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**17 June 2024**

Dear Convenor,

I am pleased to inform the Committee that the Scottish Government has published a Contribution to International Development Report covering the calendar years 2021-2023. The report is now publicly available here [Contribution to International Development Report 2021–2023 - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/publications/2023/2023-01-17-contribution-to-international-development-report-2021-2023/).

This Report 2021-23 follows three previously published Contribution to International Development Reports (2017-2018, 2018-2019, and April 2019-December 2020).

The 2021-23 Report on the Scottish Government's Contribution to International Development takes a holistic look at a wide cross-section of Scottish Government international development activity and presents it within the context of the UN Global Goals (Sustainable Development Goals, or SDGs).

The key focus of this Report is on Scottish Government development assistance spend, whether overseas spend or spend in Scotland. The Report serves as a comprehensive summary of International Development activity and spend in the reporting period, covering International Development, Humanitarian, as well as support for Climate Justice and Loss and Damage.

The Report provides (c1 and Annex I) a clear documentation of spend during 2021-23 as well as geographic and sectoral breakdowns, with the remaining chapters reporting on each of the relevant sectoral areas. Additionally, the Report provides content on how wider Scottish Government policies across portfolio areas contribute to international development outcomes.

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

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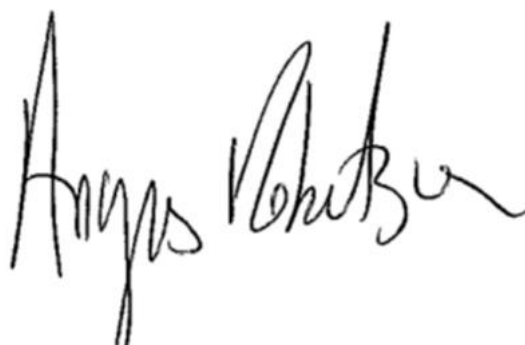
The final section of the Report (c.11) outlines the key outcomes of our 2021 Review, and in particular the Scottish Government's commitment to power equalisation, equality mainstreaming, and to implementing our co-designed international development principles. This chapter also discusses our strategic sectoral focus on health, inclusive education, and equalities, in line with our agreed areas of co-operation and following regular consultation with our partner country governments.

The reporting period has been one of the most tumultuous in living memory. I am proud of the impact that Scottish Government overseas development assistance, in collaboration with our project partners and with the support of the people of Scotland, has made to the lives of vulnerable communities in our partner countries and beyond. This represents a tangible demonstration of how our work contributes towards the delivery of the National Outcomes, in particular, how we are, "...open, connected and make a positive contribution internationally."

I look forward to engaging with stakeholders in our partner countries and in Scotland to understand what frequency and content for such reports would be most helpful in future.

Strong cross-party support for international development in the Scottish Parliament has been a key underpinning feature to the Scottish Governments overseas development assistance programmes since its inception in 2005, and I therefore also look forward to discussing our Contribution to International Development Report 2021-23 with the Committee in due course.

Yours sincerely,



**ANGUS ROBERTSON**