



Network of
International
Development
Organisations
in Scotland

ANNUAL IMPACT
REPORT 2010-11

NIDOS mission:

NIDOS is a network of organisations in Scotland involved in international development. **NIDOS** aims to improve the contribution of Scottish agencies to poverty reduction worldwide.

Our charitable purposes are:

- To improve communication among international development organisations in Scotland
- To improve understanding of Scotland's international development sector
- To build the strength and capacity of international development organisations in Scotland
- To increase opportunities for advocating on international development issues with decision makers in Scotland, the UK and beyond

NIDOS is ten years old!

In November 2010, **NIDOS** celebrated its 10th Anniversary with members – our members between them work in over 120 countries, raise in excess of £50,000,000 per year and work both through programmes abroad and awareness raising and campaigns here in Scotland, to build Scotland's contribution to tackling global poverty. **NIDOS's** main funder, the Scottish Government, joined us to celebrate our achievements and challenge us to do even more.

NIDOS this year

- 10% growth in membership overall – 16 new members joined us and took us to 89 member organisations
- Launch of the **NIDOS** Effectiveness programme – with pilot version of **NIDOS** Effectiveness tool and appointment of Good Practice Development Officer: 55% of members have signed up to use the tool
- Input to the European networks' Effectiveness processes
- Training, workshops and networking events involving 997 participants in Scotland – influencing decision makers and strengthening members
- Over 250 people at two national hustings events highlighting the importance of International Development to politicians and public during UK and Scottish elections
- Input to Scottish Parliament's European and External Relations Committee Inquiry into Scotland's External relations and international development programme resulting in process to improve administration of the aid programme
- Joint work with Comic Relief on training days in Scotland and Scottish involvement in Diasporan-led advocacy programme

Cover image: © Ismail 2010 / World Vision / PhotoVoice This ragpicker was playing and fell down and started laughing.
From See it Our Way, Pakistan: Young people speak out about the risks and root causes of human trafficking in their communities.
PhotoVoice – Participatory Photography for Social Change www.photovoice.org.

Chair's report

Each year more than 8 million people around the world die because they are just too poor to survive. On a daily basis the headlines could say, "more than 20,000 people died yesterday due to acute poverty". NIDOS members are acting daily to change these headlines - making a positive impact against diseases such as AIDS, malaria, TB, leprosy and diarrhea; improving educational opportunities; raising awareness of rights and building the capacity of families and communities blighted by poverty.

The 10th anniversary of NIDOS marked the end of a decade which saw us grow from 25 to 89 members working in all continents and collectively raising over £50 million per year. NIDOS has developed from a network focusing on fundraising and training support, to one that is the recognised umbrella body for the international development sector in Scotland and a key partner for the Scottish Government. At a time when the headlines are full of budget cuts in all sectors we applaud the decision by the Scottish and UK Governments to ring-fence the International Development funding. To ensure this money is well spent we have a growing emphasis on effectiveness and networking with others in

Scotland to build our collective contribution tackling global poverty.

With the ambition of driving up standards in our sector, the pilot NIDOS Effectiveness tool was launched in September 2010. Tailored for smaller organisations the tool already has 50% of members signed up to use it and NIDOS has been active in wider UK and European networks focusing on driving up standards in our sector.

To ensure our own high standards, we had an external evaluation of NIDOS's work in early 2011, to seek feedback from members and partners about the impact of our work and to learn what needs improving. As indicated by the results shown on page 5, NIDOS is seen to be making a good impact. 100% of our members believe that NIDOS's aims and objectives are right: 93% agreed that "The sector would be less strong without NIDOS". Also, 86% of our partner organisations felt their knowledge, understanding of and work with the Scottish international development sector has improved as a direct result of the work of NIDOS.

Learning from the evaluation, our new business plan to 2014 has improving standards in our sector at its core, so that



Linda Todd, Chair

we can help make a positive difference for the one-fifth of humanity who still live in extreme poverty. We also aim to build collaboration with others in Scotland: diasporan community, businesses, universities and funders. We look forward to the active engagement of our members to grow our sector and to raise our profile in Scotland.

