



**May 2016 Scottish Parliament Election**  
**Manifesto commitments relevant to Scotland's links with Malawi**  
 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016

The Scotland Malawi Partnership is a non-governmental and politically neutral network which exists to represent, coordinate and support Scotland's many civic links with Malawi.

In January 2016, together with the Network of International Organisations in Scotland (NIDOS) and the Scottish Fair Trade Forum, [we submitted six manifesto asks](#) to the five political parties currently represented in the Scottish Parliament. We look to publically share with our members relevant information from each of the manifestos of these five political parties in advance of the May 2016 Holyrood election.

We maintain our neutrality while ensuring our members are well briefed on political commitments which are potentially relevant to Scotland's links with Malawi. For the avoidance of bias, political parties are listed here in the order in which manifestos were published.

**Executive Summary:**

Political Party	Scotland's links with Malawi	Role of <b>civic society</b> in international development	SG's International Development Fund	SG's Climate Justice Fund	UN's Sustainable Development Goals	Policy Coherence for Development	Fair Trade	Other
<a href="#">Scottish Conservatives</a>	"...Scotland Malawi Partnership is one of best examples..."		"...increase to £10m..."					
<a href="#">Scottish Liberal Democrats</a>	"...develop and deepen..."	"...at community level..."		"...will continue..."				
<a href="#">Scottish Greens</a>	*** No reference ***	"citizen diplomacy... hugely significant"	"...campaign to increase"	"...campaign to increase..."	"...in support of..."	"...support work..."		"...establish a Scottish diplomatic service..."  "...stronger engagement with...UN, WHO etc..."  "...establishing a Scottish peace centre..."

<p><a href="#">Scottish National Party</a></p>	<p>“...will remain important...”</p> <p>“...share our expertise and provide help in kind to the Government of Malawi to help them design their renewable energy strategy...”</p> <p><b>“...renew historic partnership agreement...”</b></p> <p><b>“...support calls for the UK Government to update the UK-Malawi bilateral treaty...”</b></p>	<p>“...will work with the wider public sector, institutions, businesses and communities – as well as overseas partners...”</p>	<p><b>“...increase to £10m...”</b></p>	<p><b>“...increase to at least £3 million a year for the next five years...”</b></p>	<p>“...highlighted Scotland’s commitment to...”</p>	<p><b>“...will produce an annual report on the impact of our international development and other government policies on global poverty...”</b></p>	<p>“...conduct a review of Fairtrade in Scotland in order to inform action to further grow sales of Fairtrade goods...”</p>	<p>“support developing countries in the UN Climate talks”</p> <p><b>“...continue our Small Grants Scheme...”</b></p> <p>“...crisis grant fund for refugee families...”</p> <p>“...fund training and capacity building for at least fifty women...”</p> <p><b>“...establish a £1 million a year fund to respond to future humanitarian emergencies...”</b></p> <p><b>“...continue our £300,000 a year support for Scotland’s network of DECs...”</b></p> <p>“...fund research into unjust debt held by the UK...”</p>
<p><a href="#">Scottish Labour</a></p>	<p>“Scottish Labour is proud of our international development achievements, including setting up <b>our partnership with Malawi...</b>”</p>		<p>“...under the current government our International Development and Climate Justice Fund has not increased. A Scottish Labour Government will increase this fund in real terms in the course of the next Parliament.”</p>					

Exerts from 2016 Holyrood manifestos:

