



ScotlandMalawi
P A R T N E R S H I P

ANNUAL

REPORT

2015

Supported by



WELCOME FROM CHAIR

Rev Prof
Kenneth Ross



Approaching the 10-year mark since the revitalization of the Scotland-Malawi connection in 2004-05 has offered the opportunity to take stock – celebrating achievements but recognising challenges still to be met. The latter loom large in the thinking of the Scotland Malawi Partnership. With millions of Malawians facing food shortages after the disastrous growing season of 2014-15 there is no room for complacency, far less triumphalism. A sense that Scotland might still have a part to play in combatting extreme poverty in Malawi galvanised the formation of the Partnership 10 years ago. This remains a unifying passion and, while there have been many successful initiatives, we are united by awareness of how much remains to be done.

It is in this context that the upscaling of the SMP's activity is to be welcomed. The office remains small in relation to the size of the membership and the range and intensity of our programmes. But the three new appointments made in the summer of 2014 have brought a step change to our operations. This was apparent already in the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of Malawi's independence and in marking Malawi's participation in the 2014 Commonwealth Games held in Glasgow soon afterwards.

The impact of the new appointments was seen also in regular events such as our member-led Forums and in new initiatives in strategic areas. The new website and increased visibility in national and local media testify to the contribution of Jackie Farr, Media and Communications Officer. A growing schools membership and dynamic youth events demonstrate the impact being made by Emily Mnyayi, Youth and Schools Officer. A more intentional and sustained focus on trade and governance – vital battlefields in the war against poverty – has been driven by Keith Bohannon, Member Development Officer.



The financial and administrative challenges of working between Scotland and Malawi are not to be underestimated so we remain deeply grateful for the often unsung but always high quality work of Dorte Al-Gailani, Finance and Administration Officer. In the day-to-day running of the office and the facilitation of a host of events and engagements we are hugely indebted to Charlie Bevan, Member Services Manager. Strategic leadership and high-level external engagement are provided by David Hope-Jones, Principal Officer, who never tires of challenging us to raise our game still further. This report gives a flavour of what has been achieved by the team through networking and coordinating the remarkable body of people and organisations who make up our membership.

Strengthening our operations on the Scottish side would be to no avail, however, were there not corresponding development on the Malawi side. Happily our sister organisation, MaSP, has also completed a highly successful year – recognised with renewed funding from the Scottish Government for 2015-17. Highlights of the year included the achievement of stronger regional presence of MaSP and the Symposium of organisations in receipt of Scottish Government grants in January 2015.

Much of the drive behind MaSP's progress in recent years has come from its inspirational chair Matthews Mtumbuka. Early in 2015 Matthews was transferred to Rwanda by his company, Airtel. This meant that he had to step down as MaSP Chair so I take this opportunity to pay tribute to Matthews' vision, passion and determination which did so much to make MaSP what it is today. We know that we will always be able to depend on him as a source of guidance and encouragement. At the same time we extend a very warm welcome to Matthews' successor, Andrew Namakhoma, who we are delighted to invite to our 2015 SMP AGM.

Like two sides of a hinge, the SMP and MaSP link and coordinate the vast web of interaction and exchange taking place between Scotland and Malawi. We do not underestimate the scale of the challenges we face but we are confident that this way of working together is a powerful force for positive change – in both nations.

Kenneth R. Ross
Chair

VISION, MISSION & PRINCIPLES

VISION

The Scotland Malawi Partnership (SMP) is the national network inspiring and supporting links benefitting both Scotland and Malawi.

The SMP is underpinned by a historic bilateral civil society relationship based not on 'donors' and 'recipients' but on long-standing, mutually-beneficial community to community, family to family and people to people links.

It is a relationship built on trust and mutual respect. This is a new and innovative mode of international development and it is a powerful force for change.

MISSION

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



PARTNERSHIP PRINCIPLES

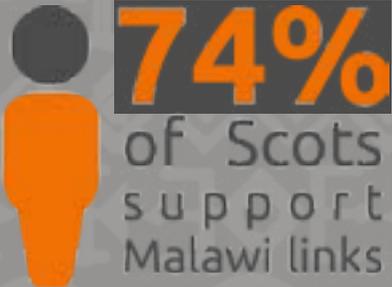
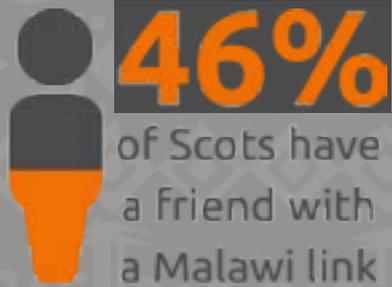
Having consulted hundreds of Malawian and Scottish organisations working together, the SMP has developed eleven principles of effective partnership working. It is these principles that we look to promote, encourage our members to work within, and hold ourselves accountable to:

- Planning together
- Appropriateness
- Respect, trust and mutual understanding
- Transparency
- No one left behind
- Effectiveness
- Reciprocity
- Sustainability
- Do no Harm
- Interconnectivity
- Parity (equality)



OUR IMPACT

FACTS & FIGURES



In 2014-15 the SMP...

