**Summer Session 3: Digital inclusivity: is there equitable access to the new digital world?’  
16th August 2022  
Chat Log**

* **Alan Laverock**: phone propped against mzuzu coffee too!
* **Moira**: 😁
* **David Hope-Jones**: • What has changed in your partnership in terms of ‘digital working’ since March 2020?
  + What have been the advantages of digital working in your partnership?
  + What have been the disadvantages of digital working in your partnership?
  + What are the blockers to digital participation in Malawi and Scotland and who is excluded?
  + Can you share an example of an approach you have taken, been involved in or have seen which you feel has helpfully built digital inclusivity?
  + Should we be endeavouring that digital cooperation will ultimately replace most Scotland-Malawi flights, as part of our fight against the climate crisis?
  + What more (in very tangible terms) can we do as individuals and a community to challenge support digital inclusivity?
  + How do gender and digital inclusion intersect?
  + How do we support both digital and gender equality?
* **Susan Dalgety**: Data charges in Malawi have just gone up by 45 per cent - price of a bundle hasn't changed, but amount of data per bundle has gone done by 45 per cent  
  \*down
* **Doreen**: Yes I will be happy to
* **Claire Burke**: Is there any guidance available on which online software is most efficient regards bandwidth/data use? It would be great to be aware of this when deciding which one to use.
* S**tacia Nordin (www.NeverEndingFood.org, Malawi)**: definitely WhatsApp
* **Stuart, SMP**: Malawian friends also note that Power outages are another major impediment
* **Moira**: Absolutely
* **Claire Burke**: I'm particularly interested in most efficient video conferencing, as that is a big user of data
* **Stacia Nordin (www.NeverEndingFood.org, Malawi)**: Claire - how big a conference? We use WhatsApp still for video calls. But it depends on what the design of the conference is. We often provide bundles if we hold a full day conference on facebook live, skype, zoom, teams, etc.  
  I agree zoom better than teams functionally.
* **SMP**: From my experience Teams is very bandwidth heavy.
* **Stacia Nordin (www.NeverEndingFood.org, Malawi)**: BTW I am -
  + Stacia Nordin, RD
  + Registered Dietitian
  + Sustainable Nutrition
  + NordinMalawi@gmail.com   NeverEndingFood Permaculture
  + Chitedze, Malawi, https://goo.gl/maps/iaL1SN3pnQv
  + https://www.neverendingfood.org/Sustainable-Nutrition-Manual/  (+265) 999.333.073 (WhatsApp calls and messages and Telegram)
  + https://wa.me/message/XKXXBTZS6TW5M1
  + https://telegram.me/NeverEndingFood
* **Moira**: There are those who detest TEAMS ...
* **Susan Dalgety**: Sorry I have to go, I have another meeting at 11.30. I almost forgot.
* **Stacia Nordin (www.NeverEndingFood.org, Malawi)**: My colleagues complain that Telegram doesn’t have a bundle from Airtel and prefer Whatsapp.  
  I use Xoom for financial transactions - goes straight to the phone - very cheap and often no fee depending on if I use bank or paypal or credit card to make a transfer.
* **Stacia Nordin (www.NeverEndingFood.org, Malawi)**: https://www.xoom.com/malawi/send-money
* **Moira**: Immensely helpful for stuff like interviewing people and needing to send them the credit in advance
* **Stacia Nordin (www.NeverEndingFood.org, Malawi)**: VN 🙂. Voice Note
* **Yousuf Khursheed**: As a relative newcomer to volunteering with Malawian focused development organizations I am curious to ask a couple of questions about factors effecting digital inclusion: What percentage of the population has access to electricity? What are the underlying issues effecting access to electricity?
* **Stacia Nordin (www.NeverEndingFood.org, Malawi)**: I don't use pay pal to send money, It is linked to Xoom. Xoom is what I use.  
  I agree with you Moira. Look at Xoom.
* **Alan Laverock**: hi Yousuf. electricity access is less than 10% and that's subject to frequent cuts. it's a supply side issue
* **Stacia Nordin (www.NeverEndingFood.org, Malawi)**: I keep a shared file including on on energy - \*NeverEndingFood Permaculture’s e-file sharing (google drive) on Environment-Agriculture-Nutrition\* http://bit.do/MalawiAgNut
* **Yousuf Khursheed**: Thanks for all the input everyone!!  
  Is it a nationalized service?
* **Stacia Nordin (www.NeverEndingFood.org, Malawi)**: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1Hw0qV4ZwDZUnavnulE4zRSOfZd2Kzbk4&authuser=nordinmalawi%40gmail.com&usp=drive\_fs
* **Stuart, SMP**: Keen to welcome all interested to our Renewables Forum: <https://www.scotland-malawipartnership.org/renewables-forum>  
  Next meeting 8th September 11.30am UK time
* **Stacia Nordin (www.NeverEndingFood.org, Malawi)**: fully agreed - having to travel to the bank to get a little bit of money puts most of that money into transport.
* **Gaia Marini - Water Witness**: I have to go to another meeting, but thank you all for sharing this very interesting information. Incredibly helpful, will look into xoom, motomoney and ding!
* **Moira**: Not to mention the hours it takes to stand in line in a Malawian bank!
* **Claire Burke**: To what extent do participants believe online work will replace travel? As a project manager, working with partners in different countries, I find it is tricky to maintain momentum in projects without meeting project partners face-to-face. Especially as the project is a small part of their day-to-day work.  
  sorry in shared office now
* **Moira**: Very difficult question
* **Kenneth Undi**: digital meetings meetings have helped our small charity to save money and We are able to do it while home, but electricity and signals has been a very been limitations for us.  
  government and NGOs to invest more in the youth and young children on this topic
* **Moira**: The dates ahead is appreciated