MaSP Jan 2022 SCHOOL VISITS Summary

Introduction

- In January 2022 a number of schools were visited from South, Central and Northern part of Malawi. A total of 17 schools where visited. The visits were to make follow ups and hear how their partnerships are going, on the other map on who their partners are and what their partnerships status are.

Overview

There were quite notable factors of the state of these partnerships, the major ones were;

- Excellent working partnerships, whose main links of the partnership is the church. Churches are linked to a fellow Malawian church and extend the same partnership to the school. (Some Malawian churches have schools under them)
- Partnership committees are key to working partnerships where all parties involved are aware and run the partnerships (school heads, mother group, community, local chief, teachers and selected pupils)
- Notable challenges of communication and teacher transfers remains an issue to be addressed
- Need for awareness of why school partnerships are formed, there was that gap in understanding of the overall existence of a school partnership

Benefits experienced from the Malawian side

- During the visits a lot was discovered. The schools are benefiting a lot with these partners some of this benefits include;

- New school blocks as well as renovation of old ones
- Vocational training schools
- Renovation of Teachers houses
- Covid 19 PPES
- Community bridges
- School materials i.e. books, laptops etc.
- Some teachers were able to visit Scotland
- Solar panel installation
- Laptop donations
- Friendship
- Cultural exchange
- ***Note***; it is important for Scottish schools to share their mutual benefits to signify that partnership are not just about donations

Challenges faced

Despite these benefits they do face some challenges like;

- Some schools have no proper committees and information is limited to just one person
- Covid-19 has affected exchange visits.
- Lack of frequent communication- in some cases because Malawian schools wait to be contacted first and cannot initiate communication
- A case of a school in the north – a school overwhelmed with two partnership
- Teacher transfers affect the overall partnership in cases where the partnership lead leaves with all the information to the transferred schools without leaving the school any basis of continuing the partnership
- In schools in the rural access to communication remain a challenge.

Case of Classrooms for Malawi

- We would like to send a cross a message to encourage the Classrooms for Malawi to engage in awareness sessions to sensitize schools;
    - Why and how schools are selected for renovation
    - Who funds the renovation

Just to help schools with partners understand clearly and to support issues of transparency for and to the schools

Schools that need quick follow up;

- The following schools lost communication with partner school, if follow ups can be made from the school to see if they still have interests in the school partnerships since the Malawi side are keen.
    - Lauderdale primary school partners was princethorpe college
    - Malo primary school whose partner was St. Michaels primary
    - Katawa primary school and Caledonia Pre. P. Primary school

Linda Dembo, MaSP

Central Region School visits

January, 2022

Chitowo Primary School

Standard eight Class

Chitowo Primary School- Standard 5 with their teacher

School Block constructed by classrooms for Malawi

The Head Teacher Mrs. Ganthi and her Deputy Mr. Kasimu.

Standard 5 Class with their teacher

The Head Teachers' office

Calendar
CHITOWO PRIMARY SCHOOL
DZ
Kulemb

Bemvu Primary School

Office block and Kitchen, Newly constructed.

Kitchen and Offices at Bemvu

Lack of classroom blocks, teacher, teaching under a tree

Linthipe Secondary School

Staffroom and other offices

Computer lab

Internet Box fully installed and functional

The head teacher pointing at the connections and explaining how the box works.

21 computers connected to the computer box in the lab

Logo symbolizing their partnership

Mr. Ramsey Stephano (Head teacher)

Showing internet router that was received.