...hosted **31** events attended by a total of **1,063** people

...ran **13** Member Forums attended by **281** people

...worked with over **150** friends in the Malawian diaspora community

...encouraged **56%** of members to reflect on how their links can support economic development in Malawi:

30% of these have developed their way of working as a result

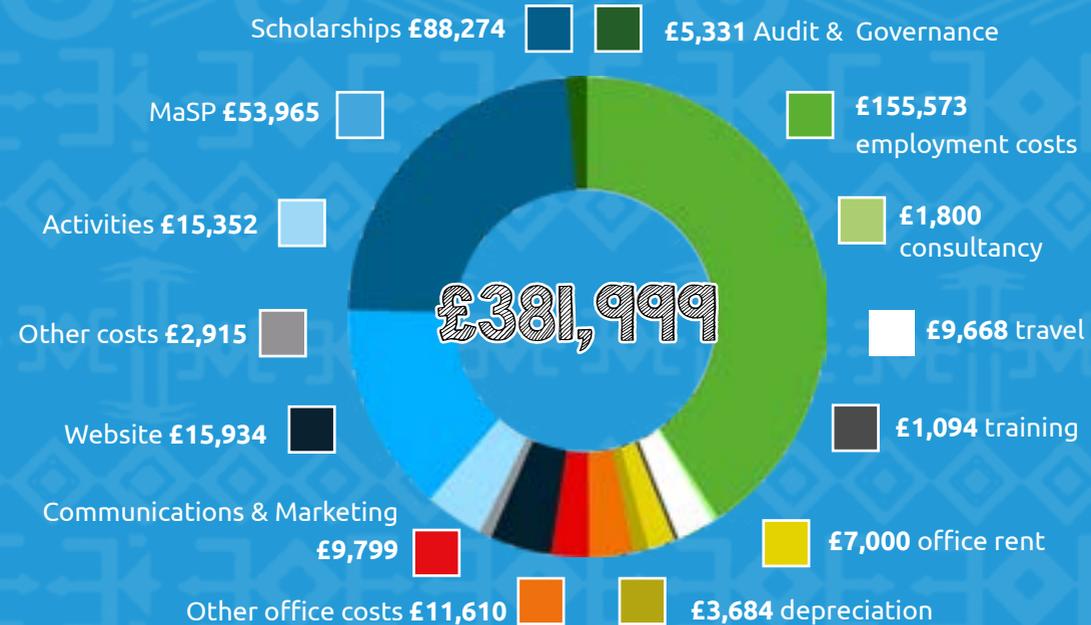
...supported **92%** of members by strengthening and developing their Malawi links

...supported **3** Cross Party Group meetings attended by **114** people

FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME

EXPENDITURE



A total of £411,065 was received in 2014/15, including:

£10,596 of unrestricted income received from membership subscriptions and donations

£231,543 of core funding received from the Scottish Government

£65,304 of funding received from the Scottish Government for the development of the Malawi Scotland Partnership (MaSP), the last instalment of a three-year funding commitment

£100,000 received from the Scottish Government for redistribution through the Scotland Malawi Livingstone Scholarship programme

A total of £381,999 was expended in 2014/15. The largest areas of expenditure were:

£155,573 of employment costs. The SMP staff team increased to 5.6 FTE in 2014/15

£53,965 for MaSP development – of which £52,700 came from the Scottish Government grant and £1,265 came from SMP unrestricted funds

£88,274 for the two scholarship programmes. These are programmes to help fund under-privileged Malawi students through a Masters degree in Malawi. 37 students were awarded scholarships in the first programme running October 2013 to June 2015. Another 37 students were awarded scholarships in the second programme running August 2014 to June 2016

£15,352 for events and other operational activities

£15,934 for development of a new website and transferring all website services to a new provider

RAISING AWARENESS

One of the SMP's most valuable member services, according to our members, is the dissemination of information: on Malawi, on activity between Scotland and Malawi, on funding opportunities, and on Malawian needs and priorities.

