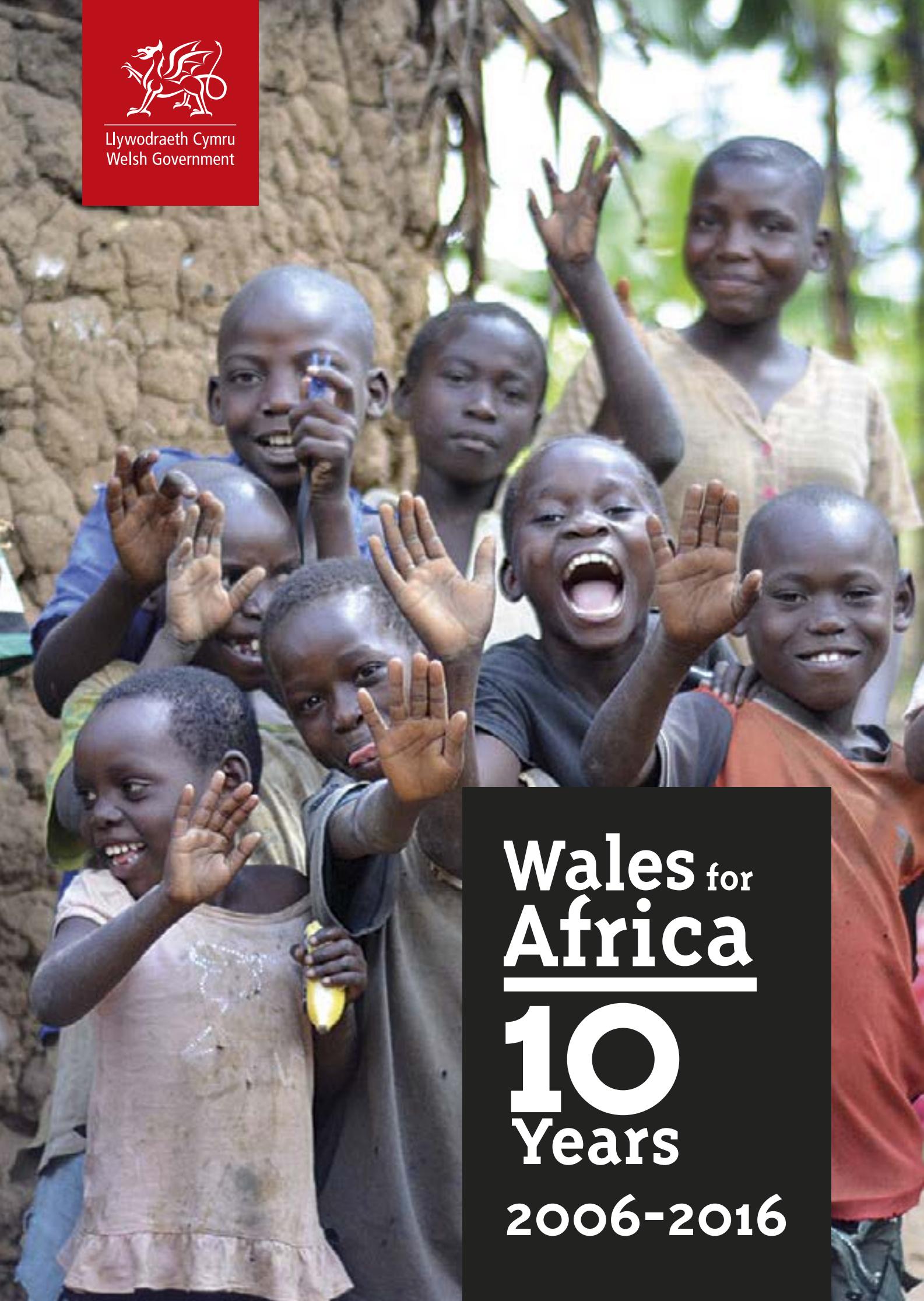




Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



**Wales for
Africa**
10
Years
2006-2016

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carwyn J".

Rt. Hon Carwyn Jones AM
First Minister of Wales

Wales has always been an outward looking nation, keen to play our part in the world. Ten years ago, in keeping with that outward looking spirit, we launched our Wales for Africa programme to encourage more people in Wales to get involved in development work with Africa.

