EVEN IT UP

SCOTLAND’S ROLE IN TACKLING POVERTY BY REDUCING INEQUALITY AT HOME AND ABROAD

OXFAM’S POLICY PRIORITIES FOR THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

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FOREWORD

Oxfam’s vision is of a world without poverty. Significant progress towards achieving this vision in being made: in just 15 years, extreme poverty has been halved.\(^1\) In 15 more, we can end it for good.

But there’s work to do. Right now nearly 800 million people still don’t have enough to eat.\(^2\) Worse still, the twin challenges of inequality and climate change threaten to undo much of the progress we have made in making sure millions more people have food on the table, a decent education and access to health care.\(^3\)\(^4\)

To overcome poverty and create a just society for everyone, we need to challenge the concentration of wealth and power in the hands of the few. On current trends, by 2016 just 1% of the world’s population will own more wealth than the other 99% put together.\(^5\) We need, for example, to ensure the wealthy pay their fair share of tax, and that governments use that money to provide quality public health and education, as well as adequate social protection, for everyone.

Around the world, inequality can corrupt politics and hinder economic growth. It causes a range of health and social problems whilst stifling social mobility: the richest people are able to live longer, happier and healthier lives, and are able to use their wealth to see that their children do the same. The resultant gap between the rich and the rest is further exacerbated by persistent inequalities between men and women. While economic inequality affects us all, in general the poorest women suffer most.\(^6\)

None of this is inevitable – poverty and inequality are the consequence of deliberate political and economic choices.

Here in Scotland, the scandal of poverty is a daily reality for around one in five people.\(^7\) In our rich country, we should all be impatient for faster progress. The surge in the number of people seeking emergency food support in Scotland is perhaps the clearest sign that our economic model and system of social security are failing too many people. Poverty in Scotland is not an issue of scarcity; it is about how income and wealth are shared.

The Scottish Parliament has a number of powers which it could use to reduce inequality and poverty. We urge all parties to outline clear and robust policies for achieving this goal – including how they will use devolved powers to address food insecurity and enhance the quality of paid work. Parties must also recognise that poverty extends beyond money; it also causes and exacerbates an inequality of influence. We must do more in Scotland to challenge unequal power dynamics by amplifying the voice of people in poverty within decision-making.

We recognise that not all political power rests in Scotland but where the Scottish Parliament has power it should act boldly, and where it does not, it should be a strong and progressive advocate for change.

We cannot end poverty in Scotland at the expense of people overseas or at the cost of harming our planet. The Scottish Government, with cross-party support, has a huge opportunity to play a leadership role on the world stage, building on our proud record. Scotland’s decade-old International Development Fund makes a significant contribution, but has lost real terms value.\(^8\) We must reverse that trend whilst responding to the surge in humanitarian need: in 2014-15, Oxfam helped almost a third more people amidst an unprecedented number of global emergencies.\(^9\)

International aid saves and improves millions of lives each year. It must continue but, alone, it is insufficient. We cannot give to the world’s poor with one hand and take away with the other. We must, for example, deliver our world-leading climate targets and support those already affected by the climate change we helped to cause. We must also build on our long track-record of supporting refugees. No-one chooses to be a refugee; people want to be at home and live free from fear. We must do all we can to help people fleeing for safety.

We can take action across all of these areas now. However, the Scottish election in May 2016 creates a significant opportunity for every political party to transparently commit themselves to creating a more equal Scotland within a more equal world. We hope this policy paper, which brings together and updates our ongoing advocacy work, will influence the policy positions adopted by all parties both now, and beyond the election.

Oxfam will do all we can to ensure Scotland contributes to a world without poverty. We will also hold our politicians to account, a scrutiny which demands from our elected representatives an openness to engagement and challenge.

Scotland shouldn’t live with poverty, here or anywhere. Our politicians have a duty to do all they can to end it.

Jamie Livingstone
Head of Oxfam Scotland
October 2015
OXFAM IS ASKING POLITICAL PARTIES TO:

BUILD A MORE EQUAL SCOTLAND
Outline a vision for a more equal society, including a plan to reduce economic inequality and to ensure economic activity benefits the many not just the few, and respects our global responsibilities.

REDUCE INEQUALITY OF POWER
Ensure the priorities of people living in poverty have greater influence on policy through the implementation of more participatory approaches to decision-making within Government.

PROMOTE DECENT WORK
Support the growth of good jobs through the introduction of minimum standards for decent work based on the experiences of low-paid workers, use all devolved powers to promote them, and monitor progress.

END HUNGER IN SCOTLAND
Use all current and future devolved powers to ensure food insecurity falls year-on-year in Scotland, transparently monitor progress, and incorporate the Right to Food into Scots Law.

MAXIMISE OUR GLOBAL IMPACT
Ensure Scotland does not give to the world’s poorest people with one hand and take with the other by committing to a policy-coherent approach towards international development.

ENHANCE INTERNATIONAL AID
Strengthen Scotland’s support to the world’s poorest people by allocating £10m to the International Development Fund in the first year of the new Parliament, and maintain its real-terms value year-on-year.

BOOST HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT
Respond to the surge in global humanitarian need, by creating an International Emergency Fund, with an initial £1m allocation per year, and promote Scotland as a ‘nation of sanctuary’ for refugees.

DELIVER CLIMATE JUSTICE
Meet our climate targets and support those hit by climate change by increasing the Climate Justice Fund to match the International Development Fund by the end of the next Parliament – with an immediate £3m annual commitment.

INVEST IN GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP
Create a more informed and globally-aware population in Scotland by continuing to fund the Development Education Centres and by introducing a Co-financing Fund.
“There is an imperative – moral, economic and social – to develop public policy measures to tackle growing inequality.”

Across the world, it is increasingly recognised that economic inequality has reached extreme levels. In 2015, Oxfam calculated that just 80 people own as much wealth as half the world’s population put together – some 3.5 billion people. Oxfam believes such extreme levels of economic inequality undermine efforts to tackle poverty.

In Scotland, Oxfam has calculated the four richest families are wealthier than the poorest 20% of the Scottish population put together while the 14 richest families are wealthier than the poorest 30% of the population put together. At the same time, after housing costs are added, nearly one in five people in Scotland live with the daily reality of poverty, with women hit hardest.

Evidence shows extremes of inequality are bad for growth and diminish its poverty-reducing impact. Economic inequality impacts and intersects with a range of social and political factors to make society as a whole worse-off. For example, in 2011-12, healthy life expectancy for men and women in the most deprived fifth of Scotland’s population was 20 years shorter than in the least deprived. Economic inequality can also inhibit educational attainment – creating ‘traps of disadvantage’ that push the poorest people to the bottom... and keep them there.