In 2014/15, with increased capacity offered through a dedicated Media and Communications Officer, we were able to explore creative new ways to raise awareness of Scotland-Malawi links.



48 WEEKLY BULLETINS sent to SMP members and key partners

Each bulletin contains key updates, news and information relevant to Scotland's links with Malawi, including Malawi news, funding opportunities, events, shared learning, currency updates and training opportunities.

In 2014/15 the web traffic had increased with **26% MORE VISITORS**

The SMP website, and its associated online forums, exist to support members to keep informed of news from Malawi, share information and learning from their Malawi links, connect and inspire with other members, and be actively involved in the SMP's work.

In 2014/15 the SMP successfully grew its social media platforms with:

111.8% MORE FACEBOOK LIKES

106% MORE TWITTER FOLLOWERS

The Scotland Malawi Partnership used its **Facebook page** and **Twitter** to keep members informed of upcoming events, news from Malawi and member activity.

The SMP has also started using **Instagram** and **LinkedIn** to reach new audiences.

2,000+ enquiries from members, partners and the public were responded to in 2014/15 by the SMP team.

The SMP team is always ready at the end of the phone or on email to offer friendly support, advice and information for members.

In 2014/15 the SMP successfully increased its pro-active media work resulting in:

71 POSITIVE MALAWI FEATURES IN SCOTTISH PRESS

59 SMP-LED (OR FEATURED) ITEMS IN THE MEDIA

In 2014/15 the SMP developed a number of short, creative videos to help share inspiring stories of partnership working from within our membership. Videos were produced for:

- SMP's 2014 Youth Congress
- SMP's Pop-up Malawi House
- Team Malawi to visit the David Livingstone Centre
- Scotland-Malawi school linking: a Malawian perspective
- 50 Stories for 50 Years

As part of the '50 Stories for 50 Years' campaign, 50 videos were produced to demonstrate Scotland-Malawi links. 11 of these videos were created with help from the SMP and the remaining 39 videos were produced by SMP members. These videos have been watched almost 2,000 times with almost 10,000 Twitter impressions.

STAY CONNECTED



Twitter



Facebook



Instagram



Youtube



LinkedIn



Check out our  Youtube channel for these videos + more!

NUTRUTING NEW GROWTH

In 2014/15, with increased staffing capacity, the SMP was able to invest time and energy into nurturing new growth in priority areas including sustainable economic development, and youth and schools links.

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In 2014/15 two new member forums were established by the SMP: a **Business, Investment, Trade and Tourism Forum**, and a **Governance Forum**.

The **Business Forum**, which met three times in 2014/15, focussed on:

- Promoting Malawian goods (eg, Mzuzu Coffee, Liberation Nuts, Ubuntu Cola, Kilambo Rice, Geobars) and building Scottish markets
- Exploring potential investment opportunities in Malawi
- Promoting Malawi as a tourist destination
- Providing support and networking opportunities for those engaging with the private sector



The **Governance Forum**, which also met three times, focussed on:

- Sharing learning from SMP members, and local and national government representatives
- Local governance issues
- Project governance challenges

These forums provide a valuable new platform for information and knowledge sharing, and learning and support. Our members tell us this in turn helps increase impact and effectiveness in Malawi.



Join the conversation online!

All SMP members have access to our **online forums** on our website.

This is a great space for members to chat and discuss Malawi news, challenges they face and share their own good news with other members (as well as the SMP staff!)

Log in to your profile to post a comment and reply to others!

NURTURING NEW GROWTH

YOUTH AND SCHOOLS

In 2014/15 youth links were supporting through:

- Events such as the **Scotland-Malawi Youth Congress**, with 200 young Scots from schools the length and breadth of Scotland coming together to talk about their links with Malawi
- The establishment of a bespoke youth newsletter, with five sent in 2014/15
- The development of an exclusive youth forum

As a result of this forum, I will work more closely with the SMP. I've been impressed

by the Partnership Principles.
**Kate,
ScotDEC**



The forum strengthened my Malawi links and it was great meeting people with similar interests, experiences and enthusiasm
Youth Forum attendee

The networking opportunity has been so valuable.

