

**Scottish Government International Development Programme
Mid-Year Report**

Notes for Completion:

- Please note, with the exception of the cover page, this report will be published.
- To ensure compliance with GDPR, refrain from using any personal or identifying information unless you have obtained consent from the data subject and are content for this to be made public.
- Answer all questions in the template provided, noting the word limits.
- Include all relevant information in the reporting template – hyperlinks and annexes will not be accepted as part of the report.
- Ensure answers are clear, concise and in plain English. Explain acronyms and avoid using jargon.

<p>Supporting Documentation</p> <p><i>Check box to confirm key documents have been submitted with this report</i></p>	<p>Logical Framework, which reflects any changes in this reporting period.</p> <p>Budget</p> <p>Case study</p> <p>Risk register</p>	<p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X (See Section 5)</p>
<p>As the project manager responsible for the completion of this report, I hereby confirm the information included is accurate and complies with the notes for completion.</p>		
<p>Scotland-based Project Manager: [redacted]</p>	<p>Signature: [redacted]</p>	

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1. General project information		
1.1	Project reference Number	MAL/18/04 - UoG
1.2	Name of organisation	University of Glasgow
1.3	Lead partner(s) organisation	University of Glasgow and University of Malawi College of Medicine
1.4	Project title	Towards a Dental School for Malawi – The MalDent Project
1.5	Reporting period	From: 01/04/2019 To: 30/09/2019
1.6	Reporting year	Year 2 (2019)
1.7	Project start date	01/10/2018
1.8	Project end date	31/03/2023
1.9	Total project budget*	£3,892,424
1.10	Total funding from Scottish Government*	£1,312,424
1.11	Provide a brief description of the project's aims, highlighting which of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) your project is working towards? (200 words)	<p>The aims of the project are threefold:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To establish a successful Bachelor of Dental Surgery degree programme at the University of Malawi College of Medicine, to enable Malawi to train its own cadre of dental surgeons. This includes curriculum development, staffing strategy, support with delivery of teaching and the design of a building on the Blantyre campus which will accommodate dental student clinical instruction. 2. To develop a national Oral Health Policy and Implementation Strategy for Malawi, through joint working between clinical academic staff in Scottish dental schools, the School of Public Health & Family Medicine at the University of Malawi College of Medicine and the Malawi Government Ministry of Health. 3. To establish a programme for prevention of dental disease in children, based upon Scotland's Childsmile model. Development of the programme will be supported by an under-pinning research programme to evaluate models of delivery, with particular emphasis on supervised toothbrushing in schools. Following the appropriate proof of concept work, the prevention programme will be integrated into the Oral Health Policy for Malawi.

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		These aims address particularly the ‘ <i>good health and well-being</i> ’, ‘ <i>quality education</i> ’, ‘ <i>reduced inequalities</i> ’ and ‘ <i>partnership for the goals</i> ’ components of the Sustainable Development Goals.
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2. Project progress and results

Please use this section to give an update on the progress the project has made during this reporting period.

2.1 Provide an update on the progress your project has made during this reporting period. Use this space to update us on what has gone well and any challenges you have experienced, detailing how you have overcome these. (Max 350 words)

1. Staffing

The administrator to support the Malawi Project Lead commenced her post in June 2019 (SGID funded).

Two Clinical Lecturers (0.4 full time equivalents each) have been appointed (CoM funded).

Four junior dentists (overseas trained) have been identified to spend one year at Wits University in South Africa undergoing postgraduate training before appointment as Assistant Lecturers (CoM funded).

A Malawian candidate has applied for the role of academic head of the BDS programme.

2. BDS programme

Following approval of the Bachelor of Dental Surgery programme on 21 March 2019, 10 students were identified to join the BDS 1 programme for the 2019/2020 session and a further 15 to join the Foundation Programme to prepare for BDS entry in 2020.

The BDS programme was officially launched on 22nd August with an opening ceremony. An induction and orientation programme for the new students was held from 19th – 22nd August.

The curriculum has been formally approved by the Medical Council of Malawi, which complimented the College of Medicine on the quality of the documentation.

3. Design of dental teaching facility on the Blantyre campus

[redacted] Glasgow School of Art, led preparations and facilitation of a site visit and building design workshop at the College of Medicine in Blantyre on 5th and 6th September 2019. This event included multiple stakeholders from the College, Government and colleagues from the University of Malawi Department of Architecture, Polytechnic. A local architecture practice, with previous experience of working on the existing campus, also participated. Work is underway to confirm a schedule of accommodation which will permit construction costs to be determined and a detailed proposal prepared to share with potential funders of the capital costs.

