



Scotland-Malawi Oxygen Supply Coordination Group

TERMS OF REFERENCE

V1.1 Last updated 5th February 2021

The Scotland Malawi Partnership (SMP) is the national network coordinating, representing and supporting Scotland's many civic links with Malawi. It is apolitical and non-governmental: it is core funded by, but independent to, the Scottish Government.

The SMP has been working since March 2020 to support coordination and collaboration in Scotland's work with Malawi through the Covid-19 crisis, with 13 major Covid Coordination meetings on Zoom and the support and promotion of 20 different Malawi Covid appeals. This coordination work has been commended by the President of Malawi and the Minister of Health.

At its [25th January Covid meeting](#), with Malawi's Minister of Health, the Scottish Government's International Development Minister, the Malawi Cross Party Group (Scottish Parliament), the Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group (UK Parliament) and 250 key stakeholders across Malawi and Scotland, the issue of oxygen supply was identified by many as a critical area in which further urgent support was needed.

The SMP offered to facilitate more detailed conversations in this area, with a meeting of specialists taking place on the 2nd February. It was clear that there is real and immediate value in creating a space for sharing information about the oxygen supply issue between those involved: sharing updates about what equipment is lacking where, and who is doing what on the ground in response to this.

The SMP is therefore establishing a time-limited Scotland-Malawi Oxygen Supply Coordination Group to continue this exchange of vital information and support collaboration.

Leadership:

The SMP is a membership organisation and this is a member and partner-led initiative, with members and key stakeholders volunteering time and expertise to manage this group. Mr Alberto Gregori, a Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon with several decades of experience working with Africa (and more recently Malawi) in this area, has kindly volunteered to Chair the Group, bringing essential expertise and capacity to this initiative.

Aims of Group:

The Scotland-Malawi Oxygen Supply Coordination Group has three strategic objectives:

- (1) To facilitate the ongoing sharing of information between those involved in this area, to support a coordinated response in Malawi.
- (2) To highlight relevant existing fundraising appeals which are delivering real and immediate impact in this area, such that the SMP can recommend and promote these campaigns to members looking to donate now.
- (3) To explore the possibility of new collaborations between members and key partners: potentially harnessing expertise and experience from a range of key organisations, to offer time and cost-effective ways of increasing Malawi's oxygen generation in both the short and long term. If a new collaboration is deemed genuinely useful, appropriate and viable, and if there is broad support from the relevant Scottish and Malawian organisations involved, and the Government of

Malawi, the SMP would be willing to approach the Scottish and UK governments, as well as potentially other donors, to seek urgent funding. However, we must emphasise that there is absolutely no guarantee that any additional funding would be forthcoming.

Limitations of SMP support:

The SMP is able to promote, host and support Zoom meetings of the Group, and offer modest administrative support for the Group's Chair. But beyond this we are reliant on members with technical knowledge and expertise volunteering their time and input.

It is paramount that expectations are managed appropriately, with absolute clarity that:

- The SMP does not itself have funding to support this or any other operational work: the Partnership is purely a coordination network with a small secretariat.
- The SMP does not itself have any technical expertise in this area and is only able to collate that of its members and partners.
- The SMP does not have sufficient staffing/capacity to manage a major appeal or itself coordinate the delivery of work.

This initiative is therefore reliant on members, partners and stakeholders volunteering their time and expertise.

Values:

As with all work associated with the Scotland Malawi Partnership, it is vital that this initiative adheres to the [11 Scotland-Malawi Partnership Principles](#):

Planning and implementing together
Appropriateness
Respect, trust and mutual understanding
Transparency and accountability
No-one left behind
Effectiveness
Reciprocity
Sustainability
Do no Harm
Interconnectivity
Parity

Conclusion of the Group

This is a time-limited and informal information exchange group within the SMP membership, specifically focusing on the oxygen supply issue during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The SMP reserves the right to immediately end its involvement with the Group if it feels that the work is not adhering to the above Partnership Principles, or if there is a consensus that it would be most helpful for the SMP to handover its involvement to another organisation.

Get involved:

To learn more, or to join the Scotland-Malawi Oxygen Supply Coordination Group, please contact the Chair of the Group:

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