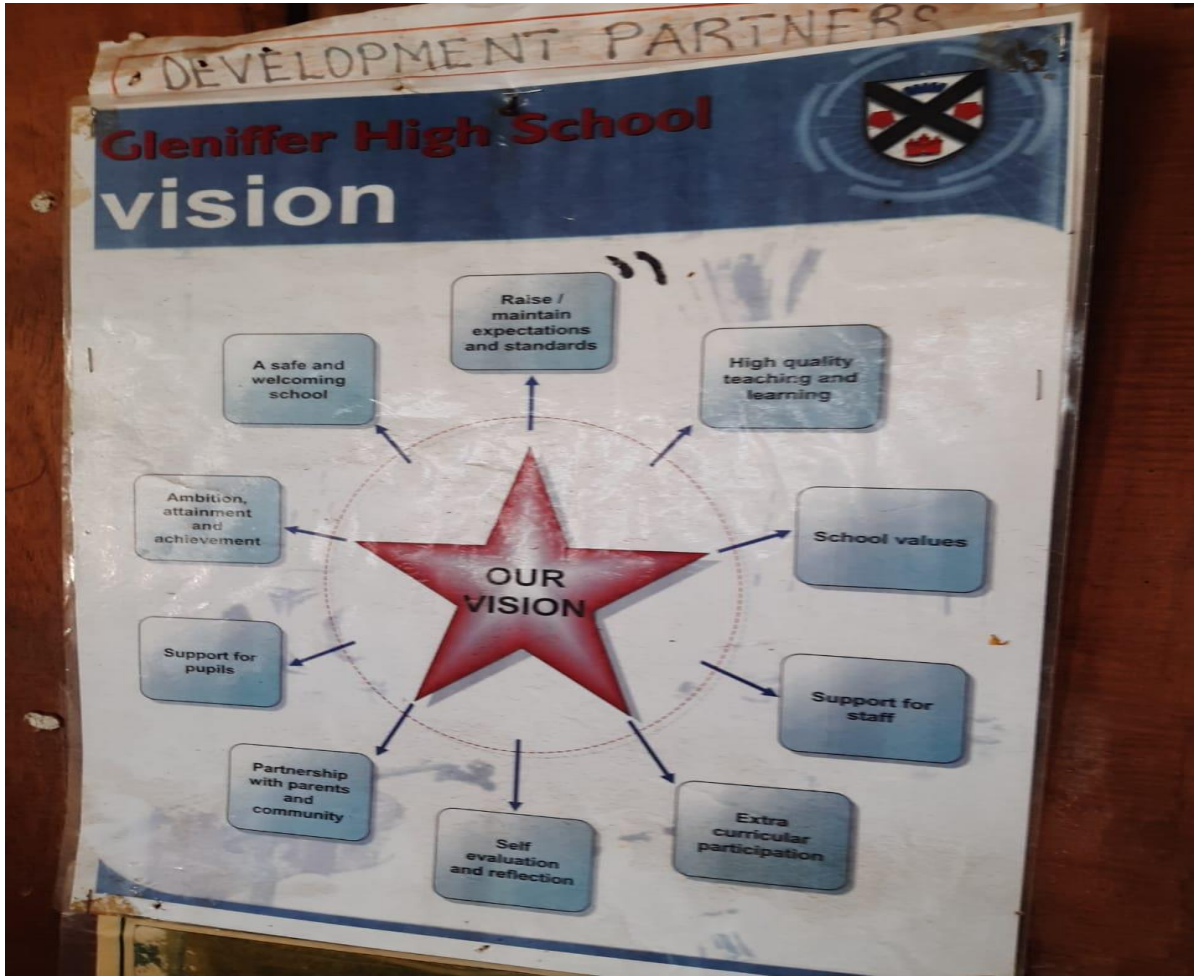
Dzenza Primary School

Refublished classroom block at Denza

Refurbished in partnership with the communities of
Gleniffer High School
and
Dzenza Primary School
for
malawi
GLENIFFER
HIGH SCHOOL

Symbol of the presence of their partners

Development partners vision - Dzenza



Head teachers office yet to be renovated.

Mr. Kadzamira (head teacher at Dzenza)

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
KABEKERE SCOTISH COSS
P/BAG 10
NTCHEU
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
KABEKERE SCOTISH COSS
P/BAG 10
NTCHEU

Mr. Kantema (Head teacher for Scottish secondary school)

Teachers at the Scottish secondary school.

