

Activity and Impact Report

April – September 2018



REPORT SUMMARY:

In keeping with our commitment to transparency and accountability, every six months the Scotland Malawi Partnership publishes a public report outlining key events and activities against the network's agreed outcomes and outputs for 2017-2020. This is separate to the Partnership's Annual Report and its formal reporting to the Scottish Government for the funding it receives.

April to September 2018 was another busy and productive period for the Scotland Malawi Partnership. It began by welcoming the His Excellency, Arthur Peter Mutharika, President of Malawi, to the UK. While the President was in London for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), the SMP organised a meeting for the President to [address the Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group](#) in the House of Lords.

After CHOGM, the President spent almost a week in Scotland, with the SMP supporting a series of events with members and in the Scottish Parliament. The SMP hosted its [own event with the President](#) in which 175 members, including many friends in the Malawi diaspora community, were able to come together to meet the President. Six members had the opportunity to present their work and a further sixty had their links with Malawi profiled in a [special hard-back book](#) the SMP published as a gift for the President.

Also in April, the SMP support Josephine Mphango to be the [Partnership's Youth Ambassador at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting](#). She was trained and supported in this role to [record videos](#) and publish blogs giving a young Malawian's perspective of CHOGM 2018. We established a [social media platform](#) for Josephine to share her views and created an opportunity for her to directly ask a question of the President of Malawi about youth leadership in the House of Lords.

During the summer months the SMP supported two Ministerial visits, hosting roundtables on gender equality and agriculture and irrigation for members to speak with the visiting Malawian Ministers. Other visitors to Scotland from Malawi supported by the SMP in the summer included a [choir of 30 girls from the Edinburgh Girls' High School](#) in Mzuzu, who performed every night of the Edinburgh Military Tattoo with a choir from their partner school Mary Erskine.

The Partnership's [Faith Links Conference](#) brought together members with church partnerships or links with faith-based NGO's for active networking, followed by a [Faith Links Roadtrip](#) to take this engagement to members in Fife, Aberdeen, Argyll and Bute, and the Borders. In May-June, the SMP also organised and hosted a [series of Chichewa Language and Cultural Workshops](#) with, for the first time, a live webstream for members to take part remotely.

At the end of the September the SMP and MaSP co-hosted, with the Scottish and Malawi governments and parliaments, the [Malawi and Scotland: Together for Sustainable Development](#) Conference in Lilongwe. This conference brought together 350 individuals across Malawi and Scotland to explore how best to work together in this coming chapter to help implement the *Global Goals Partnership Agreement*.

