



SMIDOS - CYMRU

SMIDOS EYE



Easy to read and quick briefing

Issue date:
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Contents

[Secretary of State delivers cuts](#)
[Wales for Africa Programme survives](#)
[SMIDOS 'buddies up'](#)
[Disability Group launched](#)
[2011 Welsh Summit on track](#)
[Funding opportunities](#)
[SMIDOS Fundraising courses](#)
[Sub Sahara Advisory Panel](#)
[2010/11 Wales for Africa Grant allocation](#)



**WHAT IS HAPPENING IN
THE INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT ARENA
IN WALES**

Feedback on SMIDOS EYE is very encouraging.... Please pass on to us your news that others will be interested to hear.

New Secretary of State delivers 100% cuts blow



Immediately before Christmas Andrew Mitchell MP, Secretary of State for International Development, announced that he would cut by 100% all government funding to BOND, the UK umbrella body supporting non-governmental international development organisations.

It was known prior to this decision that the Secretary of State had expressed an unexplained aversion to BOND and similar organisations that disseminate information and training. Hours before the government's spending review was to be outlined in the House of Commons by George Osborne MP, SMIDOS was able to meet with the Secretary of State in his Westminster offices to discuss his opinion of the role of small and medium sized NGOs and the value of networks that connect them.

The meeting also involved BOND (UK), Scotland (NIDOS) and Northern Ireland (CADA). It is now clear that it failed to secure the continuation of BOND funding and modest incorporated bids from NIDOS and CADA.

It might have been expected that the Secretary of State would not be in the best of moods for the meeting given Channel 4's Dispatches programme the previous evening claiming that he had invested at least £130,000 in two property funds in the British Virgin Islands in order to avoid UK tax, charges which he fervently denies. However, he was ebullient and clearly enjoyed the opportunity to express views across the international development spectrum including his visceral dislike for 'awareness raising', his desire to

publish a booklet to go to every household in the UK illustrating his departments achievements, and encouragement for small UK international development groups to generate pressure on African governments that “ do not behave” . He welcomed his inclusion on the National Security Council and expressed his desire to see DfID funds increasingly directed towards countries facing internal conflict.

Andrew Mitchell spoke at the highly successful BOND annual conference saying “ *This was a fantastic forum to meet so many colleagues working in the development sector*” . Days afterwards BOND received the decision ending its funding.

The decision not to fund BOND reduces its budget by a third and brings into question the previous rigorous and objective process adopted by DfID for the critical evaluation of proposals and the resource allocation model used to generate outcomes. It will be recalled that DFID budget has not been reduced. BOND has made a freedom of Information request for all papers related to the consideration of its bid and has received widespread support in moves to have the decision reviewed.

Welsh Assembly Government *Wales for Africa Programme* budget survives



The impact of cuts imposed by Westminster on the Welsh Assembly Government were of great concern to those in the Welsh international development sector not least because of the potential impact on the **Wales for Africa Programme**.

SMIDOS raised the matter at the Third Sector Partnership Council and received an assurance that the robust arguments to retain the budget were appreciated by the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG).

Craig Owen, on behalf of WCVA, also raised a concern with WAG that; *the currently stand alone International Development budget is to be reduced from £700,000 to 0; however, we also note that the International Relations budget is to be increased from £1,697,000 to £2,246,000, an increase of £549,000. Our initial analysis is based upon an assumption of proposed merger of these budget lines.*

It is understood that that the full Wales for Africa budget has now been officially retained which is very much welcomed and a great credit to the First Minister and his government.

SMIDOS buddies up



Since SMIDOS was established it has advocated the need to be part of a wider co-ordination of effort to deliver information and training to small and medium sized international development organisations and parallel links.

In recent months SMIDOS and the Welsh Centre for International Affairs (WCIA) have discussed and agreed to work closely together and benefit from each other's knowledge and capacity.

This move will add critical mass to the emergence of a ' Hub of Welsh international development' interests and activities that will ensure resources for training, advice and consultancy, and information-giving are used more effectively and efficiently, and that common concerns within the sector are addressed in a more unified and coherent way.

