

Scotland Malawi Partnership

# ANNUAL REPORT

2019 – 2020

FUNDED BY



# Message from the Chair



**I have now been in post as Chair of the Scotland Malawi Partnership for over a year and what a year it has been! Who could have imagined when I wrote the Chair's Introduction for the 2018-19 Annual report that we would have been unable to have face-to-face meetings for over half of the following year.**

My comments here refer to the period from April 2019 to March 2020, ending just after the Covid-19 pandemic hit us and I can still say what a year it was!

Of many successful events, I must highlight two very special award events in the last quarter of 2019.

Firstly, on 5th September it was a great honour and privilege to have our Hon Co-Patron, HRH The Princess Royal present our Annual Awards for 2019. The day was a celebration for all members who have an impact in Malawi and Scotland through thousands of people-to-people partnerships.

Secondly, our first ever School Partnerships Awards were held on 5th December with William Kamkwamba, the inspirational and innovative young man who was the focus of the film 'The Boy Who Harnessed The Wind'. To have William closely associated with the SMP was amazing and his own passion and long-term commitment was inspiring for the young people present.

In between these, on 5th October, 200 members came to our AGM, where we welcomed the then Minister for International Development Ben Macpherson MSP and, from Lilongwe, Lazarus Chigwandali, former street singer and current advocate for albinism through his music, and Dr Ann Phoya, the Chair of our sister network in Malawi. It was an extremely positive and re-affirming event, ensuring many new contacts and

bonds were forged and partnerships strengthened.

We launched our Year of Governance Strengthening in March 2020, at a reception in the City Chambers for the first female Speaker of the Malawi National Assembly, Hon. Catherine Gotani Hara and a group of Malawian MPs from three parties, who were part of long-standing inter-parliamentary working between Scotland and Malawi.

There have been two staff post changes this year. Craig Docking joined the team as Member Administrative Officer in October 2019. Craig is the first point of contact for members, responsible for handling member data and overseeing events admin, and in his first year has made an enormous contribution to administrative systems. An important post for SMP is that of Media and Communications Officer. While Pamela Tulloch has been on maternity leave, there have been three post-holders covering this work, Meghan Harvey, Douglas Coulter and Gemma Conley-Smith, who have all added much to the SMP.

We are indebted to the Scottish Government for

continuing its core funding to the SMP. Without it, we could not achieve what we do as a Members' organisation. Our triennial funding ended a few days after lockdown but we were pleased to receive confirmation from the Scottish Government that our core funding would be renewed for a further three years, albeit at a static level. In real terms, we will have to invest a bit more time in income generation if we are to maintain and extend these impressive achievements.

The Scotland Malawi Partnership is an inspirational organisation of which to be a member and I am delighted to be able to return the support I have had personally by being a Board and Sub-Committee member. One of the privileges of being Chair is to hear about the amazing work being done across so many areas through long-standing respectful partnerships with our friends in Malawi.

**Professor Heather A Cubie**  
MBE, PhD, FRCPATH, FRSE  
Chair

## Our network



**The Scotland Malawi Partnership (SMP) is the national network coordinating, representing and supporting Scotland's many civic links with Malawi. We work to help inspire all sections of Scottish civic life to become involved in dignified two-way partnerships with Malawi, for the benefit of both nations. We represent, coordinate and support over 1,200 links between our two nations from across our membership, including:**

Over **250** schools

Over **180** NGOs, charities and businesses

Over **300** individual Malawi champions

Over **90** community groups and faith partnerships

Over **350** youth members

**20** universities and colleges

**16** local authorities

**109,000** people in Scotland working together

**£49 million** of inputs

Benefitting **2.9 million** people in Malawi

**The Scotland Malawi Partnership is core funded by the Scottish Government, as part of its International Development Fund. None of the work in this report would have been possible without the far-sighted support of successive Scottish Governments since 2005.**





# Partnership Principles

Having consulted hundreds of Malawian and Scottish organisations working together, the SMP has developed 11 principles of effective partnership working. Through 2019-20 we have worked to promote these principles and to support our members to work within them. It is also these principles to which we hold ourselves accountable. This is the bedrock of our work, and it is through the adherence to these principles that we ensure that ours is a genuinely two-way, dignified, respectful and effective partnership.

