

vision
VALUES
ENGAGEMENT
FORUMS
YOUTH
training
campaigning
LOBBYING
AND ADVOCACY

INFORMATION
-SHARING



Scotland Malawi Partnership

2013

Annual Report

SUPPORTED BY



FORWARD



At the Scotland Malawi Partnership we have our focus very much on the future. We believe we have an innovative model of international development which can meet the great moral challenge presented by the extreme poverty which blights the lives of far too many of the citizens of countries like Malawi. We have seen that fostering relationships of mutual respect and affection enables a strategic deployment of resources which genuinely transforms the lives of individuals, families and communities.

Our approach may challenge some of the orthodoxies of modern development theory but we take inspiration from people we recognize as forerunners of our project. None more so than David Livingstone. Celebrating the bicentenary of his birth in March 2013 we rekindled the passion which he brought to his lifelong effort to eradicate the slave trade in East Africa. An equivalent initiative in our own time was the “Enough Food for Everyone IF” campaign focused on the UK’s hosting of the G8. No surprise that the SMP was thoroughly involved in taking this campaign forward in Scotland.

Livingstone was a pioneer of true partnership. There could have been no better way to mark his Bicentenary year than with the launch of the Malawi Scotland Partnership – a counterpart of the SMP on the Malawi side of the relationship. This was the fruit of strenuous efforts over several years and it has been hugely encouraging to see MaSP become a reality. Now we heartily welcome the opportunity to have a partner organisation which will do things the Malawi way and which will have much to teach us in the process.

Many of the SMP’s best moments in recent years have come when young people have spoken of what Malawi has meant to them. Building on the 2012 AGM’s

decision to launch a youth membership category, we have seen steady growth in the involvement of young people in the Partnership and are determined to see this continue.

While we remain strictly non-governmental and apolitical, we have further strengthened our close working relationship with the Scottish Government during the past year and express our gratitude to them for their unfailing support, shared aspiration and productive collaboration.

Above all, our thanks are due to our members who continue to drive the Partnership forward by their insightful contributions to the discussions held in the Forums, their enthusiastic participation in special events and the imaginative use they make of the material generated by the SMP from week to week.

On behalf of the Board I conclude by placing on record our sincere admiration for the range, depth and quality of the work undertaken by David Hope-Jones, Charlie Ager and the interns in the office – we continue to be amazed that so much can be done by so few for so many. In particular this year I would like to acknowledge the huge contribution made by Angus MacDougall as our Finance and Administration Officer over the past five years. Knowing that our financial and administrative infrastructure was in such capable hands has freed the Board and staff to pursue an outward-looking agenda to which Angus himself has always given constant encouragement and support. We wish him a very happy retirement and hope that, in one way or another, Malawi will be part of it.

Kenneth R. Ross, Chair



31% Growth in the SMP's membership in 2012/13

85,000 Scots actively involved in links with Malawi

148,000 Malawians actively involved in links with Scotland

£30 million The value of money, time and in-kind donations made by the membership of the SMP to Scotland's links with Malawi

“

I would like to say a big thank you to the SMP staff. I think you are doing a great job and making a real difference to the strength of the partnerships between Scotland and Malawi. Your professional and very friendly approach means that it is a real pleasure to work with you and I appreciate the help you have given this year..

Donnamarie O'Connell,
RSPCA International

”

Scottish Malawi Partnership Annual report 2012-2013



Vision:

The SMP exists to inspire the people and organisations of Scotland to be involved with Malawi in an informed, coordinated and effective way to the benefit of both nations.

The Scotland Malawi Partnership promotes a people-to-people model of development, rooted in the shared history between our two countries. It focuses on active relationships between people to foster a shared understanding of the development challenges facing Malawi and

Mission:

We aim to foster links, consistent with our values, between the two nations, and encourage development of sustainable projects in Malawi by:

- Informing and inspiring civil society in Scotland about the work of the Partnership, the unique shared history between Scotland and Malawi, and the development challenges facing Malawi, in order to increase public support for extending and enriching the relationship between the two nations;

“

In 2012/13 the SMP helped strengthen my links with Malawi, and put me in touch with others in Scotland who share my interest in this relationship.

Iona Coulson,
SMP Youth Member

”

VISION, MISSION

to support the development of practical, sustainable solutions. It is through this deeper understanding and shared human experience that the people of Scotland and Malawi will be able to effect real and lasting change, both through their own activity and by influencing the policies and actions of governments and institutions.

