

# **A submission to the Scottish Parliament European and External Relations Committee's inquiry**

*"Connecting Scotland - how the Scottish Government and its  
agencies engage internationally"*

by the  
**Scotland Malawi Partnership**  
and  
**683 Scottish organisations**  
with active links to Malawi

April 2015



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## The Authors

In the spirit of coordination of effort, rather than have hundreds of separate submissions to the Committee, this submission comes from 683 different Scottish organisations and community champions, all with active links to Malawi, including:

### 13 universities

- Edinburgh Napier University
- Glasgow Caledonian University
- Queen Margaret University
- Robert Gordon University
- The Open University in Scotland
- University of Aberdeen
- University of Dundee
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Glasgow
- University of St Andrews
- University of Stirling
- University of Strathclyde
- University of West of Scotland

### 6 colleges

- Adam Smith College
- Al Maktoum College of Higher Education
- Edinburgh College
- UK Co-operative College
- Scotland's Rural College
- Royal College of Nursing

### 15 local authorities

- East Ayrshire Council
- East Dunbartonshire Council
- East Lothian Council
- Falkirk Council Education Services
- Fife Council
- City of Edinburgh Council
- Glasgow City Council
- Highland Council
- Inverclyde Council (Education Services)
- North Ayrshire Council
- North Lanarkshire Council
- Perth and Kinross Council
- Renfrewshire Council
- South Ayrshire Council
- Stirling Council
- The

### 152 primary and secondary schools

- Alford Primary School
- Alva Academy
- Anderston Primary School
- Anstruther PS
- Auchenhavie Academy
- Auchermuchty PS
- Balgreen Primary School
- Balwearie High School
- Bannerman High School
- Bannockburn High School
- Bearsden Academy
- Bearsden PS
- Beath High School
- Beeslack Community High School
- Blairgowrie High School
- Broomhouse PS
- Broughton High School
- Bruntsfield Primary
- Burntisland Primary
- Caldercuilt Primary School
- Carleton Primary School
- Carmyle Primary School
- Carrick Knowe PS
- Carstairs PS
- Castlehill PS
- Clarkston PS
- Clydemuir Academy
- Clydeview Academy
- Coatbridge High School
- Corstorphine Primary School
- Craighead Primary School
- Craigholme School
- Crawfordjohn PS
- Crown Primary School
- Cumnock Academy
- Dalbeattie HS
- Dalgety Bay PS
- Dalmally Primary School
- Dean Park PS
- Donibristle Primary School
- Dumbarton Academy
- Dunblane High School
- Dunblane Primary School
- Dunbog Primary School
- Dunoon Grammar School
- Dyke Primary School
- Eastbank Academy
- Ednam Primary School
- Eigg Primary School
- Elie PS
- Falkirk High School
- Forres Academy
- Fortrose Academy
- Gairloch High School
- Garvel High School
- George Watson's College
- Gilmerton Primary School
- Glengowan PS
- Gleniffer HS
- Grantown Grammar School
- Greenfauld High School
- Hampden School
- Hillhead High School
- Holyrood Secondary School
- Hutcheson's School
- International School of Aberdeen
- Inverclyde Academy
- Inverkip Primary
- Inverness Royal Academy
- Iona PS
- Kelvindale
- Killermont PS
- Kilmacolm Primary

- Kincardine-in-Menteith Primary School
- King's Oak Primary
- King's Park Secondary
- Kingussie High School
- Kirkcaldy High School
- Kirkcowan PS
- Kirkintilloch High School
- Kirkmichael Primary School;
- Lawmuir Primary
- Leith Academy
- Lenzie Academy
- Letham PS
- Libberton PS
- Lochgelly High School
- Lockerbie Academy
- Logie Coldstone Primary School
- Mallaig High School
- Milne's High School
- Milne's Primary School
- Monquhitter PS
- Muck Primary School
- New Monkland Primary and Nursery School
- Newhill Primary School
- Newton PS
- Newtongrange Primary School
- North Berwick High School
- Notre Dame High School
- Our Lady of the Annunciation PS
- Penicuik High School
- Perth College
- Port Glasgow High School
- Prestwick Academy
- Rosshall Academy
- Rothesay Joint Campus
- Sanday Community School
- Smithycroft Secondary School
- South Morningside Primary
- Speyside High School
- Springfield Primary School;
- St Agatha's RC PS
- St Benedict's High School
- St Bernadette's Primary School
- St Clare's Primary
- St Columba's High School
- St David's Primary School
- St Dominic's RC PS
- St Helen's Primary School
- St Joachim's Primary School
- St Kentingern's Academy
- St Margaret's High School
- St Marnock's Primary
- St Mary's Esiscopal Primary School
- St Mary's Primary School
- St Matthew's Academy
- St Maurice's High School
- St Michael's Primary School
- St Ninian's PS
- St Stephen's Primary School
- St John the Baptist Primary School
- Star PS
- Stenhouse Primary School
- Stewart Melville College
- Stewart Melville College Junior School
- Stockbridge Primary
- Strathallan School
- Strathaven Academy
- Strone PS
- Swinton PS
- Tain Royal Academy
- The Mary Erskine School
- Tullos Primary
- Wallacewell PS
- Wemyss Bay Primary
- Westray Junior High School
- Whitburn Academy
- Whitecrock PS
- Williamwood HS
- Winchburgh Primary School
- Wiston PS

## 19 community groups

- Bothwell and Uddingston Rotary Club
- Churches of God - Fellowship Relief
- Dalgety Bay Friends of Engcongolweni
- Dalgety Parish Church
- District 1020 Rotary International
- Dunblane Likhubula Link
- Friends of Malawi Guiding
- Kwenderana Partnership Group
- Livingstonia-Blantyre-Zambia Fellowship
- Orkney Presbytery - Orkney Malawi Partnership
- Presbytery of Aberdeen
- Provincial Overseas Cmte of Scot. Episcopal Church
- St Andrews Church
- St Bernadette's Malawi Partnership
- St. Kenneth's Malawi Partnership
- Wider Horizons
- Child Survival in Malawi (Scotland) (CSIM)
- Auchtermuchty-Namadzi Church Partnership
- Ayr Presbytery Malawi Initiative

## 119 NGOs, charities and businesses

- 500 Miles
- Active Learning Centre
- Africa Health Trust
- APSTAR
- Book bus
- Cameron Tours of Scotland
- CBM UK
- Celsius Global Solutions
- Cerebral Palsu Africa
- Challenges Worldwide
- Chance for Change
- Child Support Project
- Children's Medical Care Malawi
- Christian Aid Scotland
- Church of Scotland World Mission Council
- CIFA Trust
- Classrooms for Malawi
- Climate Futures
- Community Energy Scotland
- Concern Worldwide
- CRADALL
- Cross Party Group on Malawi - Scottish Parliament
- Developing World Health
- Dochas Education Trust