There is also a very strong link between gender inequality and economic inequality. The wrong economic choices can hit women hardest, and can inadvertently reinforce gender inequality. Therefore economic policies must tackle both economic and gender inequalities. For example, as women are disproportionately responsible for unpaid care work we should consider how to support part-time working and universal, quality and free childcare.

As Nobel Prize-winning economist Professor Joseph Stiglitz, a member of the current Scottish Government’s Council of Economic Advisers, has stated: ‘Inequality is not inevitable... it is something that we create, by our policies, by what we do’. The Scottish Parliament has control over a number of powers, such as health and education, which can reduce inequality. It must do all it can with existing and future powers to achieve this.

In doing so, it must be recognised that while economic growth has lifted hundreds of millions of people in developing countries out of poverty, the gains from growth are not fairly distributed. Between 2012 and 2013 almost half of the gains from growth across the UK are estimated to have been captured by the richest one per cent. In Scotland, the number of households who fall below society’s minimum standard of living increased from 14% to 33% between 1982 and 2012. Yet, at the same time, the Scottish economy doubled in size. There is growing evidence that trickle-down economics is not working.

There has been too narrow a focus on economic growth in Scotland with insufficient regard to the quality and distribution of that growth. We must build on the work of the Oxfam Humankind Index for Scotland to strike a better balance with wider measures of success which better reflect what really matters to people.

It is also important that the Scottish Government can be publicly held to account for its progress in reducing inequality. The creation of an independent Poverty and Inequality Adviser is a welcome first step. However, the next administration should set a stretching public target for reducing inequality and embed it within its strategies and performance frameworks. It should transparently monitor progress, with robust measurement systems introduced.

While action in Scotland is critical, nonetheless the UK and European Parliaments retain major powers which could also help reduce inequality. This includes powers over a number of taxes, social security benefits and employment legislation. The next Scottish Government should influence policy wherever possible and support policies which reduce economic inequality in Scotland whilst forcefully opposing those which increase it.
There has been much talk in Scotland about the damage that economic inequality has in our society. However, we need to do more if we are to reverse these damaging trends. Setting a target to reduce inequality will help focus our actions and will help ensure that we become a global leader in tackling inequality.”

Peter Kelly, Director, The Poverty Alliance
Reducing Inequality of Power

“The disposition to admire, and almost to worship, the rich and the powerful, and to despise, or, at least, to neglect persons of poor and mean condition is the great and most universal cause of the corruption of our moral sentiments.”

Adam Smith, Scottish Economist, 1759.

Inequality is about more than money: it’s about power too. Oxfam’s global work shows us that empowering people with experience of poverty – particularly women – is crucial to achieving change.

Globally, the concentration of wealth in the hands of the few is leading to the capture of political power. The wealthiest can use their financial power, and the influence that comes with it, to bend laws and policy choices in their favour, reinforcing their advantaged positions. The lobbying power of rich firms is evident in our lopsided tax policies and lax regulatory regimes which rob the UK, and developing countries, of vital revenue for public services.

Nowhere is the rebalancing of unequal power dynamics more critical than within political and policy-making circles.

Internationally, there is strong evidence to suggest the lack of women in decision-making roles means their needs, and those of their children, are de-prioritised. The appointment of the first gender-balanced Scottish Cabinet, and a challenge to voluntary and private-sector organisations to achieve 50:50 balance on boards by 2020, are welcome.

We must also widen representation from different socio-economic backgrounds and – given the higher rates of poverty – people from minority ethnic backgrounds as well as people with a disability.

A concerted effort is required to ensure people with experience of living in poverty are better represented in decision-making positions. This includes within political parties, but also within the civil service. Ensuring greater diversity within decision-making positions would prevent policymakers from using language which is too often alien to many of us.

We must ensure that our politicians and senior civil servants understand the realities of living in poverty. The next Scottish Government must do more to ensure its policy and practice reflects the stated priorities of people in Scotland, with a focus on people living in poverty who are often seldom heard within decision-making. Oxfam’s Humankind Index and projects such as the Poverty Truth Commission illustrate practically how this can be achieved.

One method of devolving money, power and resources to our most disadvantaged communities is participatory budgeting; most famously known for its success in Porto Alegre in Brazil. In recent years, it has been used on a small scale in parts of Scotland with some evidence suggesting its application has been transformative in increasing local democratic participation and community involvement, leading to stronger and more cohesive communities.
From Oxfam’s experience, groups that are often termed ‘hard-to-reach’, are not actually hard to reach. Rather they are ‘seldom-heard’. Oxfam’s Humankind Index was created through a consultation exercise involving focus groups, community workshops, street stalls, an online survey and opinion polling, designed to reach out to Scotland’s most deprived communities. Barriers to engagement were minimised by financially rewarding people for their time, offering support with childcare costs and covering travel expenses. In total 3000 people were involved in the creation of the Humankind Index. The final index is made up of 18 weighted factors ranging from good physical and mental health to a decent, safe and affordable home. Taken together, these factors show what really matters to people in Scotland when seldom-heard groups are enabled to participate.46

OXFAM IS ASKING POLITICAL PARTIES TO:

Ensure the priorities of people living in poverty have greater influence on policy through the implementation of more participatory approaches to decision-making within Government.

Retain and strengthen the role of the Poverty and Inequality Adviser
The Adviser role should be retained. However, a review of the post’s powers and resources should be launched, with the remit made clearer and more transparent. It must have the resources and power to speak out in an independent and effective manner, more closely matching the remit of Scotland’s Commissioner for Children and Young People.47

Ensure elected politicians and senior civil servants understand the realities of poverty in Scotland
As part of professional development, Cabinet Secretaries – as well as Scottish Government Directors and Deputy Directors – should undertake a poverty training course overseen by the Poverty and Inequality Adviser. This should involve meetings with groups and individuals with direct experience of poverty; such training should include insights into the gender dimensions of poverty. This process should learn from existing projects, such as the Poverty Truth Commission’s Mutual Mentoring Scheme and Reference Group.48

Embed participatory budgeting
All political parties should commit, as a matter of urgency, to using the order-making power contained within the Community Empowerment Act49 to roll out participatory budgeting, with a focus on deprived communities. This should extend beyond one-off projects to become an embedded Scotland-wide process to empower local communities.

“The Poverty Truth Commission strongly recommend the goal of securing a reduction in power inequality. We believe that a lasting reduction cannot and will not result from measures to ‘help the poor’, however well meaning they are. People living in poverty must be, and in our experience can be, represented at the decision making tables. For ‘nothing about us, without us, is for us’.”

The Poverty Truth Commission
It is often claimed that work is the key to tackling poverty. While this is clearly the case for many people, for many others the labour market fails to provide sufficient work that allows for economic independence, health and wellbeing.