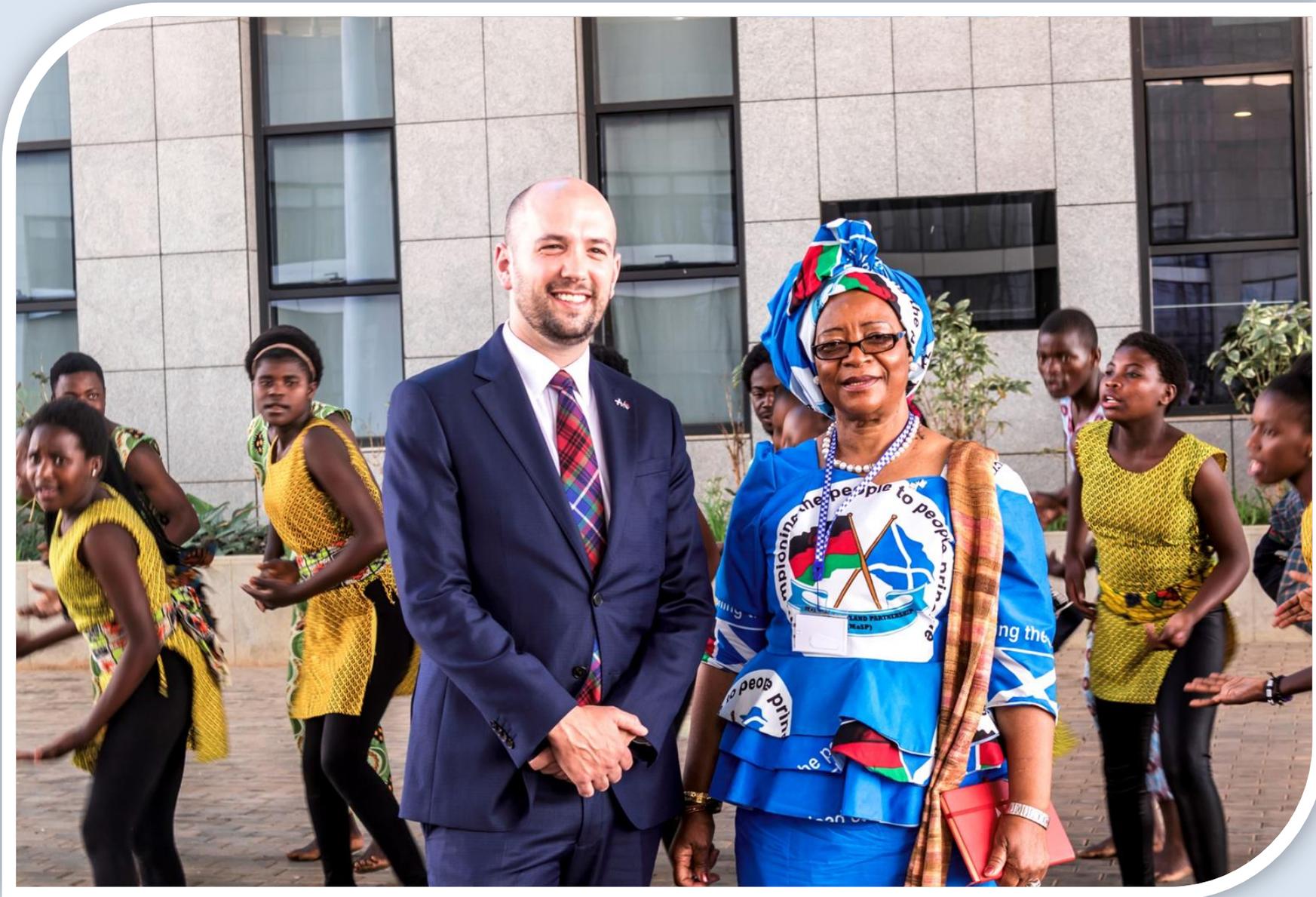


Ken Ross, SMP Chair, presents the President of Malawi with a gift from the SMP

Key Events and Engagements:

In this 6-month period, the SMP hosted 16 main events and engagements, attended by 1,092 people:

Event	Date	Venue	Attendees
President of Malawi speaking Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group	17-Apr	House of Lords	62
SMP event with the Presidential of Malawi	25-Apr	Edinburgh City Chambers	175
Chichewa Workshops	22-May	Edinburgh City Chambers	29
Malawi Cross Party Group meeting looking at Climate Change	06-Jun	Scottish Parliament	31
Faith Links Conference	16-Jun	City of Edinburgh Methodist	23
Agriculture and Water Roundtable with Malawian Minister	11-Jul	Edinburgh City Chambers	39
Faith Links Roadtrip	31-Jul	Glenrothes, Aberdeen, Oban,	38
Gender Roundtable with Malawian Minister	07-Aug	Edinburgh City Chambers	34
Event with visiting Malawi Choir as part of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo	17-Aug	Edinburgh City Chambers	78
Even with the UN looking at the SDGs	28-Aug	Edinburgh City Chambers	74
Malawi Cross Party Group meeting looking at Year of Young People	13-Sep	Scottish Parliament	34
School Partnership Activity Workshop	13-Sep	Biggar High School	34
Chichewa Workshop	20-Sep	Beath High School	13
Youth Committee Meeting	28-Sep	Edinburgh City Chambers	8
Water Witness International	28-Sep	Edinburgh City Chambers	70
Malawi Scotland Conference	28-Sep	Lilongwe	350
			1,092



Ben Macpherson MSP, Scottish Government Minister for International Development, is welcomed in Malawi by Dr Anne Phoya, Chair of the Malawi Scotland Partnership

The SMP supported a further 23 events and key engagements April-Sept in 2018, attended by 1,938

