



Renewable Energy Forum Terms of Reference & Outline Work Programme *Draft v2.0: Last updated 3rd December 2018*

This document proposes a draft Terms of Reference and 18-month work-plan for a new Member Forum of the Scotland Malawi Partnership (SMP), focusing on renewable energy partnerships between Scotland and Malawi. It is for consultation and will be discussed with Members at the Forum's first meeting in January 2019. All are welcome to feed into this consultation, attend this meeting and join the Forum.

Context:

Recognizing increased cooperation in this area, Renewable Energy is one of two new Strands in the inter-governmental [Global Goals Partnership Agreement](#) (GGPA), signed between the President of Malawi and the First Minister in April 2018. The '*Malawi and Scotland: Together for Sustainable Development*' conference in September 2018 brought together government, parliament and civil society, from both Scotland and Malawi, to discuss the next chapter in the bilateral relationship and specifically identify how civil society can support the delivery of the GGPA. The Conference had six Working Groups, one for each of the GGPA Strands, including Renewable Energy. Though open and wide-ranging multi-stakeholder discussion in these groups, learning was captured from the past thirteen years of cooperation and priorities were identified for this next chapter. The unanimously agreed Conference Statement brought together all these discussions, identifying fifteen cross-cutting priorities, across all six strands, and a handful of specific priorities for each Strand.

The SMP and its sister organisation in Malawi, the Malawi Scotland Partnership (MaSP), have committed to advancing these priorities through their continuing efforts to help coordinate, support and represent the civic links between our two nations. MaSP has created new groups, one for each of the two new Strands in the GGPA. Each of these Strand Groups meet biannually, with the Renewable Group having most recently met on the 29th November in Lilongwe.

In this context, SMP Members in Scotland have approached the Partnership to establish a sister-group in Scotland, to help coordinate, represent and support cooperation in this area and to help advance the priorities agreed in the Conference Statement. This new SMP group is a Member Forum, sitting alongside the existing SMP Forums in Health, Further and Higher Education, Primary and Secondary Education, etc. Like all SMP Forums this is not an operational group, directly involved in direct delivery, but a space for those involved to come together, network, share their learning, be informed by Malawian input, and discuss future collaboration.

Terms of Reference

This Forum will look to advance the Renewable Energy priorities identified in the '*Malawi and Scotland: Together for Sustainable Development*' Conference Statement:

- We will continue to focus efforts on off-grid decentralized renewable energy solutions
- We commit to working within district level decentralized planning processes
- We look to improve how electrification is tracked, mapped and shared to avoid duplication
- We look to share our knowledge and learning through all appropriate channels, including UN knowledge repositories
- We commit to capacity building as a continual process, with a focus on asset management
- We recognise that just as Scotland can support Malawi increase access to modern energy services, Malawi can offer reciprocal help in supporting Scotland's understanding on how decentralised energy solutions and behaviour change can achieve energy efficiency and decarbonisation.

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It will also look to work within, and advance, the fifteen cross-cutting commitments from the conference: Government-Parliament-Civil Society collaboration; sharing our impact; contextual understanding; influencing others; holistic working; good governance; capacity building; partnership; delivery; sustainability; local ownership; youth participation; safeguarding; and equality

Informed by the above, the Forum will focus on off-grid renewable energy developments and seek to encourage their integration into district planning processes. Its principal purpose will be to help with civic engagement and partnerships in the field of renewable energy between Scotland and Malawi. It will do this by promoting the sharing and exchange of information, knowledge and experience on off-grid renewable energy development, promoting partnership and, with this in mind, will link with the Malawi Scotland Partnership's Renewable Energy Forum.

Method of Operation

The SMP Renewable Energy Forum will be an open forum for any person or organisation involved, or intending to become involved, in renewable energy development in Malawi. Members must be committed to promoting civic engagement, partnership and knowledge-sharing between participants in the field of renewable energy and between Scotland and Malawi.

The Forum will work within the SMP's existing eleven [Partnership Principles](#) and encourage others to do so: Planning and implementing together; Appropriateness; Respect, trust and mutual understanding; Transparency and accountability; No-one left behind; Effectiveness; Reciprocity; Sustainability; do no Harm; Interconnectivity; and Partnership. It will actively partner with its sister group in Malawi and each meeting will look to include Malawian input, such that members are regularly updated on Malawian priorities.

The Forum will look to connect with other SMP and MaSP Forums and groups, supporting cross-cutting and interdisciplinary learning. It will provide a safe space for open and honest sharing and will encourage active youth participation.

It will be chaired by an SMP member organisation active in Malawi. For the first 18 months it will be co-chaired by the University of Strathclyde (Professor Stuart Galloway) and Community Energy Scotland (Nicholas Gubbins, CEO) on a rotating basis.

It is expected that there will be 2-3 meetings each year, each being 3-4 hrs in duration, with the first meeting at the Edinburgh City Chambers (where SMP's office is located). Meetings will normally begin with a presentation by a participant on an appropriate work programme topic. The secretariat will be provided by the SMP.

Outline Work Programme & Outputs

The work programme for the first 18 months of operation will be finalised following discussion at the first meeting. The draft programme for discussion is outlined below:

Topic	Desired output
Building membership	Good representation of Scottish organisations active on renewable energy development in Malawi
Developing awareness of the nature and extent of off-grid renewable energy project activity in Malawi	An accessible and up to date information resource
Strategic issues and opportunities	Wide awareness of Malawian renewable energy development priorities and measures needed to address them
Learning from experience	Exchange of practical and research experience on the success and effectiveness of actions to date
Capacity Building	Wide awareness of good practice in relation to off grid renewable energy development

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