In-work poverty is an increasing concern: after housing costs are accounted for, 50% of working age adults and 56% of children in poverty in Scotland now live in households with at least one adult in employment. It is clear that the old adage of work being a guaranteed route out of poverty no longer holds for everyone.

In-work poverty is driven, in part, by low pay with 414,000 workers in Scotland – almost a fifth of the workforce – paid below the Living Wage. We welcome moves to promote uptake of the Living Wage by employers, as defined by the Living Wage Foundation. However, a focus on hourly wages in isolation provides a poor measure of job quality, given the surge in job insecurity, underemployment and low-paid self-employment over the past ten years.

Within this, gender inequalities persist. Some 64% of low-paid workers are women and, in Scotland, women earn 11.5% less than men as full time workers and 32.4% less as part time workers. They make up a disproportionate number of workers on zero-hour contracts and also undertake more ‘invisible work’, carrying out the majority of childcare and making up 59% of Scotland’s 759,000 unpaid carers.

Simultaneously, earnings inequality within the labour market is significant. Research suggests the richest 1% of Scotland’s population increased their share of total pre-tax incomes from 6.3% in 1997 to 9.4% by 2009.

It is clear we can no longer focus on job numbers alone. We must assess their quality too. The Oxfam Humankind Index showed people in Scotland value work which is satisfying, secure, suitable and provides a sufficient income to live on. The next Scottish Government should introduce minimum standards of decent work based on the views of people in low-paid and insecure work, as well as those out of work. It should support and encourage companies to adhere to them voluntarily, but use all available devolved powers to require them to do so.

Internationally, Oxfam supports transparency on pay ratios, a highest-to-median pay ratio of 20:1 and protection of worker’s rights. In Scotland, we should consider how procurement rules can give preference to firms with narrow pay ratios and which adhere to the minimum standards for decent work. The standards should be integrated within the Scottish Business Pledge, with it linked to public-procurement criteria. They should also be mapped to existing or new indicators to allow transparent reporting, with ambitious targets set for the number of decent jobs.

Government should also support the growth of pro-social business models, such as co-operatives and employee ownership, particularly within deprived communities. These can help share prosperity by allowing communities and employees to own and control their assets, whilst helping to retain profits locally.

However, we cannot simply export poor-quality jobs. We must build on Scotland’s status as a Fair Trade Nation, by ensuring the supply chains of companies operating from Scotland fully adhere to high labour standards. The next Scottish Government should use public procurement to incentivise and reward good practice.
Oxfam is asking political parties to:

Support the growth of good jobs through the introduction of minimum standards for decent work based on the experiences of low-paid workers, use all devolved powers to promote them, and monitor progress.

Introduce minimum standards for decent work

Political parties should support the development of minimum standards of job quality following a participative exercise which specifically reaches out to people in low-paid and insecure work – as well as those who are out of work. Alongside this, we must ensure the global supply chains of companies in Scotland adhere to high labour standards.

Promote the minimum standards with a stretching compliance target

Employers should be encouraged and supported to deliver the standards through the creation of a new employer’s initiative; this could operate as a second plank to the Living-Wage Accreditation Initiative. Where possible, devolved powers should be used to compel employers to deliver the standards, including using public-procurement rules.

Create a Decent Work Index to monitor progress

Map the minimum standards for decent work to existing or new indicators so that progress can be transparently monitored and reflected within performance frameworks, alongside job numbers. Consideration should be given to developing a new workplace survey for Scotland to ensure enhanced data is available.

“The STUC enthusiastically endorses Oxfam’s positive contribution on promoting decent work in Scotland. It is tremendously encouraging to observe the increasing consensus developing amongst Scottish civil society about the social and economic importance of decent work. It is essential the Scottish Government takes note and acts on these sensible recommendations”.

Stephen Boyd, Assistant Secretary, Scottish Trades Union Congress
There can be few clearer symbols of inequality in our wealthy country than the number of people with no option but to turn to foodbanks. Oxfam responds to food crises internationally. However, we do not face a shortage of food in Scotland; large numbers of people simply cannot afford to buy the food which is available. Oxfam Scotland believes the entitlement to food is a basic human right. People should be able to feed themselves and their children in dignity, free from hunger and food insecurity whilst also accessing healthy food.

The number of food packages handed out by Scotland’s largest foodbank provider, the Trussell Trust, has increased by more than 800% in less than two years. The plethora of other foodbank providers means the real scale of hunger is likely to be significantly higher. Many people, for a variety of reasons – a lack of local facilities or transport, feelings of shame – do not use foodbanks. We must monitor and reduce this wider, but under-reported, food insecurity.

Foodbank use is a symptom of wider poverty. We must better understand who uses foodbanks, why and how they can be helped. We must ensure everyone has sufficient food, but we must focus on reducing poverty by increasing individuals’ access to sufficient and predictable income. This includes increasing the availability of decent work.

Our research shows people turn to foodbanks as a last resort when facing an acute income crisis. Low pay, insecure work and the rising cost of living are all important drivers of foodbank use and must be urgently addressed. Between a half and third of the time the income crises involved are linked to the operation of the benefits system. Canada has had foodbanks for 30 years and illustrates the shortcomings of an approach which relies on them to provide a social safety net. Over 840,000 people use foodbanks each month, 310,000 of them are children. In 2013 over a third of foodbanks reduced the food they provided because they didn’t have enough. One in 12 people were turned away or referred elsewhere due to a shortage of food. In addition, studies suggest the number of people living in food insecure households may be 4.6 times greater than the number in households receiving food from foodbanks.

In the short-term, cutting demand for foodbanks is likely to require changes to the operation of the welfare system. While many powers in this area remain reserved to Westminster, the existing Scottish Government has mitigated some of the impact on people in Scotland of UK-wide welfare reform. This mitigation approach should continue, along with ongoing Government funding for research into foodbank demand, its causes and possible solutions.

The devolution of some welfare powers will create further opportunities for the Scottish Parliament to ensure the social safety net is fit for the 21st Century – these should be fully grasped. We should also enhance access to welfare and financial advice by considering co-locating advice services with universal public services, such as health centres and schools, as well as measures to reduce transport costs for those on low-income.

It is not the state’s role to provide food directly, but it nonetheless has a duty to create the conditions for people to have enough income to feed themselves. The right to food is contained within the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR); the latter was ratified by the UK Government in 1976 and places the primary obligation on the state to ensure access to food. In Norway, in their Human Rights Act of 1999, they incorporated the ICESCR. This Covenant should also be incorporated into Scots Law. This would not end the need for foodbanks immediately but it would reframe the debate away from a charity emergency model to a focus on rights and social justice.
Oxfam Scotland is a partner of the West Dunbartonshire Community Foodshare (WDCF), which operates four outlets across the area. It has seen a large surge in demand since setting up in 2013 but it wants to move away from a charity attitude to food aid and towards the idea of a community looking after its own.