Disability on the Welsh international development agenda.



Two recent meetings called by Paul Lindoewood of Disability Research and Training Consultancy for those interested in understanding and responding to disability in sub Saharan Africa has led to the establishment of a new group – *Disability in Wales & Africa (DWA)*.

Disability in Wales and Africa is about overcoming the barriers within mainstream social activities and supporting communities to respond inclusively to the needs of their disabled members. The DWA is committed to developing Wales / Africa disability links with encouragement, advise and, where possible, by securing resources. Initially it wishes to raise disability awareness in the international development sector, support a number of disability projects, undertake research, and strengthen international joint working. For more information contact Paul Lindoewood at drtc@phonecoop.coop

2011 International Development Summit planned



The first Wales International Development Summit took place in March 2010 and over 400 delegates attended. The response to the day was very positive indeed and it is anticipated that funding for the 2011 Summit, to be held in Cardiff towards the end of May or beginning of June 2011, will be confirmed.

A Working Party including SMIDOS, Wales Africa Community Links, Wales for Africa Community Health Links, Fair Trade Wales and the Wales Centre for International Affairs has met to begin shaping and planning the event.

The 2011 Summit will again showcase the breadth and value of international development activity in Wales and provide a platform for networking. In particular, it will address opportunities for the sector to work more closely together and to connect effectively with government. It will also pay attention to ways in which we can all improve the quality and impact of what we do.

Funding opportunities

Big Lottery International Communities Programme



The International Communities programme is the Big Lottery Fund' s way of helping disadvantaged communities overseas. The programme will run from 2010-2015 and the budget for 2010-2012 will be up to £25 million. It will announce the level of funding for grants between 1 April 2012 and 31 March 2015 when BIG' s overall funding for that period has been finalised.

It wants communities to be at the heart of the International Communities programme. It will fund effective projects that tackle the causes of poverty and deprivation and bring about a long-term difference to the lives of the most disadvantaged people in the world. These will result in:

- Improved primary education for the most disadvantaged girls and boys
- Improved health for the most disadvantaged people
- Improved access to and use of natural resources to benefit the most disadvantaged people

- Improved ability for the most disadvantaged people to exercise their human rights
- Improved livelihoods for the most disadvantaged people by enabling communities in need, both rural and urban, to reduce poverty in a sustainable way.

The International Communities programme is open to UK based non-governmental organisations working with overseas partners in Africa, Asia (including the Pacific and Central Asian countries), the Middle East, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and parts of Eastern Europe.

Big Society Awards



Prime Minister David Cameron launched the Big Society Awards in November. These will be made to two or three organisations every month that show that they are participating in the ‘big society’. Charities will be chosen from nominations made on the Number 10 website. Anyone can make a nomination. Go to <http://www.number10.gov.uk/big society awards>

Comic Relief revised deadlines

Comic Relief International Development Programme

Deadline is 7th February 2011. For more information see <http://tinyurl.com/2w6nj3c>

Note this was previously advertised as 22nd February

Comic Relief Common Ground Initiative

Deadline – 7th February 2011. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/37qq7xj>

Note this was previously advertised as 22nd February

If you have not yet applied here are the criteria for the next round. Diaspora Groups should take particular note

The Common Ground initiative is a £20 million fund supporting African development through UK based small and Diaspora organisations. This initiative is managed by Comic Relief and co-funded by the Department for International Development.

The initiative aims to increase access to grants for small and Diaspora-led organisations in the UK that are working to create real and sustainable changes to some of the poorest and most disadvantaged communities in Africa. This fund also aims to strengthen the capacity of small and Diaspora organisations in the UK.

Applicants can apply to one of Comic Relief's six existing grants programmes, or to the health, education or enterprise and employment programmes that have been developed specifically for this initiative.

Eligibility:

Grants are available to UK registered charities. Applications to the enterprise and employment programme can be made from any UK registered organisation, however, for-profit organisations must demonstrate how profits generated from the funded activities are reinvested in the project.

Small organisations must have had an annual turn-over of less than £1m for the previous two financial years.

Diaspora organisations may be of any size.

