

Activity and Impact Report:

April 2019 – March 2020



CONTENTS:

Executive Summary: Page 5

1 Summary of Events and Engagements 2019-20: Page 5

SMP Events:	Page 6
SMP Events:	Page 10

2 Progress against Outcomes and Outputs: Page 16

OUTCOME 1 Coordination	Page 16
OUTCOME 2 Advocacy	Page 23
OUTCOME 3 Media and coms	Page 30
OUTCOME 4 Priority areas	Page 32

3 Reporting to the Scottish Government (Core Funders) Page 36

Project progress and results:	Page 36
Partnerships and collaboration:	Page 40
Safeguarding and fraud:	Page 45
Risk assessment:	Page 46
Inclusion and accountability:	Page 46

4 Logframe Page 49

OUTCOME 1 Coordination	Page 49
OUTCOME 2 Advocacy	Page 55
OUTCOME 3 Media and coms	Page 61
OUTCOME 4 Priority areas	Page 65

5 External Expert Review (The Corra Foundation): NARRATIVE Page 71

Background:	Page 71
Comments on MEL Framework and Quality of Data:	Page 72
Assessment of Evidence of Specific Outcomes:	Page 74
Value for Money:	Page 79
Conclusions:	Page 79

6 External Expert Review (The Corra Foundation): DETAILED R.A.G. ASSESSMENT Page 80

OUTCOME 1 Coordination	Page 80
OUTCOME 2 Advocacy	Page 84
OUTCOME 3 Media and coms	Page 87
OUTCOME 4 Priority areas	Page 90

7 Member Impact Statements 2019-20 Page 93

Examples of feedback emailed to the SMP	Page 93
Member Needs and Impact Survey:	Page 96
Event Feedback Forms	Page 101
Youth and Schools:	Page 103

8 Membership Needs and Impact Survey 2019-20:

Summary of Results **Page 104**

Executive Summary:	Page 104
Impact:	Page 104
Services:	Page 110
SMP Development:	Page 112
Member Needs:	Page 114
Events:	Page 122
Scale of links:	Page 123

9 SMP Diversity Review **Page 124**

10 Agriculture and Food Security

Progress and Impact Report: **Page 130**

11 Business, Trade, Investment and Tourism

Progress and Impact Report: **Page 133**

Executive Summary:	Page 133
Strategic Objective Mapping:	Page 134
Engagements 2019-20:	Page 135
Stakeholder Feedback:	Page 140
Progress against Strategic Objectives:	Page 144

12 Lobbying and Advocacy

Progress and Impact Report: **Page 146**

Executive Summary:	Page 146
Strategic Objective Mapping:	Page 147
Engagements 2019-20:	Page 149
Assessment of Impact:	Page 160

13 Youth and Schools

Progress and Impact Report: **Page 166**

Staffing:	Page 166
Support for Schools:	Page 166
Teacher training and support:	Page 167
Youth Engagement:	Page 167
School Partnership Awards	Page 167
Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning:	Page 171
Youth, Heritage and Culture Project:	Page 172

14 Media review:

SMP featured/led items in the media 2019-20: Page 173

Executive Summary:

Purpose of this report:

In keeping with our commitment to transparency and accountability, every six months the Scotland Malawi Partnership publishes an Activity and Impact Report outlining key events and activities, and assessing impact against the network's agreed outcomes and outputs.

This is separate document to the Partnership's *Annual Report*, which is published at the autumn AGM and which is a more of a pictorial run through of key headlines from the year. In contrast, this report presents the full 'nuts and bolts' detail, including all the feedback we have had from members and partners, our detailed strategic assessments and an independent expert review of the SMP's impact.

This Activity and Impact Report draws on the SMP's formal reporting to the Scottish Government for the core funding it receives but also significantly expands on this. The Partnership chooses to exceed the grant reporting requirements of the Scottish Government as we believe it is vital to communicate the breadth, depth and impact of all the Partnership's working, and that this must include both quantitative and qualitative data. Given the core funding the SMP receives from the public purse, we are keen to publicly share the significant positive impact achieved, and the value for money offered by the SMP, as well as remaining accountable to our 1,200+ members.

Most importantly, this report captures all the feedback and learning the SMP received this year from members, stakeholders and partners. As an organisation, we are committed to continual improvement and hence the staff and board are continuing to digest and use this feedback, ensuring that it helps inform our future work and the further development and strengthening of our network.

Outline of this report:

Section one of this report details the major activity in this 12-month period, including the 35 events and engagements hosted by the SMP which were attended by 1,118, and the further 50 events attended by 3,119 people.

Section two gives a summary of activity and impact against the SMP's four outcomes and eleven outputs. Key feedback data is highlighted and a summary is given of the approach taken, with hyperlinks to further information and detail online.

Section three gives the written narrative report the SMP gave the Scottish Government, reporting on its core funding agreement, in the format requested by the Scottish Government.

Section four has the salient detail from our 2019-20 logframe, including the quantitative data illustrating what the SMP achieved against the 40 impact, outcome and output indicators

Sections five and six are the independent expert review conducted by the Corra Foundation, with a thorough written assessment of each of the four outcome areas, including their suggested priorities going forwards. There is a detailed assessment of all 36 Outcome and Output indicators, with 32 categorised 'green' (achieved or exceeded), four categorised 'amber' (slightly below target in some way – but for each of these Corra makes the case for why it feels the SMP has not significantly underachieved), and zero 'red' (not achieved). The reports conclude that the: *"SMP has achieved all of its four Outcomes, meeting original targets for some Outputs and far exceeding others"*, indeed that the SMP also undertook *"work in several areas not captured by this reporting framework"*, and *"this progress has required a very wide range of activities, tasks and audiences as SMP has responded to diverse*

member needs, sector developments and its responsibilities under this Scottish Government grant”.

Section seven presents 170 written statements from named individuals and leaders in the sector, describing the positive impact the SMP has had on their work in the last year, or giving positive feedback on the SMP’s work this year.

Section eight gives the full data received in the SMP’s Member Needs and Impact Survey, which 77 members completed in March 2020. 91% of respondents felt that membership of the SMP in 2019-20 “*helped strengthen, support or develop their links with Malawi*”.

Section nine presents a brief Diversity Review highlighting, for example, that 53% of event attendees were female and 47% male, 75% were British and 25% were Malawian (or other nationality), and outlining how the SMP had achieved gender balance on the Board of Directors (56% female, 44% male) by the end of the year.

Sections ten to thirteen detail the activity undertaken, feedback received and impact achieved in four key strategic areas for the SMP: Agriculture and food security; Business, trade, investment and tourism; Lobbying and advocacy; and Youth and schools

Finally, Section 14 summarises and links to many of the 173 articles in the Scottish media about Malawi throughout the year, 42 of which were generated, led by or featured the SMP.

Reflections of 2019-20:

The SMP has undoubtedly achieved a great deal in 2019-20. The autumn of 2019 was an especially busy and productive period, with the [Members Awards Ceremony](#), hosted by HRH The Princess Royal, in September to raise awareness, celebrate and reward members’ work and impact. In October, our [AGM](#) included a special interview with, and live performance by, the world renowned performer and albinism human rights campaigner Lazarus, and the Scottish premiere of his [award-winning film](#). And in December, the [Schools Awards Ceremony](#), with William Kamkwamba (*The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*), celebrating school links and supporting sharing between groups.

The SMP is proud of all it has achieved in this last 12 months and is grateful to all the Members and supporters who made this possible. We are especially grateful to: the Scottish Government, who have confirmed SMP core funding for 2020-23; our Board of 16 fantastic volunteer Directors; and to our incredible 5.6FTE staff who made it all happen.

We look forward to continuing to work to strengthen the bonds of friendship between our two nations.

David Hope-Jones OBE
Chief Executive

1 Summary of Events and Engagements 2019-20:

SMP Events:

The SMP hosted 35 events attended by 1,118 people in the reporting period within 2019-20:

Date	Event	Venue	No.	Summary
1 st May 2019	Cross Party Group on Malawi	The Scottish Parliament	58	Update on Malawi floods by Prof Bob Kalin. Focusing on Global Health - presentations by Angus Loudon, St John Scotland and Mike McKirdy, Professional Advisor, Scottish Global Health Co-ordination Unit at the Scottish Government
1 st May 2019	Further and Higher Education led health projects	Edinburgh City Chambers	24	Coordination & collaboration between Scotland's Further and Higher Education led health projects with Malawi. Built on outcomes from Health Forum and Further and Higher Education Forum.
11 th May 2019	Rosemary Argente's Book Launch	Edinburgh City Chambers	32	Networking event around publication of important historical and cultural record.
14 th & 21 st May 2019	Malawian Language and Culture Workshops	Glasgow	9	Responding to member requests, cultural introduction and Chichewa classes preparing members for time in Malawi.
15 th May 2019	Malawian Congress of Trade Unions (MCTU)	Edinburgh City Chambers	9	Working with SMP Member Heriot-Watt University on their research and collaboration with President and Research Officer of one of Malawi's largest Trade Union and connecting with Scottish counterparts on workers' rights.
16 th & 27 th June 2019	Malawian Language and Culture Workshops	Edinburgh City Chambers	9	Responding to member requests, cultural introduction and Chichewa classes preparing members for time in Malawi.
18 th July 2019	Meeting with Youth Committee & DLT	Edinburgh City Chambers	9	Connecting SMP Youth Committee with David Livingstone Trust education projects and Birthplace project
28 th August 2019	Glasgow Schools' Forum		12	Held in Knightswood Secondary School, Glasgow

29 th August 2019	Edinburgh Schools' Forum	Edinburgh City Chambers	14	Education practitioners shared and gather experience of working in school partnerships and Learning for Sustainability. Discussion of the SDGs & Learning for Sustainability and the Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning programme.
5 th September 2019	SMP Member Awards with HRH The Princess Royal	Edinburgh City Chambers	152	HRH The Princess Royal presented Member Awards and Cyclone Idai responses to SMP members with networking opportunities for over 150 people.
11 th September 2019	Cross Party Group on Malawi	The Scottish Parliament	32	Malawi's first ever home-trained Vets presented in the Scottish parliament with their Head of Department. Animal healthcare being hugely significant to sustainable agriculture and food security and a nation lacking Vets..
11 th September 2019	Malawian Vet Reception	Edinburgh City Chambers	25	Networking opportunity where Malawi's new Vets met with members working in Agriculture & Food Security
5 th October 2019	AGM with Ben Macpherson MSP & Lazarus Chigwandali	Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh	196	Malawian world music star and albinism activist Lazarus Chigwandali entertained and inspired Members. There was strong engagement in the SMP's future strategy and the SG Minister of Int Dev Ben Macpherson MSP addressed almost 200 Members.
20 th November 2019	Roundtable with Dundee University elective Medical Students	Edinburgh City Chambers	13	Twelve of the 3rd and 4th year medical students visiting the SMP from Dundee University were going to Malawi for studies and practical work in a broad range of topics. They met with David Hope-Jones and Stuart Brown.
3 rd December 2019	William Kamkwamba Meeting with MSPs	The Scottish Parliament	7	The real-life inspiration of the book and Netflix film: <i>'The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind'</i> , William Kamkwamba met with Cross Party MSPs.'
3 rd December 2019	William Kamkwamba Meeting with Presiding Officer	The Scottish Parliament	5	William Kamkwamba of <i>'The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind'</i> met with The Presiding Officer and Deputy Presiding Officer of the Scottish parliament.
3 rd December 2019	Renewable Energy Forum with William Kamkwamba	Edinburgh City Chambers	33	William Kamkwamba met with leading renewable energy sector industry practitioners and academics to share his story and take part in discussion on their projects.
4 th December 2019	William Kamkwamba meeting with then	The Scottish Parliament	5	Then Minister for International Development, Ben MacPherson MSP met with William Kamkwamba sharing perspectives on relations between Scotland and Malawi

	Minister Ben Macpherson MSP			
5 th December 2019	School Partnership Awards,	Edinburgh City Chambers	95	The first ever SMP event of this type, it aimed to celebrate the variety of school partnerships with Malawi across Scotland. Co designed by the SMP's Youth Committee and secretariat, it focused on the theme of sustainability. William Kamkwamba presented the awards and there was a welcome from Edinburgh's Lord Provost.
18 th December 2019	Christmas Networking Organisations Networking	Edinburgh	13	The SMP, Alliance and Scottish Fairtrade Forum staff had its annual all-staff gathering to support networking and sharing between peers at every level.
8 th January 2020	Networks Forum	Edinburgh	3	Meeting of the Scottish Fair Trade Forum, SMP and Alliance Chief Execs, to share information and plan together.
15 th January 2020	Roundtable with the UK's Development Finance Institution - CDC	Edinburgh City Chambers	33	The Chair of CDC, the UK's Finance Development Institution Graham Wrigley and Director of Global Affairs Andrew Palmer met practitioners in Scotland with key business, investment, trade and tourism links. The meeting provided an opportunity for dialogue on CDC and Members' priorities.
15 th January 2020	CDC Cross Party Dinner	Edinburgh	8	An opportunity for CDC, the UK's Finance development Institution to network informally with cross party MSPs.
30 th January 2020	Cross Party MSPs' meeting with Deputy Speakers of Malawi Parliament	The Scottish Parliament	7	The First and Second Deputy Speakers of the Malawian Parliament met with cross-party MSPs including two CPG Co-Convenors and the Deputy Presiding Officer
30 th January 2020	Roundtable Event with Deputy Speakers of Malawi Parliament	Edinburgh City Chambers	18	The First and Second Deputy Speakers of the Malawian Parliament met with SMP members to share their vision and to hear from members.
7 th February 2020	Malawi at COP26 Planning Meeting	Edinburgh City Chambers	20	Members and partners fed edits into the proposed SMP COP26 engagement plans and unanimously agreed a final strategy, giving a strong mandate for the Partnership to advance these plans.

14 th February 2020	Further & Higher Education Forum	Edinburgh City Chambers	21	At this meeting of the Further & Higher Education (FE/HE)Forum , the 2020 edition of the FE/HE Directory was launched. There was strong input from FE/HE practitioners from around Scotland.
19 th February 2020	Cross Party Group on Malawi	The Scottish Parliament	36	An education-themed CPG in which MSPs and CPG Members heard from Link Community Development's Malawi Country Director, Harold Kuombola and International Programme Manager, Kate Sykes as well as the CEO of Classrooms for Malawi, Amy Blake.
25 th February 2020	Online Schools Forum	Online	16	With input from Oban High School and the Community School of Auchterarder, the online Forum shared information about the benefits of a school partnership, lessons learned and experience.
26 th February 2020	Governance Forum	Edinburgh City Chambers	21	This meeting focused specifically on the SMP's plans for the 2020 Year of Governance Strengthening across three spheres:1) Within the SMP; 2) Amongst the SMP membership 3) In wider contexts across our two nations.
5 th March 2020	Roundtable with Speaker and visiting MPs	Edinburgh City Chambers	27	Roundtable for MSP members with a key locus in Governance with The Hon. Catherine Gotani Hara, (the first female) Speaker of the Malawian Parliament and two delegations of visiting Malawian MPs.
5 th March 2020	Civic Reception Speaker and visiting MPs	Edinburgh City Chambers	71	Networking opportunity for SMP Members and The Hon. Catherine Gotani Hara, (the first female) Speaker of the Malawian Parliament and two delegations of visiting Malawian MPs.
6 th March 2020	Agriculture & Food Security Forum with SFTF	Edinburgh City Chambers	23	Co-hosted with Scottish Fair Trade Forum as part of Fair Trade Fortnight, this gathering was part of the 'She Deserves' campaign foregrounding Women's roles & rights in Agriculture. The meeting heard from visiting Malawian representatives of the Kasinthula Sugar Growers Association.
12 th March 2020	Agriculture and Food Security Forum with Challenges	Edinburgh City Chambers	12	Agriculture & Food Security Forum timed to provide a platform for visiting Malawian Challenges Worldwide Manager of the current SG-funded Agriculture project (165 S), Phillip Chidawati.
31 st March 2020	Online Health Forum	Online	50	The SMP held an online forum on Malawi's COVID-19 preparedness. Almost 50 members and key partners participated including the Scottish Government's Joanna Keating joined to share the SG's perspective.
Total:			1,118	

SMP Events:

The SMP co-hosted or supported a further 50 events attended by 3,119 people in 2019-20:

Date	Event	Venue	No.	Summary
30 th April 2019	Joint APPG meeting with Independent Chief Inspector		18	Partnered with the Migration APPG and Africa APPG, the SMP supported the Malawi APPG to meet with the UK Independent Chief Inspector for Immigration, as part of the joint-all party inquiry on UK visas for those visiting from Africa.
2 nd May 2019	Strathclyde Uni/Low Carbon Energy	University of Strathclyde	58	David Hope-Jones gave the opening address in this major conference, with this UK-wide networking looking to emulate and learn from the SMP's model.
3 rd May 2019	Workshop with Global Citizenship Group	Flora Stevenson Primary School, Edinburgh	45	Workshop on Malawi with school's Global Citizenship group.
24 th May 2019	Malawian Post-Grad Students Studying in Scotland Meeting	University of Strathclyde	14	Meeting with 11 Malawian Post-Grad Students studying in universities across Scotland to listen to their wishes and needs in gaining hands-on work experience to complement their studies.
28 th May 2019	Malawi Celebration Day at the Ninewells Community Garden	Dundee Ninewells Hospital, Dundee	40	Winners of SMP Youth Committee Competition. Event jointly organised by students from the University of Dundee's Global Health Partnerships society and NHS Tayside, local school pupils helped help plant seeds in the new garden and learn more about their new school partnerships. Drumming, Malawian food and much more!
29 th May 2019	Malawi Trip Meeting	St Margaret's Academy, Livingston	31	Meeting to prepare group of pupils who were travelling to Malawi and their parents/guardians.
30 th May 2019	Beath High School Malawi lunch	Beath HS Fife	50	Winners of SMP Youth Committee Competition. Students and teachers in the school's Malawi partnership group shared Malawian culture and food with 50 participants including local councillors, parents, teachers and pupils.
5th June 2019	School Fayre	St Ronan's Primary School, Innerleithen	261	Supported the school's Malawi group at their school fayre to talk to members of the local community about Malawi and the school's partnership.

18 th June 2019	St John Festival	Inverness	185	SG-funded St John's Trust who support health and community projects through their partner in Malawi's festival at which SMP CEO, David-Hope-Jones spoke, sharing news of the bilateral relationship.
20 th June 2019	St Roch's Secondary School Malawi Day	St Roch's High School, Glasgow	170	Support for High School 'Malawi Day' when the SMP collaborated with Malawian performer Brave Mnyayi,, the David Livingstone Trust, Mary's Meals, Classrooms for Malawi, Strathclyde University, Malawi Leaders of Learning and Chichewa language tutor, Enock Bamusi
26 th June 2019	Climate Justice Fund Info Day	Methodist Church, Edinburgh	28	David Hope-Jones and Douglas Coulter supported colleagues at the Scottish Government and Corra Foundation in this info day.
6 th July 2019	Malawi Independence Day Celebrations	Ibrox Community Hall, Glasgow	80	The Association of Malawians in Scotland's Independence Day Celebration when the (then) SG Minister for International Development Ben Macpherson MSP gave the opening address. The supported in the event in a variety of ways, including through funding and providing speakers.
13 th July 2019	Malawi UK Business Group	London (joined by teleconf)	16	SMP-supported meeting of the Group, supporting Malawi-UK trade
16 th July 2019	APPG Visa Report Launch	Westminster	81	The Malawi All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) partnered with the Africa APPG and the Migration APPG to undertake a major parliamentary inquiry into the handling of UK visa applications from Africa. This event launched the report and its parliamentary inquiry recommendations. SMP CEO contributed to report and attended launch..
11 th September 2019	Small Grants Info Day	Edinburgh Methodist Church	20	The SMP promoted the SG's Small Grants programme in its online bulletin and social media platform and joined the SG, Corra and Alliance in speaking at this event, offering advice and support for prospective applicants.
16 th September 2019	George Watson's College Lunchtime Club Meeting	George Watson's College, Edinburgh	14	Youth & Schools Manager Gemma Burnside presented at this workshop on school partnerships.
17 th September 2019	P6/P7 Workshop	Heriot Primary School, Paisley	43	Workshop introducing Malawi to P6/7 pupils.
9 th October 2019	Dinner with visiting Parliamentarians	Edinburgh	12	Opportunity through the Commonwealth parliamentary Association for informal networking amongst visiting Malawian parliamentarians and MSPs

17 th October 2019	MaSP's AGM	Lilongwe	71	Encouraged attendance at MaSP's AGM, the theme of which was 'Achieving sustainable socio-economic development through partnerships'. Speakers included SMP Chair, Prof Heather Cubie, Youth & Schools Manager, Gemma Burnside and the SG's Nicola Cogan.
29 th October 2019	St Stephen's High School & Classrooms for Malawi	St Stephen's High School, Port Glasgow	160	Co-presented with Classrooms for Malawi and Orbis to prospective S4s about Malawi ahead of pupils applying to join a school trip.
7 th November 2019	UK Malawi business Group: A Taste of Malawi	Scotland House, London	83	The SMP connected the Malawi-UK Business Group with the SG to have their Malawi tourism promotion showcase: A Taste of Malawi hosted at the SG's Scotland House in London. 80 organisations came together to discuss Malawi business trade investment and tourism.
11 th November 2019	British Council Connecting Classrooms Webinar	Online	4	Supporting the British Council's Connecting Classrooms programme which aims to help pupils understand the big issues that shape our world and equip them with the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to make a positive contribution.
20 th November 2019	Bannerman High School & David Livingstone Trust	Glasgow	16	Co-delivered workshop looking at the story of David Livingstone and the imagery used compared to imagery of Malawi used in Scotland today.
20 th November 2019	St Roch's High School & David Livingstone Trust	Glasgow	10	Co-delivered workshop looking at the story of David Livingstone and the imagery used compared to imagery of Malawi used in Scotland today.
20 th November 2019	School themed Cross Party Group on Malawi	The Scottish Parliament	44	SG-funded projects were amongst those whose work was showcased in this education-themed CPG. Presentations by visiting Malawians speaking on behalf of Step Kids Awareness (STEKA) and STEKASkills, WaterAid, Centre for Youth and Development and a presentation from a Scotland-based Director of Mary's Meals
22 nd November 2019	Biggar High School Coffee Morning	Biggar	656	Loaned Malawi decorations to Biggar High School for their Malawi-themed coffee morning for over 650 participants.
27 th November 2019	Mary Erskine School Workshop	Mary Erskine School	13	Workshop to prepare group of pupils travelling to Malawi.
28 th November 2019	St Maurice's High School & David Livingstone Trust	St Maurice's High School	15	Co-delivered workshop looking at the story of David Livingstone and the imagery used compared to imagery of Malawi used in Scotland today.

28 th November 2019	Williamwood High School & David Livingstone Trust	Williamwood High School	31	Co-delivered workshop looking at the story of David Livingstone and the imagery used compared to imagery of Malawi used in Scotland today.
4 th December 2019	Knightswood Secondary School and David Livingstone Trust	Glasgow	14	Co-delivered workshop looking at the story of David Livingstone and the imagery used compared to imagery of Malawi used in Scotland today.
6 th December 2019	International School of Aberdeen and Aberdeen for a Fairer World MDEC School Talk...	Aberdeen	220	Over 200 pupils who had studied “The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind” participated, in this event with William Kamkwamba and the SMP’s Gemma Burnside.
6 th December 2019	Bridge of Don Academy & Aberdeen for a Fairer World talk with William Kamkwamba	Bridge of Don	110	In Bridge of Don Academy over 100 pupils from S1, S2 and S6 gathered for a session with the inspirational William Kamkwamba.
6 th December 2019	Oil & Gas Tech Centre and Aberdeen for a Fairer World Talk with William Kamkwamba	Aberdeen	20	In this Centre which focuses on innovative approaches working towards a net zero carbon future, William spoke to an audience of teachers, STEM practitioners and members of the public
23 rd January 2020	St Matthew’s Academy Tumbuka workshop	Ayrshire	21	Building on the success of the SMP’s Chichewa language and culture workshops, this workshop offered an intro to culture and a Tumbuka language class
28 th January 2020	Largs Academy Chichewa Workshop	Largs	15	Providing an introduction to Malawian culture and elementary Chichewa language.
31 st January 2020	Inverness Royal Academy Chichewa workshop	Inverness	17	Providing an introduction to Malawian culture and elementary Chichewa language.

3 rd February 2020	ESMS Junior School workshop	Edinburgh	8	Stimulating encouragement and information from the SMP's Youth & Schools Manager Gemma Burnside on developing successful school partnership with Malawi
4 th February 2020	Gleniffer High School talent show	Glasgow	110	Gift for raffle
6 th February 2020	Co-delivery of British Council partnerships CPD with Scotdec	Edinburgh	9	Co-delivered CPD training on building successful international school partnerships with Scotdec.
10 th February 2020	APPG (AGM)	Westminster	12	SMP secretariat support for the Malawi All Party Parliamentary Committee
17 th February 2020	COP26 Planning Meeting with Alliance	Edinburgh City Chambers	19	Gave use of the City Chambers Mandela Room for the Cop26 planning meeting
18 th February 2020	MaSP Symposium	Lilongwe	62	Organisations funded by the Scottish Government (SG) were encouraged to attend, or invite their partners in Malawi to attend, the Malawi Scotland Partnership Annual Symposium for SG-funded projects. This year's theme was Result-based reporting: Telling the Truth.
19 th February 2020	George Watson's College Workshop	Edinburgh	17	Gemma Burnside, SMP Youth & Schools Manager supported George Watson's ongoing partnership with Malawi with a workshop
20 th February 2020	New Monklands Primary School Workshop x4	North Lanarkshire	91	Workshop introducing Malawi to 4 classes across the school.
26 th February 2020	Co-delivery of British Council partnership with Scotdec		8	Co-delivered CPD training on building successful international school partnerships with Scotdec.
27 th February 2020	Holy Cross RC Primary School workshop	Edinburgh	22	Workshop introducing Malawi to Diversity group in school ahead of the school establishing a new partnership with a school in Malawi.
27 th February 2020	CBBC Filming on SDG17	Edinburgh City Chambers	6	Co-ordination with Youth Committee member Gift Thomson and Inde TV production company to contribute to BBC Scotland features on SDGs

28 th February 2020	Malawi-UK Business Group	London (joined by teleconf)	12	SMP-supported meeting of the Group, supporting Malawi-UK trade
28 th February 2020	Capacity- strengthening in Africa Symposium, University of Glasgow	Glasgow	70	The SMP gave its 17 SDGs banners and SMP CEO David Hope-Jones participated in this University of Glasgow pulling together of Scotland-Malawi research and projects
11 th March 2020	Co-delivery of British Council Partnerships with Scotdec		7	Co-delivered CPD training on building successful international school partnerships with Scotdec.
Total:			3,139	

2 Progress against Outcomes and Outputs:

Output/ Outcome	Activity and Impact
OUTCOME 1 : Civic links between Scotland and Malawi are coordinated, and the capacity of partnerships to be effective and impactful is enhanced	<p>91% of the 77 respondents in the Member Needs and Impact Survey felt that membership of the SMP in 2019-20 <i>"helped strengthen, support or develop their links with Malawi"</i>.</p> <p>A total of 170 impact statements and message of support were emailed to the SMP or given in a feedback survey, outlining the many different ways the SMP's work has helped coordinate Members' civic links with Malawi and built their capacity for effectiveness.</p> <p>It has not been possible to update the University of Edinburgh research on the scale of Scotland-Malawi civic links at this time, due to the Covid-19 crisis. However, we know that respondents to the 2020 Needs and Impact Survey, on average:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> valued the worth of their Malawi link over the past 12-months, at £112,891. had 226 people involved in Scotland with their link and 182 in Malawi. had 87 direct and 637 indirect beneficiaries in Scotland had 3,338 direct and 11,158 indirect beneficiaries in Malawi
Output 1.1: Programme of development and capacity building opportunities offered to members	<p>The SMP has had a busy and productive year, with 33 SMP events engaging 1,061 people and a further 50 partner events engaging 4,122 [attendance: 53% female; 47% male].</p> <p>Of the 77 respondents to the annual Member needs and Impact Survey, 78% rated SMP events as "extremely useful" and 22% "quite useful".</p> <p>91% of the 172 members who gave feedback having attended an SMP event, described the event as "excellent" or "very good".</p> <p>87% of the 172 members who gave feedback having attended an SMP event, stated that their link with Malawi had been supported/strengthened as a result of attending.</p> <p>Almost all of the SMP's events in this period included an element of developmental and capacity-building opportunities for members.</p> <p>For example, there was capacity-building for education practitioners to share and gather experience of working in school partnerships and Learning for Sustainability when the SMP held two Schools' Forums in <u>Glasgow</u> on August 28th and <u>Edinburgh</u> the following day. The events explored the Sustainable Development Goals and Learning for Sustainability and involved: teachers from surrounding districts, representatives from Scotdec, WOSDEC, Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning and the Development Education Centres in Edinburgh and Glasgow.</p>

The SMP helped facilitate a visit to Scotland of the first home-trained Malawi Vets and arranged for them to present at the [Cross Party Group on Malawi on the 11th September 2019](#) in the Scottish Parliament and attend a [Reception](#) in Edinburgh City Chambers. The driving force behind the visit to Scotland was retired Vet Adam Tjolle, who said:

"We found the Scotland Malawi Partnership invaluable in making our vet exchange happen and the experience was fantastic with a fully loaded programme making connections which will transform the veterinary careers of our students."

The SMP hosted a [Roundtable with the UK's Development Finance Institution - CDC](#) on January 15th with 33 participants. The Speakers were CDC's Chairman, Graham Wrigley and Head of Global Affairs, Andrew Palmer and the event enabled practitioners in Scotland with Malawi links to learn more about CDC's work and for CDC to hear their development priorities. 58% of those who filled in feedback forms (x12) described the meeting as "excellent" and 42% as "very good". 100% of respondents said the meeting helped strengthen/support their links with Malawi/Alliance target countries. 83% of respondents said they made new contacts at the meeting.

The February 19th [Cross-Party Group on Malawi](#) focused on education and community engagement projects with presentations by Link Community Development International Malawi Country Director, Harold Kuombola, and International Programme Manager, Kate Syke, and Classrooms for Malawi CEO, Amy Blake. The event provided 36 participants with information on different approaches taken to this area of work in Malawi.

The SMP was able to support and help develop a range of youth and schools events across Scotland, including with support from the *Year of Young People National Lottery Fund*. For example, there was a [Malawi Celebration Day at the Ninewells Community Garden](#) in Dundee on May 28th attended by 40 people. As well as celebrating existing Scotland-Malawi links, the event marked the beginning of new partnerships between schools in Dundee and Blantyre in Malawi, and was jointly organised by students from the University of Dundee's Global Health Partnerships society and NHS Tayside with support from the One World Centre and Just Trading Scotland. On May 30th, the SMP supported Beath High School's [Malawi lunch](#) where students and teachers in the school's Malawi partnership group shared Malawian culture and food with 50 participants including local councillors, parents, teachers and pupils. There was support for a 'Malawi Day' for 170 participants at [St Roch's Secondary School](#) on June 20th when the SMP collaborated with Malawian performer Brave Mnyayi, the David Livingstone Trust, Mary's Meals, Classrooms for Malawi, Strathclyde University, Malawi Leaders of Learning and Chichewa language tutor, Enock Bamusi.

[Malawian Language and Culture Workshops](#) held in May and June in Edinburgh and Glasgow at Beginners' level provided support to a diverse group of members. The classes covered introductions, basic cultural points, and useful language such as bartering and personal information and were largely conversational, helping attendees to feel confident in using what they learnt outside of the classroom.

In partnership with Aberdeen for a Fairer World MDEC, the SMP ran [school and industry talks](#) in Aberdeen with William Kamkwamba on December 6th. In the first of these sessions, over 200 pupils from an International School and primary schools from the area participated, having studied *"The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind"*. In Bridge of Don Academy over 100 pupils from S1, S2 and S6 gathered for a session with William. The final session of the day took place at the Oil and Gas Technology Centre which focuses on innovative approaches working towards a net zero carbon future. William spoke to an audience of teachers, STEM practitioners and members of the public.

In partnership with the Association of Malawians in Scotland (AMS), the SMP hosted a capacity-building meeting on May 10th with [Malawian Post-Grad Students Studying in Scotland](#) to explore their interest in gaining hands-on work experience to complement study and academic qualifications. Volunteering opportunities were shared with 11 students and work placements followed with Mary's Meals and Classrooms for Malawi with introductions also made to the David Livingstone Trust.

Feedback from Members on capacity-building support & opportunities included:

"At the outset when we decided we wanted to try and work with some communities in Malawi it was quite a daunting task. We had a few friends but no real guides about the situation on the ground and the resource and activities being directed towards Malawi from Scottish based organisations.

SMP was our first port of call and, from the initial meeting onwards, they have been nothing but supportive. We benefited tremendously from the depth of experience; the contacts; the networks; the forums; the processes and the patient listening and advice we have received from the SMP. Using SMP's expertise allowed us to undertake the targeted and extensive research we wanted to do over a 2 month period. Without this assistance we would have taken at least 6 months to complete this work. In addition, the insights and introductions meant that we were greeted as potential colleagues and friends rather than as 'outsiders'.

We received a similar level of support from MASP and, again, they were our first port of call for our 'in country' research. Their advice; friendship; guidance; contacts and introductions were extremely valuable to us and allowed us to condense a 6 month research project into 6 weeks.

As a result of the advice we have received from both organisations we now have now identified two communities we would like to work with on an ongoing basis.

Having come from the private sector we recognise the value of these kinds of services. If we were a company seeking to enter a new market we knew little about then we would usually have recruited a specialist consultancy to help. In my previous role I would have budgeted around £50,000 for these services, and would probably have expected to pay more (to back up this claim I charge \$400 an hour to provide this style of help and advice to companies seeking to enter the markets where I was an expert). The value of both SMP and MASP as a helpful and pro-active resource base has been significantly beneficial and have allowed us to understand and enter into the Malawi development sector within an incredibly short time scale.

Thank you for your help and advice during our research and set up phases and we look forward to continuing to benefit from your advice and guidance in the years to come." **Mick James, Treasurer, Fighting Poverty in Zambia**

"It made me more aware of the different approaches we could take" - **Rachel Cameron**

"Very good introductions to the language and culture. Zikomo kwambiri." **Michael Mackenzie**

"Improved school work" - **Richard Graham, George Watson's College**

"Huge - indispensable in terms of information, contacts, etc" - **Moirra Dunworth, Mamie Martin Fund**

"My contacts in Malawi have joined the SMP equivalent - MaSP with hope for internships etc. One contact has successfully obtained a visa and visited Scotland. This would not have been possible without help from SMP." - **Sheena Nicolson**

"I have been rather fortunate with the help of Scotland Malawi Partnership (SMP), in more ways than one, notably in staging a most memorable launch of my book Blantyre and Yao Women in Edinburgh on 11 May 2019. The royalties for my book are being paid into JST (a trust I established). The SMP is a truly excellent partnership, a forward looking entity where various things are achieved for the benefit of the 'common good' for both Malawi and Scotland."

- Rosemary Argente

"Having knowledge of other institutions and organisations who are working in partnership with Malawi will minimise the duplication of efforts, meaning members can complement each other rather than compete (directly or indirectly). Also, we are more easily able to identify projects which can be replicated or scaled through working partnerships, increasing the long term impact and sustainability of research projects@ Shaun McLaughlin, Challenges Catalyst

"Provided excellent support for projects to improve our link" – **Ian Mitchell, Beath High School**

"Attending events like this [partnership awards] has developed my understanding of partnership issues" – **Sarah Smith, Knightswood Secondary School**

"Yes, the SMP continues to provide quality + timely support" – **Keith Murphy, Penicuik High School**

"Chance to meet Malawians living in Scotland and get their take on our partnership projects in Malawi and Scotland" - **Andy Tomison, The Community School of Auchterarder**

"It has provided us with lots of valuable information to help deepen our Malawi links" – **Pauline Ferrier, Renfrew High School**

"Great resources and networking opportunity" – **Caroline Beaton, Jordanhill School**

"Continued support which is always appreciated at any stage of a partnership" – **Nicola Barker-Harrison, Beath High School**

"Huge impact - great support, advice, hand-outs, courses and events, coming into school." – **Amanda Burton, Flora Stevenson Primary School**

"Yes – [SMP] coming to the Malawi lunch club, attending the Youth Congress, AGM" – **Sally Rae, George Watson's College**

"It has helped greatly - the support we have received from SMP, networking ops, and events has been very beneficial for our org. We hope to develop a partnership with Malawi soon." – **Lauren Bishopp, International Voluntary Service**

"Myself and the staff were delighted with the workshop as it really opened up the area for us to now to plan and incorporate more into our curriculum." – **Nichola Polatajko, New Monkland Primary School**

"Continued support" - **Sally Rae, George Watson's College**

150 other similar quotes are provided in the SMP Member Impact Statements document

<p>Output 1.2: Members receive regular bulletins, and have access to current information, online</p>	<p>59 member bulletins were sent in this year, with a weekly full member bulletin and less frequent targeted bullet groups like youth and schools. The bulletin was read by members 12,822 this year.</p> <p>100% of the 77 members that completed the 2020 Needs and Impact Survey said the SMP's work disseminating news through its bulletin was useful (57% "extremely useful").</p> <p>We continue to have strong positive feedback on the bulletin, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"Regular updates on events in Malawi allow us to stay informed of wider events in the country. At times, partners may be reluctant to share wider country-wide issues and it can be difficult to access information through traditional media so SMP bulletin is helpful for this."</i> Chris McKenna, Williamwood High School • <i>"[The SMP] keeps me in touch with news."</i> Peter Howson • <i>"[I benefit from] keeping up to date with news and direct impact and investment of the SMP"</i> - Caroline Wylie, Challenges Worldwide • <i>"It's always good to get updates in the newsletter"</i> Ramsay McGhee, PGL of Ross & Cromarty • <i>"The SMP has helped to share what we have done in our project with Likhubula in Malawi through the website, SMP newsletters and social media to a wider, interested audience."</i> Fraser Boyd, 25th Stirling (Dunblane) Boys' Brigade • <i>"I have enjoyed reading regular newsletters to help stay up to date with Malawi news as it is not reported much on big news networks e.g. BBC."</i> Bethan Davies • <i>"[The SMP gives] reliable up to date information and news - and invaluable moral support."</i> Olivia Giles, 500 miles <p>We continue to work to improve our member communications, with a 'test and adjust' strategic review of the weekly bulletin. For example, recently we have trialed sending these mid-week (Wednesday or Thursday) rather than Friday which has shown an average increase in open rate of 20%.</p> <p>When the UK lockdown for Covid-19 was announced, we moved quickly to form an Covid-19 information hub on our website which could be easily accessed by members, and where they could find a pool of resources. As the situation progressed, we then upgraded the original news hub with a small design change in order to make the website user's journey more streamlined and accessible.</p> <p>As well as weekly bulletins, we are currently updating the website daily with news, funding and third sector links, and information for our members and partners.</p>
---	---

Output 1.3: Creation of opportunities for in-person networking and sharing between members	<p>Almost all of the SMP's 33 own events engaging 1,061 people and its 50 partner events engaging 4,122 in this period involved in-person networking.</p> <p>72% of the respondents to the Member Needs and Impact Survey said they had used the SMP's networking services, of whom 100% described this as useful for their Malawi link (65% said "very useful").</p> <p>88% of members completing a post-SMP event feedback form said they had made new contacts as a result of attending, and 82% described the networking at the event as "excellent" or "very good".</p> <p>When asked what impact the SMP has had this year in the 2020 Needs and Impact Survey, many Members spoke of networking, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"It is extremely useful for the networking opportunities it presents, and opening doors you didn't know were even there, due to the level of wider activity going on."</i> – Dr Darren Watt, University of Edinburgh • <i>"We have received invitations to cross-party meetings and other events, that have provided us with networking opportunities"</i> RoseMary Harley, Graduates Association • <i>"Networking at the AGM"</i> Ian Dickson, Rotary • <i>"Events are a good networking opportunity."</i> - Carol Finlay, Church of Scotland • <i>"Keeps us informed, gives networking opportunity."</i> - Phil Broadis, Fair Trade Scotland Ltd • <i>"Great resources and networking opportunity"</i> – Caroline Beaton, Jordanhill School • <i>"It has helped greatly - the support we have received from SMP, networking ops, and events has been very beneficial for our org.."</i> – Lauren Bishopp, International Voluntary Service. • <i>"I am thankful to the Scottish Malawi Partnership for providing me the networking forum to support the health care work desperately needed in the Sub-Saharan rising star nation of Malawi...I am also thankful for the opportunity through networking to be inspired by tales of Scottish and Malawi people as they work together to grow Malawi and inspire Scotland."</i> Dr. Karen L. Paarz, Co-Principle Investigator, the Malawi Optometry Human Resource Development Research Study (Malawi School of Optometry Program-MSOOP) • <i>"The SMP provides a dynamic and innovative service for individuals and organisations involved in international development in Scotland and Malawi. They also provide a great networking and linking service and a viable platform for a wide range of groups working across sectors in Malawi."</i> Emma Duncan, The Global Concerns Trust • <i>"Bringing partners together"</i> - Dorcas Pratt, Water Witness International • <i>"Finding other Scottish NGOs doing related things"</i> - Dr Charles Howie, independent • <i>"Enabled greater connection with people engaged in Malawi from across civic Scotland."</i> Prof Edward Duncan, University of Stirling • <i>"It is particularly useful not only to learn what fellow members are doing but also to establish contact with members operating in the same sector as ourselves."</i> - James Kelly, Classrooms for Malawi • <i>"Helps to form partnerships and links with other organisations with an interest in Malawi"</i> Mary Popple, Just Trading Scotland • <i>"Keeps us informed, gives networking opportunity...and business support."</i> Phil Broadis, Fair Trade Scotland Ltd • <i>"Seeing the breadth of projects that exist."</i> - Susan Farrell, University of Dundee
--	---

- *"It's been very useful meeting like-minded people and being able to collaborate."* - **Rose Mary Harley, Strathclyde University**
- *"I want to thank you for introducing me to Amy of Classrooms for Malawi and Orbis. Amy has now recommended to Orbis that schools going out with CfM do our Dialogue Groups to prepare them for their trips and I've still to track down how many that is, but without the very proactive approach taken by SMP it wouldn't have happened so THANKYOU !!"* **Emma Wood, Queen Margaret University & STEKASkills**
- *"We have greatly appreciated the support of the Scotland Malawi Partnership and its members over the past year... The SMP has enabled us to link up with other organisations carrying out similar work in Malawi to share our experiences which we hope, in turn will lead to more focused partnerships and ultimately more young people being supported into education."* **Amy Blake, Chief Executive, Classrooms for Malawi**

The 2019 [SMP Member Awards](#), led by our Hon Co-Patron, HRH The Princess Royal, provided an opportunity for 150 Members to come together to share and celebrate their links with Malawi. The Princess expressed how encouraged she felt by the strength of the two-way relationship, in which both Scotland and Malawi benefit, reflecting that member organisations are comprised of "individuals who have a really good understanding of what they are trying to achieve". She also praised the networking at such events and remarked on the high levels of collaboration and coordination. 100% of Members that completed a post-event feedback form said they had made new contacts at the event and 93% rated the networking "excellent" or very good.

Bringing together 33 industry leaders and practitioners from the renewable energy sector currently working between Scotland and Malawi, the 3rd December meeting of [the SMP's Renewable Energy Forum](#) featured a keynote address by the inspirational William Kamkwamba, subject of the award-winning book and global Netflix feature film *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*. The event was structured to encourage networking and support shared learning and 100% of those who completed feedback forms said they had made new contacts.

On 5th December, the SMP held its first [School Partnership Awards](#), with William Kamkwamba. The event was attended by 95 participants, with dedicated time for teachers and pupils to network with other groups and share their experiences. Focusing on the theme of sustainability, the SMP's Youth Committee judges looked for schools to tell the story of their partnership – where it has come from and where it is going. 84% of those who completed feedback forms rated the event as Excellent/Very Good and 84 % said the meeting had strengthened their Malawi links. 89% rated the networking opportunities to be "excellent" or "very good".

The Further and Higher Education Forum on February 14th provided an opportunity for 21 members working in this area to share information and updates and included the launch of the 2020 edition of the [SMP's Directory of Further and Higher Education](#), to support networking across different FE/HE Malawi links. 86% of those who completed feedback forms rated the event as "excellent" or "very good" and 100% said the meeting had strengthened their Malawi links.

The SMP supported visas for and met the General Secretary of the [Malawian Congress of Trade Unions \(MCTU\)](#) Denis Kalekeni, and Research Officer Limbani Kachali during a visit to Scotland which was part of post-doctoral research by SMP member Dr Jen Remnant and Dr Lena Wanggren of Heriot Watt's School of Social Sciences. The SMP further encouraged members with a professional interest in disability inclusion to attend a [workshop](#) held in September 2019 to exchange information with the visiting Malawian trade unionists.

	<p>A successful networking event was held on the occasion of SMP member Rosemary Argente's Book Launch for her publication <i>Blantyre and Yao Women</i> held on May 11th with guests travelling from Malawi to attend. The work is a complex story of a Yao family or clan passed down, mother to daughter, through the female line and shares the oral testimonies and narratives immortalised in Rose's writing which are, as former SMP Chair Prof Ken Ross commented "an important contribution to the preservation of Malawi's history."</p> <p>Working with universities across Scotland, the SMP hosted a meeting on 1st May 2019 looking at coordination and collaboration between Scotland's Further and Higher Education led health projects with Malawi. The meeting heard from university groups recently returned from Malawi, shared information about who is doing what in terms of health projects and explored how best to support coordination and collaboration. It built on outcomes from recent meetings of the SMP's existing Health Forum and Further and Higher Education Forum, with members of these two forums especially encouraged to attend. 94% of those who completed feedback forms said they made new contacts at the event and 75% rated the networking as "excellent" or "very good", with 94% saying the meeting had strengthened their Malawi links.</p>
<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>The SMP had five major advocacy strategic priorities in this period, all of which have been significantly advanced due to SMP activity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Raising awareness of, and building engagement with and support for, the Scotland-Malawi relationship and the work of the SMP. (2) Raising awareness of, and building engagement with and support for, the work of SMP members. (3) Lobbying for improvements in the way those from Malawi are treated as they apply for UK Visas. (4) Lobbying for increased sustainable and ethical investment in Malawi from the UK. (5) Raising awareness of the constructive synergy which exists between Scotland's civic and governmental work with Malawi, and lobbying for this model -and the principles behind it- to be more widely adopted. <p>SMP activity resulted in 190 actions taken by MPs, MSPs and Ministers during this year to advance these five objectives.</p> <p>The SMP's 2019-20 Lobbying and Advocacy Progress and Impact Report has full details of impact achieved.</p> <p>Between January and March, 23 Scottish MPs, from three political parties, contacted the SMP to express their support for five key Scotland-Malawi commitments. The pledges include to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Support for Scotland's 160-year old friendship with Malawi; 2) Support for the UK's commitment to investing 0.7% of Gross National Income on Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) and crucially, the definition of ODA; 3) Support for the continued existence of the Department for International Development, independent to the FCO; 4) Support for efforts to build stronger connections between the UK Government's international development work and community-led development; 5) Support for the findings of the 2019 joint all-party Parliamentary report identifying issues in the way people from Africa are treated as they apply for UK Visas.

All 59 Scottish MPs and 129 MSPs have been briefed on the [SMP's 1,200+ members'](#) links with Malawi, with many members given profile and a platform by the SMP to speak directly to parliamentarians and the media.

The SMP co-wrote a major all-party parliamentary report: [Visa Problems for African Visitors to the UK](#), which was presented directly to the UK Immigration Minister. The Minister recognised this was a hugely challenging report but it was important for the Government to know where the problems are and what difficulties are being experienced. She commented that there is indeed evidence that the visa system does sometimes go wrong and there are areas where improvements are needed. She recognised that from the UK Government's own data it is clear that the vast majority who visit from Africa do not overstay their visa and now is the time for a "grown-up conversation" on the issue. And she stated that she wants a clear impression that Britain is open for business so it can attract global visitors and that the UK needs to be forward thinking in this area. The Minister thanked the APPGs for the report commenting: *"It is good to hear when we have got it wrong as this is the best way we can learn and strengthen our systems. If this report helps us to do our job better then I am extremely grateful for it."*

The First Minister, Scottish and UK Ministers, and Scottish, UK and Malawian Parliamentarians have all spoken publicly in praise of Scotland-Malawi links and the work of the SMP, and have referenced and praised the SMP's core narratives.

For example, on the 6th June, the then UK Secretary of State for International Development, Rory Stewart, [responded to a parliamentary question](#) asking whether the UK Government should map all UK civic links with the developing world, by saying:

"Yes, and the absolutely greatest example of this is Scotland and Malawi, which has mapped thousands of amazing Scottish voluntary organisations that are working in Malawi and uncovered work that we didn't begin to understand."

"I think it is a fantastic idea. I would love to see different regions of the United Kingdom taking the lead in partnership with different countries, ourselves as a department understanding much more about what British charities are doing. If we can get that right, we can get the enthusiasm of the British people, and it is the enthusiasm and soul of the British people behind international development which will ultimately be the best guarantee of this 0.7%."