“Charitable organisations like us either had to intervene and help people in need or stand aside and let people starve. That isn’t a choice. We hoped this would be a temporary measure but we fear this is being encouraged as the new norm for delivering welfare to the destitute.”

George Kirkpatrick, Chair of WDCF

Oxfam is asking political parties to:

Use all current and future devolved powers to ensure food insecurity falls year-on-year in Scotland, transparently monitor progress, and incorporate the Right to Food into Scots Law.

Provide a detailed plan for ensuring food insecurity falls year-on-year

Political parties must provide detailed plans for using devolved powers to reduce food insecurity use year-on-year. These should seek to mitigate the acute income crises which often fuel foodbank demand. They must also recognise the deep links to poverty more widely by boosting access to advice and information on welfare rights, income maximisation and debt management, as well as the availability of secure and well-paid work.

Introduce systematic monitoring of food insecurity, including foodbank use

Currently, we are too reliant on limited data. We should track food insecurity by integrating the Food Insecurity Experience Scale into population surveys. Demand for foodbanks is an important indicator of food insecurity. However, while Trussell Trust figures are helpful, they do not capture food insecurity amongst those people who do not use a foodbank, or data from the large number of independent food-aid providers. We should be monitoring all foodbank use and referrals nationally; this is the primary responsibility of Government.

Respect, protect and fulfil the right to food within Scots Law

Commit to incorporating the right to food into the Scottish legal system. The Scottish Human Rights Commission has examined how this can be achieved, including through an Act of Parliament.

“We urge political parties to commit to a rights-based approach and adopt structures to ensure that everyone in Scotland has financial and geographical access to food which meets their dietary needs and is culturally appropriate.”

Pete Ritchie, Director, Nourish Scotland
MAXIMISE OUR GLOBAL IMPACT

“To meet the challenge of reducing global poverty, governments need to ensure that their policies on issues which go beyond aid are supportive of their development policies. This is the policy coherence for development agenda.”

OECD Deputy Secretary General Mario Amano, 2009.87

Oxfam welcomes the commitment to international aid in Scotland and across the UK. This life-saving and life-improving investment has attracted strong cross-party support. The Scottish Government’s international development programme is now more than a decade old and has endured under the stewardship of different parties.88 It is essential this continues, but aid alone is not enough: we can’t give with one hand and take with the other.

The Welsh Assembly has enacted the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act.89 This places a clear obligation on all public bodies to ensure Wales is a globally responsible nation. To fulfil this necessary and welcome duty, Wales must consider what role it wants to play in the global arena and take stock of its impact on the world.

We know everything we do in – and from – Scotland can also have an effect on the world’s poor and the planet, including: how our companies operate, government policies in areas like energy and trade, the things we buy and the tax we pay. For example, estimates suggest developing countries could be losing $160 billion per year in potential revenue due to global tax dodging.90 A coherent approach requires a reform process91 – including the creation of a new global governance body for tax – to ensure this revenue is retained to invest in public services and other poverty reduction measures.

In Scotland, we must ensure every minister, department, and Parliamentary committee shares responsibility for contributing to our common international development objective. Too often, we sacrifice long-term objectives for short-term gain. For example, despite world leading climate legislation, our carbon-emitting industries, and way of life, continue to generate excessive emissions which impact unfairly on the world’s poorest people, some of whom we support through aid. Such an incoherent approach cannot continue.

We must learn from international best practice by implementing Policy Coherence for Development (PCD).92 In doing so, Scotland can show leadership within the UK as currently no administration has adopted a formal policy-coherence approach. This is despite the 2009 Lisbon Treaty stating all European Union policies should be in support of developing countries’ development needs, or at least should not contradict the aim of poverty eradication.93

By adopting a policy-coherence approach, the next Scottish Government would set a powerful example to other organisations in Scotland – encouraging them to review the international impact of their own activities.

Sweden has made a world leading commitment to Policy Coherence for Development.94 It established a Global Development Department within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to ensure consultation on policy decisions between different departments, with individuals also acting as a focal point within each ministry. By implementing this approach, and reporting on it, Swedish civil society can push for change when they see incoherent policies.95 For example, it emerged the Government was offering tax-breaks for emission-intensive industries and funded coal plants in South Africa – with the latter halted.96

The agreement of the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) creates a moment of opportunity.97 To be achieved by 2030, the Goals place a strong emphasis on eradicating poverty and hunger, combating economic inequality, achieving gender equality, fighting climate change and securing access to quality education and healthcare. The goals are underpinned by the principles of human rights, universality and equity.

Scotland should use the SDGs as a springboard to enhance our global contribution. This will require high-level political commitment within the current and subsequent Scottish Governments, underpinned by robust and transparent reporting. It must also be informed by consultation to enable a frank assessment of Scotland’s impact on the people it aims to assist.

To date, the principles of PCD have been endorsed by a number of political parties in Scotland, they must now commit to implementing the building blocks needed to deliver it. In doing so, we will enhance our contribution to the world’s poorest people whilst ensuring we are held fully accountable for our total impact.
Policy coherence for development should be an intriguing concept for any lawmaker, as it promotes simultaneously two seemingly disparate principles: universal respect for human rights and administrative efficiency. We encourage Scotland to explore any possibilities for taking advantage of PCD.

Rilli Lappalainen, Secretary General of KEHYS, a Finnish Non-Governmental Development Organisation network. Since 2001, Finland have committed to a PCD approach in Government.

OXFAM IS ASKING POLITICAL PARTIES TO:

Ensure Scotland does not give to the world’s poorest people with one hand and take with the other by committing to a policy-coherent approach towards international development.

Establish a cross party Parliamentary committee for policy coherence

This Committee should work to agree an overarching goal for Scotland’s international development work. It should then proactively investigate the coherence of the Scottish Government’s contribution to delivering the goal.

Determine key areas of focus for policy coherence and mutual learning

The next Scottish Government should identify areas of activity to assess and proactively increase the level of policy coherence within. For example, it could emulate Finland, which piloted a focus on agriculture, fisheries, environmental, trade and development policies that affect food security. This should become a rolling process of improvement.

Establish internal Government mechanisms to ensure policy coherence

A mechanism is required to ensure the activities of all government departments are consistent with, and contribute to, our international development objectives. For example, in the Netherlands, a policy-coherence unit intervenes in the formulation and delivery of non-aid policies from the perspective of developing countries. This mechanism should be overseen by the First Minister.

Ensure transparent reporting and the involvement of wider society

The next Scottish Government should report on its policy coherence at least every two years. Reports should be made public and submitted to Parliament for scrutiny. Minutes from any internal committees should also be made public. At a minimum, civil society, academia and southern voices should be consulted on reports and case studies. The next Scottish Government should also seek ‘peer review’ from other nations pursuing a PCD approach.

