



## Hello from Link,

As the end of 2015 approaches, it's time to reflect on our achievements and update our generous supporters on what we've been up to.

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### Language and Literacy Project launched in Ethiopia

In November, Link Community Development Ethiopia launched a new 'Language and Literacy' project in the Wolaita Zone of south-western Ethiopia.

This project aims to improve the language competency of both learners and teachers. 41,000 learners will be supported with tutorial classes and supplementary reading materials aiding transition from teaching and learning in the mother tongue to English at grade 5.



The Regional Education Bureau Head said "We are delighted that Link Community Development is starting this relevant project. We know how lack of language skills limits access to the curriculum and we fully endorse this important work."

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### Education for Sustainable Development conference

On the 30th October Link and the University of Edinburgh co-hosted a conference on 'Education for Sustainable Development' to coincide with the launch of the [UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals.](#)

Over 80 attendees listened to presentations that focused on

Ethiopia, Malawi, Ghana, Nigeria and Pakistan, and then participated in interesting discussion sessions.

A conference report will soon be available on our [website](#).

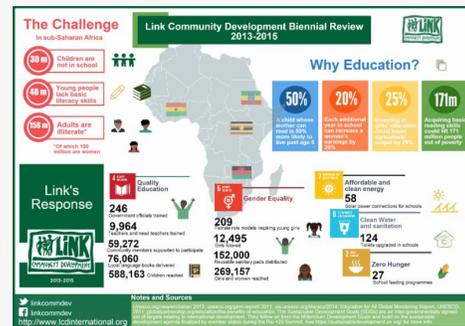
**THE GLOBAL GOALS**  
For Sustainable Development



## Biennial Review Launched

Link Community Development is delighted to announce the publication of our Biennial Review.

The comprehensive summary of the last two years (2013-2015) at Link will be of great interest to our supporters. During this period, Link has launched several innovative and exciting new projects and experienced significant organisational change.



[You can view an online copy by clicking here.](#)

## 10 Years of the Scotland Malawi Partnership

November marks 10 years of the Scotland Malawi Partnership. Since 2005 the organisation has grown to include over 700 members, including Link Community Development, and the partnership helps an estimated 300,000 Scots and two million Malawians every year.

The Herald newspaper recently noted the 10 biggest achievements of the Scotland Malawi Partnership. Link is recognised for our work **facilitating the development and roll out of the National Education Standards to every primary and secondary school in Malawi.**



[Please click here to see the article.](#)

## Fundraising Update

2015 saw Link undertake some successful fundraising events. **Hitch's popularity is as strong as ever** with students from across the country once again taking to the roads to raise money for Link.

This year we were excited to organise two **Sumo Run** events. Our annual London run took place in July with great success which allowed us to launch our first ever Sumo Run in Edinburgh. With nearly 250 participants between the events we believe that 2016 will truly be the year of the Sumo!

Link also launched our first Jail and Bail event in Edinburgh. **The detainees raised nearly £5,000 in just two hours!** The Link Team is very excited to hold a London Jail and Bail scheduled for early 2016.



Finally, we are delighted to announce that our **Sponsor a School programme** will be relaunched. Details of the exciting changes for our sponsors and schools in Malawi, Ethiopia, Ghana and Uganda will be announced shortly!

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## Looking forward to 2016

2016 promises to be another exciting and successful year for Link. Our Malawi office will begin delivery of the **MERIT programme**, the USAID funded national Malawi Early Grade Reading programme; our Ethiopia team will be releasing their mid-line evaluation findings from their **Girls Education Challenge project**; in Uganda we will continue our **early grade mother-tongue literacy work**; and our Ghana partner will continue their **innovative support to girls' education**.



The New Year will also see the launch of '**Hitch at 25**', with exciting plans for celebrations to welcome this remarkable occasion in Link's history. **Hitch has raised over £4.5 million for Link in 24 years** so far with nearly **9,000 people** adventuring all over Europe in that time!

On welcoming in the New Year, Link CEO Fiona Greig says " **On behalf of everyone in Link, I would like to thank you for your support in 2015**, whether you took part in the Sumo Run, hitched across Europe, sponsored a school, volunteered or followed our work.

Without the support of you, our generous supporters, **Link simply would not have the opportunity to deliver the life-changing and enduring work we do.** Thank you once again."



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If you have any questions about Link's work, please get in touch with us on **0131 225 3076** or email [link@lcd.org.uk](mailto:link@lcd.org.uk).

All the best,

**The Link Team**

Connect with us:

