



Scottish Education and Action for Development (SEAD) Annual Report 2024

Chair's Foreword

Dear Members and Supporters,

Our commitment to tackling poverty, promoting education, fostering environmental sustainability, and standing against injustice is more important now than ever. Thanks to the support of our members, donors, volunteers, and trustees, SEAD has successfully implemented a diverse range of projects across Scotland and internationally.

This year we awarded 15 micro-grants, supporting grassroots initiatives that make a real difference in their communities. From educational programs and environmental projects to campaigns advocating for human rights, our reach and impact has been significant. Below, you'll hear from people in Scotland and in Africa working for education, community spaces, and a fairer world. By empowering individuals and organizations, we collectively achieve more than we ever could alone.

Thank you for being part of our work for positive change.

Warm regards,
Daniel Winterstein
Chair of Trustees

Our Purpose and Activities

SEAD's objectives are to:

- Assist in the relief of poverty and injustice locally and globally.
- Promote good environmental practices.
- Support education and research on poverty, injustice, and environmental issues.
- Encourage active and engaged citizenship.
- Connect communities through collaborative solutions.

2024 Highlights and Achievements

1. Community and Educational Initiatives

- Solar Lights for Rural Children (Uganda): Provided 125 households with solar kits, benefiting 400 children and promoting sustainable education environments.



"Before receiving the solar light, I used a kerosene lamp that made my eyes hurt. Now I can study every evening, and my grades have improved." - Kato Musa, 12-year-old student

- Haus of Seisay Hairdressing Academy (Paisley, Scotland): Haus of Seisay is a hair-dressers with a difference - their Hairdressing Academy is an initiative empowering care-experienced young people with skills in hairdressing, building their confidence, and creating career opportunities.



- Books to School (Tanzania): In partnership with Fahari Safari, SEAD launched a program encouraging safari guests to donate children's books, enriching school libraries in Arusha. The first mini-library was opened at Arusha Victory School.



"Think of your favourite childhood book. Now imagine the joy of sharing that book with a child who might never have read one. That's the magic of the Books to School program." - Fahari Safari, partner organisation

- School Sponsorship (Arusha, Tanzania): SEAD sponsored a working-class family, enabling their daughter to attend school, highlighting the importance of female education in breaking cycles of poverty.
- Reusable Sanitary Pads Projects:
 - Kenya: Funded sanitary products and menstrual health education for 300 girls, reducing absenteeism and promoting hygiene.
 - Uganda: Partnered with URUCO to teach schoolgirls how to make reusable pads, improving attendance and self-esteem.

"I have always had to miss school during my menstruation period because my parents couldn't afford sanitary pads. After the training, I can now make my own pads and stay in school. I want to study hard and help others just like you have helped me." - Namusis Betty, student

"The training has boosted the confidence of the girls. They now approach me freely for help, and I can pass on the skills to future students." - Ms. Among Cathy, Senior Woman Teacher, Mwanga Secondary School

- ADHD Adventures (Scotland): ADHD Adventures is a new project, aimed at offering outdoor activities and engagement for individuals with ADHD, fostering inclusion and personal development .
- Dyslexia Support (Scotland): Supported The Haven Learning in providing dyslexia support to students.

2. Environmental and Community Wellbeing Projects

- Community Garden Projects: 2024 was the year of community gardens. The SEAD-Fund supported four projects creating and nurturing green spaces for Scottish communities.



- Getting Better Together (Scotland): Revitalized community gardens in Shotts, hosting workshops that engaged all age groups and promoted biodiversity.
- Eat Sleep Ride CIC (Scotland): Developed an accessible garden for young people despite challenging weather.
- Community House Alloa: Transformed a children's play area into a vibrant garden, encouraging outdoor learning.
- Women's Aid Orkney: Established a gardening group to support women affected by domestic abuse, fostering community and self-sufficiency.

"The garden is more than plants-it's a place to heal, laugh, and reconnect with ourselves." - Women's Aid Orkney participant

- Forest Activity Day (Scotland): Hosted a nature immersion day for children and families, promoting environmental stewardship.



3. Human Rights and Advocacy Efforts

- Campaigning for Palestine (Scotland): Supported International Women's Group's advocacy, enabling discussions with policymakers and community education.

"We feel more empowered and more confident in responding to conflict affecting our community." - International Women's Group member

- LGBTQ+ Rights Protest (Uganda): Funded Mbarara RISE Foundation's peaceful protest against anti-LGBT+ legislation, advocating for equality and safety.



"Marching through Mbarara, we chanted for equality. It was dangerous, but SEAD's support gave us the courage to stand up for our rights."

4. Climate and Sustainability

- Stop Climate Chaos Scotland (SCCS): SEAD continued its active membership, supporting initiatives to improve Scotland's environmental policies.

Financial Review

SEAD remains in a stable financial position, with a surplus of £940 for the year (2023: deficit of £1,927). Reserves total £22,377, exceeding the target of one year's running costs.

Income:

- Donations: £5,049
- Investment income: £309

Expenditure:

- Charitable activities: £4,419

Plans for 2025 and Beyond

Looking ahead, SEAD is committed to:

- Growing the SEAD-Fund to support more grassroots community projects.
 - Reworking our processes:
 - Improving the funding application process to make it smoother
 - Implementing a standardised process for post-funding to improve reporting and public communications (currently we're the opposite of "all-talk" – we do more good work than we talk about).
 - Expanding trustee recruitment to foster a more dynamic board.
 - Strengthening communication channels to better engage our members.
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Governance and Leadership

- Board of Directors:
 - Daniel Winterstein (Chair)
 - John Welford
 - Fiona Campbell
 - Genevieve Ireland
 - Independent Examiner: Sanjay Joshi
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Thank You

We extend heartfelt thanks to all our members, donors, volunteers, and partner organizations. Your support fuels our mission to create a more just, sustainable, and compassionate world.

Together, we make a difference.

Scottish Education and Action for Development (SEAD)

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