- P** Planning together
- A** Appropriateness
- R** Respect, trust and mutual understanding
- T** Transparency
- N** No-one left behind
- E** Effectiveness
- R** Reciprocity
- S** Sustainability
- H** Do no Harm
- I** Interconnectivity
- P** Parity (equality)



# Activity Summary

## In 2019-20, the SMP

- hosted **35** events attended by **1,118** people (highlights below), and
- co-hosted **50** further events attended by **3,119** people in 2019-20:

## 2019

### MAY

- Cross Party Group discussing health links
- Further & Higher Education-led health projects
- Rosemary Argente Book Launch
- Malawian Language and Culture Workshops (Glasgow)
- Malawian Congress of Trade Unions roundtable

### JUNE

- Malawian Language and Culture Workshops (Edinburgh)

### JULY

- Youth Committee & David Livingstone Trust

### AUGUST

- Glasgow Schools' Forum
- Edinburgh Schools' Forum

### SEPTEMBER

- Member Awards with HRH The Princess Royal
- Cross Party Group discussing vets training
- Civic reception for Malawi Vets

### OCTOBER

- AGM with Lazarus Chigwandali

### FEBRUARY

- 'Malawi at COP26' meeting
- Further & Higher Education Forum
- Cross Party Group discussing education links
- Online Schools Forum
- Governance Forum

### NOVEMBER

- Roundtable with Dundee University elective Medical Students

### DECEMBER

- William Kamkwamba meeting with MSPs
- William Kamkwamba meeting with Presiding Officer
- Renewable Energy Forum with William Kamkwamba
- William Kamkwamba meeting with then Minister
- School Partnership Awards
- Christmas Networking Organisations Networking

## 2020

### JANUARY

- Networks Forum
- Roundtable with CDC
- CDC Cross Party meeting
- Cross Party MSP meeting with Deputy Speakers of Malawi Parliament
- Roundtable Event with Deputy Speakers of Malawi Parliament

### MARCH

- Roundtable with Speaker and visiting MPs
- Civic Reception Speaker and visiting MPs
- Agriculture & Food Security Forum with SFTF
- Agriculture and Food Security Forum with Challenges
- Online Health Forum



# AGM with Lazarus

Over two hundred SMP members came together on Saturday, 5th October 2019, at the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh for our annual gathering and AGM. The event facilitated networking, sharing and learning: supporting and celebrating our members' work, and listening to our partners in Malawi.

We were joined by Lazarus Chigwandali, perhaps Malawi's highest profile human rights campaigner. He performed live and spoke to members about work to protect the rights of those with albinism in Malawi.

The afternoon included the Scottish premiere of 'LAZARUS',

the official documentary, which was launched at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York and won many awards in the run up to the Oscars.

Speakers included Ben Macpherson MSP, the then Minister for International Development, and amazing Malawi tourism prizes were won by members.

**88%**  
made  
useful  
new  
contacts

**91%**  
rated the event  
"excellent" or  
"very good"



## Members loved:

*"meeting like-minded people and being able to collaborate."*

**Rose Mary Harley,  
Strathclyde University**

*"It never feels like a lengthy formal meeting. It's just meeting up with likeminded friends with a little business."*

**Caroline Beaton, Kenyawu Kids**

*"...overview of what SMP has been up to this past year."*  
**Member**



*"...the whole thing! The afternoon passed by so quickly, it didn't feel like an AGM. The use of IT really made it engaging and informative. The music and inspirational story from Lazarus was excellent and a keen reminder to why we choose to have such great links with Malawi. Well done!"*

**Fiona Anderson, Dunblane-Likhubula Partnership**



# Member Awards with HRH The Princess Royal



HRH meeting presenting an SMP award to Steka Skills

**On the 5th September, the SMP was proud to host its 2019 Member Awards ceremony, celebrating the impact our members are having through thousands of individual people-to-people partnerships between our two nations.**

The ceremony was led by our Hon Co-Patron HRH The Princess Royal, who spoke passionately about the work of the SMP and the impact our members are having.

It was standing room only, with all 150 places quickly selling out, and a fantastic energy on the day.

