

**Malawi Scotland Partnership**

**Consolidated Strand Meeting Minutes**

**November 2017**

**AGENDA FOR HEALTH STRAND MEETING**

**Ministry of Health Conference Room**

**13th November 2017**

1. Opening prayer
2. Opening and welcome remarks by the Chairperson
3. Apologies Received
4. Adoption of the Agenda
5. Key issues from the Health sector (priorities, structures and systems)
6. Challenges and Opportunities in the Health sector
7. Experiences from CSOs on SG funded projects
8. Scotland Updates
9. Areas of collaboration and joint working
10. Closing Remarks by the Chairperson
11. Date of next meeting
12. Closing prayer

**Present**

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| --- | --- |
| **NAME** | **ORGANISATION** |
| Paul Kawale | Nkhoma Hospital |
| Charles Kasambala | CELA |
| Phillip Kamangila | Centre For Legal Assistance |
| Paul KL Shawa | Good Health |
| Daniel Kawaye | IMCAI Malawi |
| Sheila Bandazi | AMAMI |
| Benard Mphepo | FSCD |
| Amos Kalawe | Evangelical Association Of Malawi |
| Alick Makiyi | Grassroots Movement for Health and Development (GMHD |
| Beatrice Kabota | Nkhoma Hospital |
| Peter Kayenda | GRAPH |
| George Jobe | MHEN |
| Edward Phiri | CRIDOC |
| Gift Phiri | CYAMA |
| Gerald Manthalu | Ministry of Health |
| Ann Phoya | AMAMI |
| Hastings Kamunthu Phiri | Hope for the Hopeless Foundation |
| Dingaan Mithi | Join Aids |
| Kisa Mwafulirwa | St John Of God Hospital Services |
| Shouts M.G Simeza | St Johns College of Nursing |
| Stevie S.B Kachere | Energy Solutions Limited |
| Godfrey Kammunda | LADDER |

1. **Opening prayer**

An open prayer was made by Vera Kamtukule

1. **Welcome remarks by the Chairperson**

The chair and strand lead Dr. Manthalu from the Ministry of Health welcomed all members to the meeting and further commended members for coming in time. The meeting started at 7:45 am on request from the Strand Lead as he was supposed to attend another meeting from 9 am and this gave him an opportunity to make his contributions to the strand meeting before the left.

1. **Apologies Received**

No apologies were received for the meeting save for the excuse from the Strand Lead Dr. Manthalu.

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted with no additional item on it.

1. **Key issues from the Health sector (priorities, structures and systems)**

The Strand Lead Dr. Manthalu made a presentation on behalf of Government on key issues, achievements and challenges from the Health Sector

**Summary of the Health Sector Strategic (HSSP) Plan II**

* It was launched on 8th July, 2017
* It took about 2 years to launch longer than was meant to as there was a need to beef it up with other emerging evidence on the essential Health package.

**Highlights in the HSSP**

* Achieved Millennium Development (MDG) Goal 4 (Reducing infant mortality rate since 1992
* Attained MDG 4 (Reducing child mortality)
* On aggregate achieved MDG 6 (combating HIV and AIDS, Malaria and other diseases)
* There is consistent decline on maternal death as a result of HSSP 1 (2011-2016) implementation
* Improved skills delivery at health center at about 90%
* Increased immunization coverage

**Challenges**

* Reproductive and adolescent health: Contraceptive prevalence rate facing no change i.e. not increasing in the sexual debate amongst young females.
* Early Child births – HSSP has been designed to take into account new ways to cost effectively deliver the essential health package i.e. Prioritizing Health Surveillance Assistants (HSAs), strengthen pre-service training, improve recruitment by help of other players for a period of time.
* Vacancy rate for the sector remains high (about 45% overall) with positions needing filling up.