Political Party	Quotes from 2016 Holyrood Manifesto <i>(specific references to Malawi highlighted in yellow)</i>
<a href="#">Scottish Conservatives</a>	<p>“Scotland has played an important part in promoting equalities and social and environmental justice around the world. <b>The Scotland Malawi Partnership has been one of the best examples of what Scotland can do in an international arena and we should continue to support the International Development Fund</b>, increasing it to £10m every year.” (Pg 21)</p>
<a href="#">Scottish Liberal Democrats</a>	<p>- “Scottish Liberal Democrats will make sure that our approach at home and our liberal values, not least human rights, LGBTI equality and sustainable development, will guide our work internationally.” (Pg 29)</p> <p>- <b>“We will continue to develop and deepen the relationships between Scotland and Malawi at governmental, community, educational and environmental levels.”</b> (Pg 29)</p> <p>- “We will <b>continue the work of Scotland’s Climate Justice Fund</b> to support international action against climate change” (Pg 25)</p>
<a href="#">Scottish Greens</a>	<p>- “Westminster does not have a monopoly on international relations and diplomacy. Virtually every department of the Scottish Government has an international aspect to its work and both paradiplomacy (international relations conducted by subnational or regional governments) and <b>citizen diplomacy (international relations conducted by civil society groups or NGOs) are becoming hugely significant</b> on a wide range of international issues, from climate change to conflict resolution.” (Pg 45)</p> <p>- “We need better representation overseas. We should seek to <b>establish a Scottish diplomatic service</b>, tasked with representing Scottish interests abroad within the areas devolved to the Scottish Government” (Pg 45)</p> <p>- “Scotland needs stronger engagement with international institutions..[such as]... the United Nations, World Health Organisation and Nordic Council.” (Pg 45)</p> <p>- “We can <b>do more to tackle global poverty and climate change</b>. We will campaign to <b>increase the Scottish Government’s International Development Fund and Climate Justice Fund</b>, boosting our capability to fund overseas projects <b>in support of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals</b>. Green MSPs will support work to <b>embed policy coherence for development</b> across Scottish Government decision-making.” (Pg 45)</p> <p>- “Scotland can speak up for the oppressed...” (Pg 45)</p> <p>- “Scottish MSPs would aim to position Scotland as a global peace hub...we would support establishing a Scottish peace centre tasked with researching conflict issues ” (Pg 45)</p>
<a href="#">Scottish National Party</a>	<p>- “We established Scotland’s Climate Justice Fund and have spent £6 million to date to help some of the world’s poorest communities adapt to the challenges of climate change. We will <b>increase the Climate Justice Fund to at least £3 million a year for the next five years.</b>” (Pg 29)</p> <p>- “We will support developing countries in the UN Climate talks process and help them minimise greenhouse gas emissions. To help with this, <b>we will share our expertise and provide help in kind to the Government of Malawi to help them design their renewable energy strategy, deliver green growth and extend access to electricity.</b>” (Pg 29)</p> <p>- “We will continue to work with countries around the globe. Achieving success depends on Scotland acting as a team: that is the heart of our One Scotland approach.</p>

**We will work with the wider public sector, institutions, businesses and communities – as well as overseas partners– to secure our international objectives.”** (Pg 41)

- “Importantly, while our international approach supports Scotland’s Economic Strategy, it also recognises our commitment to human rights. **Our relationship and partnership with Malawi will remain important.** Global economic development has lifted millions of people around the world out of poverty and improve equality. However, high levels of deprivation and inequality remain and that is why Scotland will use its international engagement to continue to act as a good global citizen.” (Pg 41)
- “Since 2007, we have provided £5.8 million in humanitarian aid for crises in Pakistan, Gaza, DRC, East Africa, Philippines, West Africa, **Malawi**, Nepal and of course, Syria while also supporting Syrian refugees in Greece.” (Pg 42)
- “We’ve doubled our International Development Fund to £9 million per annum, and launched the Climate Justice Fund, bringing our total spend on international development work since 2007 to over £86 million.” (Pg 42)
- “We have also **highlighted Scotland’s commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals.**” (Pg 42)
- “As well as increasing the Climate Justice Fund to £3 million per annum, **we will increase the International Development Fund to £10 million per annum.**” (Pg 42)
- “**We will also continue our Small Grants Scheme** that has allowed many smaller agencies to contribute to our poverty reduction goals.” (Pg 42)
- “We will...set up a fast track crisis grant fund for refugee families...”(Pg 42)
- “We will put **human rights and the rights of women at the heart of our international relations work**...Every year we will fund training and capacity building for at least fifty women from affected countries, ensuring they have skills and confidence to maximise their contribution to building a safer world.” (Pg 42)
- “We will establish a **£1 million a year fund to respond to future humanitarian emergencies**, and help provide emergency aid to refugees and displaced people fleeing war and persecution.” (Pg 42)
- “We will **continue our £300,000 a year support for Scotland’s network of Development Education Centres** to help deliver global citizenship education.” (Pg 42)
- “**We will produce an annual report on the impact of our international development and other government policies on global poverty** to ensure that their impact is fully assessed.” (Pg 42)
- “**We will renew our historic partnership agreement with the Government of Malawi.**” (Pg 42)
- “**We also support calls for the UK Government to update the UK-Malawi bilateral treaty.**” (Pg 42)
- “We will conduct a review of Fairtrade in Scotland in order to inform action to **further grow sales of Fairtrade goods.**” (Pg 42)
- “Scotland doesn’t have the power to cancel unjust debts, but we will fund research into unjust debt held by the UK, how new unjust debt can be avoided and Scotland’s potential role in debt arbitration.” (Pg 42)

[Scottish Labour](#)

“Scottish Labour is **proud of our international development achievements, including setting up our partnership with Malawi** and introducing the Scottish Government’s International Development Fund. However, under the current government our International Development and Climate Justice Fund has not increased. A Scottish Labour Government will increase this fund in real terms in the course of the next Parliament.” (pg 26)