Following this exchange, the SMP was asked by DFID to develop a fully-costed national programme through which the UK Government could follow the Scotland Malawi Partnership model, initially by mapping all UK civic links with the developing world.

[Speaking on the 11th June](#), the SNP Westminster Chief Whip, Patrick Grady MP, used to a debate in the Commons on the SDGs to say:

"The civil society grassroots links in Scotland are hugely important. Many of the projects there that have partner and twin organisations in Malawi are just as dedicated to tackling poverty at home in Scotland. Many are church or faith-based groups and they work with poor people in their communities, as well as trying to support people living in poverty in Malawi. When DFID is looking at its options, I hope that it can find different ways to support networks such as the Scotland Malawi Partnership."

And on the 1st July, in a [Commons debate on DFID expenditure](#), said:

	<p><i>"I want to touch briefly on the importance of the Government learning from and engaging with civil society actors. "I mentioned the Scotland Malawi Partnership. ... In Scotland, the Scotland-Malawi people-to-people model suggests that more than 208,000 Malawians and 109,000 Scots are actively involved in the links between the two countries, while a 2018 paper from the University of Glasgow reckoned that 45% of people in Scotland could name a friend or family member with a connection to Malawi. "Here is an opportunity for a ministerial legacy. What more could the Government do to connect formal Government efforts with those of civil society—not just the large NGOs we are familiar with, but, as my Hon. Friend the Member for East Kilbride, Strathaven and Lesmahagow (Dr Cameron) suggested, the thousands of churches, schools, hospitals, universities and community and diaspora groups involved in two-way partnerships - and not just engage with them, but fund them and encourage them to think innovatively?</i></p> <p>With Harriett Baldwin MP, the UK Minister of State for Africa, responding: <i>"We heard about the Scotland Malawi Partnership. I always love paying tribute to that, because it is such a rich partnership.</i></p> <p>The SMP received praise for its outgoing Chair, Rev Prof Kenneth Ross, in June 2019 from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicola Sturgeon MSP, First Minister of Scotland • Lord Jack McConnell, former First Minister of Scotland • Ben Macpherson MSP, International Development Minister • Dr Alasdair Allan MSP, former International Development Minister • Humza Yousaf MSP, former International Development Minister • Dr Peter West, Malawi Hon. Consul to Scotland • Patrick Grady MP, Chair Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group (Westminster) • Liam McArthur MSP, Chair Malawi Cross Party Group (Holyrood)
<p>Output 2.1: Programme of cross-party political strategic engagement</p>	<p>Through 2019-20 the Scotland Malawi Partnership (SMP) had significant engagement across Holyrood and Westminster as it worked to advance the priorities of its members. It did so while retaining its political neutrality and professional credibility.</p> <p>The SMP had 46 key advocacy engagements in 2019-20, targeting six groups: Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs); The Scottish Government; Members of the UK Parliament (MPs) and Peers; The UK Government, Members of the Malawi National Assembly, other significant decisionmakers (Lord Provosts, other civic leaders, etc).</p> <p>The SMP's 2019-20 Lobbying and Advocacy Progress and Impact Report has full details of all this activity.</p> <p>The SMP supported for meetings of the Malawi Cross Party Group in Holyrood:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st May 2019: Malawi Cross Party Group – Malawi floods and global health • 11th September 2019: Malawi Cross Party Group – Malawi's first home trained Vets

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20th November 2019: Malawi Cross Party Group meeting: • 19th February 2020: Malawi Cross Party Group: Education <p>The Partnership also supported three meetings of the Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group in Westminster (not funded by SG).</p> <p>The SMP organised meetings for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSPs of different parties to meet William Kamkwamba (3rd December 2019) • The President Officer and Deputy Presiding Officer to meet William Kamkwamba (3rd December 2019) • Minister Ben Macpherson MSP to meet William Kamkwamba (4th December) • MSPs of different parties to meet the Chair and Head of Global Affairs of CDC (15th January 2020) • Minister Ben Macpherson MSP to meet Chair and Head of Global Affairs of CDC (15th January 2020) • MSPs of different parties to meet the Deputy Speakers of the Malawi National Assembly (30th January 2020) • Scottish Government to meet the Deputy Speakers of the Malawi National Assembly (30th January 2020) • The Speaker, Clerk and Officials from the Malawi National Assembly to meet the Scottish and UK Governments and Parliaments (March 2020) • Ten Malawian MPs to meet the Scottish and UK Governments and Parliaments (March 2020) <p>The SMP also supported visits to Malawi by Patrick Grady MP, Maureen Watt MSP and Anne McLaughlin MP.</p> <p>The SMP supported a range of Commons, Westminster Hall and Holyrood debates and parliamentary questions.</p> <p>In January 2020, following the December election, the SMP launched a fully updated Westminster Constituency Mapping Report. The 100-page report has details of the SMP's 1,225 members, illustrating how every one of Scotland's 59 Westminster constituencies has multiple SMP members, and briefed all 59 Scottish MPs.</p> <p>In 2019-20 the SMP met with the First Minister of Scotland, both Scottish Government International Development Ministers incumbent this year (Ben Macpherson MSP and Jenny Gilruth MSP), and both the UK Secretaries of State for International Development (Rory Stewart MP and Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP). The SMP received strong support from all five of these individuals.</p>
Output 2.2: Local authority engagement programme	<p>All 32 Scottish Local Authorities were engaged by the SMP in this period, receiving individual briefings on SMP members within their authorities.</p> <p>17 of the 32 Scottish Local Authorities were members during 2019-20.</p> <p>The SMP supported three direct Malawi links with Scottish Local Authorities: Orkney Islands Council, Glasgow City Council Scottish Borders Council</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 worked closely with the Scottish Government to support the delivery of their International Development Strategy, with a total of 29 points of support.</p> <p>The Partnership had 12 opportunities for the SMP and/or its members to offer input, support and feedback to the Malawi Development Programme and the SG's work towards the SDGs.</p> <p>The SMP continued to support the Scottish Government initiative for a youth-led climate leadership programme between the 2050 Group in Scotland and the Malawi Scotland Partnership holding meetings with 2050 Trustees Elizabeth Dirst and Sophie Knight and Staff Andrew Dickie, Chinsisi Kazuwa and Hendricks Nkhata with SMP Staff and SMP Youth Committee.</p> <p>On May 8th 2019 the (then) SMP Chair, Prof Ken Ross and CEO David Hope-Jones, met the First Minister Nicola Sturgeon to discuss the bilateral relationship and brief her on the Scottish Government-funded Malawi and Scotland: Together for Sustainable Development Conference.</p> <p>On June 19th the SMP participated in the Scottish Government's Learning for Sustainability launch meeting and met with SG lead Liam Cahill on July 9th amplifying SG messaging on Learning for Sustainability in the SMP's bulletin.</p> <p>The SMP has continued to support the Scottish Government's NHS Scotland Global Citizenship programme, working with Kerry Chalmers part of the Scottish Global Health Co-ordination to Unit, sharing information, signposting potential volunteers and communicating around the SMP's Health Forum.</p> <p>In its bulletins and in meetings, the SMP continued to reinforce the importance of clear safeguarding protocols and to signposted to the Alliance's Safeguarding Resources. The SMP also piloted Safeguarding for Trustees' training on July 15th with the Alliance's Philippa Ramsden, including SMP Staff and Volunteers in the workshop.</p> <p>At the end of August 2019, in support of equality, gender parity and of the Scottish Government's campaign, the SMP achieved 5050-by-2020 in its Board.</p> <p>The SMP supported the Climate Justice Fund Information Day on 26 June with David Hope-Jones speaking to 28 participants. From 2nd August 2019 onwards the SMP promoted the SG's Small Grants programme in its online bulletin and social media platform and joined the SG, Corra and Alliance in speaking at the Small Grants Information Day on September 11th offering advice and support for prospective applicants. Over the coming weeks and months the SMP supported three organisations developing applications.</p> <p>On 18th September 2019, the SMP supported an Alliance roundtable with Scottish Lib Dem party Leader, Willie Rennie MSP to contribute to his understanding of the SG's International Development Strategy.</p> <p>Together with the Alliance, the SMP was involved with Corra/SG on 29th August in discussion and consultation on the SG's Small Grants Review and met separately on January 24th with the Consultant conducting the Review, Fiona Ellis offering support. The SMP also encouraged members to engage with the review.</p>
--	--

Early in her new tenure with the Scottish Government's International Development team, the SMP hosted Tasha Boardman the SG's Malawi Development Manager for four mornings from 11th November which included weekly team meetings to help support cooperation and mutual understanding between the SMP and SG.

Supported by members of the Scottish Government's International Development team, the (then) Minister for International Development, Ben Macpherson MSP gave the closing address to over 200 SMP Members at the Partnership's [AGM](#) on October 5th 2019. The day featured the music of and a Q&A with Albinism activist and rising star of World Music, Malawian musician Lazarus Chigwandali. Survey feedback reflected that 91% rated the event "excellent" or "very good" and 88% made useful new contacts. Mr Macpherson's active participation in SMP activities was reflected in coverage of events and featured in the SMP's [Annual Report](#).

The SMP connected the Malawi-UK Business Group with the Scottish Government to have their Malawi tourism promotion showcase: [A Taste of Malawi](#) on November 7th hosted at the Scottish Government's Scotland House in London. 80 organisations came together to discuss Malawi business trade investment and tourism. The now annual event explored opportunities, linkages and markets in Malawi, and Malawian products available in the UK. Attending the evening, together with the Scottish Government's Joanna Keating were senior Malawi Government officials from the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism. The Malawian delegation provided information to prospective investors, tourism operators, service providers and the media on doing business in the Malawi tourism sector.

Scottish Government-funded projects in Malawi were amongst those whose work was showcased in the Scottish Parliament to 44 participants on November 20th in a schools and education-themed meeting of the [Cross-Party Group on Malawi](#). The evening featured presentations by visiting Malawians speaking on behalf of [Step Kids Awareness \(STEKA\)](#) and [STEKASkills](#), [WaterAid](#), [Centre for Youth and Development](#) (an implementing partner for [The Turing Trust](#)) and a presentation from a Scotland-based Director of [Mary's Meals](#)

The SMP supported the Association of Malawians in Scotland's [Independence Day Celebration](#) held in Glasgow on July 6th where the (then) Scottish Government Minister for International Development Ben Macpherson MSP gave the opening address to 80 guests. Members of the Malawian diaspora in Scotland joined with friends and partners representing Scottish charities active in, or with close connections to Malawi, including Mary's Meals, Classrooms for Malawi, the David Livingstone Trust, the Scottish Government and SMP. AMS Chair Joyce Phiri said: *"We were very happy to have such a large number of staff from MSP and also other organisations working in Malawi being represented at the independence celebrations. The attendance this year reflected the partnership that's existing between the two countries. Our thanks to the Minister Ben McPherson for representing the Scottish Government and their continued support for Malawi."*

The SMP sought to be agile in its response to an eleventh hour plan for the Deputy Speakers of the Malawian Parliament to visit Scotland and liaised prior to the visit and on 30 January with the Scottish Government, Scottish Parliament and Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, hosting a [Roundtable Event](#) with 18 participants on January 30th 2020.

The SMP secretariat worked closely with its members, the Scottish Government and civic society organisations in Scotland in a concerted approach to COP-26 planning. The SMP held a [Malawi at COP26 Planning Meeting](#) on 7th February in Edinburgh when 20 Members fed into and unanimously agreed a final strategy.

Through its website, e-bulletin and by direct mail, the SMP encouraged attendance at three [Malawi Strand Meetings for Scottish Government-funded Projects](#) held in Malawi on June 17th and 18th on Gender, WASH and Sustainable Economic Development.

Organisations funded by the Scottish Government (SG) were encouraged to attend, or invite their partners in Malawi to attend, [the Malawi Scotland Partnership Annual Symposium](#) for SG-funded projects on February 20th 2020.

The SMP also encouraged attendance at [MaSP's AGM](#) on October 17 2019, the theme of which was 'Achieving sustainable socio-economic development through partnerships'. The SMP was well represented by our Chair, Prof Heather Cubie and Youth & Schools Manager, Gemma Burnside. Speakers included Nicola Cogan from the Scottish Government.

The SMP co-hosted a [special reception](#) for Members and key partners to meet Catherine Gotani, the first female Speaker of the Malawi National Assembly on the 5th March 2020. The Speaker was joined by the Clerk of Parliament and Parliamentary officials and over 50 participants with a locus in Governance. Separately, but also attending this reception, was a Commonwealth Partnership for Development delegation of more Malawian MPs from three of the largest parties in Malawi. Both delegations are part of long-standing inter-parliamentary working between Scotland and Malawi, which aim to strengthen both parliaments through sharing and capacity building.

Working coherently with Scottish Government-funded Network The Scottish Fair Trade Forum, the SMP co-hosted an [Agriculture & Food Security Forum](#) on the 6th March 2020. This event was attended by the Scottish Government's Minister for International Development, Jenny Gilruth MSP, whose [appointment](#) the SMP also communicated to its members. The meeting enabled members to hear from the Kasinthula Cane Growers in Malawi and for bodies such as Just Trading Scotland to discuss the challenges and opportunities around the importation of Malawian products. The event was part of Fairtrade Fortnight and the Gender in Agriculture campaign [She Deserves](#).

On the 12th March, the SMP provided a platform at its [Agriculture & Food Security Forum](#) for members to hear about the Scottish Government-funded project (CROPS) which is being delivered by Challenges Worldwide. The Scottish Government's Nicola Cogan attended this event arranged at short notice to capitalise on the visit to Scotland of the Malawian project lead, Phillip Chidawati.

Recognising that Covid-19 presents a huge set of challenges for Scotland, Malawi, and the SMP, the SMP moved quickly from mid-March to disseminate news and information to Members with face-to-face meetings and engagements successfully moved to digital platforms for virtual convening, networking and capacity-building. A COVID-19 section of the website was created. On 31st March 2020, the SMP hosted an [Online Health Forum](#) on Malawi's COVID-19 preparedness in which almost 50 members and key partners joined. The Scottish Government's Joanna Keating joined to share the SG's perspective.

<p>OUTCOME 3: Scottish publics beyond SMP membership are informed and engaged on Scotland-Malawi links, opportunities and impact</p>	<p>The SMP was active across social media platforms in 2019-20, promoting Scotland-Malawi links, raising awareness of Members work, and disseminating core messaging, with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 672,841 Facebook Impressions (96% increase from 2018-19), • 5,747 Twitter followers (21% increase from 2018-19), • 801,254 Twitter impressions (4% increase from 2018-19), • 962 Instagram followers (13% increase from 2018-19), and • 29,216 LinkedIn impressions (48% increase from 2018-19) <p>The Partnership also worked closely with the mainstream media through this period. There were 173 features about Malawi in the Scottish media, of which 42 featured or were led by the SMP.</p> <p>95% of these 173 features about Malawi in the Scottish media were positive in tone.</p> <p>Of particular note was the partnership with the Scotsman newspaper and journalist, and former SMP Board member, Susan Dalgety who travelled to Malawi and published a weekly 1,000-word column for the paper every Saturday. The SMP helped generate content for these 26 features from across its membership.</p> <p>In addition to this, the SMP had its own regular <i>Friends of Scotsman</i> 75-word column in the paper, with five features this year.</p> <p>The produced and published eight feature videos in 2019-20, five teaser promotional videos and one Zoom meeting video:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Awards with HRH The Princess Royal • Annual General Meeting • School Partnership Awards • St Roch's Secondary School Malawi Day • Ninewells Malawi Community garden • Beath High School Malawi Lunch • Lord Provost SMP Malawi floods appeal • International Women's Day video with Malawi Speaker • Beath High School Malawi lunch teaser • Lazarus teaser video 1 • Lazarus teaser video 2 • William Kamkwamba Scotland visit teaser • Member awards teaser video • Covid-19 Health Forum Zoom Meeting
---	--

	<p>The SMP's International Women's Day video of the first female Speaker of the Malawi Parliament, saw a high level of organic, non-member engagement with this video and attendant assets (twitter tile, facebook post, Instagram video, etc) which was seen and reacted to by over 20,000 'new-to-us' social media users.</p>
<p>Output 3.1: New Media and Communications Strategy developed and implemented</p>	<p>Our Media and Communications strategy continues to guide our work, as does third sector industry best practice. We are constantly asking our members and partners for feedback on how we can improve our communications.</p>
<p>Output 3.2: SMP website development and maintenance as national hub for Scotland-Malawi interactions</p>	<p>The website continued to grow in reach and effectiveness, through 2019-20 with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 107,262 page views (23% increase from 2018-19) • 26,447 new visitors (22% increase from 2018-19) • 39,265 sessions (18% increase from 2018-19) <p>We adapted quickly to the Covid-19 crisis by updating the website and making structural changes to the landing page and creating a new Covid-19 hub www.scotland-malawipartnership.org/covid-19), with pages on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the SMP is responding • Latest situation, resources and support in Malawi • Latest situation, resources and support in Scotland • Malawi appeals • Member perspectives

OUTCOME 4: New and priority areas of engagement between Scotland and Malawi are progressed	As outlined below, and in the relevant additional Progress and Impact Reports, the SMP had good impact across all three of the strategic priority areas identified for 2019-20: business, trade, investment and tourism; youth and schools; and agriculture and food security.
Output 4.1: Delivery of the Business, Investment, Trade and Tourism (BITT) programme	<p><i>As outlined more fully in the Business, Trade, Investment and Tourism Progress and Impact Report</i>, the SMP had good impact across all five of its strategic objectives in this area:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build Scottish Markets for Malawian exports: The SMP continued to be an active part of the Malawi-UK Business Group, helping represent Scotland's work in this space. Most of our efforts in this area were focussed on promoting: Kilombero Rice, the 'first 500' Mzuzu Coffee, Malawi Gin and Tradecraft Mzimba Coffee. We worked in close partnership with Scottish Fair Trade Forum, supporting Fair Trade Fortnight and visits to Scotland of representatives from producer countries. 2. Support sustainable and ethical Malawi tourism: We were delighted to help organise the 'Taste of Malawi' event in Scotland House, London on the 7th November. Timed around the World Tourism Expo in London, this event helped promote Malawi as a world class tourism destination. Our formal Corporate Partnership with Orbis Expeditions/Responsible Safari Company will not only yield unrestricted income for the SMP, but also help us promote Malawi travel further. Covid-19 undoubtedly presents a <i>huge</i> threat to Malawi travel. It is not yet clear when travel restrictions will re-start but we will work with key stakeholders to support the sector, however we can, as and when this is possible. 3. Support sustainable and ethical investment into Malawi: We were delighted to welcome the Chair and Head of Global Affairs of CDC to Scotland for the first time. They were both genuinely taken aback by the SMP and left in no doubt as to the strength of support across Scottish civic, public and political life for the relationship with Scotland. The Chair of CDC, Graham Wrigley, was so impressed with the SMP's core narrative of a people-to-people dignified two-way partnership, that he asked whether he could borrow from this when speaking the following week at the Prime Minister's UK-Africa Investment Summit, with President Mutharika and other Heads of State from across Africa. 4. Support UK-Malawi Trade: Again, the 'Taste of Malawi' event in November was a key engagement here. It was excellent to have the Scottish Government's support in hosting the event in Scotland House: a sign of the strong support for Malawi in Scotland. 5. Advance issues of Trade Justice: Trade justice remains an important focus for the SMP within this area. We continue to promote our 'Make Tax Fair Everywhere' campaign, and work in partnership to support Fair Trade.

The SMP had 21 activities and engagements the SMP took part in between April 2019 and March 2020 which relate, at least in part, to business, trade, investment and tourism.

"I write on behalf of the High Commission of Malawi to record our deep appreciation and admiration for the work of the Scotland Malawi Partnership. It has continued to support the priorities of both the Scottish and Malawi Governments for the development of Malawi. One of many notable achievements was arranging the programme for the visit of the chair of CDC who was, I know, very impressed by what he heard of the partnership between the two nations. It was particularly fortunate that the visit came just before the London conference on investment in Africa where our President was able to follow up on the issues raised in Edinburgh in bilateral discussions with the Chair of CDC." **Dr Peter West OBE DL, Scottish Hon Consul of Malawi**

"As a WFTO Guaranteed Fair Trade mission-led Social Business, we have found membership of the Scotland Malawi Partnership, to be extremely supportive in our attempts to bring value added products from Malawi into Scotland." **Eve Broadis, Director, Fair Trade Scotland Ltd.**

"Thank you for the introduction the SMP made to CDC following their presentation in Edinburgh, David. It is extremely helpful for us to be able to speak immediately to someone at the right level at CDC and to have the context of the Scotland / Malawi relationship behind our discussion with them." **Eoghan Mackie, Chief Executive, Challenges Worldwide**

"Re-establishing links with projects operating in Malawi has been invaluable. Also to have been made aware of performances and events in London was most welcome. It all helps to make Malawi feel less remote."

"The convention at Scotland House was a fantastic opportunity to pool resources and establish links. A dedicated newsletter to issues surrounding Malawi is also most valuable." **Daisy Belfield Santos, Rare Charity (Rare Tea Company)**

"[The SMP is a] Fantastic network." **Benjamin Carey, Carey Tourism**

"[The SMP has] deepened my knowledge; particularly appreciate meetings around agriculture, water and natural resources." **Dr Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits**

"It has been very useful to continue to work in partnership with the Scotland Malawi Partnership on the promotion of Fair Trade links with Malawi. Their practical support with visa applications for visiting Fair Trade representatives from Malawi along with the opportunity to promote Fair Trade to a wider audience with an interest in Malawi continues to assist us in our work." **Martin Rhodes, Chief Executive, Scottish Fair Trade Forum**

"We have benefited from increased brand exposure and an introduction to various relevant contacts & new partners. SMP also adds credibility and reliability to our ongoing brand growth." **Dominic Webb, Orbis Expeditions**

	<p><i>"Our work with SMP definitely adds value for our partners [tourism lodges and businesses] that they can see."</i> Kelly White, Malawi Travel Marketing Consortium</p> <p><i>"The Scottish Malawi Partnership is a hugely valuable aid to all in the third sector who work with partners and colleagues in Malawi. For JTS this is particularly through networking and connecting us to new supporters at SML events in Scotland, facilitating visas for farmers to visit Scotland, gaining us access to publicity and of course promoting Kilombero rice. But most of all it is because SML provides unwavering support for all that we do."</i> Mary Popple, Chair, Just Trading Scotland (JTS)</p>
Output 4.2: Expand schools outreach, support for school partnerships and wider youth engagement	<p>This last year we have held a number of novel events, workshops and campaigns to support our youth and schools work. This has included a youth events competition with three winners (Ninewells Community Garden, Beath High School and St Roch's Secondary School) and the School Partnership Awards.</p> <p>The Youth & Schools Manager also delivered two schools forums in Glasgow and Edinburgh and an online forum. There was a high-level of delivery in schools (19 school visits and workshops) as well as partnership working across Scotland to support events. For example, working with Aberdeen for a Fairer World to deliver three speaking events to school pupils and interested adults across Aberdeen with William Kamkwamba.</p> <p>The Y&S Manager also spent two weeks in Malawi working and travelling with the MaSP team to gather information on the impact of school partnerships on Malawian schools in all three regions. She also delivered updates on behalf of the SMP at Regional meetings and the MaSP AGM as well as supporting the delivery of these events.</p> <p>The largest schools and youth event of the year was the School Partnership Awards. Feedback for the School Partnership Awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 56% of those who gave feedback describing the event as "excellent" and a further 29% said it was "very good". - 60% of attendees said the organisation of the event was "excellent" and a further 20% called it "very good". - 84% of those giving feedback said that the event strengthened their links to Malawi. <p>100% of those who gave feedback from an SMP Schools Forum said that the events were either "excellent" or "very good", and 65% said that the events strengthened their links with Malawi.</p> <p>Comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>"These opportunities for discussion are excellent - learn as much from others and what they do (as) I would if looking at 'fancy' websites."</i> Ian Mitchell, Beath High School. - <i>"It has provided us with lots of valuable information to help deepen our Malawi links"</i> Pauline Ferrier, Renfrew High School. - <i>"We're keen to start a link, and this was very encouraging"</i> Margaret Pollock, Hyndland Secondary School. - <i>"Seeing an example of how a partnership had been established and what the possibilities are."</i> Anonymous.

	<p>Feedback for school workshops/supported events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>"P.4 = All children said that they loved the quiz and learning some words in Chichewa. They said that they enjoyed learning some new facts and that they want to get in contact with a school (...) from speaking with the children they told me that they really enjoyed it and it has given them an interest in wanting to learn more and work with a school in Malawi. Myself and the staff were delighted with the workshop as it really opened up the area for us to now to plan and incorporate more into our curriculum."</i> Nichola Polatajko - New Monkland Primary School. <p>The number of points of support and engagement with young people and schools is 150% above the target for this year, showing the level of engagement and support requested this year has been incredibly high. However, the estimated number of young people reached throughout the year is 29% below the target set for this year, this is largely because the 2020 Youth Congress has been moved to the autumn. Furthermore, sustained feedback from teachers points to continuing issues around time available outside of the classroom for engaging with SMP activities.</p> <p><i>For full detail see the Youth and Schools Progress and Impact Report</i></p>
<p>Output 4.3: Convening and supporting a community of practice on Agriculture and Food Security</p>	<p>Through 2019/20, the SMP continued to support members in the area of Agriculture and Food Security.</p> <p>There were five main points of significant SMP engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • two Agriculture and Food Security Forums, timed to connect SMP members with key visiting Malawians; • two events held around the visit of the first home-trained Malawian Vets to Scotland (which the SMP helped facilitate); and • a Cross-Party Group on Malawi, the meetings of which the SMP programmes and facilitates. <p>Prof Geoff Simm, Director of the Global Academy of Agriculture and Food Security, University of Edinburgh said in his written feedback that the SMP was <i>"very helpful in supporting institutional links in Malawi and supporting building of partnerships in Malawi especially with the third sector"</i></p> <p>Dr Darren Watt, University of Edinburgh, said: <i>"It is extremely useful for the networking opportunities it presents, and opening doors you didn't know were even there, due to the level of wider activity going on."</i></p> <p><i>For full detail see the Agriculture and Food Security Progress and Impact Report.</i></p>

3 Reporting to the Scottish Government (SMP Core Funders)

Provide a brief description of the project's aims, highlighting which of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) your project is working towards? (200 words)

This core funding supports the Scotland Malawi Partnership in the delivery of its core work 2017-20: coordinating, representing and supporting Scotland's many civic links with Malawi. Given our members' work spans all 17 SDGs, this arguably has impact across all the Goals, but is perhaps most directly focused on SDG 17.

The 2017-20 core funding has four outcomes:

- (1) Civic links between Scotland and Malawi are coordinated, and the capacity of partnerships to be effective and impactful is enhanced
- (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
- (3) Scottish publics beyond SMP membership are informed and engaged on Scotland-Malawi links, opportunities and impact
- (4) New and priority areas of engagement between Scotland and Malawi are progressed.

PROJECT PROGRESS AND RESULTS:

Provide an update on the progress your project has made over the past 12 months. Use this space to update us on what has gone well and any challenges you have experienced, detailing how you have overcome these. (Max 500 words)

Major Successes:

This has been a busy and successful period for the SMP, with delivery and impact exceeding plans in the overwhelming majority of areas.

- Logframe indicators:

Of the 42 logframe indicators, 35 have been exceeded by the SMP (some many times over), and seven are either slightly below target or the indicator has not been possible due to external factors (see Logframe).

- Engagements:

The SMP hosted 33 events and engagements in 2019-20, attended by 1,061 people (53% female; 47% male) and co-hosted a further 50 events with key partners, attended by 4,122 (see Appendix 7).

- Member Feedback:

91% of the 77 Member Needs and Impact Survey respondents (see Appendix 9) said that membership of the SMP in 2019-20 "*helped strengthen, support or develop their links with Malawi*", and 100% of those who had attended an SMP event said it was "useful" (78% said "extremely useful"). Appendix 8 gives 170 statements from members about the positive impact the SMP has had on their work in 2019-20.

- **Member Awards:**

The SMP hosted its first standalone [Members Awards Ceremony](#), with HRH The Princess Royal, in September to raise awareness, celebrate and reward members' work and impact. In December, we had our first [Schools Awards Ceremony](#), with William Kamkwamba (*The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*), celebrating school links and supporting sharing between groups.

- **Advocacy:**

As outlined in the Advocacy Progress and Impact Review (Appendix 13), the SMP had significant success in this area in 2019-20, with 43 key events and interactions resulting in 190 actions taken by MPs, MSPs and Ministers and Secretaries of State.

- **Youth and Schools:**

As outlined in the Youth and Schools Progress and Impact Review (Appendix 14), we had 56 points of engagements/support for school partnerships, three school newsletters, 20 school visits, three school forums, 19 school with visits and workshops, six Youth Committee meetings and 12 youth events, with over 46,000 young Scots benefitting from this work.

- **Support and development:**

The SMP was successful in offering support for a wide range of new member initiatives and partnerships. For example, we supported new links between the Scottish Football Supporters Association and the Malawi Football Association, and between the upcoming STAR festival in Malawi and the Edinburgh Science Festival. We supported five major celebrity-led Scotland-Malawi sports challenges and we supported book launches by [Rose Argente](#) and [John Lwanda](#). We also successfully supported dozens of [UK visa applications](#) (100% success rate) and helped supervise a St Andrews University PhD on policy

implications of Cyclone Idai in Malawi. In Agriculture and Food Security, the SMP supported the visit to Scotland (through visas, appearance at Malawi CPG, networking reception and industry introductions) of the first home-trained Malawi Vets. Two SMP Agriculture and Food Security Forums were timed to provide a platform for the visit to Scotland of Malawian [sugar cane farmers](#) (part of Fair Trade Fortnight) and [Challenges Malawi staff](#).

- **Media and publications:**

There were 173 features about Malawi in the Scottish media, 98% of which were positive in tone (see Appendix 15), with 19.5 million opportunities to view (Appendix 16). We filmed a special feature for Children's BBC looking at SDG17, with the SMP as a case study. On social media, we had over 1.4 million impressions across Facebook and Twitter. New publications like our [Further and Higher Education Directory](#) were published and well received. We produced and published eight major [feature videos](#) in 2019-20, five teaser promotional videos and one Zoom meeting video.

Challenges:

- **Covid-19** was a challenge in the final weeks of 2019-20 and made it not possible to update the University of Edinburgh study as planned.
- Managing the Media and Coms Officer **maternity leave** has been a challenge in terms of both staff retention and financial cost.
- Our website **Content Management System** (Concrete 5.6) is no longer updated and hence presents a potential cyber-security risk, this was an unforeseeable external

development which requires a full website rebuild on a new CMS.

- As with all development education providers, it is increasingly **hard for teachers to attend** out of school events and engagements.
- **Local Authorities engagement** was slightly lower than planned, with 17 rather than 19 LAs members, as hoped.
- The Bulletin has slightly lower distribution levels as a continuing impact of new **GDPR legislation** last year.

Has the focus or plans for delivery changed significantly during the last year? Please highlight what issues or challenges prompted this change and how you anticipate any changes in focus will impact on the previously agreed outcomes (Max 500 words):

The only major area of change is relating to the global Covid-19 pandemic. We submit our [Covid-19 Strategy](#) (Appendix 2), [Covid-19 Risk Register](#) (Appendix 3) and Implementation Plan (Appendix 4).

We have moved quickly since mid-March to disseminate news and information to Members and to prepare ourselves for a period of home-working. Our systems are working well, with all staff supported to work from home and face-to-face meetings and engagements successfully moved to digital platforms.

We are absolutely confident that the SMP's outcomes agreed with the Scottish Government for 2020-23 can and will continue to be delivered by the SMP despite the Covid-19 crisis. We will work closely with the Scottish Government to agree possible adjustments to outputs and activities, as required, to best deliver these outcomes through these dynamic times, and we will continue to support the Scottish Government and members in a range of different ways.

We recognize that the sheer scale of the crisis, the fact that there is currently no Scotland-Malawi travel, and the fact we will likely not be able to convene face-to-face meetings for a number of months, all means that we need to think strategically about how we as a national network respond. It is not enough to simply move our existing plans to digital platforms. Instead, we are thinking afresh what support, services and advice we should most usefully be offering our members in this challenging new reality, in order to deliver the agreed SG outcomes.

We are operating on the assumption that travel and social distancing restrictions will continue until the summer, meaning homeworking will continue for several months, and all engagements will need to remain digital. We hope that key major events in the autumn, including the AGM, Youth Congress and the re-scheduled SMP Alexander McCall Smith operetta, will be able to go ahead as planned – but this assumption will be kept under review.

This Covid-19 Response Strategy outlines four key strategic priorities which will underpin our work through the coming year:

- **CONTINUITY:** We will adapt and evolve our current work and plans to ensure business continuity, wherever this desirable, appropriate and possible.
- **SUPPORT:** We will deliver additional, tailored support to those affected by the crisis, including: members, those in Malawi, travel partners, and our staff.
- **INNOVATION:** We recognise that there are many challenges but also opportunities, including to develop innovative new digital modes of support and sharing. We will specifically look to develop innovative new services and support for school

and youth groups who have had to cancel long-planned Malawi trips.

- **INSPIRATION:** We will look to inspire our members, the public and the media with stories of Scotland-Malawi collaboration, to keep members' spirits up and ensure we remain an outward-looking country, investing in the future of our 160-year old friendship with Malawi.

We have: established a [Covid-19 web-hub](#), with details of [our own response](#); are disseminating news, information and resources for [Malawi](#) and [Scotland](#); hosting [fortnightly Zoom meetings](#) for 50-70 members; [supporting nine appeals](#); and sharing [members' perspectives](#).

Taking into consideration what you have achieved during the last 12 months, along with any challenges you have experienced, please highlight to us what lessons you have learned, and how these will be applied in the project in the future. (Max 500 words):

Covid-19:

The [Covid-19 Strategy](#) (Appendix 2), [Covid-19 Risk Register](#) (Appendix 3) and Implementation Plan (Appendix 4) detail exactly how we will respond to this unique new challenge. Learning so far in this area mostly relates to new digital systems and ways of working which are allowing us to continue and develop our activities: listening to members, sharing expertise and supporting collaboration. These are currently working well and will continue to underpin our work in the next triennium.

Covid-19 (youth engagement):

We have specific learning and ideas with regards how we can support young people through, and beyond, the pandemic. It is becoming apparent that young people are being affected more adversely than other groups during the pandemic so we are eager to look at ways of combatting this. We are initially looking specifically at those school

groups that have had Malawi trips cancelled; developing a package of digital assets to support global citizenship learning outcomes, even without Malawi travel. We are also working with Glasgow City Council on a 'Letters from Lockdown' initiative looking at digital sharing between young Scots and Malawians, potentially scaling this up nationally once we have captured the key learning.

We are looking at adapting aspects of our youth and schools work for digital/virtual platforms, meaning that it is open and accessible to a broad population of young people across Scotland. We believe that providing an opportunity for young people to gain skills and knowledge, as well as join a community of like-minded young people as global citizens, is a valuable way of adapting our ongoing work with young people to best suit the ongoing Covid-19 situation.

[N.B. We would be delighted to work with the Scottish Government, potentially developing exciting new engagements and outreach beyond the current core funding agreement, if this were of interest.]

Bulletin:

We are undertaking a strategic review of our weekly bulletin. Feedback tells us it remains a key SMP service, valued by members (see Appendices 8 and 9), but we feel improvements can be made to its reach and effectiveness. We have piloted moving the date it is sent and have seen an initial 20% increase in click-throughs. We will continue to test and adjust other refinements to this service, to help maximise impact.

Schools engagement:

Even before the Covid-19 crisis, for a number of years we (and all involved in school engagements) have found it increasingly hard for teachers to take time from school. Accordingly, we have developed

more digital engagements such as online forums, and have moved to twilight sessions at the end of the school day.

Re-active engagement:

A key learning from this period is the value and importance of the SMP's reactive work – responding to member and public enquiries, working in partnership with others as opportunities occur, supporting members with travel problems and visa issues, troubleshooting and giving advice. These are essential aspects of the SMP's facilitator role and will only become more important in this coming period of Covid-19 uncertainty. While it is important that the SMP has its own strategic and operational objectives to drive forwards, it must also protect enough operating capacity to be able to respond effectively to changing circumstances and opportunities. Finding this balance between the proactive and the reactive is key to the SMP's agility and effectiveness.

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION:

Provide an update on how partnership working has gone in the past 12 months. Let us know about any highlights, challenges or changes to roles and responsibilities. (Max 350 words)

The SMP is committed to partnership working in all it does, and continues to be accountable to our 11 [Partnership Principles](#)

MaSP:

We work most closely with our sister and partner network, the Malawi Scotland Partnership (MaSP), including on a day-to-day basis.

Co-hosting events:

In 2019-20, the SMP worked with more than 30 different partners to co-host and support 50 events attended by 4,122 people (see Appendix 7). Our two pop-up exhibitions (one 17-banner exhibition on the SDGs and an 11-banner exhibition on our Partnership

Principles), continue to be popular, used in events the across the length and breadth of Scotland.

David Livingstone Centre:

The SMP has a longstanding partnership and MOU with the David Livingstone Birthplace Centre in Blantyre, Scotland. In 2019-20 we were commissioned by the Centre to deliver the multimedia content for the final and largest room of the fully updated exhibition, looking at Livingstone's living legacy.

Alexander McCall Smith:

The SMP has been working with Edinburgh-based author Alexander McCall Smith since 2016 when we developed together the '[Scotland Street Mzuzu Coffee](#)'. In 2019-20 Alexander McCall Smith wrote an operetta for the SMP about David Livingstone, to be performed as a fund-raiser for the Partnership. This was due to take place in May 2020 but has been moved to the autumn due to Covid-19.

The Scotsman Newspaper:

The SMP continued to be a 'Friend of the Scotsman' with five 750-word articles in 2019-20. In addition, we also developed a new partnership with journalist and former SMP Board Member, Susan Dalgety and the paper. Susan spent six months in Malawi writing a [weekly 1,000-word column](#) about the Scotland-Malawi relationship, for which the SMP generated content ideas from its membership. Much of this material will also feature in a forthcoming book which the SMP will help launch.

Trade Unions:

We worked closely with Heriot Watt's School of Social Sciences, the Scottish Trades Union Congress and the Malawian Congress of Trade Unions, to support new Scotland-Malawi trade union links. We hosted a roundtable meeting for key stakeholders in May 2019 and supported a [conference at the STUC in September](#)

Orbis Expeditions/ Responsible Safari Company:

In November we agreed a [new corporate partnership](#) with travel operator Orbis Expeditions (/Responsible Safari Company) which will see two per cent of all their gross Scotland-Malawi travel income donated to the Partnership.

Networks Forum:

The SMP continues to work in active partnership with the Alliance and the Scottish Fair Trade Forum. The SMP hosts regular Networks Forum meetings support sharing and collaboration between our networks.

IDEAS:

The SMP Youth and Schools Manager now sits on the Executive Committee of IDEAS (International Development Education Association of Scotland) – working with multiple members of the network on events, workshops and campaigns.

Connecting Classrooms Consortium:

The Youth and Schools Manager sits on consortium of organisations leading on Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning project from British Council in Scotland.

Have any Scotland-based staff visited the project in the past 12 months? Give details including key activities and outputs of these visits.

Date of visit	Key achievements / outputs of visit	Follow-up actions
October 2019	<p><u>Overall objective:*</u></p> <p>The visit's overall strategic purpose was to strengthen both MaSP and the SMP's youth and schools engagements, with a deeper understanding of our network's value-add and new ideas, approaches and contacts to guide our work in this area in 2020-23.</p>	<p>Passing on letters and information from school partners in Malawi to partner schools in Scotland.</p> <p>Continuing to work closely between SMP and MaSP on youth and schools work – sharing ideas and learning, co-developing resources and planning together.</p>

*Detailed objectives:

1. Strengthen joint-working and mutual understanding between SMP and MaSP staff through face-to-face, peer-to-peer collaboration and sharing.
2. Sharing of learning and experience between MaSP and SMP about respective work with schools and young people.
3. Co-create new, and develop existing, school outreach work in Malawi, supporting MaSP's existing excellent work and building on joint-planning during Emily Mnyayi's 2017 visit.
4. Visit a Malawian school with a Scottish link in each of the three regions of Malawi, seeing first-hand the value and impact of this work, listening to the young people themselves, and looking to draw-out learning outcomes to inform our future work.
5. Convening a meeting in all three regions of key stakeholders working in areas related to youth and schools, Scotland-Malawi interactions, listening to their views and discussing future work in this area to 2023.
6. Connecting with, supporting and amplifying positive stories around, Scottish schools visiting Malawian partners at this time.
7. Using video, blogs, photos and social media to disseminate a positive and engagement message around Scotland-Malawi youth and schools engagement and SMP-MaSP collaboration.
8. Collaborating between SMP and MaSP to develop a Reciprocal Visit Guide, offering advice both for future Scottish schools visiting Malawi, and Malawian schools visiting Scotland.
9. Connecting with and support Malawian leads of youth-related projects, including: 2050 Climate Group, Classrooms for Malawi, Connecting Classrooms (British Council), MaSP's new safeguarding work, and other key education stakeholders.
10. Collecting physical items from Malawi for use in the SMP's educational work.
11. Offering wider support for MaSP's own events and priorities – for example, if useful, bringing out materials for the CRCs, etc.

Please tell us about any dissemination and learning throughout this reporting period. How have you promoted effective learning across the project? Please explain what processes you have used both internally and externally to share learning from the project so far, and how this learning is being used. (Max 500 words)

Internally, all SMP staff meet every Monday morning for a meeting sharing key updates amongst the staff team. Each staff member also gives a written operational update to the Board at each Board meeting (every eight weeks) and we use a digital mind-mapping tool to keep staff and Directors updated between meetings.

Externally, the SMP disseminates learning through:

Bulletin:

59 bulletins were sent in 2019-20, with 12,822 opens. The weekly all-member bulletin is a key communication channel to inform members what we are doing, what we have coming up, and to disseminate key Scotland-Malawi news. Of the respondents to the 2020 Member Needs and Impact Survey who had seen the bulletin, 100% said it was useful (57% said “extremely useful”) (See Appendix 9).

Website:

Our website has been used through this period to disseminate news, learning and updates. We posted [63 news articles](#), and information and learning from [35 past events](#) this year. The website had 107,262 views in 2019-20 (23% increase), 26,447 visitors (22% increase) and 39,265 sessions (17% increase).

Videos:

Short, compelling, shareable videos continue to be an excellent way for the SMP to disseminate its core messaging. In 2019-20 we produced and published eight feature videos (listed below), five teaser promotional videos and one Zoom meeting video:

- [Member Awards with HRH The Princess Royal](#)
- [Annual General Meeting](#)
- [School Partnership Awards](#)

- [St Roch’s Secondary School Malawi Day](#)
- [Ninewells Malawi Community garden](#)
- [Beath High School Malawi Lunch](#)
- [Lord Provost SMP Malawi floods appeal](#)
- [International Women’s Day video with Malawi Speaker](#)

Annual Report:

We published our 2018-19 Annual Report at the October 2019 AGM, with details about all of our work and learning, and have made this [available online](#).

The 2019-20 Annual Report will be published later this year.

Progress and Impact Studies:

We have developed 2019-20 Progress and Impact reports for:

- Agriculture and Food Security (see Appendix 11);
- Business, Trade, Investment and Tourism (see Appendix 12);
- Lobbying and Advocacy (see Appendix 13)
- Youth and Schools (see Appendix 14)

All of these will be made publicly available online in the coming days.

Social media:

We actively used a range of social media platforms to disseminate our core messaging, with: 672,841 Facebook Impressions, 5,747 Twitter followers, 801,254 Twitter impressions, 962 Instagram followers and 29,216 LinkedIn impressions.

Mainstream media:

We worked with a range of media outlets to help disseminate our narrative, including with a weekly 1,000-word Scotsman column on Scotland-Malawi links for six months, which profiled many of our members. This has culminated in a book which will be published later

in 2020. In total there were 173 articles about Malawi in the Scottish media in 2019-20 (see Appendix 15), with 19.5 million opportunities to view (see Appendix 16), 98% of which were positive in tone.

Has the project completed a mid-term project evaluation in the past 12 months (or is one planned for the next 12 months)? Please provide detail of the outcome of the evaluation. (Max 500 words)

This is the end of the SMP's 2017-20 Scottish Government Core Funding Grant rather than the mid-point.

We have had extensive review of our work in this period, with a total of 151 completed feedback forms, this included:

- Member Needs and Impact Survey (Appendix 9): Completed by 77 members, giving a detailed picture of how members value our work.
- Independent Assessment (Appendix 6): An external review of the extent to which we have met the agreed outcomes and outputs by the Corra Foundation.

- Member Impact Statements (Appendix 8): 170 collated statements from named members, giving rich qualitative data about how the SMP has supported and added value to their Malawi links.
- Event feedback data (Appendices 17-30): 14 individual reports collating the feedback we have received from our larger events in 2019-20.
- Board, Staff and Member triennial review: Board staff and members have all fed in, over the last year, to the SMP's strategic review and planning for 2020-23. This included an interactive session at the October 2019 AGM in which members could vote on their most useful service and help design the SMP's future work.

Please highlight how you are maintaining an awareness of others working in this region, giving details of collaboration, joint working or partnerships with others. (Max 500 words)

We host a regular Networks Forum, in which we share and collaborate with the Scottish Fair Trade Forum and the Alliance. We also often co-host events : for example, the 15th January [Roundtable with the UK's Development Finance Institution - CDC](#) which was co-hosted at our invitation with the Alliance, and the 6th March [Agriculture & Food Security Forum with SFTF](#) which was co-hosted with the Fair Trade Forum.

Through MaSP, we are well connected with all the major stakeholders in Malawi, including close working with DFID Malawi, the British Council, the Malawi High Commission and the Government of Malawi. We regularly have live Malawi input to our Member Forum meetings.

The SMP is a member of SCVO, BOND, ACOSVO and other relevant third sector networks.

All SMP staff receive a daily Malawi media briefing, highlighting key developments in the media relating to Malawi and the Scotland-Malawi bilateral relationship.

We also use the dissemination channels (bulletin, website, videos, annual report, social media and mainstream media) listed in 3.3 to

share information on with our 1,225 members. We also offer members the chance to have stalls at our larger events, such as the AGM, to promote their work. Our [Further and Higher Education Directory](#) and the [Westminster Constituency Mapping Report](#) are two key 2019-20 publications which help us share information about who is doing what and, in so doing, support collaboration and partnership.

SAFEGUARDING AND FRAUD:

Have there been any safeguarding incidents, either relating to staff/volunteers or beneficiaries of the Grant or the Project, in the last 12 months?

No

Have there been any incidents in the last 12 months of financial mismanagement, theft, fraud etc, either relating to the Grant or the Project or which affects the organisation?

No

RISK ASSESSMENT:

Have any issues materialised during this reporting period? If so, how were they addressed?

Assumption	Risk	Action taken	Was this included in the Risk Assessment Table in your application?
Covid-19	Significant disruption to work caused by global pandemic.	Moved to working from home for all staff. Consulted members and established fortnightly Zoom meetings sharing information and supporting members. Developed Covid-19 Response Strategy and Implementation Plan. Established Covid-19 web-hub . [See Covid-19 Strategy (Appendix 2), Covid-19 Risk Register (Appendix 3) and Implementation Plan (Appendix 3).]	Not precisely but there were measures around office closure.
Website Content Management System (CMS)	The CMS (Concrete 5.6) on which our website is built is no longer supported. This means there are no updates and hence it is increasingly unusable and vulnerable to cyber threats.	We have moved quickly, undertaking a tender and commissioning an organisation to move the website to a more sustainable CMS (Craft)	Not precisely but there were risks relating to website failure
Staff retention	The Media and Communications Maternity Cover has been difficult to manage as we are now into our third post-holder for this maternity cover.	We have increased support for the post-holder(s) and have moved quickly to re-advertise as necessary	Yes

INCLUSION AND ACCOUNTABILITY:

Is the project still relevant for the beneficiaries you are working with? Please highlight how you ensure accountability on the project, ensuring beneficiaries have the opportunity to feedback on the project and influence its development? (max 350 words)

Yes, the SMP remains relevant and valued to the members it serves.

The Partnership is accountable to our members and looks to listen to our members and, wherever possible, be responsive to their needs and priorities. We are proud to be a member-led network.

For example, we have:

- Annual Member Needs and Impact Survey (Appendix 9): Completed by 77 members in 2020, giving a detailed picture of how members value our work.
- Member Impact Statements (Appendix 8): 170 collated statements from named members, giving rich qualitative

data about how the SMP has supported and added value to their Malawi links.

- Event feedback data (Appendices 17-30): 14 individual reports collating the feedback we have received from our larger events in 2019-20.
- AGM feedback: An interactive session at the October 2019 AGM in which members could vote on their most useful service and help design the SMP's future work.
- Youth Committee: Ten young Scots and Malawian help lead our work, with a direct role in co-design and delivery of youth and member facing events, campaigns and workshops

Do you have an awareness of particularly vulnerable or marginalised groups within the community in which your project is working? Please give details on how you are disaggregating data to recognise these groups across the project. (Max 350 words)

We do not know of particular vulnerable or marginalised groups but our Diversity Review (Appendix 10) tracks diversity and inclusion in our work.