**Ministry Of Health strategic choices**

The ministry further articulated the following as their strategic choices for the next five years:

* Health care financing: generate additional funds through efficiency savings
* Improving audit and financing at all levels
* HR: Greater priority to cadres who deliver the Essential Health Package such as Health nurses, midwives and surveillance
* Governance: maximizing health sector harmonization and coordination as most organization are working in parallel to government priorities
* Strengthening accountability: especially at district level
* Infrastructure development: mostly rehabilitation and upgrading of existing structures
* Quality health care
* Addressing social risk factors
* Medical Products and technologies: Drug prevalence – To ensure harmonization of supply system

**Matters arising, Questions and Answers from MoH Presentation from members**

1. While we appreciate very much the paradigm shift from curative to preventive services why is it that Malawi is where we are today in the health sector. What have we been doing in the past that requires changing in the HSSP 2? What must we focus on as a country moving forward?
2. Do we have the political will to back up the successful implementation of the HSSP 2? Because we still see that in other parts of the country patients have their bicycles and belongings confiscated by hospital personnel due to failure to settle bills? On this question two answers came out.

**Answer 1:**

As a nation we need to be ready to make painful decisions and commitments in health financing. When Malawians get sick, their first point of call is the herbalist where it is a taboo to obtain help without payment. This entails that people can and will be paying if it becomes necessary for them to do so but the question is, are Malawians ready to make such political decisions ahead of 2019?

**Answer 2:**

There is need to look at efficiencies which will address the two key challenges in the health sector which is ‘leakage and pilferage’. If we get rid of these two we shall be inherently addressing many challenges in the health sector because we will be making a US$10 gain per person per annum

1. What has the public sector done to guard the medical supplies in hospitals?

**Answer 1**

There is also need to involve the communities but this must be done with caution as well as it has been shown that communities again collude with health official to steal drugs from facilities.

**Answer 2**

We may need to find innovative ways of disbursing medication to patients i.e. get rid of pharmacies all together; other countries are using machines like ATMs to disburse medication

1. Are projects with focus on research welcome under the Scottish Grant applications?

* Focus on research whose findings will have national impact

1. On health structure, is there any arrangement to reach out to prisons as there are challenges such as no separation of the sick and health?

**Comments**

* Prisons do not have health structure and equipment that will enable them separate healthy prisoners from non-healthy ones. There is also no screening at entry and there are no general expert machines in most maximum prisons around the country.
* There is need to enhance and consolidate supply chain systems. Why must Malawi have supply chain systems that suit each donor other than a consolidated system?
* Engage private sector organizations like CHAM on quality health care
* Currently CHAM health workers receive salaries late, there is need to address this
* Incorporate strategies to take Traditional Birth Attendants out of business and address the myths surrounding their services as it has been shown that policing such practices has not yielded results as communities continue to trust them as they are a respected component of the communities
* There is need to work on the demand side in case of faith leaders encouraging patients with HIV/AIDS to stop taking medication.

1. **Experiences from CSOs on Scottish Government funded projects**

A presentation was made by Nkhoma Synod Hospital who were implementing a cervical cancer project in Lilongwe rural.

* Projects cannot be scaled up to other communities beyond the targeted communities regardless of the successes registered in the previous project under the Scottish Government funding
* Issue of sustainability is a challenge
* Scotland partners visit Malawi during project implementation but the Malawian counterparts are not allowed to visit Scotland at any point during the project period and this raises questions of whether learning should only be one sided.
* The SG does not allow the purchase of vehicles which makes it hard for Malawian organization to implement projects in remote communities
* Unable to reapply for the same project to reach out to more people.

**Scotland Updates**

A presentation of funding criteria was presented by Malawi Scotland Partnership and included the following:

* Closing date for sending concept notes 26 January
* Organizations are encouraged to create consortiums for this bid
* The annual amount per project per annum is 300,000 GBP
* Malawi Scotland partnership to send to all members Proposal concept writing criteria and other relevant documentation.

1. **Areas of collaboration and joint working**

MaSP through the CEO presentation encouraged members to approach the bidding as consortiums as the funds are huge compared to the previous call for proposals.

1. **Closing Remarks by the Chairperson**

The Co-Chair Mr. Jobe thanked all members for attending and their productive contributions.

1. **Date of next meeting**

The next round of strand meetings will take place in February 2018 as an Annual Symposium

1. **Closing prayer**

The closing prayer was made by Mrs. Kamtukule from the Secretariat.