By Diaspora organisations we mean organisations where the majority of the trustees define themselves as being of African heritage; who live in the UK but retain emotional, financial and cultural links with their country and/ or the African continent

The scope of this funding is for work in any African country or group of African countries

For more information or to apply for a grant through this fund please visit the [Comic Relief website](#).

Global Poverty Action Fund

The first round deadline for this fund is now over. It is a complex application procedure and an early start on future outline bids is advisable.

Lindenleaf Charitable Trust

Supports international development projects. Contact Paul Greatbatch, 344 Fulham Road, London SW10 9UH, paul_greatbatch@hotmail.com

The Take That Foundation

Covers humanitarian work overseas. Contact Wayne Critchley, The Take That trust, 20 Bridge St., Milnrow, Rochdale, OL16 3ND.

Amoria Bond Charitable Trust

Supports work in UK, Africa, Asia and South America, in the areas of social welfare, education, children and young people. Contact: Gareth Lloyd, Trustee, Amoria Bond Ltd Egerton House, Towers Business Park, Wilmslow Road, Manchester, M20 2DX, Phone: 0844 499 3199. For more information see: <http://tinyurl.com/32xwdqj>

The Wendy Bolam Charitable Trust

Was established in 2010 and supports general charitable purposes in the UK and overseas. Contact: Rachael Taylor, The Wendy Bolam Charitable Trust, Cumberland Ellis, Atrium Court , 15-17 Jockey's Fields, London, WC1R 4QR
Phone: 020 7674 0545, Email: wendybolamtrust@hotmail.co.uk

Free consultancy advice

SMIDOS provides direct consultancy advice on operational and governance matters. This can be short term or working over an extended period. To request this free service, contact SMIDOS at enquiries@smidos.com.

Learning Opportunities

January 2011

Monday 17 Jan 2011

**Communicating with Purpose for International Linking Projects:
South Wales (SWANSEA)**

Monday 17th January, 1-6 pm, venue in Swansea / Cardiff TBC.

Getting your story heard, and engaging wider audiences and supporters through the media and online. A chance to get an insiders perspective on working with the media in Wales and making the most of the web and social media.

Light lunch and refreshments included.

Facilitated by **Wales Africa Community Links** with expertise and input from:

Lyndsey Maiden – Wildlife Trust / **Charlotte Dubenskij** – BBC Wales / **James Maiden** – Seren-IT

For more information, please contact Ed Howarth on ehowarth@wcva.org.uk

Fundraising from trusts, foundations and corporates

Saturday March 5th 2011

Skills for successful high value fundraising

Saturday March 26th 2011

Both courses will be held at 9 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, CF11 9HA.

**There is no charge for these courses or the light lunch which is provided.
To book a place e-mail SMIDOS at enquiries@smidos.com.
Places are limited so please book as soon as possible.
Free parking to rear of venue.**



BOND provides the widest range of high quality courses for international development organizations. They are high value but cost £150 for organizations with a turnover of less than £100k (if not a BOND member), and £100 for members. The courses are in London but are very well worth attending. For details go to www.bond.org.uk

Bespoke training

Training sessions just for your Board Any day, any place, any where!

SMIDOS provides free sessions for your Board, wherever it meets, on:

- Good governance
- Charity Registration
- Devising a fundraising strategy
- Applying to Trusts
- Getting to know the International Development Sector in Wales

Sub Sahara Advisory Panel (SSAP)



SAPP was established as a result of a growing belief that diaspora individuals and groups from Sub Sahara Africa have a great deal of insight and knowledge on living and working in Africa which would be helpful to Welsh international development initiatives.

The Sub Sahara perspective is often absent in policy making, the crafting of grants programmes, and the practical delivery of initiatives. As a result many problems are encountered that might otherwise be avoided or easily solved, and the quality and impact of schemes are less than they might otherwise be.