Northern and Southern regions Compilation

Pictorial of School Visit

NORTHERN REGION SCHOOL VISITS

- 6 Schools Were visited

NAMES

1. Luwinga Secondary School
2. St Peters Primary School,
3. Katawa CCAP Primary School
4. St Peters secondary school.
5. Bandawe Primary School
6. Bandawe Girls Secondary School

St Peters Secondary is a model in school links

Partner: St Matthew's Academy

FINDINGS

- The partnership is working perfectly
- Since 2008 there has never been a communication challenge
- St Matthew's Academy from Scotland is sponsoring about 30 students
- There is a solid student to student communications
- Covid 19 has affected the exchange visits

Bandawe Primary, Nkhatabay : ***Regional Coordinator for the north (L) being briefed on some of the Projects at the School***

FINDINGS

Water tank project at Bandawe was at a stand still due to misallocation of funds.

This was due to change of headteachers at the school.

Meanwhile Alloway has deposited some funds to the school to continue the project.

*Cont…*FINDINGS

Chicken Project was also put at a stand still due funds

Water Tank Project funded by Alloway and Donfoot schools

Katawa Primary School Teachers Pose with MASP Regional Cordinator

FINDINGS

- Handover was not made
- They lost track (Communication) with their partner
- There is an existing Partnership Committee but not vibrant
- They have a partner in Scotland ***(Caledonia Pre. P. and Primary School.***
- They don't have a partnership Committee

Headteacher for St Peters Primary School pose with RC north during the visit

Partner: Lost Contacts

FINDINGS

- **Handover was not made**
- **They lost track (Communication) with their partner**
- **Their contact person moved out from Mzuzu**
- **They don't have a partnership Committee**

Teachers for Luwinga Secondary School pose with RC north during the visit

Partner: Lost Contacts

FINDINGS

- Communication with the school's links in Scotland has been a challenge
- There is an existing Partnership Committee but not vibrant
- Currently they don't have any partner (Due to handovers)
- The changing of Headteachers at the has affected the project
- Covid 19 has affected the duties of the committee

SOUTHERN REGION SCHOOL VISITS

NAMES

1. Namadzi Community day secondary
2. Thondwe primary school
3. Lauderdale primary school
4. Zingwangwa primary school
5. Malo Primary School

Namadzi community day secondary school

Partner: Penicuik High school

FINDINGS

- Proper committee in place
- Signed MOU (which is yet to be reviewed)
- Communications done through WhatsApp, zoom, emails, blogging & face book
- Benefits so far, classrooms renovation, computer lab, solar panel, covid-19 PPE
- Exchange visits (less covid-19)