None of this would have been achievable without the hard work and dedication of Gillian and her team, the Board, volunteers and members. We owe them a debt of gratitude.

Who are we? NIDOS Members July 2011

ACTSA Scotland
African Scottish Development Organisation
African Youth Development Action Project
BalCraig Foundation
Books Abroad
Bressay Outreach
Britain Tanzania Society
British Red Cross
Burma Assist
Cairdeas International Palliative Care Trust
Capstone Projects
CBM
Centre for Development Studies
Challenges Worldwide
Charity Education International
Children in Distress
Children of Songea Trust
Christian Aid Scotland
Christian Engineers in Development
Clann Sona Romanian Appeal
Comas
Communities for Social Change
Community Business Scotland Network Ltd
Community InfoSource
Concern Worldwide
Deaf Action
DARF
Edinburgh Global Partnerships
EMMS
Friend of Edusport
Friends of the Earth Scotland

GALVmed
Global Concerns Trust
HALE (Health & Lif for Everyone)
IDEAS
IIED
Imani Development Foundation
Impact and Ipact
ImpAcTAIDS
INSP - International Network of Street Papers
Institute for International Health & Development
International Assoc. for Community Development
Islamic Relief
Jairah Funds
Jubilee Scotland
LifeMosaic
Link Community Development
Link Overseas Exchange
Lothian Partnership for African Links
Mamie Martin Fund
Mary's Meals / SIR
Media Support Partnership
MedicAid Africa
Mercy Corps Scotland
MIND
Mission Aviation Fellowship
Mthunzi and Lilanda Initiative (M.A.L.I)
Orskov Foundation
Oxfam Scotland
ReSurge Africa

ROKPA UK Overseas projects
Rwanda Scotland Alliance
Save the Children - Scotland
SCIAF
Scotland Malawi Partnership
Scotland's Buddhist Vihara
Scottish Fair Trade Forum
SEAD (Scottish Education & Action for Development)
Sense Scotland
Sierra Leone Support Association (SaLSA)
Signpost International
SKIP Glasgow
Soko Fund
Solus Educational Trust
South Asia Voluntary Enterprise
St Francis Rehabilitation Project (UK Trust)
STAND International
Take One Action
Tearfund
Thai Women's Association of Scotland (TWAS)
The Blackford Trust
The Chesney Trust for Education in Malawi
The Leprosy Mission Scotland
UNA (United Nations Association)
Vine Trust
VSO
Woodford Foundation Scotland
World Development Movement (WDM)
Yes! Tanzania

What do NIDOS's members and partners think NIDOS's impact is?

This year, NIDOS was externally evaluated by Assist Social Capital and Community Enterprise, who independently conducted a confidential survey of member organisations and stakeholders (funders and other capacity building organisations in Scotland). Their report in March 2011 showed that:

Of the members who took part:

- 100% were pleased with NIDOS: 53% of respondents feel that NIDOS is 'excellent', and 47% feel it is 'good'
- 93% agreed that "The sector would be less strong without NIDOS"
- 92% believe that NIDOS actively promotes the value of belonging to the network and supports members to network with each other
- 70% said NIDOS helps build trust among members and 67% are able to receive advice and support from other members
- 92% are able to receive support from NIDOS easily and 86% felt NIDOS staff are friendly and approachable
- 82% agreed or strongly agreed that NIDOS has increased their organisation's interest and involvement in strengthening effectiveness
- 76% felt that other stakeholders in Scotland are more aware of international development NGOs as a result of NIDOS
- 70% said NIDOS had improved their knowledge of sources of relevant funding
- 68% felt that being involved with NIDOS has helped build the skills and experience of their staff or volunteers
- 62% agreed there are ways to be involved in decision making

Of the 7 stakeholders that took part (including government agencies and other funders):

- 100% said they had a deeper understanding of the sector through NIDOS
- 86% felt their organisation's knowledge, understanding of and work with the Scottish international development sector has improved as a direct result of the work of NIDOS in Scotland
- 72% appreciated better the contribution this work makes in Scotland
- 71% thought NIDOS were good, 29% thought they were excellent

Note 1: 46% of NIDOS members took part in the survey including a range of small, medium, large and associate members.

NIDOS's impact: Improving the effectiveness of Scottish international development organisations

Stimulated effectiveness:



With the launch of the pilot **NIDOS** Effectiveness self-assessment tool in September 2010 and the employment of a new Good Practice Development Officer, **NIDOS** made strides in securing engagement by members in the Effectiveness programme. Over 50% of our members have signed up to use the tool and over 30% of these members have started their organisation's self-assessment with over 30% attending briefing sessions on how to use the tool. We have trained two Effectiveness mentors who have mentored 7 organisations – several of which have completed their first self-assessment, gathering evidence of areas of good practice and are beginning to act on areas of weakness identified.

Built capacity:



Briefing sessions and training courses build the knowledge and skills of 86 members and others on effectiveness, fundraising and advocacy with an average satisfaction rating for training sessions of 8.3 out of 10 (with several courses having average in excess of 9 out of 10).

Networked many:



We stimulated 927 people to network with each other, through events and **NIDOS's** Working Groups. **NIDOS** members' networking has resulted in: raised awareness of good practice in development; peer sharing of self-assessment on effectiveness; mutual support between Small NGOs in relation to capacity building; joint advocacy on key development policies during

UK and Scottish Elections; new linkages between diasporan development groups; increased knowledge of funding sources among **NIDOS** members; greater awareness of our sector among non-NGO actors in international development in Scotland.

Informed:



Members have said how useful our information services have been: 'The latest **NIDOS** newsletter has been extremely useful. I needed information about quality standards for non-profit organisations and there in the **NIDOS** newsletter was the link I needed. Thanks from a satisfied customer!', 'Many thanks for your comprehensive and informative response', 'The mentoring session on adobe contribute was very useful'. We have widened our resources on funding options, good practice in development and climate. Distribution of the newsletter has grown by 11% and website resource use by 32%.

NIDOS's Impact: Influencing the wider world

Working with Governments and parliaments in Scotland and the UK



NIDOS has continued to build our relationship with the Scottish Government and input to further strengthening

their international programme, particularly into ensuring higher standards in humanitarian response and encouraging earlier planning in funding rounds while making the case for supporting smaller quality organisations which to date have struggled to secure Scottish Government support to date. We have also input to the parliamentary review of the international



development programme in Scotland. With the change in UK government, **NIDOS** has strongly made the case with the Secretary of State

for UK government engagement with the Scottish sector and facilitated face to face links on a number of occasions.

Working with Universities

NIDOS's Associate members include



academic institutions or departments in Scotland, bringing a complimentary expertise to the networking and enabling better flow of

relevant research outcomes into our sector. Such Associate members can also benefit from linking with practitioners in helping to shape their research. This year we have jointly run a Seminar series on Effectiveness with Edinburgh University and Oxfam Scotland and also hosted the Scottish Elections debates on international development with the Glasgow Centre for International Development (University of Glasgow).

Working with Charitable Funders

We are keen that our members can build their relationships with UK-wide charitable funders of international development, such as Comic Relief and The Big Lottery. **NIDOS** has been successful in convincing Comic Relief of the value of working face to face in Scotland: we have jointly run two training days here to help members and others to

make good quality funding applications to Comic Relief. Two Africa Diasporan networking events were also facilitated with Comic Relief in Scotland – 155 people took part in these events and training days over the year and Scotland is an established place on the map for Comic Relief's future outreach and we look forward to working with them and the Big Lottery over the coming year.

Working with global civil society



Connecting our network to other civil society actors and networks has been key this year – linking our members into global debates on effectiveness and international policy discussions. **NIDOS** presented our Effectiveness tool to other European networks at the Brussels annual convention and discovered that the Austrian network was already suggesting their members tried our tool out.

What do our members think NIDOS's impact is?