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	<p>4. Additional grants awarded to support MalDent Project activities</p> <p><i>Tropical Health and Education Trust:</i> £9,378 to Bridge2Aid and Dental Association of Malawi to support establishment of a formal partnership to underpin task-shifting of emergency dentistry to Medical Assistants.</p> <p><i>Borrow Foundation:</i> \$75,000 to support a national child oral health survey to provide a baseline measure of disease prevalence against which the efficacy of preventive interventions can be measured.</p>
2.2	<p>Have you experienced any delays to planned activities? Provide full details including what action is being taken to bring activities back on track.(Max 350 words)</p> <p>A source of delay to the initiation of work on the national Oral Health Policy, which was notified in the End of Year 1 report, was the need to appoint a new lead for oral health at the Ministry of Health following the resignation of the previous incumbent. An appointment was made by the Ministry in the Spring of 2019 but sadly, the appointee died suddenly in May 2019 and the post is vacant again. At a meeting In September 2019 with [redacted] for Malawi, he requested that the MalDent Project should progress this work without a Ministry of Health lead. Accordingly the working group is now being put together with members from the University of Malawi College of Medicine, University of Glasgow and other project stakeholders with relevant expertise. The Ministry of Health will be updated regularly on progress.</p>
2.3	<p>Are you on track to meet your year-end milestones? Give details of any areas that are behind, and how you plan to overcome this. (Max 350 words)</p> <p>The milestones for the BDS curriculum establishment and student enrolment are on-track. Student and staff feedback will be collected towards the end of the academic year and the detail may be reported early in Year 3 as opposed to late in Year 2.</p> <p>The design of the building on the Blantyre campus was scheduled as an end of year milestone for Year 2. Whilst this work is now underway, the initial delay in determining the process to include both Scottish and Malawian architects has pushed this component of the project slightly further along. The design may be achieved by 31 March 2020, but there could be a slight delay.</p> <p>The training of two bioengineering students in dental equipment technology is well ahead in the planning phase. The decision on whether to link with the Malawi University of Science & Technology and / or the University of Malawi Polytechnic is still under consideration by the College of Medicine. There may be an advantage to delaying the training until Year 3, which would be closer to the time of construction of the new facility and installation of its equipment.</p> <p>The identification of the Scottish members of the Oral Health Policy Working Group have been identified and have very recently confirmed the membership of two academic colleagues from the School of Public Health & Family Medicine at the</p>

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	<p>University of Malawi College of Medicine. We anticipate the first formal meeting of the key players to take place in the spring of 2020.</p> <p>None of these issues puts the overall outputs of the project in jeopardy at this stage.</p>
<p>3. Partnerships and collaboration</p> <p>This section allows you to discuss how partnership working is progressing on the project, as well as wider collaboration and sharing of learning.</p>	
3.1	<p>Provide an update on how partnership working has gone during this reporting period. Let us know about any highlights, challenges or changes to roles and responsibilities. (Max 350 words)</p> <p>The University of Glasgow and the University of Malawi College of Medicine (CoM) continue to have an excellent working relationship with very regular contact.</p> <p>The Dental Association of Malawi (DAM) has a central role in the Project on multiple fronts. [redacted] funded by the Tropical Health & Education Trust, to pursue a task-shifting initiative in emergency dentistry for Medical Assistants in rural Malawi. [redacted] engaged closely in meetings between the Ministry of Health, B2A, the MalDent Project [redacted] the Ministry approved the concept of the task-shifting initiative as part of its healthcare workforce development strategy. Subsequently [redacted] attended a conference organised in Mzuzu in September 2019 by the charity Smileawi and involving B2A, during which the task-shifting concept was shared with dental therapists, all of whom were very enthusiastic about the role they would play in the programme.</p> <p>A new partnership has developed with the Glasgow School of Art. [redacted], is partnering in the work to design a building that will house the dental teaching on the Blantyre campus of the CoM. In September he visited Blantyre, together with two senior architecture students, to undertake a site visit and lead a design workshop, which was attended by multiple stakeholders from the College of Medicine. [redacted] visited the Department of Architecture at the University of Malawi Polytechnic to meet with the [redacted], who subsequently attended the workshop and participated in the group work and discussions. A further element of this partnership was with a local company of architects which has previous involvement in design of buildings on the Blantyre campus. This close network of Scottish and Malawian architects, staff and students provides outstanding opportunities for joint learning.</p>
3.2	<p>Have any international visits to the project taken place in this period? Give details including key activities and outputs of these visits.</p>