- Dunira Strategy
- ECRAD
- Edinburgh Global Partnerships
- Electoral Reform International Services (ERIS)
- EMMS International
- Fair Trade Scotland Ltd
- First Aid Africa
- FOMO (Friends of Mulanje Orphans)
- FROM - Famine Relief for Orphans in Malawi
- GALVmed
- Global Concerns Trust
- Grow Movement
- Haemophilia Scotland
- Health Protection Scotland
- Imani Enterprise (part of Imani Development)
- Inglis Veterinary Centres Ltd
- Institute for International Health & Development
- International Tartans
- Impact
- Jubilee Scotland
- Just Trading Scotland
- Kenyawiki Kids
- Lake of Stars Ltd
- Link Community Development
- Loveness JZ Charity Trust Malawi
- LUV (Leprosy@Utale Village)
- Malawi Association in Scotland
- Malawi Consulate
- Malawi Fruits
- Malawi Initiative for National Development (MIND)
- Malawi Millennium Project
- Malawi Tourism Marketing Consortium
- Malawi Underprivileged Mothers
- Mamie Martin Fund
- Mary's Meals
- Meningitis Research Foundation (MRF)
- Microloan Foundation
- Mondo Loco Foundation
- Mother and Child Rights (macRights)
- National Museums Scotland
- NHS Tayside Emergency Medicine Service
- Opportunity International
- Plan Vivo Foundation
- Project Trust
- Provincial Grand Lodge of Ross and Cromarty
- R.S. Garrow Ltd
- Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth
- Royal College of Nursing
- Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland
- RSPB Scotland
- RSPCA
- Scotland Malawi Anaesthesia
- Scotland Malawi Business Group
- ScotMal Oral Health Aid (ScoHA)
- Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF)
- Scottish Countryside Rangers Association
- Scottish Malawi Foundation
- Scottish Relief Fund for Malawi
- Sense Scotland
- Smalls for All
- Social Enterprise Academy
- Spirit Aid
- St Andrews Children's Society
- Strathclyde University Graduates Association
- Student Volunteers Abroad (SVA)
- Students for Kids International Projects
- Students for Malawi
- Sue Ryder
- Teamwork Trust
- Tearfund
- The AMECA Trust
- The Chesney Trust (for Education in Malawi)
- The Healthy Lifestyle Project
- The James Hutton Institute
- The John & Mary Elliot Memorial trust
- The Landirani Trust
- The National Records of Scotland
- The Open University
- The Orskov Foundation
- The Responsible Safari Company
- The Scotland Malawi Mental Health Education Project
- The Scottish Bible Society
- The Soko Fund
- The Wickerman Festival
- Traidcraft
- Twinning of Scottish and Malawian Clinics Project
- UK Co-operative College
- VSO Scotland
- Water For All Africa
- WaterAid
- Wellcome Trust Centre for Molecular Parasitology
- Woodford Foundation
- World Development Movement
- Xchange Scotland
- Zambesi Mission

## 173 community champions

- Katharina Adler
- Iris Aitchison
- Keith Allen
- Vivienne Armstrong
- Nan Arnott
- Robin Arnott
- David Atherton
- Lesley Atkins
- Joseph Bakuwa
- Ray Baxter
- Claudia Beamish
- Maria Beard
- Andrew and Kim Black
- Angela Botha
- Willings Botha
- Chris Brotherton
- Isabel Bruce
- Gemma Burnside
- John Calder
- James Campbell
- Christine Campbell



- Mizeck Chagunda
- Nancy Elsie Chawawa
- Limbikani Chipwatali
- Ada Cobham
- Liz Cotton
- Ishbel Coy
- Alli Coyle
- Heather Cubie
- Gillian Davies
- Anne Dawson
- David Dewhurst
- Ian Dickson
- Helen Donald
- Walter Dunlop
- Moira Dunworth
- Geoff Earl
- Martyn Edelsten
- Robert England
- John Fanning
- Patricia Ferguson
- George Finlayson
- Calum Fisher
- Neil Fisher
- Claire Footitt
- Jane Forster
- Murdo Fraser
- Alan and Edith Fraser
- John Gillies
- Wesley Gold
- Ian A D Gordon MBE
- Andrew Goudie
- Liz Grant
- Jenni Gudgeon
- Alice Gwedeza
- Ann Hale
- Clifford Harawa
- Rose Mary Harley
- Robin Harper
- John Harrison
- Anne Hepburn
- Pat Hiddleston
- Lorna Hobson
- Joan Hoggan
- Evelyn Hope
- Neil Horne
- Peter Howson
- Jonathan Hunter
- Alayna Imlah
- Clive Irvine
- Fiona Johnson-Chalamanda
- Irene Johnstone
- Thokozani Kachale
- Blessings Kachale
- Robert Kalin
- Chisomo Kalinga
- Michael Joe Kamisa
- Miriam Kasowanjete
- Wonderful Khonje
- Christine Knight
- John Knox
- Michelle Kohler
- Rebecca Laidlaw
- John Lang
- Derek Law
- Roger Leakey
- Margaret Livingstone
- Dorothy Logie
- Burnett Lunan
- John Lwanda
- Lindsey Macdonald
- Alastair Macintyre
- Georgina Macmillan
- Gordon Macpherson
- Stephy Makungwa
- Colin Martin
- Yonah Matemba
- Michael Matheson
- Dinnah Mbisa
- Sandra McCall
- Liz McCall
- John McCracken
- Douglas McCulloch
- Maureen McIntyre
- Christina McKelvie
- Ewan McVicar
- Lorraine Miller
- Charlotte Mitchell
- Brave Mnyayi
- Tracy Morse
- Effie Mpakati Gama
- Elvis Mpakati Gama
- Chisimphika Mphande
- Peter Mtika
- Thomas Mutangiri
- Cate Nelson-Shaw
- Alphaeus Ngonga
- Shirley Nield
- David Alex Njaidi
- Fanny Njaidi
- Pearson Nkhoma
- George Nkosi
- Donald Osborne
- Huw Owen
- Andrew Parker
- Kenneth Pattison
- Susan Pattison
- Morag Paul
- Martha Payne
- Elspeth Pentland
- Roseby Phalula-Nkalapa
- Robias Phiri
- Peter Raine
- Isobel Reid
- David and Susan Reimer–
- Benoît Rivard
- Margaret Robertson
- Martyn Roebuck
- Dorothy Ross
- Kenneth Ross
- Magdalene Sacranie
- Debbie Scott
- Bob Scott
- Ruth Sewell
- Eleanor Smart
- David Steel
- David Stevenson
- Howard Stevenson
- Dorothy Steyn
- Heather Sutherland
- Kathryn Sutherland
- Dalene Swanson
- Fiona Talcott
- Graham Thain
- Jack Thompson
- Mary Thomson
- Norman Wagstaffe
- Andrew Walker
- Maureen Watt
- Beverley Wellington
- Deria Mary Wells
- Peter West
- Jane Wheelaghan
- Graham Whitham
- Jim Wilkie
- Magnus Williamson
- Elizabeth Williamson MBE
- Pam Wilson
- Ben Wilson
- Jake Wilson
- Alex Evan Wong
- Anne Evan Wong
- Derek Young

And **186 Youth Ambassadors** *(Not named due to child protection)*



## Executive Summary

This submission is not from one organisation, it is from a coalition of: 13 universities; 6 colleges; 15 local authorities; 152 schools; 19 community groups; 119 NGOs, charities and businesses; 173 community champions; and 186 Youth Ambassadors. In the interest of coordination of effort, we make one central submission, not 683. All of these organisations and key individuals across Scotland have active links with Malawi and are keen to have these represented in the Committee's 'Connecting Scotland' inquiry which looks to map Scotland's international activities.