The Princess expressed how encouraged she is by the strength of the two-way relationship, in which both Scotland and Malawi benefit, reflecting that member organisations are comprised of 'individuals

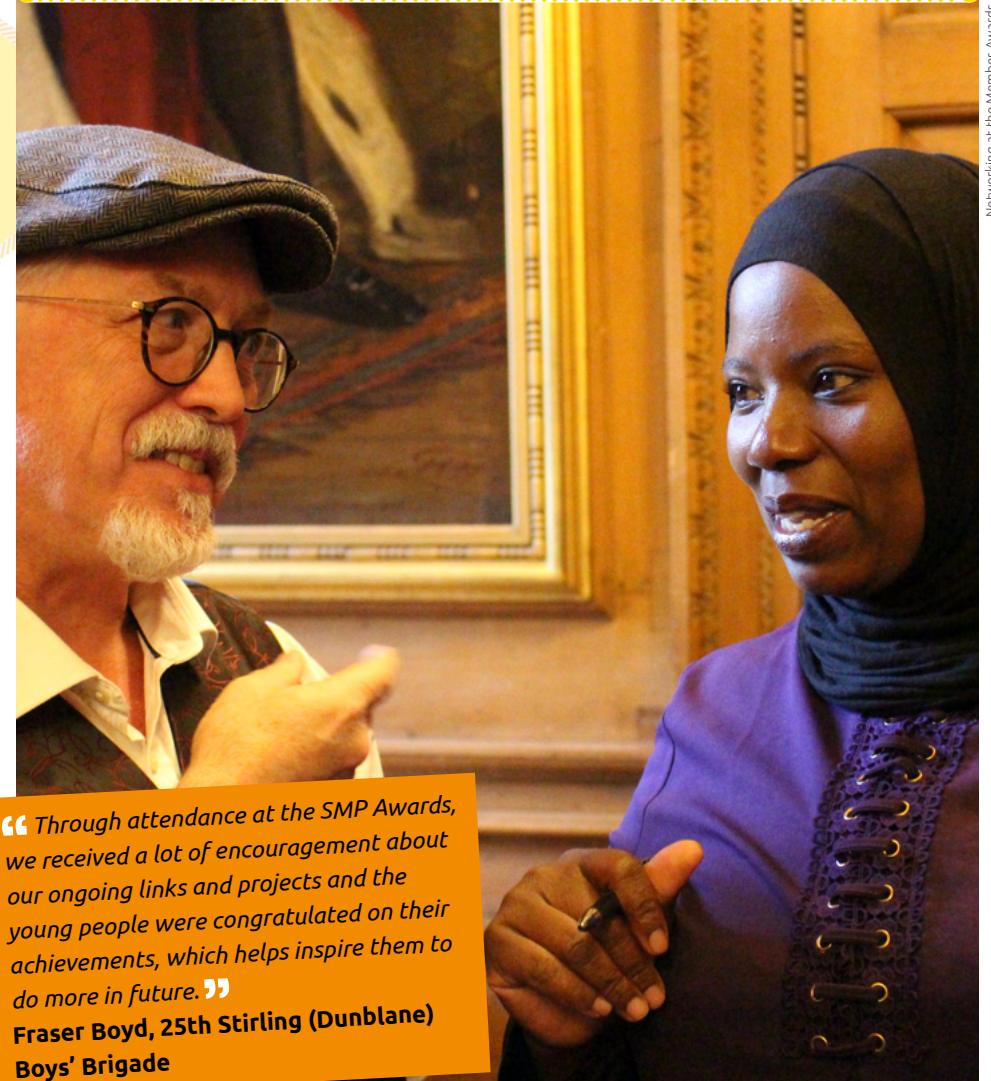
who have a really good understanding of what they are trying to achieve'.

Not only were there four formal awards, but also special commendations to 10 other SMP member organisations which had responded quickly and effectively to the devastating impact of Cyclone Idai.

The day was a celebration for all members who have an impact in Malawi and Scotland, through the thousands of people-to-people partnerships.

**“** To all of you who have been involved, I think you have set a standard, and I hope what today will do is to allow other partners to recognise that there is an area here in which they can improve upon and that is linking in with more individuals who have the potential to make a real difference. **”**

**HRH The Princess Royal**



**“** Through attendance at the SMP Awards, we received a lot of encouragement about our ongoing links and projects and the young people were congratulated on their achievements, which helps inspire them to do more in future. **”**

**Fraser Boyd, 25th Stirling (Dunblane) Boys' Brigade**



# Language and culture

The SMP ran Chichewa language courses in Glasgow in May, and Edinburgh in June, to a diverse range of different members soon to visit Malawi.

Our Malawian and Scottish tutors covered introductions, basic cultural points, and useful language for those visiting Malawi for the first time. The lessons were largely conversational, helping attendees to feel confident in using what they learnt outside of the classroom.

