

Concern and Hivos: 40th Anniversary

Irish Alliance member Concern in Dublin and the Dutch member Hivos in The Hague both plan special events to acknowledge their 40th anniversary in 2008. The upcoming conferences, receptions and publications will serve to highlight their 40 years of experience in the field of development cooperation.

On February 13th, the President of Ireland, Mrs. Mary McAleese, hosts a reception in Áras an Uachtaráin (the official residence of the President) for 200 **Concern** volunteers, staff and some of the original founders. This event celebrates the instinct of practical generosity of communities across Ireland towards less fortunate people in distant lands.

In October, Concern will host an international conference on hunger at which Mr. Kofi Annan will be the keynote speaker. Additionally, during the year, Concern will organise an art and writing competition on imagining hunger.

Hivos are planning a big event on June 19th for their relations and donors to celebrate: *Hivos - 40 years of people unlimited*. There will be a conference with the title 'The power of diversity' for which Hivos expects around 200 guests. In the evening, there will be a

cultural evening programme with approximately 500 visitors including modern dance, poetry, theater and music from Hivos-partners worldwide. Additionally, Hivos is planning to publish a book on 40 years of Hivos and its partners.

Welthungerhilfe, the oldest Alliance member, was founded in 1962, and IBIS, the Danish member, in 1966. The 'younger' members CESVI and People in Need were founded in 1985 and 1992 respectively.