During this time, thousands of individuals, across hundreds of communities and institutions in Wales have offered their time, energy, resources and expertise to a diversity of development projects across sub-Saharan Africa. These partnerships characterise the Welsh approach to international development, where experiences and knowledge are shared in a spirit of mutual respect and reciprocity. This vibrant, civil-society based approach has seen friendships formed across Wales and Africa, as people work together practically, purposefully and meaningfully towards achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals SDGs.

The vision of the SDGs is that of a shared, sustainably developed world in which no one is left behind. The Welsh Government is committed to being a part of the response to achieving this.

This report celebrates the unique contribution Wales has made to development outcomes over the past ten years. The programme has grown, its achievements have far outstripped its modest budget, and we are justifiably proud of its success. But we know we can do more.

Over the coming years we will be building on our achievements to continue supporting the fantastic work people and groups across Wales and from Africa are doing towards meeting the SDGs and ending poverty in all its forms everywhere by 2030.



“People in Wales have big hearts. They belong in a small country but, oh man, they really have the kick of a mule!”

Archbishop Desmond Tutu,
on his visit to Wales
in October 2012

Timeline



Wales for Africa

The Make Poverty History campaign generates great public pressure on the Welsh Government to develop 'a distinct Welsh contribution' to global development and reflect the conscious choice of the people of Wales to be an outward facing nation.

The Wales for Africa programme emerges to encourage people in Wales to more effectively contribute to international development. The programme soon becomes a beacon for Welsh efforts to help deliver the UN Millennium Development Goals MDGs to halve global poverty by 2015.

2006

Welsh Health Circular

The publication of the Welsh Health Circular signals the Welsh Government's firm commitment to supporting and the fostering of health links with health providers, universities, trainers, NGOs, international health organisations or governments in sub-Saharan Africa.



International Learning Opportunities

The Welsh Government's International Learning Opportunities provides a unique opportunity to spend eight weeks in sub-Saharan Africa working on development projects that are designed to enhance participants' leadership skills. The programme offers an immersive experience that involves working with African organisations, leading on specific projects.

Since 2007 over 150 participants have been able to experience living and working in a developing country. Participants have returned with new found insight on what it means to work resourcefully and adapt – strengthening their skills as a leader, to improve what is delivered for the people of Wales in the face of challenging times.

Wales for Africa Health Links Network

The Wales for Africa Health Links Network is launched. The network harnesses the expertise which exists within the NHS in Wales and partners in disadvantaged communities in Africa.

2007

2008

2009

nrg4SD

Wales co-chairs the Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development (nrg4SD) during the UN Climate Change Summit in Copenhagen. The nrg4SD is an international network of sub-national and regional governments, including Quebec, Catalonia, Flanders, Brittany and Mbale. Its main focus is to gain recognition for regional governments at the UN and promote sustainable development on an international level.

Sub-Saharan Advisory Panel

The Sub-Saharan Advisory Panel is set up to bring together Wales' diaspora groups to have a voice and a profile.

Wales becomes the World's First Fair Trade Nation

On 6 June 2008 Wales made history and became the first ever Fair Trade nation. The announcement followed a two-year campaign by the Wales Fair Trade Forum, funded by the Wales for Africa programme, to increase the availability of Fair Trade products in towns, cities and counties across Wales, and encouraging schools, businesses and other organisations to switch to Fairtrade. Wales continues to be a Fair Trade Nation to this day and Fair Trade Wales works in the areas of education, policy, procurement, support and campaigning in Wales.



First Wales International Development Summit

To reflect the vibrant international development activity going on in Wales, the Wales for Africa programme funded the first Wales International Development Summit. The summit brought together practitioners, volunteers, academics, Diaspora and campaigners engaged and interested in international development to engage on a number of issues such as gender and education, health and human rights, resilience and climate change etc. The summit is now the biggest annual event on international development in Wales. Now delivered by Hub Cymru Africa, the event brings together hundreds of people from across Wales and beyond.



Archbishop Desmond Tutu visits Wales

The world renowned activist and Nobel Peace Prize winner visited Wales as a guest of the First Minister to recognise the achievements of the Wales for Africa programme. Archbishop Tutu met people who have been involved in Wales for Africa projects. He attended an Assembly at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr, which has a link with Lesotho, visited the Royal Glamorgan Hospital, linked with Uganda, and took a trip to Valleys Kids in Penygraig to learn about their link with a township in South Africa.