Members received a special new language resources booklet and audio files to help them practise after the course finished.

*“ You have encouraged us before and after our visits in commending what we have done and you have also provided help with language-learning in the time before we went to Malawi in July 2019. ”*

**Fraser Boyd, 25th Stirling (Dunblane) Boys' Brigade**

*“ I will use and pass on my knowledge to family who also have personal links with Malawi and enjoy squeezing Chichewa words into daily life. ”*

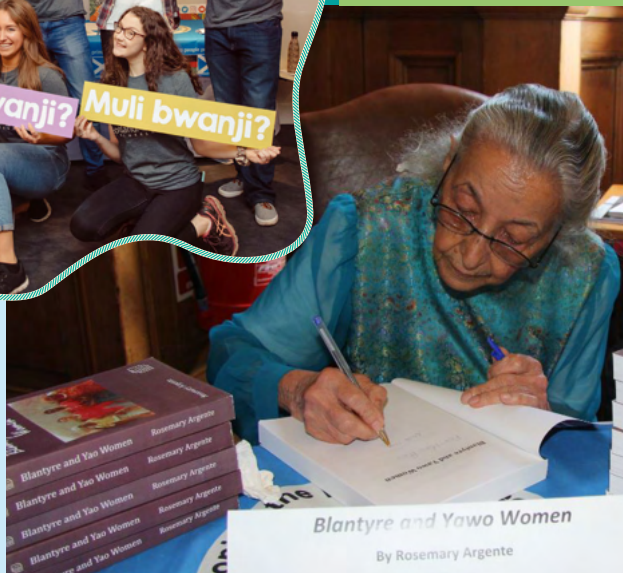
**Thomas Godfrey**



The Youth Committee helping with our Chichewa training!

*“ Very good introductions to the language and culture. Zikomo kwambiri. ”*

**Michael Mackenzie**



Rosemary Argente signing her book at the SMP's Book Launch

# Business, Trade and Tourism

The SMP continued to play a crucial role helping co-lead the Malawi-UK Business Group through 2019, offering specific support with advocacy work to support business, trade, investment and tourism.

The Partnership and Scotland's International Development Alliance were delighted to co-host a round-table meeting with CDC's Chairman, Graham Wrigley and Head of Global Affairs, Andrew Palmer, who were keen to meet Members to understand their development priorities.

CDC is the UK's development finance institution, wholly owned by the UK Government's Department for International Development.

The meeting presented an opportunity for those with key business, investment, trade and tourism links with Scottish civic society's international partners, to foreground the importance of significant and sustainable investment, and to hear from CDC.

*“ Background information on what, why and how CDC operate ”*

Members loved:



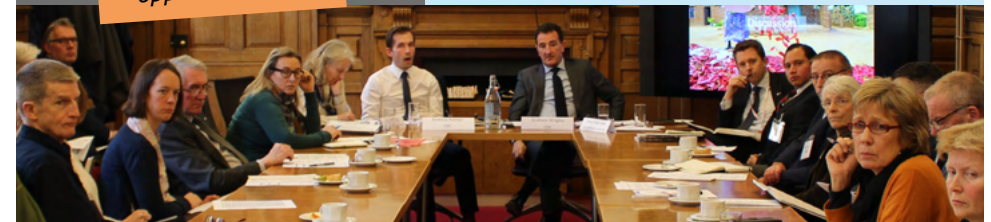
*“ A good overview of CDC and how it has evolved, renewed strategy ”*

*“ Direct information and positive networking ”*

*“ Networking opportunities ”*

*“ Openness ”*

*“ Everything! ”*



*“ One of many notable achievements of the SMP this year was arranging the programme for the visit of the Chair of CDC who was, I know, very impressed by what he heard of the partnership between the two nations. It was particularly fortunate that the visit came just before the London conference on investment in Africa where our President was able to follow up on the issues raised in Edinburgh in bilateral discussions with the Chair of CDC. ”*

**Dr Peter West, Malawi Hon. Consult to Scotland**

Members meeting CDC

# Media engagement

A key part of the Partnership's work is helping to share members' stories, raise awareness of the bilateral relationship, and build support for an approach to international development underpinned by dignified partnership and civic engagements. We work with the mainstream, digital and social media to help achieve this.

We had an amazing **173** features about Malawi in the Scottish media in 2019-20, **98%** of which were positive in tone.