SECTION ONE (pp 9-22) answers the Committee's first question. In this section we highlight the scale, depth and breadth of civic links between Scotland and Malawi, highlighting that 94,000 Scots now have a Malawi partnership and 46% of Scots personally know someone with a Malawi link. In highlighting the impact of these links we note that 300,000 Scots benefit from Malawi partnerships each year and comment that if all the beneficiaries of these links, from across Scotland and Malawi, stood shoulder-to-shoulder (literally as well as figuratively!) it would stretch from Land's End to John o'Groats, and back.

Also in Section One, we highlight four distinctive features of Scotland's people-to-people relationship with Malawi:

- the priority of the relational;
- the mobilisation of civil society;
- a reciprocal partnership for development; and
- government in synergy with people.

To help the Committee map Scotland's international work, we highlight 15 areas of partnership between Scotland and Malawi, giving a short introduction to the type of collaborations in each area, and three quick case-studies for each.

SECTION TWO (pp.23-24) answers the Committee's second question. We return to the fourth distinctive features of the bilateral relationship, "Government in synergy with people", exploring how the Scottish Government and Parliament have played a critical role in the last decade helping take these civic links to new levels. In highlighting the symbiosis between the governmental and non-governmental, and the effectiveness this brings, **we make a strong call for the Scottish Government to continue its commitment with Malawi as it reviews its international development policy this summer.**

SECTION THREE (pp.25-27) answers the committee's third and final question. In doing so we highlight four key priorities:

- Partnership not just Charity:  
**We encourage all involved in international activities, to embrace the principles of genuinely dignified two-way partnership.**
- Engaging the Private Sector:  
**We encourage the exploration of opportunities for greater values-led, pro-poor private sector engagement, in support of Malawi's sustainable economic development.**
- Valuing our shared culture and history:  
**We call for support for the David Livingstone Centre in Blantyre, as the epicentre of our shared history with Malawi, from which our contemporary civic links are built.**
- Coordination of effort:  
**We applaud the Scottish Government's commitment to the coordinating networks which support Scotland's civic international engagements.**



## SECTION ONE

**Q1: What international activities are happening now in your sector and/or organisation? Please describe how and why these activities take place. Are other sectors or organisations involved? What do these activities contribute or achieve?**

### Scotland-Malawi at a glance



**94,000 Scots & 198,000 Malawians involved**

**46%** of Scots have a friend with a Malawi link

**74%** of Scots support Malawi links

**300,000 Scots benefit**

Every £1 from the Scottish Government unleashes £10 from Scottish civil society

Scottish Government

Scottish civic society

**£40 million** from Scottish communities



## Scale of Scotland's Malawi links

In November 2010 the University of Edinburgh conducted an [independent analysis](#) of the scale and impact of the links represented under the Scotland Malawi Partnership umbrella.

In July 2014, to mark Team Malawi's arrival at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games, the university [published updated figures](#), based on a repeat study, allowing them to observe trends through recent years. This updated study, found that an estimated:

- **94,000+ Scots are actively involved in links** with Malawi (an increase of 10.5% since 2010);
- 198,000+ Malawians are actively involved in links with Scotland (an increase of 33.7% since 2010);
- **SMP members contribute more than £40 million** in finance and in-kind inputs to their Malawi links (an increase of 33.3% since 2010).

**"Almost half of all Scots personally know someone with a link to Malawi."**

**"From Shetland to Dumfries, from Peterhead to Lewis, this is a unique national effort by the PEOPLE of Scotland."**

As a separate exercise, the SMP also commissioned a study to assess Scottish awareness of, engagement with, and attitudes towards these Malawi links, with 516 randomly selected Scots interviewed between June and September 2014.

[This study](#) found that:

- There is four times greater awareness of Scotland's links with Malawi than any other African country;
- **46% of Scots personally know someone actively involved in a link with Malawi;**
- There is an incredible diversity in the links which exist, with more than 40 *different* types of engagements between Scotland and Malawi named by participants;
- **74% of Scots are in favour of links with Malawi (55.4% "strongly" in favour), and only 2.4% are against.**

From Shetland to Dumfries, from Peterhead to Lewis, this is a unique national effort by the *people* of Scotland.



## A coordinating network

The Scotland Malawi Partnership (SMP) is the national civil society network coordinating, representing and supporting the people-to-people links between our two nations. We represent a community of 94,000 Scots with active links to Malawi.

We have more than **650 member organisations** and key individuals, including half of Scotland's local authorities, every Scottish university and most of its colleges, 150 primary and secondary schools, dozens of different churches and faith-based groups, hospitals, businesses, charities and NGOs, and a wide range of grass-root community-based organisations. Our work permeates almost all aspects of Scottish civil society.

We exist to **inspire the people and organisations of Scotland** to be involved with Malawi in an informed, coordinated and effective way for the benefit of both nations. We do this by providing a forum where ideas, activities and information can be shared on our website, through our online mapping tool and through regular forums, training events and stakeholder meetings.

**"Put simply, there is no comparable bilateral relationship anywhere in the world. It is admired and emulated across the globe."**

Our project is to **build connections and collaboration**, on a multi-sectoral basis, between two small nations in ways that are transformational for both. There is no template for doing this. So far as we know, we are the first to develop this model of partnership.

Like the Network of International Development Organisations in Scotland (NIDOS) and the Scottish Fair Trade Forum, we are core funded by the Scottish Government, as part of the International Development Fund, to coordinate and engage wider civic society. While we work closely with, and are core funded by, the Scottish Government we remain an entirely **independent charity, external of government**.

Our members' work is underpinned by the historic bilateral civil society relationship which is based not on 'donors' and 'recipients' but on long-standing, mutually-beneficial community to community, family to family and people to people links. It is a 156 year old relationship built on mutual trust, understanding and respect.

This is a **new and innovative mode of international development** and a powerful force for change.

Put simply, there is no comparable bilateral relationship anywhere in the world. It is admired and emulated across the globe.



## Impact of Scotland's Malawi links

Scotland's many links with Malawi are defined by mutual understanding, mutual respect and mutual benefit. This last point is significant, for it is this reciprocity that makes this a genuinely dignified two-way partnership, not a charity. Both nations contribute and both nations benefit.

All those involved in Scotland-Malawi links believe in this spirit of mutual benefit but, until 2010 it had gone untested and unproven. The University of Edinburgh then set about examining this claim of mutual benefit, looking at what *impact* these many links were having on the ground.

The University of Edinburgh found that these people-to-people links, while often seemingly modest in scale individually, when brought together had an incredible overall impact.