Event	Date	Venue	Attendees
ScotDec SDGs event	20-23/04/2018	Codebase	40
RCPSG event with the President of Malawi	23/04/2018	RCPSG, Glasgow	45
Joint meeting with Harriett Baldwin, UK Africa Minister	24/04/2018	Whitehall	6
Politics, Society and Christianity in Malawi and Beyond”: Jack Thompson and John McCracken memorial conference	26/04/2018	University of Edinburgh	72
Scottish Parliament reception with the President of Malawi	26/04/2018	Scottish Parliament	76
UK-Malawi Business Group	05/04/2018	Malawi High Commission	23
SMP talk to DFID on building personal resilience	09/05/2018	DFID, Abercrombie House, East Kilbride	34
IDEAS Residential	11/05/2018	Coatbridge	45
Learning for Sustainability Conference	11/05/2018	Edinburgh Napier University	15
SCVO SDG's & You	25/05/2018	Edinburgh	20
Scottish Government Climate Justice Fund day	29/05/2018	Edinburgh City Chambers	16
UK-Malawi Business Group	02/06/2018	Malawi High Commission	9
Beath High School event	05-11/06/2018	Beath	490
Malawi Independence Celebrations	14/07/2018	Whitefield Road, Glasgow,	81
MaSP AGM	20/07/2018	KCN, Malawi	110
Meeting with Harriett Baldwin	15/07/2018	Edinburgh City Chambers	3
Biggar High School event	06-12/08/2018	South Lanarkshire	490
Malawian visitors from Thondwe	22/08/2018	Biggar High School	6
Reflection session on Biggar High School’s Malawi visit	23/08/2018	The Community School of Auchterarder	13
Social Enterprise Academy Global Gathering (sponsoring Malawi delegate)	06/09/2018	Glasgow	260
Scottish Government / Corra Foundation Small Grants Info event	07/09/2018	Methodist Church, Edinburgh	48
Scotland Africa Business Exchange Heads of Mission Reception	19/09/2018	Edinburgh City Chambers	26
Scottish Learning Festival - support for Beath High School Workshop	19/09/2018	Exhibition Centre, Glasgow	10
			1,938



175 SMP members have the chance to take part in the President's visit

Activities and Impact

<p>OUTCOME 1: Civic links between Scotland and Malawi are coordinated, and the capacity of partnerships to be effective and impactful is enhanced</p>	<p>Arguably all the SMP's work feeds into this overarching Outcome. The main data to assess impact comes from the Feb-March Member Impact Survey.</p>
<p>OUTPUT 1.1: Programme of development and capacity building opportunities offered to members</p>	<p>In May-June, the SMP organised and hosted a series of Chichewa Language and Cultural Workshops. For the first time they were open for both members available to join in person and others to join remotely through a web-link. The training was delivered by Malawians resident in Scotland for the SMP. They were attended by a range of members, including members of NGO's with active partnerships, members of faith links, and school groups. 88% of attendees who completed a feedback from described the training as Excellent or Very Good.</p> <p>Comments included:</p> <p><i>"I feel that I will be able to progress with speaking Chichewa so that next time I go to Malawi I will enjoy being able to speak to people in their own language."</i></p> <p><i>"I feel more confident about not making cultural faux-pas".</i></p> <p><i>"I feel more confident in travelling to Malawi. Very happy I learned this course".</i></p> <p><i>"For a three week intro course, I would not expect to be average at a language until a couple of years, but I was so wrong!"</i></p>
<p>OUTPUT 1.2: Members receive regular bulletins, and have access to current information,</p>	<p>Between April and September, 34 weekly news bulletins were sent to an average of 1,248 members. A thorough GDPR check was applied during this time to comply with new legislation. The news bulletin had an average open rate of 25.2% (which is above the average not-profit open rate in this period of 21.76%). In the coming period we will look to invest in our contacts database to reduce the number of bouncebacks we get from the bulletin and hence increase the readership.</p>