**Suzanne Ritchie,
North Berwick High School**

School partnerships were strengthened by:

- The development of a new set of primary lesson ideas about coffee farmers in Malawi, in association with Traidcraft
- Practical support and advice offered on a one-to-one basis and in class
- Circulating a school-specific bulletin and shorter news digest
- The School links forum, which met in Edinburgh, attended by 25 people representing 11 local schools
- Support for brokering links through partners such as the Malawi Scotland Partnership and the British Council



In 2014/15 the SMP provided tailored support to 13 schools which have made specific enquiries, visited nine schools to offer face-to-face support and ran training sessions in a further two schools. In total more than 12,000 young Scots have benefited from this activity.

Youth Members: join our **"SMP Youth" Facebook group** to meet other youth members!

SUSTAINING EXISTING LINKS

Throughout 2014/15 the SMP increased the number and quality of member services. We have committed to providing services that are designed to help increase the impact and effectiveness of members' work with Malawi.

As a large and diverse network, one of the most useful things we do is bringing our members together and helping them share their experience and learning.

In 2014/15 the SMP organised or supported **53 events** which enabled stakeholder networking, attended by almost **3,000 Scottish organisations** and key individuals;



The Scotland Malawi Partnership's 2014 AGM was its biggest and best to date. It was themed "together in the talking place", with all activities taking place around a mock campfire on stage.

110 Members attended the day and feedback was outstanding: 94% of respondents rated the AGM overall as "excellent" or "very good".



The network of partners in Scotland and in Malawi has been tremendously useful as our work in Malawi expands.

SMP Member



EVENTS

On the 12th July 2014 the SMP, working with members of the Malawian Diaspora from across Scotland, hosted Malawi's 50th independence day celebrations



MALAWI POP-UP HOUSE



On the 29th July 2014, as part of the Commonwealth Games, the SMP hosted a "Pop-Up Malawi House" to show Scotland's support for Team Malawi and promote Malawi business and tourism to new audiences

PUBLICATIONS

Each year the SMP publishes and updates practical advice for members on common areas of work and activity in Malawi.

This year the following publications were published or updated:

- University of Edinburgh report into the scale of Scotland-Malawi links.
- Public Awareness Study
- Common Challenges, Shared Learning
- Gender Equality Act Educational Resource (now being rolled out in Malawi by the UN)
- 2013-14 SMP Annual Report
- 2014-17 Strategic Plan
- Practical Advice on Per Diems
- Partnership Principles
- 2011-14 Activity and Impact report
- SMP's paper on "Malawi, Scotland and a Relational Approach to International Development"

Visit our website to read these publications!

DEVELOPING MEMBERS

As an ambitious and learning network, we recognise that there's always more we can do to expand the breadth and increase the depth of our, and our members', work.

In 2014/15 we offered members a suite of training opportunities to help develop and strengthen their links with Malawi.

BECOMING A S.C.I.O.

The SMP partnered with NIDOS and Morton Fraser to deliver two training sessions, supporting Scottish NGOs and community groups to become SCIOs

LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL WORKSHOPS

In March 2015, the SMP organised and delivered Chichewa Language and Culture Courses in Edinburgh and Glasgow for SMP members and the general public. 95% of participants rated the courses "excellent" or "very good."

It has been well organised, interesting, enjoyable and pitched at the right level. I've loved it!

Ned Anderson, MLOL



SMP MEMBER FORUMS

The SMP managed six member forums in 2014/15:

- Business, Investment, Trade and Tourism
- Health
- Higher and Further Education
- Governance
- Primary and Secondary Education
- Youth

13
FORUM
MEETINGS

were hosted
by the SMP
across
Scotland

281
ATTENDEES

including
members and
key external
stakeholders
at SMP forums

100%
POSITIVE
FEEDBACK

survey
respondents said
the member
forums were
either "excellent"
or "very good"



75%
IMPROVED
PARTNERSHIPS

respondents said
sharing and learning
among members
had helped improve
the effectiveness of
their partnerships

PARTNERSHIP PRINCIPLES

Planning and implementing together

Appropriateness

Respect, trust and mutual understanding

Transparency and Accountability

No one left behind

Effectiveness

Reciprocity

Sustainability

Do no Harm

Interconnectivity

Parity (equality)

The six member forums continued to be a key channel to promote the SMP's 'Partnership Principles' which have come from consultations with hundreds of Scottish and Malawian organisations.

For example, the business forum designed a framework for civil, public and private sector engagement based on the partnership principles, and the schools forum and health forum included case studies from members on how the partnership principles influenced their work.

Through the year, over 200 members and interested stakeholders engaged the Partnership Principles through an SMP forum.