It found that:

Of all our event attendees in 2019-20:

- 53% were female and 47% were male;
- 75% were British and 25% were Malawian (or other nationality).

Of all our event speakers in 2019-20:

- 41% were female and 59% were male;
- 60% were British and 40% were Malawian (or other nationality).

Our Board of Directors started the year with:

- five female trustees (33%) and ten male (67%).

And ended with:

- nine female trustees (56%) and ten were male (44%).

The Board started and ended the year with:

- 13 Scottish Directors (78%), and three Directors from the Malawian Diaspora community (22%).

We work to ensure that our events and engagements are open to a diverse range of participants and that we are accessible, welcoming and transparent in all we do.

How is your project working to actively meet the needs of these vulnerable and marginalised groups, ensuring they are benefiting from the project? Please outline any mechanisms you are using. (Max 350 words)

When inviting the popular musician, and human rights campaigner, Lazarus to Scotland for our AGM and the Scottish Premiere of his [award-winning film](#). We offered additional support for him, recognising his severe visual impairments. This extended to an extra airfare so a guide and translator could travel with him.

This also ensured he was always accompanied as he travelled in and out of Malawi, given the serious personal security threats against people with albinism. We also gave extra financial support to ensure his family and young children were not left alone while he was out of the country, for security reasons.

We supported the September 2019 [Disability Inclusion conference](#) with the STUC, the MTUC and Herriot Watt university.

We work to ensure all venues in which we host events are fully accessible.

We also offer member fee exemptions for organisations, potentially representing vulnerable and marginalised groups, who struggle to pay these fees.

Taking into consideration some of the challenges of mainstreaming, please describe any challenges you have faced in reaching vulnerable and marginalised groups, how you have overcome these or plans you have developed to support inclusion on the project. (Max 350 words)

We will continue to ensure that our events and activities are as accessible as possible, especially to groups that might be considered marginalised or vulnerable. We will also continue to monitor diversity

and inclusion data through the year, making adjustments in our work as required.

4 Logframe

IMPACT	Impact Indicator 1		Target (2019/20)
Vibrant, diverse and productive civic links between the peoples of Scotland and Malawi.	Total scale and impact of civic links supported by the SMP, estimated by a Scottish university using sample data from the SMP membership	Planned	When repeated in April 2020, we expect to see growth in the number of Scots and Malawians actively engaged, the scale of financial and in-kind inputs, and the numbers benefitting in Scotland and Malawi.
		Achieved	Unfortunately it has not been possible to update this research exercise as hoped in the time available due to the Covid-19 pandemic
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress	
	Impact Indicator 2		Target (2019/20)
		Planned	In 2019/20 the SMP expects to receive further support for the bilateral relationship from the Scottish and UK Government, the Scottish and UK Parliament, and key civic leaders
		Achieved	As outlined in the 2019-20 Lobbying and Advocacy Report, the SMP received extensive support from across the Scottish and UK Governments and Parliaments. This included tweets, video messages and speeches from the First Minister, Secretaries of State, Ministers, Lord Provosts and other civic and political leaders.

OUTPUT 1.1	Output Indicator 1.1.1		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes
Programme of development and capacity building opportunities offered to members	Total annual attendance at SMP events and SMP-supported/partnered events	Planned	32 SMP events engaging 1850 + 20 partner events	See summary of events and engagements
		Achieved	33 SMP events engaging 1,061 people + 50 partner events engaging 4,122 [attendance: 53% female; 47% male]	
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		
		Collated attendance figures		

Output Indicator 1.1.2		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes
Percentage of SMP event attendee feedback describing the event as "excellent" or "very good"	Planned	83%	91% (172 feedback forms across 14 SMP events, 157 of which were rated “excellent” or “very good”) - 01/05/2019 FEHE Collaboration Meeting: 16/24 provided feedback (62.5% excellent, 31% very good) - 14/05/2019 + 21/05/2019 Chichewa Glasgow: 4/9 provided feedback (50% excellent, 25% very good) - 16/06/2019 + 27/06/2019 Chichewa Edinburgh: 5/9 provided feedback (100% excellent) - 28/08/2019 Glasgow Schools Forum: 6/12 provided feedback (67% excellent, 33% very good) - 29/08/2019 Edinburgh Schools Forum: 14/14 provided feedback (86% excellent, 14% very good) - 05/09/2019 Member Awards with HRH The Princess Royal:13/152 provided feedback (54% excellent, 46% very good) - 05/10/2019 AGM with Lazarus Chigwandali: 24/196 provided feedback (58% excellent, 33% very good) - 03/12/2019 Renewable Energy Forum with William Kamkwamba: 5/33 provided feedback (40% excellent, 40% very good) - 05/12/2019 School Partnership Awards with William Kamkwamba: 45/95 provided feedback (56% excellent, 29% very good) - 15/01/2020 CDC Roundtable: 12/33 provided feedback (58% excellent, 42% very good) - 30/01/2020 Deputy Speakers Visit: 4/18 provided feedback (25% excellent, 75% very good) - 14/02/2020 FEHE Forum: 7/21 provided feedback (29% excellent, 71% very good) - 03/03/2020 Agriculture and Food Security Forum with SFTF: 11/23 provided feedback (64% excellent, 18% very good) - 12/03/2020 Agriculture and Food Security Forum with Challenges: 6/12 provided feedback (50% excellent, 33% very good)
	Achieved	91%	
	Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		
	Event feedback forms		
Output Indicator 1.1.3		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes
Percentage of SMP event attendee	Planned	80%	87% (172 feedback forms across 14 SMP events, 150 of which stated that their link with Malawi had been supported/strengthened as a result of attending)
	Achieved	87%	

	feedback stating that their link with Malawi had been supported/strengthened as a result of attending			01/05/2019 FEHE Collaboration Meeting: 16/24 provided feedback (94% answered, 94% agreed with this statement) 14/05/2019 + 21/05/2019 Chichewa Glasgow: 4/9 provided feedback (100% answered, 100% agreed with this statement) 16/06/2019 + 27/06/2019 Chichewa Edinburgh: 5/9 provided feedback (100% answered, 100% agreed with this statement) 28/08/2019 Glasgow Schools Forum: 6/12 provided feedback (83% answered, 83% agreed with this statement) 29/08/2019 Edinburgh Schools Forum: 14/14 provided feedback (100% answered, 79% agreed with this statement) 05/09/2019 Member Awards with HRH The Princess Royal: 13/152 provided feedback (85% agreed with this statement) 05/10/2019 AGM 2019 with Lazarus Chigwandali: 24/196 provided feedback (100% answered, 79% agreed with this statement) 03/12/2019 Renewable Energy Forum with William Kamkwamba: 5/33 provided feedback (100% answered, 100% agreed with this statement) 05/12/2019 School Partnership Awards with William Kamkwamba: 45/95 provided feedback (96% answered, 84% agreed with this statement) 15/01/2020 CDC Roundtable: 12/33 provided feedback (100% answered, 100% agreed with this statement) 30/01/2020 Deputy Speakers Visit: 4/18 provided feedback (75% answered, 75% agreed with this statement) 14/02/2020 FEHE Forum: 7/21 provided feedback (100% answered, 100% agreed with this statement) 03/03/2020 Agriculture and Food Security Forum with SFTF: 11/23 provided feedback (100% answered, 86% agreed with this statement) 12/03/2020 Agriculture and Food Security Forum with Challenges: 6/12 provided feedback (100% answered, 83% agreed with this statement)
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		
		Event feedback forms		
	Output Indicator 1.1.4		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
		Planned	31	See Appendix: Member Impact Statements 2019-20

	Number of members giving case study testimonial evidence illustrating the impact membership has had supporting their link with Malawi	Achieved	170	
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		

OUTPUT 1.2	Output Indicator 1.2.1		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:	
Members receive regular bulletins, and have access to current information, online	Number of SMP news bulletins sent in the year	Planned	53	Using saved newsletters in MailChimp, output between 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019 was calculated. This number includes the weekly news bulletin and the schools newsletter	
		Achieved	59		
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress			
		Mailchimp records			
	Output Indicator 1.2.2		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:	
	Total number of recipients of the SMP news bulletin	Planned	1500	Subscribers currently at 1427, up 221 from Q1+2. Looking at MailChimp stats, there's an average of 1.5% growth month on month of subscribers, but that has peaks and troughs. This is 73 (5%) fewer than target because of the impact of GDPR legislation last year.	
		Achieved	1,427		
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress			
		SMP bulletin distribution database			
	Output Indicator 1.2.3		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:	
	Total number of bulletin email opens	Planned	15,500	We are continuing to review our weekly bulletin. Surveys tell us it is well received and valued by many members but we are keen to increase opens and click-throughs This 2678 (17%) below target, in part as a result of GDPR legislation last year.	
		Achieved	12,822		
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress			
		Mail Chimp statistical data			

OUTPUT 1.3	Output Indicator 1.3.1		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
Creation of opportunities for in-person networking and sharing between members	Total annual number of opportunities for in-person networking hosted by the SMP / and supported by the SMP	Planned	32 SMP / 20+ SMP supported	
		Achieved	33 SMP events engaging 1,061 people + 50 partner events engaging 4,122 [attendance: 53% female; 47% male]	See summary of events and engagements
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		
		Event attendance records		
	Output Indicator 1.3.2		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
	Percentage of SMP event attendee feedback stating when asked that they made new contacts as a result of attending SMP event	Planned	90%-100%	From 102 feedback forms which asked this question, 92 (88%) of whom said they made new contacts. [To note: although this is a slight decrease from last year, and just below the target, there has been a 537% increase in n number.] 01/05/2019 FEHE Collaboration Meeting: 16/24 provided feedback (94% made new contacts) 28/08/2019 Glasgow Schools Forum: 6/12 provided feedback (83% made new contacts) 29/08/2019 Edinburgh Schools Forum: 14/14 provided feedback (100% made new contacts) 05/10/2019 AGM with Lazarus Chigwandali: 24/196 provided feedback (86% made new contacts) 03/12/2019 Renewable Energy Forum with William Kamkwamba: 5/33 provided feedback (100% made new contacts) 15/01/2020 CDC Roundtable: 12/33 provided feedback (83% made new contacts) 30/01/2020 Deputy Speakers Visit: 4/18 provided feedback (50% made new contacts) 14/02/2020 FEHE Forum: 7/21 provided feedback (86% made new contacts) 06/03/2020 Agriculture and Food Security Forum with SFTF: 11/23 provided feedback (73% made new contacts) 12/03/2020 Agriculture and Food Security Forum with Challenges: 6/12 provided feedback (100% made new contacts)
		Achieved	88%	

		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		
		Event feedback forms; event follow-up surveys; event data		
	Output Indicator 1.3.3		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
	Percentage of SMP event attendee feedback describing networking at the event as "excellent" or "very good"	Planned	90%	139 feedback forms across 11 events were asked this question, of whom 114 (82%) rated the networking as "very good" or "excellent". <i>[To note: although this is a slight decrease from last year, and just below the target, there has been a 434% increase in n number.]</i> 01/05/2019 FEHE Collaboration Meeting: 16/24 provided feedback (38% excellent, 38% very good) 28/08/2019 Glasgow Schools Forum: 6/12 provided feedback (67% excellent, 33% very good) 29/08/2019 Edinburgh Schools Forum: 14/14 provided feedback (50% excellent, 43% very good) 09/05/2019 Member Awards with HRH The Princess Royal: 13/152 provided feedback (38% excellent, 62% very good) 03/12/2019 Renewable Energy Forum with William Kamkwamba: 5/33 provided feedback (60% very good) 05/12/2019 School Partnership Awards with William Kamkwamba: 45/95 provided feedback (47% excellent, 42% very good) 15/01/2020 CDC Roundtable: 12/33 provided feedback (17% excellent, 50% very good) 30/01/2020 Deputy Speakers Visit: 4/18 provided feedback (50% very good) 14/02/2020 FEHE Forum: 7/21 provided feedback (33% excellent, 56% very good) 03/03/2020 Agriculture and Food Security Forum with SFTF: 11/23 provided feedback (36% excellent, 27% very good) 12/03/2020 Agriculture and Food Security Forum with Challenges: 6/12 provided feedback (17% excellent, 50% very good)
		Achieved	82%	
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		

OUTCOME 2	Outcome Indicator 2.1		Target (2019/20)	
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	Annual SMP Advocacy Impact Report outlining evidence of political and policy impact	Planned	2019/20 report to show strong evidence of advocacy impact	
		Achieved	The 2019-20 Lobbying and Advocacy Report details the impact achieved in five strategic areas, across 43 SMP engagements with 190 actions by MPs and MSPs.	
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		
	Outcome Indicator 2.2		Target (2019/20)	
	Annual external review by independent expert assessing the SMP's advocacy impact	Planned	2019/20 table-top external review assessing evidence of SMP impact concludes that the SMP has had a strong positive impact through its advocacy work, representing good value for money against the core grant	
		Achieved	Independent expert review states: "The SMP Lobbying and Advocacy Report 2019-20 provided a range of useful information and highlighted some particular achievements, such as the constituency mapping and visa problems reports and the cross-party pledge. In general, for a relatively small Edinburgh-based organisation, SMP appears to have a genuinely impressive reach in terms of relationships with key stakeholders and senior decision-makers in Scotland, elsewhere in the UK and abroad and to be effectively leveraging these relationships to help progress towards desired policy change."	
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		

OUTPUT 2.1	Output Indicator 2.1.1		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
Programme of cross-party	Percentage of political parties in the Scottish	Planned	100%	See Lobbying and Advocacy Progress and Impact Report for full details
		Achieved	100%	

political strategic engagement	Parliament actively engaging and supporting Scotland's links with Malawi	Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress			
		Parliamentary records, quotes and public statements			
	Output Indicator 2.1.2		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:	
	Number of cross-party political meetings convened or supported by the SMP	Planned	4	<u>Holyrood Malawi Cross Party Group meetings:</u> 1st May 2019: Global Health & Update on Floods 11th September 2019: Veterinary Education & Animal Health in Malawi and AGM 20th November 2020: Indirect support for education in Malawi. 19th February 2020: Direct education projects. <u>Westminster Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group meetings:</u> (Not funded by the SG) 30th April 2019: Meeting with Independent Chief Inspector of Immigration 16th July 2019: Launch of joint all-party parliamentary report on UK Visas for those applying from Africa. 10th February 2020: AGM	
		Achieved	4 CPGs (+3 APPGs)		
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress			
		Parliamentary records, quotes and public statements			
	Output Indicator 2.1.3		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:	
	Number of actions taken by Parliamentarians in support of the SMP's advocacy work	Planned	88	See Lobbying and Advocacy Progress and Impact Report for full details - <i>N.B. APPGs are not funded by the Scottish Government core grant</i> - 30 th April 2019: Malawi APPG meeting - Indep Chief Inspector (x13) - 1 st May 2019: Malawi Cross Party Group (x4) - 8 th May 2019: Meeting with the First Minister of Scotland (x1) - 16 th May 2019: Roundtable with Rory Stewart, Secretary of State (x1) - May 2019: SMP written proposal for Secretary of State (x1) - 6 th June 2019: Sec of State SMP commendation (x3) - 11 th June 2019: House of Commons debate on the SDGs (x3) - June 2019: All-party messages of support for outgoing SMP Chair (x7) - 1 st July 2019: House of Commons debate – DFID expenditure (x4) - 6 th July 2019: Malawi Ind Day Celebrations with SG Minister (x1)	
		Achieved	190		

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 16th July 2019: Launch of All-Party UK Visa Report (x11) - July 2020: SMP written proposal for Secretary of State (x1) - August 2020: UK MPs and MSP visit to Malawi (x3) - 5th September 2019: Member Awards with HRH & Lord Provost (x1) - 11th September 2019: Malawi Cross Party Group (x4) - 5th October 2019: SMP AGM with Minister Ben Macpherson (x1) - 9th October 2019: Dinner with visiting Malawi MPs (x10) - 7th November 2019: 'A Taste of Malawi' Malawi business event (x1) - 20th November 2019: Malawi Cross Party Group meeting (x5) - 3rd December 2019: Meeting with William K. and MSPs: (x5) - 3rd December 2019: Meeting with William K., PO and DPO (x2) - 4th December: Meeting with William K. and SG ID Minister (x1) - 5th December 2019: School Partnership Awards (x0) - January 2020: Westminster Constituency Mapping report (x4) - 15th January 2020: SMP Roundtable meeting with CDC (x0) - 15th January 2020: Meeting between CDC and SG (x0) - 15th January 2020: SMP-hosted meeting between CDC and MSPs (x5) - 30th January 2020: Roundtable with Deputy Speakers (x2) - 30th January 2020: Deputy Speakers meeting with MPs (x6) - 30th January 2020: Deputy Speakers meeting with SG (x2) - 10th February 2020: Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group AGM (x8) - 19th February 2020: Malawi Cross Party Group: Education (x4) - 21st February 2020: Meeting with Deidre Brock MP (x1) - 27th February 2020: Meeting with new DFID Sec of State (x1) - February 2020: Anne McLaughlin MP visit to Malawi (x1) - 5th March 2020: Roundtable meeting with Speaker and MPs (x12) 5th March 2020: Civic reception with Speaker and MPs: - March 2020: Speaker delegation – meeting with Gov and Parl (x8) - March 2020: MP delegation meeting with Gov and Parl (x14) - 6th March 2020: Meeting with new SG Minister, Jenny Gilruth (x1) - 8th March 2020: Int. Women's Day video with Malawi Speaker (x3) - 10th March 2020: Meeting with new Glasgow Lord Provost (x0) - January – March 2020: Scottish MPs sign SMP Pledge (x23)
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress	

--	--	--	--

OUTPUT 2.2	Output Indicator 2.2.1		Target (2019/20)	
Local authority engagement programme	Percentage of Scottish Local Authorities engaged by the SMP	Planned	100%	Briefing sent to all Scottish Local Authorities
		Achieved	100%	
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		SMP Notes:
		SMP correspondence records		
	Output Indicator 2.2.2		Target (2019/20)	
	Number of Scottish Local Authorities choosing to be members of the SMP	Planned	19	
		Achieved	17	
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		SMP Notes:
		SMP online membership database		
	Output Indicator 2.2.3		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
	Number of Scottish Local Authorities supported by the SMP to develop their own Malawi link	Planned	3	Orkney Islands Council, Glasgow City Council Scottish Borders Council
		Achieved	3	
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		
		Project details from local authorities		

OUTPUT 2.3	Output Indicator 2.3.1		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
Support for Scottish Government International Development	Number of SMP points of support for the SG's international development strategy (e.g. supporting	Planned	3	There were at least 29 points of support including: 1. The SMP continued to support the Scottish Government initiative for a youth-led climate leadership programme the 2050 Group 2. On May 8th 2019 the (then) SMP Chair, Prof Ken Ross and CEO David Hope-Jones, met the First Minister.
		Achieved	29	

<p>Strategy: assisting constructive synergy between governmental and non-governmental efforts</p>	<p>information events or hosting networking and collaboration meetings around a call, or helping raise awareness of key announcements)</p>			<p>3. On June 19th the SMP participated in the Scottish Government's Learning for Sustainability launch meeting and met with SG lead Liam Cahill on July 9th amplifying SG messaging on Learning for Sustainability in the SMP's bulletin.</p> <p>4. The SMP has continued to support the Scottish Government's NHS Scotland Global Citizenship programme</p> <p>5. In its bulletins and in meetings, the SMP continued to reinforce the importance of clear safeguarding protocols and to signposted to the Alliance's Safeguarding Resources & piloted Safeguarding for Trustees' training on July 15th</p> <p>6. At the end of August 2019, in support of equality, gender parity and of the Scottish Government's campaign, the SMP achieved 5050-by-2020 in its Board.</p> <p>7. The SMP supported the Climate Justice Fund Information Day on 26 June.</p> <p>8. From 2nd August 2019 onwards the SMP promoted the SG's Small Grants programme in its online bulletin and social media platform.</p> <p>9. The SMP joined the SG, Corra and Alliance in speaking at the Small Grants Information Day on September 11th</p> <p>10. On 18th September 2019, the SMP supported an Alliance roundtable with Scottish Lib Dem party Leader, Willie Rennie MSP</p> <p>11. Together with the Alliance, the SMP was involved with Corra/SG on 29th August in discussion and consultation on the SG's Small Grants Review</p> <p>12. The SMP met separately on January 24th with the Consultant conducting the Review, Fiona Ellis offering support. The SMP also encouraged members to engage with the review</p> <p>13. Early in her new tenure with the Scottish Government's International Development team, the SMP hosted Tasha Boardman the SG's Malawi Development Manager for four mornings from 11th November</p> <p>14. Supported by members of the Scottish Government's International Development team, the (then) Minister for International Development, Ben Macpherson MSP gave the closing address to over 200 SMP Members at the Partnership's AGM on October 5th 2019.</p> <p>15. Mr Macpherson's active participation in SMP activities was reflected in coverage of events and featured in the SMP's Annual Report.</p> <p>16. The SMP connected the Malawi-UK Business Group with the Scottish Government to have their Malawi tourism promotion showcase: A Taste of Malawi on November 7th hosted at the Scottish Government's Scotland House in London.</p>
---	--	--	--	---

			<p>17. Scottish Government-funded projects in Malawi were amongst those whose work was showcased in the Scottish Parliament to 44 participants on November 20th in a schools and education-themed meeting of the Cross-Party Group on Malawi.</p> <p>18. The SMP supported the Association of Malawians in Scotland's Independence Day Celebration held in Glasgow on July 6th where the (then) Scottish Government Minister for International Development Ben Macpherson MSP gave the opening address to 80 guests.</p> <p>19. The SMP sought to be agile in its response to an eleventh hour plan for the Deputy Speakers of the Malawian Parliament to visit Scotland and liaised prior to the visit and on 30 January with the Scottish Government.</p> <p>20. The SMP secretariat worked closely with its members, the Scottish Government and civic society organisations in Scotland in a concerted approach to COP-26 planning, including a meeting on the 25th Feb 2020 briefing the SG on the <i>Malawi at COP26</i> Strategy.</p> <p>21. Through its website, e-bulletin and by direct mail, the SMP encouraged attendance at three Malawi Strand Meetings for Scottish Government-funded Projects held in Malawi on June 17th and 18th on Gender, WASH and Sustainable Economic Development.</p> <p>22. Organisations funded by the Scottish Government (SG) were encouraged to attend, or invite their partners in Malawi to attend, the Malawi Scotland Partnership Annual Symposium for SG-funded projects on February 20th 2020.</p> <p>23. The SMP encouraged attendance at MaSP's AGM on October 17 2019. Speakers included Nicola Cogan from the Scottish Government.</p> <p>24. On the 4th December the SMP organised a meeting for Minister Macpherson to meet William Kamkwamba while he was in Scotland at the SMP's invitation.</p> <p>25. In Feb 2020 we supported and fed into the SG's Fair Trade review.</p> <p>26. The SMP co-hosted a special reception for Members and key partners to meet Catherine Gotani, the first female Speaker of the Malawi National Assembly on March 5th 2020. The Speaker was joined by the Clerk of Parliament and Parliamentary officials.</p> <p>27. Working coherently with Scottish Government-funded Network The Scottish Fair Trade Forum, the SMP co-hosted an Agriculture & Food Security Forum on March 6th 2020. This event was attended by the Scottish Government's Minister for International Development, Jenny Gilruth MSP, whose appointment the SMP also communicated to its members.</p> <p>28. On March 12th, the SMP provided a platform at its Agriculture & Food Security Forum for members to hear about the Scottish Government-funded project (CROPS) which is being delivered by Challenges Worldwide. The Scottish Government's Nicola Cogan</p>
--	--	--	---

			<p>attended this event arranged at short notice to capitalise on the visit to Scotland of the Malawian project lead, Phillip Chidawati.</p> <p>29. Recognising that Covid-19 presents a huge set of challenges for Scotland, Malawi, and the SMP, the SMP moved quickly from mid-March to disseminate news and information to Members. On 31st March 2020, the SMP hosted an Online Health Forum The Scottish Government's Joanna Keating joined to share the SG's perspective.</p>
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress	
		SMP and SG records	
Output Indicator 2.3.2		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
Number of opportunities for the SMP and/or its members to offer input, support and feedback to the Malawi Development Programme and the SG's work towards the SDGs (for example through SMP-SG meetings)	Planned	4	<p>There were 12 opportunities for the SMP to feed in to the SG's work in this period:</p> <p>1) 8th May 2019 the (then) SMP Chair, Prof Ken Ross and CEO David Hope-Jones, met the First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, discussing the bilateral relationship and the SG's Malawi Development Programme</p> <p>2) 29th May 2019: Small Grants Sweep-up session</p> <p>3) 26th June 2019: The spoke at the SG Climate Justice Fund Information Day</p> <p>4) 29th August 2019: Small Grants Review meeting at VQ</p> <p>5) May: Contribution to Chapter 12 of SG International Development annual impact review</p> <p>6) 11th September 2019: SMP spoke at the Small Grants Information Day</p> <p>7) 15th January 2020: meeting with SG International Development team officials (with MaSP on teleconf), including discussions on the situation in Malawi.</p> <p>8) 24th January 2020 met with Consultant conducting Small Grants Review, Fiona Ellis and encouraged members to engage with the review</p> <p>9) 30th January 2020: Input to SG Fair Trade Review – meeting with external reviewer</p> <p>10) 25th February 2020: Meeting with SG discussing planning for COP26</p> <p>11) 6th March 2020: meeting with new SG Int Dev Minister Jenny Gilruth MSP who then joined Agriculture & Food Security Forum</p> <p>12) 31st March 2020: SMP Health Forum on Malawi's COVID-19 heard SG's perspective on small grants impact from Joanna Keating</p>
	Achieved	12	
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress	
		SMP and SG records	

OUTCOME 3	Outcome Indicator 3.1		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
Scottish publics beyond SMP membership are informed and engaged on Scotland-Malawi links, opportunities and impact	Number of opportunities to view Scotland-Malawi features in the mainstream media, and total SMP reach across social media	Planned	6 million+ opportunities to view. 732,421 Facebook impressions; 700,000 Twitter impressions; 463 Instagram followers; and 20,742 LinkedIn impressions	Media impressions See separate document 'Opportunity to view figures based on Scotland-Malawi stories and SMP featured or led stories between April 2019 and September 2019' for how this figure is calculated using published circulation figures. This is an underestimate as there are many media outlets for which published circulation figures are not available, a situation exacerbated by all UK Newsquest titles (including The Herald and Evening Times Group) no longer subscribing to ABC circulation auditing. This is above target but we highlight that changes in the way circulation figures are calculated means we cannot guarantee this is a fair comparison with Year One figures. A learning point for the SMP is, when setting such targets, we are very detailed as to which published circulation figures we are using, to ensure fair longitudinal comparisons when the MCO post-holder changes.
		Achieved	Over 19.5 million opportunities to view / 672,841 Facebook Impressions / 5,747 Twitter followers / 801,254 Twitter impressions / 962 Instagram followers / 29,216 LinkedIn impressions	Facebook Impressions: Using Facebook Insights Data, the daily total impressions between April 2018 and March 2019 was 672,841 Facebook Impressions. This is 8% below target but this is due to the changes in the algorithms Facebook uses, which came in in March 2018 and has had an impact on all Facebook stats for all users (see https://tinyurl.com/y774a59h). This change has significantly reduced Facebook impression figures for all organisations using Facebook and consideration should be made when making target for next milestone.
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		
	Outcome Indicator 3.2		Target (2019/20)	
	Annual external review by independent expert assessing the SMP's media and communications impact	Planned	2019/20 table-top external review assessing evidence of SMP impact concludes that the SMP has had a strong positive impact through its media and communications work, representing good value for money against the core grant	
		Achieved	Independent expert review states: "SMP reporting evidences that all elements of this indicator have been exceeded (opportunities to view, Facebook and Twitter impressions, Instagram followers, LinkedIn impressions). As a side note, while still easily exceeding the set target of opportunities to view, consultation regarding the drop in this figure since last year is linked to the availability of circulation stats."	

		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress	

OUTPUT 3.1	Output Indicator 3.1.1		Target (2019/20)	
New Media and Communications Strategy developed and implemented	Updated strategy produced and reported annually against	Planned	Progress reported against Communications Strategy, capturing key learning	
		Achieved	We continue to follow the Communications and Digital Communications Strategy from August 2018 which remains current and will be updated as required.	
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		
		SMP records		
	Output Indicator 3.1.2		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
	Total number of Malawi features in the Scottish media	Planned	155	SMP led/supported stories between April 2019 and March 2020 = 42 Positive stories between April 2019 and March 2020 = 113 Negative stories between April 2019 and March 2020 = 8 Neutral stories between April 2019 and March 2020 = 52
		Achieved	173	
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		
	Output Indicator 3.1.3		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
	Percentage of Malawi features in the Scottish media which are positive in tone	Planned	95%-100%	Of the stories that were not positive, one concerned the death of a British soldier after being attacked by an elephant while deployed on an anti-poaching operation and three news outlets carried the story about costs associated with the First Lady of Malawi's visit to the UK.
		Achieved	98%	

		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress	

OUTPUT 3.2	Output Indicator 3.2.1		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:	
SMP website development and maintenance as national hub for Scotland-Malawi interactions	Total number of page views on the SMP website	Planned	92,000	This improvement on target is very encouraging. The overall impressions in quarters 1&2 were higher than 3&4 which is interesting.	
		Achieved	107,262		
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress			
		Website statistics			
	Output Indicator 3.2.2		Target (2019/20)		
	Total number of new visitors on the SMP website	Planned	19,500		
		Achieved	26,447		
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress			
		Website statistics			
	Output Indicator 3.2.3		Target (2019/20)		
	Total number of sessions on the SMP website	Planned	32,500		
		Achieved	39,265		
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress			
		Website statistics			

OUTCOME 4	Outcome Indicator 4.1		Target (2019/20)	
New and priority areas of engagement between Scotland and Malawi are progressed	Summary Progress and Impact reports published annually on the SMP's work on: business, investment, trade and tourism; youth and schools; and agriculture and food security	Planned	2019/20 report to show strong evidence of impact in these three areas	
		Achieved	2019/20 reports show significant activity and impact in each of these three areas.	
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		
	Outcome Indicator 4.2		Target (2019/20)	
	Annual external review by independent expert assessing the SMP's impact in: business, investment, trade and tourism; youth and schools; and agriculture and food security	Planned	2019/20 table-top external review assessing evidence of SMP impact concludes that the SMP has had a positive impact through its work in these areas, representing good value for money against the core grant	
		Achieved	Independent expert review states: "SMP reporting provides evidence that targets were exceeded for almost all indicators under this Outcome, and without event postponement would have been likely to meet or exceed all. Narrative reporting also provides additional evidence of co-ordinated activities and advocacy supporting positive change in member practices and facilitating new partnerships."	
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		

OUTPUT 4.1	Output Indicator 4.1.1		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
Delivery of the Business, Investment, Trade and	Number and scale of SMP points of engagement advancing the BITT programme	Planned	5	There were 25 main BITT engagement points in this period (see Business, Trade, Investment and Tourism Progress and Impact Report for full details): 1) April 2019 – March 2020: Co-led the Malawi-UK Business Group 2) April 2019 – March 2020: Promotion of Scotland Street Coffee
		Achieved	25	

Tourism (BITT) programme	(e.g. BITT forums, Malawi CPG meetings on BITT, BITT campaigns)			3) April 2019 – March 2020: Promotion of other Malawi exports 4) April 2019 – March 2020: <i>'Make Tax Fair Everywhere'</i> Campaign 5) May – September 2019: Support for Malawi Congress Trade Union 6) April - July 2019: UK Visas Parliamentary Inquiry – impact on business 7) May 2019 – February 2020: Promotion of Malawi Sports Challenges 8) 11 th July 2019: Scotsman article on ethical Malawian rice 9) April – September 2019: STA Travel Corporate Partnership 10) August – October 2019: Promotion of Malawi Tourism around AGM 11) October: Launch of new Orbis Expeditions Corporate Partnership 12) 7 th November 2019: <i>'A Taste of Malawi'</i> business tourism and networking event 13) 3 rd December 2019: Renewable Energy Forum with William Kamkwamba 14) 15 th January 2020: SMP Roundtable meeting with CDC Chair 15) 15 th January 2020: SMP-facilitated meeting between CDC and the Scottish Government 16) 15 th January 2020: SMP-hosted meeting between CDC and MSPs 17) 30 th January 2020: Input to SG Fair Trade Review 18) February - March 2020: Work with Scottish Fair Trade Forum (Fair Trade Fortnight) 19) February: Visa support visiting Rice Farmers 20) 5 th March 2020: SMP roundtable meeting with Speaker and Malawian MPs 21) 6 th March 2020: Support for Kasinthula Cane Growers' visit to the UK 22) 12 th March 2020: Food and Agriculture Forum supporting CROPS March 2020 23) Challenges-CDC introduction: March 2020 24) Promotion of 'First 500' in Fairtrade Mzuzu Coffee March 2020 25) Working with leaders in Malawi Tourism to respond to Covid-19
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		
		SMP records		
		Output Indicator 4.1.2	Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
		Number of member testimonial case studies giving evidence from businesses, importers,	Planned 4 Achieved 10	See the Business, Trade, Investment and Tourism Progress and Impact Report: Case studies/feedback from: 1) Dr Peter West OBE DL: Scottish Hon Consul of Malawi 2) Eve Broadis, Director: Fair Trade Scotland Ltd.

investors, etc illustrating the positive impact of the SMP's BITT support			3) Eoghan Mackie: Chief Executive, Challenges Worldwide 4) Daisy Belfield Santos: Rare Charity (Rare Tea Company) 5) Benjamin Carey: Carey Tourism 6) Dr Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits 7) Martin Rhodes: Chief Executive, Scottish Fair Trade Forum 8) Dominic Webb: Orbis Expeditions 9) Kelly White: Malawi Travel Marketing Consortium 10) Marry Popple: Chair, JTS
	Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		
	Written quotes		
Output Indicator 4.1.3		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
Number of written testimonials from the Government of Malawi illustrating the impact of the SMP's BITT support	Planned	1	<i>"I write on behalf of the High Commission of Malawi to record our deep appreciation and admiration for the work of the Scotland Malawi Partnership. It has continued to support the priorities of both the Scottish and Malawi Governments for the development of Malawi. One of many notable achievements was arranging the programme for the visit of the chair of CDC who was, I know, very impressed by what he heard of the partnership between the two nations. It was particularly fortunate that the visit came just before the London conference on investment in Africa where our President was able to follow up on the issues raised in Edinburgh in bilateral discussions with the Chair of CDC.</i> <i>"The subsequent programme for the visit of the Speaker of the Malawian Parliament, co-ordinated with the Scottish Government and Parliament was another striking success, allowing the new minister Jenny Gilruth MSP to engage directly with our leading female political leader.</i> <i>"As I write this, the Partnership is continuing, despite the lockdown, to play a key role in co-ordinating Scottish support for Malawi as its numbers of covid=19 infections rise and this is greatly valued by the Malawi Government in its time of need."</i> Dr Peter West OBE DL Scottish Hon Consul of Malawi
	Achieved	1	
	Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		

		Written quotes from the Malawi High Commissioner to the UK	
--	--	--	--

OUTPUT 4.2	Output Indicator 4.2.1		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:	
Expand schools outreach, support for school partnerships and wider youth engagement	Number and scale of SMP youth and schools points of support and engagement	Planned	40	Youth/School engagement has included: - 56 points of support through email/phone - 3 school newsletters - 20 school visits/workshops - 3 schools forums (Edinburgh, Glasgow and Online) - 6 Youth Committee meetings - 12 supported youth/schools events	
		Achieved	100		
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress			
		SMP and school records			
	Output Indicator 4.2.2		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:	
	Estimated number of young Scots benefitting from SMP support and outreach in the year	Planned	65,000	We are 29% behind the 12-month target.	
		Achieved	46,060	This is due to: - decision to move 2020 Youth Congress from February to November, so not included in these figures. - difficulties teachers have in getting out of school to attend SMP events and engagements - this is also being experienced by all all others engaged in development education - a sector-wide approach	
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress			
SMP and school records					

OUTPUT 4.3	Output Indicator 4.3.1		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
Convening and supporting a community of practice on	Number and scale of SMP agriculture and food security points of	Planned	2	There have been 7 points of engagement: 1) Supported visit of first Malawian vets to be home-trained to visit Scotland 2) Cross Party Group on Malawi – Veterinary Health in Malawi 3) Reception for Malawi Vets and Ag & Food Security Forum Members
		Achieved	7	

Agriculture and Food Security	support and engagement			<p>4) Hosted meeting with representatives of major animal health charity: the Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines (GALVMed) and visiting Malawi Vets re potential employment opportunities and retention in Malawi</p> <p>5) Funding opportunity awareness-raising amongst relevant SMP members (and engagement with the funder) for Innovate UK's Agri-Tech Catalyst funding to support agricultural and food systems innovation in Africa - Round 9.</p> <p>6) Agriculture & Food Security Forum co-hosted with Scottish Fair Trade Forum 6 March 2020 with Kasinthula sugar cane farmers from Malawi</p> <p>7) Agriculture & Food Security Forum with Scottish Government-funded Challenges Worldwide Ag Project (CROPS) and its Malawi Project manager Phillip Chidawati & Challenges' CEO. Eoghan Mackie speaking 12 March '20</p>
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		
		SMP records		
	Output Indicator 4.3.2		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
	Percentage of members and partners engaged in this area, who completed a feedback form, stating their Malawi link had benefitted from attending.	Planned	75%	<p>There were two Agriculture and Food Security events for which formal feedback forms were used:</p> <p>The 6th March Forum (<i>n11</i>) 82% rated the event as Excellent/Very Good; 91% said it strengthened their Malawi links and 73% made new contacts.</p> <p>The 12th March Forum(<i>n6</i>): 100% rated the event as Excellent/Very Good; 100% said it strengthened their Malawi links and 80% rated the networking opportunity as Excellent. A total of 94.1% of those who gave feedback said attendance had strengthened their Malawi link.</p>
		Achieved	94%	
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress		
		Written feedback from organisations		
	Output Indicator 4.3.3		Target (2019/20)	SMP Notes:
	Numbers of case study testimonials from key individuals illustrating the impact of the SMP's	Planned	2	<p>12 testimonials have been provided:</p> <p>1. "It is extremely useful for the networking opportunities it presents, and opening doors you didn't know were even there, due to the level of wider activity going on." – Dr Darren Watt, University of Edinburgh</p> <p>2. Understanding agricultural ties" – Dr Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits</p>
		Achieved	12	

	agriculture and food security work		<p>3. "Deep and broad knowledge and links" - Andrew Parker, Imani Development</p> <p>4. "Bringing partners together" - Dorcas Pratt, Water Witness International</p> <p>5. Keeps us informed, gives networking opportunity...and business support." Phil Broadis, Fair Trade Scotland Ltd</p> <p>6. "It has strengthened Malawi links" - Isla Farley, Imani Development</p> <p>7. "Useful contacts + knowledge transfer" - Andrew Heald, Consultant</p> <p>8. "It has provided linkages to other small holders that are doing the same effort in Malawi. It has provided the forum for coming up with innovations and opportunities for development" Henry Kadzuwa, The University of Edinburgh</p> <p>9. "We found the Scotland Malawi Partnership invaluable in making our vet exchange happen and the experience was fantastic with a fully loaded programme making connections which will transform the veterinary careers of our students." Adam Tjolle BVetMed (London) MRCVS. Trustee - Chair LSPCA (UK) Malawi. Honorary Fellow - Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies</p> <p>10. "Very helpful in supporting institutional links in Malawi"</p> <p>"Supporting building of partnerships in Malawi esp with 3rd sector"</p> <p>Prof Geoff Simm, Director of the Global Academy of Agriculture and Food Security, and Chair of Global Agriculture and Food Security University of Edinburgh</p> <p>11. "Meeting other organisations; raising my awareness; opportunities to raise Malawi Fruit's profile. Deepened my knowledge; particularly appreciate meetings around agriculture, water and natural resources." Dr Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits</p> <p>12. "Through an invitation to meet the first graduates of the vet school we have now written a training grant with Prof to enhance veterinary epi skills in country" Stella Mazeri</p>
		Data Source(s) for substantiating indicator progress	

5 External Expert Review (The Corra Foundation): NARRATIVE

External Assessment of Evidence of the Scotland Malawi Partnership (SMP) Impact / Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Data 2020



Background:

Corra Foundation was approached to undertake a short independent review of the Scotland Malawi Partnership's end of year reporting to Scottish Government, including an assessment of evidence provided for progress made towards the four outcome areas outlined in the logframe:

1. Co-ordination and partnership capacity building
2. Advocacy and policy work
3. Public awareness raising and engagement
4. Pre-identified priority areas: business, investment, trade and tourism; youth and schools; agriculture and food security.

As the review of SMP annual reporting undertaken by Corra in 2019, this review does not constitute a full impact assessment. Rather, it is a two- to three-day exercise comprising a desk- top document review and short consultation meeting which serves to provide an independent assessment of the evidence provided by SMP in reporting on its progress during the year in question, April 2019-March 2020.

The assessment is structured around the SMP logframe and follows the format used for the 2019- 20 external review of a short narrative report and annexed

table commenting on progress by individual indicator. In terms of information sources, the assessment has considered:

- the documents listed in the annex (all provided to Corra by SMP),
- SMP website content, and,
- a discussion on selected issues highlighted by the document review (held on 1 May 2020 by telephone between David Hope-Jones, the SMP Chief Executive, and Chrissie Hirst from the Corra Foundation).

These primary sources have been complemented by observations on SMP's work from Corra staff working on international issues and participating in SMP-led or attended activities, as well as informal feedback from a number of SMP members, many of which are also Scottish Government and Corra grantholders. However, while knowledge and information gained informally through engagement in the Scottish international development sector have inevitably been relevant for this review of the last year, it should be underlined that Corra did not undertake any specific enquiry or interviews with SMP members in order to gather information or evidence for this review of the SMP reporting.

Comments on MEL Framework and Quality of Data:

As noted in the last external end of year review, the SMP appear to have prioritised MEL and put significant effort into documenting activities and progress. As detailed in Annex 2 and reviewed as part of this assessment, SMP has diligently collected and shared data and information to evidence all the indicators and targets listed in the logframe as part of its reporting on progress under this grant.

While the logframe does provide a useful framework to capture the varied aspects of the SMP's work with different audiences and on different strands, the assessment has highlighted a few points for consideration. Annex 2 lists certain specific points in relation to individual indicators, and some additional general observations relevant across the logframe follow.

As last year's review noted, the current logframe includes many quantitative indicators, which, while useful, are not always able to reflect all areas of SMP's work or to convey rounded evidence or perspectives of longer-term change or impact. As this is the final report of a three-year grant, it would have been good to also see some more qualitative reflection on how SMP's engagement and support to members leads to positive change and what kind of positive change. This observation is not a criticism of SMP's reporting as their material responds appropriately and in detail to the current reporting framework, but more a suggestion to consider options for future indicators, evaluations and reviews.

The review of the last year identified the lack of any gender or diversity disaggregation in MEL indicators, targets or reporting as an area for improvement. In this year's reporting SMP has made important progress in this area, including a short 'SMP Diversity Review 2019-20' report as part of the annual reporting documentation which presents notes on male/female

¹ The report also observes the comment on the "worsening gender balance" within the small SMP team as it changed from 3 female/2.6 male FTE staff to 2 female/3.6 male FTE staff in the last year. Given the small size of team it is inevitable that a

event participants in aggregate, of event speakers in aggregate, of the SMP Board and Staff, and of event participant 'nationality' in aggregate. While this is a very welcome improvement, SMP is encouraged to go further and consider instituting processes that could provide for more nuanced analysis in future. In relation to the events for example, it would be very helpful to have the event and speaker data disaggregated by event type or topic to see particular areas of imbalance more clearly, and also to include a note of whether the agenda and discussion included gender and diversity aspects of the focus topic. (For example, are women under-represented in discussions on business and agriculture, are men under-represented in discussions on education, and what imbalances in those sectors might this reflect which should be considered in SMP's related work? Such reflection points could be introduced as standard items into post-event de-briefs.)

In general, while collecting disaggregated data remains a key element of gender- and diversity- sensitive awareness and programming, SMP should ensure that too great a focus on strict numerical parity does not distract from more substantive steps. For example, in relation to staffing¹, the importance of ensuring that SMP team members, whatever their gender, are aware of how gender and diversity issues affect their work and are able to take steps to plan, implement and evaluate activities in a way which takes gender and diversity into account. In this respect, considering the potential benefits of sector-specific gender and diversity objectives, staff capacity building, or the institution of secondment or internship schemes, perhaps linked with MaSP and reciprocal, could be helpful to mainstreaming.

On diversity in particular, the review also welcomes SMP's efforts in this area, and the data on overall event participation was certainly interesting. However, if the aim of monitoring is to get a better sense of how participants with a

50/50 staff balance will not be possible, and this should not be presented as any kind of failure.

Malawian background are represented in SMP events and activities and what kind of feedback they give, it would be useful to explore options to get a clearer read. The category of “nationality” can be understood differently as citizenship or as national community (broadly ethnic background), so monitoring using this term may preclude data capture on diaspora or Malawians naturalised as British citizens. The ‘SMP Diversity Review 2019-20’ report includes a note on the sensitivities around collecting data on protected characteristics: it would be useful to consider developing MEL protocols in consultation with members of different backgrounds who could advise on how best to approach this. In this respect, SMP’s Board membership and collaboration with the Malawi Scotland Partnership (MaSP) and the Association of Malawians in Scotland are valuable resources which can be drawn on.

Last year’s review also discussed the issue of quality of evidence in relation to event participant feedback, recommending that SMP aim to increase the level of event participants providing feedback to 50%. Overall the rate of participant response appears to have improved and SMP should be congratulated on this as feedback culture takes time to embed, but it seems gathering feedback from a higher proportion of event participants remains a challenging area². SMP has continued its practice of diligent collection and presentation of participant feedback in summary word reports sharing statistics on a few main responses and then all comments provided. Going forward, it could be useful to review the format and approach used for participant feedback to both facilitate responses, the MEL data processing workload, and feed reflection on whether the event achieved its aims. While the Covid-19 context will certainly

have affected the level of response to the annual member survey run in April 2020, given that this is another important source of monitoring information and learning for SMP, it would be useful to explore barriers and consider options to encourage, incentivise or facilitate a higher proportion of responses.³

Suggested priorities going forward relevant to all Outcome areas:

- Incorporate gender and diversity aspects into future strategic planning and MEL and consider what qualitative and quantitative indicators, tools and processes would best fit SMP’s particular needs and capacities, exploring technical options to reduce the workload of event survey data collation and presentation.
- Continue to increase efforts to secure a higher proportion of event participants who provide feedback, aiming for a minimum of 50%, and including gender and diversity disaggregation into post-event analysis and reflection so that different groups of members’ feedback can be considered.
- Consider how longer-term thinking about ‘impact’ can be incorporated into next phase strategic plans and linked MEL plans.
- Consider what SMP activities which are not currently captured or well represented in reporting using the existing framework and indicators, such as advice and introductions on request, MaSP collaboration, etc., can be framed in project planning and MEL going forward.

² While some events met or exceeded the recommended target, others proved more challenging for the collection of participant feedback. For example, some events had much more positive return rates, such as all 14 participants of the Edinburgh Schools Forum giving feedback, and 45 out of 95

participants at the Schools Partnership Awards; however, other events had lower response rates, e.g. 24 of 196 participants in the AGM responded to the feedback survey, and 13 out of 152 participants at the Member Awards.

³ Out of 1,225 members, 77 responded to a survey circulated in April 2020.

Assessment of Evidence of Specific Outcomes:

Review of the annual report documentation shared by the SMP notes a range of evidence provided to support the conclusion that the SMP has successfully met targets in the 2019-20 year of implementation.

Following the structure of the last external review, a shortened logframe with notes on achievements and evidence has been attached as Annex 2

(continuing the traffic light colour coding from the last review). To complement the assessment comments on the evidence provided for each Outcome and Output in the Annex 2 table, a summarised overview is provided below by Outcome.

Review of Outcome One: Civic links between Scotland and Malawi are co-ordinated, and the capacity of partnerships to be effective and impactful is enhanced

As outlined in Annex 2, the evidence provided in SMP reporting indicated that targets were largely met or exceeded for Outcome 1.

While numbers of participants in SMP-only events have not met the prescribed target, numbers of participants in events undertaken in partnership far exceed the original target: given the many positive aspects of partnership working, particularly for a network organisation such as the SMP, this review does not interpret these numbers as a failure to meet targets. Equally, while SMP bulletin recipients and 'opens' have not quite met targets, numbers of both have increased since last year indicating continuing interest and relevance, and while the statistics evidencing networking with numbers of new contacts and participant feedback have not quite met targets they are very close. In respect to this Outcome, current reporting provides more member statements noting positive changes than referencing longer-term impact per se; this notwithstanding, the end of year reporting provides an abundance of civil society member testimony on the importance and value of SMP for their work with Malawi.

Many members reference important positive changes resulting from SMP's work, including benefits from SMP co-ordination and from SMP support that has enhanced members' capacity and effectiveness. Of the range of services

provided and covered by the Member Survey 2020, events, networking, disseminating news and office enquires/support were the four 'services' which significantly more respondents found "extremely useful" – the other nine received positive ratings but a majority of "quite useful" responses. Notably, the current logframe indicators capture information relevant to events and networking and to bulletin dissemination, including these priority areas, but not information on office enquiries and support which the survey indicates members place great value in. Similarly, as noted in the last review, SMP's work with MaSP, which is of great value and relevance to Outcome 1, also falls outside the current framework.