- Seeking to employ an alternative model of international development, based on mutually beneficial civil society partnerships and links, and advocating its wider employment elsewhere;
- Acting as a forum for encouraging best practice amongst member organisations through the provision of training and the sharing of ideas, processes and information;
- Encouraging a reduction in the duplication of effort in Malawi by facilitating networking, promoting shared learning and raising awareness of existing initiatives;
- Developing support mechanisms which can lead to an exchange of people and/or advance cultural, political or economic understanding between Scotland and Malawi;
- Informing our members of activities, opportunities or items of significance arising in either Scotland or Malawi;
- Demonstrating the relevance of Scotland's civil society contribution to the attainment of the Government of Malawi's Growth and Development Strategy and the Millennium Development Goals.

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Values:

Our Values describe our approach; our Vision and Mission can only be achieved if staff, directors, member organisations and associate members hold these values:

Mutual Respect

We recognise that the historic bilateral civil society relationship between Scotland and Malawi is built on trust and mutual respect and we celebrate its inherent reciprocity.

Cooperation

We foster a spirit of cooperation, building partnerships and alliances in pursuit of our objectives, avoiding duplication and forging creative ways to work together.

Internationalism

We stand in the tradition of Scottish internationalism, resisting isolationism and xenophobia, believing that Scotland's strength lies in building strong relationships with nations elsewhere in the world.

Service

Paramount in all our work is provision of the highest possible quality of service to our members. We strive to meet their expressed needs by offering relevant information, advice, training and resources.

Continuous improvement

We continuously strive to improve the quality of our service, as perceived by our members, to encourage viable, ethical development activity between our members and their Malawian counterparts.

Sector understanding

We understand the sector(s) in which our members are operating, both in Scotland and Malawi, and respond positively to situations which can advance developmental aspects of the Partnership.

Development

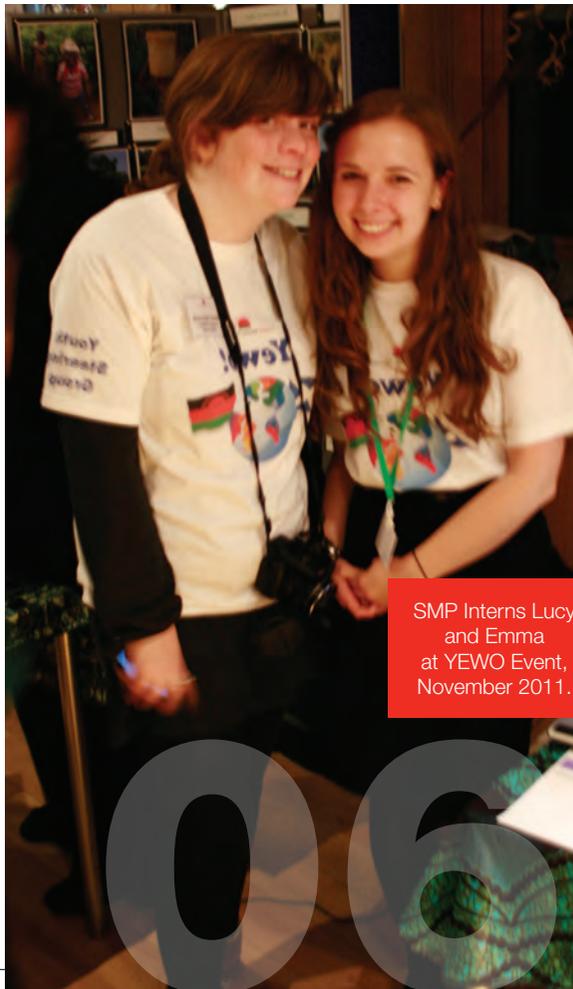
Staff, directors and members are committed to encouraging links between Scotland and Malawi, to reduce poverty, promote justice and relieve suffering in Malawi. To achieve that, we all have a role to play in managing our own development and in being supportive of others.

AND VALUES



MANAGEMENT AND

The Scotland Malawi Partnership is governed by a Board of Directors which met five times in the 2012/13 financial year. The office, Policy and Strategy Committee, Audit and Finance Committee, and Staffing Committee all report to the Board.



SMP Interns Lucy and Emma at YEWO Event, November 2011.