IPACT, UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN: "NIDOS offers a perfect solution to a communication need for Scottish organisations and NGOs working in the field of international development. It's a useful focal point for members and promotes the sharing information between us. We have found this particularly helpful as in our experience organisations working in international development can feel they are working in isolation and are unaware of the valuable work of others. Since becoming a member of NIDOS, Ipact has experienced a real sense of being part of a thriving international development community in Scotland. We have been impressed with the help and advice the NIDOS team have provided. We look forward to utilising the training courses offered more in the coming months and developing closer alliances with other members. Established in 2007 as the non-profit technical consultancy arm of Immpact, (Initiative for Maternal Mortality Programme Assessment) Ipact operates within a strong research environment coordinated from the University of Aberdeen and is an authority on monitoring and evaluating maternal and newborn health programmes in low and middle income countries."

JUBILEE SCOTLAND: "Jubilee Scotland hugely appreciates being part of NIDOS. They provide affordable but excellent training and regular updates of the key changes in the development sector in Scotland. Their newsletter is a great resource for identifying sources of funding, but they have also gone beyond this and given personal staff time to help understand and strengthen Jubilee Scotland's fundraising. Even more importantly, they enable small agencies to act together to make a big impact. This is particularly appreciated by Jubilee Scotland which – though a coalition itself – still needs to work in concert with others to get its point across most effectively. The Vote Global hustings were an example of this, as Jubilee Scotland Campaign Director James Picardo explains. 'These were really successful lobbying events. By operating in collaboration with other NIDOS members we were able to get candidates in a room together and ask them the key questions in a way that we would not have been able to achieve on our own. Jubilee Scotland campaigns for the cancellation of the unjust and unpayable debts of the world's poorest countries.'



CHALLENGES WORLDWIDE: "Our membership of NIDOS is important to the success of our work. Their services, from networking events to policy intelligence, help keep us up-to-date with developments in international development.

Challenges Worldwide has a decade of experience in delivering practical support and advice for businesses and social enterprises in low and middle-income countries. At the core of our work is our business coaching programme where we match professional volunteers with short, practical assignments. This can range from developing a full business plan for a recycling company in Mexico City to helping develop a fish farm in Bangladesh.

Our Contracts division supports the development of strong public institutions, such as the justice service in Malawi, so helping create the best environment for economic growth and social progress. And our new Capital division is a full investment process for investors and businesses."

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF STREET PAPERS: "NIDOS does an important job unifying the individual efforts of international development organisations across Scotland. Working together we are a force to be reckoned with, supporting and empowering tens of thousands of people living in poverty across the globe. Being a member of NIDOS enables our organisation, the International Network of Street Papers (INSP) to exchange ideas and best practice with like minded colleagues and helps us to engage more in policy work and campaigning in Scotland."



Big Issue Taiwan



Ric Lander

ØRSKOV FOUNDATION:

"As one of its many small charity members, **NIDOS** has played an important role in allowing the Ørskov Foundation to have an equal voice with the much larger development organisations in Scotland. We have benefited enormously from the networking opportunities with other member organisations from across the spectrum of disciplines and expertise. **NIDOS** have assisted us to develop and promote our operational strategies in line with the latest best practice thinking, provided key information on funding and training opportunities and enabled us to engage with policy and decision makers that we would never have been able to achieve by ourselves. The Ørskov Foundation promotes sustainable rural development by supporting the training needs of agricultural students and through a programme of community projects. Each of the community projects is set up using a revolving-fund, enabling a large number of individuals to benefit from a small initial investment."

SCOTTISH FAIR TRADE FORUM: "NIDOS has provided a number of practical services to the Scottish Fair Trade Forum. We have found the effectiveness toolkit to be useful in improving our assessment of our working methods. By assisting us to reflect on our work the toolkit has allowed us to grasp our strengths and weaknesses. Our membership of **NIDOS** has also allowed us to attend talks where the ability to engage with influential speakers has been helpful. In addition, the monthly newsletter is a prime source for comprehensive and well-informed news coverage for development organisations in Scotland."

The Scottish Fair Trade Forum campaigns for Scotland to become a Fair Trade Nation which recognises the dignity and rights of producers through a commitment to fairness in international trading. By building on these achievements, we hope to embed the value of fairness in all aspects of Scottish society. Our engagement with **NIDOS** has been central in our drive towards these goals."