In relation to networking specifically, there are small drops in the two indicators Percentage of SMP event attendee feedback stating when asked that they made new contacts as a result of attending SMP event (94% in 2019 dropping to 88% in 2020) and Percentage of SMP event attendee feedback describing networking at the event as "excellent" or "very good" (93% dropping to 82%). While these drops are not necessarily large enough to be significant, particularly when considered against the member survey responses' clear focus on events and networking as "extremely useful", and

against the possibility that members may reach a potential ‘saturation’ point⁴, it might be worth SMP exploring if there are steps it could take to enhance the networking aspects of events. For example, scheduling more time for open discussion, large name tags, ‘advertising boards’ for members present to share names and ‘wants’ from the day (e.g. Jane from Malawi Future Farms hoping to discuss conservation agriculture approaches, Daniel from Sunshine Youth Group wanting to meet others active in Mzuzu), facilitated break-out groups to help members find each other in large gatherings, etc.

As noted in last year’s review, “impact statements” (Outcome Indicator 1.1. and Output Indicator 1.1.4) have also been understood as (mostly short) testimonial statements from members – to some extent inevitable give the size of target expected as it would be unreasonable for SMP to devote staff time to collecting 30-40 detailed case studies evidencing causal chains and resulting impact. The number of members providing case study testimonial this year, 170, far exceeded the target of 31. However, for SMP to be able to reflect more deeply on member support processes and longer-term outcomes, the development of a few more detailed case studies which evidence “effective” and “impactful” partnerships would be useful. Equally, while still

using survey tools for larger numbers of respondents, instead of asking about “impact” (which the write-up of the member survey indicates is understood differently by different respondents), in future it might help to consider asking more specific questions that could elicit more useful data, e.g. “What have you done differently since this meeting/SMP engagement?”, “What difference has it made to your work?”, with multiple choice or open response options that would facilitate analysis.

Suggested priorities going forward:

- Explore options to report in future on office/enquiries support to members and on work with MaSP.
- Explore options to enhance the networking aspects of events.
- Consider options to deepen information gathered on impact or longer-term effects of SMP’s support to members, including adapting current surveys and the development of a small number of more detailed case studies looking at longer-term impact for different types of SMP members and partnerships.

⁴ SMP members, particularly in a given geographical area, are at some point likely to meet all other relevant members, and so as the SMP membership will not necessarily continue to expand substantially year on year (or indeed see a high ‘turnover’), there may simply not be more ‘new contacts’ for members to meet or a diminishing number

of these – which will affect performance in relation to Output Indicator 1.3.2. Obviously, this does not undermine the networking value of opportunities to catch up and share updates with existing, already-known contacts at SMP events.

Review of Outcome Two: 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

The SMP Lobbying and Advocacy Report 2019-20 provided a range of useful information and highlighted some particular achievements, such as the constituency mapping and visa problems reports and the cross-party pledge. In general, for a relatively small Edinburgh-based organisation, SMP appears to have a genuinely impressive reach in terms of relationships with key stakeholders and senior decision-makers in Scotland, elsewhere in the UK and abroad and to be effectively leveraging these relationships to help progress towards desired policy change. The fifth strategic advocacy objective adjusted in the last year, Raising awareness of the constructive synergy which exists between Scotland's civic and governmental work with Malawi, and lobbying for this model -and the principles behind it- to be more widely adopted, will certainly be an interesting one to follow, particularly in the coming period and in terms of its relevance to policy coherence and sector learning.

While the SMP has significantly exceeded some targets, local authority work appears to be an area where targets have not quite been met, and where planned work has been modified to better respond to local authority needs and to wider SMP priorities. Consultation highlighted this is also due to existence of other resources, such as those produced by the Commonwealth Local Government Forum, and the planned SMP toolkit has been adapted to provide directly relevant and tailored 'directory' briefing information on local

SMP members to all Scottish local authorities, with tailored support continuing with three.

As highlighted in last year's review, the reporting offers evidence that the SMP has put significant time and effort into supporting other organisations in their work within the framework of, and in line with the wider aims of, the Scottish Government's International Development Strategy (IDS). SMP has contributed to valuable co-ordination among different elements of IDS-supported work, including for example the NHS Scotland Global Citizenship hub, climate advocacy and grant programmes, supporting stakeholders and contributing to policy coherence for sustainable development, an IDS priority. Collaboration is a key aspect of advocacy and policy work, and a consistent assessment observation is that the SMP's relationships with other key actors in the sector such as Scotland's International Development Alliance, and not least the Corra Foundation, have been consistently intelligent and constructive.

Suggested priorities going forward:

- Continue exploring options to enhance / deepen tracking and learning from advocacy and lobbying results, including contributing to learning and review initiatives related to policy coherence.

Review of Outcome Three: Scottish publics beyond SMP membership are informed and engaged on Scotland-Malawi links, opportunities and impact

SMP reporting evidenced that the targets for this Outcome 3 were all exceeded, some significantly, in this reporting period, with highlights including multiple Scotsman column pieces and an International Women's Day video with the Speaker of the Malawian Parliament.

A general comment on the targets set for this Outcome 3 would be that removing 'opportunities to view' would be helpful as access to this data is inconsistent and incurs additional expense. Equally, when considering social media indicators and targets, if possible it would be helpful going forward to have data relating to the number of actual 'engagements' as evidence of the numbers of people who have read, reviewed, forwarded/ retweeted/ liked media posts and content. An additional note on media indicators, as highlighted in the last review, is that while the Scottish media features on Malawi are certainly an interesting indicator in relation to public awareness, the categorisation of "positive" vs "negative" in Output Indicator 3.1.3 undermines the value of the indicator as discussion of potentially 'negative' topics (e.g. albinism, climate change, etc.) may well be informative, accurate and contribute to informed and constructive public engagement. While this year's reporting saw SMP include a "neutral" category to help address this issue it remains a problematic indicator.

An additional note would be that SMP has also put effort during the reporting period into developing other communications products with/for members, continuing the production of short videos started last year and in this reporting period producing and publishing 14 short videos – features, teasers and one Zoom video meeting. Notably, this last was an online discussion of Covid-19 preparedness with the recording available post-event on the SMP website and serves as a good indication that SMP's communications work is responsive to changes in context and members' information needs.

Suggested priorities going forward:

- Explore options to analyse user preferences and uptake of different SMP media channels and tools to help refine and target future activities for different groups/particular audiences.
- In end of grant and future reporting, consider alternative indicators for analysis of media coverage of Malawi in relation to its support of SMP principles / key messages / advocacy priorities.

Review of Outcome Four: New and priority areas of engagement between Scotland and Malawi are progressed

This assessment has focussed on reviewing the evidence shared by SMP for the three listed areas detailed in the logframe of: business, investment, trade and tourism (BITT); youth and schools; and, agriculture and food security. SMP reporting provides evidence that targets were exceeded for almost all indicators under this Outcome, and that work supported positive change in member practices and facilitated productive new partnerships.

In this round of annual reporting documentation, the presentation of BITT work in relation to defined strategic objectives in the 'Business, Trade, Investment and Tourism Progress and Impact Report 2019-20' was a positive improvement and served to evidence that SMP continues to integrate its thematic and wider policy advocacy work effectively to good effect. Similarly to the report on advocacy and lobbying work, SMP could also consider further enhancing presentation of starting point/SMP activity/end point in reporting on these sectoral areas of support. Agriculture & Food Security was another area where set targets were easily exceeded, with two Forums held to provide a platform for discussion with visiting Malawians and Scottish peers.

In terms of work on youth and schools, SMP has continued to exceed the target for points of support and engagement, more than doubling the planned end of grant target. On the other hand, SMP's reports and calculations of young Scots directly benefitting during the reporting period fall short of the target by around a third, continuing the trend from last year. This notwithstanding, SMP's work exceeds other targets in this area and narrative reporting provides additional evidence that work in this area is progressing meaningfully. Particularly given the impact on the data collection for this indicator of the rescheduling of the SMP Youth Congress from February to later in 2020, outside this reporting period, the assessment does not find this concerning.

The thematic report on youth and schools work also included a welcome short case study which demonstrated how SMP support had supported a particular member pathway. Given the very direct nature of much of the school twinning work SMP support, reporting on this area in particular would benefit from including Malawian schools / stakeholders' feedback on the partnerships facilitated. In this respect it was very positive to read that the SMP Youth & Schools Manager was able to spend two weeks with MaSP colleagues to gather information and build knowledge on Malawian perspectives in relation to this area of work. In general, the diversity and range of the points of engagement outlined, and the fact that SMP's work so clearly builds on and supports other relevant initiatives and organisations in the sector indicates this is another area where SMP's co-ordinated and complementary approaches are contributing to policy coherence for sustainable development.

Beyond the three priority areas included in the logframe, SMP has also undertaken work to support a focus on other thematic areas, such as health and renewable energy, indicating that there are additional areas of engagement and policy relevance where SMP members would have interest or needs for network support. As highlighted in the last review, it would be important for MEL going forward to be able to capture these additional areas of engagement.

Suggested priorities going forward:

- Review existing and potential additional / alternative priority areas of engagement to gauge whether adjustments to priorities or focus are now appropriate and to set objectives and indicators for each area. On this note, to consider separating youth from schools work as thematic area and reporting separately on the work of the SMP Youth Committee.

Value for Money:

As last year, this assessment was focussed on the evidence provided by SMP progress reporting against its logframe for the Scottish Government grant and did not review the financial reporting from SMP on this grant or attempt to gauge 'value for money' by considering output and delivery against annual spend.

In general however, this assessment would reiterate the comment made in last year's review that "the SMP seems to be delivering at least £250K of value,

especially in support of the SG's International Development Strategy". With a small staff and limited budget, SMP has delivered a wide range of activities and provided evidence that its work has led to a number of very significant positive changes that have benefitted its members and different communities in Malawi.

Conclusions:

In reviewing this final year of a three-year grant, this assessment has found good evidence of progress in relation to the logframe for almost all indicators, with many exceeded and none judged as significantly missed, particularly when performance against complementary indicators is taken into consideration.

A detailed consideration of how and whether individual indicators have been met is discussed in the narrative overview above and the tabular commentary provided in the logframe in Annex 2, attached. The overall conclusion would be that SMP has achieved all of its four Outcomes, meeting original targets for some Outputs and far exceeding others. As noted in last year's review, this progress has required a very wide range of activities, tasks and audiences as

SMP has responded to diverse member needs, sector developments and its responsibilities under this Scottish Government grant.

This assessment is also aware that the SMP undertakes work in several areas not captured by this reporting framework. In addition to looking at options to better capture gender and diversity aspects and evidence of longer-term changes and 'impact' from SMP's work, adjusting monitoring frameworks to reflect all key areas of work will be important going forward. Equally, SMP is recommended to consider options and plan from the outset of the coming period for MEL systems that reduce the workload of gathering and analysing data and feedback.

Corra Foundation, Riverside House, 502 Gorgie Road Edinburgh EH11 3AF e: hello@corra.scot t: 0131 444 4020 www.corra.scot

(The) Corra Foundation is a charity registered in Scotland (No SC009481) and is also a company limited by guarantee (No SC096068). Fortify Social Enterprise CIC is a community interest company registered in Scotland and is also a company limited by guarantee (No SC507457). (The) Corra Foundation was previously called Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland.

6 External Expert Review (The Corra Foundation): DETAILED R.A.G. ASSESSMENT

As part of the External Expert Review, The Corra Foundation reviewed the SMP's progress against each of the Partnership's Outcomes and Outputs. The right-hand column here is The Corra Foundation's assessment of the SMP's success against each of the Outcomes and Outputs. A Red/Amber/Green colour code system has been used.

OUTCOME 1	Outcome Indicator 1.1	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: GREEN]
Civic links between Scotland and Malawi are coordinated, and the capacity of partnerships to be effective and impactful is enhanced	Number of impact statements from SMP members illustrating the impact membership has had supporting their link with Malawi	Planned: 40+	Planned: 40+	40+	Targets for this Outcome Indicator have been largely exceeded, and many members reference important positive changes resulting from SMP's work, including benefits from SMP co-ordination and from SMP support that has enhanced members' capacity and effectiveness. While numbers of participants in SMP-only events have not met the set target, numbers of events undertaken in partnership far exceed the original target: given the many positive aspects of partnership working, particularly for a network organisation such as the SMP, this review does see this as a failure to meet targets. Equally, while SMP bulletin recipients and 'opens' have not quite met targets, numbers of both have increased since last year indicating continuing interest and relevance, and while the statistics evidencing networking have not quite met targets they are very close. In respect to this Outcome, current reporting provides more member statements noting positive changes than referencing longer-term impact per se; this notwithstanding, the end of year reporting provides an abundance of civil society member testimony on the importance and value of SMP for their work with Malawi.
		Achieved: 76	Achieved: 94	Achieved: 170	
OUTPUT 1.1	Output Indicator 1.1.1	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: GREEN]
Programme of development and capacity building opportunities offered to members	Total annual attendance at SMP events and SMP-supported/partnered events	Planned: 32 SMP events engaging 1800 + 20 partner events	Planned: 32 SMP events engaging 1850 + 20 partner events	Planned: 32 SMP events engaging 1850 + 20 partner events	SMP has organised a large number of diverse events in the last year, covering different thematic sectors and in different formats, exceeding its target in terms of number of SMP events although with a significantly lower number of recorded participants at SMP-only events. Continuing last year's trend however, work in this period has also seen the target number of SMP-supported partner events more than doubled and engaging over 4k participants, an indication of SMP's positive external engagement with other
		Achieved: 32 SMP events	Achieved: 37 SMP events	Achieved: 33 SMP events	

	engaging 1,932 people + 40 partner events engaging 4,772 people.	engaging 2,252 people + 43 partner events engaging 4,595 people.	engaging 1,061 people + 50 partner events engaging 4,122 [attendance: 53% female; 47% male]	organisations and networks and that large numbers of people are reached through its work. Given the many positive aspects of partnership working, particularly for a network organisation such as the SMP, this review does not see this as a failure to meet targets.
Output Indicator 1.1.2	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: <u>GREEN</u>]
Percentage of SMP event attendee feedback describing the event as "excellent" or "very good"	Planned: 83%	Planned: 83%	Planned: 83%	Based on the reports of participant feedback prepared, SMP has exceeded its target for positive feedback on SMP events. As highlighted in the narrative review however, SMP is encouraged to continue prioritising options to increase the proportion of event participants providing feedback.
	Achieved: 84%	Achieved: 88.5%	Achieved: 91%	
Output Indicator 1.1.3	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: <u>GREEN</u>]
Percentage of SMP event attendee feedback stating that their link with Malawi had been supported/strengthened as a result of attending	Planned: 80%	Planned: 80%	Planned: 80%	Based on the reports of participant feedback prepared, SMP has exceeded its target for participants stating events had strengthened their link with Malawi. As highlighted in the narrative review however, SMP is encouraged to continue prioritising options to increase the proportion of event participants providing feedback.
	Achieved: 77%. Marginal decrease perhaps reflects that there were fewer events this year due to a staffing shortage and therefore fewer opportunities for Malawi links to be supported / strengthened.	Achieved: 92%	Achieved: 87%	

	Output Indicator 1.1.4	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: GREEN]
	Number of members giving case study testimonial evidence illustrating the impact membership has had supporting their link with Malawi	Planned: 31 Achieved: 65	Planned: 31 Achieved: 94	Planned: 31 Achieved: 170	The SMP member survey provided for the collection of a large number of member 'impact statements', and these were also collected throughout the year as evidence for this indicator which has been far exceeded. As noted in the last review, while many of these statements are too short to fully illustrate "impact" or longer-term changes, the volume and diversity of comments from members on the importance and value of SMP for their work with Malawi, including more dedicated capacity building opportunities such as language lessons, is certainly relevant evidence.
OUTPUT 1.2	Output Indicator 1.2.1	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: GREEN]
Members receive regular bulletins, and have access to current information, online	Number of SMP news bulletins sent in the year	Planned: 53	Planned: 53	Planned: 53	SMP exceeded the target set for number of bulletins issued in the year reported on, also producing a dedicated Schools Bulletin, with a good level of use and uptake indicated by the member survey. An additional note of relevance here is the inclusion of COVID-19 information in the SMP's March bulletins, indicating a prompt response to members' information needs.
		Achieved: 60	Achieved: 59	Achieved: 59	
	Output Indicator 1.2.2	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: GREEN]
	Total number of recipients of the SMP news bulletin	Planned: 1400	Planned: 1450	Planned: 1500	While slightly shy of the target, the number of reported recipients of the SMP news bulletin has increased by 185 (15%) since last year indicating that interest in the SMP's bulletins continues to be significant and to grow.
		Achieved: 1864	Achieved: 1242	Achieved: 1427	
	Output Indicator 1.2.3	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: AMBER]
	Total number of bulletin email opens	Planned: 14650	Planned: 15000	Planned: 15500	As above, while the set target number of recipients opening the bulletin has not been achieved, the number of 'opens' is not too far behind the target, and, significantly, has increased by 731 (6%) since last year, indicating recipients increasingly find the bulletins of relevance. The additional SMP note that a recent change to sending mid-week instead of on Friday has led to a 20% increase in opens indicates the target will very likely be met in the coming period.
		Achieved: 14596	Achieved: 12091	Achieved: 12822	

OUTPUT 1.3	Output Indicator 1.3.1	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: <u>GREEN</u>]
Creation of opportunities for in-person networking and sharing between members	Total annual number of opportunities for in-person networking hosted by the SMP / and supported by the SMP	Planned: 32 SMP / 20+ SMP supported	Planned: 32 SMP / 20+ SMP supported	Planned: 32 SMP / 20+ SMP supported	SMP has exceeded the set target for number of SMP-hosted networking opportunities, and for a second year running more than doubled the targets for networking events supported by the SMP.
		Achieved: 32 / 40 Lower number of events reflects staffing shortage and therefore lacking the capacity to host more events.	Achieved: 35 SMP events engaging 2,230 people + 43 partner events engaging 4,595	Achieved: 33 SMP events engaging 1,061 people + 50 partner events engaging 4,122 [attendance: 53% female; 47% male]	
	Output Indicator 1.3.2	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: <u>GREEN</u>]
	Percentage of SMP event attendee feedback stating when asked that they made new contacts as a result of attending SMP event	Planned: 90%-100%	Planned: 90%-100%	Planned: 90%-100%	As noted in the last review, this target is set quite high. While it was achieved last year, this year SMP's collected participant feedback fell just shy of the target. Also relevant here is that the indicator reflects one positive aspect of networking, but that sharing and networking among already-known contacts can also bring a range of benefits.
		Achieved: 91%	Achieved: 94%	Achieved: 88%	
	Output Indicator 1.3.3	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: <u>AMBER</u>]
	Percentage of SMP event attendee feedback describing networking at the event as "excellent" or "very good"	Planned: 90%	Planned: 90%	Planned: 90%	As noted in the last review, this is another high target. While this was achieved last year, this year's participant feedback falls a little under the target. While this drop-off is not necessarily large enough to be significant, it might be worth SMP exploring what aspects of event management could enhance members' networking experiences.
		Achieved: 91%	Achieved: 93%	Achieved: 82%	

OUTCOME 2	Outcome Indicator 2.1	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: <u>GREEN</u>]
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	Annual SMP Advocacy Impact Report outlining evidence of political and policy impact	Planned: 2017/18 report to show strong evidence of advocacy impact	Planned: 2018/19 report to show strong evidence of advocacy impact	Planned: 2018/19 report to show strong evidence of advocacy impact	The SMP Lobbying and Advocacy Report 2019-20 provided a range of useful information and highlighted some particular achievements, such as the constituency mapping and visa problems reports and the cross-party pledge. In general, for a relatively small Edinburgh-based organisation, SMP appears to have a genuinely impressive reach in terms of relationships with key stakeholders and senior decision-makers in Scotland, elsewhere in the UK and abroad and to be effectively leveraging these relationships to help progress towards desired policy change.
		Achieved: 2017/18 Lobbying and Advocacy shows very significant influence and impact	Achieved: Appendix 16, the Lobbying and Advocacy Impact Report, details the 35 key activities the SMP undertook in 2018-19 and the impact seen across the five strategic objectives	Achieved: The 2019-20 Lobbying and Advocacy Report details the impact achieved in five strategic areas, across 43 SMP engagements with 190 actions by MPs and MSPs.	
OUTPUT 2.1	Output Indicator 2.1.1	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: <u>GREEN</u>]
Programme of cross-party political strategic engagement	Percentage of political parties in the Scottish Parliament actively engaging and supporting Scotland's links with Malawi	Planned: 100%	Planned: 100%	Planned: 100%	Related to the comment above, this is an indicator where targets have been firmly met, with the evidence provided by SMP indicating not only 'lighter' engagement and support but significant levels of commitment and responsibility demonstrated by MSPs from all five parties, including the specific cross-party pledge, chairing roles in cross-party groups, signing motions and speaking in parliament.
		Achieved: 100%	Achieved: 100%	Achieved: 100%	
	Output Indicator 2.1.2	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: <u>GREEN</u>]
	Number of cross-party political meetings convened or supported by the SMP	Planned: 4	Planned: 4	Planned: 4	As last year, the SMP has nearly doubled the set target for this Outcome Indicator, a further point of evidence that achievements in relation to this Output 2.1 have been particularly significant.
		Achieved: 8	Achieved: 8	Achieved: 4 CPGs, 3 APPGs	

	Output Indicator 2.1.3	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: GREEN]
	Number of actions taken by Parliamentarians in support of the SMP's advocacy work	Planned: 88 Achieved: 212	Planned: 88 Achieved: 182	Planned: 88 Achieved: 190	As above, the number of actions taken by parliamentarians have been more than double the set target for this Outcome Indicator and (regardless of the fact that Westminster activity is not SG-funded) this remains an area of particular success. [Repeating the side note from last year's review, from SMP reporting it appears this indicator of "actions..in support of" has been defined as participation in SMP meetings or relevant debates and issuing formal letters or statements; this is appropriate but it would be helpful to have this definition recorded/ clearly articulated for future MEL consistency.]
OUTPUT 2.2	Output Indicator 2.2.1	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: GREEN]
Local authority engagement programme	Percentage of Scottish Local Authorities engaged by the SMP	Planned: 100% Achieved: 100%	Planned: 100% Achieved: 100%	Planned: 100% Achieved: 100%	While the target is reported as met, the "engagement" of all local authorities (LAs) reflects their receipt of individual SMP briefings on SMP members within their authorities.
	Output Indicator 2.2.2	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: AMBER]
	Number of Scottish Local Authorities choosing to be members of the SMP	Planned: 17 Achieved: 17	Planned: 18 Achieved: 17	Planned: 19 Achieved: 17	The target of an increase in local authority member numbers by one in the reporting period has not been met, with the number of members remaining stable at 17, two less than the target.
	Output Indicator 2.2.3	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: GREEN]
	Number of Scottish Local Authorities supported by the SMP to develop their own Malawi link	Planned: 3 Achieved: 4	Planned: 3 Achieved: 3	Planned: 3 Achieved: 3	SMP reports evidence that this target has been achieved (though it should be noted that the 3 LAs supported to develop their own Malawi link are the same LAs supported in the last reporting year).
OUTPUT 2.3	Output Indicator 2.3.1	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: GREEN]
Support for Scottish	Number of SMP points of support for the SG's	Planned: 9	Planned: 3	Planned: 3	SMP reports detail a wealth of "points of support" for the SG's international development strategy, far exceeding the target and including a range of

Government International Development Strategy: assisting constructive synergy between governmental and non-governmental efforts	international development strategy (e.g. supporting information events or hosting networking and collaboration meetings around a call, or helping raise awareness of key announcements)	Achieved: 12	Achieved: 21	Achieved: 29	actions, from signposting among SG grantholders to co-ordinating advocacy initiatives to hosting of new SG International Development Team staff for induction briefings.
	Output Indicator 2.3.2	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: GREEN]
	Number of opportunities for the SMP and/or its members to offer input, support and feedback to the Malawi Development Programme and the SG's work towards the SDGs (for example through SMP-SG meetings)	Planned: 4	Planned: 4	Planned: 4	Exceeding and tripling the target, SMP reports outline 12 specific opportunities when SMP provided substantive input to SG on these issues. [Repeating the side note from last year's review, suggest this indicator continues to be read as "no. of opportunities SMP <u>has used</u> to offer input, support and feedback... etc." to support consistency of reporting.]
		Achieved: 4	Achieved: 5	Achieved: 12	

OUTCOME 3	Outcome Indicator 3.1	Milestone 1	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment: [Corra Assessment: <u>GREEN</u>]
Scottish publics beyond SMP membership are informed and engaged on Scotland-Malawi links, opportunities and impact	Number of opportunities to view Scotland-Malawi features in the mainstream media, and total SMP reach across social media	Planned: At least 6 million opportunities to view Scotland-Malawi features in the mainstream media. Aim to have: 651,852 Facebook impressions; 610,756 Twitter impressions; 370 Instagram followers; 18,460 LinkedIn impressions	Planned: 6 million+ opportunities to view. 690,963 Facebook impressions; 2,980 Twitter followers; 653,508 Twitter impressions; 396 Instagram followers; and 19,567 LinkedIn impressions	Planned: 6 million+ opportunities to view. 732,421 Facebook impressions; 700,000 Twitter impressions; 463 Instagram followers; and 20,742 LinkedIn impressions	SMP reporting evidences that all elements of this indicator have been exceeded (opportunities to view, Facebook and Twitter impressions, Instagram followers, LinkedIn impressions). As a side note, while still easily exceeding the set target of opportunities to view, consultation regarding the drop in this figure since last year is linked to the availability of circulation stats.
		Achieved: 7 million+ opportunities to view. 430,800 Facebook impressions; 930,700 Twitter impressions; 502 Instagram followers; 25,787 LinkedIn impressions	Achieved: 48+ million opportunities to view. 343,856 Facebook Impressions; 4,755 Twitter followers; 751,300 Twitter impressions; 848 Instagram followers; and 19,632 LinkedIn impressions	Achieved: 19.5+ million opportunities to view. 672,841 Facebook Impressions; 5,747 Twitter followers; 801,254 Twitter impressions; 962 Instagram followers; and 29,216 LinkedIn impressions	

OUTPUT 3.1	Output Indicator 3.1.1	Milestone 1	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment
New Media and Communications Strategy developed and implemented	Updated strategy produced and reported annually against	Planned: In 2017/18, SMP Communications Strategy updated and progress reported against, capturing key learning	Planned: Progress reported against Communications Strategy, capturing key learning	Planned: Progress reported against Communications Strategy, capturing key learning	SMP reporting references the new Strategy and related steps taken, including significant work such as input for the Scotsman column pieces and the production of feature videos (however no specific reflection on the new strategy was available to review).
		Achieved: Presented to SMP Board March 2018, to be launched Year 2	Achieved: A 'Communications & Digital Communications Strategy' was updated in August 2018 and will continue to be updated as required. A new Media and Communication Officer Pamela Tulloch, from STV, was recruited in August 2018	Achieved: "We continue to follow the Communications and Digital Communications Strategy from August 2018 which remains current and will be updated as required."	

	Output Indicator 3.1.2	Milestone 1	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment
	Total number of Malawi features in the Scottish media	Planned: In 2017/18, aim to have at least 155 Malawi features in the Scottish media	Planned: 155	Planned: 155	SMP reporting evidences that the target was exceeded, and that a high proportion, 42 (24%), were led or supported by SMP.
		83	Achieved: 262	Achieved: 173	
	Output Indicator 3.1.3	Milestone 1	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment
	Percentage of Malawi features in the Scottish media which are positive in tone	Planned: In 2017/18, aim to have 95%-100% of Malawi features in the Scottish media to be positive in tone	Planned: 95%-100%	Planned: 95%-100%	SMP reporting evidences the target is being reached and indicates SMP staff are clearly tracking media coverage in detail and engaging with Scottish media outlets to promote constructive coverage of events and developments in Malawi. [Following up on the comments regarding this indicator in last year's review, the SMP's addition of a 'neutral' category to 'positive'/'negative' is certainly helpful, but this indicator remains potentially problematic; suggest that in future the indicator is adjusted to encourage review of media coverage which supports achievement of / awareness raising on key SMP policy messages or topics.]
		Achieved: 98%	Achieved: 92%	Achieved: 95% (Q1+2) 98%	
OUTPUT 3.2	Output Indicator 3.2.1	Milestone 1	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment
SMP website development and maintenance as national hub for Scotland-Malawi interactions	Total number of page views on the SMP website	Planned: In 2017/18, aim to have at least 88,000 page views	Planned: 90000	Planned: 92000	While last year the number of page views was just under the target, this year SMP reporting evidences a significant increase and that the target for page views was exceeded.
		Achieved: 88,398	Achieved: 87049	Achieved: 107262	

	Output Indicator 3.2.2	Milestone 1	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment
	Total number of new visitors on the SMP website	Planned: In 2017/18, aim to have 18,500 new visitors on the SMP website	Planned: 19000	Planned: 19500	Continuing the trend from last year, SMP reporting evidences that the target for new visitors was again exceeded.
		Achieved: 19966	Achieved: 21616	Achieved: 26447	
	Output Indicator 3.2.3	Milestone 1	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment
	Total number of sessions on the SMP website	Planned: In 2017/18, aim to have 31,500 sessions on the SMP website	Planned: 32000	Planned: 32500	Continuing the trend from last year, SMP reporting evidences that the target for website sessions was again exceeded and at an increased level.
		Achieved: 33683	Achieved: 33304	Achieved: 39265	
OUTCOME 4	Outcome Indicator 4.1	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment
New and priority areas of engagement between Scotland and Malawi are progressed	Summary Progress and Impact reports published annually on the SMP's work on: business, investment, trade and tourism; youth and schools; and agriculture and food security	Planned: 2017/18 report to show strong evidence of impact in these three areas	Planned: 2018/19 report to show strong evidence of impact in these three areas	Planned: 2019/20 report to show strong evidence of impact in these three areas	SMP reporting provides evidence that targets were exceeded for almost all indicators under this Outcome, and without event postponement would have been likely to meet or exceed all. Narrative reporting also provides additional evidence of co-ordinated activities and advocacy supporting positive change in member practices and facilitating new partnerships.
		Achieved: 2017/18 reports show significant activity and impact in each of these three areas.	Achieved: 2018/19 reports show significant activity and impact in each of these three areas.	Achieved: 2019/20 reports show significant activity and impact in each of these three areas.	

OUTPUT 4.1	Output Indicator 4.1.1	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment
Delivery of the Business, Investment, Trade and Tourism (BITT) programme	Number and scale of SMP points of engagement advancing the BITT programme (e.g. BITT forums, Malawi CPG meetings on BITT, BITT campaigns)	Planned: 5	Planned: 5	Planned: 5	Similarly to last year, SMP narrative reporting recording key meetings and activities relevant to BITT provides evidence this target was easily exceeded (five times greater than that originally planned) and that activity in this area continues to grow.
		Achieved: 10	Achieved: 14	Achieved: 25	
	Output Indicator 4.1.2	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment
	Number of member testimonial case studies giving evidence from businesses, importers, investors, etc illustrating the positive impact of the SMP's BITT support	Planned: 4	Planned: 4	Planned: 4	The SMP BITT Progress and Impact Report 2019-20 provides four short testimony quotes from 10 members and the Scottish Hon. Consul of Malawi which reflect positively on SMP's BITT support.
		Achieved: 4	Achieved: 4	Achieved: 10	
	Output Indicator 4.1.3	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment
	Number of written testimonials from the Government of Malawi illustrating the impact of the SMP's BITT support	Planned: 1	Planned: 1	Planned: 1	SMP reporting on this area includes a quote from the Scottish Honorary Consul of Malawi.
		Achieved: 1	<i>Achieved: We are awaiting this data</i>	Achieved: 1	
OUTPUT 4.2	Output Indicator 4.2.1	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment
Expand schools outreach, support for school partnerships and wider youth engagement	Number and scale of SMP youth and schools points of support and engagement	Planned: 36	Planned: 38	Planned: 40	SMP has continued to exceed targets in this area, more than doubling the planned end of grant target. Beyond number and scale, the diversity and range of the points of engagement, and the fact that SMP's work so clearly builds on and supports other initiatives in the sector, are very positive.
		Achieved: 49	Achieved: 84	Achieved: 100	
	Output Indicator 4.2.2	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment
		Planned: 59000	Planned: 62000	Planned: 65000	

	Estimated number of young Scots benefitting from SMP support and outreach in the year	Achieved: 65174	Achieved: 50749	Achieved: 46060	SMP's reports and calculations of young Scots directly benefitting during the reporting period fall short of the target by around a third, continuing the trend from last year. This notwithstanding, SMP's work exceeds the set target in the indicator above and narrative reporting provides additional evidence that work in this area is progressing meaningfully. Particularly given the impact on data collection for this indicator of the rescheduling of the SMP Youth Congress for later in 2020, outside this reporting period, the assessment does not find this concerning.
OUTPUT 4.3	Output Indicator 4.3.1	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment
Convening and supporting a community of practice on Agriculture and Food Security	Number and scale of SMP agriculture and food security points of support and engagement	Planned: 2	Planned: 2	Planned: 2	SMP narrative reporting recording key meetings and actions to support / resolve issues relevant to members' work on agriculture and food security provides evidence this target was easily exceeded for a second year running.
		Achieved: 2	Achieved: 11	Achieved: 7	
	Output Indicator 4.3.2	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment
	Percentage of members and partners engaged in this area stating they have benefitted from new connections and increased shared learning as a result of the SMP's activities	Planned: 75%	Planned: 75%	Planned: 75%	SMP reporting notes that approx half the participants of the two Agriculture and Food Security Forums provided feedback and evidence that this target was exceeded for a second year running; this is a significant increase in the proportion of participants providing positive feedback since last year so particularly positive as stronger evidence of success in this thematic area.
		Achieved: 100%	Achieved: 100%	Achieved: 94%	
	Output Indicator 4.3.3	Milestone 1 (2017/18)	Milestone 2 (2018/19)	End of grant target (2019/20)	2019-20 Assessment comment
	Numbers of case study testimonials from key individuals illustrating the impact of the SMP's agriculture and food security work	Planned: 2	Planned: 2	Planned: 2	The SMP Agriculture and Food Security Progress and Impact Report 2019-20 provides 12 short testimony quotes which reflect positively on SMP's support in this area.
		Achieved: 2	Achieved: 3	Achieved: 12	

7 Member Impact Statements 2019-20

April 2020

This document brings together 170 pieces of positive feedback received in 2019-20 by the Scotland Malawi Partnership, illustrating the positive impact the Partnership has achieved for its members between April 2019 and March 2020, and our members' appreciation of this work.

We are always keen to capture and record this type of feedback as it allows our members, in their own words, to communicate in qualitative terms what value they place on SMP membership.

This positive feedback data has taken from emails sent to the SMP (x9), responses to the annual member survey (x103), responses to individual event feedback forms (x47), and youth and schools correspondence (x11).

Examples of feedback emailed to the SMP (x9):

- *"We found the Scotland Malawi Partnership invaluable in making our vet exchange happen and the experience was fantastic with a fully loaded programme making connections which will transform the veterinary careers of our students."* **Adam Tjolle BVetMed (London) MRCVS, Trustee - Chair LSPCA (UK) Malawi, Honorary Fellow - Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies**
- *"I want to thank you for introducing me to Amy of Classrooms for Malawi and Orbis. Amy has now recommended to Orbis that schools going out with CfM do our Dialogue Groups to prepare them for their trips and I've still to track down how many that is, but without the very proactive approach taken by SMP it wouldn't have happened so THANKYOU !!"* **Emma Wood, Queen Margaret University & STEKASkills**
- *"We have greatly appreciated the support of the Scotland Malawi Partnership and its members over the past year. Classrooms for Malawi is a small NGO with a very small administrative base both in Scotland and Malawi, we only operate with one full time staff member based in Scotland and one part time employee in Malawi therefore*

having access a package of support is crucial for us to carry out the aims of our charity. The SMP has enabled us to link up with other organisations carrying out similar work in Malawi to share our experiences which we hope, in turn will lead to more focused partnerships and ultimately more young people being supported into education. We have benefited from the schools programme offered by the SMP by linking up our Scottish partner schools with the SMP education officer, this has ensured that our school volunteer teams feel supported and well informed around education in Malawi before and after their project visit. We are also very grateful to the SMP for accommodating us where possible in their office space, this has been a great help in terms of providing desk space when needed and also by encouraging positive co-working and team spirit." **Amy Blake, Chief Executive, Classrooms for Malawi**

- “We wanted to note down some comments on the value we have received from both SMP and MASP over the last 6 months.

At the outset when we decided we wanted to try and work with some communities in Malawi it was quite a daunting task. We had a few friends but no real guides about the situation on the ground and the resource and activities being directed towards Malawi from Scottish based organisations.

SMP was our first port of call and, from the initial meeting onwards, they have been nothing but supportive. We benefited tremendously from the depth of experience; the contacts; the networks; the forums; the processes and the patient listening and advice we have received from the SMP. Using SMP's expertise allowed us to undertake the targeted and extensive research we wanted to do over a 2 month period. Without this assistance we would have taken at least 6 months to complete this work. In addition, the insights and introductions meant that we were greeted as potential colleagues and friends rather than as 'outsiders'.

We received a similar level of support from MASP and, again, they were our first port of call for our 'in country' research. Their advice; friendship; guidance; contacts and introductions were extremely valuable to us and allowed us to condense a 6 month research project into 6 weeks.

As a result of the advice we have received from both organisations we now have now identified two communities we would like to work with on an ongoing basis.

Having come from the private sector we recognise the value of these kinds of services. If we were a company seeking to enter a new market we knew little about then we would usually have recruited a specialist consultancy to help. In my previous role I would have budgeted around £50,000 for these services, and would probably have expected to pay more (to back up this claim I charge \$400 an hour to

provide this style of help and advice to companies seeking to enter the markets where I was an expert). The value of both SMP and MASP as a helpful and pro-active resource base has been significantly beneficial and have allowed us to understand and enter into the Malawi development sector within an incredibly short time scale.

Thank you for your help and advice during our research and set up phases and we look forward to continuing to benefit from your advice and guidance in the years to come.” **Mick James, Treasurer, Fighting Poverty in Zambia**

- “I am thankful to the Scottish Malawi Partnership for providing me the networking forum to support the health care work desperately needed in the Sub-Saharan rising star nation of Malawi. I am also thankful for the opportunity through networking to be inspired by tales of Scottish and Malawi people as they work together to grow Malawi and inspire Scotland.” **Dr. Karen L. Paarz, Co-Principle Investigator, the Malawi Optometry Human Resource Development Research Study (Malawi School of Optometry Program-MSOOP)**
- “It has been very useful to continue to work in partnership with the Scotland Malawi Partnership on the promotion of Fair Trade links with Malawi. Their practical support with visa applications for visiting Fair Trade representatives from Malawi along with the opportunity to promote Fair Trade to a wider audience with an interest in Malawi continues to assist us in our work.” **Martin Rhodes, Chief Executive, Scottish Fair Trade Forum**
- “I write on behalf of the High Commission of Malawi to record our deep appreciation and admiration for the work of the Scotland Malawi Partnership. It has continued to support the priorities of both the Scottish and Malawi Governments for the development of Malawi. One of many notable achievements was arranging the programme for the visit of the chair of CDC who was, I know, very impressed by what he heard of the partnership between the two nations. It was

particularly fortunate that the visit came just before the London conference on investment in Africa where our President was able to follow up on the issues raised in Edinburgh in bilateral discussions with the Chair of CDC.

“The subsequent programme for the visit of the Speaker of the Malawian Parliament, co-ordinated with the Scottish Government and Parliament was another striking success, allowing the new minister Jenny Gilruth MSP to engage directly with our leading female political leader.

“As I write this, the Partnership is continuing, despite the lockdown, to play a key role in co-ordinating Scottish support for Malawi as its numbers of Covid-19 infections rise and this is greatly valued by the Malawi Government in its time of need.” **Dr Peter West OBE DL, Scottish Hon Consul of Malawi**

- *“As a WFTO Guaranteed Fair Trade mission-led Social Business, we have found membership of the Scotland Malawi Partnership, to be extremely supportive in our attempts to bring value added products from Malawi into Scotland. Measuring the Social Impact a Fair Trade purchase has on the lives of smallholder farmers in Malawi is key for us and the efforts of the staff to engage and reach out to its members to promote the coffee has been really encouraging.*

“Presenting two Mzuzu Golden Coffee FIRST 500 packages to members at their AGM through to purchasing coffee to be used at events and more recently as a gift to those completing an online survey has helped to ‘spread the word’. Wherever possible they promote the coffee online and through their newsletters which generates interest and a talking point when we attend SMP gatherings.

“As we move into a new stage of development we are confident that we will be supported by the staff to ensure we abide by the partnership ethos by building capacity for farmers that embraces sustainable economic development through the 10 WFTO Fair Trade Principles.” **Eve Broadis, Director, Fair Trade Scotland Ltd.**

- *“Thank you for the introduction the SMP made to CDC following their presentation in Edinburgh, David. It is extremely helpful for us to be able to speak immediately to someone at the right level at CDC and to have the context of the Scotland / Malawi relationship behind our discussion with them. Being able to bring their attention to our work and continue to engage with them over the next few years as a result adds a new dimension to our work with rural farmers.”* **Eoghan Mackie, Chief Executive, Challenges Worldwide**

Member Needs and Impact Survey (x103):

91% of the 77 respondents felt that membership of the SMP in 2019-20 *"helped strengthen, support or develop their links with Malawi"*.

Members could add supplementary comments/recommendations to their answer. Members said:

- *Although I'm new, it's been really inspiring to hear about so much great work that's happening. Ali Floyd, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, University of Dundee*
- *Support and suggestions we have received from the SMP and MaSP have been helpful." Alan and Lorna Hobson*
- *Through attendance at the SMP Awards, we received a lot of encouragement about our ongoing links and projects and the young people were congratulated on their achievements, which helps inspire them to do more in future." Fraser Boyd, 25th Stirling (Dunblane) Boys' Brigade*
- *Support - we could better understand who the organisations were working in both Scotland and Malawi Terry Stebbings, Proterra Energy*
- *Enabled us to further embed our partnership in our school, thanks to funding to run an event. Terry Strain, St. Roch's Secondary*
- *The links with MaSP are particularly important in our communication with Malawi Moira Dunworth, Mamie Martin Fund*
- *The convention at Scotland House was a fantastic opportunity to pool resources and establish links. A dedicated newsletter to issues surrounding Malawi is also most valuable. Daisy Belfield Santos, Rare Charity*
- *I learnt so much about Malawi! Megan Harvey*
- *Informing us about current issues. Sense of unity when addressing crisis associated with the storms associated with Cyclone Idai. Michael Beresford, Zambesi Mission*
- *I went to the SMP conference in February 2019 before my trip to Malawi in October 2019. I found the conference very useful to learn more about the country and the partnership with Scotland. Bethan Davies*
- *The continuing presence of an established entity working solely to develop the partnership between Scotland & Malawi is an invaluable resource, one stop shop and focal point for all partnership links between the two countries. Dominic Webb, Orbis Expeditions*
- *It helped me to relate with Malawian in Scotland Thomson Chirwa, Malawi Ministry of Health*
- *Our links with our partners in Malawi are direct, but our work with SMP definitely adds value for our partners that they can see. Kelly White, Malawi Travel Marketing Consortium*
- *Kept me informed of work ongoing but did not directly affect me and my Malawi connections at this time. Andrew Walker*
- *HE/FE and health forums particularly helpful. Paul Garside*
- *Gemma visited the school and delivered a workshop to our pupils which helped develop their understanding of Malawi and increased their excitement about visiting. It helped them understand that our partnership is one of many in the country and helped pupils realise that working with Malawi is a long term, genuine, commitment and that both countries are fully invested in this. Chris McKenna, Williamwood High School*
- *Yes. Keeps us up to date with important developments, ideas etc. Andrew McKay, Saint Margaret's High School*
- *Don't attend meetings if I read latest news Iris Aitchison, Edinburgh College*
- *One of our pupils was on the Youth Exec and this helped to keep the profile of our partnership in focus in the school. Gemma Burnside has also been active in trying to develop cluster partnerships in our school area. Archie Marshall, The Community School of Auchterarder*
- *AGM was particularly useful. Raymond French*

- *SMP has so many ways to be supportive. In this last year specific help with Visa for our visiting Malawian co-ordinator and a supportive letter relating to taking in small medical donations when visiting were much appreciated* **Heather Cubie, University of Edinburgh**
- *We were able to link with other organisations working in Malawi and met some of the MPs from Malawi to see how we could help children in Malawi* **Tim Eden, World Child Cancer**
- *Attending the SMP discussion around education at the Scottish Parliament gave us some new connections for projects we are working on in Lilongwe.* **Beth Sheehan, African Vision Malawi**
- *My membership is at the associate level. Despite that, I feel to have played the role of an interface through interactions among the members and projects they may consider to develop in Malawi* **James Malitoni Chilembwe, Glasgow Caledonian University**
- *We have access to the expert advice of the SMP, and access to other members with whom we can collaborate* **RoseMary Harley, Graduates Association**
- *My links are now personal ones with one family In Malawi* **Mary Thomson**
- *It supported our work* **Calvin Clarke, j8 educational partnerships**
- *The process of obtaining a UK visa for Malawian teacher - this was made easier when SMP was involved.* **Sheena Nicolson**
- *Launch of my book "Blantyre and Yao Women" hosted by the SMP 11/05/2019 in Edinburgh was a very well organised event.* **Rosemary Argente**
- *Meeting other organisations; raising my awareness; opportunities to raise Malawi Fruit's profile* **Dr Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits**
- *Significant help from SMP and MASP - multiple contacts created and a real mine of information* **Mick James**

- *We only joined towards the end of the year* **Eve Hartswood, Stow Heriot Church**
- *Very helpful in supporting institutional links in Malawi* **Geoff Simm, University of Edinburgh**
- *Allowed me to interact with other projects that are going in in/with Malawi and to look for potential synergies with what we are trying to do.* **Suze Farrell, University of Dundee**
- *It's always good to get updates in the newsletter* **Ramsay McGhee, PGL of Ross & Cromarty**
- *SMP help strengthen Malawi in so many different ways* **Daina Harawa**
- *The SMP provide a dynamic and innovative service for individuals and organisations involved in international development in Scotland and Malawi. They also provide a great networking and linking service and a viable platform for a wide range of groups working across sectors in Malawi.* **Emma Duncan, The Global Concerns Trust**
- *As a retiree keeps me in touch with my favourite country* **Derek Law**
- *Support, discussion, teaching resources/materials and visit from Gemma Burnside, Youth and Schools Manager* **Duncan Macdonald, ESMS Junior School**
- *Support provided by SMP was instrumental in advancing our partnership with our Malawian colleagues.* **Ian Mitchell, Beath Malawi Partnership**
- *We would not have developed our partnership from two schools to four without the support of SMP* **Iain Fulton, Argyll and Bute Council**
- *Fantastic network.* **Benjamin Carey, Carey Tourism**
- *We're too far away from Edinburgh to be able to participate in many events but appreciate the advice and guidance in the weekly e-mails.* **Iain MacDonald, Orkney Malawi Partnership**

When asked to comment on what impact they had seen from their SMP membership, members said:

- *It's given me lots to think about, particularly whether there could be interest in things we've developed in Scotland for use in Malawi, and also how we can help our communities in Scotland learn from Malawian friends.* **Ali Floyd, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, University of Dundee**
- *Enabling us to make contact with NGOs etc* **Alan and Lorna Hobson**
- *SMP has helped to share what we have done in our project with Likhubula in Malawi through the website, SMP newsletters and social media to a wider, interested audience. You have encouraged us before and after our visits in commending what we have done and you have also provided help with language-learning in the time before we went to Malawi in July 2019.* **Fraser Boyd, 25th Stirling (Dunblane) Boys' Brigade**
- *Provided info on visas and travel, and current projects to visit.* **Niamh Martin, Working for Mothering Bolera +startup social enterprise**
- *Allowed me to keep more in touch with current developments in Malawi* **Jennifer Macalister Hall**
- *It's been small but comforting in that it enabled me to contact others in the partnership to discuss ideas.* **Steve Taylor, ideeas ltd**
- *Attendance at the renewable energy event in December lead to conversations about developing partnerships over the coming years. Attending the Faith Based Organisations event in a previous year has led to many conversations and drafting partnership proposals in the past year.*
- *Support with visa applications for individuals from partner organisations visiting the UK* **Dr Jonathan Groves, The Kerusso Trust**
- *The SMP provide a dynamic and innovative service for individuals and organisations involved in international development in Scotland and Malawi. They also provide a great networking and linking service and a viable platform for a wide range of groups working across sectors in Malawi.* **Emma Duncan, The Global Concerns Trust**