Watch-Africa

The first Wales Africa Film Festival is held. The festival provides a platform for works by African, African Diasporas as well as Welsh and international directors and artists bringing fresh perspectives on Africa - economic, social, political and cultural life – through film.

Cardiff University launch the Phoenix Project

Cardiff University begin working in partnership with the University of Namibia to drive up standards and promote better health and poverty alleviation. This approach can now be seen across Wales at Swansea University and Bangor University each with a distinctive programme with Africa.

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

Ten Million Trees

Size of Wales aims to bring everyone in Wales together to help sustain an area of tropical forest twice the size of Wales as part of a national response to climate change. The Wales for Africa programme begins working with Size of Wales on planting trees in the Mbale region of Uganda. To date (2016), four million trees have been planted – helping alleviate problems caused by years of soil erosion as a result of deforestation, and providing new and sustainable livelihoods for local people from the fruit and wood provided by the trees.



UN Climate Change Conference, Durban

The Wales-Mbale Million Trees project – developed in conjunction with the Size of Wales programme – is chosen by the UN as one of its 'Lighthouse Projects' at the launch of Momentum for Change at the UNs Climate Change Conference in Durban.

Wales International Development Hub

The Wales International Development Hub is launched bringing together thousands of individuals and hundreds organisations to support the network which had grown and developed since the launch of Wales for Africa.

First Minister visits Uganda

In January 2014 the First Minister spent six days visiting projects that have been made possible with support from the Wales for Africa programme. During his visit he planted the millionth tree for the Size of Wales Ten Million Trees project, laid the foundation stone at a mill and store house being built for widows by apprentices from Carmarthenshire College, saw how PONT – a community link between Rhondda Cynon Taf and Mbale – is improving the regional hospital through links with Royal Glamorgan Hospital, and opened a new girls dormitory at a school for which funds were raised by Pontypridd High School.

Plant!

The First Minister launches the extension of Plant! From April 2014, a tree is planted in Wales and Uganda for every child born or adopted in Wales.

Memorandum of Understanding

A Memorandum of Understanding is signed in April 2014 between the Welsh Government and the Government of Lesotho to strengthen bilateral relations and further encourage cooperation in areas of common interest.



Wales for Africa celebrates its 10 year anniversary at an event hosted by the Rt.Hon Carwyn Jones AM, First Minister of Wales at The Senedd in Cardiff Bay. As part of the 10th anniversary celebrations, the Cabinet Secretary for Health, Wellbeing and Sport, Vaughan Gething AM visits Wales for Africa projects in Mbale, Uganda.

Wales for Africa

10 Years

2015

2016

Hub Cymru Africa

Hub Cymru Africa is launched in April 2015. It puts the partnership ethos into practice through bringing together the work of Wales Africa Community Links, the Wales for Africa Health Links Network, the Sub-Saharan Advisory Panel, Fair Trade Wales and the Wales International Development Hub.

Wellbeing of Future Generations Act

The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 is passed. The Act is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales through seven wellbeing goals, one of which focuses on being a globally responsible Wales.

From MDGs to SDGs

The MDGs come to the end of their term. A post 2015-agenda, comprising 17 Sustainable Development Goals, takes their place and is launched at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit in New York in September 2015.

'Fair Trade is My Business'

'Fair Trade is My Business' strategy is launched – a three year project which recognises the vital role that Welsh businesses can play in using, supporting and promoting Fair Trade.

Dolen Cymru and PONT

Also in this year, Dolen Cymru - Wales Lesotho flagship link - celebrates its 30 year anniversary and PONT the community link between Rhondda Cynon Taff and Mbale in Uganda - celebrates 10 years with over 600 visits between the communities.

Wales for Africa – An Overview

Over the past ten years Wales for Africa has supported people to be more actively involved in International Development by working and collaborating with individuals, communities, the third sector and the public sector - including NHS Wales. Since its launch in 2006 Wales for Africa has been working with partners to help build a fairer world reflecting the demand within Wales for an identifiably Welsh contribution to tackling global poverty. The work of the programme complements that of the UK government's Department for International Development (DfID), and means that Wales plays a part on the world stage – working, for example, with the Network for Regional Governments for Sustainable Development and The Climate Group at the UN.