In November 2010 the [University of Edinburgh](#) found that:

**1.38 million Malawians**

were benefitting from these civic links with Scotland each year

**280,000 Scots**

were benefitting from the Malawi partnerships annually

Almost four years later, the University of Edinburgh undertook the same study again, using the same methodology but this time disaggregating between 'direct' and 'indirect' beneficiaries in Malawi.

In July 2014 the [University of Edinburgh](#) found that:

**2 million Malawians**

were *directly* benefitting from these civic links with Scotland each year  
[an increase of 31% in under four years]

**4 million Malawians**

were *indirectly* benefitting from these civic links with Scotland each year

**300,000 Scots**

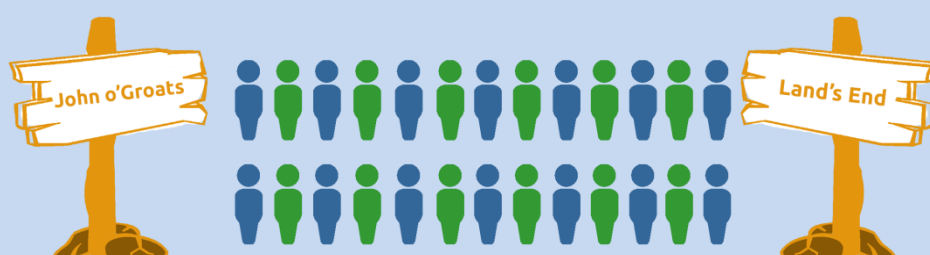
were benefitting from the Malawi partnerships annually  
[an increase of 7% in under four years]

More than 300,000 Scots themselves BENEFIT from their links to Malawi each year, that's enough to fill Hampden Stadium almost six times over!



In total, more than 4.3 million Scots and Malawians benefit in some way from their work together each year.

We always stand shoulder-to-shoulder in solidarity with our friends in Malawi. But if all 4.3 million *literally* did this, we'd stretch from Land's End to John o'Groats, and back again!





# Distinctive features of the Scotland-Malawi relationship

In his recent paper "[Malawi, Scotland and a Relational Approach to International Development](#)", Rev Prof Kenneth R. Ross identified four distinct characteristics of the links between Scotland and Malawi:

## (1) The Priority of the Relational:

*"Promoting a people-to-people model of development, focusing on active relationships between individuals, communities, families, businesses etc to foster a shared understanding of the development challenges. This is an approach to development which not only addresses material considerations but also answers the cry for human dignity."*



## (2) The Mobilisation of civil society:

*"Ordinary people and local communities are mobilised to offer their time, energy, resources, experience and expertise to Scotland and Malawi's shared effort. This is not to usurp the role of development professionals but it is to place their work in the context of strong popular ownership and involvement. It represents a vote of confidence in the people and in their capacity for active participation in the close relationship between two nations committed to working together for the common good."*



## (3) A reciprocal partnership for development:

*"The Cooperation Agreement between Scotland and Malawi sets out the basis on which the two nations plan to work together: 'Both countries share a wish to build upon this history by actively engaging through partnership. This is a reciprocal partnership based upon sharing experiences and skills. It is an opportunity to learn from each other and to recognise the needs of our two countries' "*



## (4) Government in synergy with people:

*"A creative synergy has been forged between popular activism and Government engagement. The Government-to-Government relationship draws its vitality and finds its effectiveness from the multitude of links made by civil society— schools, universities, health boards, local government, community groups, faith-based organisations, and so on."*



In answering the Committee's second question, we return to this crucial concept of 'government in synergy with people'.

## Major areas of Scotland-Malawi Cooperation

Scotland's myriad links with Malawi are celebrated for their scale, their bottom-up community-drive, and, perhaps above all, their incredible diversity. A [2014 research study](#) interviewed 516 randomly selected Scots; of the 237 who personally knew someone with a Malawi partnership, more than 40 *different* types of Malawi links were cited.

To give some small sense of the sheer diversity and range of links between Scotland and Malawi, we outline here 15 of the most common areas of partnership and, for each, give three quick Scottish case studies from the hundreds available. For full information about all 683 of Scotland's links with Malawi, please visit:

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



### Agriculture and Trade

Like many countries in sub-Saharan Africa, agriculture is a critical sector for the Malawian economy. It represents up to 85% of the labour force, 35% of GDP, 90% of foreign exports and 65% of raw material for industry.

There are a number of Scottish organisations with active and innovative agricultural and trade partnerships with Malawi. These partnerships are with local institutions in Malawi like co-operatives and farmer associations, offering grass-roots solutions that are people-centric, helping strengthen the agricultural sector in Malawi to reduce poverty and hunger. Through two-way shared learning these links not only improve food security and resilience, but also provide much needed opportunities for sustainable livelihoods through the cultivation and sale of fairly traded cash crops, such as coffee, tea, sugar, rice, fruit and paprika.



For example:

- [GALVmed](#) has transformed Malawi into the regional hub for the development of cattle vaccines, protecting livelihoods and food security for hundreds of thousands.
- [Scotland's Rural College](#) (SRUC) has half a dozen or more different initiatives with Malawi, helping share learning to increase sustainable dairy production.
- [The Cooperative College](#) is helping build capacity of the cooperative movement in Malawi, helping smallholder farmers get the best return from their crop.

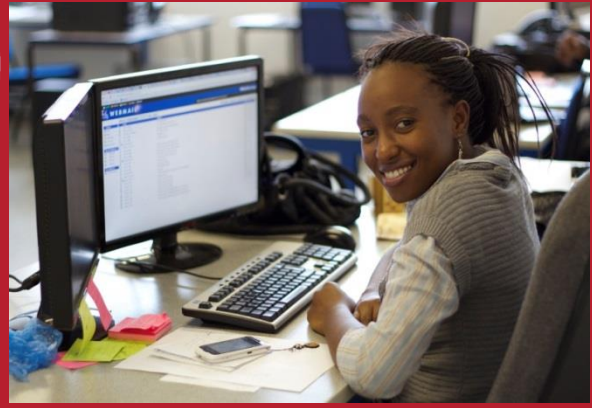
## Sustainable Economic Development

150 years ago Livingstone pioneered 'legitimate trade' between Africa and the Northern hemisphere as an alternative to the slave trade. Today, many Scottish organisations are supporting private sector growth in Malawi through active partnerships.

There are innovative new links between Scotland and Malawi in business, trade, investment and tourism; supporting sustainable economic development through values-led engagements with the private sector. Scottish organisations are building strong Scottish markets for Malawian exports like coffee, sugar and tea; Scots are investing in Malawi as individuals (from £10 of crowdfunding to millions from high net-worth individuals); Scottish business leaders are sharing and mentoring to support Malawian enterprise; and Scots are successfully lobbying the UK and EU Parliament to address trade injustices.