LIFEMOSAIC: "NIDOS is an accessible source of ideas and information, with really helpful, positive and pro-active staff. As LifeMosaic works with a wide range of partners facing different challenges, it is essential for us to keep focused on our core aims. The **NIDOS** Effectiveness Tool has been a helpful guide for us as we continue to develop our own governance and also as we aim to bring together elements of good practice to make sure our work is empowering and supports socially and environmentally sustainable outcomes. We also appreciate that **NIDOS** is active in taking on board and representing the perspectives of small and innovative NGOs in relation to the Scottish Government's International Development Policy."

LifeMosaic supports indigenous peoples in the humid tropics to get their voices heard, and to access the information that they need to make informed decisions about their futures.'



Pak Silivius, a farmer from Riau, Indonesia explains that without community consultation nor compensation, a plantation company recently destroyed the land that his community have lived on and worked for generations.

NIDOS – building the case for Scottish business engagement in international development

The Scottish Government and Diversity Travel sponsored **NIDOS's** Annual Seminar in September 2011: 'Business - Sharing Value?'

This event investigated how Scotland's business and international charity communities can work better together to increase Scotland's contribution to tackling global poverty.

The event looked at how we can broker links between the two sectors and at ideas for developing joined up approaches for Scotland's 'External Relations' – i.e. joined up thinking on Scottish commercial development abroad and Scottish international development efforts. Scotland's businesses can add value to the economies and communities of the countries they operate in abroad and meet the demands of customers here for a more ethical approach to business. Renewable energy was an example of a potential opportunity for creating this added value. Over the coming year we will work to further develop these links and take this work forward.



Diversity Travel is an independent travel management company which specialises in arranging travel for the charity, religious and not for profit sectors.

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Financial Summary

These are summary accounts. A copy of **NIDOS's** full audited accounts can be downloaded from our website at www.nidos.org.uk or requested by ringing 0131 243 2680.

Income and Expenditure Account For the Year to 31 March 2011

	12 MONTHS TO MARCH 2011	12 MONTHS TO MARCH 2010
	£	£
Incoming Resources:		
Grants Receivable:		
Scottish Government - for core costs	60,441	57,833
Scottish Government - for Effectiveness Project	72,102	-
Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland - deferred grant released	-	8,556
Total Grants Receivable	132,543	66,389
Membership fees	10,472	9,640
Training & other fees	2,320	2,424
Advertising & other income	1,165	880
Bank interest	225	100
Total Incoming Resources	146,725	79,433
Resources Expended:		
Charitable Activities:		
Training & workshops	21,771	23,283
Working groups & networking events	19,855	15,729
Information dissemination	37,571	20,217
Strategic support	8,673	2,786
Advocacy & consultation response	11,612	8,177
Organisational development	17,391	10,842
Cost of Generating Funds	5,994	3,235
Governance Costs	10,861	7,593
Total Resources Expended	133,728	91,862
Net Income / (Expenditure) for Year	12,997	(12,429)
Funds Brought Forward	44,113	56,542
Funds Carried Forward	57,110	44,113

Balance Sheet at 31 March 2011

	12 MONTHS TO MARCH 2011	12 MONTHS TO MARCH 2010
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Tangible assets	622	491
Current Assets		
Debtors	1,313	1,220
Cash at bank and in hand	70,206	47,295
	71,519	48,515
Creditors:		
Amounts Due Within One Year:		
Deferred income	-	150
Accruals & other creditors	15,031	4,743
	15,031	4,893
Net Current Assets	56,488	43,622
Net Assets	57,110	44,113
Funds		
Restricted funds	-	-
Unrestricted funds	57,110	44,113
Total Funds	57,110	44,113

NIDOS would like to thank the following funders and agencies who have generously supported our work over the past year or provided support in kind: Scottish Government | Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) | Morton Fraser Solicitors | **NIDOS** members | Comic Relief

NIDOS Trustees:

Linda Todd – Chair

Betsy Reed – Vice Chair

Lisa Maclean – Treasurer

Annie Lewis

Kathy Galloway

Mukami McCrum

Charles Chingwalu (Co-opted)

Chris MacLulich (Co-opted)

Dorothy McIntosh (Co-opted)

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