Board of Trustees in 2012/13:

- Kenneth Ross, Chair
 - Susan Dalgety, Co-Vice Chair
 - Andrew Parker, Co-Vice Chair
 - Elspeth Pentland, Co-Vice Chair
- Mizeck Chagunda
 - Walter Dunlop
 - Isabel Bruce
 - Sam Riddell
 - Pat Hiddleston
 - Jack Thompson
 - Cate Nelson-Shaw
 - Elizabeth Williamson
 - Derek Young
 - Claire Martin
 - Elvis Mpakati Gama
- Burnett Lunan (Retired)
 - Chris Brotherton (Retired)
 - Marlene Galashan (Retired)



SMP Interns Katie and Helen, with Charlie, at IF Campaign Launch, January 2013

Staff in 2012/13:

- David Hope-Jones, Principal Officer
- Charlie Ager, Member Services Officer
 - Angus MacDougall, Finance and Administration Officer

Interns 2012/13:

- Lucy Orren (Events Intern)
 - Emma Dalrymple (Communications Intern)
- Katie Stellard (Communications Intern)
 - Helen Sims (Events Intern)
- Robert Sangster-Poole (Research Intern)

GOVERNANCE



Ken Ross introduces
President Banda to
SMP members

“

In 2012/13 the SMP made me more aware of the great range of organisations working together between Scotland and Malawi. We feel part of something much bigger and it gives us more confidence to progress our project.”

SMP Member

”

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The work of the Scotland Malawi Partnership (SMP) is funded primarily from grants, membership fees and voluntary donations. Incoming Resources in the year to 31 March 2013 totalled £306,143. This total includes the full amount of a Scottish Government grant of £192,473 awarded to the Scotland Malawi Partnership for the development of the Malawi Scotland Partnership (MaSP) over the three year period from 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2015. Only the first instalment of £68,402 of the total grant was actually

A total of £133,587 was expended on the work of the Partnership. SMP core operating costs amounted to £80,638. Expenditure on SMP projects, events and activities accounted for a further £19,460, of which £9,969 was grant-funded and £9,491 was funded from SMP's unrestricted reserves, as authorised by the Board of Directors, on activities in support of the company's objectives not funded by the Scottish Government grant. Expenditure incurred by the SMP on MaSP development amounted to £33,489:

The accounting treatment for grant income, although complying strictly with regulations, makes it difficult to compare underlying revenue and costs in the year. The charts here give a more realistic picture by showing revenue and costs on a matched basis: the Scottish Government grant of £89,246 received in 2012/13 for the administration of the Partnership, which is excluded from this year's accounts as the whole of the three year grant was accounted for last year, has been included within revenue on this basis, but only the first year grant of £68,402 for the development of the Malawi Scotland Partnership. Revenue and costs are therefore more directly comparable. The resultant overall surplus of around £137,000 comprises the unspent £100,000 David Livingstone grant, an under-spend of £35,000 on Malawi Scotland Partnership development due to a later start and slower build-up than originally envisaged, and a small £2,000 surplus on SMP operations.

A full copy of the Report and Accounts covering the 12 month period from 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013 is available from our website or on request.

FINANCES

received in 2012/13, but, as required by current reporting regulations, the full amount of the grant award is shown as Incoming Resources in the 2012/13 accounts, and the future grant instalments receivable in 2013/14 and 2014/15 are treated as debtors. In addition, a grant of £100,000 was received from the Scottish Government to fund a David Livingstone Bicentenary Scholarship Programme in Malawi to give 35 under-privileged Malawi students the opportunity to undertake a Masters degree in Malawi. The funds will be disbursed in two tranches, in September-December 2013 and September-December 2014, and the full amount of the grant is included within Incoming Resources in the 2012/13 accounts.

funding transfers to support operations in Malawi accounted for £22,030, and UK-incurred expenditure, mainly on travel and activities, totalled £11,459.

The net movement in funds in the year totalled £172,556. At the end of the year, funds carried forward amounted to £396,584, of which Restricted Funds totalled £349,514 including future grant instalments receivable of £215,066, and Unrestricted Funds were £47,070. The cash balance at 31 March 2012 was £189,550.

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Comparison of 2012/13 Revenue and Costs on a Matched Basis