"Policy coherence for development should be an intriguing concept for any lawmaker, as it promotes simultaneously two seemingly disparate principles: universal respect for human rights and administrative efficiency. We encourage Scotland to explore any possibilities for taking advantage of PCD."

Rilli Lappalainen, Secretary General of KEHYS, a Finnish Non-Governmental Development Organisation network. Since 2001, Finland have committed to a PCD approach in Government.
Good quality aid saves lives and can unlock poor people’s ability to work their own way out of poverty. The ultimate purpose of aid is to create a world in which it is no longer necessary, except in emergencies such as natural disasters. Until then, aid will continue to be vital to poor communities across the world. And it works. Aid saves the lives of millions of women, men and children after disasters. It also transforms the lives of millions more by kick-starting economic growth, helping parents feed their families and by providing vital healthcare.

Ten years after Scotland’s International Development Fund (IDF) was first introduced, it is now worth £9 million per year and it is a mature and significant tool in the fight against global poverty. It is also affordable: the IDF currently equates to just 0.025% of the Scottish Government’s total annual budget of more than £35 billion in 2014/15. Since its inception, Oxfam has been awarded more than £5 million from the Scottish Government for a range of long term development activities in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, including projects to develop sustainable supply chains.

However, good aid is predictable: poor countries must be able to plan with certainty and be confident that aid budgets will rise with inflation. The IDF has been frozen in cash terms at £9 million for six years. This means the value of the Fund has been diminished in real-terms by 1.6% from 2014-15 and by 8.6% since 2010-11. Despite domestic financial pressures, we cannot reduce the IDF’s support to the world’s poor. We must restore the Fund’s real-terms value – and maintain its value throughout the next Parliament.

The UK Government has met its commitment to spend 0.7% of Gross National Income on Official Development Assistance – a pledge made in 1970. The UK has also enshrined 0.7% into law. Given the existence of Scotland’s separate Fund, we should follow this legislative route at the Scottish Parliament to guarantee it does not lose value again.

It is essential for all actors, including Oxfam, to protect the integrity and quality of aid. The Scottish Government must ensure its aid is spent according to internationally-agreed aid-effectiveness principles. In doing so, it must ensure those people we aim to assist have a real voice and can seek redress when things go wrong. To deliver high-quality aid, sufficient resources must be invested within the Scottish Government’s International Development Team. Only by transparently maintaining best practice can we hold others to account for their aid quantity and quality.

Scotland’s international development work must be kept under review. For example, consideration should be given to increasing the priority placed on women’s rights and we must also ensure projects do not undermine the need to address climate change. We urge all parties to ensure their senior representatives fully understand global poverty, and Scotland’s contribution to addressing it, so they can effectively hold the next Scottish Government to account.

Oxfam recently funded research into the international development work of other sub-states or autonomous regions. It showed they capitalise on their domestic expertise; adopt a limited geographic or thematic focus; and integrate public awareness raising at home. The report highlighted innovative approaches to raising finance, for example, Québec applies a levy on the profits of casinos. It also emphasised the highly-participatory approach of other sub-states actors – including Catalonia, Flanders and Quebec – with a strong degree of co-operation with non-governmental organisations, and consultation with other actors, including the private sector, unions, and universities.
Oxfam’s project with smallholder farmers in Tanzania is funded by the Scottish Government. Farmers have faced food insecurity as erratic weather is making it difficult to know when to plant. The project has improved planting techniques, enhanced irrigation and brought farmers together to ensure they get a fairer price for their crops.

Asia Pascale, 54, from Bulugala village in Mbogwe District, is the breadwinner for her family of ten dependents.

As a result of Oxfam’s project, Asia has increased her rice crop ten-fold and has diversified her income by running a tea shop and selling traditional clothing.

“The weather has really mixed us up – we can no longer predict rainy seasons and therefore cannot tell when to plant the seeds... before Oxfam provided this training I literally had nothing, but now I can see change in my life.”

Oxfam is asking political parties to:

Strengthen Scotland’s support to the world’s poorest people by allocating £10m to the International Development Fund in the first year of the new Parliament, and maintain its real-terms value year-on-year.

Increase the International Development Fund to £10m per year, and legislate to maintain its value

The next Scottish Government should restore the Fund’s value by immediately increasing it to £10m. We must guard against any future cuts in the value of the Fund by passing legislation to ensure Scotland’s aid spend is, at a minimum, maintained in real terms year-on-year.

Ensure sufficient Scottish Government capacity to deliver high-quality aid

The next Scottish Government should commit to fully complying with the international standard for effective aid and good development set out in the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, established in Busan in South Korea in 2011. This requires sufficient resources within the International Development Team.

Proactively learn from others to enhance our international contribution

All political parties should commit to boosting their understanding of international development issues in order to ensure effective scrutiny of the Scottish Government’s work in this area. The next administration should also commit to proactively learning from other actors, and to reviewing and refining its approach at regular intervals.

“Scotland’s international development programme has made a substantial difference to the lives of many people in some of the poorest countries in the world. NIDOS members work in over 140 countries. A commitment to maintaining funding levels is vital.”

Annie Lewis, Chair, Network of International Development Organisations in Scotland
The number of people affected by humanitarian crises has almost doubled over the past decade and it is expected to keep on rising. Humanitarian spending is increasing, but the level of need is rising even faster.

Last year, Oxfam helped almost a third more people caught up in humanitarian disasters amid an unprecedented number of emergencies, including Ebola in West Africa and the conflicts in Syria and South Sudan. We supported 8.1 million people across 39 disasters, providing clean water, sanitation and food. Overall, we are facing a mega emergency created by a combination of: natural disasters; entrenched or emerging conflicts; and extreme weather events. Since 2000, donor governments have, on average, met less than two-thirds of the needs set out in UN humanitarian appeals.

The people of Scotland have a well-deserved reputation for responding to emergency appeals. Their generosity has been matched by successive Scottish Governments. In the last Parliament, with cross party support, the Government provided funding for emergencies in East Africa, Gaza, Syria, the Philippines and Nepal. In 2014/15, it committed over £1m. This support is vital but good practice requires a predictable and transparent structure for emergency funding. To achieve this, and to ensure speed of response, the Scottish Government should set-up an ‘International Emergency Fund’, including proportionate application criteria. The fund would be small but it would demonstrate critical leadership.

This ‘International Emergency Fund’ will enable Scottish NGOs to respond to crises even when the media spotlight is not there. For example, the crisis in Yemen has remained out of the media despite 21 million people, 84% of the population, being in need of humanitarian aid. Globally, the funding provided has been inadequate. Such funding gaps highlight the underlying inequality of aid with a person’s life in one crisis valued higher than in another.