In  
2019-20  
we had:



Over  
19.5 million  
opportunities  
to view in the  
media



**672,841**  
Facebook  
Impressions



**5,747**  
Twitter  
followers



**801,254**  
Twitter  
impressions



**962**  
Instagram  
followers



**29,216**  
LinkedIn  
impressions



Over 100,000  
views on our  
website, with  
**26,000+** new  
visitors



“The SMP has given me lots to think about, particularly whether there could be interest in things we've developed in Scotland for use in Malawi, and also how we can help our communities in Scotland learn from Malawian friends”

**Dominic Webb, Orbis Expeditions**



The first Malawian veterinary students to graduate in Malawi, visiting the Scottish Parliament

“The continuing presence of an established entity working solely to develop the partnership between Scotland & Malawi is an invaluable resource, one stop shop and focal point for all partnership links between the two countries.”  
**Dominic Webb, Orbis Expeditions**

“We have access to the expert advice of the SMP, and access to other members with whom we can collaborate”  
**RoseMary Harley, Graduates Association**



William Kamukwamba and Minister Ben Macpherson



# Youth and Schools

Perhaps the most important and successful area of work for the Partnership continues to be its engagement of schools and young people.



Enock Bamusi supporting an SMP schools day

Tayside, with local school pupils helping plant seeds in the new garden and learn more about their new school partnerships.

On 30th May the SMP supported a **Beath High School Malawi lunch**, with students and teachers in the school's Malawi partnership group sharing Malawian culture and food with 50

guests including local councillors, parents, teachers and pupils.

On 20th June the SMP supported the **St Roch's Secondary School Malawi Day** collaborating with Malawian performer Brave Mnyayi,, the David Livingstone Trust, Mary's Meals, Classrooms for Malawi, Strathclyde University, Malawi Leaders of Learning and Chichewa language tutor, Enock Bamusi.

In February, the SMP worked with **Children's BBC** to support a major new children's television series about the UN Sustainable Development Goals, with the SMP profiled as an example of SDG17

The SMP was led in all its youth work by its fantastic Youth Committee of 14-24 year olds.



More than 250 Scottish schools are members of the SMP, many of which have active links with Malawi.

The Youth and Schools Manager, Gemma Burnside met with school groups through the year as part of their links, and to help prepare for visits to Malawi. In total, there were more than 100 points of support and engagement of Scottish school, with over **46,000 young Scots benefitting** from the SMP's support and outreach in the year.

There were dozens of SMP events engaging young people through the year, for example:

On the 28th May the SMP supported a youth-led **Malawi Celebration Day at the Ninewells Community Garden**. The event was jointly organised by students from the University of Dundee's Global Health Partnerships society and NHS

# Youth and Schools



On the 5th December, the SMP hosted its first ever **Schools Partnership Awards Ceremony**, with William Kamkwamba, the real life 'Boy Who Harnessed the Wind'.

The Awards, kindly supported by the Year of Young People National Lottery fund, Orbis Expeditions and the David Livingstone Birthplace Project, celebrated the variety of school partnerships with Malawi across Scotland.

Focusing on the theme of sustainability, our Youth Committee judges were looking for schools to tell us the story of their partnership – where it has come from and where it is going.

We asked schools to be as creative as they liked! It could be in any format as long as it was based around the theme of sustainability and we encouraged schools to think about using the **Partnership Principles** as a way of reflecting on their partnership as well.

The winners were:

- **Penicuik High School and Namadzi CDSS**
- **George Watson's College and St Andrews Secondary School & Palm Beach School**
- **The Mary Erskine School and The Edinburgh Girls High School**
- **St Margaret's High School and Chisitu CDSS**
- **St Maurice's High School and Nkhamenya Girls Secondary School**
- **Special award for best profile on SMP website – 25th Stirling (Dunblane) Boys' Brigade - Pasani and Nansato Primary Schools**



William and Kids



# Member Forums

Through the year we continued to have regular Member Forums: bringing members together to share their learning and experience, to listen to partners in Malawi, and support collaborative working.

On the 3rd December, the SMP's **Renewable Energy Forum** met to welcome William Kamkwamba ('The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind'). William's inspiring story and fantastic vision helped bring stakeholders together to share information about their Scotland-Malawi renewable energy work and build exciting new collaborations.

On the 14th February, the SMP's **Further & Higher Education Forum** met to launch the 2020 edition of its 'Directory of Scotland-Malawi Further and Higher



William Kamkwamba speaking at the Renewable Energy Forum

Education Links'. Universities and colleges across Scotland and Malawi were actively involved in this updated publication which is helping to coordinate the many FE/HE links between the two countries.