**AGENDA FOR EDUCATION STRAND MEETING**

**Directorate Advisory and Inspectorate Services (DAIS) Conference Room**

**14th November 2017**

1. Opening prayer
2. Opening and welcome remarks by the Chairperson
3. Apologies Received
4. Adoption of the Agenda
5. Key issues from the Education sector (priorities, structures and systems)
6. Challenges and Opportunities in the Education sector
7. Experiences from CSOs on SG funded projects
8. Scotland Updates
9. Areas of collaboration and joint working
10. Closing Remarks by the Chairperson
11. Date of next meeting
12. Closing prayer

**Present:**

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1. **Opening prayer**

An open prayer was made by a volunteer

1. **Welcome remarks by the Chairperson**

The meeting was co-chaired by Ms.Lindiwe Chide from Ministry of education and Kisa Kumwenda from the Civil Society Education Coalition (CSEC).The chair from government welcomed all members and asked them to actively contribute to the meeting. The Strand Lead also emphasized that there is need for organizations to encourage one another and present themselves to the ministry for the ministry to be able to know who is doing what and where.

1. **Apologies Received**

No apologies were received.

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted with no additional item on it.

1. **Key issues from the Education sector (priorities, structures and systems)**

The Ministry of education laid out key issues from the National Education Sector Plan (NESP)

* The NESP has been implemented since 2008 and expired in June this year 2011.
* Ministry conducted a review of the NESP but results will be shared later after a joint review meeting
* There are a number of documents being used in the education, thus they need to be harmonized in the new NESP
* The new education strategy just as the old one will focus on **3 thematic areas**.
* Governance and Management
* Access and equity
* Quality and relevance

1. **Experiences from CSOs on Scottish Government funded projects**

**OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FROM MEMBERS**

**Opportunities**

1. There is full support from the Scottish Government during projects implementation – in some cases we are able to make adjustments in programs. The SG also provided us with guidance on one of the projects.
2. **Tear Fund & Livingstonia Synod Aids Program –** On access and equity we have the opportunity to mobilize girls and boys to access education.

**Challenges**

1. **No Vehicle Policy:** It becomes a challenge as many projects are being implemented aimed at reaching out to local communities that are very far.
2. **No allowance Policy:** As it is a policy by SG not to give allowances it becomes a challenge especially when working with government officials.

**Scotland Updates**

A presentation of funding criteria was presented by Malawi Scotland Partnership and included the following:

* Closing date for sending concept notes 26 January
* Organizations are encouraged to create consortiums for this bid
* The annual amount per project per annum is 300,000 GBP
* Malawi Scotland partnership to send to all members Proposal concept writing criteria and other relevant documentation.

1. **Areas of collaboration and joint working**

MaSP through the CEO presentation encouraged members to approach the bidding as consortiums as the funds are huge compared to the previous call for proposals.

**Questions and Comments from Members**

1. On collaboration,how can we link up with Scottish organizations that one can partner with?

* Check on Malawi Scotland Partnership and MaSP websites for details of Scottish organizations that are looking for partners and the other way would be or local organizations that have partners in place and strike collaboration.

1. How have such arrangements of joint working worked before?

* Yes they have worked better, for instance, Link Community Development testified that they really work well. International organizations may be proactive unlike local ones, hence the advantage. The partnering organizations are able to collaborate

1. Are there any changes in the approach of the funding or it is still the same approach as before?

* The approach is similar and the same where funding is forwarded to a partner who the Malawi organization work with , and that is the case with MaSP

1. **What is the amount of funding per year Amount –** Is the £300k per organization or for all organizations?

* The amount is per project, per annum.

1. I need clarification on how the partnership works.

* It works well, as the Scottish government do not fund the local organizations directly but through the partner organization in Scotland.

1. I need clarification on the mode of application

* A clarification was made by the secretariat.

1. Who is eligible to apply? Is it local or international organizations?

* All organizations are eligible as long as they are implementing projects that benefits Malawians.

1. How do you define affiliation to MaSP? Is attending this meeting enough affiliation?

* MaSP Membership

1. For those of us in other regions far from the secretariat, can we still go to the regional coordinator for help?

* Yes you can meet the regional coordinators for any queries.

1. Does it mean that this is a strand that will continue even after the call for proposal whether one succeeds or not?

* Yes, this is an established strand to be meeting twice a year.

1. After sending the concepts, then what next? How will we know the results are out?

* There will be an assessment and the results will be out by 26 March, the Secretariat will update members through various forums.

1. How long does it take to find a partner?

* It is not easy; it just depends on how best you present yourself to the potential partner.

1. Another member raised this question just to gauge MaSP members’ commitment to MaSP activities and the education sector: How many members have had a chance to get hold of the NESP?

* A few members raised hands

1. A concern was raised by another member purely local organizations have a challenge in getting the funding; as such it is essential to work in a consortium.
2. **Closing Remarks by the Chairperson**

The Chairperson thanked all members present for their active participation. He then encouraged members to share information and create an environment of collaboration and cooperation as we are all implementing projects under the partnership for the benefit of the whole nation.

1. **Date of next meeting**

The next round of strand meetings will take place in February 2018 as an Annual Symposium

1. **Closing prayer**

The closing prayer was done by a volunteer among participants.

**AGENDA FOR ENERGY STRAND MEETING**

**Ministry of Health Conference Room**

**15th November 2017**

1. Meeting called to order by the Chairperson
2. Opening prayer
3. Opening and welcome remarks by the Chairperson
4. Apologies Received
5. Adoption of the Agenda
6. Key issues from the Energy Sector strategic Plan (priorities, structures and systems)
7. Challenges and Opportunities in the energy sector
8. Experiences from CSOs on SG funded projects
9. Scotland Updates
10. Areas of collaboration and joint working
11. Closing Remarks by the Chairperson
12. Date of next meeting
13. Closing prayer

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Present

1. **Opening prayer**

An opening prayer was made by Vera Kamtukule, CEO for MaSP.

1. **Welcome remarks by the Chairperson**

The chair and strand lead Mr. Saidi Banda from the Department of Energy Affairs welcomed all members to the meeting. He urged members to actively participate in the deliberations to ensure effective learning and sharing of experience among the participants.

1. **Apologies Received**

No apologies were received for the meeting

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted with one additional item on it where MaSP was asked to give an overview of Malawi-Scotland Partnership for the sake of participants for whom it was their first time to attend to a MaSP meeting

1. **Key issues from the Energy sector (priorities, structures and systems)**

**5.1 Presentation by Department of Energy**

The Department of Energy through the strand lead laid out key issues from the Energy Sector Strategic Plan as well as the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy III, Energy Policy, Malawi Rural Electrification Strategy and Renewable Energy Strategy.

It was reported that government had developed the Renewable Energy Strategy to accelerate renewable utilization; Integrated Resource Plan (IRP); IPP Framework and Reviewed the Energy Policy of (2003) which is currently awaiting final approval from the cabinet.

**Challenges in the Energy sector**

1. Access to information has so far been a challenge with actors independently generating information that is also not widely shared due to lack of good platform for sharing information.
2. Another challenge is the lack of presence of the Energy Department’s officers in the districts where projects are being implemented thus monitoring and guidance services to districts are not available. This calls for decentralization of the office to be able to reach out and ensure quality services.
3. Inadequate financing for energy projects: as a country, we have not been able to invest in new power plants for a long time and this has resulted in imbalance in demand and supply.
4. The fact that currently Malawi has one dominant energy source that is Hydro has not helped matters and there is need for diversifying Energy sources to evade impact of diminishing water levels in Lake Malawi.
5. Solar investments and products are very expensive thus difficult to access by local people that need them. Inadequacy in standards enforcement also contributes to lack of adoption as people tend to think renewable energies are unreliable and ineffective.
6. Lack of Capacity building at local level; beneficiaries for rural renewable energy projects are not adequately trained for them to maintain the installed systems as a result the systems fail.