Chart 1

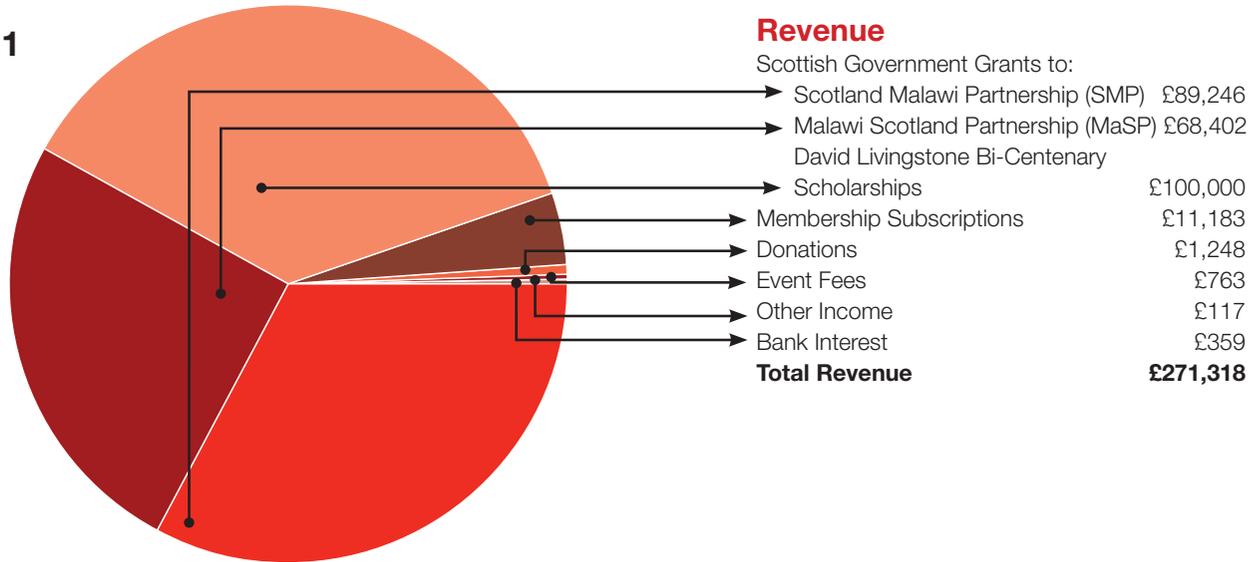
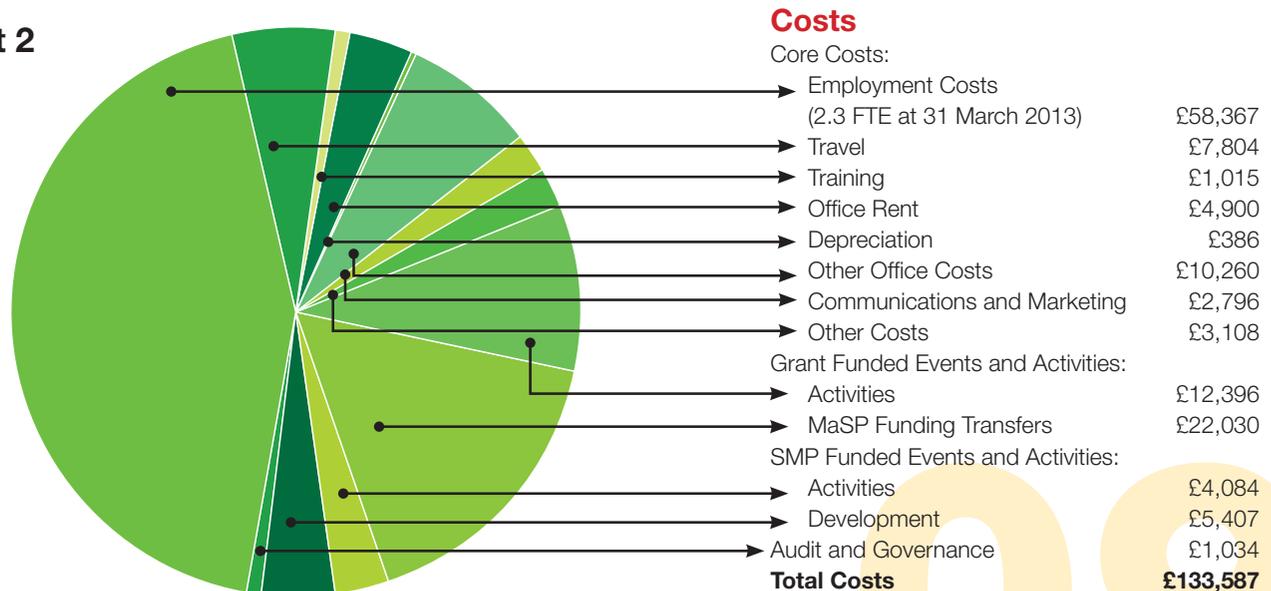


Chart 2



MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

*I'm grateful for
your efforts, your
time and the
information.*

Barbara McFarlane,
SMP Member

In 2012/13 the SMP:

- hosted 16 forum meetings in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen for over 450 members and key stakeholders;
- ran 9 Chichewa and Chitumbuka language and culture workshops;
- facilitated 5 youth steering group meetings;
- hosted an event with Her Excellency President Joyce Banda.

Member Forums:

The SMP hosted 16 forum meetings in 2012/13 in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Aberdeen. In this period over 450 members and key stakeholders attended the forums. Each forum aims to strengthen Scotland-Malawi people-to-people links through active, informed and sustained two-way dialogue. Each forum actively sought input from Malawian civil society, NGOs and the Government of Malawi to inform discussions.