- *Partnership awards ceremony Visits/meetings with Gemma Burnside Helping me to prepare for scheduled visit to Ekwendeni in March 2020 (cancelled)* **Duncan Macdonald, ESMS Junior School**
- *You've helped us get a case-study published, both on your site and in the Scotsman. You helped us to use Mailchimp more effectively and that helped all of our communications.* **Moirra Dunworth, Mamie Martin Fund**
- *Reestablishing links with projects operating in Malawi has been invaluable. Also to have been made aware of performances and events in London was most welcome. It all helps to make Malawi feel less remote.* **Daisy Belfield Santos, Rare Charity**
- *Allowed us to share our partnership programme and encourage others to develop a partnership with a school in Malawi.* **Andy Tomison**
- *They're an amazingly supportive group with partnership at the core of everything they do Keep up the great work guys!* **Megan Harvey**
- *The joint award for disaster relief made a big positive contribution to our organisation.* **Michael Beresford, Zambesi Mission**
- *I have enjoyed reading regular newsletters to help stay up to date with Malawi news as it is not reported much on big news networks e.g. BBC.* **Bethan Davies**
- *We have benefited from increased brand exposure and an introduction to various relevant contacts & new partners. SMP also adds credibility and reliability to our ongoing brand growth.* **Dominic Webb, Orbis Expeditions**
- *Introductions, connections, reliable up to date information and news - and invaluable moral support.* **Olivia Giles, 500 miles**
- *Interaction with Scots who have lived in Malawi and Malawians living in Scotland* **Thomson Chirwa, Malawi Ministry of Health**
- *Assistance from SMP in promoting tourism to Malawi is of benefit to the partners we work with in tourism in Malawi. They can identify that as a positive and so it helps to strengthen our link with them.* **Kelly White, Malawi Travel Marketing Consortium**

- *It is useful to be kept up to date with what is going on across the SMP and MSP. Jennie Chinembiri, Church of Scotland*
- *Helps with making contacts and also letting others know what we are doing which helps coordination Paul Garside, University of Glasgow*
- *Regular updates on events in Malawi allow us to stay informed of wider events in the country. At times, partners may be reluctant to share wider country-wide issues and it can be difficult to access information through traditional media so SMP bulletin is helpful for this. The visit from Gemma also helped make pupils more informed and it was great for them to learn from someone different, rather than just listening to us teachers all of the time! I know that pupils enjoy learning from others experience. Chris McKenna, Williamwood High School*
- *You have supported us in all of our projects, particularly with our work with Mission Rabies (Thylo vaccinated and Mulanje ion the cards) Andrew McKay, Saint Margaret's High School*
- *The support we have had from the SMP and the connections we have made with other members, will help us more effectively deliver our social initiatives to school children in the Blantyre area. Classrooms for Malawi and Days for Girls have been fantastic partners and thank you to Stuart for his recent support on our challenges with Malawian Customs. Morven Cameron, WildHearts*
- *Hosting people from Malawi means you and they are able to highlight concerns which matter. Am especially interested in Fair Trade. Iris Aitchison, Edinburgh College*
- *We have been able to collaborate in trying to set up partnerships with other schools. We had arranged to have a visit from Gemma Burnside in the lead-up to our proposed expedition to our partner school in the summer, however that looks unlikely to happen now. Archie Marshall, The Community School of Auchterarder*
- *The SMP provide a dynamic and innovative service for individuals and organisations involved in international development in Scotland and Malawi. They also provide a great networking and linking service and*

a viable platform for a wide range of groups working across sectors in Malawi. Emma Duncan, The Global Concerns Trust

- *As above we learnt a lot more about issues in Malawi and had a chance to meet other health workers in Scotland who work in Malawi Tim Eden, World Child Cancer*
- *Highlighting available resources, organisations and projects has helped strengthen our stakeholder relationships and ideas for projects and processes. Beth Sheehan, African Vision Malawi*
- *Through an invitation to meet the first graduates of the vet school we have now written a training grant with Prof to enhance veterinary epi skills in country Stella Mazeri*
- *As a research student studying in Scotland, associating with SMP is an eye-opener. Interacting with the members, responding to some of the members' questions about Malawi and sharing various potential areas of interest in projects, continue to shape the positive thinking towards impactful projects to contribute to the society through SMP links. James Malitoni Chilembwe, Glasgow Caledonian University*
- *We have received invitations to cross-party meetings and other events, that have provided us with networking opportunities RoseMary Harley, Graduates Association*
- *Networking at the AGM Ian Dickson, Rotary*
- *You have widened our knowledge of Malawi and the range of Scotland- Malawi links. We have been notified of relevant meetings, courses, conferences, events and funding opportunities that would have passed us by, otherwise. Calvin Clarke, j8 educational partnerships*
- *Wherever the book has been purchased, its proceeds are directed to Johanna Settlement Trust (JST, a trust established by myself), helping many families who are in dire circumstances in Malawi. Rosemary Argente*
- *Some very useful contacts, which would not have been made otherwise. One in particular has the potential to be very beneficial to a Malawian partner. Alan Laverock, Bananabox Trust*

- *Deepened my knowledge; particularly appreciate meetings around agriculture, water and natural resources.* **Dr Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits**
- *I've been able to network extensively as a result of membership. We have also agreed in principle to work with MASP on a project we jointly researched* **Mick James**
- *Opened a profile for our link on the SMP webpage* **Eve Hartswood, Stow Heriot Church**
- *Supporting building of partnerships in Malawi esp with 3rd sector* **Geoff Simm, University of Edinburgh**
- *Our interaction is limited to training scientists, so many of the projects our outside our normal scope of work. However, very useful to hear of examples of where and how people are working in Malawi, and of course always looking for ways in which we could support them if we were out* **Suze Farrell, University of Dundee**
- *You have been really supporting in helping our colleagues travel to and from Scotland (visas) and really hospitable in meeting them and turning up to our events.* **Jen, Heriot Watt University**
- *Apart from the newsletter updates, I haven't really asked for any assistance. I was in Malawi last week and things there are hotting up with the coronavirus. Visitors to Malawi this week are being put in quarantine for 14 days.* **Ramsay McGhee, PGL of Ross & Cromarty**

When asked 'how could the SMP improve its work', answers included:

- *I can't see any ways in which the service could be improved.* **Iain Fulton, Argyll and Bute Council**
- *Already more than sufficient.* **Benjamin Carey, Carey Tourism**
- *The services I have used have all been fantastic. Very professional and supportive. I'm sure if I needed some support on other areas then they would be my first port of call.* **Suze Farrell, University of Dundee**
- *I think everything you do is great - it's more how I need to engage with the services/resources that you offer* **Jen, Heriot Watt University**

- *Very helpful in setting up our link with a school and coming out to deliver workshops to our pupils.* **Nichola Polatajko, New Monkland Primary School**
- *Through working hand in hand with Malawians helping the needy paying school fees for children who cannot afford to go back to school* **Daina Harawa**
- *We benefitted by being able to represent our organisation and work in Malawi to other members and organisations attending your AGM. We received advice regarding the provision of sports wheelchairs in Malawi.* **Emma Duncan, The Global Concerns Trust**
- *Helped me to prepare for visit to our partner school* **Duncan Macdonald, ESMS Junior School**
- *Support from Gemma Burnside, Stuart Brown and others has allowed us to develop our links locally, nationally and internationally* **Iain Mitchell, Beath Malawi Partnership**
- *No direct impact keeps me in touch with news.* **Peter Howson**
- *Pre travel advice for visiting teachers from Malawi Linking up with malawi Scotland partnership for visas advice on school activities* **Iain Fulton, Argyll and Bute Council**
- *Limited impact, but great for background information.* **Benjamin Carey, Carey Tourism**
- *Impossible to quantify for us but we welcome the regular info* **Iain MacDonald, Orkney Malawi Partnership**

- *difficult to identify weak areas* **Calvin Clarke, j8 educational partnerships**
- *No obvious way to improve things for an individual member* **Raymond French**
- *I feel that the services provided are already excellent. This is mainly down to the approachability (if that's a word) of staff* **Terry Strain, St. Roch's Secondary**
- *It is hard to see how you could do better than you currently do* **Alan and Lorna Hobson**

Event Feedback Forms (x47):

- *"Very large impact. SMP is very good at linking this with us."* - Alan Laverock, BananaBox Trust
- *"The strategic program of SMP, it could be adopted in my own country of Cameroon"* - Alinedoh Carlson MBI Nkwaihi, Institute of Global Health, Queen Margaret University
- *"Helps me to build confidence in communicating with a visitor for Malawi. I am sure I will be able to carry out basic conversations when visiting Malawi in the future."* - Amanda Leow
- *"Useful contacts + knowledge transfer"* - Andrew Heald, Consultant
- *"Deep and broad knowledge + links"* - Andrew Parker, Imani Development
- *"Events are a good networking opportunity. Really appreciated all your help with visa procurement"* - Carol Finlay, Church of Scotland
- *"A great opportunity to meet & network to learn about similar organisations working in same areas of partnership."* - Caroline Beaton, Kenyawiki Kids
- *"Yes, keeping up to date with news and direct impact and investment of the SMP"* - Caroline Wylie, Challenges Worldwide
- *"Understanding agricultural ties"* - Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits
- *"Creating exciting and innovative opportunities for our scholars from Malawi"* - Charlie Bevan, MCF Scholars Program - The University of Edinburgh
- *"Kept me informed of current the political and social landscape in Malawi, this time in relation to issues relating to albinism, and how we can learn from Lazarus and his community about how best to engage and amplify the voice of those marginalised in our work together."* - Charlie Bevan, MCF Scholars Program - The University of Edinburgh
- *"Reducing duplication of effort by keeping us informed of current partnerships and activities"* - Charlie Bevan, MCF Scholars Program - The University of Edinburgh
- *"It is extremely useful for the networking opportunities it presents, and opening doors you didn't know were even there, due to the level of wider activity going on."* – Dr Darren Watt, University of Edinburgh
- *"Bringing partners together"* - Dorcas Pratt, Water Witness International
- *"We link up here and our partners link up in Malawi"* - Dorcas Pratt, Water Witness International
- *"Finding other Scottish NGOs doing related things"* - Dr Charles Howie, independent
- *"Enabled greater connection with people engaged in Malawi from across civic Scotland."* - Edward Duncan, University of Stirling
- *"It's great to share negatives and difficulties as well as positives"* - Emma Wood, Queen Margaret University
- *"For example, within school we are looking at Global Citizenship and the work from Tearfund, which I learned about at their stall, is so relevant to supporting the pupils within my school to take this forward."* - Fiona Anderson, Dunblane-Likhubula Partnership
- *"I hope to impress my Malawi friends with my linguistic skills!"* - Fiona McNicol
- *"Connected with others doing work in Malawi"* - Grace O'Donovan, The University of Edinburgh
- *"Cross-silo working - big impact + knowledge sharing"* - Heather Cubie, The University of Edinburgh
- *"New contacts"* - Heather Cubie, The University of Edinburgh
- *"It has provided linkages to other small holders that are doing the same effort in Malawi. It has provided the forum for coming up*

with innovations and opportunities for development" - Henry Kadzuwa, The University of Edinburgh

- *"In one way, provided a very useful contact (2 years ago). In general, awareness of various topics." - Ian Dickson, Rotary*
- *"It has strengthened Malawi links" - Isla Farley, Imani Development*
- *"It is particularly useful not only to learn what fellow members are doing but also to establish contact with members operating in the same sector as ourselves." - James Kelly, Classrooms for Malawi*
- *"Given me a basic level to build on and phrases to use when I visit Malawi." - Karen Young*
- *"I am a new member who looks forward to attending more events in the foreseeable future." - Lillian Nseula, Strathclyde*
- *"Wish to be more involved" - Mariam Metreveli, The Mary Erskine School*
- *"Helps to form partnerships and links with other organisations with an interest in Malawi" - Mary Popple, Just Trading Scotland*
- *"Very good introductions to the language and culture. Zikomo kwambiri." - Michael Mackenzie*
- *"Huge - indispensable in terms of information, contacts, etc" - Moira Dunworth, Mamie Martin Fund*
- *"SMP has helped with information and our partner in Malawi will soon be joining the MSP." - Nigel Harper, LUV+*
- *"Membership only just approved!" - Penny George, The Sky Within Consulting*
- *"Keeps us informed, gives networking opportunity." - Phil Broadis, Fair Trade Scotland Ltd*
- *"Lots of background support with all things Malawi + business support." - Phil Broadis, Fair Trade Scotland Ltd*
- *"It made me more aware of the different approaches we could take" - Rachel Cameron*

- *"Improved school work" - Richard Graham, George Watson's College*
- *"It's been very useful meeting like-minded people and being able to collaborate." - Rose Mary Harley, Strathclyde University*
- *"I have been rather fortunate with the help of Scotland Malawi Partnership (SMP), in more ways than one, notably in staging a most memorable launch of my book Blantyre and Yao Women in Edinburgh on 11 May 2019. The royalties for my book are being paid into JST (a trust I established). The SMP is a truly excellent partnership, a one forward looking entity where various things are achieved for the benefit of the 'common good' for both Malawi and Scotland." - Rosemary Argente*
- *"Continued support" - Sally Rae, George Watson's College*
- *"Having knowledge of other institutions and organisations who are working in partnership with Malawi will minimise the duplication of efforts, meaning members can complement each other rather than compete (directly or indirectly). Also, we are more easily able to identify projects which can be replicated or scaled through working partnerships, increasing the long term impact and sustainability of research projects" - Shaun McLaughlin, Challenges Catalyst*
- *"My contacts in Malawi have joined the equivalent MaSP with hope for internships etc. One contact has successfully obtained a visa and visited Scotland. This would not have been possible without help from SMP." - Sheena Nicolson*
- *"Seeing the breadth of projects that exist." - Susan Farrell, University of Dundee*
- *"Government links" - Thomas Echlin-Harrardine, Whitfield Echlin & Company LLP*
- *"I have decided to join the organisation (SMP). I will use and pass on my knowledge to family who also have personal links with Malawi and enjoy squeezing Chichewa words into daily life." - Thomas Godfrey*

Youth and Schools (x11): *[Additional to the c80 above youth and school feedback comments in Needs and Impact Survey and Event Feedback]*

- *“Provided excellent support for projects to improve our link”* – Ian Mitchell, Beath High School
- *“Attending events like this (partnership awards) has developed my understanding of partnership issues”* – Sarah Smith, Knightswood Secondary School
- *“Yes, SMP continues to provide quality + timely support”* – Keith Murphy, Penicuik High School
- *“Chance to meet Malawians living in Scotland and get their take on our partnership projects in Malawi and Scotland”* - Andy Tomison, The Community School of Auchterarder
- *“It has provided us with lots of valuable information to help deepen our Malawi links”* – Pauline Ferrier, Renfrew High School
- *“Great resources and networking opportunity”* – Caroline Beaton, Jordanhill School
- *“Continued support which is always appreciated at any stage of a partnership”* – Nicola Barker-Harrison, Beath High School
- *“Huge impact - great support, advice, hand outs, courses and events, coming into school.”* – Amanda Burton, Flora Stevenson Primary School
- *“Yes - Gemma coming to the Malawi lunch club, attending the Youth Congress, AGM”* – Sally Rae, George Watson’s College
- *“It has helped greatly - the support we have received from SMP, networking ops, and events has been very beneficial for our org. We hope to develop a partnership with Malawi soon.”* – Lauren Bishopp, International Voluntary Service
- *“Myself and the staff were delighted with the workshop as it really opened up the area for us to now to plan and incorporate more into our curriculum.”* – Nichola Polatajko, New Monkland Primary School

8 Membership Needs and Impact Survey 2019-20: Summary of Results

April 2020

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Every year the SMP conducts a Membership Needs and Impact Survey, asking members what impact the SMP has had on their work with Malawi over the last year, and what members would like the SMP to do to support their work in the following year. In keeping with our core principles of transparency and accountability, and as a member-led organisation, we're happy to publicly share the results of the survey. This report details exactly what our members told us, with no edits or omissions. 77 SMP Members completed the online survey in April 2020. This is slightly less than previous years, most likely due to the impact of Covid-19 but the feedback we received was overwhelming positive from members.

IMPACT: 91% of respondents felt that membership of the SMP in 2019-20 *"helped strengthen, support or develop their links with Malawi"*.

SERVICES: The top five most useful SMP services in 2019-20 were:

1. Events (78% of users rated "extremely useful" and 22% "quite useful")
2. Networking opportunities (65% of users rated "extremely useful" and 35% "quite useful")
3. Disseminating news/bulletin (57% of users rated "extremely useful" and 43% "quite useful")
4. Publications (38% of users rated "extremely useful" and 59% "quite useful")

5. Website & online database (35% of users rated "extremely useful" and 65% "quite useful")

SUPPORT:

We received over 100 inspiring messages of support, thanks and endorsement through the survey. When asked what impact SMP membership had had this year, members talked of: new connections with other organisations and individuals; increased understanding and awareness; a sense of being well represented and supported; and myriad other benefits stemming from excellent advice, networking, coordination and practical support.

FUTURE IDEAS:

We received a number of ideas and suggestions as to how we could further strengthen our package of services, which we will digest fully in the coming weeks and months, feeding ideas into our operational planning wherever possible. The two most common suggestions were: better advertising of available member services and events (x4), and more information on team members and their responsibilities (x2)

GEOGRAPHY:

The central belt continues to be the most popular location for SMP events: Edinburgh 47%, Glasgow 22%, Perth 10%, Stirling 9%, Inverness 6%, Aberdeen 5% and Dundee 1%.

FULL DATA:

1) Process and Participants:

The SMP Needs and Impact Survey 2019-20 was conducted during March and April 2020, using the online survey software, 'Survey Monkey'. 77 SMP Members completed the online survey. 43% of the respondents were individuals, 43% were organisations, 14% were schools, 3% were youth members, 1% was Local Authorities and 1% was "SMP Partners". Some respondents gave multiple answers, which can be explained by some Individual members also being representatives for organisational members. Members were encouraged to complete the survey, with a random selection of 50 respondents given a free bag of Mzuzu coffee.

2) Impact:

91% of respondents felt that membership of the SMP in 2019-20 "helped strengthen, support or develop their links with Malawi".

Members could add supplementary comments/recommendations to their answer. Members said:

- *Although I'm new, it's been really inspiring to hear about so much great work that's happening. **Ali Floyd, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, University of Dundee***
- *Support and suggestions we have received from the SMP and MaSP have been helpful. **Alan and Lorna Hobson***
- *Through attendance at the SMP Awards, we received a lot of encouragement about our ongoing links and projects and the young people were congratulated on their achievements, which helps inspire them to do more in future. **Fraser Boyd, 25th Stirling (Dunblane) Boys' Brigade***
- *Support - we could better understand who the organisations were working in both Scotland and Malawi **Terry Stebbings, Proterra Energy***
- *Enabled us to further embed our partnership in our school, thanks to funding to run an event. **Terry Strain, St. Roch's Secondary***
- *The links with MaSP are particularly important in our communication with Malawi **Moirá Dunworth, Mamie Martin Fund***
- *The convention at Scotland House was a fantastic opportunity to pool resources and establish links. A dedicated newsletter to issues surrounding Malawi is also most valuable. **Daisy Belfield Santos, Rare Charity***
- *I learnt so much about Malawi! **Megan Harvey***
- *Informing us about current issues. Sense of unity when addressing crisis associated with the storms associated with Cyclone Idai. **Michael Beresford, Zambesi Mission***
- *I went to the SMP conference in February 2019 before my trip to Malawi in October 2019. I found the conference very useful to learn more about the country and the partnership with Scotland. **Bethan Davies***

- *The continuing presence of an established entity working solely to develop the partnership between Scotland & Malawi is an invaluable resource, one stop shop and focal point for all partnership links between the two countries.* **Dominic Webb, Orbis Expeditions**
- *It helped me to relate with Malawian in Scotland* **Thomson Chirwa, Malawi Ministry of Health**
- *Our links with our partners in Malawi are direct, but our work with SMP definitely adds value for our partners that they can see.* **Kelly White, Malawi Travel Marketing Consortium**
- *Kept me informed of work ongoing but did not directly affect me and my Malawi connections at this t* **Andrew Walker**
- *HE/FE and health forums particularly helpful* **Paul Garside**
- *Gemma visited the school and delivered a workshop to our pupils which helped develop their understanding of Malawi and increased their excitement about visiting. It helped them understand that our partnership is one of many in the country and helped pupils realise that working with Malawi is a long term, genuine, commitment and that both countries are fully invested in this* **Chris McKenna, Williamwood High School**
- *Yes. Keeps us up to date with important developments, ideas etc.* **Andrew McKay, Saint Margaret's High School**
- *Don't attend meetings it I read latest news* **Iris Aitchison, Edinburgh College**
- *One of our pupils was on the Youth Exec and this helped to keep the profile of our partnership in focus in the school. Gemma Burnside has also been active in trying to develop cluster partnerships in our school area.* **Archie Marshall, The Community School of Auchterarder**
- *AGM was particularly useful.* **Raymond French**
- *SMP has so many ways to be supportive. In this last year specific help with Visa for our visiting Malawian co-ordinator and a supportive letter relating to taking in small medical donations when visiting were much appreciated* **Heather Cubie, University of Edinburgh**

- *We were able to link with other organisations working in Malawi and met some of the MPs from Malawi to see how we could help children in Malawi* **Tim Eden, World Child Cancer**
- *Attending the SMP discussion around education at the Scottish Parliament gave us some new connections for projects we are working on in Lilongwe.* **Beth Sheehan, African Vision Malawi**
- *My membership is at the associate level. Despite that, I feel to have played the role of an interface through interactions among the members and projects they may consider to develop in Malawi* **James Malitoni Chilembwe, Glasgow Caledonian University**
- *We have access to the expert advice of the SMP, and access to other members with whom we can collaborate* **RoseMary Harley, Graduates Association**
- *My links are now personal ones with one family In Malawi* **Mary Thomson**
- *It supported our work* **Calvin Clarke, j8 educational partnerships**
- *The process of obtaining a UK visa for Malawian teacher - this was made easier when SMP was involved.* **Sheena Nicolson**
- *Launch of my book "Blantyre and Yao Women" hosted by the SMP 11/05/2019 in Edinburgh was a very well organised event.* **Rosemary Argente**
- *Meeting other organisations; raising my awareness; opportunities to raise Malawi Fruit's profile* **Dr Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits**
- *Significant help from SMP and MASP - multiple contacts created and a real mine of information* **Mick James**
- *We only joined towards the end of the year* **Eve Hartswood, Stow Heriot Church**
- *Very helpful in supporting institutional links in Malawi* **Geoff Simm, University of Edinburgh**
- *Allowed me to interact with other projects that are going in in/with Malawi and to look for potential synergies with what we are trying to do.* **Suze Farrell, University of Dundee**
- *It's always good to get updates in the newsletter* **Ramsay McGhee, PGL of Ross & Cromarty**

- *We are just at the beginning of our journey.* **Nichola Polatajko, New Monkland Primary School**
- *SMP help strengthen Malawi in so many different ways* **Daina Harawa**
- *The SMP provide a dynamic and innovative service for individuals and organisations involved in international development in Scotland and Malawi. They also provide a great networking and linking service and a viable platform for a wide range of groups working across sectors in Malawi.* **Emma Duncan, The Global Concerns Trust**
- *As a retiree keeps me in touch with my favourite country* **Derek Law**

- *Support, discussion, teaching resources/materials and visit from Gemma Burnside, Youth and Schools Manager* **Duncan Macdonald, ESMS Junior School**
- *Support provided by SMP was instrumental in advancing our partnership with our Malawian colleagues.* **Ian Mitchell, Beath Malawi Partnership**
- *We would not have developed our partnership from two schools to four without the support of SMP* **Iain Fulton, Argyll and Bute Council**
- *Fantastic network.* **Benjamin Carey, Carey Tourism**
- *We're too far away from Edinburgh to be able to participate in many events but appreciate the advice and guidance in the weekly e-mails.* **Iain MacDonald, Orkney Malawi Partnership**

Members were asked to specifically comment on what impact they had seen from their SMP membership:

- *It's given me lots to think about, particularly whether there could be interest in things we've developed in Scotland for use in Malawi, and also how we can help our communities in Scotland learn from Malawian friends.* **Ali Floyd, Wellcome Centre for Anti-Infectives Research, University of Dundee**
- *Enabling us to make contact with NGOs etc* **Alan and Lorna Hobson**
- *SMP has helped to share what we have done in our project with Likhubula in Malawi through the website, SMP newsletters and social media to a wider, interested audience. You have encouraged us before and after our visits in commending what we have done and you have also provided help with language-learning in the time before we went to Malawi in July 2019.* **Fraser Boyd, 25th Stirling (Dunblane) Boys' Brigade**
- *Provided info on visas and travel, and current projects to visit.* **Niamh Martin, Working for Mothering Bolera +startup social enterprise**
- *Allowed me to keep more in touch with current developments in Malawi* **Jennifer Macalister Hall**

- *Not a whole amount - as above we were able to look at other businesses on SMP. I am still awaiting a call back from David regarding an enquiry I placed with you in November 2019!* **Terry Stebbings, Proterra Energy**
- *It's been small but comforting in that it enabled me to contact others in the partnership to discuss ideas.* **Steve Taylor, ideeas ltd**
- *Attendance at the renewable energy event in December lead to conversations about developing partnerships over the coming years. Attending the Faith Based Organisations event in a previous year has led to many conversations and drafting partnership proposals in the past year.*
- *Support with visa applications for individuals from partner organisations visiting the UK* **Dr Jonathan Groves, The Kerusso Trust**
- *1. Excellent opportunity for networking with organisations and other teachers at the youth conference in Edinburgh. 2. Gave depth of understanding of links between Scotland and Malawi and the importance of our schools project to our pupils involved in the conference. 3. Outstanding staff who were always able to help or*

*advise in terms of our programme building up to the visit to Malawi. Particularly linking us to other orgs like David Livingstone Centre. **Terry Strain, St. Roch's Secondary***

- *Partnership awards ceremony Visits/meetings with Gemma Burnside Helping me to prepare for scheduled visit to Ekwendeni in March 2020 (cancelled) **Duncan Macdonald, ESMS Junior School***
- *You've helped us get a case-study published, both on your site and in the Scotsman. You helped us to use Mailchimp more effectively and that helped all of our communications **Moiria Dunworth, Mamie Martin Fund***
- *Reestablishing links with projects operating in Malawi has been invaluable. Also to have been made aware of performances and events in London was most welcome. It all helps to make Malawi feel less remote. **Daisy Belfield Santos, Rare Charity***
- *Allowed us to share our partnership programme and encourage others to develop a partnership with a school in Malawi. **Andy Tomison***
- *They're an amazingly supportive group with partnership at the core of everything they do Keep up the great work guys! **Megan Harvey***
- *The joint award for disaster relief made a big positive contribution to our organisation **Michael Beresford, Zambesi Mission***
- *I have enjoyed reading regular newsletters to help stay up to date with Malawi news as it is not reported much on big news networks e.g. BBC. **Bethan Davies***
- *To be honest no impact this year as our main project is approaching completion, previously whilst developing our project networking with fellow Scottish 'agencies' was very worthwhile. **Allan L MacLaughlan, Rotary International***
- *We have benefited from increased brand exposure and an introduction to various relevant contacts & new partners. SMP also adds credibility and reliability to our ongoing brand growth. **Dominic Webb, Orbis Expeditions***
- *Introductions, connections, reliable up to date information and news - and invaluable moral support. **Olivia Giles, 500 miles***

- *Interaction with Scots who have lived in Malawi and Malawians living in Scotland **Thomson Chirwa, Malawi Ministry of Health***
- *Assistance from SMP in promoting tourism to Malawi is of benefit to the partners we work with in tourism in Malawi. They can identify that as a positive and so it helps to strengthen our link with them. **Kelly White, Malawi Travel Marketing Consortium***
- *As above. I would anticipate using the services more in the coming year. **Andrew Walker***
- *It is useful to be kept up to date with what is going on across the SMP and MSP **Jennie Chinembiri, Church of Scotland***
- *Helps with making contacts and also letting others know what we are doing which helps coordination **Paul Garside, University of Glasgow***
- *Regular updates on events in Malawi allow us to stay informed of wider events in the country. At times, partners may be reluctant to share wider country-wide issues and it can be difficult to access information through traditional media so SMP bulletin is helpful for this. The visit from Gemma also helped make pupils more informed and it was great for them to learn from someone different, rather than just listening to us teachers all of the time! I know that pupils enjoy learning from others experience **Chris McKenna, Williamwood High School***
- *You have supported us in all of our projects, particularly with our work with Mission Rabies (Thylo vaccinated and Mulanje ion the cards) **Andrew McKay, Saint Margaret's High School***
- *The support we have had from the SMP and the connections we have made with other members, will help us more effectively deliver our social initiatives to school children in the Blantyre area. Classrooms for Malawi and Days for Girls have been fantastic partners and thank you to Stuart for his recent support on our challenges with Malawian Customs. **Morven Cameron, WildHearts***
- *Hosting people from Malawi means you and they are able to highlight concerns which matter. Am especially interested in Fair Trade. **Iris Aitchison, Edinburgh College***

- *We have been able to collaborate in trying to set up partnerships with other schools. We had arranged to have a visit from Gemma Burnside in the lead-up to our proposed expedition to our partner school in the summer, however that looks unlikely to happen now.*
Archie Marshall, The Community School of Auchterarder
- *Networking to source kit/clothing for Play Football Malawi and potentially other academies outside Lilongwe* **Raymond French**
- *As above we learnt a lot more about issues in Malawi and had a chance to meet other health workers in Scotland who work in Malawi*
Tim Eden, World Child Cancer
- *Highlighting available resources, organisations and projects has helped strengthen our stakeholder relationships and ideas for projects and processes.* **Beth Sheehan, African Vision Malawi**
- *Through an invitation to meet the first graduates of the vet school we have now written a training grant with Prof to enhance veterinary epi skills in country* **Stella Mazeri**
- *As a research student studying in Scotland, associating with SMP is an eye-opener. Interacting with the members, responding to some of the members' questions about Malawi and sharing various potential areas of interest in projects, continue to shape the positive thinking towards impactful projects to contribute to the society through SMP links.* **James Malitoni Chilembwe, Glasgow Caledonian University**
- *We have received invitations to cross-party meetings and other events, that have provided us with networking opportunities*
RoseMary Harley, Graduates Association
- *Networking at the AGM* **Ian Dickson, Rotary**
- *You have widened our knowledge of Malawi and the range of Scotland- Malawi links. We have been notified of relevant meetings, courses, conferences, events and funding opportunities that would have passed us by, otherwise.* **Calvin Clarke, j8 educational partnerships**
- *Wherever the book has been purchased, its proceeds are directed to Johanna Settlement Trust (JST, a trust established by myself), helping*

many families who are in dire circumstances in Malawi.

Rosemary Argente

- *Some very useful contacts, which would not have been made otherwise. One in particular has the potential to be very beneficial to a Malawian partner.* **Alan Laverock, Bananabox Trust**
- *Deepened my knowledge; particularly appreciate meetings around agriculture, water and natural resources.* **Dr Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits**
- *I've been able to network extensively as a result of membership. We have also agreed in principle to work with MASP on a project we jointly researched* **Mick James**
- *Opened a profile for our link on the SMP webpage* **Eve Hartswood, Stow Heriot Church**
- *Supporting building of partnerships in Malawi esp with 3rd sector*
Geoff Simm, University of Edinburgh
- *Our interaction is limited to training scientists, so many of the projects our outside our normal scope of work. However, very useful to hear of examples of where and how people are working in Malawi, and of course always looking for ways in which we could support them if we were out*
Suze Farrell, University of Dundee
- *You have been really supporting in helping our colleagues travel to and from Scotland (visas) and really hospitable in meeting them and turning up to our events.* **Jen, Heriot Watt University**
- *Apart from the newsletter updates, I haven't really asked for any assistance. I was in Malawi last week and things there are hotting up with the coronavirus. Visitors to Malawi this week are being put in quarantine for 14 days.* **Ramsay McGhee, PGL of Ross & Cromarty**
- *Very helpful in setting up our link with a school and coming out to deliver workshops to our pupils.* **Nichola Polatajko, New Monkland Primary School**
- *Through working hand in hand with Malawians helping the needy paying school fees for children who cannot afford to go back to school* **Daina Harawa**

- *We benefitted by being able to represent our organisation and work in Malawi to other members and organisations attending your AGM. We received advice regarding the provision of sports wheelchairs in Malawi.* **Emma Duncan, The Global Concerns Trust**
- *Helped me to prepare for visit to our partner school* **Duncan Macdonald, ESMS Junior School**
- *Support from Gemma Burnside, Stuart Brown and others has allowed us to develop our links locally, nationally and internationally.* **Ian Mitchell, Beath Malawi Partnership**

- *No direct impact keeps me in touch with news.* **Peter Howson**
- *Pre travel advice for visiting teachers from Malawi Linking up with Malawi Scotland partnership for visas advice on school activities* **Iain Fulton, Argyll and Bute Council**
- *Limited impact, but great for background information.* **Benjamin Carey, Carey Tourism**
- *Impossible to quantify for us but we welcome the regular info* **Iain MacDonald, Orkney Malawi Partnership**

3) Services:

Members were asked which services they had used and how useful they found them.

Events: 72% of respondents had used this service in 2019-20, of which:

- 78% rated it as “extremely useful”
- 22% rated it as “quite useful”
- 0% rated it as “not very useful”
- 0% rated it as “not useful at all”

Networking opportunities: 73% of respondents had used this service in 2019-20, of which:

- 65% rated it as “extremely useful”
- 35% rated it as “quite useful”
- 0% rated it as “not very useful”
- 0% rated it as “not useful at all”

Disseminating news/bulletin: 66% of respondents had used this service in 2019-20, of which:

- 57% rated it as “extremely useful”
- 43% rated it as “quite useful”
- 0% rated it as “not very useful”
- 0% rated it as “not useful at all”

Publications: 60% of respondents had used this service in 2019-20, of which:

- 38% rated it as “extremely useful”
- 59% rated it as “quite useful”
- 3% rated it as “not very useful”
- 0% rated it as “not useful at all”

Website & online database: 52% of respondents had used this service in 2019-20, of which:

- 35% rated it as “extremely useful”
- 65% rated it as “quite useful”
- 0% rated it as “not very useful”
- 0% rated it as “not useful at all”

Member forums: 50% of respondents had used this service in 2019-20, of which:

- 48% rated it as “extremely useful”
- 52% rated it as “quite useful”
- 0% rated it as “not very useful”
- 0% rated it as “not useful at all”

Office enquiries/support: 46% of respondents had used this service in 2019-20, of which:

- 65% rated it as “extremely useful”
- 32% rated it as “quite useful”
- 3% rated it as “not very useful”
- 0% rated it as “not useful at all”

Representation on social media: 45% of respondents had used this service in 2019-20, of which:

- 38% rated it as “extremely useful”
- 55% rated it as “quite useful”
- 7% rated it as “not very useful”
- 0% rated it as “not useful at all”

Advocacy and lobbying: 29% of respondents had used this service in 2019-20, of which:

- 26% rated it as “extremely useful”
- 74% rated it as “quite useful”
- 0% rated it as “not very useful”
- 0% rated it as “not useful at all”

Representation in media: 28% of respondents had used this service in 2019-20, of which:

- 50% rated it as “extremely useful”
- 50% rated it as “quite useful”
- 0% rated it as “not very useful”
- 0% rated it as “not useful at all”

Support for visa applications: 25% of respondents had used this service in 2019-20, of which:

- 56% rated it as “extremely useful”
- 44% rated it as “quite useful”
- 0% rated it as “not very useful”
- 0% rated it as “not useful at all”

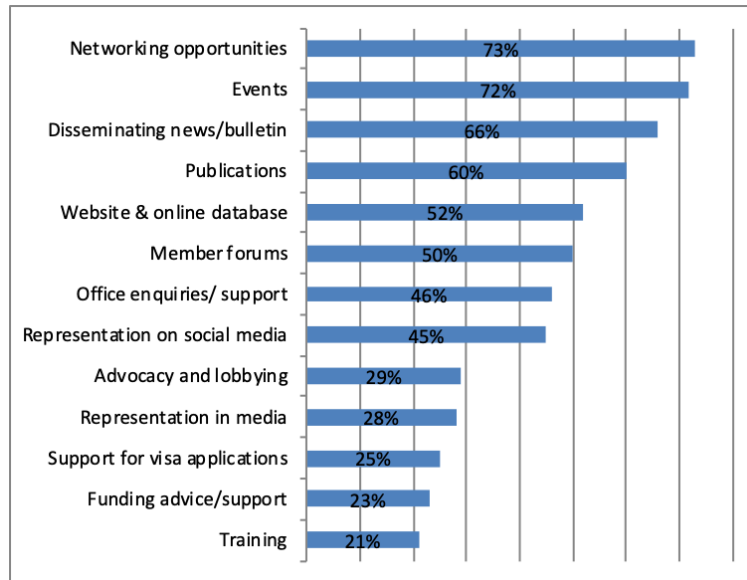
Funding advice/support: 25% of respondents had used this service in 2019-20, of which:

- 33% rated it as “extremely useful”
- 60% rated it as “quite useful”
- 0% rated it as “not very useful”
- 7% rated it as “not useful at all”

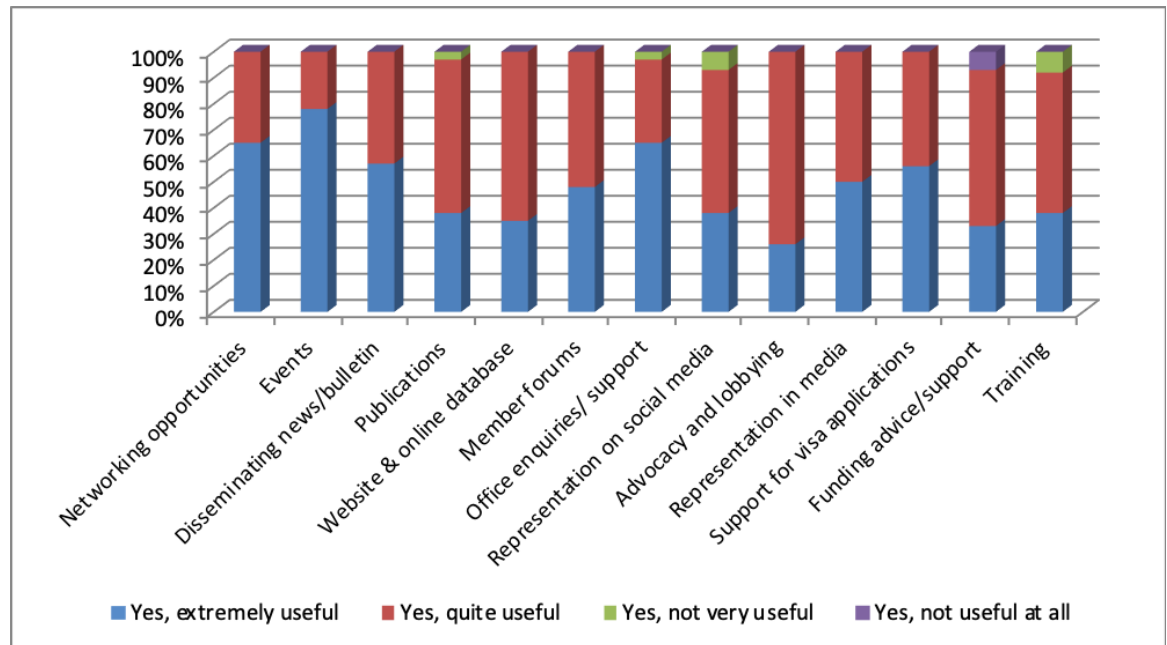
Training: 21% of respondents had used this service in 2019-20, of which:

- 38% rated it as “extremely useful”
- 54% rated it as “quite useful”
- 8% rated it as “not very useful”
- 0% rated it as “not useful at all”

SMP services by usage:



SMP services by 'usefulness':



4) SMP Development:

We asked our members how we could improve our work, and were told:

- *It is hard to see how you could do better than you currently do* **Alan and Lorna Hobson**
- *Reach out to encourage other youth organisations, not just schools, to get involved in partnerships.* **Fraser Boyd, 25th Stirling (Dunblane) Boys' Brigade**
- *I think possibly contacting folk a bit better - as above we became members of SMP last year and were interested in using SMP more to*

build our understanding of Malawi and relationship between Scotland and Malawi. Called SMP several time left messages with staff but never got the contact back, **Terry Stebbings, Proterra Energy**

- *seems very little info , I stumbled on this page while looking for IT proposals* **Chimeta**

- *I feel that the services provided are already excellent. This is mainly down to the approachability (if that's a word) of staff.* **Terry Strain, St. Roch's Secondary**
- *It might be helpful if your info on the website about the team was a bit more specific about under what circumstances that team member would be our point of contact* **Moira Dunworth, Mamie Martin Fund**
- *I was unaware that many existed and would certainly welcome further advice on funding advice and support.* **Daisy Belfield Santos, Rare Charity**
- *Perhaps this is going on already, but consider training partnership with SIDA?* **Michael Beresford, Zambesi Mission**
- *I think increasing your social media platform use as it is such an accessible platform to reach so many people. In addition, better advertising your services and events.* **Bethan Davies**
- *Promotion of chance of collaborative work.* **Allan L MacLaughlan, Rotary International**
- *Monthly/Quarterly round ups of what has been achieved on behalf of specific members/industry groups??* **Dominic Webb, Orbis Expeditions**
- *Establish more sectors for interaction in Malawi to increase interaction* **Thomson Chirwa, Malawi Ministry of Health**
- *Are there too many different things going on and could they be more focussed? where is the overlap with Scottish international development alliance and could this be better coordinated* **Paul Garside**
- *Keep going.* **Andrew McKay, Saint Margaret's High School**
- *I think there is scope for developing a forum where schools with active partnerships could network. This would be more effective in a face-to-face setting rather than through the online webinar format. I appreciate that this is dependent on teachers being able to get time out of school, but maybe trying to canvass interested teachers and see if there are any in-service days that could be a meeting date?* **Archie Marshall, The Community School of Auchterarder**

- *No obvious way to improve things for an individual member* **Raymond French**
- *Difficult to say, As a non-user of social media, the Bulletin is essential for me and newspaper representation still helpful* **Heather Cubie, University of Edinburgh**
- *I suggest the expanding awareness of SMP and the types of membership available to potential members in colleges and universities appear to be limited. Perhaps, it is exclusive to those members who have already running projects.* **James Malitoni Chilembwe, Glasgow Caledonian University**
- *Unsure* **RoseMary Harley, Graduates Association**
- *difficult to identify weak areas* **Calvin Clarke, j8 educational partnerships**
- *I do not see that there is any room for improvement. The SMP has and is doing a great job and the partnership is excellent in filling a great gap that existed in beneficial activities in Malawi.* **Rosemary Argente**
- *Raising profile of members of the team even more in bulletin*
- *Most are well organised and pitched at the right level. Social Media is relatively new and developing.* **Alan Laverock, Bananabox Trust**
- *The opportunity to engage at SMP events with people from Malawi, 'the reality check', they must be tricky to arrange but I think they are important-in a 2 way sense. I think hearing Malawians set out their needs and their perspectives should be germane to all our decision making. I also think its important to feed into these sessions the best quality information available, such as on population growth predictions, anticipated climate change impacts, anticipated changes in UK's import strategy after December 2020. These are vital for top level decision makers.* **Dr Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits**
- *Often get information about events too late to make plans to join in. The events often sound as they are for a smaller group of experts for discussion* **Eve Hartwood, Stow Heriot Church**
- *The services I have used have all been fantastic. Very professional and supportive. I'm sure if I needed some support on other areas then they would be my first port of call.* **Suze Farrell, University of Dundee**

- *I think everything you do is great - it's more how I need to engage with the services/resources that you offer* **Jen, Heriot Watt University**
- *I should have contacted you regarding Visas - we had quite a job getting them prior to departure and we unearthed a scam - the online payment system was being redirected to a Nigerian address. We have reported it to the authorities.* **Ramsay McGhee, PGL of Ross & Cromarty**
- *As I am still at the beginning of my school's journey I am unable to comment at present* **Nichola Polatajko, New Monkland Primary School**

- *through bringing new ideas* **Daina Harawa**
- *They are good* **Derek Law**
- *I feel it's a needs basis - we have been able to get all the support we need in the areas which concern us. It would only be when something new arose that we know what needs to be improved.* **Iain Mitchell, Beath Malawi Partnership**
- *I can't see any ways in which the service could be improved.* **Iain Fulton, Argyll and Bute Council**
- *Already more than sufficient.* **Benjamin Carey, Carey Tourism**

5) Member Needs:

The following results outline the respondents' interest in potential SMP member services, 2020 and beyond.

5.1 New services:

Respondents expressed interest in the following new services which they felt the SMP could usefully offer in the coming years to better support their work with Malawi?

- *Not sure - it's all new to me!*
- *Youth newsletter perhaps*
- *It should improve the networking activity by trying to improve SMS network*
- *Help with Promotion of new projects, and their continued support in Helping with Visas etc.*
- *Networking sessions*
- *Potentially offer some funding for scoping exercises so that partnerships created through your events can proceed to do a small scale needs assessment in order to be eligible to apply for bigger grants e.g. from the Scottish Govt (requirement to evidence partnership in order to apply)*
- *More extensive/varied educational resource packs*
- *Guidance on governance. You can't provide guidance on it all but there may be areas where some short 10-point guides might really help small organisations.*
- *Perhaps a more accessible directory of your members and their organisations and projects.*
- *Not sure whether you can realistically provide more services. Make sure you are able to keep what you have got. The visa support is the one thing that has made such a massive difference to us in the past.*
- *Chichewa lessons!*
- *An online (social) forum for all members to have direct contact with each other to allow for networking, introductions and discussion/information sharing etc.*
- *Could there be any support for securing meetings in Malawi with government personnel?*

- *Increase partnership in maternal and child health. Because in this area Malawi is struggling*
- *Our focus is entirely tourism so, selfishly, we are looking for as much positive tourism promotion as possible!*
- *I think they should offer less services with more focus in key areas to be identified*
- *It may be helpful to offer regional collaborative groups. I am aware that there are a number of other schools in Glasgow and the West who have school partnerships and all at different stages. Many of these schools work with Classrooms for Malawi and I have offered support to new partnerships through that which I think has been useful for others. It may be useful for other schools to know who they can contact for support.*
- *Something to connect members working on Menstrual Health/ Education initiatives would be really helpful (I think there are a lot of people working in this space but we're not all necessarily connected).*
- *Lobby the Scottish Parliament to make it easier for schools to apply for funding for projects that would be in the same scale as the Small Grants scheme open to fully consolidated charities and NGOs. We have been trying to apply for sustainable energy projects, but seem to fall between stools for any of the schemes we have looked at.*
- *Continue with Chichewa lessons. Perhaps add a new phrase each month to Bulletin, beyond Muli bwanji! Check more whether members willing to have details shared -e.g. when I was looking for information on whether NHS Lothian people might be members, I could not access that despite also having a role in SGHC. Could we ask members about sharing their contact details with other members?*
- *unfortunately I will not be able to attend on line the webinar for the Health Forum in Edinburgh this month but would like to at the next one*

- *Creating discussion groups based on themes e.g. health, education, disability, agriculture.*
- *More targeted networking*
- *I find the services that are currently available suit my needs.*
- *Possibly answered in question 14. The website gives details of all the members' links. It would be useful, but maybe impractical, to know of the specific projects going on at any one time. There may well be too many to itemize and keep updated; just a thought.*
- *Continue as SMP has done so far.*
- *I like the Year of Governance. This is something where we will position ourselves in Malawi*
- *More sessions offered to Scottish based charities involved in agriculture and natural resource management*
- *Networking is the key thing for us - the meetings often have a bit of time for networking but I find it's often not enough*
- *Right now give advice we can pass on to our colleagues in Malawi about care during coronavirus spread*
- *I think the new database of projects is invaluable and hope that you can continue to maintain this. Once people are aware of this, perhaps it could be used as a way for people to support each other's projects and collaborate more?*
- *One challenge that we have at the moment is funding for Maize for the children in the school. The Provincial Grand Lodge have just sent out £1000 to ensure that there is food till the end of the summer term*
- *Happy as it is*
- *In school CPD; more Chichewa lesson opportunities.*
- *school visits with malawi themed activities.*
- *Post-COVID19 recovery planning across all sectors.*

5.2 Areas of work:

Respondents suggested they would like to see the SMP take forward the following topics, themes and challenges in 2020:

- *As above - getting more young people outside school involved in partnership projects. Encouraging schools to do more than just have committees but to have full engagement and opportunities to visit and bring Malawians to Scotland to experience education here. Encourage the private schools to do more than superficial projects that are CV-fillers and 'observation' projects. Encourage people to actually get their hands dirty in Malawi!*
- *Are the rural youth taking part in programs which are put in place for the youth?*
- *Opportunity for Malawians*
- *Climate change*
- *We are involved in the energy sector so it would be useful for us to know more about that*
- *Sustainability, climate smart agriculture and ways to work with Malawians who are looking to modernise to more sustainable, low carbon agricultural and forestry activities.*
- *Continue to link organisations with a renewable energy focus*
- *Climate change*
- *Under governance maybe guides to recruiting and supporting Trustees, holding good Board meetings, composition of a Board, how to make your website transparent and show that you (the small NGO) are accountable*
- *Further educational and cultural exchanges, especially with universities.*
- *Encouraging funding direct to schools even though they are not formal charities.*
- *Sustainable development; the role of faith-based groups in today's contemporary world.*
- *The promotion of Malawi as a Sport & Endurance event destination. The promotion of Malawi as a Global Citizenship destination for Educational groups. The promotion of Malawi as a HNW donor led destination.*
- *Discouragement of per diems/allowances*
- *Helping addressing Adolescent health needs of the two countries.*
- *Dependency in Malawi and corruption alongside the 'white' saviour mindset*
- *health, education, governance, climate*
- *More focus on learning for sustainability and highlighting the difficulties that people in Malawi face in order to do so.*
- *Better recognition of Mission rabies and support for the eradication of Rabies in Malawi.*
- *Sustainable Living*
- *I think there is a need for Malawi to understand current day Scotland better - can we highlight important Scottish/UK news which might impact on Malawi and our links there e.g in Bulletin. Sometimes not quite as reciprocal as I would wish*
- *Since our charity links hospitals in high income countries with those in low-middle income countries to assist their development of cancer services we would like to link up with all health workers who do such work for adults and children to try to coordinate our activities*
- *Disability*
- *Not really sure*
- *How to monitor management competence and honesty without actual in-person visits*
- *Is it possible for the SMP to be more of a campaigning organization - the fate of people with albinism in Malawi springs to mind?*
- *I am unable to suggest any topics of themes as indicated above what is now being done is great and holistic.*
- *I mentioned some in answer to previous question. Thinking about how to get from a technology to a business plan. This area is a bit foggy at present. NGO's often do not see themselves in business terms--Im fortunate in that Malawi Fruits operates as a business in Malawi--extremely useful, but my impression from meeting other Scottish based charities is that that level of thinking is somewhat lacking. Its also lacking in Malawi itself. In agriculture there are three ways, at least, of thinking: subsistence farming, growing what you need at household level, selling or exchanging some*

produce in order to obtain other household goods; command and control, as formerly practiced in the former Soviet Union, where the state orders the production of goods, and then passes this on to consumers, the problem is getting consumption and production to match; the third model is leaving 'the market' to link production and consumption. In Malawi we are somewhere between the first and third models. Finding ways to strengthen that connection, the pull of demand, consumers, to growers, producers, the push side, might be a new focus for the SMP, and the SG as well

- *Sustainability - how do we know our efforts will have a lasting impact*
- *Smaller grants and helping to link projects up*
- *One Health likely to be of growing importance given current pandemic*
- *Support for logistics - shipping of supplies for us is difficult (many things we send fall under the dangerous goods grouping as we are science and*

5.3 Training:

When asked what training the SMP could offer members to support their link the following ideas were suggested:

- *Selfishly, I'd love to know about the current state of play around public engagement with research in Malawi. I suspect there are very different approaches between our two nations and we'd have MASSES to learn from each other!*
- *Improving personal skills*
- *The basic Chichewa classes online; was unable to attend in person ones*
- *Specific ideas on activities to promote school partnerships*
- *Guides about the above, rather than events, I think*
- *More online webinars and conferences to allow those on a budget outside Scotland to participate.*
- *Continue to encourage sharing between school groups with partnerships in Malawi.*
- *Social media use, use of video technology; creative writing*
- *Monthly/Quarterly Online Member Meetings, based around different topics (Tourism, Development, Food Production etc), where all relevant members can address issues together and share information and contacts.*

lab based). Support in getting items directly to institutes would be useful and one of our greatest hurdles/expenses.