For example:

- [Just Trading Scotland](#) works with Scottish local authorities to get Malawian Kilobero rice into Scottish schools, as part of an integrated education programme.
- [Challenges Worldwide](#) is doing incredible work building the capacity of Malawian businesses by sharing Scottish expertise; this is bringing in more new investment almost every day.
- [Malawi Fruits](#) is providing start up finance, training and support to local farmers and community enterprises to enable them to secure their futures, increasing household income for school fees and health care.



## Arts and Culture

David Livingstone was, arguably, Scotland's greatest cultural ambassador. His legacy lives on in the contemporary cultural links which unite our two countries.

Scotland has incredibly vibrant cultural industries and creative economies, estimated to be worth over £2.8 billion. For decades, Scots and Malawians have been active in two-way cultural sharing and celebrations: promoting and helping understand our heritage and national identities.



Such cultural sharing between Scots and Malawians is generating new revenues and helping inspire and inform other sectors such as science, technology and civil society. Both our nations are master storytellers, promoting our history and people through films, books, poems, art, music and events. Bringing artists and creative practitioners together from both countries is yielding exciting results.

For example:

- [National Museums Scotland](#) have had a strong partnership with Museums of Malawi, building capacity in Malawi to develop cultural exhibits and working together on a joint David Livingstone exhibition in both countries.
- [The Lake of Stars](#) is one of Africa's biggest and best music and cultural festivals, bringing millions of pounds into the Malawian economy over the last 10 years through Scotland-Malawi cultural sharing.
- [I Love Scolawi](#) has brought young Scots and young Malawians together in a collaborative art project, allowing young people to reflect and learn, capturing the spirit of friendship which unites us.



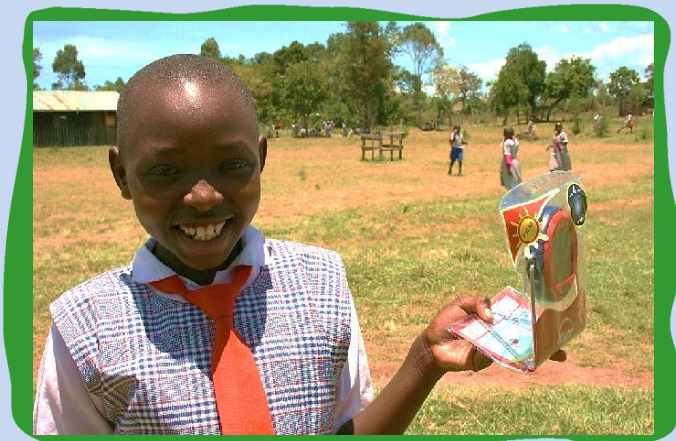
## **Diaspora**

The Malawian diaspora are an essential and integral part of Scotland's special relationship with Malawi. There are thousands of Malawians across Scotland: an active and vibrant community with a unique cultural insight into both our nations. The Malawian diaspora have led with the annual Malawi Independence Day celebrations, including many [special events](#) in 2014 marking 50 years of Malawian independence.



For example:

- [The Malawi initiative for National Development](#) (MIND) has been supporting professionals in the Malawi diaspora community to volunteer back in Malawi, sharing their specialist skills and expertise.
- [The Association of Malawians in Scotland](#) has been bringing Malawians together from across Scotland to represent key issues, coordinate work and help raise funds where needed.
- [Malawians in Aberdeen](#) is helping Malawians in the north-east of Scotland to come together to promote sharing, enhance cultural understanding and support development initiatives.



## **Environment and Energy**

Malawi is one of the world's most vulnerable countries to climate change, and amazingly only 9% of Malawians have access to electricity.

Scotland-Malawi links are playing a critical role in developing stronger community-based approaches to environmental sustainability.

Scotland is providing support and expertise to the Malawian energy sector through technology and knowledge exchange; providing training and showcasing models of sustainable community

development. Scotland's world leading [Climate Justice Fund](#) is bringing a human rights and social justice approach to climate adaptation: 80% of all Scotland's climate justice projects are with Malawi. At the request of the UN, the people of Scotland are playing a key role in the UN's [Sustainable Energy For All](#) initiative.

For example:

- [Community Energy Scotland](#) is empowering Malawian communities to adopt appropriate renewable energy technologies.
- [Malawi Renewable Energy Acceleration Project](#) is bringing Scottish universities and NGOs together in a national effort to accelerate the growth of community and renewable energy development in Malawi.
- [Scotland Lights Up Malawi](#) is bringing the Scottish business community together with Keep Scotland Beautiful and SolarAid to bring small solar lights to school children and communities across Malawi.



## Faith

Faith-based groups play a key role in civic society in both our nations: holding leaders to account, inspiring our cultural life, bringing communities together, and informing our response to adversity.

The genesis of Scotland-Malawi linking was through faith-based links, established soon after the first Scottish missionaries travelled to Malawi in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The link between the Church of Scotland and the Church of the Central African Presbytery (CCAP) in Malawi remain as strong now, as it was over 100 years ago, and has been further supported by partnerships in other denominations and faiths.



For example:

- [The Church of Scotland](#) continues to support missionaries and a whole host of development projects in Malawi including in health, HIV and AIDS, education and theological training.
- [EMMS International](#) is a Christian healthcare charity fighting HIV and AIDS, supporting palliative care, supporting student bursaries and training clinical officers, nurses and midwives.
- [St Kenneth's](#), is just one of hundreds of churches across Scotland with active links to Malawi, it supports infrastructure in six villages, including essential bore-holes, schools, and enterprises designed to lift people out of poverty.



## Further and Higher Education

When Malawi became independent in 1964 there was not a single university in the country. Now there are a number of public and private institutions but all are acutely under-resourced.

Almost every university in Scotland has at least one link to Malawi. This is a defining sector in Scotland-Malawi linking. The SMP is currently promoting [more than 40 FE and HE links](#) between Scotland and Malawi in 15 Scottish universities. These partnerships promote economic and social development; facilitate the sharing of knowledge, experience and expertise; and make a valuable contribution towards sustainable poverty alleviation.

For example:

- [The University of Strathclyde](#)'s Malawi Millennium Project has more than a dozen separate initiatives, each based on self-help and sustainability, transforming the lives of tens of thousands and teaching generations of Malawian teachers, nurses, scientists, technicians and engineers.
- [The University of Edinburgh](#) has more than six different Malawi links, including an innovative e-learning programme which is transforming medical and healthcare professional education in Malawi.
- [The University of Glasgow](#) has nine different Malawi projects, including Students Volunteer Abroad which supports students to volunteer in Malawi, working with local communities on sustainable projects for the relief of poverty.

## Gender

Scotland and Malawi both believe that, as well as a human right, gender equality is integral to all development efforts, for there is a close correlation between gender disparity and poverty. Gender equality matters for *all* Scotland-Malawi links.

In recent years gender in Scotland-Malawi links has moved from being just about gender equality (for example, equal numbers of men and women entering education) to a focus on the empowerment of women, enabling them to express their opinions and make informed choices, rather than focussing solely on quotas and economic gain. Dozens of different collaborations have offered the chance to reflect on what has and hasn't worked to this end in both Scotland and Malawi. Our two nations continue to share and learn together on this topic in a dignified two-way partnership.