▶ Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) FORUM

In 2012/13 the WASH Forum:

- Submitted to the Scottish Government's Hydro Nation consultation;
- Presented at the Scottish Government's Hydro Nation Conference;
- Helped with the development of the Hydro Nation consortium;
- Received input directly from Malawian MPs, civil servants, NGO practitioners and university lecturers via skype and in person;
- Met with President Banda at SMP "Livingstone's Living Legacy" event.

WASH Feedback:

- 100% of respondents said that the format of the meetings were useful, and conducive to good discussion and networking.

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Primary and Secondary Schools Links Forum

In 2012/13 the School Links Forum:

- Fed into the SMP's Youth Engagement Strategy consultation;
- Worked with British Council Malawi to share school partnership principles;
- Co-hosted 'Education and International Development: an exploration of good practice' (see www.tinyurl.com/educationbestpractice or scan the QR code below);
- Proposed an update of the SMP's Practical Guide to School Partnerships;
- Met with President Banda at the SMP "Livingstone's Living Legacy" event.

School Forum Feedback:

- 100% of respondents said that the format of the meetings were useful, and conducive to good discussion and networking.



Further and Higher Education Forum

In 2012/13 the FE/HE Forum:

- Compiled the "Scotland-Malawi Further and Higher Education Linking: Forwards. Together" report. (see www.tinyurl.com/forwardstogether or scan QR code to the right);
- Created a steering group to advise on the administration of the Livingstone Bicentenary Scholarships;
- Developed work bridging academia and the NGO community;
- Met with President Banda at the SMP "Livingstone's Living Legacy" event.

HE/FE Forum Feedback:

- 90% of respondents reported that the topics explored through the Further and Higher Education Forum were interesting and useful to their link with Malawi.





▶ Health Links Forum

In 2012/13 the Health Links Forum:

- Developed a one-page briefing on resources and guides available for medical students going to Malawi. (See: www.tinyurl.com/SMPMedElectives2012);
- Worked with DFID and the British High Commission on the issue of drug shortages in Malawi;
- Updated the SMP's Maternal Health Report (See: www.tinyurl.com/SMPMatHealthUpdate2013 or scan QR code to the right);
- Met with President Banda at the SMP "Livingstone's Living Legacy" event.



Health Forum Feedback:

- 82% of respondents reported that the topics explored through the Health Links Forum were interesting and useful to their link with Malawi.

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▶ Gender Equality Forum

In 2012/13 the Gender Equality Forum:

- Launched the "Gender Matters" campaign. The purpose of the campaign is to support the integration of gender equality and women's empowerment in development initiatives, community links, school partnerships, and all Scotland-Malawi links;
- Collected "Gender Matters" campaign postcards;
- Explored Gender in education and political representation;
- Met with President Banda at the SMP "Livingstone's Living Legacy" event.

Gender Forum Feedback:

- 75% of respondents reported that the topics explored through the Gender Equality Forum were interesting and useful to their link with Malawi.

“ *In 2012/13 the SMP made me more aware of the great range of organisations working together between Scotland and Malawi. We feel part of something much bigger and it gives us more confidence to progress our project.* **”**

SMP Member.



Training:

In April 2012 and March 2013 the SMP ran nine Chichewa and Chitumbuka language workshops in Edinburgh and Glasgow. 91% of participants said their knowledge of Chichewa/Chitumbuka had improved. 87% said their knowledge of cultural practices and traditions in Malawi had improved.

“

Just a quick note to say thanks for organising those workshops. I really enjoyed the sessions and they were a really useful overview of what to expect when I go out to Malawi. It has also been nice to communicate with my colleagues in Malawi using my very limited Chichewa so has already come in useful!

Lorna McDonald,
Tearfund

”

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Emily and Brave Mnyayi teaching at a Chichewa workshop, Edinburgh, March 2013



Enock Bamusi teaching at a Chichewa workshop, Glasgow, March 2013

Youth Engagement: !Yewo!

7th November 2012

2012/13 was an exciting year for the SMP's youth engagement. At the September 2012 AGM there was a unanimous vote of support for the proposal to create a new, free, youth membership category for 14-24 year olds. On the 7th September the SMP hosted "Yewo! A Celebration of Scotland Malawi Youth Links" at the Scottish Parliament, an event raising awareness of the youth-led links which exist between Scotland and Malawi, enabling networking between these partnerships, and launching the youth membership of the SMP. The event was attended by Humza Yousaf MSP and 230 guests, representing numerous college and universities, 5th and 6th year pupils, and other 16-24 year olds with links to Malawi. Organisations and charities supporting youth links between Scotland and Malawi were also present. Photos of the event are available online at: www.tinyurl.com/YEWOphotos or scan the QR code.



