



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT June 2026

CURRENT TRUSTEES

David Alsop – Chairman/Project Manager/Scholarship fund Co-Ordinator

Neil Biggar- Treasurer

Brian Mitchell - Trustee

TRUSTEE BOARD MEETINGS

1st September 2025 via Teams

10th October 2025 via Teams

9th November 2025 via Teams

5th February 2026 `e` mail discussion and decision

13th March 2026 via Teams

SEED FOR LIFE.FEED FOR LIFE DEVELOPMENT CO (MALAWI)

Management Company with Limited Liability set up in Malawi in 2021 with six directors with direct links with Bemvu some from different Church denominations the purpose of which is to manage funds and organise and oversee the different projects.

Full control for the organisation of the Farming and Feeding Project was handed over to the Company on 1st April 2022 this includes financial, management, legal responsibilities in accordance with the original aims of Seed for Life when first established.

Paid Employees

Paid for Direct from S4L Scotland

Dikirani Gwaza – project Manager – equivalent to £350 pa (This is paid by S4L Scotland for his work in overseeing the all the projects and presenting monthly reports)

Paid for by Seed for Life Development Co. Malawi

Dikirani Gwaza-Project Manager Feeding & Farming Programme

K1,200,000 pa + use of Company motorbike

George Daluni – Assistant Project Manager equivalent to £360 pa + £360pa transport expenses

6 x Dinner Ladies for School Meal project equivalent to £1800.00 pa

1 night watchman £300pa

FARMING PROGRAMME

2024/2025 has seen the third consecutive year where the harvest has been devastated due to drought conditions. Conditions have been so bad that no funds were returned in the form of repayment of loan and coupled with a lack of sufficient available funds in our own account, no financial help was given as support to the 2025/2026 harvest and the community had to rely on its own resources. This decision has created great hardship for the Community especially over the Winter period.

We have encouraged the Community to consider other methods of farming and to move away from the reliance on traditional maize production which struggles to obtain a sufficient yield in drought conditions. Limited funds have been sent in order for experiments to be undertaken in various Farming methods these have included: potatoes, tomatoes, cabbages, poultry which appear to have a good success rate.

PRIMARY SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME

This project is now being run by Seed for Life Development Co Malawi

Approximately 1400 primary pupils are fed every school day Food is prepared and served by six paid workers, the pupils benefit from receiving at least one meal per day and the parents benefit by not having to supply this meal as well as the attention span of the children has been reported to have improved because the children are not constantly hungry as they were prior to S4L intervention. Which in turn encourages more children to attend classes.

It became apparent that due to the lack of food caused by the poor harvest that some school children were collapsing at school because they were not being fed at home and so the rations for feeding was increased by purchasing maize on the open market which further deflated S4L funds held in Scotland.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This project is being financed by solely by S4L Scotland.

20 pupils have been sponsored this school year each receiving 2 lots of uniform as well as school materials and the use of a bicycle.

Since February 2026 the Malawi Government has agreed to paying all secondary school fees and due to the lack of funding available in S4L accounts the Trustees have made the decision that no more financial support will be offered for secondary school education.

We support two University students:

Emmanuale Chisale studying Radiography

Chrispin Gwaza studying Bachelors Degree in Science, Maths and Computer studies

The Scholarship Fund is financed primarily by the generosity of donors who have signed up to direct debit monthly payments to whom we are extremely grateful, a huge thanks to all who contribute in the knowledge that you are changing the lives of these students. This year we have seen a number of monthly donors withdraw from the scheme which has put pressure on our funds and the University Student support is currently under review by the Trustees.

NEW BUILDING

A new brick building was completed in 2021 comprising of: Kitchen, canteen area, warehouse, office. This is situated beside the primary school therefore allowing a more time efficient way of feeding the children as well as providing a safe and more hygienic cooking facility. The canteen also double up as a classroom and is used by the general community when not in use during a school day. The warehouse also provides a storage facility for the harvest and school feeding programme food.

This continues to be used on a daily basis and has proved to be a great asset to the Community as well as saving money on warehousing costs.

TRANSPORT

We have supplied an All Terrain motorcycle for use by the Project Manager to enable visits to the outlying villages and for trips into town on Seed for Life Business

FUNDING

Monthly bank direct debit receipts are an essential form of income which allows us to foreward plan as University Courses are four year commitment.

Ad Hoc single donations are a much valued source of income

.FUNDING REQUIREMENTS FOR COMING YEAR 2026-2027

The requirements for the coming year will be to ensure that there are sufficient funds available to support any students going through the education system to enable them to complete their full curriculum. Anyone who has still not signed up please consider doing so as it is a life changer to these young people and gives them self respect and confidence for their future.

The last three harvests have been a disaster due to the effects of the climate, we are faced yet again with having no funds available to support financially this coming planting. As already mentioned we are endeavouring to move away from complete reliance on crops which are at risk from weather related problems and endeavour to build up some reserve funds in Malawi in order for them to return to self sufficiency.

KEY RISKS & MITIGATION

- 1) Scholarship programme funds become depleted during the four year funding cycle.

Ensure that there are sufficient funds available to support scholarship and university students available at any one time for a least a further 12 months or period of time to be determined by the Trustees.

- 2) Students chosen for sponsorship to both scholarship and university programme have not been selected due to nepotism or other unfair process.

Ensure that there is an agreed process of selection in place which is based on ability and the willingness to better their circumstances.

HMRC TAX RETURN

To be completed before December 2026

OSCR Annual Report

Report to be submitted

GIFT AID RECLAIMED

Submitted April 2026

PRIORITIES FOR 2026-2027

Raise the profile of S4L

Encourage more people to sign up to Monthly Standing order for Scholarship Fund and implement fund raising activities.

Keep a liaison going with Bemvu

Enlist more Trustees

SUMMARY

May I take this opportunity to thank all who have supported this project to date, and although we continue to face setbacks we have had many successes and Bemvu is a better place than it was before we decided to get involved, their lives have been changed and with your support we can continue to make a difference.

Dave Alsop



Chairman