The principles of partnership underpinning our work are based around the core concepts of community, mutual respect and mutual benefit. Wales for Africa's model of support has been labelled a 'Welsh model' by many of our partners as an expression of pride in what Wales, supported by the Welsh Government, is achieving. All projects supported by the programme benefit Wales, and funded activities have included a focus on diaspora and fair trade groups, health and community links and on professional development. Alongside this, the programme has developed its own distinctive programme with Lesotho and Mbale, in Uganda.

Thinking globally

Wales for Africa's contribution to the SDGs helps to facilitate an identifiably Welsh response on international action based around co-development in a partnership approach. From a small group of committed individuals, the citizen-led solidarity initiatives which characterise the development sector in Wales can now be found throughout the nation. Wales is most definitely embedded in a global network committed to social justice and tackling inequalities.

In a pioneering piece of legislation, the Welsh Government's Wellbeing of Future Generations Act (2015) commits us to improving the social,

economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. Since its passing, public bodies in Wales are more focussed on helping Wales demonstrate its commitment to the seven well-being goals including Goal 7 - a 'Globally Responsible Wales'.

This global connectivity highlights a generous and outward-facing Wales. This ten year anniversary is an opportunity to celebrate the successes, and also to look to the future - at the world we want to live in and the Wales we want to be.

"The Wales Future Generations Act captures the spirit and essence of two decades of United Nations work in the area of sustainable development and serves as a model for other regions and countries... We hope that what Wales is doing today the world will do tomorrow. Action, more than words, is the hope for our current and future generations."

Nikhil Seth, Director of Division for Sustainable Development,
Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations





Making an impact - 10 years of Wales for Africa



In 2008 Wales
became the world's first
Fair Trade Nation



102,222

people across Wales are actively engaged in Fair Trade and

86% of people in Wales recognise the FAIRTRADE mark

Since 2006
we've supported
528
different development projects across
25 African nations

160 Welsh managers and leaders have benefited from our International Learning Opportunities programme sharing
47,300 hours of expertise with African partners



We have supported

72 health projects

saving lives and improving the health of hundreds of thousands of people in Wales and sub-Saharan Africa



Wales has a fifth of the UK's hospital links with Africa and every health board in Wales has an active link

In 2015 alone...
Over **80,000** people across Wales and more than **260,000** people in Africa benefited from our small grants scheme

544,000 poor Ugandan farmers have improved livelihoods and some protection from climate change thanks to our **10 Million Trees** project

450,000 people have discovered the value of rainforests through the **Size of Wales** project

Behind every statistic lies a story...

On a budget of around £860k a year, we support projects which share skills, knowledge and culture. Our model of change is to involve more people with wider skills to deliver better quality projects to deepen the effectiveness of charity, learning, partnership and development

initiatives between Wales and Africa. There are lots of ways to get involved – from switching to Fair Trade, supporting your local community link, to work placements and many more ways besides.

Wales for Africa Grants

One of the ways we deliver our work is through providing access to grant funding. Our current grant scheme is managed by Hub Cymru Africa - a three year partnership project which supports mutually beneficial links between Wales and Africa, and Fair Trade activities to strengthen, consolidate and raise the profile of international development in Wales.

Enhancing people's well-being and livelihoods is an important part of the work we do. By providing financial and technical support, Wales for Africa is championing long-term, sustainable

partnership projects with real social impact – and which respect the fine balance between human needs and looking after the environment.

Our choices impact on the world around us, near and far. Wales for Africa supports a range of activities – and even the smaller grants can make a big difference, bringing people together across communities in Wales to support communities in Africa.

The following case studies give a flavour of some of the schemes we have supported.



“We’re excited to see the quality and impact of small Wales based organizations increasing every year, and more and more people being inspired to get involved in partnerships with Africa”

Cat Jones, Head of Partnership, Hub Cymru Africa

Tools for Self Reliance Cymru

Tools for Self Reliance Cymru are one of many organisations with a sustainable livelihoods approach to development that we support. Based in Crickhowell, Powys, the group collects old and unwanted hand tools, refurbishes them and then sends tool kits to grass roots community groups in Africa. They have been working with their partner in Tanzania - the Small Industries Development Organisation - for over twenty years. A recent Wales for Africa grant is supporting 150 people in rural areas access affordable tools and training in artisan skills like blacksmithing, tailoring and carpentry. This builds on earlier support from Wales for Africa, where funding established the supply of Tanzanian Fair Trade green woodwork hand tools for sale throughout Wales and the UK.

