



## The Sustainable Development Goals and Higher Education

The Sustainable Development Goals (or “Global Goals”) were formally agreed and launched at the 70<sup>th</sup> regular session of the UN’s General Assembly in September 2015. Implementation will begin from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016, with indicators finalised March 2016. These 17 ‘[Global Goals](#)’ will guide all anti-poverty efforts both in the developing and the developed world.

### What does this mean for Scotland?

In July 2015 the [First Minister committed Scotland](#) to be amongst the first nations in the world to embrace the UN’s new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Scotland commits both to achieving these 17 goals within Scotland through domestic activity and policies, and helping partner nations in the developing world to implement the goals through Scotland’s international development efforts.

### What does this mean for Malawi?

In September 2015 the President of Malawi, H.E Peter Mutharika travelled to New York to witness and show his government’s support for the Sustainable Development Goals. The Government will be reviewing its own national strategy early next year, with a view to publishing the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the “Malawi Growth and Development Strategy.” The SDGs, their targets and indicators will likely be incorporated into this strategic policy.

### What does this mean for Higher and Further Education?

#### **Goal 4: Quality Education**



While the SDGs are not to be viewed as separate goals, Goal 4 on “*Quality Education: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all*” has the only target that specifically mentions higher education.

*“Target 4.9: By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries.”*

#### **Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals**



Another key goal for achieving many of the targets will be Goal 17 on “*Partnerships for the Goals: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development*” which recognises, among other things, that multi-stakeholder partnerships will be key.

*Target 17.5: “Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships”*

For further information on the Sustainable Development Goals visit: <http://www.globalgoals.org/>