Given the critical role played by the International Development Fund in helping the world’s poorest people escape poverty – increasing their resilience to future disasters – it is essential this funding remains secure. For this reason, and reflecting existing practice, the new International Emergency Fund should be additional to wider aid commitments.

However, the scale of the suffering means that Scotland’s response must extend beyond funding alone. The number of displaced people and refugees resulting from emergencies has reached critical, and record, levels: at the end of 2014 there was almost 60 million.

Scotland has a proud history of providing sanctuary, including to Jewish refugees during World War II, and, over the last 20 years, accepting refugees from Bosnia, Kosovo and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Immigration and asylum are reserved issues to the UK Government but it’s vital that Scotland continues to play its part. Refugee integration into Scotland is a devolved issue.

Refugees are entitled to international protection but wealthy countries should go beyond their basic legal obligations. It cannot be right that less developed countries and regions host 86% of refugees. The surge in refugee numbers – particularly those fleeing Syria – has sparked enormous public concern in Scotland. We welcome the cross-party response and the Scottish Government, and Scottish Parliament, should continue to do everything they can within devolved powers to help, including supporting local councils to take part in resettlement schemes. We should build on Glasgow’s ‘city of sanctuary’ status whilst learning from past refugee integration.

In addition, and whilst recognising the UK’s record as a leading emergency funder, the Scottish Government, and Scottish Parliament, should continue to urge all countries to accept their ‘Fair Share’ of refugees from Syria. Striking the right balance between helping people within the region and those who have fled will be crucial – whilst supporting efforts to bring the conflict to an end.
The Scottish Government contributed £800,000 worth of aid and equipment to the Ebola crisis response in West Africa in 2015. Oxfam responded in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Mali, Gambia, Guinea Bissau and Senegal. The team of hygienists (pictured above) are from the Oxfam-managed Kumala Community Care Centre in Sierra Leone. Hygienist Bintu Kabba (right) was shunned when she first started working at the centre. Perceptions have changed after the positive impact was seen by residents. Bintu is hailed a hero amongst her neighbours for refusing to give up in the fight against the disease and for encouraging other women to join her on the frontline.

“I have witnessed first-hand the destruction and despair that a humanitarian crisis can bring. While each is different, and requires different responses, the one consistent priority in each emergency is the need for financial assistance at the earliest opportunity.”

Jenny Lamb, Public Health Engineering Advisor for Oxfam. Jenny is from Scotland and has worked in Haiti, Sri Lanka, Syria, Indonesia, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia and Chad.

Oxfam is asking political parties to:

Respond to the surge in global humanitarian need, by creating an International Emergency Fund, with an initial £1m allocation per year, and promote Scotland as a ‘nation of sanctuary’ for refugees.

Create an International Emergency Fund with guaranteed minimum funding of £1m per year

This Fund will provide clarity over the minimum level of funding each year. It is essential this is a floor, not a ceiling – leaving scope to respond as humanitarian need dictates. Any under-spend should be rolled forward to future years.

Respond on the basis of need alone

As well as large emergencies, the Fund should help finance responses to ‘smaller’ disasters. The Core Humanitarian Standards should provide the foundation for the Fund’s operation to ensure it is both effective and accountable.

Promote Scotland as a ‘nation of sanctuary’ for refugees

The next Scottish Government must do all it can – including providing financial support – to support the resettlement of refugees under schemes such as the European Gateway Programme and the Vulnerable Person’s Relocation Scheme. It should support local councils to take part and seek the removal of barriers to achieving this.
DELIVER CLIMATE JUSTICE

“...the impacts of climate change are undermining a whole range of human rights: rights to food, safe water and health and education... so for me it’s a very, very serious issue of human rights.”

Mary Robinson, UN special envoy for climate change, 2013.

Despite their doing the least to cause it, climate change affects the poor hardest. It isn’t just destroying lives; it is wiping out the development gains that people and governments have worked so hard to build.

Climate change is playing havoc with our weather, with droughts and floods becoming increasingly frequent; disrupting growing seasons, killing livestock, destroying harvests, and leading to soaring global food prices. Millions of people are going hungry. Women are on the frontline: they make up a disproportionate share of the number of people estimated to have been displaced by climate change and are often less able to recover from environmental shocks.

The science is clear: global warming must stay well below 2°C to avoid irreversible climate impacts. Without determined political will – and action – we risk derailing development and placing the prosperity of everyone at risk.

Oxfam knows the world’s poorest people are already losing out. The Scottish Parliament’s cross-party support for climate justice is therefore highly welcome. However, at just £6 million, the funding allocated in the last Parliament to Scotland’s innovative Climate Justice Fund undervalues our contribution to climate change and its impact. By increasing the Fund, and by making funding rounds more predictable, Scotland can credibly call on others to increase their climate finance at a time when more funding is urgently needed.

Funding from the Climate Justice Fund has enabled Oxfam to help small-holder farmers, mainly women, in Zambia cope with the effects of climate change.

“Apart from training in land rights, we have been trained in gardening, water and natural resource management, which have economically and socially empowered me. I no longer have to migrate to the river for fishing in winter because my family and I now have adequate land to grow enough food. I am happy that my children are able to attend school throughout the year.”

Hilda Maila, mum of four, from Kazungula, 2013.

However, an enhanced commitment to climate justice will be a hollow measure without cutting our current and future emissions. We welcome the political consensus on this issue in Scotland. The Scottish Parliament unanimously passed the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, committing to reduce our emissions by at least 42% by 2020 and 80% by 2050. Progress is being made but the first four annual targets have been missed. Scotland won international credit as a progressive actor for passing the Act; this will be undermined without sufficient policy change.

The leaders of all five political parties currently represented in the Scottish Parliament have signed a Climate Change Agreement committing to ambitious climate action. Assessing Scotland’s performance, the UK Committee on Climate Change is clear that more action is needed to meet future targets. A new plan – including robust and credible measures for meeting Scotland’s climate promise – should be a top priority for the next Scottish Government.

Fossil fuels are the single biggest driver of climate change and, to avoid dangerous warming, up to 80% of known reserves must stay in the ground. Rich countries need to lead the transition to a fossil free future by 2050. The closure of the coal-fired Longannet Power Station will remove one source of Scotland’s emissions. However, to date, climate change remains too low a priority in discussions about the exploitation of North Sea oil.