This funding for their Fair Trade Tools programme also helped provide training experiences and skill development for volunteers in Welsh Tools for Self-Reliance workshops – including people who were unemployed or in need of occupational therapy and support.

Ysgol Esgob Morgan

One of last year's small-scale activity grant recipients was the Ysgol Esgob Morgan 'Celebrating and Sharing Fair Trade' project.

The school was the first primary school in Denbighshire to gain the Fairtrade Schools Award and they continue to keep up the momentum and build on this good work. Last year the school successfully applied for a grant, which they have used to extend their influence and embed a culture of Fair Trade in the wider community – bringing people together by organising monthly awareness raising 'Fair Trade Coffee Shops' for parents and the community.

"This is a perfect example of what happens in a Fair Trade Nation. It's so important that young people and their parents, get the opportunity to learn about the people who make and grow the things we need everyday, and that farmers and workers get a better deal through Fair Trade. Ysgol Esgob Morgan are leading the way, and I hope more schools will follow in their footsteps"

Elen Jones, National Co-ordinator,
Fair Trade Wales



Hayaat Women Trust

Over the past 10 years, Wales for Africa has supported and encouraged more people to get involved in health links.

These links are helping to improve health education, mother and child health, cancer screening and treatment, eye care, mental health and public health initiatives, amongst many other areas. Welsh health professionals are building the capacity of their partners by sharing knowledge and skills, building networks, and providing training and equipment.

Hayaat Women Trust is a Cardiff based nonprofit organisation that links with the Somali populations in Wales and Africa. They aim to help improve health education provision in Somaliland, particularly on

mental health and maternal health issues. They also work to empower African women in both Wales and Somaliland to up-skill their education, training and improve their livelihoods.

Supported by Wales for Africa, Hayaat Women Trust focus on supporting individuals with mental health disabilities and their families by identifying conditions and providing treatment and medicine. The link deliver capacity building workshops for mental health service providers in hospitals, utilising the expertise of Welsh mental health professionals. They then work within the community to educate people, and reduce the stigma associated with mental health.

“This important programme is making a real difference to people’s lives both in Africa and in Wales – improving health professionals’ skills and experience, in turn driving up standards across the board”

Vaughan Gething AM, Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-being and Sport





© Cardiff University, Phoenix Project

Case studies

Glan Clwyd Hospital

The common aim of the link between Glan Clwyd hospital in North Wales and Hossana, in Ethiopia, is “to provide good care for those we look after” – and there are many ways in which the partners help each other in this.

Although the kinds of healthcare offered by the partner hospitals are very different, health care professionals are learning from each other. Staff from Glan Clwyd learn more about tropical medicine – such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, TB, acute severe malnutrition and so on – and healthcare challenges in a global setting, as well as working with really scarce resources.

Since 2007, the health partnership has grown and developed as a result of health workers coming together in a long-term commitment to each other’s professional development. It has extended to incorporate

a link between the eye unit in Abergel Hospital in North Wales and its counterpart in Hawassa Referral Hospital.

Eye diseases in Ethiopia are far more common and severe than in Wales, but there are 100 times fewer ophthalmologists. With appropriate eye care, 80% of blindness in the country would be avoidable or treatable. The eye unit link is providing teaching and support for students and staff in Ethiopia, and learning about conditions rarely seen in the UK.

This represents just one of many offshoot projects of the Glan Clwyd - Hossana link, which also includes infrastructure projects and a primary care link.

This link has received Wales for Africa funding in 2015 and 2016 for their work.



PONT

Since the beginning of Wales for Africa, a close relationship with Uganda – and in particular, the Mbale region – has developed as a central feature of the programme. Key to this has been the work of PONT, a community to community link between Rhondda Cynon Taf and Mbale.

The link takes a system-wide approach towards the design of its activities based on a model of integrated community development. This involves the linking together of professionals and organisations in both communities in a spirit of empowerment, reciprocity and respect.