It was reported that the following has so far been done in order to facilitate private sector participation in the energy sector;

1. Government in collaboration with sector stakeholders has developed an IPP framework, standard power purchase.
2. Conducted feasibility studies for some potential power generation site in order to make the projects bankable and attract private investments in the power generation.

**Government Priorities in the Energy Sector**

The Government has prioritized implementation of power generation projects, diversification of powers sources, creation of an enabling environment for IPP participation and Rural Electrification Program.

Malawi Government is also promoting renewable energy in the areas of Solar, wind and min grids

1. **Experiences from CSOs on Scottish Government funded projects**

**6.1 Presentation by United Purpose**

The first to make a presentation on experience from implementing organizations was United Purpose as they are implementing a project on renewable energy in Chikwawa district. Presentation was made by Sithembile Tembo project Manager for United purpose

**Challenges:**

Vehicle policy of Scottish Government: The Scottish Government doesn’t include vehicle purchase as a policy in their grants but considering specific projects some are being implemented very far and so the need for vehicles becomes a reality. For the specific case of United Purpose hiring a vehicle for the entire 3 years would not make any business sense and they were using an old vehicle that was meant for another project and donor

**Policy on allowances**

At the start of the project the designers of it had not taken into account the National Master plan on Rural Electrification as a result the project made focus on areas that were soon to be covered by the Government lead project this caused delay and as a lesson there is need to consider this master plan whenever NGOs want to make investments.

**Opportunities**

* These days we are assured of sustainability as the projects and products under solar for example are being adopted widely by communities compared to the time these technologies came. Developed 8 business models for sustainability of installed panels
* The interest from funders in the area of renewable energy is huge Solar projects have been funded by the Scottish government since 2008.

**6.2 Presentation by Christian Aid**

**Challenges:**

Christian aid agreed to the challenges as was presented by United Purpose.

**Opportunities**

* There is a lot of potential for Renewable energy as a complement for t hydro.
* The development of a new Energy policy which is rich provides an opportunity to expand the reach for renewable energy with clear guidelines and direction.

**6.3 Presentation by OXFAM**

**Opportunities**

* Renewable Energy provides an opportunity or Potential to connect to different sectors and serve different uses such as sanitation. For example, pumping water Kiosk, water for irrigation and lighting.

In general a comment was made that

**Challenges:**

Lack of information which has leads to duplication of efforts

Development of Solar Units proved to be expensive as al l materials are imported coupled by lack of local interest to invest in the production of the same hence they served to few people and lead to limitation in provision of the service

Lack of Skills at community level for maintenance of renewable resources

Less regulation on standards of procured gadgets

Local people think everything installed is free as such they don’t want to pay back for their use thus use it unsustainably

* 1. **Presentation by Community Energy**

The community energy had a presentation from which they pointed out that they are implementing 46 projects on cook stoves as well as solar energy which focus on the following:

* Sustainability studies
* The community energy were asked whether the results are accessible to which it was responded that their partner uploads the results on their website.
* Training technicians
* Facilitating learning consortium
* Feasibility studies

**Challenges**

1. Sustainability

* It is hard to get module that is practical

1. There is so much research, but no action/feedback.
2. Lack of productive use of energy
3. Lack of end user knowledge and use of the system itself.
4. Political interference in some projects.

**Opportunities**

1. Resources are there

* I.e. Biogas, technical knowhow, etc.

**Questions**

1. On sustainability studies, are the results accessible?

* Yes they are open as our partner puts them on the website.

1. **Scotland Updates**

A presentation of funding criteria was presented by Malawi Scotland Partnership and included the following:

* Closing date for sending concept notes 26 January
* Organizations are encouraged to create consortiums for this bid
* The annual amount per project per annum is 300,000 GBP

1. **Areas of collaboration and joint working**

**Questions and Comments**

1. There has been situations where communities do abandon projects having made huge investments what should be done:

* There is need to involve the communities from the planning stage so that there is ownership of the project which will lead to sustainable use of the installed materials. Sometimes it is important to consider multiple uses of investments to avoid investments becoming obsolete once the main use ends.