For example:

- [The Active Learning Centre](#), working with Members of the Scottish Parliament, has a programme of capacity building, training and support for Malawi's Women's Parliamentary Caucus, empowering Malawian MPs.
- [The Mamie Martin Fund](#) is a small Scottish charity which has supported more than 1,500 girls through their education in Malawi.
- [The Micro-loan Foundation Scotland](#) provides loans, training and mentoring services to women living below the poverty line in rural Malawi.



## Governance

Good governance is as essential in Malawi as it is in Scotland, for a strong economy, empowered citizenry, and accountable government. Scotland-Malawi links are contributing towards good governance principles and practice in Malawi, prioritising accountability, transparency and civil society participation.

For example:

- [The Scottish Parliament's](#) Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (Scotland Branch) has been linking MSPs and Malawian MPs for almost a decade, sharing learning, building capacity and strengthening systems.
- [Challenges Worldwide's](#) Capacity Building for Justice programme built links between justice institutions in Scotland and their counterparts in Malawi, providing institutional support, targeted training, coaching and mentoring.
- [The Active Learning Centre](#) is training trainers to deliver courses for elected Local Councillors, building capacity and strengthening good governance in local authorities.

## Health

For more than a century Scots and Malawians have been working together to improve healthcare and fight disease. While there have been a great many successes, sadly many of the worst diseases we were fighting a century ago, like Malaria, are still all too prevalent today and a number of new diseases like HIV and AIDS have appeared.

From training health professionals in medical colleges, to assisting HIV and AIDS prevention clinics, and supporting community-based medicine in rural areas at every stage and at every level Scots and Malawians are working together to improve health outcomes.



There are more than 150 health-related partnerships between Scotland and Malawi.

For example:

- [The Meningitis Research Foundation](#) is delivering a proven health package for early recognition, treatment and referral of severely ill children in community health centres.
- [NHS Lothian](#) is working with Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital in Blantyre to improve breast cancer treatment in Malawi.
- [The Scotland-Malawi Mental Health Education Project](#) is giving sustainable support for psychiatric teaching and training for healthcare professionals in Malawi.



## Local Authorities

Malawi's local elections took place in May 2014, after a decade-long hiatus. Scotland is now actively involved supporting newly elected councillors and building capacity, encouraging the growth of local democracy, improving effective service delivery and strengthening community engagement.

Today, half of Scotland's local authorities are members of the Scotland Malawi Partnership and are involved with Malawi links. Some local authorities have formal twinning arrangements, some promote Malawian fair trade

produce, some help schools embed their Malawi links into the curriculum, and some run their own projects.

For example,

- [Glasgow City Council](#) is actively twinned with Lilongwe due to the strong commitment of successive Lord Provosts; the Council has many different projects including the award winning Malawi Leader of Learning Programme.
- [North Lanarkshire Council](#) has a number of Malawi links which actively involve the Provost, including the innovative Healthy Lifestyle Project and the inspiring Aiming Higher in Malawi project.
- [Fife Council](#) was twinned with Team Malawi in the Commonwealth Games 'Support a Second Team' initiative because of the sheer number of primary and secondary school links with Malawi in Fife.



## Primary and Secondary Education

School Partnerships have been at the very centre of the bilateral relationship for more than two decades. Today, more than 150 Scottish primary and secondary schools have active and vibrant links. The benefits of school partnerships go far beyond individual teachers and students, they allow school communities in both Scotland and Malawi to learn, understand other cultures better and feel connected in our global society.

Such links, and a focus on good global citizenship, are an integral part of the Curriculum for Excellence, with Education Scotland extolling the many benefits of such links and making clear their expectations for all schools in Scotland to follow this lead. Indeed, Education Scotland now has its own formal partnership with Malawi: a cooperation agreement sharing learning, experience and support for school inspection services.

Decades of schools links with Malawi have created whole generations of Scots growing up with a greater sense of the challenges faced in the developing world, Scotland's place as a responsible nation, and the many similarities and commonalities which unite us. They have inspired new generations to think differently, and act differently.

For example:

- [Beath High School](#) is just one of the 150+ Scottish schools with an active Malawi link; since 2009 hundreds of young Scots and thousands in their community have been involved in this link which is driven by mutual respect and mutual understanding.
- [Link Community Development International](#) is a Scottish NGO which since 2006 has been developing and delivering high-quality school improvement programmes in two districts of Malawi
- [Mary's Meals](#) is an incredible Scottish success story; it has inspired millions around the world and today provides basic school meals for 740,700 Malawian children, driving up enrollment across the country.



## Sport



There is something wonderfully universal and unifying about Sport. Its simplicity and passion transcends borders; it promotes cohesion, enhances tolerance and mutual understanding; and it inspires people to act. When David Livingstone first arrived in what became Malawi, it is reported he travelled with a football, and 156 years later football continues to unite our two nations.

In 2014, when Glasgow hosted the Commonwealth Games, it was Team Malawi that was the first team into the athlete's village: a great honour signifying the strength of our friendship. This is an unshakeable friendship: it even survived when, one week later, Malawi's world renowned netball team knocked Scotland out of the tournament! When it became apparent Team Malawi's bicycles were insufficient during the Games, Scots, young and old rallied, to [donate new bikes](#) for the team, not just for the Games but to support Malawi cycling for years to come. There are hundreds of different connections that use sport and physical activity to bring Scots and Malawians together, fostering mutual understanding and collaboration.

For example:

- [The Scottish Football Association](#) has a partnership with the Malawi Football Association, announced by the First Minister and the President of Malawi in 2013, developing a joint coaching programme.
- [Livingstone's Living Legacy](#) is an art exhibition at Hampden Park composed of photos by young Malawians and Scots, celebrating our shared love of football.
- [The David Livingstone Centre](#) in Blantyre hosts special sports days to educate and inspire local schools about the travels of David Livingstone, and the contemporary links between Scotland and Malawi.



## Water

Access to safe, clean and sustainable water supplies is essential for life. Thankfully, this is not something Scotland lacks. Far from it!

Collaborations between Scotland and Malawi in water, sanitation and hygiene are well established. From large university-led research projects and INGOs advancing national-level change, to grassroots community-owned initiatives supporting individual bore holes, Scotland-Malawi links are contributing towards improved health, sanitation and infrastructure. The Scottish Government's Climate Justice Fund, as part of the Hydro Nation initiative, has supported eight new initiatives with Malawi which are working alongside local communities, government officials and researchers to transform access to safe, clean water across the country.



For example:

- [WaterAid](#) in Scotland is supporting communities to repair broken wells and hand-pumps across Malawi, bringing safe water to 44,000 and improving sanitation for 105,000.
- [Strathclyde University](#) is working in Malawi to make rural communities more resilient, make the government more aware of hydrological systems, and helping map Malawi's water infrastructure.
- [SCIAF](#) is helping drive forwards water management best practice in Malawi by building on joint research, mobilizing communities, and helping rural communities increase their access to safe water.