<p>online</p>	<p>Schools Newsletters were sent in April and September.</p> <p>The news bulletin featured relevant news stories and upcoming events of interest to members as well as information on things like grant applications, updates from government and parliament and news about SMP members' work.</p> <p>-</p>
<p>OUTPUT 1.3: Creation of opportunities for in-person networking and sharing between members</p>	<p>The SMP hosted 16 member networking opportunities since April, attended by over 1,000 people. These included two roundtable meetings with Government of Malawi Ministers, two Cross Party Groups in the Scottish Parliament, an annual Faith Links Conference, a Faith Links Roadtrip and the Malawian Presidential visit to Scotland.</p> <p>Each of these events were opportunities for members and leaders in their field to share knowledge and experience in areas including: agriculture and water security, gender equality, the Year of Young People 2018, and climate change. Member Forums are scheduled through the year, offering the opportunity for members to share, support and offer/receive advice on their related work with tangible outputs.</p> <p>Our event with the Malawi President was an opportunity for members to meet the President, and to network with +175 active members with Malawi links. Before and after the event members were encouraged to network, with prizes given for new links between members forged from this networking. We also published a hard back book for the President with 60 case studies of Scotland-Malawi links from our membership, which was given to the President and made available to all members.</p> <p>The Faith Links Conference sought to bring together active faith-based members with church partnerships or links with faith-based NGO's for active networking. The Faith Links Roadtrip arose out of feedback from the Faith Links Conference; it saw the SMP travelling across Scotland (Fife, Aberdeen, Argyll and Bute, and the Borders) to meet with –and support networking between- local faith-based links to Malawi.</p> <p>We also hosted two additional 'culture-focused' events: Chichewa Language Workshops and a visiting Malawian choir who were performing at the Edinburgh Fringe Tattoo 2018. This was an opportunity for networking, learning and for members to share cultural value.</p> <p>The SMP has also supported 21 additional partner events and engagements (attended by over 1,700), including Malawian Independence Day (with the Association of Malawians in Scotland), the Malawi Scotland Partnership's AGM in July, the International Development Small Grants Programme Information Session in September, and the Learning for Sustainability Conference in May.</p> <p>We also lent our Partnership Principles and Sustainable Development Goals banners to members on nine separate occasions.</p>



Members listening to the President of Malawi's speech

<p>OUTCOME 2: The value of partnerships between Malawi and Scotland, and the experience and learning of SMP members, is reflected in the policy and outputs of political and policy making fora</p>	<p>Through this six-month period there were a number of significant developments. Perhaps, most notably, during the Presidential visit to Scotland, there were strong messages of goodwill and support which reflected the experience and learning of SMP members, from the Heads of the Scottish and Malawian Governments and the Scottish Parliament.</p> <p>Speaking in the House of Lords on the 17th April 2018 the President of Malawi said: “I am greatly impressed that the Scotland-Malawi relationship has played such a big role, helping support Malawi’s cause and tell Malawi’s story.”</p> <p>On the 26th April 2018, welcoming the President, the Presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament said: “There is not a community, a school, a constituency or a parish in Scotland today that does not enjoy a special bond of a friendship or a connection, whether that’d be economic, social, academic or spiritual with your country.”</p> <p>...We are proud of Scotland’s historical ties with Malawi and are pleased that our relationship with your National Assembly is based on friendship, mutual respect, and trust.</p> <p>... as a progressive, forward-looking parliament with an international outlook, we have benefitted greatly from working with our Malawian counterparts.</p> <p>...Mr President, I know from speaking to many of my parliamentary colleagues that the longstanding relationship between the Scottish Parliament and the National Assembly is highly valued and that the friendships and professional relations forged since 2005 mean that Malawi will remain a focus of our activity in Sub-Saharan Africa for many years to come.”</p> <p>Addressing the Scottish Parliament, the President said: “I have seen Scottish people in Malawi villages, living our lives to support our people. I have seen them working with our teachers and feeding the Malawi school child. I have seen them working in farming, in water, in climate change and economic development. I have seen Scottish professionals training healthcare providers in mental health problems. When ill men are feared and stigmatised, Scottish professionals have found a cause. I have seen surgeons, scholars, civic society organisations doing great work in Malawi. I have seen much more than I can tell. I am not surprised that nearly half the population of this country can tell you about a personal friend or a family member with a connection to Malawi. This is what it means to have a people-to-people partnership. The Malawi Scotland Partnership has become one of the strongest north-south relationships in the world. Such relationships are rare and precious in our world where basically developed countries like exploiting and manipulating poorer countries in the name of supporting them.”</p> <p>Responding, The First Minister said: “we are and we always have been absolutely united in recognising the value and the importance of the friendship between Scotland and Malawi. As you have, so eloquently, set out today, the ties between our nations are unique and they are very special.”</p> <p>...The Scotland Malawi Partnership includes universities, colleges, schools, faith groups, businesses, charities, social enterprises and many, many other organisations. Indeed, as you have mentioned, almost 100,000 people in Scotland are directly involved in the Partnership, just as are almost 200,000 people in Malawi. And together we have achieved some extraordinary results”</p>
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Members meeting with the visiting Malawi Ministerial delegation