- *helping the poor creating jobs for young people in malawi*
- *Climate change - linking in with COP26, what work is happening in Malawi with developments. Re cycling and refuse collection. Looking at environmental policies and how they are being implemented in Malawi. Covid 19 - sharing of knowledge and expertise in case of a medical crisis in Malawi.*
- *Keep at it as is!*
- *Implementing Sustainable Goals into Curriculum - sharing good practice; use of LfS in teaching - sharing good practice.*
- *following coronavirus there may be challenges in securing funding to take future activities forward*
- *Travel and tourism.*
- *Keep up the news items and funding opportunities.*

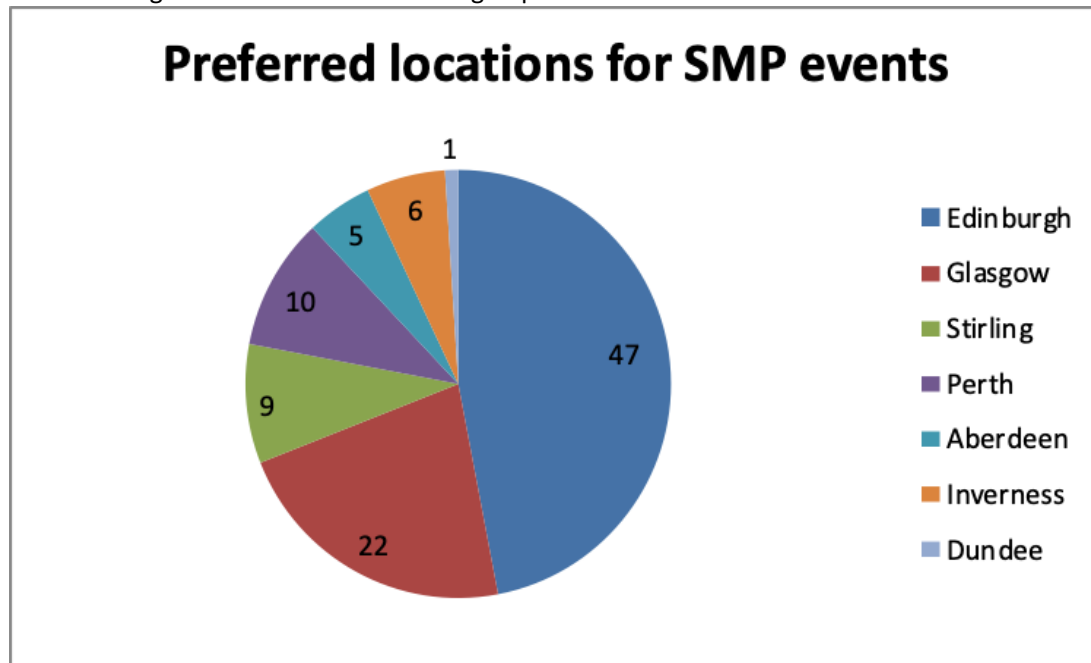
- *Help strengthen the maternal health needs of Malawi by interacting with Malawi midwives and Clinical officers association so that they can help promote evidence based practice that will help address Maternal health and neonatal health. The mentioned cadres are frontline workers yet receive little recognition. Work with them to addresses the maternal health of Malawi*
- *host very focussed meetings where health. education, climate and governance groups put together concrete proposals to drive forward*
- *Make Scottish visitors aware of the dangers of rabies and the treatment to prevent certain death.*
- *What are the most successful ways of communicating with contacts in Malawi? We seem to experience difficulties in sustaining contact and wonder how other members communicate.*
- *As above re Chichewa*
- *Linkage through the health Forum and potentially advice on sources of funding*

- Applying for grants
- sharing of methods and experience
- We are a tiny charity, too small even for the DFID small grants funding and others geared to small charities. We would find it useful to be aware of funding for charities such as ourselves and help with their applications.
- Continue as currently.
- I liked the opportunity for learning Chichewa but would find funding this difficult.
- Can't think of anything - other than cultural/language classes.

- My organisation delivers training, so it might be more opportunity for members to deliver training/skill share between themselves?
- computer skills training
- Use retirees like me to help/inform/advise
- We need to better understand the Education System in Malawi. If we want to support our partners we need to know what they do and how they work.
- Disaster recovery planning.
- buckets of cash and an office in Orkney.

5.4 Geographies:

The following results were shown relating to preferred locations for SMP events:



As in previous years, events hosted in the central belt are most popular.

5.5 Representation:

Members expressed interest in the SMP offering representation around the below issues or topics:

- *Not at present*
- *Energy - Scottish Gov*
- *Visa issues, which you are already communicating to the UK Government. Maybe the disproportionality of the application and reporting process for ScotGov grants.*
- *Malawi's rich and diverse cultural heritage*
- *Encourage the public bodies(Scot gov, British Council etc) to recognise state schools as charities so that funding can be given directly to them.*
- *Stop DFID becoming part of the Foreign Office. It looks like this is happening by stealth at the moment. Plus the aid budget is being syphoned off for trade and climate change action. Climate change funds should be on top of the aid budget.*
- *The health & safety of student travel where schools & councils should only be permitted to book through reputable and accredited travel companies, rather than travelling un-supported.*
- *Maternal health issues. Scottish government.*
- *see above*
- *The need to ensure that there are free and fair elections in Malawi. I think this needs to be represented to both Scot and UK govts. to ensure that the re-run elections are fair and overseen by impartial, international, observers. We visited Malawi in June 2019 shortly after the election results. It was clear that many/most people who spoke about the results were outraged and there was regular talk of how it could result in civil war, depending on how the appeal court decision went. This was from people who we have known for many years and whom we trust, it was not exaggerated and hysterical. It was even mentioned when we attended the church service as they prayed to avoid this conflict. It goes without saying that this would be devastating for the whole country and*

is something that must be avoided. I hate to think what could happen if the results of the re-run election were similarly mistrusted. I fully appreciate that the SMP are limited in what they can do in this regard.

- *Rabies.*
- *As above, we have costed sustainable energy projects for our partner school, but cannot access any Government funding. I would have thought that schools were reasonably stable and accountable financially, also with greater longevity than some of the NGO projects.*
- *Booster championing recycling both in Scotland and Malawi, giving different contextual needs of both countries. This could be to local, Scottish and UK Govs*
- *Scottish Government and media*
- *Neglected tropical diseases NTDs (eg leprosy) to be highlighted to MSP*
- *Only what was given in question 13*
- *Education and other things SMP has done and is doing for Youth should continue and represent the same to the Scottish Government.*
- *Please see my comment at question 13*
- *How to coordinate basics - aid, help and support*
- *Scottish gov*
- *Climate change - linking in with COP26, what work is happening in Malawi with developments. Re cycling and refuse collection.*
- *Gender Equality and treatment of those with conditions e.g. albinism*
- *following coronavirus there may be challenges in securing funding to take future activities forward. Any support in this area would be very useful*
- *Grants for Scottish NGOs supporting partnership projects in LDCs emerging from the COVID19 disaster.*

5.6 Support:

The following suggestions and ideas were offered for ways in which the SMP website could better support Members' links:

- *it's doing a great job*
- *I think the website works well*
- *Perhaps more space for each member to be represented.*
- *I think it is fine as it is*
- *Get in touch with professional association in all the areas of interest.*
- *Even more tourism content and links.*
- *website is fine*
- *I have to be honest and say that I seldom use it.*
- *Keep going.*
- *Include details of schools with active partnerships/exchange trips.*
- *I think it's up to the academy I help to become more pro-active in this respect: no problem with what SMP offer.*
- *Not sure*
- *It is doing a good job already*
- *It's very good. Maybe answered in question 12.*
- *As it is now, continue.*
- *We tend not to use this!*
- *Have links to similar projects*
- *When we go out to teach in Malawi, our staff sometimes want things to do at the weekends or stay on - if there was a place that we could help volunteer and support other projects then it might be useful to have a list of these.*
- *I'm happy with the information received in the newsletters*
- *you could support us through posting different useful things on the website*
- *Does it well enough already.*
- *no changes required*
- *None just now.*

5.7 Bulletin:

The following suggestions and ideas were offered for ways in which the weekly news bulletin could better support Members' links:

- *Fine for us at present*
- *I know you can't really be political but sometimes a wee explanation of the background to political news stories in Malawi is helpful so we can understand who's who and who supports whom.*
- *I think its excellent - continually surprised by the breadth of content*
- *It's great!*
- *They're fantastic! I enjoyed them on a Friday too, something to look forward to before the weekend.*
- *I've felt sometimes that there is a bit too much advertising in it?*
- *Round up of what has been achieved/being worked on, relevant to different members or industries (this may already be done - so apologies if this is the case).*
- *I think it is excellent as it is.*
- *I just feel its ok for me*
- *give more detailed information but reduce the frequency to monthly*
- *I like the fact that it is no longer sent at the end of the day on a Friday. Keep that up. Perhaps a section highlighting upcoming trips/projects from different groups across the country might be nice?*
- *Keep going.*
- *Perhaps doing a video update every quarter would be helpful - e.g. asking members to send in video clips of their different projects. (Sorry if something like this already exists!)*
- *Think it is quite energetic and interesting as it is.*
- *Again, it's very good! Just keep it relatively direct and not too long.*

- *See above - teach us some more Chichewa phrases; sometimes cover more Scottish/UK news of relevance to Malawi*
- *again it is very useful and keeps us up to date with what is happening*
- *Also very helpful as it is.*
- *As it is now, continue.*
- *I think this is pitched about right*
- *Send out details further in advance.*
- *It's good*

- *through posting whats happening around the world*
- *I would be interested to hear more about the events and training offered to members of MASP in Malawi.*
- *It provides enough information already on what is happening re: SMP and others.*
- *no changes required, it's very informative*
- *Sufficient just now.*
- *Fine as it is.*

5.8 Covid-19:

The following suggestions and ideas were offered as to specific support, advice or services that would be useful for the SMP to offer in the coming months in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic:

- *Not really as UK advice seems to be changing emphasis and details day by day. (We just described to Mlw friends how it has been for us here - by way of warning).*
- *Let people know about the challenges in Malawi, opportunities to contribute skills to help and any funding available*
- *I like that the organisation has a clear approach and message on Covid, for now Malawi needs more messages more radio , more civic education .*
- *Advice we can share with partners so they can share it in rural communities. The advice needs to be specifically tailored for the rural context of crowded markets and houses, people living hand to mouth, churches and communities without digital resources etc.*
- *That's a hard question*
- *Hope you guys are ok! Been thinking of you all, continue doing a fab job*
- *Hard to say, we are all in the dark and just waiting*
- *That all groups should be traveling through accredited, insured and bonded travel companies in the future to avoid any financial risk and fall out on independently managed groups, in the event of domestic or global events altering or preventing travel to Malawi. That RSC are offering Consultancy Services for development organisations not able to travel to Malawi this year.*

- *Advice on termination/suspension of contacts of employment/service if the charitable purpose stops.*
- *Malawi is at zero in terms of preparedness.. The help would highly be appreciated*
- *To spread the message of the socio-economic importance of tourism and how it will be a vital part of Malawi's recovery post-pandemic.*
- *reinforce govt messages, advocacy for preparedness in Malawi*
- *As much as possible it would be helpful to have information on the ongoing situation in the country. We are attempting to rearrange a trip for October so it would be helpful to be kept well informed.*
- *Keep members updated on developments from all governments.*
- *Regular updates around the protocols in Malawi would be helpful e.g. will schools be closing?*
- *Any information about the spread of COVID-19 in Malawi would be helpful. Also any ways that the country is being affected economically - I guess that the tourist industry will be devastated. Such a shame after all the recent good work. Are there any ways of trying to offer support?*
- *I am extremely fearful of the effect COVID-10 will have on countries like Malawi. Their ability to provide critical care is way too limited and social separation / isolation will be crucial. Any public health advice/information*

messages SMP can help to promote in Malawi will, I'm sure, be very helpful, and it needs to be done NOW.

- *The need to continue communicating good news and support to keep up morale, through whatever means possible, recognising that we might have to go backwards if internet becomes overloaded. Home working is surely inefficient for this. Is there a stronger bandwidth connection possible through SMP e.g. as a digital hub/Post Office?*
- *You are doing a good job already*
- *Potentially resources that are both English and Chichewa or culturally appropriate to support the efforts in the health promotion/dissemination in Malawi.*
- *The hygiene practices advised for Covid19 ought to be adhered to when visiting Malawi*
- *With a visit to Malawi pencilled in for September, it would be useful to know the extent of the virus there and restrictions in place.*
- *As the SMP has done so far, continue.*
- *So what is needed - our link has hardly any information or outside help. I have suggested we send money for them to buy soap to put at outside pumps for water but this idea might be too tricky to implement. What is*

the local name for paracetamol - how can it be sourced and paid for? Need lots of good ideas and facts to pass on before it is too late to be effective.

- *see above - I suspect we'll all need to re-calibrate our approaches to One health post pandemic*
- *We usually have a yearly visit to Malawi for teaching and in all honesty it's likely to be cancelled this year (along with many other areas of our teaching in other countries). Will pick up again in 2021.*
- *Maybe providing a platform by which to share information?*
- *News of spread and impact of the virus in Malawi. Creating a forum of members with specific knowledge of contamination of diseases to advise medical practitioners and front line workers in Malawi. Continued travel advice regarding quarantines etc.*
- *Highlight SMP position in response to Scot Gov/UK Gov advice.*
- *It might be good if school pupils had activities that they could work on at home which they could share with a pupil in Malawi on a one to one basis*
- *Recovery planning for food supply chains, travel and tourism, and other sectors impacted.*
- *Keep well and good luck! Do keep info coming out as far as you can - it's appreciated.*

6) Events:

Overall Quality:

When asked to rate the overall quality of any SMP events they attended over the past year, 60% said "Excellent", 32% said "Very good" and 8% said "Good".

Made New Contacts:

When asked if they made any new contacts as a result of attending an SMP event, 79% said "Yes" and 21% said "No".

Quality of Networking:

When asked to rate the quality of networking at any SMP events they attended, 42% said "Excellent", 38% said "Very good", 19% said "Good" and 2% said "Average".

7) Scale of links:

Annual Worth of Partnership

When asked to estimate the worth of their Malawi link over the past 12 months, the average number given (when a clear numerical value was present) was £112,891.

Number of People Involved

When asked, approximately, how many people have been actively involved in their Malawi project over the past 12 months, respondents gave an average number of 226 people involved in Scotland and 182 people involved in Malawi. When asked, approximately, how many people benefitted from their work with Malawi over the past 12 months, respondents answered as follows:

- An average number of 87 DIRECT beneficiaries in Scotland over the last 12 months
- An average number of 637 INDIRECT beneficiaries in Scotland over the last 12 months
- An average number of 3,338 DIRECT beneficiaries in Malawi over the last 12 months
- An average number of 11,158 INDIRECT beneficiaries in Malawi over the last 12 months

9 SMP Diversity Review

EVENT ATTENDEES:

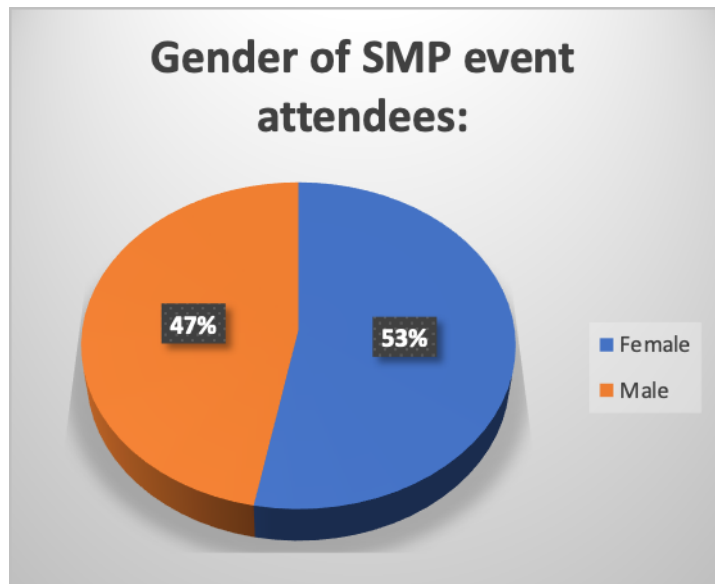
In 2019-20 the SMP hosted 33 events and engagements, with a total attendance of 1,061 people.

It also co-hosted 49 additional partner events and engagements, with a total attendance of 4,115.

Of those who booked a place at an SMP event this year, it is our best understanding that:

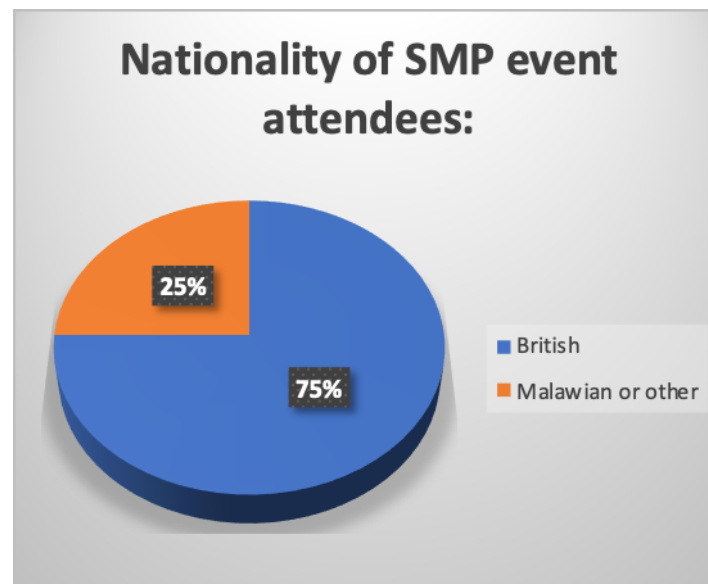
GENDER:

- 53% were female, and
- 47% were male



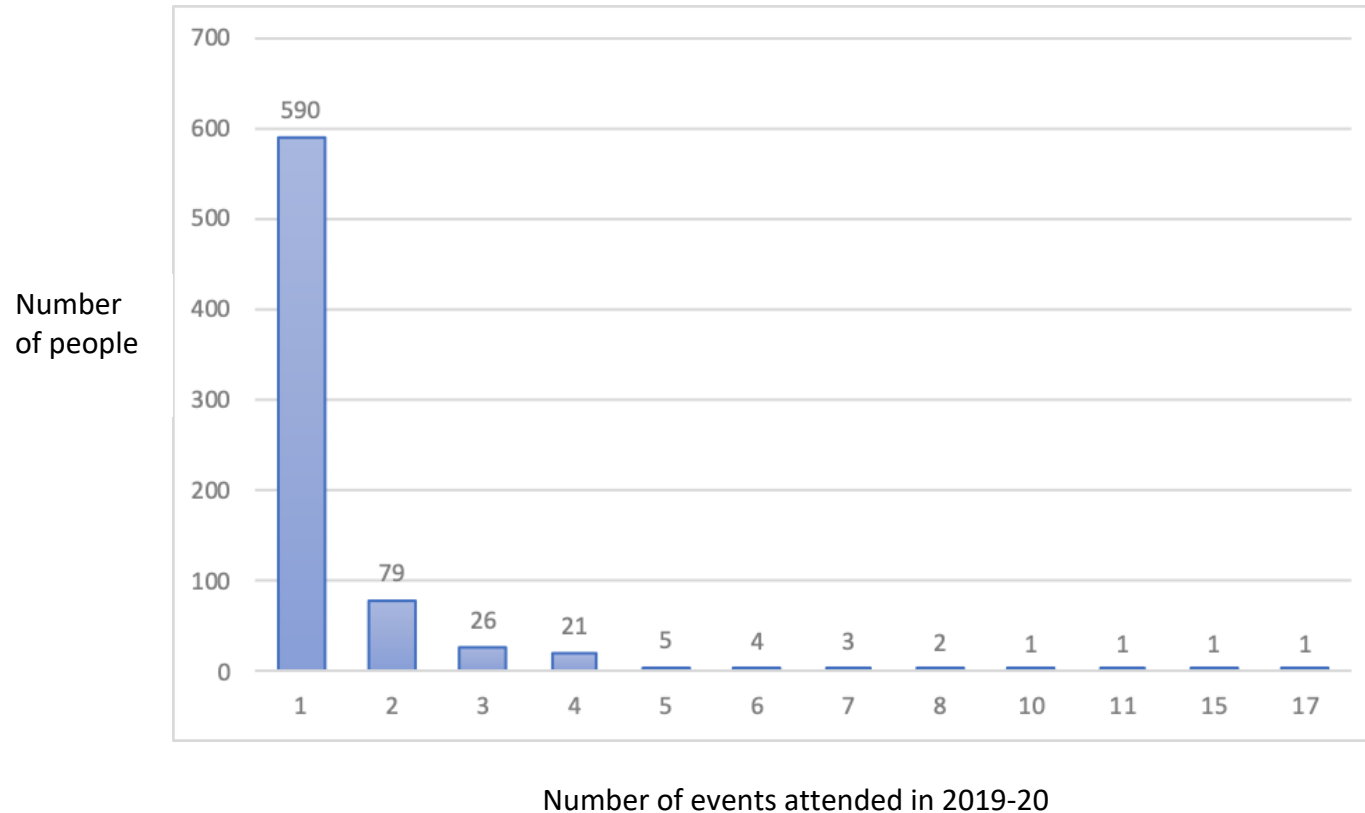
NATIONALITY:

- 75% were British, and
- 25% were Malawian (or other nationality)



The SMP's 33 events in 2019-20 (which had a total attendance of 1,061) were attended by 734 different people, of whom:

- **590 attended one** SMP event in the year;
- **79 attended two** SMP events in the year;
- **26 attended three** SMP events in the year;
- **21 attended four** SMP events in the year;
- **5 attended five** SMP events in the year;
- **4 attended six** SMP events in the year;
- **3 attended seven** SMP events in the year;
- **2 attended eight** SMP events in the year;
- **1 attended ten** SMP events in the year;
- **1 attended eleven** SMP events in the year;
- **1 attended fifteen** SMP events in the year; and
- **1 attended seventeen** SMP events in the year.

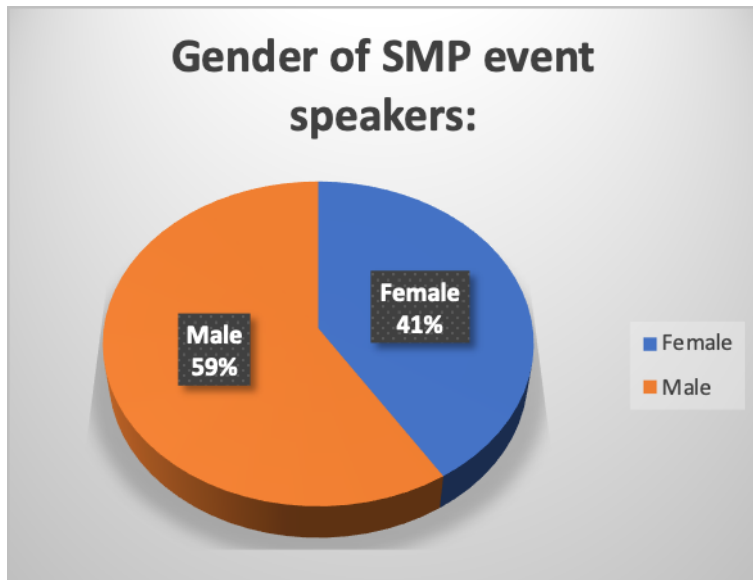


EVENT SPEAKERS:

The SMP's 33 events in 2019-20 had 70 speakers, of these, it is our best understanding that:

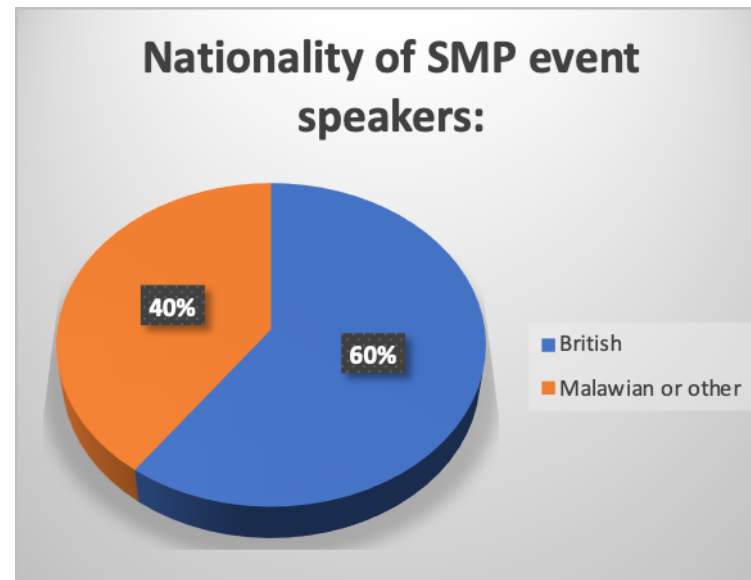
GENDER:

- 41% were female, and
- 59% were male



NATIONALITY:

- 60% were British, and
- 40% were Malawian (or other nationality)



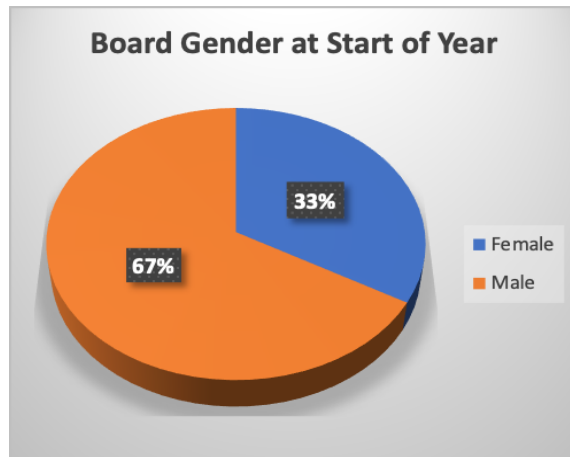
BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

In December 2018, the SMP [joined the 'Partnership for change' 50/50 by 2020 pledge](#), and [pro-actively advertised for](#), and encouraged, female applicants at the October 2019 AGM.

GENDER:

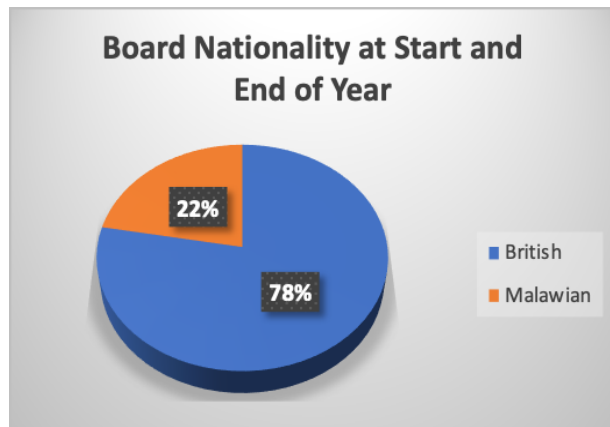
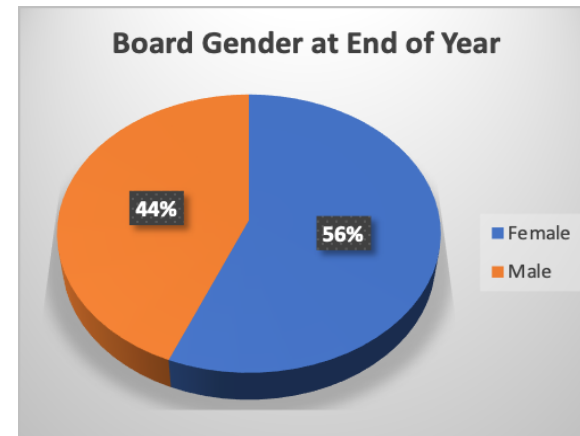
At the start of the year (April '19), the Board had 15 members, of which:

- **five were female (33%);** and
- **ten were male (67%).**



At the end of the year (March '20), the [Board had 16 members](#), of which:

- **nine were female (56%);** and
- **ten were male (44%).**



NATIONALITY:

Although five Directors stood down during 2019-20 and five more were elected, the nationality composition of the Board did not change, with:

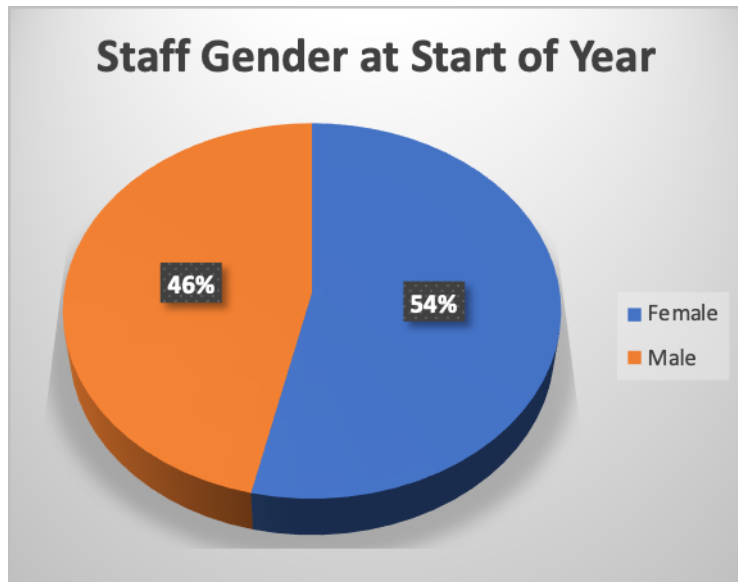
- **13 Scottish Directors (78%);** and
- **3 Directors from the Malawian Diaspora community (22%),**

STAFF:

The office [staff team](#) started and ended the year with 5.6 Full Time Equivalents (FTE) staff.

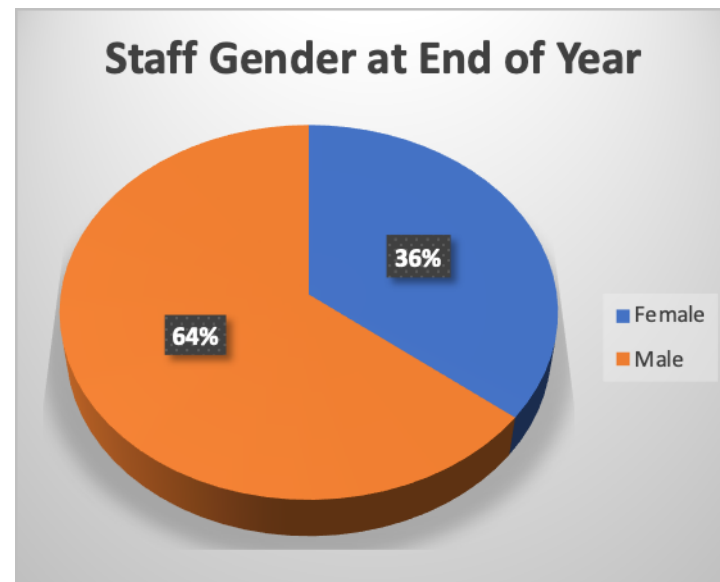
At the start of the year (April 2019), we had:

- 3 FTE female staff (54%), and
- 2.6 FTE male staff (46%)



At the end of the year (April 2019), we had:

- 2 FTE female staff (36%), and
- 3.6 FTE male staff (64%)



CONCLUSIONS:

The Scotland Malawi Partnership actively works to encourage and support diversity, inclusion and equality across gender, nationality and other protected characteristics.

The SMP is pleased to have indicative gender and nationality data included in its end of year reporting this year. Because this is the first time we have collected this information, we do not have any historic data for comparison.

We are keen to note that our collection of this data is far from perfect, as we need to work around GDPR constraints and member sensitivities. We therefore emphasise that all data here is *our best understanding* of the gender and nationality composition of our events and activities over the last 12 months.

We are pleased that the 2019-20 data suggests we are admirably close to achieving gender equality in our event attendance (53% female; 47% male) and we are pleased that over 25% of those who attended our events this year were Malawian or another non-British nationality.

Given our commitment to reaching new audiences with different events, we are pleased that the total attendance figure of 1,061 across the SMP's own 33 events this year, included 734 different people.

We are pleased that over 40% of the speakers at our 2019-20 events were Malawian (or another non-British nationality) but we will look to improve the gender balance of our speakers in future years, which was 59% male and 41% female in 2019/20.

On our Board, having [joined the 'Partnership for change' 50/50 by 2020 pledge](#), we are pleased to have significantly improved our gender balance on the board, from 67% male and 33% female at the start of the year to 56% female and 44% male at the end of the year. We are very pleased to have retained three Directors from the Malawian diaspora community, giving the Board a 23% diaspora composition.

On the staff team, we note that that we started the year 54% female and 46% male, and ended 36% female and 64% male: a worsening gender balance. However, with such a small staff team of just 5.6FTE we recognise that there will be a natural ebb and flow in the gender composition and we look to draw reflections over a three-year timescale rather than annually.

While far from a full or perfect diversity review, we think it worthwhile to undertake this process as part of our end-of year review. We recognise that it is not always either easy or appropriate to collect detailed data on protected characteristics from event attendees, especially young people, and hence we look to maintain a careful balance; collating appropriate and useful data in a proportionate and sensitive manner.

10 Agriculture and Food Security Progress and Impact Report:

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

Through 2019/20, the SMP continued to support members in the area of Agriculture and Food Security.

There were five main points of significant SMP engagement: two Agriculture and Food Security Forums, timed to connect SMP members with key visiting Malawians; two events held around the visit of the first home-trained Malawian Vets to Scotland (which the SMP helped facilitate) and a Cross-Party Group on Malawi, the meetings of which the SMP programmes and facilitates.

The SMP helped facilitate a visit to Scotland of the first home-trained Malawi Vets by helping to secure visas and co-ordinating with Scottish and Malawian-based partners. The home training and presence of Vets is of importance for Malawi's sustainable agriculture and food security as an 80% agrarian nation with a population approaching nineteen million people but with only around 8 Vets.

The SMP arranged for the young Vets and their Head of Department to present at the [Cross-Party Group on Malawi September 11th 2019](#) in the Scottish Parliament with 32 participants.

The SMP also organised a [civic reception](#) in the Edinburgh City Chambers for the delegation and helped secure positive media coverage

The Vets' visit was a collaboration amongst the Lilongwe Society for the Protection and Care of Animals (LSPCA), the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), Inglis Vets, the SMP and LSPCA's Chair.

Adam Tjolle who commented:

"We found the Scotland Malawi Partnership invaluable in making our vet exchange happen and the experience was fantastic with a fully loaded programme making connections which will transform the veterinary careers of our students."

Two SMP Agriculture and Food Security Forums held were timed to enable key visiting Malawians to present to and interact with those working in this field in Scotland:

Working in partnership with Scottish Government-funded Network The Scottish Fair Trade Forum, the SMP co-hosted an [Agriculture & Food Security Forum](#) on March 6th 2020. This event was attended by the Scottish Government's Minister for International Development, Jenny Gilruth MSP, whose [appointment](#) the SMP also communicated to its members. The meeting enabled members to hear from the Kasinthula Cane Growers in Malawi and for bodies such as Just Trading Scotland to discuss the challenges and opportunities around the importation of Malawian products. The event was part of Fairtrade Fortnight and the Gender in Agriculture campaign [She Deserves](#).

On March 12th, the SMP provided a platform at its [Agriculture & Food Security Forum](#) for members to hear about the Scottish Government-funded project (CROPS) which is being delivered by Challenges Worldwide. The Scottish Government's Nicola Cogan attended this event arranged at short notice to capitalise on the visit to Scotland of the Malawian project lead, Phillip Chidawati.

[The Cross-Party Group on Malawi of May 1st 2019](#) learned more about the impact of Cyclone Idai on Agriculture, Food Security and health with presentations that included those by Prof Robert Kalin of the University of Strathclyde and from the Professional Advisor for the Scottish Global Health Co-ordination Unit at the Scottish Government, Mike McKirdy

The SMP has again been proactive and responsive in convening and supporting activities with key agriculture & food security organisations including Water Witness International, SCIAF, Just Trading Scotland and the Global Academy for Agriculture & Food Security.

Event Feedback Survey Results:

An average of 48.9% of participants completed feedback forms following the two Ag & Food Security Forums.

In the 6th March Forum 82% rated the event as Excellent/Very Good; 91% said it strengthened their Malawi links and 73% made new contacts.

In the 12th March Forum 100% rated the event as Excellent/Very Good; 100% said it strengthened their Malawi links and 80% rated the networking opportunity as Excellent.

Positive Testimonials Included:

"It is extremely useful for the networking opportunities it presents, and opening doors you didn't know were even there, due to the level of wider activity going on." –
Dr Darren Watt, University of Edinburgh

Understanding agricultural ties" – **Dr Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits**

"Deep and broad knowledge and links" - **Andrew Parker, Imani Development**

Bringing partners together" - **Dorcas Pratt, Water Witness International**

Keeps us informed, gives networking opportunity...and business support."
Phil Broadis, Fair Trade Scotland Ltd

"It has strengthened Malawi links" - **Isla Farley, Imani Development**

"Useful contacts + knowledge transfer" - **Andrew Heald, Consultant**

"It has provided linkages to other small holders that are doing the same effort in Malawi. It has provided the forum for coming up with innovations and opportunities for development" –

Henry Kadzuwa, The University of Edinburgh

Agriculture members described the SMP's impact in the 2020 Member Needs and Impact Survey as:

- *"Very helpful in supporting institutional links in Malawi"*
"Supporting building of partnerships in Malawi esp with 3rd sector"

Prof Geoff Simm,
Director of the Global Academy of Agriculture and Food Security,
and Chair of Global Agriculture and Food Security
University of Edinburgh

- *"Meeting other organisations; raising my awareness; opportunities to raise Malawi Fruit's profile*

Dr Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits

- *"Through an invitation to meet the first graduates of the vet school we have now written a training grant with Prof to enhance veterinary epi skills in country"*

Stella Mazeri

- *"Deepened my knowledge; particularly appreciate meetings around agriculture, water and natural resources."*

Dr Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits

11 Business, Trade, Investment and Tourism Progress and Impact Report

Executive Summary:

Since 2014, supporting Scotland-Malawi business, trade, investment and tourism has been a component of the Scotland Malawi Partnership's work.

This document details 25 activities and engagements the SMP took part in between April 2019 and March 2020 which relate, at least in part, to business, trade, investment and tourism. Pages 4-9 summarise these engagements and pages 2-3 track these against the below five strategic objectives. Pages 9-11 share feedback we have received on this work and page 12 summarises key developments in each of the five strategic objectives.

We feel we have seen strong impact in this period against the SMP's five business, trade, investment and tourism strategic objectives:

1) Build Scottish Markets for Malawian exports:

The SMP continued to be an active part of the Malawi-UK Business Group, helping represent Scotland's work in this space. Most of our efforts in this area were focussed on promoting: Kilombero Rice, the 'first 500' Mzuzu Coffee, Malawi Gin and Tradecraft Mzimba Coffee. We worked in close partnership with Scottish Fair Trade Forum, supporting Fair Trade Fortnight and visits to Scotland of representatives from producer countries.

2) Support sustainable and ethical Malawi tourism:

We were delighted to help organise the '[Taste of Malawi](#)' event in Scotland House, London on the 7th November. Timed around the World Tourism Expo in London, this event helped promote Malawi as a world class tourism destination. Our formal Corporate Partnership with Orbis Expeditions/Responsible Safari Company will not only yield unrestricted income for the SMP, but also help us promote Malawi travel further. Covid-19 undoubtedly presents a *huge* threat to Malawi travel. It is not

yet clear when travel restrictions will re-start but we will work with key stakeholders to support the sector, however we can, as and when this is possible.

3) Support sustainable and ethical investment into Malawi:

We were delighted to welcome the Chair and Head of Global Affairs of CDC to Scotland for the first time. They were both genuinely taken aback by the SMP and left in no doubt as to the strength of support across Scottish civic, public and political life for the relationship with Scotland. The Chair of CDC, Graham Wrigley, was so impressed with the SMP's core narrative of a people-to-people dignified two-way partnership, that he asked whether he could borrow from this when speaking the following week at the Prime Minister's [UK-Africa Investment Summit](#), with President Mutharika and other Heads of State from across Africa.

4) Support UK-Malawi Trade:

Again, the '[Taste of Malawi](#)' event in November was a key engagement here. It was excellent to have the Scottish Government's support in hosting the event in Scotland House: a sign of the strong support for Malawi in Scotland.

5) Advance issues of Trade Justice:

Trade justice remains an important focus for the SMP within this area. We continue to promote our 'Make Tax Fair Everywhere' campaign, and work in partnership to support Fair Trade.

N.B.: Not all activity detailed in this document is core funded by the Scottish Government. The Government has requested that its funding is not used for activities outside Scotland, so work with the Malawi-UK Business Group and the Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group in Westminster is funded by the SMP's own unrestricted funds.

Strategic Objective Mapping:

Date	Engagement	Build Scottish markets for Malawian	Support Malawi tourism	Support investment into Malawi	Support UK-Malawi Trade	Advance issues of trade
April 2019 – March 2020	Co-led the Malawi-UK Business Group	X	X	X	X	
April 2019 – March 2020	Promotion of Scotland Street Coffee	X			X	
April 2019 – March 2020	Promotion of other Malawi exports	X			X	
April 2019 – March 2020	'Make Tax Fair Everywhere' Campaign					X
May – September 2019	Support for Malawi Congress Trade Union					X
April - July 2019	UK Visas Parliamentary Inquiry – impact on business				X	
May 2019 – February 2020	Promotion of Malawi Sports Challenges		X			
11 th July 2019	Scotsman article on ethical Malawian rice	X				
April – September 2019	STA Travel Corporate Partnership		X			
August – October 2019	Promotion of Malawi Tourism around AGM		X			
October	Launch of new Orbis Expeditions Corporate Partnership		X			
7 th November 2019	'A Taste of Malawi' business tourism and networking event	X	X	X		
3 rd December 2019	Renewable Energy Forum with William Kamkwamba				X	
15 th January 2020	SMP Roundtable meeting with CDC Chair			X		
15 th January 2020	SMP-facilitated meeting between CDC and the Scottish Government			X		
15 th January 2020	SMP-hosted meeting between CDC and MSPs			X		
30 th January 2020	Input to SG Fair Trade Review					X
February - March 2020	Work with Scottish Fair Trade Forum (Fair Trade Fortnight)	X				X
February	Visa support visiting Rice Farmers	X			X	X
5 th March 2020	SMP roundtable meeting with Speaker and Malawian MPs			X		X
6 th March 2020	Support for Kasinthula Cane Growers' visit to the UK	X				X
12 th March 2020	Food and Agriculture Forum supporting CROPS			X		
March 2020	Challenges-CDC introduction			X		
March 2020	Promotion of 'First 500' in Fairtrade Mzuzu Coffee	X			X	X
March 2020	Working with leaders in Malawi Tourism to respond to Covid-19		X			
TOTALS		9	7	8	7	8

SMP Business, Trade, Investment and Tourism Engagements 2019-20:

April 2019 – March 2020: Co-led the Malawi-UK Business Group:

In 2019-20 the SMP continued to be an active part of the Malawi-UK Business Group. This is a group originally established by the Malawi High Commissioner to the UK, which works to support Malawi-UK trade by facilitating collaboration between the key stakeholders. The SMP is an elected member of the group's Executive and established the Group's [website](#) for them in 2018.

In 2019-20 the SMP attended four Malawi-UK Business Group meetings, all by video conference. The only travel to London with this group was for the 11th November 'Taste of Malawi' event, see below.

April 2019 – March 2020: Promotion of Scotland Street Coffee:

Through 2019-20 we have been active continuing to promote the second edition of [Scotland Street Coffee](#). This is an SMP-branded coffee which has been produced as a partnership between the SMP, the acclaimed author Alexander McCall Smith and Brodies. A share of profits from sales of this Mzuzu coffee are donated to SMP member, the Mamie Martin Fund, supporting girl's education in an area not far from where the coffee is grown.

April 2019 – March 2020: Promotion of other Malawi exports:

The SMP promoted a range of a dozen different Malawian products which are commercially available in Scotland, including: Malawi Gin, various different versions of Malawian coffee, Kilombero Rice, Malawian nuts, Malawian tea, products with Malawian sugar, Nali sauce, peanut butter, Linga Wine, and various Malawian arts and crafts exports. [Click here](#) for details of these products, and [here](#) for stockists and more information about our wider work in this space.

April 2019 – March 2020: 'Make Tax Fair Everywhere' Campaign:

The SMP continued to lobby the UK Government to update the colonial-era 1955 UK-Malawi Double Taxation Treaty, one of the oldest and least just bilateral taxation treaties the UK has, as part of the joint '[Make Tax Fair Everywhere](#)' campaign.

May – September 2019: Support for Malawi Congress Trade Union:

As part of our support for developing links between Scotland and the Malawi Congress of Trade Unions, the SMP hosted a roundtable meeting on the 15th May in the City Chambers bringing together Heriot Watt academics, the Scottish Trade Union Congress, the General Secretary and other senior officials from the Malawi Congress Trade Union, and academics from the Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST). Following this, the SMP supported a [conference on the 26th and 27th September](#) looking at collaborative proposals across industrial, philanthropic and academic organisation to support new Scotland-Malawi trade union links.

April-July 2019: UK Visas Parliamentary Inquiry – impact on business:

The SMP was actively involved in the [Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group](#) (APPG) partnering with the Africa APPG - the largest such group in Westminster - and the Migration APPG to undertake a major parliamentary inquiry into the handling of UK visa applications from Africa. The SMP wrote significant portions of the report, including the conclusions.

[Read the official report here](#)

Section 4.1 of the report looks specifically on the impact of these visa issues on business, trade and investment, and we worked closely through the process with key business leaders.

On Tuesday, 16th July, the three APPGs came together in Westminster to launch the formal report from this parliamentary inquiry, highlighting issues in current policy and making clear recommendations for the UK Government.