## Young people

With over half of Malawi's population under the age of 25, young people aren't just Malawi's future; they are its present as well. Many of the challenges they face, and the stories they tell, strongly resonate amongst young people in Scotland and across the globe.

Whether through international volunteering opportunities, fundraising efforts, university exchanges or curriculum-based learning at school, youth links between Scotland and Malawi are stronger now than ever before. People-to-people links between young Scots and young Malawians are challenging assumptions and prejudices; they're moving our understanding of

poverty and social justice from one of statistics and shocking images, to a personal appreciation of the shared human experience that unites us and the cry for solidarity, friendship and basic human dignity.

Social media has made it easier than ever before for young Scots, often inspired through school partnerships, to increase their own learning, forge their own friendships, and be leaders in their communities. The Scotland Malawi Partnership now has more than 180 Youth Ambassadors.

For example:

- [Martha Payne](#), a Scottish primary school girl, has inspired more than 10 million people across the globe with her school meals blog, her love of and friendship with Malawi, and her incredible fundraising achievements.
- [Chance for Change](#) is a Scottish charity which is supporting young people in Malawi to become more entrepreneurial, have a stronger voice and increase their personal effectiveness.
- [Students for Malawi](#) is a charity led by young Scots, rising out of Strathclyde University, which has transformed thousands of lives in both countries through community-embedded, youth driven development volunteering partnerships.







## SECTION TWO

**Q2: Do you think your sector and/ or organisation is effective in participating in international activities? If not, what would help you to make improvements? What prevents you from making improvements now?**

### Government in synergy with people

Section one of this submission outlined in detail the depth and breadth of the *civic* links between Scotland and Malawi. In this second section, we now return to the fourth of Rev Prof Kenneth Ross' distinctive features of the bilateral relationship, "Government in synergy with people", exploring how the Scottish Government and Parliament have played a critical role in the last decade helping take these civic links to new levels.

"...at its heart this is a **people-to-people friendship first, and a nation-to-nation partnership second.**"

In 2014, as Malawi marked 50 years of independence, Scotland's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday message to its long-time friend came in the form of 50-second videos and 50-word stories from 50 Scots and Malawians, each talking about their work and friendship together. What better way to mark this key anniversary than taking a moment to listen to **50 personal stories** to reflect and celebrate our years together. For at its heart this is a people-to-people friendship first, and a nation-to-nation partnership second.

It was telling that of those individuals who came forward, eager to tell their story as part of the [50 Stories for 50 Years](#) project, amongst the school teachers, young people and community champions there were also Ministers, MSPs, MPs and Peers. It is all too easy to be cynical these days but, in this Scotland-Malawi space, we see politicians and primary school children speak as equals about the same, very human, experiences of friendship, solidarity and trust they have had with Malawi. The fact that **our political leaders not only understand but embrace this people-to-people model** of development, allows the Scottish Government to work in synergy with civic society rather than having a distant, disengaged and rather supercilious development programme: a route too many other governments have followed.

Looking back, when, almost exactly ten years ago, the Scottish Government started its own international development programme it made a bold and innovative decision not to try and create a mini-DFID, with worldwide reach, spreading the limited resource impossibly thin but rather to focus its efforts with Malawi. It decided to focus its work where there were the greatest number of historical and cultural connections; where the *people* of Scotland had already been hard at work for over a century working through two-way partnerships.

"...we see **politicians and primary school children speak as equals** about the same, very human, **experiences of friendship, solidarity and trust** they have had with Malawi."

This decision was a personal one, made by Jack McConnell, as then First Minister. Jack McConnell had visited Malawi earlier that year where he had experienced first-hand, like thousands of Scots before and since, the warmth of affection Malawi had for Scotland, and also the effectiveness of geographically focusing a country's efforts. For schools, churches, hospitals and businesses wanting to create a new link could learn from others nearby which already had a Malawi partnership:

through shared learning, **each new link built on the last, steadily increasing effectiveness and overall impact.**

In answering the Committee's second question, we wish to reflect on the success that this bold, distinctive, innovative and effective decision for geographical focus has had over the last decade. We want to highlight this idea of 'government in synergy with people'.

Today, for every pound the Scottish Government invests in its comparatively small Malawi Development Programme, more than ten pounds is levered from the *people* of Scotland. The genius of the Scottish Government's international

development programme, the reason it has enjoyed popular and all-party support, the reason it is applauded in the media and the reason it has achieved so much with such comparatively modest resources, is because, from the beginning, it has worked *with* the tide of popular engagement, not against it. In this way it has unleashed a powerful and enviable multiplier effect creating a **virtuous circle between Government and people**, where popular support inspires Government efforts while Government support stimulates popular engagement.

At the most crude possible level of analysis, the ratio between pounds invested and positive media coverage is extremely impressive. This is not a triumph of some innovative communications department at Victoria Quay but rather an insight into the genuine enthusiasm which exists across Scotland for civic-led links with Malawi. At a far more meaningful level, awareness, reach and impact in Malawi is extremely enviable: entirely disproportionate with the relatively modest original investments made.

**“The effectiveness of Scotland’s friendship with Malawi rises from the symbiosis of the governmental and the non-governmental.”**

Those involved in the Scottish Government’s programme on the ground in Malawi have observed other, very telling, indicators which set this programme aside from others. The Scottish Government is, for example, we believe the only donor in Malawi to strictly forbid the paying of *per diems*. *Per diems* are endemic across Malawi and the region: almost every workshop, conference and training opportunity is absolutely reliant on discrete cash-in-hand payments made to individuals as a sitting allowance. Such payments distort all indicators on impact, buy-in and community engagement; they exacerbate and perpetuate a culture of dependency; undermine sustainability; and allow donors to write the agenda. Perhaps uniquely, not so with almost all Scottish engagements, where Malawians are not ‘recipients’ but partners - leading with the design of projects, investing time and energy in their implementation, and genuinely ‘owning’ the outcomes.

The effectiveness of Scotland’s friendship with Malawi rises from the symbiosis of the governmental and the non-governmental. We emphasize this point in order to **highlight the real risk any governmental strategic shift away from Malawi could have on the whole**.

Ten years into its international development programme, this summer the Scottish Government looks to review all aspects of its work in this field.

In our submission to the first phase of the Committee’s ‘Connecting Scotland’ inquiry, we made three recommendations with regards the updating of the Scottish Government’s International Framework:

1. Inclusion of explicit references to the relationship with Malawi and the role of civic society;
2. Amending the reliance solely, or predominantly, on a narrative of economic benefit for Scotland to justify Scotland’s internationalism; and
3. Inclusion of a commitment to policy coherence for development, and specifically exploring ways of aligning domestic procurement with Scotland’s commitment with Malawi.

Since then, the Scottish Government has released its newly updated [International Framework](#). We are disappointed that these three points have not been taken forwards explicitly in the new Framework itself but recognize and value that there is reference paid to each in the associated [Policy Statement](#). While we do not take this second point for granted, we note that the references to global citizenship, to acting responsibly, and to Scotland’s work with Malawi come on page 10, of this 10-page document. There is, perhaps, a danger that **highlighting one’s values at the end, rather than the start, of such a document limits the extent to which they can influence one’s work**.