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	Four visits have taken place as outlined below.	
Date of visit	Key achievements / outputs of visit	Follow-up actions
9-16 May 2019 (funded from the original £60K pump-priming grant)	<p>1. Installation of 12 dental chairs, 6 phantom head units and other items of dental equipment at the Dental Department, Kamuzu Central Hospital. Installation was undertaken by the charity Dentaid and the dental supply company Henry Schein. Four additional chairs were transported to Blantyre as part of a refurbishment of the Dental Department at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.</p> <p>2. Meeting with Ministry of Health [redacted], Dental Association of Malawi and College of Medicine to discuss establishment of Oral Health Policy Working Group.</p> <p>3. Meeting to discuss supply chains for consumables and equipment for the new BDS programme. Present: [redacted]</p>	<p>This installation was Phase 1 of the refurbishment of the Dental Department at Kamuzu Central Hospital, Lilongwe. Additional equipment is now being collected within the UK (dental chairs and phantom head units) via Dentaid with a view to sending a further container of equipment and undertaking a second installation visit in 2020.</p> <p>At this meeting, it was agreed that the Ministry of Health would lead this part of the project. [redacted] MaDent Project team should take this work forward independently, but keeping the Ministry of Health informed.</p> <p>This was a preliminary meeting to identify mechanisms of working and existing challenges.</p> <p>The outcome was the need to develop a formal Procurement Plan before clinical training of the BDS students commences in 2021.</p>

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<p>7-18 June 2019</p>	<p>1. Meetings in Lilongwe between Bridge2Aid, the Dental Association of Malawi, the Ministry of Health, Medical Council of Malawi and Christian Health Association of Malawi to gain approval for a pilot study to examine the suitability of a programme to task shift emergency dentistry to Medical Assistants in rural Malawi. The concept was approved in principle, pending submission of a note for consideration by the Ministry of Health Technical Group.</p> <p>2. Visit to the College of Medicine campus in Blantyre for meetings with other members of the MalDent team and to link with two students who were visiting from Glasgow Dental School. This student visit was to begin the process of developing a student exchange programme between the new BDS students in Malawi and those in Glasgow.</p>	<p>Follow-up has already happened:</p> <p>i) Bridge2Aid and the Dental Association of Malawi submitted a summary of the proposal for the Ministry of Health Technical Group to consider.</p> <p>ii) Bridge2Aid and the Dental Association of Malawi spoke to therapists at the Smileawi Conference in Mzuzu in September 2019 about the 'task shifting' proposal for Medical Assistants. There will be a key role for therapists.</p> <p>iii) The pilot Dental Training Programme now has full approval from the Ministry of Health and is scheduled for June 2020.</p> <p>A further cohort of students from both Glasgow and Dundee Dental Schools has shown interest in visiting Malawi in June 2020 for their elective project studies. These students will be able to network with the Malawian BDS 1 students who will just have completed Year 1 by June 2020.</p>

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	<p>3. Travel to Mzuzu to participate in a CPD Conference for Dental Therapists. [redacted] delivered a lecture on antimicrobial stewardship and provided an update on the MalDent Project. This included mentioning the plans to establish a task-shifting training programme in emergency dentistry for Medical Assistants.</p> <p>4. Meeting with [redacted] who were undertaking a pilot child oral health survey in six Malawian schools. This pilot study would inform the national child oral health survey that is being funded by the Borrow Foundation.</p>	<p>A feedback questionnaire was developed and administered to the conference attendees. The data were analysed and reported in an MSc dissertation by an overseas postgraduate student studying at Glasgow Dental School.</p> <p>Data were collected from 2,200 children – the largest child oral health survey to date in Malawi. All the data are now being analysed at the University of Glasgow and will form the basis of a peer-reviewed publication.</p> <p>Lessons learned about the logistics of undertaking oral examinations of children in a school setting will inform the national survey that will follow.</p>
<p>15-24 August 2019</p>	<p>1. [redacted] participated in the first of this year's 'Flying Faculty' visits to the new BDS course. They devised a teaching programme and delivered it jointly with [redacted]. The first session included a welcome from the [redacted].</p>	<p>The teaching materials that had been prepared and the sessions themselves worked well, providing a blueprint for use at the next induction in 2020.</p> <p>The next Flying Faculty visit is scheduled for 16-22 March. This fits into the timetabling of the MB BS teaching which forms a major component of the BDS 1 course. Three</p>