In 2014, Lord Stern’s ‘New Climate Economy’ report made clear that moving to a low-carbon economy is compatible with growth. In Germany, there are now in excess of 400,000 workers in the clean-energy industry – exceeding the number in the dirty fossil-fuel industry they replaced. With a quarter of Europe’s offshore-wind and tidal energy potential, and around 10% of its wave-power capacity, Scotland should be at the forefront of a low carbon economy. Oxfam notes that the agreement in relation to the Fossil Fuel Levy means any surplus funds generated in future will be split equally between the Scottish and UK governments. Wherever possible, this revenue should be used to stimulate further investment within renewable energy in Scotland.
The world faces twin challenges: delivering a decent standard of living for everyone, whilst living within our environmental limits. These two interwoven concerns are depicted by Oxfam’s Doughnut model. It allows people to visualise a space between the ‘environmental ceiling’ (the outer edge of the Doughnut) and a ‘social foundation’ (the inner edge), where it is environmentally and socially safe, but also just for humanity to exist. It is where we must aim to reach.

We assessed Scotland’s performance using this model and found that our existing model of development is both unjust and unsustainable. Almost a fifth of households live in relative poverty in Scotland and too many people go hungry. Meanwhile, in all but one of the environmental indicators used, Scotland fails to stay within safe limits.

**THE SCOTTISH DOUGHNUT**

**OXFAM IS ASKING POLITICAL PARTIES TO:**

**Meet our climate targets and support those hit by climate change by increasing the Climate Justice Fund to match the International Development Fund by the end of the next Parliament – with an immediate £3m annual commitment.**

**Support those affected by the climate change we helped create**

Immediately increase the Climate Justice Fund to £3 million per year, and gradually increase its value to match the International Development Fund by the end of the next Parliament. It should be funded by the Scottish Government, with any private funding or in-kind contribution additional – with conflicts-of-interests prevented.

The next Scottish Government will manage the Crown Estate in Scotland; the total value of which was £267 million in 2013/14, with overall revenues generated of £13.6 million. The Government should use its future management role to encourage renewable-energy projects in order to generate new revenue for both local communities and the Climate Justice Fund. Other revenue streams like an Aggregates Levy could also be explored as a source of finance.

**Deliver the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, ensuring a just transition**

Outline a credible, fully-costed and transparent plan to deliver the Act. As agreed in the Scottish Party Leaders’ Climate Change Agreement, ensure all policy commitments are “consistent with delivering the ambitions of Scotland’s Climate Change Act”. The creation of a Cabinet Sub-Committee on Climate Change by the current Scottish Government is encouraging. As a member of Stop Climate Chaos Scotland, we have highlighted key policy areas that need to change: ranging from transforming our approach to capital investment to new measures to reduce emissions from transport and boosting energy efficiency.

“It is imperative that our climate commitments are delivered, through ambitious policy action to reduce Scotland’s emissions. In doing so, we will also create a forward-looking, low carbon country which benefits people here while also addressing climate justice for those already feeling the impacts overseas.”

Tom Ballantine, Chair, Stop Climate Chaos Scotland
“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”


Invest in Global Citizenship

Education is the bedrock on which a nation builds itself: it instils knowledge and values within its citizens. Oxfam believes education here can help fight poverty and inequality everywhere. However, in a fast-changing and complex world, it is essential we help young people become critically aware citizens.

Global Citizenship is how pupils in Scotland currently receive that vital education. It offers them the opportunity to think about complex global issues within the safety of the classroom whilst exploring, developing and expressing their values and opinions, whilst listening to, and respecting, those of others.

The Curriculum for Excellence cites that Global Citizenship is at its heart. The Learning for Sustainability report, accepted by the Scottish Government, also makes clear that Global Citizenship is an entitlement for young people. For that entitlement to be realised, teachers must be empowered and feel confident in delivering it. The need for this is further reinforced by the decision to give the Scottish Parliament the power to extend the vote to 16 and 17 year olds. We must support young people to hold our politicians and decision-makers to account.

Oxfam is a founding member of the International Development Education Association of Scotland (IDEAS). The six Development Education Centres (DECs) within IDEAS are one of the main ways teachers and youth workers are supported to deliver Global Citizenship. These centres complement and support the work of Education Scotland, with each centre having an extensive library of resources exploring issues like human rights, the environment and gender.

In 2013, Scotland’s DECs received £600,000 from the Scottish Government – spread over two years – to provide strictly impartial support to schools across Scotland. This funding had the dual purpose of securing the DECs’ immediate future, whilst enabling them to identify alternative funding streams. This has yielded positive results, with a three-fold increase in the number of teachers trained; rising from 691 teachers in 2013/14 to 2,172 teachers in 2014/15.

However, this financial backing ends in April 2016. The process of identifying and applying for third-party funding is progressing; it is essential for the Scottish Government’s core support to be sustained during this period.

It is also crucial that pupils in Scotland benefit from European and other funding streams. By offering match funding to Scottish organisations applying for funding from outwith Scotland, the Scottish Government can leverage more investment into Global Citizenship in Scotland.

For example, in 2012, the IDEAS network and the Scottish Development Education Centre (Scotdec) in Edinburgh secured funding from the European Commission, but required match funding. The Scottish Government provided a total of £108,000 co-financing. This secured an extra £680,000 from the European Union (EU) – increasing the value of the Scottish Government’s contribution more than six-fold.

Expanded, and more predictable, access to such match funding is needed, as organisations in Scotland must now join with partners from several other EU member states to attract European funding. This creates major extra workload and securing co-financing at an early stage can be critical to an application’s success.

We therefore call for the creation of a new Scottish Co-Financing Fund, with an initial £200,000 allocation. Modelled on the International Development Fund, we propose it includes a small-grants component. IDEAS has gained significant experience of applying for EU funding and could support other organisations to apply.

Finally, as we work to secure the future of Global Citizenship in Scotland – and realise the entitlement contained within the Curriculum for Excellence – we must robustly measure our success within future performance frameworks.
IDEAS supported learners aged between 13 and 14 in Dundee to explore gender inequalities in education as part of their Religious and Moral Education lessons. The pupils produced an ‘issue tree’ and used it to identify the impacts and root causes of gender inequalities in education and possible solutions.

“What shone through was the pupils’ feeling of injustice. We often assume our pupils are de-sensitised to many of the issues, but when given the opportunity to really explore an issue – its root causes, the impact it actually has on people, and possible solutions – the pupils were sharing their opinions, discussing ideas and listening to each other. They knew globally how much their voice counted.”

Katie Kirk, teacher of Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies, Craigie High School.

“Education must assume its essential role in overcoming poverty and inequality. The IDEAS network fully supports Oxfam’s call for action to improve the quantity and quality of provision in education for global citizenship within Scotland.”

Dr Malcolm Bain, Chair, IDEAS

OXFAM IS ASKING POLITICAL PARTIES TO:
Create a more informed and globally-aware population in Scotland by continuing to fund the Development Education Centres and by introducing a Co-financing Fund.

Provide core funding for the Development Education Centres for the lifetime of the next Scottish Parliament
We call on Scotland’s political parties to continue funding the Centres while they pursue new funding streams.