SAPP has adopted clear objectives:

- To provide insight, knowledge and experience on Sub Sahara Africa to international development groups.
- To add value to international development monitoring and evaluation principles and practices.
- To encourage the adoption of strategies and actions that deliver real; and measurable benefits in Sub Saharan Africa.
- To recommend and comment upon government and civil society policies and practices.
- To critique and improve the funding focus, criteria and processes of funding bodies.
- To provide a 'reality check' on all aspects of intended and delivered programmes of work in Sub Sahara Africa.
- To address matter of injustice, poor governance and corruption that compromise effective international development
- To support the establishment and growth of strong community cohesion among diaspora groups in Wales.

- To provide information and intelligence to diaspora groups.

SAPP is not a representative group and is not designed to represent diaspora communities. It is comprised of likeminded individuals from Sub Sahara countries who are interested in international development. Membership of the Panel is by invitation.

At present the Panel is undertaking a skills audit among its members in order to appreciate the knowledge and skills it commands. Subsequently SAPP will be offering up collective views and appointing members to undertake SAPP assignments and to respond to requests for help. SAPP will consider all such requests carefully and agree the parameters of SAPP involvement and in so doing guarantee the quality and relevance of its contribution.

WAG Wales for Africa Programme 2010 / 2011 grant approval list published

Each year SMIDOS publishes the details of all Wales for Africa Grants:

Welsh Assembly Government: International Sustainable Development and Wales for Africa Programme Expenditure 2010/11

OVERALL PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR 2010/11: £850,000

Wales for Africa Grant Scheme 2010-11
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The following grants were awarded under the Wales for Africa Grant Scheme for 2010-11:

**1. The Big Food Debate – Fair Trade, Sustainable Food and Climate Change
£50,000**

This grant funding enabled an international summit to be held in Wales, alongside the Abergavenny Food Festival, which was a platform for cutting edge global debate on Fair Trade, sustainable food sourcing and climate change issues. Welsh Farming Unions; 17 Fair Trade farmers from Africa, Asia and Latin America; representatives of the supermarket industry; Welsh public sector procurement, and academics, took part. The event was supported by Welsh-based research and case studies on the key issues, and a new concept Fair Trade product was also launched - 'climate resilient coffee' from Uganda, which helps farmers to take steps to deal with the changes in their climate and environment. Links were made between the developing country farmers, and Welsh farmers and local Fair Trade groups, and the visiting farmers also took part in the Abergavenny Food Festival. These activities and contributions to research place Wales in the forefront of global discussion about Fair Trade and sustainable international food supplies.

Associated website links:

www.twin.org.uk

www.thebigfooddebate.blogspot.com

www.flickr.com/photos/fairtradewales/sets/72157624975481207

2. SMIDOS (Small and Medium International Development Organisations in Wales) £40,000

With these funds SMIDOS offers advice, training and one-to-one support to small-medium international development groups in Wales in order to help them increase their management; planning; monitoring and evaluation, and income generation skills. SMIDOS also provides networking opportunities and links to other international development initiatives in Wales & the UK. The aim is to help Welsh organisations make more (and more effective) contributions towards tackling poverty in sub-Saharan Africa.

3. Fair Trade Wales Activities £36,000

The Fair Trade Wales organisation continues to support awareness raising and growth of the Fair Trade movement in Wales. They help maintain and build on Wales' status as a Fair Trade Nation, and develop new aims and targets against which to measure progress. With these funds Fair Trade Wales works directly with local groups, organisations and education institutions across Wales to increase support and understanding of Fair Trade.

4. Tools for Self Reliance (TFSR) Cymru – Fair Trade Tools £10,000

This project builds on the work of TFSR to establish a supply of Tanzanian Fair Trade green woodwork hand tools for sale throughout Wales and the UK. It also provides training experience and skill development for volunteers in Welsh TFSR Cymru workshops - including people who are currently unemployed or in need of occupational therapy and support - who fit handles and finish the tools.

5. Hay Festival – Kenya education link £10,000

This funding allows specialists in the fields of climate change, food security, health, and water conservation from Wales to participate in the StoryMoja Hay Festival in Nairobi, Kenya – which promotes storytelling and encourages literacy. They will work alongside local professionals in Kenya, people from the United Nations Environment Programme, Oxfam, The Greenbelt Movement and other partner organisations. Some of the 450 Eco-Schools in Kenya will also participate in the Festival, and use the opportunity to make links (through the internet and with films/videos) with Eco-Schools in Wales.