1. There is need to encourage factories to produce renewable resources such as solar panels rather than relying on imported goods. It was reported that government sometime back approved companies that came through as ready to manufacture solar items but to date this has not happen
2. How do we bring in economic value in our energy plans or concepts?
3. Will there be any opportunity that will promote small scale rather than relying on government?
4. A concern was raised that the quality of work in some cases is very poor.

* It was recommended that there are MERA certified installers and that these are the ones that projects should consider when installing solar equipment.

1. Another concern was that other politicians have the tendency highjack projects to make them look like it’s their effort.

* On this one member felt it was important to stick to the already available structures of the VCD and ADC in development to avoid interference from politicians.

1. How has the women being responding to the issue of energy on their involvement since they are mostly used by them?

* The response of women has not been satisfactory with women in strategic position but always behind when taking action or implementing

1. Members wanted to know how MaSP will ensure the projects of their members are being monitored.

* MaSP responded that currently they do not have a mandate to do projects monitoring and reported that it was expected that government is the one that is supposed to monitor according to the agreement that is there with Malawi Government.

1. How best can we access other organizations’ profile for possible collaboration?
2. **Other emerging issues discussed**
   1. Members were urged to consult the Department when proposing an area for mini-grid development to implementing projects where MAREP is targeting to reach soon.
   2. It was agreed that beneficiaries of the Partnership Funds should adequately and frequently share progress report on their projects to both Malawi and Scottish government so that the two partners keep track of targets and objectives in promotion of renewable energy and energy access.
   3. The MaSP to facilitate participation of both partners (Malawi and Scottish Governments) in evaluation of proposals from the applicants of the grants. This will assist in the partners choosing proposals that are in line with the Governments priorities.
   4. The MaSP will organize a training workshop for willing NGOs that may express interest in learning how to develop proposals for the Scottish grant; DoE ready to provide room for the training within office building.
3. **Closing Remarks by the Chairperson**

The Chairperson thanked all members present for their active participation. He then encouraged members to share information and create an environment of collaboration and cooperation as we are all implementing projects under the partnership for the benefit of the whole nation.

1. **Date of next meeting**

Date of next meeting and venue will be communicated later by the secretariat.

1. **Closing prayer**

A closing prayer was offered by Sithembile Tembo, Project Manager for United Purpose.

**AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MEETING**

**Ministry of Finance and Economic Development**

**16th November 2017**

1. Meeting called to order by the Chairperson
2. Opening prayer
3. Opening and welcome remarks by the Chairperson
4. Apologies Received
5. Adoption of the Agenda
6. Key issues from the Finance and Development Sector (MGDS 3 Highlights)
7. Challenges and Opportunities in the sustainable economic development sector
8. Experiences from CSOs on SG funded projects
9. Scotland Updates
10. Areas of collaboration and joint working
11. Closing Remarks by the Chairperson
12. Date of next meeting
13. Closing prayer

**Members Present and Contacts:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
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**Apologies**

No apologies were received at this meeting.

**Minute 01/16/11/2017: Opening prayer**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am with a prayer from a volunteer.

**Minute 02/16/11/2017: Welcome remarks by the Chairperson**

The Strand Chairperson was not present and instead, Mrs. Vera Kamtukule welcomed all members who were present and asked them to be active during deliberations.

**Minute 03/16/11/2017: Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted as it was.

**Minute 04/16/11/2017: Key issues from the Finance and Development Sector**

Since the Strand Chair was not present as such key issues from the Finance and Development Sector focusing on the MGDS 3 were not discussed. However, Mrs. Kamtukule promised to get hold of the MGDS 3 and share with all members.

**Minute 05/16/11/2017: Scotland Updates**

Malawi Scotland Partnership briefed the participants on what MaSP is all about. Members who are currently receiving or have ever received SG funding were requested to share their experiences documented during implementation of SG projects. Furthermore, the implementing partners were asked to highlight their projects sustainability plans beyond donor aid.

* A presentation of funding criteria was presented by Malawi Scotland Partnership and included the following:
* Closing date for sending concept notes 26 January
* Organizations are encouraged to create consortiums for this bid
* The annual amount per project is 300,000 GBP
* Malawi Scotland Partnership to send all members Proposal concept writing criteria and other relevant documentation.