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	<p>2. The official launch of the BDS course took place on 22nd August 2019. [redacted]. The event was attended by the local media.</p> <p>3. On 20th August [redacted] were taken to visit the Malawi University of Science & Technology by [redacted] We enjoyed a meeting chaired by [redacted] We covered two areas of interest:</p> <p>i) The possibility of engaging with MUST over the delivery of teaching of dental equipment maintenance and repair linked to their Biomedical Engineering degree course.</p> <p>ii) The longer-term possibility of establishing a dental outreach teaching facility in the new hospital at MUST.</p>	<p>academic staff from the University of Glasgow and four staff from Wits University in Johannesburg will support the local faculty members in delivery of the 'Introduction to Dentistry' course.</p> <p>No follow-up actions required.</p> <p>Discussions are ongoing with the College of Medicine regarding the next stage. There is undoubtedly a significant opportunity for joint working with MUST.</p>
<p>3-8 September 2019</p>	<p>[redacted] visited the Blantyre campus of the College of Medicine with [redacted] to undertake a site survey and facilitate a workshop to begin the design of the dental teaching building. The workshop involved multiple stakeholders and a local Malawian architecture practice, as well as staff and students from the</p>	<p>A very successful event with tremendous sharing of ideas and joint learning.</p> <p>In addition to the specific dental teaching facilities, the building will incorporate a student hub and generic teaching spaces so that the building can be used for educational and social purposes by all staff and students on the campus.</p>

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	University of Malawi School of Architecture.	A detailed schedule of accommodation is currently being compiled to facilitate the costing of the building. This, in turn, will form the basis of a proposal to share with potential capital funders.
4. Safeguarding and fraud		
Please ensure you complete questions 4.1 and 4.2 even if you have no incidents to report.		
4.1	Have there been any incidents, relating to the Grant or the Project, in the last reporting period which contravene your safeguarding policy?	
	There have been no incidents relating to the Grant or Project which contravene our safeguarding policy	
4.2	Have there been any incidents in the last reporting period of financial mismanagement or fraud, relating to the Grant or the Project?	
	There have been no incidents of financial mismanagement or fraud relating to the Grant or Project.	
4.3	Have these incidents been reported to relevant authorities, and if so, to whom?	
	Not applicable	
4.4	Describe what action has been taken, and highlight any lessons learned.	
	Not applicable	
5. Risk assessment		
5.1	Have any issues materialised during this reporting period? If so, how were they addressed?	
	No issues have materialised during this reporting period. One of the risks we identified in the original application was related to recruitment of staff, but early indications (see narrative above) are that this may be less challenging than previously thought.	

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	<i>Please refer to risk assessment provided at application stage.</i>		
Assumption	Risk	Action taken	Was this included in the Risk Assessment Table in your application?
6. Financial information			
This section will be reviewed alongside your mid-year budget spreadsheet, which must be included with this report.			
6.1	Explain any variances to planned expenditure in this period. (Max 350 words)		
	<p>The expenditure in this financial year is not following a linear pattern, but this was anticipated. A significant amount of spend is still to be incurred before 31 March 2020. The following explanations are relevant:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We have not yet received from the University of Malawi College of Medicine all the receipts for costs that it has incurred from the most recent advance payment that was sent from the University of Glasgow. This includes implementation costs for the building design workshop held in Blantyre in September 2019. We have therefore been unable to make a further advance payment at this stage. 2. The work on the Oral Health Policy is about to start now that all the members of the Working Group have been identified. This will involve a workshop in Malawi in February 2020 (potentially dovetailing with the Blantyre – Blantyre Laboratory opening) with all the associated travel, subsistence and hosting expenses. 3. The second Flying Faculty session of the year is scheduled for 16-22 March 2020. Three faculty members from Glasgow and five from South Africa will collaborate with local faculty in Blantyre during this concentrated week of teaching. <p>These activities, which are central to the implementation of both outcomes in the log-frame, are estimated to bring the overall expenditure largely into line with the projected budget.</p>		

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6.2	<p>At this stage, does your projected expenditure look to be on track? If not, outline the reasons why, and what plans are in place to bring spending back on track. If you are requesting changes to your budget at this stage, outline them below. (Max 350 words)</p>
	<p>As explained in 6.1 above, at this stage we believe that projected expenditure is largely on track following the re-profiling that was undertaken after the log-frame adjustments and following the End of Year 1 Report.</p>
6.3	<p>Do you have a proposal for how you would like to utilise any of your ring-fenced underspend, excluding any currency gains? (Max 350 words)</p>
	<p>Not applicable at this stage.</p>
7. Any other information	
<p>Use this section to tell us any other relevant information regarding your project. (Max 350 words)</p>	
<p>Detailed and illustrated accounts of the activities described in this report can be found on the MalDent Project blog at www.themaldentproject.com</p>	