6. Engineers for Overseas Development £10,000

Engineers for Overseas Development (EFOD) is a subgroup of the Institute of Civil Engineers in Wales, who fundraise and volunteer for infrastructure projects in developing countries. This funding will enable young engineers and other built environment professionals in Wales to take part in building projects in Uganda. This enhances their professional experience and abilities in design, management, construction and teamwork.

7. Fairtrade Coffee Co-operative Business Support and Producer-Consumer Links, Uganda £8,700

This funding facilitates a volunteer placement for a Welsh business/organisation adviser to provide advice and support for the Gumutindo Coffee Co-operative in Mbale, Uganda. The

volunteer acquires skills and experience and uses these to educate people in Wales about Fairtrade and promote connections between Fairtrade producers and consumers.

8. Engineers Without Borders

£7,000

This funding enables humanitarian aid/ disaster relief training courses to be held in Wales for engineering students and young professionals. The training, organised by the Register of Engineers for Disaster Relief (RedR) and the Engineers Without Borders (EWB) groups in Wales, enables the young engineers to develop the necessary skills for engineering challenges in developing countries and disaster relief work. A conference in Wales is also held to share knowledge and inspire other students and young professionals to get involved.

Total - £171,700

<p>Other expenditure under the International Sustainable Development and Wales for Africa programme 2010-11</p>
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The following expenditure is other Wales for Africa programme funding - allocated outside of the Wales for Africa Grant Scheme for 2010-11 (but also including grants allocated for 1+ years from previous years' Wales for Africa Grant Schemes).

- **Wales Africa Community Links Project**

£173,500

This project, developed in partnership between the Wales Civil Society MDG Task Force and BUILD UK (Building Understanding through International Links for Development), continues to grow successfully. Community links between Wales and Africa have been supported to deliver over 160 development projects, aimed at helping deliver the UN Millennium Development Goals in Africa and promoting mutual development and learning. The projects focus on 5 main topics (or 'gold stars') which are: health; livelihoods; the environment; children/youth; and social harmony. The Wales Africa Community Links Project provides advice, networking and one-to-one support for community links, and a small grant scheme to help facilitate exchanges and project activities. The UN Development Programme HAS recognised the project as one that leads the world by example in demonstrating the role regional governments and community projects can play in solving development issues.

- **International Learning Opportunities**

£148,586

This scheme sends 15 public and private sector leaders/managers from Wales, each year, on 8 week work placements to public service organisations in sub-Saharan Africa. From these placements, participants expand their skills in leadership, project management, and working in challenging and resource-poor environments. They also develop a deeper understanding of different cultures and ways of working. This project is now being delivered under a 3 year contract (beginning in 2010-11) by a company called Adopt A Business and placements are provided in one of four countries: Cameroon, Lesotho, Uganda or Zambia. The scheme is managed by Public Service Management Wales, and is one of their most successful and popular leadership and personal development programmes.

- **Territorial Approach to Climate Change Project:
Wales–Mbale (Uganda)**

£75,000

This funding has been allocated for engagement with the Wales-Mbale Territorial Approach to Climate Change project, being delivered in association with the UN Development Programme, the UK Department for International Development (DfID) and the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA). Mbale is a region of extreme poverty and is particularly vulnerable to climate change. The project will use UN and Welsh expertise to help Mbale develop a climate change action plan. This plan will help Mbale to identify what actions are necessary for them to adapt to and tackle climate change in that region, and will help them to access international funding streams for this work in future. The Welsh Assembly Government funding will support the engagement of Welsh experts in the programme, increasing their knowledge, skills and experience in climate change issues. The project may also provide opportunities for Welsh businesses in the environmental goods and services sector.

- **Wales – Somaliland Communities Link Partnership**

£60,000

The aim of this project is to support the Somali community and others in Wales to both contribute towards delivery of the UN Millennium Development Goals in Somaliland, whilst building their own skills and community development. A cross community partnership committee has been formed to co-ordinate activity in areas such as school / community links, health, youth and women. This funding enables the Somali Progressive Association (SPA) to employ a Development Officer for this work and create volunteering opportunities in Wales and Somaliland. The funding is also used to support the project activities proposed by the partnership committee.

