

SMP Factsheet: Options for Financial Management Support

CONTEXT

Following feedback from members and partners in Scotland and Malawi we (SMP) were asked to find out a bit more information about support on offer to develop financial management capacity in Scotland-Malawi links. In response to this we have been in touch with a number of organisations, UK-based and Malawian, to find out what services are on offer. This short factsheet gives a brief overview of these options, more information can be found on the respective websites. This list is not exhaustive but does give a flavour for the options available. All of the organisations below have been used and recommended by SMP members/partners, based on their experience of working directly with them.

SUPPORT AVAILABLE IN SCOTLAND



Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO)

SCVO is the membership organisation for Scotland's charities, voluntary organisations and social enterprises. SCVO works in partnership with the voluntary sector to advance shared values and interests. They have over 1500 members who range from individuals and grassroots groups, to Scotland-wide organisations and intermediary bodies. SCVO offer free information and subsidised training on 'charity accounts & financial reporting'. For more information see the link below...

http://www.scvo.org.uk/running-your-organisation/finance-business-management/



Third Sector Interfaces (TSIs)

TSIs provide a single point of access for support and advice for the third sector within the local area. Like the third sector they serve, Scotland's TSIs are diverse reflecting local needs, priorities and heritage but a key shared objective of TSIs is: 'supporting and developing a strong third sector'. As such they offer practical training and support in a number of areas including financial management and accounting. Voluntary Action Scotland (VAS) is the network organisation for Scotland's TSIs. To find out more about your local TSI and what support they offer please click on the link to the VAS website below...

http://www.vascotland.org/tsis/find-your-tsi



SUPPORT AVAILABLE IN MALAWI



Accounting for International Development (AfID)

AfID offers accountants from around the world the opportunity to use their skills to support a broad range of non-profit organisations globally. Volunteer assignments of between two weeks and 12 months, or longer permanent placements form part of an ongoing strategy to build the financial management and reporting capacity of charities in over 30 countries, including Malawi where AfID have worked with SMP members: Christian Aid and the Micro-Loan Foundation. The main focus of all assignments is to enhance the skills, confidence and potential of local people, enabling their organisations to deliver more effective and sustainable programmes to their many beneficiaries. AfID's programme is based on a long-term development strategy whereby assignments of differing length are supported by handovers from one accountant to another. Qualified accountants provide one—to-one coaching on all matters relating to the organisation's finances and accounting. For more information or to apply to become a partner, please visit: http://www.afid.org.uk/countries.

mango

Mango is an international NGO that aims to help NGOs do more with their money. As such they provide a comprehensive range of services and resources to build confidence, competence and capacity for NGOs. Mango have now trained more than 20,000 people in over 80 countries. This training includes 'building financial capacity', towards which they offer tailored training (fee based) and practical resources (free). Mango is active in Malawi where they have delivered training to build capacity and resilience of 11 NGOs, including SMP member Christian Aid. For more on their services please visit the link below...

https://www.mango.org.uk/training



UMODZI Consulting is a commercial management and business consulting firm trading in Malawi, based in Blantyre. UMODZI specialise in business and development consulting and as such they offer and facilitate training workshops for both profit and non-profit organisations in order to build the capacity of employees and managers at all levels. This includes training in financial management as UMODZI have staff with significant accountancy experience (chartered and certified public accountant with experience as senior auditor). For example UMODZI worked with SMP member GALVmed by reviewing the financial systems for Centre for Ticks and Tick Borne Diseases (CTTBD) in Malawi. For more information on UMODZI's services please visit... http://www.umodziconsulting.com/services