**Minute 06/16/11/2017: Experiences from CSOs on SG funded projects**

**OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES**

**Challenges**

* Registration with CONGOMA for non-profit organization does not allow individual organizations to engage in revenue generating activities.
* The No allowance principle by the Scottish Government becomes a problem in working with government officials and local leaders.
* **CHANCE FOR CHANGE**: The communities expect to get a start-up capital for entrepreneurship establishment which is against principles of the Scottish government contract.
* The No vehicle policy makes it hard to work in rural communities.
* **OXFAM**: Project Design – We planned to use surface water but the rivers dried up and were forced to change to underground water but couldn’t use the donor money as we thought could not be accepted.
* **Social Enterprise Academy (SEA):** Delays in Funding to come through on the projects that were approved.

**Opportunities**

* There is demand on renewable energy in many communities
* Working with local structures makes it easier for the projects to be sustainable. For instance, the community members are able to make value addition.

**Minute 07/16/11/2017: Areas for collaboration and joint working**

MaSP through the CEO encouraged members to approach the bidding in consortiums as the funds are huge compared to the previous call for proposals. She further reported that, SG would like to see NGOs working together and be supportive to one another.

**Questions**

1. Does the Trading aspect in NGOs need to be exempted from tax or not?

* That is where an aspect of making a trading company specific for fund raising comes.

1. Is it a must that funding be requested with the Social enterprising aspect?

* It is not a must but organizations will be better if they incorporate the social enterprise aspect.

1. **To SEA:** Why are you allowed to charge when MaSP members may lack capacity?

* We are charging as a means to sustain our activities. However with the coming in of MaSP, there is room for negotiations for a minimal fee or special agreement for members.

1. **To OXFAM**: Is the expensiveness of materials on the consumers’ side or the implementer’s side?

* Both sides: the panels and other materials are done by the implementers while the lanterns are experienced by consumers.

1. Was there feasibility studies conducted before designing the project?

* Yes the feasibility were made but we faced a challenge in one area which is Lilongwe where the river dried up.

1. Is there an open window for redesign in case of other changes like that of OXFAM where the river dried up and could not use surface water anymore?

* As OXFAM we were refused to redesign such that we opted for internal funding to use underground water.
* There is thus need to negotiate with the donors to allow redesign and adjust in case of such challenges.
* The Scottish Government is flexible after a year to rework on the design based on experiences in the previous year.

1. **To SEA:** Was there any adjustments in terms of targets after aid delays?

* No there was no any adjustments, we continued with our plans using other means.

1. Is it not possible for MaSP to stand as regulating body and standardize the allowance rates rather than just cancelling them?

* It is a challenge to change the policy made by the SG but there is room for negotiation.

1. In case of under spending, does the SG claim back the money?

* No the SG does not claim back.

**Comments**

* + - 1. There is need to meet some organizations in Malawi that have done social enterprise before such as DAPP to learn from their experiences.
      2. As NGOs there are some laws that are punitive to us, hence need to give feedback to the authorities as it is for our own sustainability. For example, registration with CONGOMA as Non-Profit Organization doesn’t provide for Revenue generating activities which is for the sustainability purposes.

**Minute 08/16/11/2017: Presentation by Social Enterprise Academy**

Karen Chinkwita of SEA made a presentation **on Social Enterprise in Malawi: Creating sustainability, supporting those who change lives.**

* Presentation to be shared to all members by Malawi Scotland Partnership

**Minute 09/16/11/2017: Closing Remarks by the Chairperson**

The representative of the Strand Chair thanked all members present and for actively participating during a meeting. He reminded MaSP Secretariat to share the contacts of all organizations as a shopping list for establishing Projects Consortiums. Those to share documents / presentation (SEA) were asked email all members.

**Minute 10/16/11/2017: Date of next meeting**

The next round of strand meetings will take place in February 2018 as an Annual Symposium

1. **Closing prayer**

A meeting was closed with a word prayer by a volunteer.