We are a coalition of 13 universities, 6 colleges, 15 local authorities, 152 schools, 19 community groups, 119 NGOs, charities and businesses, 173 community champions and 186 youth ambassadors, from across Scotland. Together, we represent every corner of Scottish civic society. **And we ask, with one voice, that the Scottish Government continues its commitment with Malawi and makes this commitment explicit in all relevant frameworks, policies and strategies.**

In answering the Committee’s second question, yes, we do believe Scotland’s links with Malawi are effective. We believe this effectiveness stems to a significant degree from the symbiosis between the governmental links and the civic links. For this effectiveness to be sustained we call for the Scottish Government to reaffirm its commitment with Malawi in the coming international development policy review.



## SECTION THREE

**Q3: What should organisations in Scotland do to be effective internationally? Are you aware of any good examples of this from Scotland or another country?**

### Priorities for effectiveness

Section One of this report highlighted four distinctive features of the relationship with Malawi which have made these civic links so effective: the priority of the relational; the mobilisation of civil society; a reciprocal partnership for development; and Government in synergy with people. Section Two came back to this fourth feature, highlighting the symbiosis between the governmental and non-governmental, in calling for the Scottish Government to continue its commitment with Malawi as it reviews its international development policy this summer.

**“Our cohesion and coordination as a sector significantly increases the effectiveness of what we do domestically, but also our overall impact internationally.”**

In answering the Committee’s third and final question, we wish to refer back to the information we have given in sections one and two, as well as briefly noting four *additional* priorities which we feel help Scots be effective in their international engagements.

### Partnership, not just Charity

While many of the organisations linked with Malawi are charities by definition, we do not think of our work with Malawi as being defined by “charity” but by “partnership”. We see a key distinction: activity which solely defines itself as “charity” can risk being seen as a one-way philanthropic relationship, with donors on one side and recipients at the other. By contrast, **we see a “partnership” as an active two-way relationship, where both sides contribute and both sides benefit.**

Over the last four years we have consulted more than 200 Scottish and 200 Malawian organisations on the topic of good partnership working and, from this, we have developed 11 [‘Partnership Principles’](#) which unite Scots and Malawians:

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

**“we see a “partnership” as an active two-way relationship, where both sides contribute and both sides benefit.”**

It is these Partnership Principles to which we hold ourselves account, and it is these principles that ensure our effectiveness. **We encourage all Scots involved in international activities, with every nation, to embrace these partnership principles.**

## Engaging the Private Sector

While there are an increasing number of businesses in our network, the vast majority are in the third and public sector. We are keen to recognise this and to do more to engage the private sector, so as to increase our effectiveness.

Malawi has a \$600million trade deficit because it imports more than it exports. Aid and charity alone will not solve this problem. We must recognise these truths and be alert for ways Scotland's civic links with Malawi can make a strong contribution to Malawi's future sustainable economic development.

We look to build values-led, pro-poor business, trade, investment and tourism links between Scotland and Malawi. If each of the 94,000 Scots with links to Malawi bought Malawian fair trade coffee, for example, or encouraged their friends to visit Malawi on holiday, we would unleash a strong economic force which could have a transformative impact in Malawi.

**We encourage the exploration of opportunities for greater values-led, pro-poor private sector engagement, in support of Malawi's sustainable economic development.**

## Valuing our shared culture and history

The shared history between our two nations is important for Scotland but even more so for our friends in Malawi, who see these contemporary links as the living legacy of Dr Livingstone.

Too often Livingstone is lumped together with his colonial contemporaries in our minds: an embarrassing part of Scotland's colonial history best forgotten. This is a great injustice. Livingstone, as our friends in Malawi regularly remind us, was perhaps the most prominent European champion fighting the slave trade in Africa at the time. Zambia's first President branded Livingstone "Africa's first freedom fighter", insisting Livingstone didn't discover Africa, Africa discovered Livingstone!

After Nyasaland gained independence in 1964 and became Malawi, almost every colonial name was changed to something more authentically African. Every name that is except those associated with Livingstone. And so "Livingstonia" and "Blantyre" are still key cities in Malawi and, across the border to Zambia, the town of "Livingstone" and "Victoria Falls" remain unchanged on the map.

Every past Malawian President has visited Scotland at least once, and while doing so every President has been sure to include a visit of the David Livingstone Centre. It is an essential component on the itinerary of any visiting Malawian, from primary school teacher to President.

For all these reasons, our shared history with David Livingstone is an essential and integral part of the contemporary Scotland-Malawi relationship. We must not forget this.

**"The more Scotland's civic links are defined by principles of dignified two-way partnership, the greater impact Scots can have across the globe."**

However, today the David Livingstone Centre in Blantyre, where Scotland's greatest cultural ambassador was born 200 years ago, continues to face serious risk of closure due to insufficient funding. **We call for a strong appreciation of the value of the David Livingstone Centre, the physical embodiment of our shared history and culture with Malawi, and we look to the Heritage Lottery Fund, South Lanarkshire Council, Historic Scotland and the Scottish Government to give all necessary support to ensure this centre's survival for generations to come.**

## Coordination of effort

Coordination and collaboration is an area where Scots excel. It is often said that it is easier to build a coalition and a consensus in Scotland than anywhere else. We are perhaps saved the ‘egos and logos’ which drag others down, dividing organisations, creating barriers of mutual suspicion and blocking progress.

Both the “Make Poverty History” then the “Enough Food For Everyone IF” campaigns united hundreds of Scottish charities, faith groups and community organisations for one common cause. Our cohesion and coordination as a sector, more so than anywhere else in the UK, significantly increases the effectiveness of what we do domestically, but also our overall impact internationally.

The Scotland Malawi Partnership is proud to work in active partnership with all other related networks in Scotland, including the [Network of International Development Organisations in Scotland](#) (whose submission to this inquiry we strongly support), the [Scottish Fair Trade Forum](#) and the [International Development Education Association of Scotland](#).

**We applaud the Scottish Government’s commitment to supporting these key coordinating networks and encourage the government to continue this far-sighted investment.**

In answering the Committee’s third question, we identify these four priorities as areas where Scotland has had much success through its links to Malawi, but also as areas where more can be done in the coming years. They are key priorities for our many organisations, as we look to further develop the effectiveness of our work with Malawi.

We close by noting that none of the four distinctive features noted in Section One, nor the four above priorities, are necessarily *exclusive* to the Scotland-Malawi relationship. While we strongly support the Scottish Government’s geographical focus in its international development programme given the genuinely unique scale, breadth and depth of Scotland-Malawi links, we recognise that there are a great many other exciting and very effective international activities in which Scotland is involved.

We are always delighted to share our experience as a network at a civic level with others, and learn from others as well. The more Scotland’s civic links are defined by principles of dignified two-way partnership, the greater impact Scots can have across the globe. **A rising tide lifts all boats.** And so we always look to share our work and experience with other civic bilateral links in the spirit of shared learning and partnership working.





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