, and in what ways is it an issue of Human Rights not being respected?*

## COLTAN/CELLPHONE USE

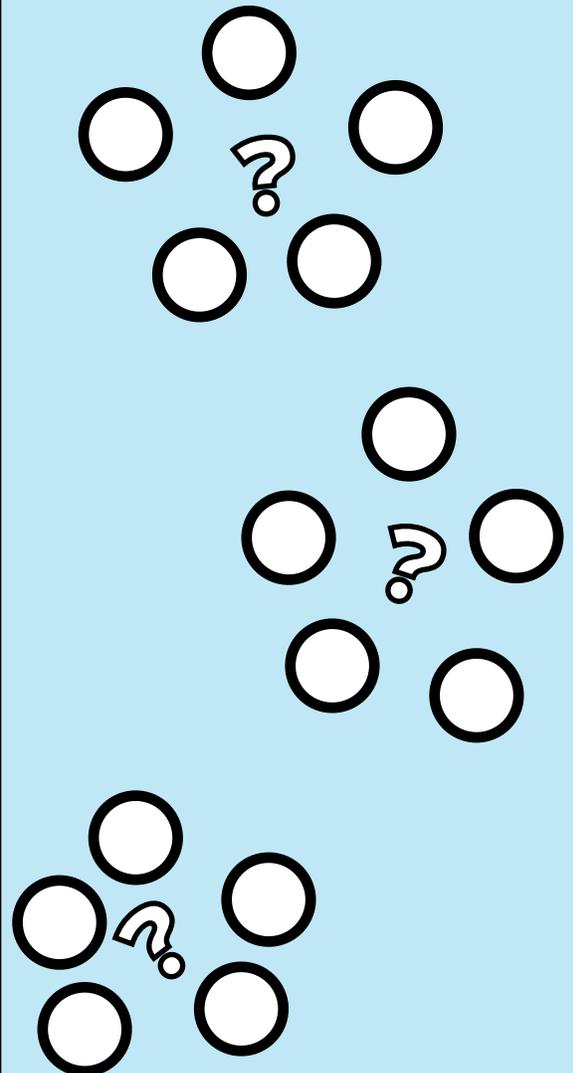
- In this story there are many different characters and organisations. Who would you say is most responsible for how the situation is, and why?
- *Optional: How do you think we ended up in a situation where “dirty” products in considered the normal, and fair trade or organic is something special?*

## COTTON

- Do you think you own too many items of clothing? Could you own less?
- *Optional: Do you take sustainability or Human Rights issues into consideration when buying clothing?*