On the 26th February, the **Governance Forum** met to design the SMP's 'Year of Governance Strengthening'. It then met again just two weeks later to greet the Speaker of the Malawian National Assembly, and a Commonwealth Partnership for Development delegation of more than a dozen Malawian MPs, to discuss Governance Strengthening.



Malawian students joining our Further and Higher Education Forum



The Speaker of the Malawian National Assembly



Members meeting the parliamentary delegations

## The SMP worked closely with the Malawian National Assembly in 2019-20.

First, we welcomed the First and Second Deputy Speakers, organising a roundtable for them to meet SMP Members and connect them with MSPs and Scottish MPs.

Then, we helped support two separate Malawian National Assembly delegations taking place at the same time. Catherine Gotani Hara, the first female Speaker of the Malawi National Assembly, led one delegation, joined by Fiona Kalemba, Clerk of Parliament, and three Parliamentary officials. The second was a Commonwealth Partnership for Development delegation of more than

a dozen other Malawian MPs, from three of the largest political parties in Malawi. The SMP brought them both together, organising meetings in Scotland and Westminster, hosting a major roundtable meeting as part of the 'Year of Governance Strengthening' and a civic reception with the Lord Provost of Edinburgh and SMP Members.

All these delegations are part of a long-standing inter-parliamentary relationship between Scotland and Malawi, which aims to strengthen both parliaments through sharing and capacity building.



# Holyrood:

**The Partnership continued to help lead the Scottish Parliament's Malawi Cross Party Group, with three formal meetings of the Group in 2019-20.**

On the 1st May, the Malawi CPG met to hear from two **health projects** in Malawi funded by the Scottish Government's Malawi Development Programme, with talks by Angus Loudon, the Chief Executive Officer at St John Scotland, and Mike McKirdy, Professional Advisor for the Scottish Global Health Co-ordination Unit.

On the 11th September, the CPG welcomed the **first Malawian veterinary students** to graduate from the new Veterinary School in Malawi, supported by Scotland. The group's Head of Department, Professor Tefera Melaku from Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR), spoke at the CPG, with some of the 12 students participating in a Q&A. Several of the vets then gave moving testimony of their route to gaining a place to study as part of the first cohort of vets to graduate from LUANAR and what their ambitions for the future are.

On the 19th February the Malawi CPG met to discuss **education and community** engagement projects and partnerships with Malawi. The Malawi Country Director, Harold Kuombola, and International Programme Manager, Kate Sykes, from Link Community Development briefed the group on their work providing support and training for government staff,



Ken Ross and David Hope-Jones briefing the First Minister on the Malawi and Scotland: Together for Sustainable Development Report

district education officers, communities and schools to support more effective teaching, improved school management and increased community engagement.

Through the year we convened regular informal cross party engagements in Holyrood, including meetings with **William Kamkwamba**, the Chair of CDC and others.



The Presiding Officer and Deputy Presiding Officer meet William Kamkwamba

# Westminster & Whitehall

**The SMP was also active in Westminster and Whitehall (although no Scottish Government funds were used for this work). We provided the Secretariat for the Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) which continued to be active through the year.**

The APPG's greatest achievement in 2019-20 was to partner with the APPG for Migration and the APPG for Africa, to conduct a major all-party parliamentary looking at the way those from Africa are treated when they apply for a UK Visa. This has been a longstanding issue for SMP members and their partners, and we are pleased to continue to represent these concerns in Westminster.

As part of the Inquiry, the APPGs met with the UK Immigration Minister and the UK's Independent Chief Inspector of Immigration, took public evidence and received submissions from across the UK and Africa. On the 16th July the APPGs came together to launch its all party report, presenting its concerns directly to the Immigration Minister and 60 representatives across civic society.

*“There has been clear evidence of inconsistent or careless decision-making and a lack of procedural fairness. All this only serves to discourage people from Africa to come to the UK. Too many now simply don't want to start the visa application process, and everyone is losing out as a result.”*

**Patrick Grady MP, Chair of the Malawi APPG**

*“It is good to hear when we have got it wrong as this is the best way we can learn and strengthen our systems. If this report helps us to do our job better, then I am extremely grateful for it.”*

**UK Immigration Minister, Caroline Nokes MP**



# Accounts

The work of the Scotland Malawi Partnership is funded primarily from grants, membership fees and voluntary donations.