At the launch of the report Patrick Grady MP, Chair of the Malawi APPG and SMP member, said:

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

Chi Onwurah MP, Chair of the Africa APPG, said:

"This report is the culmination of six months of evidence and research gathering through which we have received numerous reports of unfounded visa refusals. The report identifies wider systemic issues behind the handling of UK visa applications from Africa."

Caroline Nokes MP, Minister of State for Immigration responded for the Government, commenting on how well attended the standing-room-only event was and recognising this was an issue on which many MPs and Peers had strong views.

The Minister recognised this was a hugely challenging report but it was important for the Government to know where the problems are and what difficulties are being experienced.

She commented that there is indeed evidence that the visa system does sometimes go wrong and there are areas where improvements

are needed. She recognised that from the UK Government's own data it is clear that the vast majority who visit from Africa do not overstay their visa and now is the time for a "grown-up conversation" on the issue.

Ms Nokes stated that she wants a clear impression that Britain is open for business so it can attract global visitors and that the UK needs to be forward thinking in this area.

The Minister thanked the APPGs for the report commenting:

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

May 2019 – February 2020: Promotion of Malawi Sports Challenges:

Through 2019-20 we worked with Orbis Expeditions/Responsible Safari Company to promote and support their *Sports for a Purpose* challenges. These major sports celebrity-led expeditions helped promote Malawi as a tourism destination and develop new sports-specific tourism. We specifically supported, for example: the second Kelly Holmes challenge, the [Ollie Phillips rugby challenge](#), the [Women's Leadership Challenge](#), the [Susie Chan trail running challenge](#), the [Mark Beaumont cycling challenge](#) (for which we hosted a meeting in the City Chambers to help secure Mark Beaumont's involvement).

11th July 2019: Scotsman article on ethical Malawian rice:

The SMP gave its regular 750-word, two-page article in the Scotsman to Just Trading Scotland (JTS) for an article promoting the fact that its Malawi Kilombero Rice had just received a 'most ethical rice' award. We co-wrote the piece with Mary Popple, the Chair of JTS. [Click here](#) to read.

April – September 2019: STA Travel Corporate Partnership:

In the first two quarters of 2019-20, we continued to promote our Corporate Travel Partner, STA Travel, in our bulletin, website and social media. This was in support of group travel between Scotland and Malawi.

August – October 2019: Promotion of Malawi Tourism around AGM:

At the October [2019 SMP AGM](#) we gave away seven major tourism prizes, to encourage active engagement across our membership, but also to promote Malawi tourism. In the weeks running up to the AGM, we profiled six different Malawi lodges and business in our weekly bulletin. At the AGM we gave members copies of our new [Scotland-Malawi Tourism Brochure](#).

October: Launch of new Orbis Expeditions/Responsible Safari Company Corporate Partnership:

In October the SMP announced a [new corporate partnership](#) with travel operator [Orbis Expeditions](#) which will promote and support Malawi tourism and see two per cent of all their gross Scotland-Malawi travel income donated to the Partnership.

Orbis Expeditions, including under its earlier trading name 'The Responsible Safari Company', is a longstanding member and friend of the SMP.

It has also been a trusted and proven partner of the SMP, having taken out over 70 Scottish school groups to Malawi over many years, and offered financial sponsorship of many of the SMP's larger events in recent years.

The SMP has been consistently impressed with Orbis Expeditions' commitment to the safety and welfare of Scottish groups when traveling in Malawi.

Orbis Expeditions has made significant investments in securing relevant kitemarks, memberships and quality assurance standards, including ABTA membership, ATOL membership, inspected full member of the Expedition Providers Association, Quality Badge awarded by the Council for Learning Outside Classrooms, Adventure Activity Associates British Standard 8848 Corporate Conformity Independently Assessed, African Travel and Tourism Association Member, Global Rescue Safe Travel Partner. The International Ecotourism Society Member, 1DMC Member, Tourism Concern and the Geotourism Development Foundation.

7th November 2019: ['A Taste of Malawi' Malawi business and tourism networking event:](#)

The SMP was delighted to support and help organise the second major networking event of the UK-Malawi Business Group, at the Scottish Government's 'Scotland House' in London. The evening brought together all the key stakeholders across Malawi business and tourism, including across the tourism industry and related media, to promote Malawi business, trade, investment and tourism.

The now annual event explored opportunities, linkages and markets in Malawi, and Malawian products available in the United Kingdom. This year, the event followed a very successful World Travel Market at ExCel London and focused on Malawi tourism opportunities.

Attending the evening were senior Malawi Government officials from the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism, including the Minister Salim Bagus MP, providing information to prospective investors, tourism operators, service providers and the media on doing business in the Malawi tourism sector.

Trade officials were also on-hand to provide wider information on investment opportunities across Malawi priority sectors. The evening brought together 80+ high-level stakeholders across the travel and trade sectors, providing a unique opportunity to make new contacts and learn more about new opportunities and included a small exhibition of tour operators and Malawi products.

Malawi Tourism has received a major boost in recent years by returning as a *Big Five* destination, the Lake Malawi UNESCO heritage status and recent visits related to wildlife promotion by His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex.

At the Scottish Government's request, work undertaken by the SMP outside Scotland (including support for this event) is funded by the SMP's own unrestricted charitable income and not through the Scottish Government core grant.

3rd December 2019: Renewable Energy Forum with William Kamkwamba:

Our 3rd December 2019 [Renewable Energy Forum](#) with William Kamkwamba (the real life [Boy Who Harnessed the Wind](#)), gave a platform for seven businesses and NGOs to present their work with renewable energy in Malawi. This looked to support renewable energy business and investment.

15th January 2020: [SMP Roundtable meeting with CDC Chair:](#)

The SMP hosted a round-table meeting with CDC's Chairman, [Graham Wrigley](#), and Head of Global Affairs, Andrew Palmer, who were keen to meet SMP Members and understand their development priorities.

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

CDC is the UK's development finance institution, wholly owned by the UK Government's Department for International Development. Founded in 1948, its mission is to support the building of businesses in Africa and South Asia, to create jobs and make a lasting difference to people's lives in some of the world's poorest places. This is done with a dual objective: to support growth and jobs that lift people out of poverty, and to make a financial return, which is re-invested into more businesses. In this way, its capital is used over and over again to help create the jobs and economic stability that will enable countries to leave poverty behind.

CDC invests in Africa and Asia because over 80% of the world's poorest people live in these regions. The focus is on investing in countries where the private sector is weak, jobs are scarce, and the investment climate is difficult, but particularly in sectors where growth leads to jobs. These sectors are financial services, infrastructure, health, manufacturing, food and agriculture, construction and real estate, and education.

This is, to our knowledge, the first time a CDC Chair has visited Scotland to meet civic stakeholders in an official capacity. The visit was proposed and co-organised by the SMP. During the roundtable meeting, the Chair committed to continuing this active conversation, with annual meetings.

15th January 2020: [SMP-facilitated meeting between CDC and Scottish Government:](#)

As part of the SMP-facilitated visit of the visit to Scotland of the CDC Chair and Head of Global Affairs, the SMP helped support a meeting with Scottish Government officials.

15th January 2020: SMP-hosted meeting between CDC and MSPs:

As part of the SMP-facilitated visit of the visit to Scotland of the CDC Chair and Head of Global Affairs, the SMP organised a dinner for CDC to meet with representatives of the four largest parties in the Scottish Parliament, including all three Co-Convenors of the Malawi Cross Party Group. It was an opportunity to show the strength of all-party support for Scotland's civic links with Malawi, in order to encourage CDC to increase their Malawi portfolio.

30th January 2020: Input to SG Fair Trade Review:

In January, the SMP fed into the Scottish Government's Fair Trade Review, meeting with the external assessor.

February - March 2020: Work with Scottish Fair Trade Forum (Fair Trade Fortnight):

Throughout 2019-20 we worked closely with the Scottish Fair Trade Forum, to support and amplify their work, most especially around Fair Trade Fortnight (Feb-Mar). There continues to be a healthy constructive synergy between our two networks through which, by working together, we are more than the sum of our parts.

February: Visa support visiting Rice Farmers:

The SMP gives support through the year for our members' UK visa applications, with direct channels to UKVI to [endorse applications](#). In February we again supported Howard Chikoma Msukwa and Grace Ikamila Mwanguti's UK Visa applications as part of their upcoming visit to the UK with JTS. JTS has worked with the Malawian rice farmers on seed multiplication and new agricultural technologies combatting the effects of climate change.

5th March 2020: [SMP roundtable meeting with Speaker and Malawian MPs:](#)

The SMP hosted a roundtable meeting for SMP representatives and key SMP members to meet with: Catherine Gotani Hara, the first female Speaker of the Malawi National Assembly; Fiona Kalembe, Clerk of Parliament; ten Malawian MPs, across each of the major parties; and three Parliamentary officials. Support got trade and business was part of this discussion.

6th March 2020: Support for Kasinthula Cane Growers' visit to the UK:

In Jan-Feb we supported the visas for Ndiuzayani Zaya and Aubrey Chilenje, two Malawian Kasinthula Cane Growers, to visit the UK as part of Fair Trade Fortnight. We then co-hosted an [Agriculture and Food Security Forum](#) meeting with them on the 6th March, attended by 23 members and the new Scottish Government International Development Minister.

12th March 2020: Food and Agriculture Forum supporting CROPS:

Having supported his UK visa application, the SMP hosted an [Agriculture and Food Security Forum](#) for Philip Chidawati, the country lead for Challenges Malawi, on the 12th March, raising awareness of Challenges' CROPS (Creating Robust Opportunities in Crop Production and Sale) project.

March 2020: Challenges-CDC introduction:

Having hosted the above meeting, and had a follow-up meeting with Challenges, we facilitated an introduction between Challenges and CDC at a senior level. Challenges hopes to build a relationship with CDC to, in the longer term, attract scaleable investment to support their CROPS (Creating Robust Opportunities in Crop Production and Sale) project

March 2020: Promotion of 'First 500' in Fairtrade Mzuzu Coffee:

Recognising the value of domestic value addition in the form of bean roasting, the SMP helped promote the 'First 500' micro-investment opportunity in Fairtrade Mzuzu Coffee. We also purchased the coffee ourselves, to serve and promote at SMP meetings and events, and we bought a further 50 bags to give to respondents to our 2019-20 member survey in March 2020 – again, to help build markets for this coffee.

Stakeholder Feedback:

Government of Malawi:

"I write on behalf of the High Commission of Malawi to record our deep appreciation and admiration for the work of the Scotland Malawi Partnership. It has continued to support the priorities of both the Scottish and Malawi Governments for the development of Malawi. One of many notable achievements was arranging the programme for the visit of the chair of CDC who was, I know, very impressed by what he heard of the partnership between the two nations. It was particularly fortunate that the visit came just before the London conference on investment in Africa where our President was able to follow up on the issues raised in Edinburgh in bilateral discussions with the Chair of CDC.

March 2020: Working with leaders in Malawi Tourism to respond to Covid-19:

From early/mid-March the SMP was in regular contact with leaders in Malawi Tourism to share information about the impact of Covid-19 on the Malawi travel sector. We helped promote Orbis Expeditions' [offer of support](#) to groups not able to travel to Malawi, to help the company remain solvent through the crisis.

"The subsequent programme for the visit of the Speaker of the Malawian Parliament, co-ordinated with the Scottish Government and Parliament was another striking success, allowing the new minister Jenny Gilruth MSP to engage directly with our leading female political leader.

"As I write this, the Partnership is continuing, despite the lockdown, to play a key role in co-ordinating Scottish support for Malawi as its numbers of Covid-19 infections rise and this is greatly valued by the Malawi Government in its time of need."

**Dr Peter West OBE DL
Scottish Hon Consul of Malawi**

Businesses:

"As a WFTO Guaranteed Fair Trade mission-led Social Business, we have found membership of the Scotland Malawi Partnership, to be extremely supportive in our attempts to bring value added products from Malawi into Scotland.

"Measuring the Social Impact a Fair Trade purchase has on the lives of smallholder farmers in Malawi is key for us and the efforts of the staff to engage and reach out to its members to promote the coffee has been really encouraging.

"Presenting two Mzuzu Golden Coffee FIRST 500 packages to members at their AGM through to purchasing coffee to be used at events and more recently as a gift to those completing an online survey has helped to 'spread the word'.

"Wherever possible they promote the coffee online and through their newsletters which generates interest and a talking point when we attend SMP gatherings.

"As we move into a new stage of development we are confident that we will be supported by the staff to ensure we abide by the partnership ethos by building capacity for farmers that embraces sustainable economic development through the 10 WFTO Fair Trade Principles."

Eve Broadis
Director, Fair Trade Scotland Ltd.

"Thank you for the introduction the SMP made to CDC following their presentation in Edinburgh, David. It is extremely helpful for us to be able to

speak immediately to someone at the right level at CDC and to have the context of the Scotland / Malawi relationship behind our discussion with them. Being able to bring their attention to our work and continue to engage with them over the next few years as a result adds a new dimension to our work with rural farmers." **Eoghan Mackie, Chief Executive, Challenges Worldwide**

"The Scottish Malawi Partnership is a hugely valuable aid to all in the third sector who work with partners and colleagues in Malawi. For JTS this is particularly through networking and connecting us to new supporters at SML events in Scotland, facilitating visas for farmers to visit Scotland, gaining us access to publicity and of course promoting Kilombero rice. But most of all it is because SML provides unwavering support for all that we do."

Mary Popple, Chair,
Just Trading Scotland (JTS)

"Re-establishing links with projects operating in Malawi has been invaluable. Also to have been made aware of performances and events in London was most welcome. It all helps to make Malawi feel less remote... The convention at Scotland House was a fantastic opportunity to pool resources and establish links. A dedicated newsletter to issues surrounding Malawi is also most valuable."

Daisy Belfield Santos, Rare Charity (Rare Tea Company)

"[The SMP is a] Fantastic network." **Benjamin Carey, Carey Tourism**

"[The SMP has] deepened my knowledge; particularly appreciate meetings around agriculture, water and natural resources.

Dr Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits

Strategic Partners:

"It has been very useful to continue to work in partnership with the Scotland Malawi Partnership on the promotion of Fair Trade links with Malawi. Their practical support with visa applications for visiting Fair Trade representatives from Malawi along with the opportunity to promote Fair Trade to a wider audience with an interest in Malawi continues to assist us in our work."

Martin Rhodes, Chief Executive, Scottish Fair Trade Forum

"The continuing presence of an established entity working solely to develop the partnership between Scotland & Malawi is an invaluable resource, one stop shop and focal point for all partnership links between the two countries ... We have benefited from increased brand exposure and an introduction to various

relevant contacts & new partners. SMP also adds credibility and reliability to our ongoing brand growth."

Dominic Webb, Orbis Expeditions

"Our work with SMP definitely adds value for our partners [tourism lodges and businesses] that they can see...Assistance from SMP in promoting tourism to Malawi is of benefit to the partners we work with in tourism in Malawi. They can identify that as a positive and so it helps to strengthen our link with them."

Kelly White, Malawi Travel Marketing Consortium

Member feedback:

Of the 34 feedback forms received from those who attended the SMP's business, trade and investment events this year:

- **100%** said they **made new contacts** as a result of attending
- **94%** said the event **strengthened their link with Malawi**
- **88%** described the event as **"excellent or "very good"**

Comments received about the **most useful aspects of these event** included:

- *"A good overview of CDC + how it has evolved, renewed strategy + how it aligns with the work of Mercy Corps"* – **Lisa Seymour Doughty, Mercy Corps Europe**
- *"Networking opportunities"*
- *"CDC presentations"* – **Dorcas Pratt, Water Witness International**
- *"Learning how CDC has grown in the 20 years since I left"* – **Russell Salton, Edinburgh Fairtrade City Steering Group**
- *"Background information on what, why and how CDC operate"* – **Phil Broadis, Fairtrade Scotland Limited**
- *"Networking opportunities"* – **Alan Laverock, BananaBox Trust**
- *"Openness"* – **Heather Cubie, University of Edinburgh**

- *"Hearing directly from CDC"* – **Andrew Heald, Consultant**
- *"Information on CDC"*
- *"Learning first-hand about CDC"* – **Kevin Simpson, Malawi Fruits**
- *"The very innovative presentation that will live to solve / alleviate the livelihoods of Malawians through a diverse range of aspects i.e. finances, nutrition, harvesting of floods / soil conservation etc."* – **Henry Kadzuwa, University of Edinburgh**
- *"Knowledge share"* – **Eoghan Mackie, Challenges Worldwide**
- *"Making connections with SMP"* – **Johnnie Balfour, Challenges Worldwide and Salbirnie Home Farms**
- *"Learning about success"* – **Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits**
- *"Some useful points and information to go and research and discuss"* – **Caroline Wylie, Challenges Worldwide**
- *"Diversity"* – **Thomas Echlin-Harrardine, Whitfield Echlin & Company LLP**

- *"Hearing about what others are doing in Malawi in FS space, Networking, Hearing from Malawian partners about in-country experiences"* – **Isla Farley, Imani Development**
- *"Understanding pooling of land + how it links to private sector development"* – **Andrew Parker, Imani Development**
- *"Greater appreciation of wider food security issues."* – **Phil Broadis, Fairtrade Scotland Limited**
- *"Meeting people & companies from Malawi"*
- *"The invaluable collective contributions that every individual made during the event".* – **Lillian Nseula, University of Strathclyde**
- *"Expanding my knowledge to a completely different area of activity"* – **Heather Cubie, University of Edinburgh**
- *'Opportunity to reconnect with contacts in my new capacity as consultant"* – **Penny George, The Sky Within Consulting**
- *'Discussions about solar vs wind vs diesel pumps."* – **Nigel Harper, LUV+**

Comments on how **membership of the SMP** (and therefore attending events like these) had an **impact on supporting links with Malawi** included:

- *"Bringing partners together"* – **Dorcas Pratt, Water Witness International**
- *"Keeps us informed, gives networking opportunity."* – **Fair Trade Scotland Limited**
- *"Very large impact. SMP is very good at linking this with us".* – **Alan Laverock, BananaBox Trust**
- *"Cross-silo working - big impact + knowledge sharing"* – **Heather Cubie, University of Edinburgh**
- *"Useful contacts + knowledge transfer"* – **Andrew Heald, Consultant**
- *"It has provided linkages to other small-holders that are doing the same effort in Malawi. It has provided the forum for coming up with*

innovations and opportunities for development" – **Henry Kadzuwa, University of Edinburgh**

- *"Yes"*
- *"Understanding agricultural ties"* – **Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits**
- *"Yes, keeping up to date with news and direct impact and investment of the SMP"* – **Caroline Wylie, Challenges Worldwide**
- *"Government links"* – **Thomas Echlin-Harrardine, Whitfield Echlin & Company LLP**
- *"It has strengthened Malawi links"* – **Isla Farley, Imani Development**
- *"Deep and broad knowledge + links"* – **Andrew Parker, Imani Development**

- *"Lots of background support with all things Malawi + business support."* – **Phil Broadis, Fairtrade Scotland Limited**
- *"I am a new member who looks forward to attending more events in the foreseeable future."* – **Lillian Nseula, University of Strathclyde**
- *"new contacts"* – **Heather Cubie, University of Edinburgh**

Other **comments/feedback** included:

- *"Keep on keeping on"* – **Phil Broadis, Fairtrade Scotland Limited**
- *"Keep up the good work"* – **Alan Laverock, BananaBox Trust**
- *"Thank you!"* – **Eoghan Mackie, Challenges Worldwide**
- *"An excellent forum. It was well lead to strong links between Challenges Malawi & Malawi Fruits"* – **Charles Howie, Malawi Fruits**

Progress against BITT Strategic Objectives:

(1) Build Scottish Markets for Malawian exports:

We had nine engagements in 2019-20 which advanced this strategic objective, with the SMP continuing to be an active part of the Malawi-UK Business Group, helping represent Scotland's work in this space. Most of our efforts in this year were focussed on promoting: Kilombero Rice, the 'first 500' Mzuzu Coffee, Malawi Gin and Tradecraft Mzimba Coffee. We worked in close partnership with a number of organisations to this end, most especially the Scottish Fair Trade Forum, supporting Fair Trade Fortnight and visits to Scotland of representatives from producer countries. It is hard to get precise sales figures across the different products we help promote but anecdotal feedback suggests this support helps drive sales and builds the Scottish market.

- *"Membership only just approved!"* – **Penny George, The Sky Within Consulting**
- *"SMP has helped with information and our partner in Malawi will soon be joining the SMP."* – **Nigel Harper, LUV+**

- *"Keep up the good work."* – **Phil Broadis, Fairtrade Scotland Limited**
- *"Great effort that is being made to alleviate different forms of poverty in Malawi."* – **Lillian Nseula, University of Strathclyde**
- *"William was inspiring."* – **Nigel Harper, LUV+**

(2) Support sustainable and ethical Malawi tourism:

We had seven engagements advancing this objective, including helping organise the [*'Taste of Malawi'*](#) event in Scotland House, London on the 7th November. Timed around the World Tourism Expo in London, this event helped promote Malawi as an unsung, world-class tourism destination. Feedback from the various Malawian businesses represented suggests this was a worthwhile event, which succeeded in raising the profile of Malawi tourism. Our formal Corporate Partnership with Orbis Expeditions/Responsible Safari Company was developed this year. It will not only yield important unrestricted income for the SMP (which allows us to support the Malawi-UK Business Group), but also help us promote Malawi travel further. Covid-19 undoubtedly presents a *huge* threat to Malawi travel. It is not yet clear when travel restrictions will re-start but it seems likely the negative impact will continue beyond 2020. We will work with our partners and key stakeholders to support the sector, however we can, as and when this is possible.

(3) Support sustainable and ethical investment into Malawi:

We had eight engagements in this space this year with our biggest success being our work with CDC. We were delighted to welcome the Chair and Head of Global Affairs to Scotland. They were both extremely impressed with the SMP and were in no doubt as to the strength of support across Scottish civic, public and political life for the relationship with Scotland. While CDC's decision making is independent of government, it can only have helped future Malawi investments by showing the support and expectation there is in Scotland for CDC's increasing work in Malawi. The Chair of CDC, Graham Wrigley, was so impressed with the SMP's core narrative of a people-to-people dignified two-way partnership, he asked whether he could borrow from this narrative when speaking the following week at the Prime Minister's [UK-Africa Investment Summit](#), with President Mutharika and other Heads of State from across Africa.

(4) Support UK-Malawi Trade:

Of the seven engagements in this area, the most significant development was the ['Taste of Malawi'](#) in November. It was excellent to have the Scottish Government's support in hosting the event in Scotland House: a sign of the strong support for Malawi in Scotland. This was not lost on those in attendance. It is likely that trade with Malawi, as in all areas of the economy, will be hard-hit by the Covid-19 pandemic but we will do all we can to help support this important area in the months and years to come.

(5) Advance issues of Trade Justice:

Trade justice remains an important focus for the SMP within this area, with eight engagements advancing this objective this year. We continue to promote our ['Make Tax Fair Everywhere'](#) campaign, where appropriate, in Westminster, hoping to have the 1955 UK-Malawi Double Taxation Treaty updated. Our campaign partner, ActionAid, has now moved to focus on other areas but, while we have less capacity now, and less technical expertise from ActionAid, we are keen not to drop the ask until the treaty is updated. We were more active in this period supporting trade justice through Fair Trade, working closely with the Scottish Fair Trade Forum.

12 Lobbying and Advocacy Progress and Impact Report:

Executive Summary:

Through 2019-20 the Scotland Malawi Partnership (SMP) had significant engagement across Holyrood and Westminster as it worked to advance the priorities of its members. It did so while retaining its political neutrality and professional credibility.

The SMP had five major lobbying and advocacy strategic priorities in this period:

- (1) Raising awareness of, and building engagement with and support for, the Scotland-Malawi relationship and the work of the SMP.
- (2) Raising awareness of, and building engagement with and support for, the work of SMP members.
- (3) Lobbying for improvements in the way those from Malawi are treated as they apply for UK Visas.
- (4) Lobbying for increased sustainable and ethical investment in Malawi from the UK.
- (5) Raising awareness of the constructive synergy which exists between Scotland's civic and governmental work with Malawi, and lobbying for this model -and the principles behind it- to be more widely adopted.

There were broadly six groups targeted by the SMP to advance these five priorities: (A) Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs); (B) The Scottish Government; (C) Members of the UK Parliament (MPs) and Peers; (D) The UK Government, (E) Members of the Malawi National Assembly (F) other significant decisionmakers

It is important to emphasise that, at the Scottish Government's request, work undertaken by the SMP outwith Scotland, including support for the Westminster Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) and engagement of the Malawi-UK Business Group, is not funded from the SG's core grant to the SMP but rather from the SMP's own unrestricted income.

This document details 43 key interactions in which the SMP worked to advance its five strategic priorities in 2019-20, mobilizing 190 actions taken by MPs, MSPs and Ministers. Pages 2-3 indicate, for each of these points of engagement which of the five priorities were advanced and which of the six audiences were targeted. Pages 4-14 give summary information for each of the 43 engagements available.

Pages 15-18 look to analyze the impact these 43 SMP engagements have had in this period against the SMP's five strategic priorities in this area. While recognizing the challenges of attribution, the work of others and the many external influences beyond the SMP's control, it draws out compelling evidence that the Partnership has had good positive impact against each of its advocacy strategic priorities.

- (1) The First Minister, Scottish and UK Ministers, and Scottish, UK and Malawian Parliamentarians have all spoken publicly in praise of Scotland-Malawi links and the work of the SMP, and have referenced and praised the SMP's core narratives.
- (2) All 59 Scottish MPs and 129 MSPs have been briefed on the [SMP's 1,200+ members'](#) links with Malawi, with many members given profile and a platform by the SMP to speak directly to parliamentarians and the media.
- (3) 100% of SMP supported visa applications have been successfully approved in this year, and the SMP co-wrote a major all-party parliamentary report: [Visa Problems for African Visitors to the UK](#), which was presented directly to the UK Immigration Minister, who accepted there were shortcomings and committed to respond fully.
- (4) There was an unprecedented visit to Scotland, at the invitation of the SMP, by the Chair and Head of Global Affairs of CDC, with the SMP facilitating meetings with parliamentarians and SMP Members to discuss increased CDC investment in Malawi.
- (5) The then UK Secretary of State for International Development responded to a Parliamentary question by committing to map UK civic links with the developing world, following the SMP's model, and then asked the SMP to work up a delivery plan for this endeavour.

There has undoubtedly been excellent progress in this period towards the SMP's above stated objectives. However, the Cabinet reshuffle after the December election, in which the Secretary of State for International Development, the Immigration Minister and the Africa Minister all changed, represents a step backwards for the SMP as the Partnership had developed an outstanding reputation with the three previous post-holders. Furthermore, most recently, the Covid-19 pandemic has paused much of this lobbying and advocacy work while priorities are elsewhere. Thanks to the work here described, however, we have a strong platform for returning to these issues once possible and appropriate.

Strategic Objective Mapping:

SMP Engagement:	Messaging					Audience						Number of actions taken by MPs/ MSPs
	(1) Scot-Malawi relationship	(2) SMP & Members work	(3) UK visa issuing	(4) Malawi investment	(5) Connecting Gov and civic	(A) MSPs	(B) Scottish Government	(C) UK MPs and Peers	(D) UK Government	(E) Malawi MPs	(F) Other decision makers	
30th April 2019: Malawi APPG meeting - Indep Chief Inspector:			X					X	X			13
1st May 2019: Malawi Cross Party Group:	X	X			X	X						4
8th May 2019: Meeting with the First Minister of Scotland:	X	X			X	X	X					1
16th May 2019: <i>Roundtable with Rory Stewart, Secretary of State:</i>	X		X		X			X	X			1
May 2019: SMP written proposal for Secretary of State:	X				X			X	X			1
6th June 2019: Sec of State SMP commendation:	X				X			X	X			3
11th June 2019: House of Commons debate on the SDGs	X	X			X			X	X			3
June 2019: All-party messages of support for outgoing SMP Chair:	X					X	X	X			X	7
1st July 2019: House of Commons debate – DFID expenditure:	X	X		X	X			X	X			4
6th July 2019: Malawi Ind Day Celebrations with SG Minister	X	X				X	X					1
16th July 2019: Launch of All-Party UK Visa Report	X		X					X	X			11
July 2020: SMP written proposal for Secretary of State	X				X			X	X			1
August 2020: UK MPs and MSP visit to Malawi:	X		X			X		X				3
5th September 2019: Member Awards with HRH & Lord Provost	X	X									X	1
11th September 2019: Malawi Cross Party Group:	X	X				X						4
5th October 2019: SMP AGM with Minister Ben Macpherson:	X	X				X	X					1
9th October 2019: Dinner with visiting Malawi MPs:	X	X								X		10
7th November 2019: ‘A Taste of Malawi’ Malawi business event	X			X						X	X	1
20th November 2019: Malawi Cross Party Group meeting:	X	X				X						5
3rd December 2019: Meeting with William K. and MSPs:	X					X						5
3rd December 2019: Meeting with William K., PO and DPO:	X					X						2

SMP Engagement:	Messaging					Audience						Number of actions taken by MPs/ MSPs
	(1) Scotland-Malawi relationship	(2) SMP & Members work	(3) UK visa issuing	(4) Malawi investment	(5) Connecting Gov and civic	(A) MSPs	(B) Scottish Government	(C) UK MPs and Peers	(D) UK Government	(E) Malawi MPs	(F) Other decision makers	
4 th December: Meeting with William K. and SG ID Minister	X		X			X	X					1
5 th December 2019: School Partnership Awards:	X	X									X	0
January 2020: Westminster Constituency Mapping report:	X	X						X				4
15 th January 2020: SMP Roundtable meeting with CDC:	X	X		X							X	0
15 th January 2020: Meeting between CDC and SG:	X			X			X					0
15 th January 2020: SMP-hosted meeting between CDC and MSPs.	X			X		X						5
30 th January 2020: Roundtable with Deputy Speakers:	X	X								X		2
30 th January 2020: Deputy Speakers meeting with MPs:	X					X				X		6
30 th January 2020: Deputy Speakers meeting with SG:	X									X		2
10 th February 2020: Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group AGM	X		X					X				8
19 th February 2020: Malawi Cross Party Group: Education:	X	X				X						4
21 st February 2020: Meeting with Deidre Brock MP:	X	X	X					X				1
27 th February 2020: Meeting with new DFID Sec of State	X				X			X	X			1
February 2020: Anne McLaughlin MP visit to Malawi:	X							X				1
5 th March 2020: Roundtable meeting with Speaker and MPs:	X	X								X		12
5 th March 2020: Civic reception with Speaker and MPs:	X	X								X	X	12
March 2020: Speaker delegation – meeting with Gov and Parl:	X					X	X	X	X	X		8
March 2020: MP delegation meeting with Gov and Parl:	X					X	X	X	X	X		14
6 th March 2020: Meeting with new SG Minister, Jenny Gilruth:	X	X			X	X	X					1
8 th March 2020: Int. Women’s Day video with Malawi Speaker:								X		X		3
10 th March 2020: Meeting with new Glasgow Lord Provost:											X	0
January – March 2020: Scottish MPs sign SMP Pledge:	X	X	X		X			X				23

Summary of Key 2019-20 Lobbying and Advocacy Engagements:

30th April 2019: [Malawi APPG meeting with Independent Chief Inspector of Immigration:](#)

The Malawi APPG, with the Africa and Migration APPGs, met on the 30th April, as part of the ongoing SMP-co-led joint parliamentary enquiry into how the UK Visa system performs for those applying from Africa.

The meeting took evidence from David Bolt, the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration as part of the APPGs joint-inquiry on UK visa issuing for those applying from Africa. This meeting followed the Group's 13th February meeting with Immigration Minister, Caroline Nokes MP, and 22nd January public evidence session.

The cost of the SMP's Secretariat support for the APPG is met from the Partnership's own unrestricted funds (membership fees, donations, etc), rather than from the core grant received from the Scottish Government.

1st May 2019: [Malawi Cross Party Group – Malawi floods and global health:](#)

The Scottish Parliament's Malawi Cross Party Group (CPG), which is supported by the Scotland Malawi Partnership, convened on Wednesday 1st May for a busy and well-attended meeting.

At the CPG, we heard from health projects in Malawi funded by the Scottish Government's Malawi Development Programme. In response to the recent floods in Malawi, we also dedicated some time at the CPG to receive an overview and update on the Malawi floods by Professor. Bob Kalin from the University of Strathclyde.

8th May 2019: [Meeting with the First Minister of Scotland:](#)

SMP chair Ken Ross and Chief Executive David Hope-Jones met the First Minister Nicola Sturgeon on 8th May to discuss the bilateral relationship and brief her on the Scottish Government-funded [Malawi and Scotland: Together for Sustainable Development](#) Conference.

The First Minister was given copies of the [official report](#) from the Lilongwe Conference, which saw 350 key stakeholders in the Malawi-Scotland friendship come together and share their views on priorities and principles for the next chapter of the bilateral relationship.

The First Minister was strongly supportive of the Scotland Malawi Partnership and the continuing bilateral relationship, later re-tweeting a photo of the meeting with over 161,000 impressions.

16th May 2019: Roundtable with Rory Stewart, Secretary of State for International Development:

The SMP took an active part in roundtable with the new Secretary of State for International Development, Rory Stewart MP. The SMP spoke with the Secretary of State about better connecting DFID's work and that of UK civic society, and also updated him on the SMP's concerns regarding UK visa issuing.

We had worked closely previously Mr Stewart as Africa Minister and he has spoken repeatedly about the Scotland Malawi Partnership as having developed an innovative new approach to international development which, he felt, the UK Government should follow. ("...I pay tribute to the Scotland Malawi Partnership—genuinely one of the

most unique, remarkable, interesting and human interweavings of two nations anywhere in the world." [Sept 2017](#)). The SMP's narrative on 'dignified partnership' was then an integral part of the UK Government's Africa Strategy.

May 2019: SMP written proposal for Secretary of State:

During and after the above roundtable meeting, the SMP spoke with the Secretary of State about how the UK Government could further emulate the SMP's model. The SMP had already written a short paper on this for Mr Stewart when he was Africa Minister, and had been invited to meet with the Minister and senior DFID officials in Whitehall. Following the meeting, again at the Secretary of State's request, the SMP wrote a more detailed 13-page proposal outlining how the UK Government could adopt the SMP model, across DFID.

6th June 2019: Secretary of State Parliamentary commendation of the Scotland Malawi Partnership and commitment to mapping civic links:

Rory Stewart MP, Secretary of State for International Development again praised the Scotland-Malawi model on the 6th June in answer to a DFID question in the House of Commons from Ian Lucas MP about how DFID could better engage civic links with the developing world. He also specifically committed the UK Government to, as the SMP had proposed, mapping all the UK's civic international development links.

Ian Lucas MP began by asking: *"Will he instruct DFID officials to carry out an audit through members of parliament to identify organisations in constituencies who are developing links with developing countries?"*

Rory Stewart MP replied to this, saying: *"Yes, and the absolutely greatest example of this is Scotland and Malawi, which has mapped thousands of amazing Scottish voluntary organisations that are working in Malawi and uncovered work that we didn't begin to understand."*

"I think it is a fantastic idea. I would love to see different regions of the United Kingdom taking the lead in partnership with different countries, ourselves as a department understanding much more about what British charities are doing. If we can get that right, we can get the enthusiasm of the British people, and it is the enthusiasm and soul of the British people behind international development which will ultimately be the best guarantee of this 0.7%."

11th June 2019: House of Commons debate on the UN Sustainable development Goals.

With the SMP's input, Scottish MPs used a House of Commons debate on the UN Sustainable Development Goals on June 11th to raise awareness of and commend the many links between Scotland and Malawi, the work of the Scotland Malawi Partnership and its members, and the Scottish Government's Malawi programme.

Patrick Grady, MP for Glasgow North, who chairs the Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group said:

"The civil society grassroots links in Scotland are hugely important. Many of the projects there that have partner and twin organisations in Malawi are just as dedicated to tackling poverty at home in Scotland. Many are church or faith-based groups and they work with poor people in their communities, as well as trying to support people living in poverty in Malawi. When DFID is looking at its options, I hope that it can find different ways to support networks such as the Scotland Malawi Partnership."

Chris Law, MP for Dundee West, who sits on the International Development Committee, highlighted the work of the Scottish Government:

"We have backed programmes such as the Pakistan scholarship scheme, which has helped to support more than 400 women and more than 1,400 schoolchildren to continue their education. Also, more than

73,000 Malawian children have been helped to stay in school through support given to a feeding programme, while the Livingstone fellowship scheme allows doctors from Zambia and Malawi to come to Scotland for specialist training, which they will take back home for the benefit of their communities. Last week I was pleased to hear the Secretary of State commend Scotland's partnership with Malawi and the many projects it upholds."

June 2019: All-party messages of support for outgoing SMP Chair:

The SMP published a short book in June 2019 to thank Rev Prof Kenneth Ross for his 15 years of support and leadership and stood down as SMP Chair. We collected powerful supportive quotes and messages of support, including from:

- Nicola Sturgeon MSP, First Minister of Scotland
- Lord Jack McConnell, former First Minister of Scotland
- Ben Macpherson MSP, International Development Minister
- Dr Alasdair Allan MSP, former International Development Minister
- Humza Yousaf MSP, former International Development Minister
- Dr Peter West, Malawi Hon. Consul to Scotland
- Patrick Grady MP, Chair Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group (Westminster)
- Liam McArthur MSP, Chair Malawi Cross Party Group (Holyrood)

1st July 2019: House of Commons debate – DFID expenditure:

On Monday 1st July, MPs debated expenditure of the Department for International Development (DfID) in the House of Commons. There was strong cross-party support for the UK's international development contribution and the work of DFID. There was also support from MPs and Government for the commitment to maintain not less than 0.7% of Gross National Income on overseas development - a pledge that is set in statute. The SMP was cited as an example of popular and all-party political support for international development.

Harriett Baldwin, Minister of State for Africa, said:

"While listening to the contributions, I was struck by the consensus that emerged on the importance of the 0.7% commitment, and our pride, as British citizens, that the UK was the first major country to put that into statute, which has gained us remarkable recognition around the world. I am very happy to be part of the Government who put that into statute. I also want to make the point right at the beginning of my speech that at the last general election all major parties made a commitment to that figure in their manifestos."

MPs also used the debate to celebrate Scotland's links with Malawi and the work of the SMP, and to encourage DFID to do more to engage the full breadth of UK civic links with the developing world.

Patrick Grady MP (Glasgow North), speaking in his Scotland-Malawi tartan tie, said:

"Taxpayers in Scotland pay for DfID through their taxes and the Scottish Government, with cross party support dating back to the time of Jack McConnell, choose to use a very small amount of their own budget to provide additional and often very innovative support, particularly through the grassroots links with Malawi, which I will say a bit more about shortly."

"I want to touch briefly on the importance of the Government learning from and engaging with civil society actors.

"I mentioned the Scotland Malawi Partnership. I declare an interest because it provides secretariat support for the all-party group on Malawi, which I chair, and which has issued an outstanding invitation to the Secretary of State, lasting as long as is left to him, to meet the group and member organisations of the Scotland Malawi Partnership. "The Hon. Member for Wrexham (Ian C. Lucas), who is not here, at the last DfID questions raised the idea of DfID undertaking an exercise of mapping links between local civil society organisations and

counterparts in developing countries to see the added value that civil society groups in the UK bring to development.

"That would be worth the Department pursuing in the near future. In Scotland, the Scotland-Malawi people-to-people model suggests that more than 208,000 Malawians and 109,000 Scots are actively involved in the links between the two countries, while a 2018 paper from the University of Glasgow reckoned that 45% of people in Scotland could name a friend or family member with a connection to Malawi.

"Here is an opportunity for a ministerial legacy. What more could the Government do to connect formal Government efforts with those of civil society—not just the large NGOs we are familiar with, but, as my Hon. Friend the Member for East Kilbride, Strathaven and Lesmahagow (Dr Cameron) suggested, the thousands of churches, schools, hospitals, universities and community and diaspora groups involved in two-way partnerships - and not just engage with them, but fund them and encourage them to think innovatively?

"The last piece of DfID legislation was the Commonwealth Development Corporation Act 2017. We recognise the important role that the CDC plays in leveraging private capital into development. I wonder what a "civil society" equivalent might look like."

Alex Norris (Nottingham North) said:

"When the Hon. Member for Glasgow North (Patrick Grady) rose to speak, I hoped that he would reference Malawi and he did not disappoint.

"When I was in Lilongwe last year, people locally spoke positively about that proud connection that they have with Scotland."

Responding for Government, Harriett Baldwin, Minister of State for Africa, said:

"We heard about the Scotland Malawi Partnership. I always love paying tribute to that, because it is such a rich partnership.

"The Hon. Member for Glasgow North made a sensible point about trying to map the range of different ways in which civil society links with the developing world."

6th July 2019: Malawi Independence Day Celebrations with Minister Ben Macpherson

The SMP was delighted to support the 2019 annual Malawi Independence Celebrations, with Minister Ben Macpherson attending and speaking at the diaspora-led event.

16th July 2019: Launch of All-Party UK Visa Report:

Supported by the SMP, the Malawi All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG), partnered with the Africa APPG - the largest such group in Westminster - and the Migration APPG to undertake a major parliamentary inquiry into the handling of UK visa applications from Africa. The SMP wrote significant portions of the report, including the conclusions.

On Tuesday, 16th July, the three APPGs came together in Westminster to launch the formal report from this parliamentary inquiry, highlighting issues in current policy and making clear recommendations for the UK Government. [Read the official report here](#)

At the launch of the report Patrick Grady MP, Chair of the Malawi APPG and SMP member, said:

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

At the launch of the report Chi Onwurah MP, Chair of the Africa APPG, said:

"This report is the culmination of six months of evidence and research gathering through which we have received numerous reports of unfounded visa refusals. The report identifies wider systemic issues behind the handling of UK visa applications from Africa."

Caroline Nokes MP, Minister of State for Immigration responded for the Government, commenting on how well attended the standing-room-only event was and recognising this was an issue on which many MPs and Peers had strong views.

The Minister recognised this was a hugely challenging report but it was important for the Government to know where the problems are and what difficulties are being experienced.

She commented that there is indeed evidence that the visa system does sometimes go wrong and there are areas where improvements are needed. She recognised that from the UK Government's own data it is clear that the vast majority who visit from Africa do not overstay their visa and now is the time for a "grown-up conversation" on the issue.

Ms Nokes stated that she wants a clear impression that Britain is open for business so it can attract global visitors and that the UK needs to be forward thinking in this area.

The Minister thanked the APPGs for the report commenting:
"It is good to hear when we have got it wrong as this is the best way we can learn and strengthen our systems. If this report helps us to do our job better then I am extremely grateful for it."

The cost of the SMP's Secretariat support for the APPG is funded from the Partnership's own unrestricted funds (membership fees, donations, etc), rather than from the core grant received from the Scottish Government.

July 2020: SMP written proposal for Secretary of State

Following the 6th June [Parliamentary exchange](#) between Ian Lucas MP and the Secretary of State for International Development, concerning a national audit of civic links with developing countries, the SMP was asked by the Secretary of State and senior DFID officials to submit a proposal concerning how this could be practically implemented, informed by its existing experience in this area. This 20-page fully costed practical-minded proposal built on the SMP's 31st May 2019 concept paper for DFID, '*Engaging the UK's civic links with the developing world*'. In correspondence with the Secretary of State, it was clear this was something he was keen to take forwards. However, the conversation was overtaken by events: Rory Stewart stood down from government when his campaign to become Prime Minister was unsuccessful, having vowed not to serve under Boris Johnson. Technically, the proposal is still -at the time of writing- under consideration by DFID; however, it seems unlikely that it is being taken forwards at this stage.

August 2020: UK MPs and MSP visit to Malawi:

In August the SMP supported Patrick Grady MP and Maureen Watt MSP to visit Malawi as part of a Commonwealth Parliamentary Association-funded visit. Patrick Grady MP is the Chair of the Malawi APPG (Westminster) and Maureen Watt MSP a former Co-Convenor of the Malawi CPG (Holyrood). While in Malawi they worked closely with newly elected Malawian National Assembly MPs, building inter-parliamentary cooperation. The SMP used the visit of Patrick Grady to Malawi to raise awareness of UK Visa issues for those travelling from Malawi by giving our [regular Scotsman piece](#) to this subject.

5th September 2019: [Member Awards with HRH The Princess Royal and Lord Provost of Edinburgh:](#)

On the 5th September, the SMP was proud to host its 2019 Member Awards ceremony, celebrating the impact our members are having

through thousands of individual people-to-people partnerships between our two nations.

This year, the awards ceremony was led by our Hon Co-Patron HRH The Princess Royal, who spoke passionately about the work of the SMP and the impact our members are having. The event was sold out, with 150 members attending.

Also speaking at the event was SMP Hon Co-President, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh. The event was another key opportunity to consolidate the relationship with the Lord Provost, as the SMP successfully agreed an extension to its office rental agreement to 2023, and continued free use of the Edinburgh City Chambers.

11th September 2019: [Malawi Cross Party Group – Malawi's first home trained Vets](#):

The first Malawian veterinary students to graduate from the new Veterinary School in Malawi were welcomed to the Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group on Malawi on September 11 during their study tour of Scotland.

We were delighted that the group's Head of Department, Professor Tefera Melaku from Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR), agreed to speak at the CPG with some of the 12 students participating in a Q&A.

The visit was made possible by Lilongwe Society for the Protection and Care of Animals (LSPCA), the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), Inglis Vets, and Adam Tjolle and is being funded by LSPCA UK who have been awarded a grant by Independent Vet Care to cover all costs.

Chair of LSPCA UK, Adam Tjolle, introduced the visitors followed by a presentation by Professor Melaku. Following this meeting, the SMP

hosted a civic reception for the vets in the Edinburgh City Chambers and helped secure media coverage.

5th October 2019: [SMP AGM with Minister Ben Macpherson](#):

Scottish Government Minister Ben Macpherson MSP attended and spoke at the SMP's 2019 AGM, along with over 200 SMP members. The Minister was strongly supportive of Scotland-Malawi links and the work of the MSP and its members in his speech, which followed lively musical performance by Malawian musician and human rights activist [Lazarus](#).

9th October 2019: Dinner with visiting Malawi parliamentarians:

The SMP supported and attended a dinner with ten female members of the Malawian National Assembly, as part of a Westminster Foundation for Democracy funded partnership with the Women's Caucus. It continues to support this initiative.

7th November 2019: [‘A Taste of Malawi’ Malawi business and tourism networking event](#):

The SMP was delighted to support and help organise the second major networking event of the UK-Malawi Business Group, at the Scottish Government's 'Scotland House' in London. The evening brought together all the key stakeholders across Malawi business and tourism, including across the tourism industry and related media, to promote Malawi business, trade, investment and tourism.

The now annual event explored opportunities, linkages and markets in Malawi, and Malawian products available in the United Kingdom. This year, the event followed a very successful World Travel Market at ExCel London and focused on Malawi tourism opportunities.

Attending the evening were senior Malawi Government officials from the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism, including the

Minister Salim Bagus MP, providing information to prospective investors, tourism operators, service providers and the media on doing business in the Malawi tourism sector.

Trade officials were also on hand to provide wider information on investment opportunities across Malawi priority sectors. The evening brought together 80+ high-level stakeholders across the travel and trade sectors, providing a unique opportunity to make new contacts and learn more about new opportunities and included a small exhibition of tour operators and Malawi products.

Malawi Tourism has received a major boost in recent years by returning as a *Big Five* destination, the Lake Malawi UNESCO heritage status and recent visits related to wildlife promotion by His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex.

At the Scottish Government's request, work undertaken by the SMP outside Scotland (including support for this event) is funded by the SMP's own unrestricted charitable income and not through the Scottish Government core grant.

20th November 2019: [Malawi Cross Party Group meeting:](#)

The Malawi CPG convened on the 20th November for a busy and well-attended meeting looking at examples of Scotland-Malawi links which indirectly support education in Malawi. With speakers from:

- [Step Kids Awareness \(STEKA\)](#) and [STEKASkills](#)
- [Mary's Meals](#)
- [WaterAid](#)
- [Centre for Youth and Development](#) (an implementing partner for [The Turing Trust](#))

3rd December 2019: [Meeting with William Kamkwamba and Scottish MSPs:](#)

As part of the SMP-hosted visit to Scotland of William Kamkwamba (the real life '[Boy Who Harnessed the Wind](#)'), the SMP arranged a meeting between William and representatives of the four largest parties in the Scottish Parliament. The meeting was an opportunity to inspire MSPs to continue their commitment to Malawi, and explore new areas of cooperation relevant to William's work.

3rd December 2019: [Meeting with William Kamkwamba and the Presiding Officer and Deputy Presiding Officer:](#)

The SMP was delighted to also arrange a meeting between William Kamkwamba and the Presiding Officer and Deputy Presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament.

4th December 2019: [Meeting with William Kamkwamba and Ben Macpherson MSP, Scottish Government International Development Minister:](#)

The SMP organised a meeting between William Kamkwamba and Minister Ben Macpherson, discussing William's story, potential new Scotland-Malawi collaborations in renewable energy, and issues around UK visas (using William's own travels to the UK as a case study).