The people of Mbale district are amongst some of the poorest in Africa, with the average income less than \$1 a day, an average life expectancy of 46, and infant mortality rates of around 200 per thousand.

The aim of PONT is to enable people in Mbale to develop and realise their own ideas

and solutions to poverty. They are given support, encouragement and advice from their counterparts in Wales and at the same time, volunteers in Wales learn a great deal.

Wales for Africa has supported PONT from the start providing a number of small grants for their work.

Over 10 years PONT have:

- Trained 1,200 primary healthcare workers
- Commissioned 42 motorbike ambulances
- Provided Mbale hospital with an endoscopy unit, and improved and upgraded a number of departments
- Twinned 105 schools with teacher and pupil exchanges
- Built an Animal Education Centre

10 Million Trees

Wales for Africa supports an innovative tree planting project in Mbale, Uganda where 4.2 million trees have been planted over the last 5 years. The 10 Million Trees project is a collaboration between 3 NGOs and a Social Enterprise, all of which are members of the Mbale Coalition Against Poverty. The project, part of Size of Wales www.sizeofwales.org.uk focuses on poverty alleviation and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Dozens of community based tree nurseries promoting agroforestry across the Mbale region have been created. The project has helped improve livelihoods, helped farmers adapt to Climate Change and spread the Climate Change message to thousands of people both in Uganda and here at home.

Small farmers are 'sensitised' to climate change and the value of planting trees by local project workers and a community theatre group and are then given trees to plant on their tiny plots in between their coffee and food crops.

The project gained international recognition at the UNFCCC COP 17 Climate Change Summit in Durban in 2011 as one of the first UN Momentum for Change Lighthouse Projects capable of replication elsewhere.

Bees for Development

Wales for Africa has also supported Monmouth based charity Bees for Development who work in partnership with the 10 Million Trees project through training farmers to keep bees and harvest honey in a sustainable way - providing people with the means to be economically self-reliant whilst sustaining the environment.

Beekeeping is welcomed in Mbale because it creates an added income stream from tree planting. As beekeeper Stephen Walimbwe explains:

"I was taught how to make beehives from local materials. Honey bees occupied the beehives by themselves – they cost me nothing. The bees feed on my trees and give me honey. I have invested little and gaining much. Now my neighbours want to copy me. I will plant more trees."



International Learning Opportunities

The Wales for Africa funded ILO programme offers public and voluntary sector workers the opportunity to work for 8 weeks in sub-Saharan Africa on projects designed to enhance their personal and professional skills and experience whilst contributing to the SDGs to eliminate poverty. Since 2007, the programme has delivered over 150 challenging placements.

One of the programme's key principles is to align placements with the SDG goals, partnering with grass roots organisations and charities to work with people in greatest need. More than 47,300 hours of expertise have been shared with African partners through the programme to date.

“The programme offers a great opportunity to test your resilience and develop your leadership skills. But in the end, what you put into the programme is dwarfed by what you take out. You meet amazing people doing extraordinary things in barely credible circumstances. There’s no other training programme that I know of that offers that kind of exposure, or rewards your participation so richly.”

Steve Davies, Welsh Government





Getting involved

A key element of the activity we support is through providing access to small project focused grants. Our overarching aim is to encourage more people to do more of a better quality for international development.

With this in mind, we also support a diverse range of training, networking and large scale events to thousands of people across Wales each year. Delivered by our partners Hub Cymru Africa, these events focus on bringing people together to share best practice, raise

awareness of common challenges and discuss possible solutions. They focus on delivering maximum sustainability, developing fundraising skills and strengthening the network of people within Wales working on development projects in Africa.

We actively encourage anyone and everyone to get involved, whether you're new to international development or consider yourself an expert. To find out what's on near you, please visit www.hubcymrafrica.cymru

Wales for Africa

10 Years

Wales for Africa contacts

If you would like to contact the Wales for Africa team please email

walesforafrica@wales.gsi.gov.uk

or call +44 (0)29 2082 1670



@walesforafrica

www.gov.wales/walesforafrica

Hub Cymru Africa



@HubCymruAfrica

www.hubcymruafrica.cymru

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Plant!

www.gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/forestry/plantatree