**REFLECT &  
GENERALIZE**

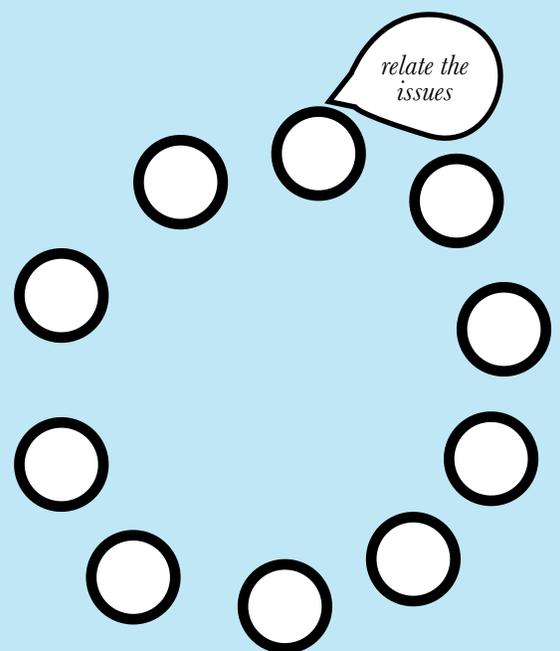
15 minutes

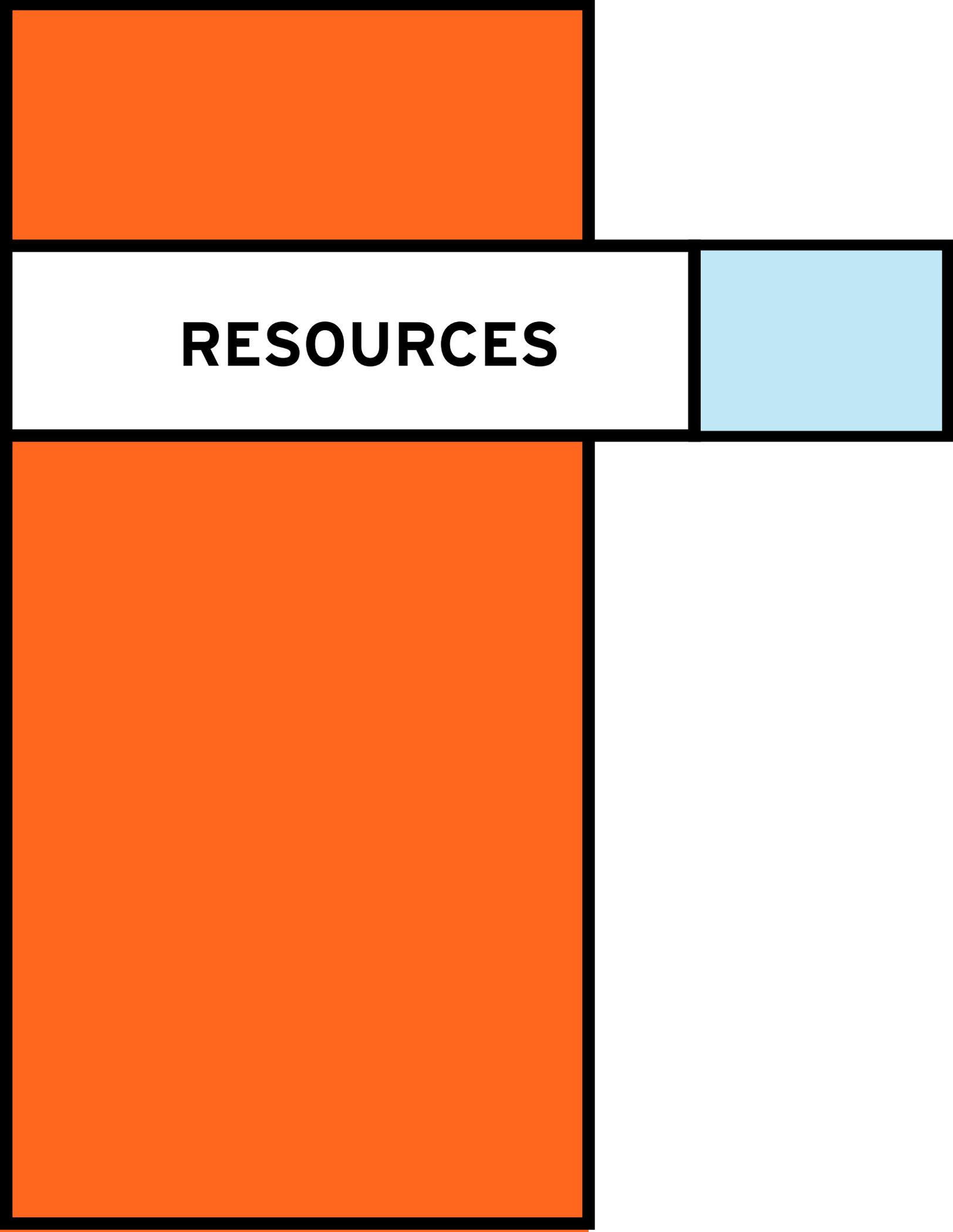


These are suggestions on some things participants could do related to those issues, either just say them out loud and ask the participants to raise their hand if they could see themselves doing this, or quickly discuss how feasible and effective they might be. If participants come up with more, feel free to send them to us!

- Look into getting fair-trade items for your next CISV merchandise, and for yourself
- Consider getting a Fairphone
- Recycle old phones
- Try to avoid foods that are the least sustainably sourced (beef, scampi, ...)
- Plan a mosaic around any of those topics
- Find an LMO that's relevant
- Get informed

**APPLY**  
10-15 minutes





# **RESOURCES**

# 1

## THE STORY OF THE GIANT SHRIMPS "SCAMPI"

A person walks into their favorite sushi place in town. They order a yummy plate of sushi from the waiter behind the bar and sits down and starts scrolling on their phone. The waiter soon brings his plate of sushi with salmon, avocado, maki-rolls and - a delicious piece of giant shrimp.

However, as they are about to eat the shrimp it starts to talk to them! "I'd never eat me if I were you. I've been through some really nasty stuff, and I don't think you want to have a part in it!"

Confused, they put down the shrimp. "What's so bad about what you've been through? You're just a tiny shrimp?"

"I'll tell you all about it" said the shrimp.