<p>OUTPUT 2.1: Programme of cross-party political strategic engagement</p>	<p>The SMP organised a meeting of Westminster’s Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group on the 17th April 2018, addressed by His Excellency the President of Malawi. The meeting, which took place in the House of Lords, was chaired by Lord Steel and attended by 18 Parliamentarians (8 SNP, 5 Cons, 4 Lab and 1 Lib Dem).</p> <p>The SMP organised a meeting of the Malawi Cross Party Group meeting on the 6th June focusing on Climate Justice, with speakers from Tearfund, Community Energy Scotland and Leith Crops in Pots.</p> <p>The SMP also organised a meeting of the Malawi Cross Party Group in the Scottish Parliament on the 13th September looking at youth links with Malawi as part of the Year of Young People, with the 2050 Climate Group, Jubilee Enterprise and Mamie Martin Fund visiting. This meeting was also the Group’s AGM, with MSPs from all five political parties (re-)elected to leadership positions within the group.</p> <p>The SMP worked with the UK Parliament’s International Development Committee in advance of their evidence session with CDC (Commonwealth Development Corporation) as part of the Committee’s enquiry into DFID’s Economic Development Strategy. During the session the Chair and Chief Executive of CDC were asked by the Committee “what efforts are being made to increase investments in Malawi”. Three weeks after the session, the SMP was involved in the launch of CDC’s new impact report which included specific information about increased investments in Malawi.</p> <p>On the 15th April, in the run up to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in London, the SMP was able to briefly meet Boris Johnson, then UK Foreign Minister, and raise the SMP’s concerns about how Malawians applying for UK Visas are treated.</p> <p>On the 26th April the SMP supported a Scottish Parliament reception with the President of Malawi after his address to Parliament, this was attended by MSPs from each of the five parties.</p> <p>On the 6th July Patrick Grady, MP for Glasgow North, raised the issue of visas for those from Malawi in Oral Questions to the Secretary of State for International Development in the House of Commons.</p> <p>On the 14th July Ben Macpherson MSP, Patrick Grady MP and Linda Fabiani MSP all attended the Malawi Independence Celebrations in Glasgow.</p> <p>On the 14th August the SMP met with the newly appointed Scottish Government International Development Minister, Ben Macpherson MSP.</p> <p>On the 15th August the UK Minister for African, Harriet Baldwin MP, visited the SMP’s offices to discuss her recent visit to Malawi.</p>
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Malawi Scotland Partnership Chair (l) and Chief Executive (r) with Inkosi Ya Makosi Gomani IV, the Ngoni King, at the MaSP-SMP Conference

<p>OUTPUT 2.2: Local authority engagement programme</p>	<p>Since April, the SMP has continued work with its most recent Local Authority member, the Scottish Borders Council. We were invited to a Civic Reception celebrating Malawian visitors they were hosting, and continued support and engagement regarding the early stages of partnership are ongoing. Plans to engage Orkney Council as the next member Local Authority are in place, including a visit to Orkney where we will touch base with active school and faith links.</p> <p>Significant work has been done regarding an SMP Local Authorities Toolkit, which seeks to be a comprehensive partnership guide for Local Authority engagement with Malawi links. This is part of a long-term strategic plan, and will be a tangible output for engaging Local Authorities in the future. It will accompany each Local Authority’s mapping briefing during further engagement.</p>
<p>OUTPUT 2.3: Support for Scottish Government International Development Strategy: assisting constructive synergy between governmental and non-governmental efforts</p>	<p>The SMP supported a new SG-led initiative brokering a partnership between the 2050 Group in Scotland and the Malawi Scotland Partnership, for a youth-led climate leadership programme announced by the First Minister in April 2018. The SMP agreed to be a contractual intermediary on a no-cost basis to support this programme.</p> <p>At the end of April 2018 the SMP worked to support the SG around the Presidential visit and the new Partnership Agreement. Specifically, the SMP hosted an event on the 25th April bringing together the civic and governmental links.</p> <p>On the 10th May the SMP, with the Alliance, was an active part of the Corra/SG Small Grants Sweep-up session, drawing out learning from the previous year.</p> <p>On the 29th May the SMP hosted a Climate Justice Day with the Scottish Government to bring together stakeholders and help launch the Climate Justice Innovation Fund. A Malawi Cross Party Group meeting organised by the SMP the following week then focused on Climate Justice, with speakers from organisations funded by the SG’s programme. The SMP also worked with SCIAF through this period to support the SG’s new Climate Challenge Programme Malawi.</p> <p>In August, the SMP worked closely with the SG to promote their Malawi Development Programme funding announcement. The SMP was active supporting this announcement in the media, both in Scotland and Malawi.</p> <p>Also in August 2018, the SMP supported the announcement of the latest Small Grants Programme call for applications.</p> <p>On the 7th September the SMP supported and spoke at the Small Grants Information event, offering advice and support for prospective applicants. Over the coming weeks and months the SMP supported five organisations developing applications.</p> <p>Through August-October, the SMP hosted Nicola Cogan the SG’s Malawi Development Officer one day a week, to help support cooperation and mutual understanding between the SMP and the SG.</p>

	<p>In September, the SMP supported the launch of the SG's 'Contribution to International Development Report'</p> <p>Also in September, the SMP supported Ben Macpherson's first visit to Malawi as SG International Development Minister.</p> <p>At the end of the September the SMP and MaSP co-hosted with the Scottish and Malawi governments and parliaments, the Malawi and Scotland: Together for Sustainable Development Conference in Lilongwe. This conference brought together 350 individuals across Malawi and Scotland to explore how best to work together in this coming chapter to help implement the <i>Global Goals Partnership Agreement</i>.</p>
<p>OUTCOME 3: Scottish publics beyond SMP membership are informed and engaged on Scotland-Malawi links, opportunities and impact</p>	<p>The SMP published 23 stories in its news section and posted 18 event details about networking/information sessions being hosted or co-hosted by the SMP on the SMP website.</p> <p>The SMP used the visit of the President of Malawi to Scotland to secure strong media and social media coverage, raising awareness of Scotland's links with Malawi. This included 12 positive features in the Scottish media and 16 positive features in the Malawian media. The SMP's twitter account received 52,000 impressions during the month of the visit.</p> <p>In this period, the SMP had three of its own articles published in the Scotsman (print circulation 17,013; 138,733 daily average of unique digital browsers).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Josephine Mpango: Fountain of youth ready to take its place in politics – and change the world': 15th May 2018 • 'Kenneth R. Ross: Deep friendship changing lives here and in Malawi' 11 July 2018 • 'Karen Chinkwita Kumakanga: We call it ubale – partnership that is helping young Malawians into work' 24th September 2018 <p>The SMP also featured or led in 36 mainstream media articles in the press during this period.</p> <p>There were a further 76 positive Scotland-Malawi features in the press. These articles are collated from Google Alerts and are outside of the control of the SMP. The SMP shared these features on social media and in the weekly bulletin.</p> <p>On social media, our pages (across Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn) had 786,278 impressions between April and September. Our Instagram page had 725 followers.</p> <p>The SMP has been performing well on these platforms, which are a great place to engage with and inform our members, with Twitter impressions for September sitting at 77K, and August at 92.6K, which is a strong output against our monthly average of 50K.</p> <p>The SMP created 12 videos during this period. In addition, we hosted seen videos made by our members which were submitted for our annual Member Awards. These were uploaded to Facebook and shared on our social channels. On our YouTube page, these videos had a total of 3271 views.</p>