Thondwe Primary School

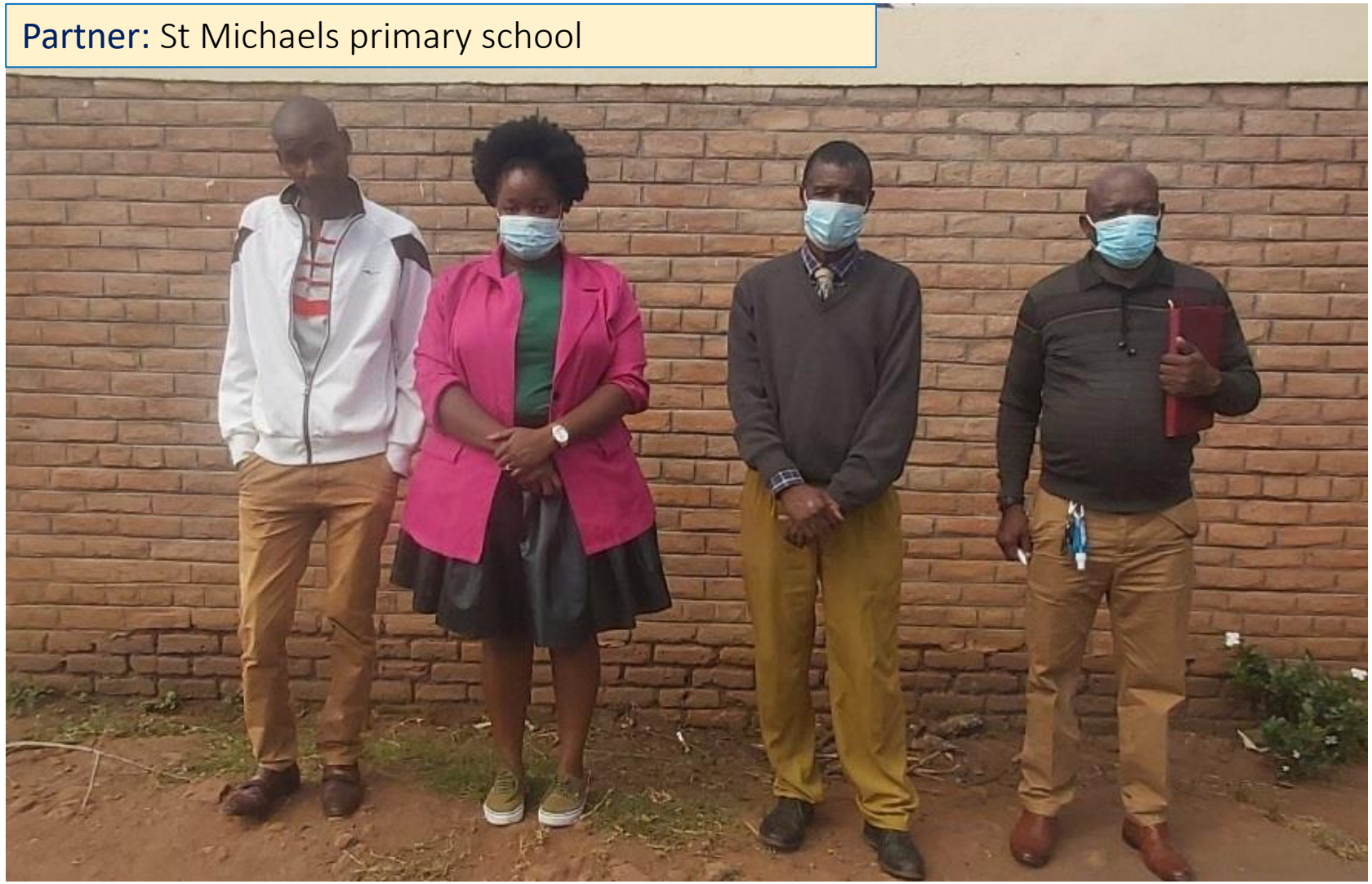
Partner: ITW

FINDINGS

- Partnerships is linked to the church but both have partnership MOU for both church and school
- Partnership committee is both churches and schools
- Communication through emails, zoom and WhatsApp
- Exchange visits (covid-19 friendly rules)

Malo Primary School

Partner: St Michaels primary school



FINDINGS

- Communication was lost when the partnership chair was transferring to another school
- Documents of MOU, communication methods all was lost in the process. They however benefited by a school that was renovated by their partners

Lauderdale Primary School

Partner: Princethorpe college

FINDINGS

- Similar to Malo primary school, they benefited through classrooms renovations, soccer jerseys and footballs. However, the partnership chair to transferred to a school in Chikhwawa and the partnership communication and data was lost for 2 to 3yrs.

Zingwangwa Primary School

Partner: Tony Bergiry and Holyrood secondary school

FINDINGS

- The have benefited through, new class blocks, library, 40 laptops, sewing machines, vocational training schools, provision of electricity manual and electrical printers and toilets for special kid's students
- 6 teachers from the schools went for training and went for a month's exchange visit to Scotland
- Covid has affected their exchanged visits but communication is intact.

Additional Case study

Name; Thondwe Primary School- Malawi Zomba **Partner** – ITW Scotland **Established** in 2007

Why/how partnership started

ITW was originally partnered with the church Thondwe CCAP with is has a school and later on extended the partnership to the school.

Activities

- Together the school has a vegetable in Malawi which they share updates with ITW
- Together with schools they have a maize field which they use to feed the vulnerable in the community

Benefits

- The Malawi side has managed to receive a library, solar system which is a direct benefit to the pupils
- The school received a laptop which has heavily lessened work for teachers of Thondwe
- ITW has sponsored heart surgery for a pupil and also constructed toilets for special needs students
- Teacher house renovation
- ITW sponsored a community bridge which made movement in the village easier
- Both ITW and Thondwe have benefited with a wonderful friendship which they both can rely on in the long run

Challenges

- In ability for the Malawian side to do exchange visits to experience their partners culture first hand

End