Create a Scottish Co-Financing Fund
The current Scottish Government’s willingness to provide match funding has been welcome, but ad hoc. This model should be extended and formalised through the creation of a £200,000-a-year Scottish Co-financing Fund.

Monitoring Provision of Global Citizenship Education
A robust and transparent monitoring system should be implemented to ensure the entitlement to Global Citizenship within the Curriculum for Excellence is delivered in full.
NOTES


3 The Brookings Institution has developed scenarios that demonstrate, in a scenario where global inequality is reduced, 463 million more people are lifted out of poverty compared with a scenario where inequality increases – cited in Oxfam [2014] ‘Even It Up, Time to End Extreme Inequality’, p.9, https://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/file_attachments/cr-even-it-up-extreme-inequality-201104-368.pdf


5 Oxfam Press Release [2015], Richest 1% will own more than all the rest by 2016, http://www.oxfam.org.uk/blogs/2015/01/richest-1-per-cent-will-own-more-than-all-the-rest-by-2016


16 Wilkinson and Pickett [2009] ‘The Spirit Level: Why equality is better for everyone’


22 Poverty and Social Exclusion Survey [2014], http://www.poverty.ac.uk/editorial/scottish-poverty-study-calls-governments-tackle-rising-deprivation

23 Ibid

24 For more information see the Humankind Index website, http://humankindindex.org/


27 Successive Scottish Government’s have had various inequality targets and indicators. These include the solidarity target within the ‘National Performance Framework’, http://www.gov.scot/About/Performance/scotPerforms/purpose/solidarity
and the Indicators of Progress within ‘Social Justice: a Scotland where everyone matters’ [2003],
http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2003/12/18693/31947

However the Social Justice Indicators no longer exist and the Solidarity target is not particularly meaningful given it has remained largely static for the last 10 years.


29 This approach is similar to the work of Dan Ariely. See, for example, Ariely, D and Norton, M [2011] ‘Building a better America - one wealth quintile at a time’,
http://pps.sagepub.com/content/6/1/9

30 Bell, D and Eiser, D have undertaken a number of studies into inequality in Scotland in recent years. See: Bell and Eiser [2013] ‘Inequality in Scotland: trends, drivers and implications for the independence debate’,
http://www.esrc.ac.uk/_images/Inequality%20paper%2013%20Nov%20Final_tcm8-28912.pdf
and Bell and Eiser (2015),

http://knarf.english.upenn.edu/Smith/tms133.html


34 Oxfam (2015) ‘Having it all and wanting more’,

35 Oxfam (2014) ‘Even It Up, Time to end extreme inequality’ pp.16-17,
http://policy-practice.oxfam.org.uk/publications/even-it-up-time-to-end-extreme-inequality-333012

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/elitist-britain

http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/08/3720

http://economics.mit.edu/files/722

39 Scottish Government (2015) ‘Additional Analysis of Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland: 2013/14’, shows that 36% of people in minority ethnic groups were in poverty after housing costs were taken into account compared with 17% of people from the ‘White – British’ group in 2013/14,

40 23% of people in a family with a disabled adult were in poverty after housing costs were taken into account compared with 16% of people in a family without a disabled adult. Scottish Government (2015) ‘Additional Analysis of Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland: 2013/14’,

41 Feeney, M and Collins, C [2015] ‘Tea in the Pot: Building ‘social capital’ or a ‘great good place’ in Govan?’, third report of UWS-Oxfam collaborative research reports series,

42 For more information see the Humankind Index website,
http://humankindindex.org/

43 Poverty Truth Commission blogspot,
http://povertythutchcommission.blogspot.co.uk/

44 Bhatnagar, D ; Rathore, A ; Moreno Torres, M ; Kanungo, P (2003) ‘Participatory Budgeting in Brazil’, World Bank case study,

45 Oxfam were involved in a participatory budgeting exercise in Govanhill. For further information about that see Harkins, J and Egan, J [2012] ‘The role of Participatory Budgeting in promoting localism and mobilising community assets. But where next for Participatory Budgeting in Scotland?’
http://www.gcph.co.uk/publications/321_participatory_budgeting-learning_from_govanhill_equally_well_test_site

46 For more information see the Humankind Index website,
http://humankindindex.org/

47 Scotland’s Commissioner for Children and Young People, http://www.sccyp.org.uk/


49 Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act,

50 Pope Francis Tweet (24 June 2014),
https://twitter.com/pontifex/status/481367133494865922

51 For example, Scottish Government (2015) ‘Scotland’s Economic Strategy’, states: “Bringing more people into the labour market is key to tackling poverty, inequality and social deprivation and improving health and wellbeing”,
http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/03/5984/


While there is a lack of reliable information on zero-hour contracts (in part due to the likelihood that increased awareness has led to greater reporting) the Office for National Statistics figures suggest large increases in recent years – including a rise of 19% between the second quarter of 2014 and the second quarter of 2015. Based on figures from the Labour Force Survey and an ONS survey of business it estimates there are now 1.5 million zero-hour contracts impacting on 744,000 individuals. ONS [2015] ‘Employee contracts that do not guarantee a minimum number of hours: 2015 Update’, http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lmac/contracts-with-no-guaranteed-hours/zero-hour-contracts--2015/summary.html


ONS data suggests that the 1.1 million increase in total employment between 2008-2014, 732,000 were self-employed and 339,000 were employees. Median incomes for the self-employed fell 22% to £207 per week during this period. ONS [2014] ‘Self employed workers in the UK – 2014’, http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171776-374541.pdf


For more information see the Humankind Index webpage, http://www.humankindindex.org.uk


The Scottish Business Pledge website, http://www.scottishbusinesspledge.scot/


The Scottish Living Wage Accreditation, http://scottishlivingwage.org/accreditation


For example West Dunbartonshire Community Foodshare showed a 51% increase in its service between December 2013 and January 2014, http://www.foodaidscotland.org/


For example West Dunbartonshire Community Foodshare showed a 51% increase in its service between December 2013 and January 2014, http://www.foodaidscotland.org/


143 Stop Climate Chaos Scotland, (SCCS) is a diverse coalition of organisations in Scotland campaigning together on climate change, http://www.stopclimatechaos.org/


148 International Development Education Association Scotland (IDEAS) is a network of organisations and individuals across Scotland that actively support and promote development education and education for global development. http://www.ideas-forum.org.uk/


149a Northern Star report [2015], ‘Interim Evaluation Core Funding of DECs’ Summer 2015’ Report available on request


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More information about the Even It Up campaign can be found at http://www.oxfam.org.uk/get-involved/campaign-with-us/find-an-action/even-it-up

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“Oxfam is standing in solidarity with people everywhere who are demanding a more equal world, and an end to extreme inequality.”

Winnie Byanyima
Executive Director of Oxfam International