It was helpful to my organisation, for myself and my colleague to reflect on the partnership principles and see that they underpinned a lot of the work we did in Malawi and also to think about what we could improve.



SMP Member

Make sure you visit Partnership Principles on our website for more information on how you can get involved!

CONNECTING & INFLUENCING

ADVOCATING ON BEHALF OF OUR MEMBERS

In 2014/15 the SMP engaged the Scottish and UK Government, on behalf of our Members on a number of issues.

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT:



Small grants programme: The SMP assisted with the design and implementation of the Scottish Government's Small Grants Programme. This programme has been extremely well received, adding significant value to the government's International Development Fund by engaging a greater number and range of small and medium-sized Scottish organisations.

International Framework: The SMP was pleased to be actively involved in the review and updating of the Scottish Government's International Framework.

David Livingstone Scholarships: With funds from the Scottish Government, the SMP was able to award 37 David Livingstone Bicentenary Scholarships for young, gifted and underprivileged Malawian students to study at Masters level within Malawi.

Scottish Independence debate: The SMP engaged both sides of the debate, representing the bilateral people-to-people links, while maintaining our neutrality.

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT:



Malawi CPG: The SMP organised three meetings of the Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group in 2014/15, reviewing and discussing: the May 2014 election in Malawi; Scotland's support for flood recovery in Malawi; and recent work to support those living with disabilities in Malawi.

Events and engagement: The SMP supported a number of different engagements in the Scottish Malawi to promote links with Malawi, including public exhibitions and parliamentary debates.

Europe and External Relations Committee: The SMP fed into the work of the Europe and External Relations Committee, representing Scotland's civic links with Malawi.



UK GOVERNMENT:



Visas: The SMP recognises the strong frustration amongst many of its members who have routinely had UK visa applications for their partners summarily rejected and experienced delays as a result of applications being processed in South Africa. In 2014/15 the SMP raised the issue of UK visas for Malawians visiting Scotland, with debates in both the House of Commons and the Lords. The UK Home Secretary has since announced improvements to the Visa issuing system.

Disability Framework: The SMP supported the UK Government's new DFID Disability Framework.

Scottish Independence debate: The SMP engaged both sides of the debate, representing the bilateral people-to-people links, while maintaining our neutrality.

UNITED NATIONS:



Sustainable Development Goals: The SMP has been working in partnership and coalition with other key agencies in the sector to help coordinate Scotland's civil society contributions to the design of the post-MDG framework, facilitating input from Malawi civil society and MaSP. We strongly supported the focus on partnership through critical stages of the negotiations.



"On behalf of the farmers in Malawi I would like to thank you for your commitment and continued support in this matter." Charles Chavi, Malawi Sugarcane Smallholder farmer



UK PARLIAMENT:



International Development Bill: Lobbying for the International Development Bill (legislating for 0.7% of GNI to be invested in international development) and writing to all Scottish MPs who supported the Bill.

International Development Committee: The SMP successfully lobbied for Malawi to be included in the International Development Committee's report on the DFID 2014 Annual Report.

Malawi APPG: The SMP supported the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Malawi and Zambia.

EUROPEAN UNION:



Sugar reform: The SMP lobbied Scotland's MEPs on the EU sugar cane cap, with four of the six MEPs giving written support, a question in the European Parliament, and an MEP letter to the Commissioner

CONNECTING & INFLUENCING

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

Central to realising our vision, mission and values, the SMP is committed to supporting effective partnership working.

MALAWI SCOTLAND PARTNERSHIP



“ The link with Scotland has been strengthened because of my membership to the MaSP which has been so fruitful.

MaSP Member



“ The impact has been positive and it has helped me to strengthen my networks and also learn new things.

MaSP Member



The Malawi Scotland Partnership (MaSP) is the sister-organisation to the SMP. Based in Lilongwe, MaSP is a Malawi-owned and Malawi-led organisation which exists to support and coordinate the Malawi-end of the bilateral civil society links.

In 2014/15 MaSP opened two Communication and Resource Centres, in Mzuzu and Blantyre, supporting members in the northern and southern regions to remain in effective communication.

In January 2015 the Malawi Scotland Partnership, in partnership with the SMP and the Scottish Government, helped organise a **Symposium for Scottish Government Grant Partners**. Around 80 individuals from around 40 organisations funded by the Scottish Government attended.

In 2014/15 MaSP opened two Communication and Resource Centres, in Mzuzu and Blantyre, supporting members in the northern and southern regions to remain in effective communication.