SMP Youth
Steering Group
representatives,
November 2012

“
I thought it was an excellent, excellent event and that there should be more to come. Networking between these links is of vital importance.
”

Yewo attendee,
November 2012

Yewo!



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President Banda meets Martha and Dave Payne of NeverSeconds, and Olivia Giles of 500 Miles, March 2013.

Presidential visit

On the 18th March 2013 the SMP hosted “Scotland and Malawi: Livingstone’s Living Legacy”, with speakers including Her Excellency President Banda (Southern Africa’s first female head of state), Humza Yousaf MSP and Martha Payne. In addition to the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, many key members of the Malawi Cabinet, and the diaspora community, more than 180 SMP members attended representing: schools, colleges and universities; students, girl guides and other youth groups; doctors, nurses, hospitals and clinics; business, trade envoys and micro-finances groups; churches and other faith groups; NGOs of all sizes; environmental groups; museums and other cultural centres; water agencies and agricultural associations; women’s groups, rotary clubs and countless other local community associations. The President spoke passionately in support of the people-to-people links which unite our two countries, and met with representatives -young and old- of more than thirty SMP members including partnerships in health, education, gender, water, as well as

representatives of the diaspora community and Martha Payne. The event showcased the breadth and depth of the people-to-people links, specifically highlighting how gender equality, female empowerment and youth engagement are driving forces in the future of Livingstone’s legacy.

Fantastic photos are available from the day at: www.tinyurl.com/LivingstoneLivingLegacy and the Associated Press’ video www.tinyurl.com/AssocPressVideo

The SMP co-produced a video with footage from this event to show the relevance of the “Enough Food For Everyone IF...” campaign to Malawi. Visit www.tinyurl.com/IFmalawi or scan QR code.

Media coverage was excellent with good coverage on radio, online and in the print media, and more than 20 features in the national media.

“

A fantastic event, going well beyond all expectations. It was helped enormously by the atmosphere in the venue, the joyous positivity of the Members present, and the relaxed participation of Her Excellency and her team.

It was good to be present and to see the impression you/we are making in the relationship between the two countries.

May I congratulate you on a highly successful and fascinating event ... Thank you very much for the immense support you provide and buzz you create through SMP.



”



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INFORMATION-SHARING

I wanted to say I think the SMP bulletin is EXCELLENT!

Janine Ewen,
St Andrew's
First Aid



Bulletin:

Between April 2012 and March 2013 the SMP sent out 50 news bulletins to more than 600 members and partners. 71% of surveyed members regularly read the week news bulletins; of these, 92% find them “extremely” (43%) or “quite” (23%) valuable. The bulletins have highlighted top news stories from Malawi, funding opportunities, requests for help from the membership, upcoming events and the latest advice on visas, currency fluctuations, etc.

Website and online forums:

During 2012/13 the SMP has been developing its website. During this period the website has received over 1.8 million hits. 95% of those surveyed who used the SMP website or online database in 2012 found it “extremely” or “quite” valuable.

Social media:

During 2012/13 the SMP significantly increased its social media presence. Thanks to the work of the office and Communications Interns Emma Dalrymple and Katie Stellard, by March 2013 the SMP’s Facebook group had a reach of 27,752 users, “likes” on our page had increased by 205%, and followers on Twitter had increased by 267% since August 2012.

For more information, “like” the SMPs facebook page at www.facebook.com/ScotlandMalawiPartnership and follow us on Twitter @ScotlandMalawi.

Enquiries:

In 2012/13 the SMP successfully handled over 2,000 separate enquiries through the office. 90% of SMP members surveyed who made an enquiry, or received other support, from the SMP office found the service “extremely” or “quite” valuable.



Publications:

In 2012/13 the SMP published the following reports for its members:

- “Education and International Development: an exploration of good practice” (see www.tinyurl.com/educationbestpractice);
- “Scotland-Malawi Further and Higher Education Linking: Forwards. Together” Report (see www.tinyurl.com/forwardstogether);
- Stride article on “Gender Matters...in education”(March 2013) (see www.tinyurl.com/GMinEd);
- “2011-12 Annual Report” (see www.tinyurl.com/SMPAR2012);
- “Update on SMP’s Maternal Health Report” (See: www.tinyurl.com/SMPMatHealthUpdate2013);
- “Briefing on resources and guides available for medical students going to Malawi” (See: www.tinyurl.com/SMPMedElectives2012).

83% of those who read an SMP publication in 2012 found it “extremely” or “quite” valuable.