- **Dolen Cymru– Wales Lesotho Link**

£55,000

This funding supports Dolen Cymru in its work developing links between Wales and Lesotho and enabling individuals and organisations in Wales to contribute to the UN Millennium Development Goals in Lesotho. This year Dolen Cymru aims to support more placements of Welsh health professionals in Lesotho, awareness raising (particularly amongst young people) of the opportunities to learn about international development and volunteer in Lesotho, and capacity building of the Lesotho-Wales Link office in Maseru.

- **Fair Trade Wales National Co-ordinator**

£50,000

Funding is provided to the Fair Trade Wales organisation to employ a full time Fair Trade Wales Co-ordinator. This Co-ordinator is responsible for leading and supporting Fair Trade activity across Wales, and helping to maintain Wales' status as the world's first Fair Trade Nation. The Co-ordinator ensures that work continues with communities, schools, organisations, government and others across Wales to increase awareness and use of Fair Trade products. This year they will also help to develop new and ongoing criteria for being a Fair Trade Nation.

- **Fair Trade for Business** **£30,000**

This project continues the work undertaken by the Wales Co-operative Centre to support the business community in Wales to increase their knowledge and use of Fair Trade or ethically sourced products. With these funds the Wales Co-op Centre employs a business adviser to give information, support with marketing and practical assistance to Welsh businesses on Fair Trade. In particular this project aims to work with iconic Welsh businesses and the tourism sector in Wales.

- **UN Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) – Renewable Energy Entrepreneurs** **£25,000**

This funding enabled 15 African solar energy entrepreneurs to undertake a sustainable energy course at the Welsh Institute for Natural Resources, Bangor University. This initiative – funded by UNIDO and the Assembly Government (through the Department of Economy and Transport) - aimed to increase the knowledge and skills of business entrepreneurs in Africa in sustainable energy. It also helped build Welsh academic expertise and experience in this field, and was a Welsh contribution to rural energy strategies of UNIDO and the Global Environment Fund.

- **Meetings/ Events / Communications** **£26,214**

These funds are used to support meetings, events and communications under the International Sustainable Development and Wales for Africa programme. This year this has included support for: hosting The Big Food Debate – Fair Trade, Sustainable Food and Climate Change Summit; a Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development (nrg4SD) climate change event –Wales was co-Chair of the network until May 2010; an event with Welsh academics and practitioners in international development to discuss research and learning, and Wales for Africa internet communications.

- **Wales for Africa Health Links support** **£18,000**

The Wales for Africa Health Links group brings together links to represent this work, and share and develop good practice amongst its members. Wales has a fifth of all of the hospital links with Africa in the UK, and the Welsh NHS has been encouraged to treat participation in link work as a valuable contribution to their staff's continuing professional development. These funds support an annual conference for Wales – Africa Health Links and the production of an annual report highlighting their achievements. This year it has also facilitated a research exercise to evaluate the benefits of Wales-Africa health links, e.g. in skill development for Welsh health professionals and those in Africa. Separate grant funds (with a total budget of £50,000 per year) are available from the Welsh Assembly Government's Department for Public Health and Health Professions to increase the number and impact of hospital / health linking work between Wales and Africa.

- **Africa- Wales Honey and Beeswax Trade Project** **£17,000**

Bees for Development and Tropical Forest Products Ltd in Aberystwyth (the only registered Fairtrade importer in Wales) are working together to support beekeepers in Cameroon to trade their way out of poverty. This project aims to produce a Welsh-designed honeycomb separator that will assist the Cameroonian beekeepers to improve the quality and yield of their honey and beeswax to meet international standards. These

products will then be sold through Tropical Forest Products and the learning from this initiative will be shared other beekeepers in Africa and Wales.

Total - £678,300

If you would like information on events or activities included in this regular briefing then please send us copy in good time to SMIDOS at enquiries@smidos.com

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