## Income

A total of **£491,695** was received in 2019-20, comprising:

- £242,536 core funding from Scottish Government for the SMP's core operations
- £109,482 funding from the Scottish Government for the development of MaSP
- £80,768 of restricted income received for MaSP for other activities
- £9,527 of restricted funding received for SMP from various sources
- £29,382 Unrestricted fund, including subscriptions, donations and others
- £20,000 received for MaSP to carry out safeguarding training amongst its members

## Expenditure

A total of **£500,323** was expended in 2019-20. The largest areas of expenditure were:

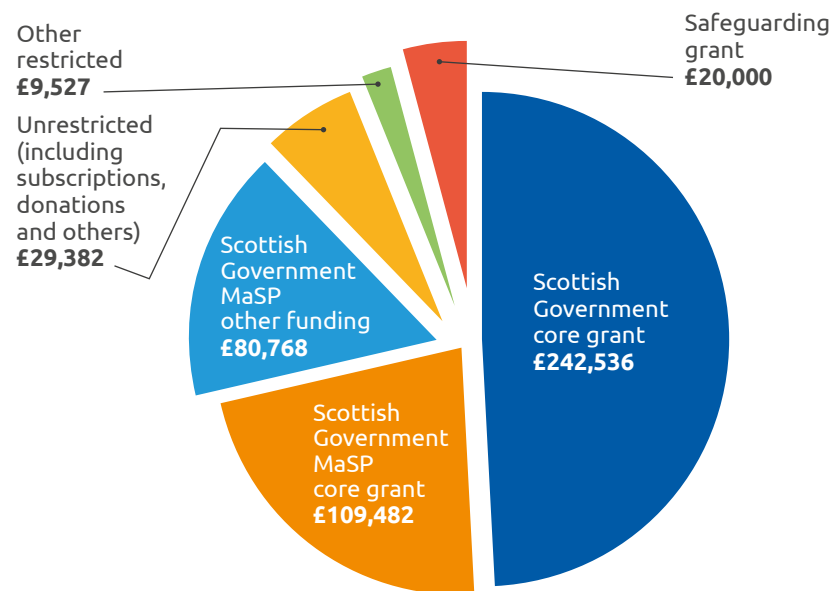
- £201,620 for SMP employment costs including salaries and wages of £173,376 and oncosts including employers NIC £16,225 and employers pension £8,825
- £239,764 for MaSP development including the Scottish Government core grant and safeguarding grants
- £20,673 was spent on events and operational matters

## Bank balance

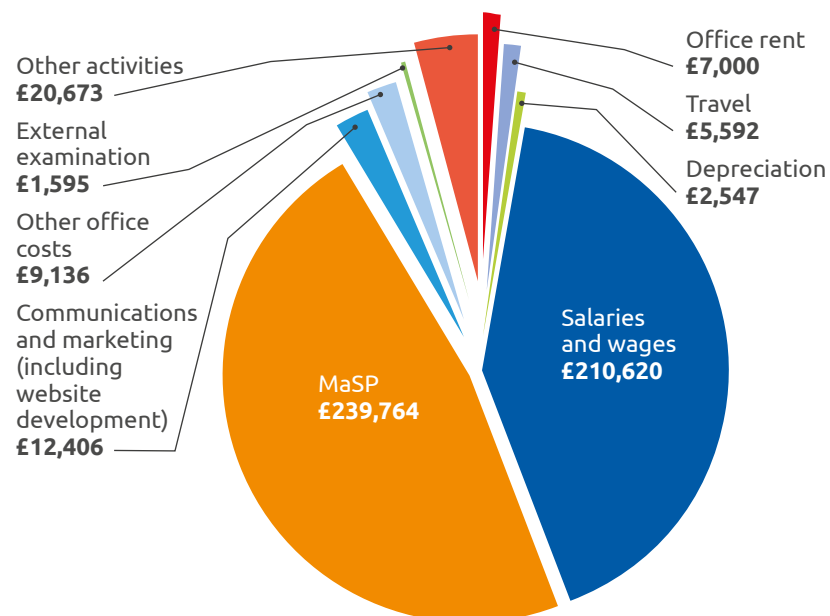
It should be noted that some income streams are not received annually and a direct comparison of income and expenditure within a 12-month period therefore only gives a part of the picture. At the end of the financial year 2019-20, the Scotland Malawi Partnership had the following funds in the bank: restricted balance £28,653 and unrestricted £106,361.