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PARTNERSHIP WORKING



The SMP is committed to partnership working, both in Scotland and Malawi. Through 2012/13 we co-hosted a number of events and engagements with our key partners:

Network Forum

On the 27th April 2012 the SMP co-hosted with NIDOS, IDEAS, the Scottish Fair Trade Forum and LCD, the event: "Education and International Development: an exploration of good practice" which was attended by over 100 teachers, education and development practitioners. 65% of delegates said their knowledge of good practice in education projects in Scotland, had improved as a result of attending the event. To read the full report published by the SMP on this event, see: www.tinyurl.com/educationbestpractice. To watch video of delegates speaking about the event, visit: www.tinyurl.com/educationbestpracticevideo.



CAS@50

In June 2012 the SMP co-hosted a Malawi round-table afternoon at the University of Edinburgh's Centre for African Studies' "CAS@50" conference, by facilitating Dr Fidelis Edge Kanyongolo's travel from Malawi. The afternoon was extremely well received.

Malawi Scotland Partnership

In June 2012 the SMP helped facilitate our sister organisation's Annual General Meeting in Malawi, attended by more than 85 Malawian organisations with links to Scotland. Later, in October, the SMP co-hosted "Moving Forwards in Partnership: a conference for Scottish Government Malawi Grant Partners" in Lilongwe. A very diverse range of organisations -by size, location and operation- took part in the conference. Feedback was overwhelming positive, with more than 96% of delegates saying their expectations were "entirely" or "mostly" met. 100% of delegates made useful new contacts at the meeting; more than 300 new connections were made between projects overall. Over 92% felt the conference had strengthened their links with Scotland.

Visit www.tinyurl.com/PartnershipPrincipals to watch a film of our partners in Malawi talking about the core partnership principles between Scotland and Malawi.



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The David Livingstone Bicentenary:

2012/13 ended with the bicentenary of the birth of David Livingstone, whose travels more than 150 years ago arguably started the Scotland-Malawi bilateral relationship. This key anniversary was celebrated in Malawi, Scotland and around the world.

The SMP played a leading role in a consortium which secured:

- £700,000 to guarantee the immediate future of David Livingstone Centre and coordinate the bicentenary;
- £100,000 for bicentenary scholarships for Malawian Masters students;
- £50,000 for small grants for bicentenary events; and supported more than 40 events and engagements.

Scottish Parliament – Cross Party Group on Malawi

The SMP serves as Secretary of the Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group (CPG) on Malawi. In 2012/13 the CPG on Malawi met four times, looking at topics including: the new President of Malawi, Scotland-Malawi veterinary links, gender equality and also facilitated an opportunity for members and stakeholders to meet the new Scottish Minister for International Development, Humza Yousaf MSP.



Her Excellency President Banda meets member of the Malawian Diaspora in Scotland, March 2013.

Malawian Diaspora

The SMP remains committed to supporting our friends and colleagues in the Malawian Diaspora in Scotland. This has included welcoming a second Malawian Diaspora representative onto the SMP Board, supporting various diaspora group meetings, facilitating a Diaspora meeting with the new Malawi High Commissioner, successfully lobbying for a question on the Scottish Government's IDF application form encouraging Diaspora-led applications, and setting up an online forum for Diaspora advice.



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CAMPAIGNING

IF Campaign

Early in 2013 the “Enough Food for Everyone IF” campaign was launched. The SMP has been an active member of the campaign:

- assisting with the Scottish launch in Glasgow City Centre in January;
- helping at the “If” Campaign photo op with Scottish Party Leaders;
- lobbying Scottish MSPs on specific Scottish campaign “asks”;
- Supporting a media stunt on Arthur’s Seat raising awareness about unfair “land grabs” around the world;
- Leading in the facilitation of Southern voices into the campaign. For example, organising a video interview with the Malawi High Commissioner, introducing the chief spokesperson for the campaign to President Joyce Banda (see www.tinyurl.com/IFmalawi), and facilitating two Malawian small-holder farmers to travel to Scotland and the G8.

ENOUGH FOOD FOR EVERYONE IF



Scottish Malawi Partnership Annual report 2012-2013



“Gender Matters”

On the 7th September the SMP launched its “Gender Matters” campaign. The launch was attended by 67 stakeholders, and included input from more than a dozen different Malawian organisations working for gender equality and a speech by the Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs, Fiona Hyslop MSP. Since the launch of the campaign the SMP has:

- Hosted two Forum meetings and one Cross Party Group looking at gender equality;
- Met with President Banda to talk about Scotland-Malawi contributions towards promoting gender equality;
- Collected over 100 postcards from members and key stakeholders sharing why “Gender matters” in their Malawi link.

Feedback from members indicates that over half of the membership has reflected on why “gender matters”, as a result of the SMP’s work in 2012. 13% of those who were prompted by the SMP to reflect on gender equality in 2012/13, changed their working as a result.