MALAWI HIGH COMMISSION TO THE UK, AND HON CONSUL TO SCOTLAND

The SMP has strong working relationships with both the Malawi High Commissioner to the UK and the Honorary Consul to Scotland, creating opportunities to keep the SMP members informed of Government of Malawi priorities.



THE MALAWIAN DIASPORA

Following a request from the Malawian diaspora community, the SMP supported the 50th Malawi Independence Day Celebrations in Glasgow which featured internationally acclaimed Malawi band, the Black Missionaries, and which was attended by over 150 Malawians and Scots.

Through 2014/2015 the SMP has been active supporting different Malawi diaspora groups to merge together for greater impact.



JOIN THE SCOTLAND MALAWI PARTNERSHIP

Any organisation or individual in Scotland interested in Malawi can join the SMP as a member.

If you have a link with Malawi, or are looking to establish one, membership of the SMP will help develop and strengthen your work by:

- Connecting you with others passionate about Malawi;
- Keeping you informed of news from Malawi;
- Offering you advice and support through our office, at our events and forums and through practical advice guides;
- Helping you develop and strengthen your links.



We've got a few different categories of membership: organisational, individual, schools, local authorities and youth (14 to 24 year olds).

For more information **email us** or visit **our website!**

We'd love to have you on board!



LOOKING FORWARDS

David Hope-Jones



2014/15 was a key year for the Scotland Malawi Partnership, the first of our ambitious 2014-17 Strategic Plan. We enjoyed success on a good number of different fronts as we scaled up the work of the Secretariat and responded to the many opportunities which arose, from the Glasgow Commonwealth Games to the 50th anniversary of Malawi independence.

As this report captures, the Partnership has much it can be proud of as it enters its second decade as a national network. We have grown in new and exciting ways, now with over 700 members across Scotland representing the 94,000 Scots actively involved each year. Furthermore, there remains a great deal of public and cross-party political support for our work, with 46% of Scots now personally knowing someone with a Malawian connection and every political party engaged.

As we move forwards we look to consolidate these enviable developments and continue to take a message of dignified two-way partnership to new audiences. We believe that more can be achieved when working through partnership, rather than charity alone, and we are passionate about the impact individuals, communities, schools and all of civic society can have when driven by a sense of friendship, understanding and solidarity.

Through the next two years of our Strategic Plan we will keep our eleven Partnership Principles at the centre of all we do. We look to raise awareness of these principles; we support our members to work within the principles; and it is against these principles that we hold ourselves accountable.

Sadly, Malawi has not seen the sort of genuinely transformational nationwide change we and our members hoped over the last decade but this does not weaken our resolve. By helping support our members engage and connect, we are able to help share learning between organisations and ensure future work is always informed by past experience. In this way, and always led by our inspirational friends in Malawi, we are confident that we will continue to support partnerships between the people of our two nations which fight poverty –the great moral outrage of our time- and respond to the cry for basic human dignity.

We walk together in partnership.

David Hope-Jones,
Principal Officer

WHO WE ARE

We are a friendly bunch, so if you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch!

DAVID HOPE-JONES



Principal Officer
david@scotland-malawipartnership.org

David is responsible for the management of all aspects of the Partnership's work and is managed by the Board of Directors. Specifically, much of David's time is focused on the strategic development of the organisation, engagement with the respective governments, and external partnership working.

CHARLIE BEVAN



Member Services Manager
charlie@scotland-malawipartnership.org

Charlie is responsible for member engagement, including responding to enquiries and offering advice, managing events and forums and supporting Emily, Keith and Jackie in their roles.

EMILY MNYAYI



Youth & Schools Officer
emily@scotland-malawipartnership.org

Emily works to increase the Partnership's engagement of young Scots and its support for school partnerships.

KEITH BOHANNON



Member Development Officer
keith@scotland-malawipartnership.org

Keith works to increase engagement and partnership working in four key strategic areas: Business, Investment, Trade and Tourism; Governance; Diaspora; and Local Authorities.

JACKIE FARR



Media & Communications Officer
jackie@scotland-malawipartnership.org

Jackie is leading the media and communications for the Scotland Malawi Partnership and is responsible for increasing the awareness and support for Scotland's links with Malawi.

DORTE AL-GAILANI



Finance & Administration Officer
dorte@scotland-malawipartnership.org

Dorte is responsible for many of the internal processes of the Partnership, in particular looking after the money!

Dignified Partnerships
Strengthening Links
Raising Awareness
198,000 Malawians
94,000 Scots
Coordinating
Developing
Connecting
Influencing
Inspiring

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