

# Green Impact Case Study Template

## De-clutter your kitchen cupboard and reduce waste food going to landfill and help your community

### Background

Institution: Queens University Belfast

Team Name (if applicable): Centre for Biomedical Sciences Education

No. of years participating in Green Impact: 1

2013-14 Award Level (if applicable): Silver (x2) and Special Award

### Highlights

*Please include 2-3 bullet points (of approx. 10 words each) which summarises your case study:*

- *To help those in the community in need*
- *To save unwanted food items from going to landfill*
- *To include others outside of our own team to get involved in our food waste reduction campaign*

### Description

The CBMSE Green Impact team organised a food waste reduction campaign. The 'De-clutter your Kitchen Food Cupboard' campaign ran over a 2 week period in January and we invited other Centres within the University to join in. We felt this was a good time of year as there may be surplus of unwanted food at home that is unlikely to be used (perhaps unwanted food gifts or a chance to rid the cupboards of New Year resolution temptations)! It also seemed a good time of year to have a cupboard clear out of foods unlikely to be used or nearing their expiry date. We emphasised that food donations should be foods no longer wanted as the incentive was to reduce food waste as part of the QUB environmental Green Impact programme whilst donating to a foodbank charity. This was explained in an email to all Centre staff and food drop off points were listed. We also contacted a local foodbank charity prior to the food donation campaign to confirm details of food type donations. The Green Impact team chose to donate food to the Lisburn Foodbank and we included a link to the charity within the email to Centre staff. We also discovered the food charity would also take other items for the house hold such as shower gels (another chance to donate unwanted gifts)and household cleaning items. We had a great response from staff

**nus**

**green impact**

both in terms of the idea and with donations. At the end of the donation period we delivered the food to the charity.

This is an event that can be carried out across the University at any time of year and donates to a worthwhile cause within our community. There are several Foodbank charities in Northern Ireland that will accept in date non-perishable foods. Foodbanks can also be donated to if departments have food left over after a Food Swap event. This year we were awarded a Special Award for most Innovative and Replicable Actions for our reduce food waste campaign and we hope that the rest of the University will use this action in the future.

## Photograph

Brian from the Lisburn Foodbank accepts food donations.



**nus**

**green impact**