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LOBBYING AND ADVOCACY

In 2012/13 the SMP lobbied the Scottish, Malawian and UK Governments on behalf of our Members on a number of issues.

Lobbying and advocacy work with the UK Government/Parliament on:

- General Budget Support for Malawi (successfully lobbied to have this recommendation in the International Development Committee's report); (See report: www.tinyurl.com/IDCReport2012GBS);
- Through the "IF" campaign helped lobby for 0.7% of GNI for overseas assistance (successful);
- Protecting DFID's bottom line spend in Malawi (additional £36m secured);
- Clarity on UK visa issuing for visiting Malawians to the UK (ongoing);
- Restart of diplomatic relations with Malawi (successful).

Lobbying and advocacy work with the Scottish Government/Parliament on:

- Support for the Malawi Scotland Partnership (successful);
- Creation of a pilot Small Grants Fund (successful);
- Increased total Malawi spend (successful);
- Promoted four principles of transparency, sector engagement, forward planning and accessibility in the management of the International Development Fund (ongoing);
- Support for school partnerships (ongoing);
- Support for "Enough Food For Everyone IF..." campaign (successful);
- Early conversations about the 2014 referendum (ongoing).

Government/Parliament of Malawi:

- Alongside many others, called for constitutional succession after death of President Bingu wa Mutharika (successful);
- Restart of diplomatic relationship with the UK (successful);
- Managed "Moving Forwards" conference to meet needs of Government of Malawi Strand Leaders (successful).

Local Government:

- Raised awareness of Malawi after Scottish local elections (successful);
- Continue to support 15 of Scotland's 32 Local Authorities as SMP Members (ongoing);
- Explored direct authority-to-authority linking in the lead up to Malawi's tripartite elections in 2014 (ongoing);
- Built strong links with the new Lord Provost of Edinburgh (successful).

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CLOSING REMARKS



2012/13 was another breakthrough year for the Scotland Malawi Partnership, with membership exceeding 600, the Partnership welcoming 100 new youth members, and a record number of new events and activities.

Through the year we embarked on more and better joint working than ever before. As a member of the

'Enough food for everyone IF' campaign, we worked alongside 200 other charities, NGOs and faith groups lobbying the G8 to prioritise aid, land, tax and transparency, and ensuring the UK Government met its 43 year old commitment to invest 0.7% of GNI to overseas development for the first time. We also helped forge a consortium bringing together the Scottish Government, the National Trust for Scotland and South Lanarkshire Council, leveraging more than half a million pounds to save the David Livingstone centre in Blantyre and support the Livingstone bicentenary celebrations over the coming year.

Perhaps most excitingly, after years of endeavor and aspiration, in 2012 we were able to assist our sister organisation in Malawi, the Malawi Scotland Partnership, establish its own independent Secretariat. The significance of this should not be understated. There are all too few comparable bilateral initiatives where our partners and friends in the global south are able to lead the agenda and drive the partnership forwards. Ours is a partnership built on mutual-respect and mutual-understanding. Friendship, joint-working and Malawi-leadership are key in all we do.

2012/13 ended with one of the SMP's most exciting events to date - the visit to Scotland of President Joyce Banda, southern Africa's first ever female head of state. We ensured that while in Scotland the President met with dozens of SMP members: individuals young

and old, and organisations big and small. She spoke passionately about the work of the Partnership and the value of people-to-people links.

We are proud to be a member-led organisation, so feedback from our members is incredibly important in designing our work and improving our services. As the quotes and statistics throughout this report attest, we have enjoyed extremely positive feedback from our members over the last twelve months. It is clear the Partnership is working: we are delivering valuable services which are making a tangible difference, supporting our members' work and helping drive the bilateral civil society partnership forwards.

It's important to emphasise that success has not bred complacency. We remain alert to new and innovative ways we can improve our work; we learn from our experiences and we strive to always be as inclusive, transparent and accessible as is possible. While we have greatly enjoyed working closely with the new President of Malawi during her visit to Scotland, we recognize our core role is engaging and supporting grass-root civil society and community partnerships. We will continue to constructively engage the Malawi, UK and Scottish Governments but do so while remaining studiously apolitical and non-governmental, we criticize and praise our respective governments without fear or favour.

2013/14 presents exciting new opportunities for the Partnership as we look to develop a new three year Strategic Plan to guide our work from 2014 to 2017, and secure the necessary funding to make this vision a reality. Given the strength of support we enjoy from our members, our partners and our funders, it is likely this will be a period of continued growth and development. Onwards and upwards!

David Hope-Jones,
Principal Officer

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