A full copy of the Report and Accounts for the 12-month period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 is available on request. A funding agreement for 2017-20 and 2020-23 is in place with the Scottish Government. We are indebted for the continued leadership and support from the Scottish Government.

## Income £491,695



## Expenditure £500,323





Drums kids

“ The SMP was our first port of call and, from the initial meeting onwards, they have been nothing but supportive. We benefited tremendously from the depth of experience; the contacts; the networks; the forums; the processes and the patient listening and advice we have received from the SMP. ” **Mick James**



Brave Mnyayi entertaining a lesson!

## Message from our Chief Executive:

### 2019-20 was another fantastic year in the story of the Scotland Malawi Partnership.

Members, staff, volunteers and the Board came together to achieve amazing things and I am hugely grateful to all who made the year a success. We had more and larger events than ever before, finding ever more innovative ways of bringing members together to support networking, shared learning and collaboration.

The Member Awards with HRH The Princes Royal, the School Partnership Awards with William Kamkwamba, and our AGM with Lazarus, were just a few of the wonderful highlights for me. This report brings back many happy memories of the SMP at its best.

It is impossible to talk about 2019-20 with noting that the year ended with the beginning of the Covid-19 crisis, a crisis threatening both our nations.

The small SMP staff team moved quickly and effectively into home-working and, with the Board, we quickly agreed a thorough [Covid-19 Risk Register](#) and a strategic [Covid-19 Response Strategy](#), with four core strands: continuity, support, innovation and inspiration. On 31st March, the last day of the year covered in this report, we had the first in what has become a series of high-impact nation-to-nation Covid Coordination meetings on Zoom.

The SMP has often been praised for its agility and innovation, and the spirit of

partnership and collaboration which underpins its work. Never before has this been more important than in our work helping fight Covid-19 with our members.



At the point of writing, more than 250 organisations and key individuals, in both countries, have tapped into the SMP's Covid support services, 94% rating these as 'excellent' or 'very good', and 95% saying these have helped strengthen their Covid response. We are promoting twenty separate Scotland-Malawi covid appeals, with many having far exceeded their targets thanks to the SMP's promotion and support.

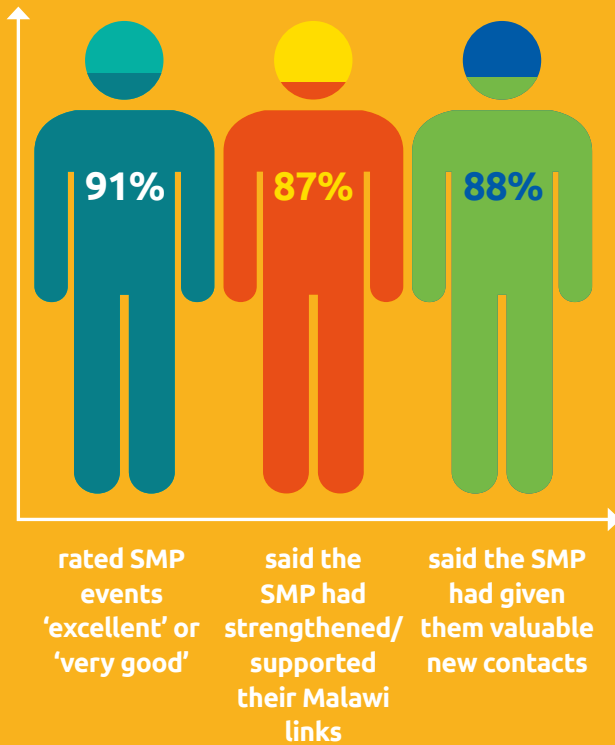
At times of change and challenge, it is important to remember what we hold above all else. We stand for an approach to international development underpinned by solidarity, mutual respect and mutual understanding. We believe in the inspiring power and impact of civic society: schools, churches, universities, hospitals, community groups, NGOs, and businesses all working together for one collective effort. And we believe that through these myriad people-to-people and community-to-community links, we can effect real and lasting positive change.

We will continue to champion these core values in the months and years ahead, and we believe while there may be further change and challenge, the next 160 years in our friendship with Malawi will only see the bilateral relationship grown and deepen.

**David Hope-Jones** OBE  
Chief Executive



## In our 2020 member survey...



[www.scotland-malawipartnership.org](http://www.scotland-malawipartnership.org)