5th December 2019: [School Partnership Awards with William Kamkwamba and Lord Provost of Edinburgh:](#)

The SMP's School Partnership Awards brought together members from across Scotland to celebrate Scotland-Malawi school links. William Kamkwamba was the keynote speaker, and we were also joined by SMP Hon Co-President, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh. The event was another key opportunity to consolidate the relationship with the Lord Provost, as the SMP agreed an extension to its office rental agreement to 2023, and continued free use of the Edinburgh City Chambers.

January 2020: [Westminster Constituency Mapping report:](#)

In January 2020, following the December election, the SMP launched a fully updated Westminster Constituency Mapping Report.

The 100-page report has details of the SMP's 1,225 members, illustrating how every one of Scotland's 59 Westminster constituencies has multiple SMP members ([download here](#)).

The Scotland Malawi Partnership is politically neutral and non-governmental. However, in order to help coordinate, represent and support our members' work with Malawi, it is useful to ensure Members of Parliament are well briefed on Malawi activities in their constituencies. Seeing the scale, energy and positive impact of our members' work in their local constituency, helps inspire Scottish elected representatives to support Scotland's links with Malawi and get involved.

Feedback from members over a number of years indicates that members find it useful to have their work championed in this way with their local MP and MSPs. Recent editions of these reports have led to more than 80 of our members having their Malawi links championed in Holyrood, the Commons and the Lords.

These reports have also significantly strengthened the all-party support which exists for Scotland's relationship with Malawi, as has been seen across a number of Parliamentary [debates](#) and publications. The constructive synergy between government, parliament and civil society remains a key feature of the Scotland-Malawi friendship.

15th January 2020: [SMP Roundtable meeting with CDC Chair:](#)

The SMP hosted a round-table meeting with CDC's Chairman, [Graham Wrigley](#) and Head of Global Affairs, Andrew Palmer, who were keen to meet SMP Members to understand their development priorities.

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

[CDC is the UK's development finance institution](#), wholly owned by the UK Government's Department for International Development. Founded in 1948, its mission is to support the building of businesses in Africa and South Asia, to create jobs and make a lasting difference to people's lives in some of the world's poorest places. This is done with a dual objective: to support growth and jobs that lift people out of poverty, and to make a financial return, which is re-invested into more businesses. In this way, its capital is used over and over again to help create the jobs and economic stability that will enable countries to leave poverty behind.

CDC invests in Africa and Asia because over 80% of the world's poorest people live in these regions. The focus is on investing in countries where the private sector is weak, jobs are scarce, and the investment climate is difficult, but particularly in sectors where growth leads to jobs. These sectors are financial services, infrastructure, health, manufacturing, food and agriculture, construction and real estate, and education.

This is, to our knowledge, the first time a CDC Chair has visited Scotland to meet civic stakeholders in an official capacity. The visit was proposed and co-organised by the SMP. During the roundtable meeting, the Chair committed to continuing this active conversation, with annual meetings.

15th January 2020: [SMP facilitated meeting between CDC and Scottish Government:](#)

As part of the SMP-facilitated visit of the visit to Scotland of the CDC Chair and Head of Global Affairs, the SMP helped support a meeting with Scottish Government officials.

15th January 2020: SMP-hosted meeting between CDC and MSPs.

As part of the SMP-facilitated visit of the visit to Scotland of the CDC Chair and Head of Global Affairs, the SMP organised a dinner for CDC to meet with representatives of the four largest parties in the Scottish Parliament, including all three Co-Convenors of the Malawi Cross Party Group. It was an opportunity to show the strength of all-party support for Scotland's civic links with Malawi, in order to maintain pressure on CDC to increase their Malawi portfolio.

30th January 2020: [SMP Roundtable with Deputy Speakers of Malawi National Assembly:](#)

The SMP was delighted to be welcome the First Deputy Speaker of the Malawi National Assembly, Hon. Madalitso Kazombo, and the Second Deputy Speaker, Hon. Nkungulu Aisha Mambo Adams, to Scotland on the 30th January 2020.

This was a brief visit to Scotland but we were delighted to host a special roundtable meeting for the Deputy Speakers to meet our members.

The meeting provided an opportunity for the Deputy Speakers to introduce themselves to SMP Members and present the Malawi National Assembly's latest Strategic Plan. It also allowed us to brief the Deputy Speakers on the historic and contemporary bilateral links between Scotland and Malawi, and explore further collaboration.

30th January 2020: SMP-supported Deputy Speakers meeting with Scottish Parliamentarians:

The SMP organised and helped facilitate a meeting between the First and Second Deputy Speakers of the Malawi National Assembly and MSPs from each of the major parties in the Scottish Parliament, as part of the Malawi Cross Party Group.

30th January 2020: SMP-supported Deputy Speakers meeting with Scottish Government:

The SMP helped facilitate a meeting between the First and Second Deputy Speakers of the Malawi National Assembly and Scottish Government officials. Unfortunately the amount of the time for the meeting was much condensed as the delegation arrived late due to traffic from Glasgow.

10th February 2020: [Malawi All-Party Parliamentary Group AGM](#)

The UK Parliament's [All-Party Parliamentary Group \(APPG\) on Malawi](#) was formally re-constituted for this new Parliament, with the Group meeting and holding its AGM on Monday 10th February, with ten MPs and Peers with an interest in Malawi coming together to elect position-holders for the Group.

While the Group is open to all MPs and Peers across the UK, there is a particularly large number of Scottish Parliamentarians given the strength of the Scotland-Malawi relationship. All ten MPs and Peers attending the Group's AGM were from Scotland.

Patrick Grady MP (SNP) and Lord McConnell (Lab) were re-elected Hon. President and Chair of the Group, respectively.

Five Co-Vice Chairs were elected: Margaret Ferrier MP (SNP), Rt Hon. David Mundell MP (Cons), Kate Osamor MP (Lab), Jim Shannon MP (DUP) and Lord Steel of Aikwood (Lib Dem). And Marion Fellows MP (SNP) was elected the Treasurer of the APPG.

David Hope-Jones was re-elected as the Secretariat for the Group, a service offered by the SMP, as we do for the Malawi Cross Party Group in the Scottish Parliament. The cost of the SMP's Secretariat support for the APPG is met from the Partnership's own unrestricted funds (membership fees, donations, etc), rather than from the core grant received from the Scottish Government.

19th February 2020: [Malawi Cross Party Group: Education:](#)

The 19th February meeting of the Malawi Cross Party Group looked at two specific Scotland-Malawi links aiming to support education in Malawi, with two excellent speakers:

- [Link Community Development International](#) Malawi Country Director, Harold Kuombola and International Programme Manager, Kate Sykes
- [Classrooms for Malawi](#) CEO, Amy Blake

21st February 2020: [Meeting with Deidre Brock MP:](#)

On the 21st February the SMP met with Deidre Brock MP, to brief her on SMP members' work in her constituency of Edinburgh North and Leith. The meeting also discussed the SMP's work on UK visas – something she has been a passionate supporter of. Subsequent to the meeting, Ms Brock met with the new Immigration Minister representing the asks made in the SMP's co-authored [Visa report](#).

27th February 2020: [Meeting with new DFID Secretary of State, Anne-Marie Trevelyan:](#)

On the 27th February, the SMP joined other sector leaders to meet with the new UK Government Secretary of State for International Development, Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP. The SMP briefed the Secretary of State on its work and the scale and breadth of Scotland's civic links with Malawi. The Secretary of State was aware of this activity and supportive of it.

February 2020: Anne McLaughlin MP visit to Malawi:

In February the SMP supported Anne McLaughlin's visit to Malawi with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. We met with her in Westminster prior to the visit, offering advice and support.

5th March 2020: [SMP roundtable meeting with Speaker and Malawian MPs:](#)

The SMP hosted a roundtable meeting for SMP representatives and key SMP members to meet with: Catherine Gotani Hara, the first female Speaker of the Malawi National Assembly; Fiona Kalembe, Clerk of Parliament; ten Malawian MPs, across each of the major parties; and three Parliamentary officials.

5th March 2020: [SMP civic reception with Speaker and Malawian MPs:](#)

The SMP, with the Lord Provost of Edinburgh (SMP Hon Co-President) hosted a civic reception for the senior Malawi National Assembly, which included the Speaker, Clerk, ten other MPs and three senior officials. All SMP members were invited to attend and it was a key opportunity to build links between members, the diaspora and the Malawi National Assembly, and cement the involvement of the Lord Provost of Edinburgh.

March 2020: [Speaker delegation – meeting with Government and Parliamentarians:](#)

The SMP was closely involved with, and actively supportive of, the visit to the UK of the Speaker and Clerk of the National Assembly, and three senior officials. Working with all three Parliaments, we helped support and facilitate meetings with MSPs, Scottish Government Minister and officials, Scottish MPs and UK Government Minister and officials.

March 2020: MP delegation – meeting with Government and Parliamentarians:

The SMP was closely involved with, and actively supportive of, the visit to the UK of ten Malawian MPs (an entirely separate delegation to the above, hosted and funded by the Commonwealth Partnership for Development). Working with all three Parliaments, we helped support and facilitate meetings with MSPs, Scottish Government Minister and officials, Scottish MPs and UK Government Minister and officials.

6th March 2020: Meeting with new Scottish Government Minister, Jenny Gilruth MSP:

On the 6th March the SMP met with the new Scottish Government Minister for International Development, Jenny Gilruth MSP. The Minister visited the SMP's offices in the City Chambers to meet with the SMP Chair and Chief Executive, and then attended the start of the SMP's [Agriculture and Food Security Forum](#), to meet with members of the SMP.

8th March 2020: [International Women's Day video with Speaker](#):

To mark International Women's 2020, we released a special video recorded with the first female speaker of the Malawi National Assembly.

10th March 2020: Meeting with new Glasgow Lord Provost:

On the 10th March the SMP Chair and Chief Executive met with the new Glasgow Lord Provost. He welcomed the opportunity to continue the *ex officio* role successive Lord Provosts have had as Hon Co-President of the SMP and re-stated Glasgow City Council's longstanding offer of free use of the Glasgow City Chambers by the SMP. We also used the meeting to discuss COP26 in Glasgow, and how the Malawi delegation can be supported, with the Lord Provost agreeing to host a civic reception, and potentially half day event, with the SMP.

January – March 2020: [Scottish MPs sign SMP Pledge](#):

Between January and March, 23 Scottish MPs, from three political parties, contacted the SMP to express their support for five key Scotland-Malawi commitments.

The SMP wrote to all Scottish MPs earlier in the year, briefing them on the bilateral relationships and [our members' work in their constituencies](#), and inviting them to pledge their support to five commitments in support of Scotland's links with Malawi.

The commitments include:

- 1) Support for **Scotland's 160-year old friendship with Malawi**;
- 2) Support for the UK's commitment to investing **0.7% of Gross National Income on Overseas Development Assistance (ODA)** and crucially, the definition of ODA;
- 3) Support for the **continued existence of the Department for International Development, independent to the FCO**;
- 4) Support for efforts to **build stronger connections between the UK Government's international development work and community-led development**;
- 5) Support for the findings of the 2019 [joint all-party Parliamentary report](#) identifying issues in the way people from Africa are treated as they apply for **UK Visas**.

The full wording for all five pledges is listed in the Appendix One (pg 19) and a list of the MPs that have, to date, signed is given in Appendix Two (pg 20).

Assessment of Impact:

It is inherently problematic to try and draw clear attribution from individual advocacy activity to longer-term political change. We are therefore keen to highlight that we recognize that there are many other influencing factors and areas of landscape change. For example, looking at UK Government attitudes to visa and immigration, our work in this area sits alongside the work of a great many organisations – both those who agree with our stance and those that do not. And there has been very significant change entirely outwith the SMP's control or influence, for example, the continuing implications of Brexit, the media and political response to the Windrush scandal, and now Covid-19. With this all in mind, below, we look to broadly map out the position at the

beginning of this period, the actions the SMP has taken through this period, and the evidence of impact at the end of this period.

With these caveats, the Scotland Malawi Partnership is entirely satisfied that it has had significant impact in this period compared with the relatively modest scale of investment. We can see that there are new MPs who, thanks in part to the work of the SMP in this period, are far more aware, engaged and supportive of Scotland's links with Malawi, and the work of SMP Members.

One particularly striking area has been the influence the SMP has had in visas, both garnering formal support for its members' UK visa applications, and -with others- lobbying for longer-term change.

Strategic Objective	Broad status at the beginning of this period	SMP activity in this period	Broad status at the end of this period
(1) Raising awareness of, and building engagement with and support for, the Scotland-Malawi relationship and the work of the SMP.	<p>Strong awareness and all-party political support amongst MSPs, Scottish MPs and representative of the Scottish and UK Governments.</p> <p>However, a limited number of conversations with government at a senior level about how this bilateral relationship could be further built on.</p> <p>Many new Scottish MPs knew very little about their local Malawian links after the December election</p>	<p>39 SMP engagements in this period advanced this objective, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A meeting with the First Minister - Meetings with two UK successive Secretaries of State - Repeated parliamentary debates drawing attention to the model - Various parliamentary debates - Face-to-face engagements with all major political parties - Engagements with the President Officer and Deputy, and the Malawian Speaker and deputies - Four Malawi Cross Party Group (CPG) meetings [Holyrood] - Three Malawi APPG Meetings [Westminster] 	<p>The First Minister, Scottish and UK Ministers, and Scottish, UK and Malawian Parliamentarians have all spoken publicly in praise of Scotland-Malawi links in this period.</p> <p>The UK Minister for Africa, for example, said: <i>"We heard about the Scotland Malawi Partnership. I always love paying tribute to that, because it is such a rich partnership."</i></p> <p>There is greater awareness of, and support for, Scotland's links with Malawi as a result of the SMP's work in this area</p>

<p>(2) Raising awareness of, and building engagement with and support for, the work of SMP members.</p>	<p>Reasonable awareness, engagement and support for <i>some</i> SMP members' work amongst MSPs, Scottish MPs and representative of the Scottish and UK Governments, but mostly larger organisational members.</p> <p>Many new Scottish MPs knew very little about their local Malawian links after the December election</p>	<p>20 SMP engagements in this period advanced this objective, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fully updated Westminster Constituency Mapping Report. The 100-page report has details of the SMP's 1,225 members, illustrating how every one of Scotland's 59 Westminster constituencies has multiple SMP members. - Four CPG meetings with members presenting their work - Member awards with HRH The Princess Royal - School partnership awards with William Kamkwamba - 23 Scottish MPs pledging to: <i>"support Scotland's 160-year old friendship with Malawi"</i> 	<p>All 59 Scottish MPs and 129 MSPs have been contacted by the SMP repeatedly with briefings about SMP members within their constituency/region. The SMP has met face-to-face with more than a dozen Scottish MPs in this period to brief them in person.</p> <p>There is much stronger awareness of members' work by their elected representatives.</p> <p>Ministers, Parliamentarians and other key decision-makers have attended SMP events and meetings and met with SMP Members, building first-hand awareness of members' work.</p>
<p>(3) Lobbying for improvements in the way those invited to the UK from Malawi are treated as they apply for UK Visas.</p>	<p>Relatively poor public and political awareness of this as an issue/priority.</p> <p>Thanks to SMP work over the last decade, the SMP developed good contacts at UKVI in Pretoria and Whitehall and, as a result, is able to offer direct support to its members' own visa applications, with 100% success rates.</p> <p>However, on the serious wider policy issues, the SMP continued to struggle to be heard.</p>	<p>Six SMP engagements in this period advanced this objective, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Personally raising the matter with Rory Stewart as then Secretary of State at DFID – who pledged to continue to support the issue. - Meeting with the Independent Chief Inspector of Immigration, along with MPs from each of the major parties. - Co-writing a major all-party parliamentary report: Visa Problems for African Visitors to the UK which was presented in Parliament at a sold-out event to the Immigration Minister. The Minister accepted that there were issues with the current system and commitment to a full written response to the report. 	<p>100% of SMP-supported visa applications continue to be successfully approved using the SMP's direct channels for supporting its members. In fact, in the all-party parliamentary report, the SMP is cited as having perhaps the best relationship with the UK Government in this area, and the most effective channels for supporting visas.</p> <p>The wider policy concerns of the SMP have been clearly communicated to HMG with considerable leverage by partnering with the Africa APPG (the largest in Westminster) and the Migration APPG. The SMP wrote the conclusion chapter to the report, and other major sections of the report, so had a considerable voice directly to government.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The meeting with William Kamkwamba and Ben Macpherson (who's portfolio in the Scottish Government included Migration), including a specific discussion on the UK Visas issues seen by the SMP and so many, using William's visit as a case study. - 23 Scottish MPs pledging to "support the findings of the joint all-party Parliamentary report" 	<p>Senior UKVI officials continue to take the report seriously and have invited the SMP to visit the UKVI processing HQ with MPs.</p> <p>Sadly, as with so many areas, a change in Minister and now Covid-19 has caused a serious loss of momentum but we are in all the stronger position, post Covid-19, to be able to re-make the case for serious policy reform given the gravitas of the report, the strength of all-party support, and the fact a number of its criticisms have been accepted by HMG.</p> <p>As a result of the SMP's 21st February meeting with Deidre Brock MP, she then met with the new UK Immigration Minister to raise awareness of the report.</p>
(4) Lobbying for increased sustainable and ethical investment in Malawi from the UK.	<p>Good progress has been made in the previous 12 months before this period to engage CDC but the SMP was still seen as somewhat of a fringe interest group.</p> <p>Similarly, the promotion of Malawi as a world-class tourism destination lagged seriously behind other regional competitors.</p>	<p>Five SMP engagements in this period advanced this objective, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Co-organising the 'Taste of Malawi' networking event to promote Malawi tourism and investment in London. This was timed to take place immediately after the World Tourism Expo in London, to facilitate the involvement of key investors and travel media companies. - An unprecedented visit to Scotland, at the invitation of the SMP, by the Chair and Head of Global Affairs of CDC. The SMP had a crucial role in designing the visit and arranging meetings with SMP members, parliamentarians, government and other key stakeholders. 	<p>We remain in contact with CDC and have already successfully facilitated an introduction to one of our members, who they will meet to discuss a potential new long term investment in Malawi.</p> <p>We understand from CDC that a number of new potential Malawi investments are under consideration. There seems to be strong evidence that the pressure from the SMP has helped create a political expectation on CDC to increase its Malawi portfolio.</p> <p>Tourism in Malawi, like everywhere, is sadly going to be hard hit by the global Covid-19 pandemic. We are doing all we can to</p>

		<p>After the CDC emailed to say: <i>"A huge thank you from our side. It was a great day. Both Graham and I really appreciated everything that you and your team did to pull this together at short notice."</i></p>	<p>mitigate this, working with the industry. We are well placed after travel restrictions are lifted to help rebuild the sector, building on the work this year.</p>
<p>(5) Raising awareness of the constructive synergy which exists between Scotland's civic and governmental work with Malawi, and lobbying for this model -and the principles behind it- to be more widely adopted.</p>	<p>The SMP has been working for a number of years to try and present the model of Scotland-Malawi cooperation, and specifically the constructive synergy between governmental and civic efforts, as something that can be emulated and scaled up. However, we had not previously had serious conversations at a senior UK government level about how this could happen.</p>	<p>5 SMP engagements in this period advanced this objective, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting with both Rory Stewart and Anne-Marie Trevelyan, as UK Secretaries of State for International Development, and raising this issue. - Discussing closer working between Government and civil society with the First Minister, as well as successive Scottish International Development Ministers Ben Macpherson MSP and Jenny Gilruth MSP. - At the invitation of the Secretary of State for International Development and senior DFID officials, the SMP developed a detailed concept paper in this area. After the 6th June parliamentary exchange where the Secretary of State seemingly committed to this, the SMP was asked to urgently work up a fully costed national plan. - 23 Scottish MPs pledging to support <i>"efforts to explore ways of building stronger connections between the UK Government's international development work, and community-led development endeavours across the UK"</i> 	<p>- When asked in a Parliamentary Question whether he would <i>"instruct DFID officials to carry out an audit through members of parliament to identify organisations in constituencies who are developing links with developing countries?"</i>, Rory Stewart (then Secretary of State for International Development), said: <i>"Yes, and the absolutely greatest example of this is Scotland and Malawi, which has mapped thousands of amazing Scottish voluntary organisations that are working in Malawi and uncovered work that we didn't begin to understand. I think it is a fantastic idea..."</i></p> <p>This was therefore a statement of intent from HMG and the SMP worked doggedly through this period to follow up on this exchange, at the requests of HMG.</p> <p>The Cabinet reshuffle, and now Covid-19, has now certainly caused a significant loss of momentum but, thanks to the work this year, the SMP is in the strongest possible place to re-start this dialogue when some sense of normality returns.</p>

APPENDIX ONE: Cross Party Commitments: Full wording of pledges:

1. **We support Scotland's 160-year old friendship with Malawi:** a historic nation-to-nation and people-to-people partnership underpinned by a sense of mutual respect and mutual understanding. We value this unique bilateral relationship which is composed of hundreds of dignified two-way partnerships between schools, faith groups, hospitals, charities and community groups, and which represents the best of Scottish internationalism. We support the work undertaken by the Scotland Malawi Partnership, to help coordinate, represent and support these many civic links, working constructively with the Scottish and UK parliaments and governments. Scotland is proud of its positive, respectful and outward-looking approach in this area.
2. **We support the UK's commitment to investing 0.7% of Gross National Income on Overseas Development Assistance (ODA).** This commitment, now almost fifty-years old, was only met for the first time by the UK in 2013 and has, since 2015, been set in statute. The importance of meeting this target cannot be overstated, both for the millions of lives it transforms in the developing world and the powerful symbol it gives of the UK as a responsible, outward-looking nation. We specifically expect to see no decrease to the level of UK ODA support for Malawi, as one of the poorest countries in the world. And we express caution in any widening of the definition of what constitutes ODA and the governmental channels through which it can be spent. ODA is about fighting extreme poverty, the great moral outrage of our time, and should follow the internationally-recognised OECD Development Assistance Committee definition.
3. **We support the continued existence of the Department for International Development (DFID)** as a standalone government department, independent of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, with its own Secretary of State. In this regard we stand with over 100 of the UK's largest charities, respecting the vital role DFID plays and the global leadership the UK has shown through DFID's work. UK aid should not be a vehicle for UK foreign policy, or its commercial or political objectives.
4. **We support efforts to explore ways of building stronger connections between the UK Government's international development work, and community-led development endeavours across the UK,** such as the many civic links between Scotland and Malawi. Through its many dignified links with Malawi, Scotland has developed innovative ways to bring together governmental, parliamentary and civic activity as part of one positive national effort. This model works well: it increases development impact, levers wider involvement and professional expertise across civil society, and builds public engagement and support. We believe there is significant opportunity for the UK Government to strengthen its international development work by embracing this Scottish approach, driven by dignified two-way partnership which values and engages the many civic links with the developing world.
5. **We support the findings of the 2019 joint all-party Parliamentary report identifying issues in the way people from Africa are treated as they apply for UK Visas.** It is right that the UK has strong, effective and proportionate border controls but the process of UK visa application for those specifically invited into the UK by respected, credible, proven organisations should treat these individuals with basic respect and humanity. Without this, there is serious risk of undermining the UK's development, diplomatic and economic engagements with the continent of Africa.

APPENDIX TWO: Scottish MPs that have, to date, signed SMP pledge:

1	<u>Stuart Campbell McDonald MP</u>	<u>Cumbernauld, Kilsyth and Kirkintilloch East</u>	<u>SNP</u>
2	<u>Richard Thomson MP</u>	<u>Gordon</u>	<u>SNP</u>
3	<u>Ronnie Cowan MP</u>	<u>Inverclyde</u>	<u>SNP</u>
4	<u>Deidre Brock MP</u>	<u>Edinburgh North & Leith</u>	<u>SNP</u>
5	<u>Chris Stephens MP</u>	<u>Glasgow South West</u>	<u>SNP</u>
6	<u>Ian Blackford MP</u>	<u>Ross, Skye & Lochaber</u>	<u>SNP</u>
7	<u>Kenny MacAskill MP</u>	<u>East Lothian</u>	<u>SNP</u>
8	<u>Chris Law MP</u>	<u>Dundee West</u>	<u>SNP</u>
9	<u>Anne McLaughlin MP</u>	<u>Glasgow North East</u>	<u>SNP</u>
10	<u>Alison Thewliss MP</u>	<u>Glasgow Central</u>	<u>SNP</u>
11	<u>Dave Doogan MP</u>	<u>Angus</u>	<u>SNP</u>
12	<u>David Linden MP</u>	<u>Glasgow East</u>	<u>SNP</u>
13	<u>Jamie Stone MP</u>	<u>Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross</u>	<u>Scottish Liberal Democrats</u>
14	<u>Wendy Chamberlain MP</u>	<u>North East Fife</u>	<u>Scottish Liberal Democrats</u>
15	<u>Martin Docherty-Hughes MP</u>	<u>West Dunbartonshire</u>	<u>SNP</u>
16	<u>Lisa Cameron MP</u>	<u>East Kilbride, Strathaven and Lesmahagow</u>	<u>SNP</u>
17	<u>Marion Fellows MP</u>	<u>Motherwell and Wishaw</u>	<u>SNP</u>
18	<u>Angus MacNeil MP</u>	<u>Na h-Eileanan an Iar</u>	<u>SNP</u>
19	<u>Patricia Gibson MP</u>	<u>North Ayrshire and Arran</u>	<u>SNP</u>
20	<u>Neale Hanvey MP</u>	<u>Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath</u>	<u>SNP</u>
21	<u>Ian Murray MP</u>	<u>Edinburgh South</u>	<u>Scottish Labour</u>
22	<u>Gavin Newlands MP</u>	<u>Paisley and Renfrewshire North</u>	<u>SNP</u>
23	<u>Patrick Grady MP</u>	<u>Glasgow North</u>	<u>SNP</u>

13 Youth and Schools Progress and Impact Report

Staffing:

The Youth & Schools Officer has been in post since June 2018 and in February 2020 was promoted to Youth & Schools Manager (YSM).

The [YSM spent two weeks in Malawi](#) in October 2019 working with Malawi Scotland Partnership (MaSP) colleagues to gather information from schools and groups across all three regions of Malawi to inform partnership working

in Scotland. The YSM also delivered progress updates from the SMP at three MaSP events including the MaSP AGM. In March 2020, the YSM received an Award in Leadership from the Institute of Leadership and Management (SCQF Level 9) after taking part in the Aspiring Leaders course delivered by Just Enterprise/Social Enterprise Academy.

Support for Schools

There have been two new partnerships brokered in 2020 on the back of the successful [Malawi Day](#) held at the Ninewells Community Garden in May 2019. The first, between New Monkland Primary School in North Lanarkshire and Nasonjo Primary School in Blantyre District. The second, is a cluster partnership set up between a group of primary schools and a nursery in Dundee, and two primary schools in Blantyre Rural district in Malawi.

The YSM has also worked to support the early phases of partnerships such as the one between Kininmonth Primary School in Aberdeenshire and Mbuka Primary School in Lilongwe, and between Holy Cross RC Primary School in Edinburgh and a primary school in southern Malawi.

There have been three School Partnership Newsletters sent out over the last year to over 230 contacts with updates on events, news and opportunities available to teachers across Scotland.

The YSM has supported 19 schools with visits and workshops over the last year as well as meeting with teachers or staff from 11 schools to offer support. This has support has included:

- planning ahead of Malawi trips,
- looking at ways to develop a partnership,
- enhancing communication within school partnerships,
- helping promote school links to Malawi, and
- signposting to further support from other organisations.

:

Feedback from schools visited by the SMP has been consistently very positive. For example, this [tweet](#) from Heriot Primary School in Paisley:

On 6th December 2019, the YSM travelled with William Kamkwamba to Aberdeen for [three speaking engagements across the city](#) that had been organised in partnership with Aberdeen for a Fairer World MDEC. The first of these took place at the International School of Aberdeen to primary school pupils from several schools from the Aberdeen area. Transport for these school groups had been provided by the International School. The second talk took place at Bridge of Don Academy to pupils from S4 upwards with time for questions at the end. The final event took place at the Oil and Gas Technology Centre with local teachers and interested members of the local community taking part in the talk and Q&A session. William spoke to over 300 people over the course of the day,

The SMP also successfully negotiated with Netflix and Participant Media, who own the rights to The Boy Who Harnessed The Wind, to allow MDEC to use clips from the film in a new educational resource they have developed without fee.



Case Study: New Monkland Primary School.

The YSM started working with a Principal Teacher from the school as they were keen to start a partnership to support their work towards their Gold Rights Respecting School Award. The YSM offered support to the school over the phone and worked with colleagues at MaSP to broker a new partnership between the school and Nasonjo Primary School in Blantyre District in Malawi. The YSM also introduced the teacher at New Monkland to other organisations that could offer support for the partnership such as WOSDEC and Learning for Sustainability Scotland. The school has since decided to apply for the Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning programme as well.

In February 2020, the [YSM delivered 4 workshops](#) at New Monkland to introduce Malawi, the SMP and the idea of partnership to P4-P7 classes.

Feedback from Principal Teacher Nichola Polatajko included: *"Myself and the staff were delighted with the workshop as it really opened up the area for us to now to plan and incorporate more into our curriculum."*

Feedback from an individual class: *"P.4 = All children said that they loved the quiz and learning some words in Chichewa. They said that they enjoyed learning some new facts and that they want to get in contact with a school."*

Teacher training and support:

The YSM [held two schools forums](#) at the beginning of the academic year with one taking place at [Knightswood Secondary School in Glasgow](#) and the other at [City Chambers in Edinburgh](#). Both were well attended with speakers from WOSDEC, Scotdec and experienced practitioners from Knightswood Secondary School and Flora Stevenson Primary School.

The YSM also hosted an online schools' forum on the 25th February 2020, with guest speakers including Iain Fulton from Oban High School discussing their cluster approach to school partnerships, and Andy Tomison from

Youth Engagement:

The YSM and team continued to work with the [Youth Committee](#) throughout the year as part of the National Lottery funded project (see below). The Youth Committee was directly involved in the co-design and delivery of not only the activities related to the project, but other large scale SMP events as well such as the Member Awards and the AGM.

School Partnership Awards

The [School Partnership Awards](#), kindly supported by the Year of Young People National Lottery Fund, Orbis Expeditions and the David Livingstone Birthplace Project, aimed to celebrate the variety of school partnerships with Malawi across Scotland. The Awards took place at the City Chambers in Edinburgh on the 5th December, which was also International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development.

We were delighted to produce a [short video](#) about the day which has been shared across various social media platforms.

Auchterarder, discussing the community school's partnership with Linthipe in Malawi and JTS.

The YSM joined the Executive Committee for the IDEAS (International Development Education Association of Scotland) Network in September 2019 and has continued to work with the Exec to manage the activities and projects of the network.

The YSM also [wrote a piece for Stride magazine](#) on the benefits of school partnerships in Autumn 2019.

Youth membership has increased this year, with new student groups such as the [Engineering group from Glasgow University](#) as well as other individuals joining with links to other youth-based projects to Malawi.

The Youth Committee co-designed and led the event with our special guest William Kamkwamba (the real life '[Boy Who Harnessed the Wind](#)'). Focusing on the theme of sustainability, our Youth Committee judges were looking for schools or youth groups to tell us the story of their partnership – where it has come from and where it is going.

[Schools and groups were asked](#) to be as creative as they liked with their entries to the awards. It could be in any format as long as it was based around the theme of sustainability and we encouraged groups to think about using the SMP's [Partnership Principles](#) as a way of reflecting on their partnership as well.

We encouraged groups to enter as a partnership, working with their partner school(s) in Malawi on their entry so that it truly reflected their story of working together.

Award winners received certificates shared with their partner schools in Malawi thanks to our colleagues at MaSP, as well as professional photos from the day with William Kamkwamba to display in school.

The winners on the day were:

- Penicuik High School – Namadzi CDSS
- George Watson's College – St Andrews Secondary School & Palm Beach School
- The Mary Erskine School – The Edinburgh Girls High School
- St Margaret's High School – Chisitu CDSS
- St Maurice's High School – Nkhamenya Girls Secondary School

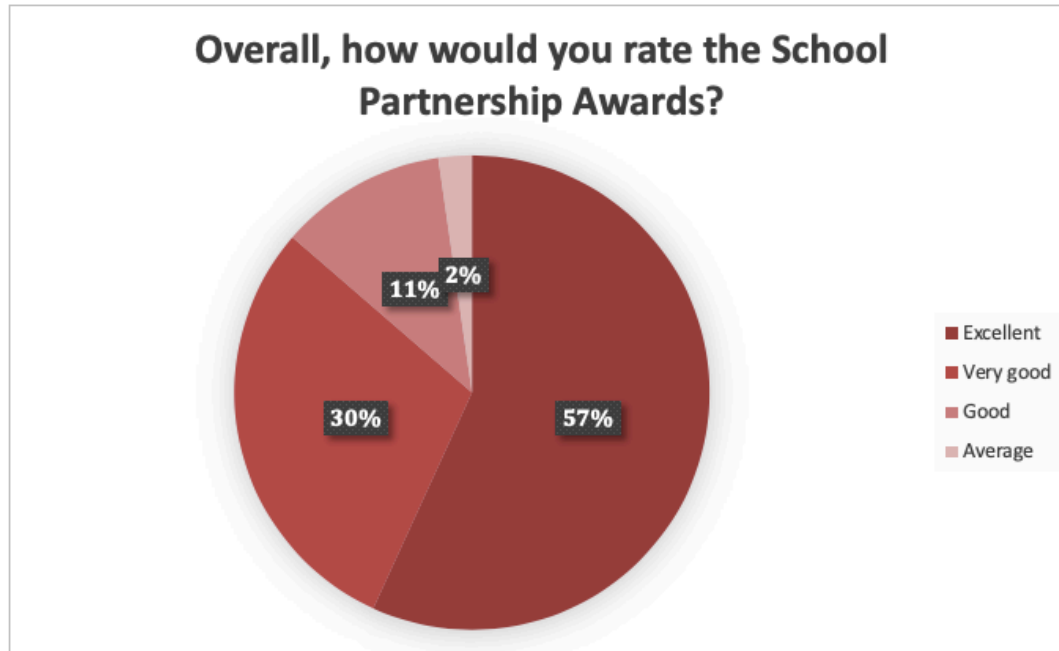
And a special award for best profile on SMP website to:

- 25th Stirling (Dunblane) Boys' Brigade - Pasani and Nansato Primary Schools

We had 71 pupils and 24 adults attending the awards, across 12 schools or youth groups from across Scotland:

- 25th Stirling (Dunblane) Boys' Brigade
- Beath HS
- ESMS Junior School
- George Watsons College
- Kilsyth Boys' Brigade
- Knightswood Secondary School
- Penicuik High School
- Robert Douglas Memorial School
- St Maurice's High School
- St Roch's Secondary School
- The Community School of Auchterarder
- The Mary Erskine School

47% of attendees returned feedback forms for the event, with 57% rating the event “excellent”, 30% “very good”, 11% “good”, 2% “average”, and 0% “poor”.



What has been the impact of the Awards on your link to Malawi?

- *“Need to maintain strong links with partners”*
- *“Got to learn about other partnerships”*
- *“We are considering a partner conservation club”*
- *“Met interesting people & organisations”*
- *“Good to see how other schools operate their partnership”*
- *“It has given our school more ideas in how to raise awareness about climate change in Malawi”*
- *“Thinking of ways to maintain sustainability + proud to be part of this partnership”*

What was the most useful part of the School Partnership Awards?

- *"Meeting other partnerships, discussions & sharing ideas"*
- *"Making new connections, engaged the group"* Sally Rae, George Watson's College
- *"Learning about other groups' and partnerships, so we can improve our own"* Daniel, St Maurice's High School
- *"Networking"* Andrew Dickie, 2050 Climate Group
- *"Talking to the other schools"* Grace, Penicuik High School
- *"Hearing about actions we can do & people we can work with"* Emma, Penicuik High School
- *"Having a special guest there"* Lewis, St Maurice's High School
- *"Keynote speaker"* Tommy Donnelly, St Roch's Secondary School
- *"Chatting & making links"* Mariam, The Mary Erskine School

Other comments:

- *"Great to see diversity of links on show"* Ian Mitchell, Beath High School
- *"Loved it <3"*
- *"Had a great time"* Ella, Beath High School
- *"A very good event that helped, potentially, make new collaborations in future"* Cameron Castiff, 3rd Kilsyth Boys Brigade
- *"amazing hearing the strength of the partnership"*

Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning

The YSM continued to sit on the consortium of organisations leading the project in Scotland. Engagement in the CPD offerings of the programme has been strong, with several schools with partnerships in Malawi applying for funding for reciprocal visits as part of the programme. There have also been several schools with Malawi links creating clusters to be able to access up to £35,000 as part of the programme.

The YSM also took part in the adaptation of the partnerships training course for teachers in Scotland with the IDEAS network. The YSM then went on to co-deliver three partnerships training workshops with staff from Scotdec in February and March 2020.

Youth, Heritage and Culture - YOYP National Lottery Project

The [Youth, Heritage and Culture](#) (YHC) project included a lot of activity in the last year including campaigns, events and workshops. The year began with the events competition which had three winners who all gained support to hold their own Malawi based event. The three winners were [the Dundee University Medical students group and Ninewells Community Garden](#), [Beath High School](#) and [St Roch's Secondary School](#).

In August, the YSM facilitated a [co-design session between staff from the David Livingstone Trust and the Youth Committee](#) to create a workshop based around the imagery of David Livingstone's journeys in Southern Africa and how this can influence how we view imagery we see of Malawi today. The [workshop was delivered in secondary schools](#) (Williamwood High School, Knightswood Secondary School, St Maurice's High School, [St Roch's Secondary School](#) and Bannerman High School) by DLT staff, the YSM and the Youth Committee in October and November 2019.

At the [AGM in October](#), the Youth Committee launched the School Partnership Awards campaign. This was a chance for schools to tell the story of their partnerships with their partners in Malawi in any format they liked. The Youth

Committee designed the campaign and judged the 14 entries. The winners were then announced at the [School Partnership Awards](#) on the 5th December at City Chambers in Edinburgh (see above) with special guest William Kamkwamba.

In January 2020, the YSM co-delivered three workshops to schools across Scotland ([Largs Academy](#), [St Matthew's Academy](#) and [Inverness Royal Academy](#)) looking at how they share language and culture with their partner schools in Malawi. The workshops were delivered with members of the Malawian diaspora, Enock and Wamaka, and involved groups learning some simple Chichewa and Chitumbuka poems and nursery rhymes that they could share with their partners in Malawi.

In February 2020, the Heritage Lottery Fund who administer the fund agreed to extend the project until June 2020 to allow for the recruitment of a short-term intern to work on the project. The Youth, Heritage and Culture Intern will work with the YSM and Youth Committee to organise, deliver and evaluate the final stage of the project.

14 Media review: SMP featured/led items in the media 2019-20

We worked with numerous local, national and international media throughout the year to support and amplify Scotland/Malawi news, coverage and relations. There were 173 articles featuring Scotland and Malawi throughout the year. Of these, 42 were SMP generated, led or instigated. 165 of the articles were positive or neutral in tone, with only 8 that could be construed as negative. Although not strictly in this year's media count, it's worth noting that when That's TV Scotland were looking for 3rd sector comment on the impact of Corona virus on national charities, their production team reached out to us for comment early on, remembering the dynamism of the team from when they covered our 2019 awards ceremony.

Links to live online articles below, grouped by publication and date.

APRIL 2019

The Press and Journal

2nd April: [Your chance to help Cyclone Idai victims](#)

The Herald

4th April: [Scots raise nearly £2m for Cyclone Idai appeal](#)

5th April: [Agenda: How Scots can meet moral obligations on climate change](#)


THE SCOTSMAN

2nd April: [The Big Interview: Brewgooder founder Alan Mahon](#)

6th April: [How Scotland is leading the world in fight against climate](#)

THE NATIONAL
THE NEWSPAPER THAT SUPPORTS AN INDEPENDENT SCOTLAND

7th April: [In the aftermath of Cyclone Idai, solidarity become imperative to saving lives](#)

8th April: [Scots entrepreneur's pride at joining Obama for Berlin event](#)

deadline.

8th April: [Scottish Entrepreneur joins Obama at Young Leaders event](#)



18th April: [Miller Homes and partners to make a difference in Malawi](#)

17th April: [Top human rights seminar to look at tackling trafficking and exploitation](#)

25th April [City Building apprentices to upgrade 'vital' clinic on Malawi mercy mission](#)

23rd April: [Malawi starts landmark pilot of first ever child malaria vaccine](#)

MAY 2019

2nd May [Kirkcaldy woman is making a difference to childrens' lives in Malawi](#)

3rd May: [How the 'rice lady' from St Andrews became chairman of the board](#)

7th May: [British soldier killed by elephant during anti-poaching operation in Malawi](#)

11th May: St Mirren fans pull on footy boots for Malawi fundraiser

18th May: Scottish Minister heads to Malawi to explore African links with Gaelic

29th May: Liverpool Champions League winner Andy Robertson backs Giffnock club's kit appeal

29th May: Dundee welcomes new garden which celebrates deep-rooted ties with Malawi

29th May: Liverpool Champions League winner Andy Robertson backs Giffnock club's kit appeal

31st May: Borders volunteers head to Malawi for new development project

Minister with a passion for Gaelic takes up new role in Malawi
31st May

The Oban Times
INCORPORATING LOCHABER TIMES



Peeblesshire
News


THE SCOTSMAN
factions:

8th June: Malawi's a nation split in two by warring

15th June Susan Dalgety weekly column: A country of 18 million - and just 39 dentists to treat them

4th June: Former Kilmelford minister on a mission to find common ground

7th June: A cross-continental partnership for those in Dundee and Malawi

3rd June: Volunteers deliver hygiene for Malawi schoolgirls

7th June: Scottish Water to make sanitary products freely available for staff

JULY 2019


THE SCOTSMAN

Susan Dalgety weekly column: Malawi turns to peaceful protest and powerful theatre
5th July


THE SCOTSMAN




THE SCOTSMAN




THE SCOTSMAN

GlasgowLive


THE SCOTSMAN

Friends of The Scotsman: Helped by the people of Scotland, ethical rice 'is our rescuer, our hope, our wealth' – Mary Pople
5th July

Miller partnership makes a difference in Malawi
12th July

Susan Dalgety weekly column: How to unleash the potential of this peaceful, democratic but incredibly poor country
13th July

Airdrie school pupils visit Malawi as part of health education trip
16th July

Susan Dalgety weekly column: In a country where 1 in 34 babies die at birth, this clinic hasn't had a death in 10 years
20th July

Glasgow teachers take on 940-mile cycling challenge to raise funds for Mary's Meals
24th July

GlasgowLive

[Susan Dalgety weekly column: She was Malawi's first qualified black nurse and a true friend](#)

[Mary's Meals celebrates after feeding 1.5 million kids around the world](#)

30th July

AUGUST 2019


THE SCOTSMAN

[Lake Malawi's chiefs turn down oil industry to save its fish –](#)

[Susan Dalgety weekly column](#)

3rd August

The Herald

[East meets west as Brewgooder expands range](#)

9th August


THE SCOTSMAN

[A 'struggle for Malawi's very soul' may now be under way –](#)

[Susan Dalgety weekly column](#)

9th August



Construction apprentices meet quadruple amputee charity founder ahead of Malawi trip

13th August

Backpacks bid boosted by Perthshire forest donation

13th August

[How to make the world a better place: politics and religion – Susan Dalgety weekly column](#)

17th August

[Travelling in the footsteps of David Livingstone - Susan Dalgety weekly column](#)

St Ronan's pupils in fine voice for Royal engagement

Port Glasgow teenagers in Malawi aid mission

Missionaries once tried to suppress Malawi's music - they failed - Susan Dalgety

Princess Anne recognises Inverurie charity for work in Malawi

Life in Malawi suggests Marx was right about religion – Susan Dalgety



THE SCOTSMAN

Fife Today
East Fife Mail Fife Free Press Herald Gazette C181818

**Border
Telegraph**

THE SCOTSMAN

GlasgowLive

[Throw a Porridge Party for Mary's Meals](#)

[Malawi shows how important democracy is in fight against corruption - Susan Dalgety](#)

[Karen's Malawi running trip with Dame Kelly](#)

[Borders volunteers return from successful Malawi project](#)

[Politics always comes down to straightforward choices – Susan Dalgety](#)

[Glasgow Lives: Amy, 26, Kinning Park, singer/songwriter and music teacher](#)

SEPTEMBER 2019

EveningTimes
NOBODY KNOWS GLASGOW BETTER

THE SCOTSMAN

THE SCOTSMAN

[Vandals steal £2000 Glasgow school cash raised for Malawi trip](#)

[Small business matters in Malawi - Susan Dalgety](#)

[Climate change: Why it's no surprise Prince Harry spoke out on Malawi trip – Susan Dalgety](#)

SCOTTISH LEGAL NEWS
NEWS, EVENTS & JOBS IN SCOTTISH LAW

THE NATIONAL
THE NEWSPAPER THAT SUPPORTS AN INDEPENDENT SCOTLAND

THE SCOTSMAN

The Herald

HELENSBURGH
ADVERTISER

THE SCOTSMAN

Kirkintilloch
Herald

Evening Times
NOBODY KNOWS GLASGOW BETTER

Daily
Record

Simon Crabb visits Malawi for human rights initiatives

Mary's Meals boss reveals how the Scottish staple feeds children

How global trade can transform lives for the better – Susan Dalgety

Running water: matter of life and death in Malawi maternity units

Helensburgh man aiming for world record rowing bid

Price of saving fragile natural world hits the poorest hardest – Susan Dalgety

Optician's specs appeal to help needy kids in Malawi

Cyclists hailed for Malawi donations

OCTOBER 2019

Malawi villagers get well-deserved help from Perthshire couple



Scottish Catholic Observer
scotnews.co.uk the newspaper online and more


THE SCOTSMAN


THE SCOTSMAN


THE SCOTSMAN

GRAMPIAN ONLINE


THE SCOTSMAN

The Press and Journal

Rutherglen mum helps put a smile on faces of Malawi kids in charity project

Airdrie high school honoured with visit from Malawian prisoner it helped to free

Why Donald Trump's advice is popular in a small village in Malawi – Susan Dalgety

Keith Murphy of Penicuik High School: Flourishing school partnership enriches lives from both communities

Don't be surprised if the next big things in music and fashion come from Malawi – Susan Dalgety

Fundraiser supports Malawian school

The country where average income is £263 a year and aid workers stay in £220-a-night hotels – Susan Dalgety

Inspiring Malawi mission for Port Glasgow pupils

Aberdeenshire charity provides shelter for 56 Malawi women

NOVEMBER 2019

greenocktelegraph

Border
Telegraph

GRAMPIAN ONLINE

THE SCOTSMAN

The Press and Journal

The Herald

INVERURIE
HERALD

DAILY SUNDAY MAIL
Daily Record

Evening Telegraph

Inspiring Malawi mission for Port Glasgow pupils

Malawi mission success for Borders presbytery

Fundraiser supports Malawian school

The country where average income is £263 a year and aid workers stay in £220-a-night hotels – Susan Dalgety

Feature: The right to morphine. With the rise of cancer in Malawi comes the need to fight its pain

Leading Malawi innovator gives talk at Aberdeen school

DECEMBER 2019

Innovator shares story

Christmas Eve celebrations to be broadcast from Perth

THE COURIER.co.uk

The Herald

Daily Record AND SUNDAY MAIL

The Herald

THE SCOTSMAN

Nyasa Times
Malawi breaking online news source

THE NATIONAL
THE NEWSPAPER THAT SUPPORTS AN INDEPENDENT SCOTLAND

The Herald

THE TIMES

[Pupils from Dundee nursery leave festive messages for friends in Malawi](#)

[Fife teacher spending festive period teaching kids in Malawi](#)

JANUARY 2020

[Why Sir Keir Starmer has far more class than his enemies](#)

[The Ashwood Scotland Foundation raised £7600 at its annual charity ball in Whitburn](#)

[Scots soldier Joshua Hoole's death leads to coroner call for government action](#)

[Alexander McCall Smith: Why I turned Macbeth into a baboon opera](#)

[Scotland issues travel advisory to Malawi ahead of election case verdict](#)

[David Livingstone's birthplace project gets funding boost](#)

[Livingstone project to follow in great explorer's footsteps](#)

[David Livingstone's African links are set in stone](#)

FEBRUARY 2019

reliefweb



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

Fife Today

East Fife Mail Fife Free Press Herald Gazette CHURCH

Nyasa Times
Malawi breaking online news source

Yallafrica

Scottish Government Donates 1,000 Computers to African Schools

Sustainable farming helping families to cope with climate change in Malawi

Fife charity set to help vocational training in Malawi with donation

Deputy speaker Kazombo calls for more diaspora engagement in Malawi political affairs

Malawian Taekwondo Athlete Guba Wins Gold At Scotland Open Championships

MARCH 2020


THE SCOTSMAN

Susan Dalgety: Hope abounds at the beginning of a new chapter in Malawi


THE SCOTSMAN

GRAMPIAN ONLINE

THE NATIONAL
THE NEWSPAPER THAT SUPPORTS AN INDEPENDENT SCOTLAND


THE SCOTSMAN

Largs & Millport
Weekly News

Girls who find it difficult to get into school are grateful for Mercy

There's a welcome with Open Arms for school groups ready to help

Afternoon tea at Chapel of Garioch boots charity coffers

[Accountants fund clean water in Malawi by filing tax returns](#)

African Adventure for Largs BB Captain