"First, imagine yourself a lush forest in southeast Asia. There are lots of mangrove trees there, with hundreds of rare animals and plants around. However, this all needs to be taken away if you want to grow shrimp there. You cut down all the trees and scare all the animals away. Then, you create huge dams that you keep adding water to through engines that run on fossil fuels. Poor locals are then hired to pick us, the shrimp, from the waters, before you add a large amount of chemicals to clean the water before the next batch of us shrimp are harvested. The leftover chemicals are dumped in the local waters just outside of the dams. This of course puts a lot of stress on the local environment - and on the bodies of the poor locals working here. That's why the companies soon move on to a new place and starts the process all over again. What's left is a broken ecosystem and a people who are now poor, unemployed and who can no longer live off farming in the area as the soil itself is ruined."

The person looks down on the shrimp, looking sad. "This scampi happening, I had no idea it was that bad!"

The shrimp replies "Well, now you know. Do I still look as tasty?"

Our person puts down his chopsticks, stands up and walks away without touching his food.

What controls do you think could be put in place to lessen the environmental impact of shrimp farming, bearing in mind the consequences of these actions on people whose livelihood rely on the industry?

\*Ring-ring, ring-ring\*. Our person picks up his/her phone, but there's no one on the other end. "Ahhh, stupid phone, never works! I really need a new one".

Our person walks into an electronics store and starts asking the seller what phone to buy.

\*Six months earlier in the eastern parts of Congo-Kinshasa, a country in central Africa\*  
A young child is hacking through rocks to get to the valuable metals, somewhere in the jungle. He finds a big piece of coltan, but when he shows it to his boss the metal is taken from him, and he is sent back to the mine.

The piece of coltan gets shipped to China. In a factory the metal is prepared for use. The people here work 12 hours per day. All those twelve hours, they sit and assemble cellphones with materials from all over the world, including our piece of coltan. During their 12 hour work shift they are not allowed any breaks and can't even go to the bathroom. They earn about 400 US dollars per month, which means they would have to pay two whole monthly salaries to afford one of the phones they are putting together.

Back in the electronics store, our person has found a phone they like. "800 US dollars?! That's waaay too much for me. How can it be that expensive?". The salesman answers "We do our best to keep the prices down, we want everyone to be able to afford their dream phone."

"Well," says our person, "You will need to make it a bit cheaper for me to want to buy it". Our person walks out of the store without buying the phone.

In the story there are many different characters and organisations who do you think is most responsible for the situation, and why?

# 3

## COTTON INDUSTRY

Person A: farmer

Person B: other farmer

Person C: the Demand

Persons A and B are having a normal day in their small developing country, farming cotton.

A: COUGH

B: Are you alright?

A: No, but I need to keep working, I need the money.

B: You should not if you are ill.

C (whispering in A's ear): You know you need to sell cotton if you want to eaaaaat

A: Meeeeeh. Got more pesticides? I see a fly

\*sprayyyyy\*

As it turns out, they are not using the pesticides properly and inhaling them made A ill.

Few days later, A skipped a few days of work and his family is hungry.

A: This is not a good year for me, the production is declining

B: Why is that?

A: Apparently the pesticides and chemicals destroy the ground

B: But how else are we supposed to grow cotton?

A: Wish I knew...

Change of scenery. Sweatshop.

All participants are workers, apart from one who is the owner

All workers are exhausted, one of them faints. It turns out it is a kid and some other workers try to take care of him. The owner yells at them and sends them all back to work, the 14 year old included, until the end of their 12hours day.

As it turns out, they earn about €100/month, emi finish this sentence

Meanwhile an average teenager in a western country buys a basic t-shirt from a high street brand, blissfully ignorant of what just happened.

# TAKE ACTION

- Look into getting fair-trade items for your next CISV merchandise, and for yourself.
- Consider getting a FairphoneRecycle old phones
- Try to avoid foods that are the least sustainably sourced (beef, scampi, ...)
- Plan a mosaic around any of those topics
- Find an LMO bitch!
- Get informed

# Further VIEWING

## Scampi

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=riIn4RSwYGE>

## Coltan

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kYqrfIGpTRE>

## Cotton

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvVIFJvHB-k>

# WOULD YOU...

**LIKE TO USE @IJBNEWS SNAPCHAT ACCOUNT WHILE RUNNING STEP 6?**

*Contact Agus (Comms Specialist) at:*  
[communications@ijb.cisv.org](mailto:communications@ijb.cisv.org)