David Hope-Jones and Harriett Baldwin, UK Government Minister for Africa, launching the SMP's new Scotland Street Coffee at the SMP offices



Scottish MPs and Peers meeting with the President of Malawi in the House of Lords, as part of the Malawi APPG

<p>OUTPUT 3.1: New Media and Communications Strategy developed and implemented</p>	<p>A 'Communications & Digital Communications Strategy' was updated in August 2018 and will continue to be updated as required.</p> <p>A new Media and Communication Officer, Pamela Tulloch, formerly of STV, was recruited in August 2018</p>
<p>OUTPUT 3.2: SMP website development and maintenance as national hub for Scotland-Malawi interactions</p>	<p>During this period, the SMP website welcomed 10,290 visitors to the site with 40,507 page views. The SMP had 9,846 new visitors to the website during this period.</p> <p>The SMP also implemented a design refresh, working with 39 Steps (brand and web design agency) to make design changes on the website and have an overall simpler layout.</p>
<p>OUTCOME 4: New and priority areas of engagement between Scotland and Malawi are progressed</p>	<p>As outlined below, we had good progress in our priority areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business, Trade, Investment and Tourism, • Youth and Schools, and • Agriculture and food security
<p>OUTPUT 4.1: Delivery of the Business, Investment, Trade and Tourism (BITT) programme</p>	<p>The SMP worked with the UK Parliament's International Development Committee in advance of their evidence session with CDC (Commonwealth Development Corporation), as part of the Committee's enquiry into DFID's Economic Development Strategy. During the session the Chair and Chief Executive of CDC were asked by the Committee "what efforts are being made to increase investments in Malawi". Three weeks after the session, the SMP was involved in the launch of CDC's new impact report which included specific information about increased investments in Malawi.</p> <p>The SMP continued to be a leading part of the Malawi-UK Business Group, as an elected member of their Executive Group and having established the group's website. It attended, or teleconferenced into, three meetings in London during this period, leading with the group's lobbying and advocacy work and supporting upcoming events.</p> <p>The SMP supported the development of a new range of Mzuzu Coffee to be imported into Scotland during this period, starting with a campaign to find the "First 500" micro-investors.</p> <p>In August, the SMP launched the second edition of Scotland Street Coffee, in partnership with Alexander McCall Smith and Brodies, with profits going to SMP members, the Mamie Martin Fund, to support girls' education in the north of Malawi. Author Alexander McCall Smith wrote a new short story for this SMP-branded coffee from Mzuzu.</p> <p>The SMP continued to support Tourism through this period with active partnerships with STA Travel, Orbis Expeditions, the Malawi Marketing Consortium, and others.</p>



Minister Ben Macpherson MSP meeting young Malawians as part of the SMP-MaSP conference

<p>OUTPUT 4.2: Expand schools outreach, support for school partnerships and wider youth engagement</p>	<p><u>School Partnerships:</u></p> <p>In early September 2018, the schools’ newsletter was sent out to over 230 teachers across Scotland with summaries of news, trips, CPD courses and useful resources.</p> <p>On the 11th September, introductions were made for Littlemill Primary School in Scotland and Christian Heritage School in Lilongwe in the hope of starting a new partnership between the two schools. This was done with the help of MaSP finding and providing details of a suitable school partner for Littlemill which has a very small number of pupils. Lee McPhail from Littlemill wrote: “We are (as you’ll see!) very excited to get started, our staff believe the benefits of this partnership could really enhance the day to day learning for pupils.”</p> <p>On the 22nd August, two Malawian visitors from Thondwe spent time at Biggar High School. The YSO attended to meet the visitors and to see some of the activities planned for the visitors at the school which included a tour and sessions with pupils in Art and English classes.</p> <p>On the 13th September, following on from the visit by two people from Biggar High School’s partner community in Malawi, the YSO delivered a workshop in school to the Malawi group, focusing on the history of the partnership between Scotland and Malawi, exploring the Partnership Principles and brainstorming new ideas for their partnership. Head teacher Robert Stewart commented: <i>“Once again many thanks for taking the time to visit Biggar today. The start of a long and hopefully fruitful partnership. Kids full of positivity about the experience.”</i></p> <p>On the 20th September the YSO and Brave Mnyayi delivered a Chichewa workshop to pupils and teachers at Beath High School ahead of their trip to Malawi in October.</p> <p>In May and June, the SMP delivered Chichewa lessons to groups in Edinburgh (at George Watson’s College) and Glasgow (Strathclyde University)</p> <p>George Watson’s College contacted the SMP for support on visa applications for their upcoming visit to Malawi with a group of pupils. The group were successful in getting visas ahead of their trip for all participants.</p> <p>The YSO spoke to several schools offering advice and support via email and phone on topics such as communications with their partner schools in Malawi, cultural sensitivity ahead of a trip to Malawi, providing a non-bias view of suppliers and press coverage for school events.</p>
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Teacher Training and Support:

In June, the MSO visited Biggar High School to deliver a presentation at a school INSET day on the history and support on offer from the SMP.

In August, the YSO represented the SMP in a successful bid as part of consortium with IDEAS and LfSS to become National Expert Lead in Scotland for the Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning programme co-funded by British Council and DFID. There have since been further successful bids to create and deliver the CPD element of the programme in Scotland, and as a member of a pool of organisations to deliver work as part of the Development Education and Global Learning framework in the same programme.

As part of the Schools' Newsletter released in early September, several programmes and courses for teachers from partners such as IDEAS were advertised.

On the 19th September, the YSO attended Scottish Learning Festival in support of colleagues from Beath High School delivering a session on their schools' partnership and the SDGs to attendees at the Festival.

Youth Engagement:

In April 2018 the SMP recruited Josephine Mphango to be the [SMP's Youth Ambassador at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting](#). She was trained and supported in this role to [record videos](#) and publish blogs giving a young Malawian's perspective of CHOGM 2018. We established a [social media platform](#) for Josephine to share her views and created an opportunity for her to directly ask a question of the President of Malawi about youth leadership in the House of Lords.

In July submitted a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for funding for a project based around YOYP and celebrating historical links between young people in Scotland and Malawi. The bid was successful and in August the YSO began work on the project.

The YSO and MCO worked collaboratively on the inception, [advertisement](#) and selection of the [SMP Youth Committee](#) made up of 10 young people aged between 14-24 from across Scotland with links to Malawi. The Youth Committee will co-design events and activities to celebrate the historical links between young people in Scotland and Malawi.

The first meeting of the Youth Committee was held on the 28th September at the City Chambers in Edinburgh. The meeting covered introductions, the background and aims for the Youth Committee and discussion of upcoming events such as the AGM.

OUTPUT 4.3:
Convening and supporting a community of practice on Agriculture and Food Security

On 11th July, in collaboration with the SG and University of Strathclyde, the SMP hosted [a round-table meeting for the Agriculture, Food Security & water Stewardship community of practice to meet a senior water delegation from the Malawian Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development and Malawian Parliament on water scarcity and risks to agriculture](#). Delegates included Hon Joseph Mathyola Nakari Mwanamvekha, Minister Agriculture Irrigation and Water Development and Hon John Alfred John Chikalimba MP Zomba (opposition party, PP and VC of Budget and Finance Committee).

The SMP [brought the 2050 Climate Group to the Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group on Malawi](#) on the 13th September.

In collaboration with The Alliance and the Scottish Fairtrade Forum, the SMP Supported Fairtrade Scotland's First-500 Mzuzu Coffee Launch on September 25th.

On 28th September, the SMP co-convened an event on Scotland's role in supporting climate justice in Malawi. Co-ordinated with Water Witness International, SCIAF, JTS and Climate Challenge Programme Malawi, this event brought Malawian Rice farmers and Scottish actors in Agriculture and Water Stewardship together in Edinburgh.



The Edinburgh Girl's High School choir, from Mzuzu, performs for the SMP in Edinburgh, and are separately given a warm welcome by the First Minister!