



**ANNUAL REVIEW 2016-17**  
**IMPROVING THE QUALITY**  
**OF EDUCATION IN AFRICA**

[www.lcdinternational.org](http://www.lcdinternational.org)

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

2016-17 saw new challenges for Link which were met with great success, such as the landmark completion of our Girls' Education Challenge project in rural Ethiopia. Our focus on school improvement continues, and in Malawi we are developing tools to standardise a country-wide approach. We continue to enable communities to support schools and learning. In Ghana, we helped out of school children return to mainstream education and in Uganda learning improved through teaching in the local language, Lugungu. We also prepared to launch a new partnership with the government of Rwanda, reaching new communities.

I thank Link's staff for their dedication and expertise, the trustees for their guidance, our government partners and schools, and the individuals, companies, trusts and major donors who support us to improve the life-chances of some of the most vulnerable children in sub-Saharan Africa.

**Alasdair Beaton**

Chair of Trustees

# EDUCATION & POVERTY

420 million people worldwide would be lifted out of poverty with a secondary education.\*

Each extra year of schooling increases an individual's earnings by up to 10%.\*

A child whose mother can read is 50% more likely to live past the age of five.\*

If all mothers completed primary education, maternal deaths would be reduced by two-thirds, saving 189,000 lives.\*

**OVER 120,000  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS  
INVOLVED IN SCHOOL  
IMPROVEMENT PLANS**

\*Global Partnership for Education

# THEORY OF CHANGE



A group of African children, with one holding a yellow balloon.

# ABOUT LINK

Link Community Development works to transform education for children and communities through innovative, low-cost and replicable models. We work directly with government staff, district education officers, communities and schools for more effective teaching, improved school management and increased community engagement.

SUPPORT US AND BE PART OF  
SOMETHING WORLD-CHANGING  
BECOME A FRIEND OF LINK FROM  
JUST £10/YEAR

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# OUR IMPACT



## MALAWI

- After working with us, **85% of Headteachers** said their school has an **effective improvement plan**, up from **23%**, and **86%** of community members thought the local community is **effectively involved in school management** compared to just **22%** before.\*
- Community engagement approaches rolled out across the country to get **more parents involved in reading with their children** as part of the National Reading Programme.\*

WE WORKED WITH APPROX.  
389,000 (CHILDREN ACROSS  
5,865 SCHOOLS)

\*Link Midline Report



## UGANDA

- **Literacy levels improved** through School Performance Review, teacher training and mentoring, and involving communities in school planning.
- Children were taught through letter sounds achieving **transformational improvement** in reading and writing.

OVER 6,500  
TEACHERS TRAINED





## ETHIOPIA

- **20,250** books distributed to aid literacy.\*
- Girls' education project saw **197% increase in literacy and 301% increase in numeracy**.\*

\*Link Endline Report



## GHANA

- **1,590 children re-integrated** into school after dropping out.

*'NOW THE COMMUNITY BELIEVES THAT THE FEMALE STUDENTS' PROBLEM IS NOT LACK OF CAPACITY, BUT OPPORTUNITY.'*

- Teacher, Ethiopia



# RWANDA

This year we laid the groundwork to launch our **partnership with the Ministry of Education in Rwanda** to support its school improvement planning cycle. We will start in 2017-18 by working with **28 schools** in the Nyaruguru district.

## THANK YOU

None of this would be possible without our supporters, large and small. Every single penny helps to transform lives in sub-Saharan Africa. We would particularly like to thank the following major donors.



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Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
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from the British people



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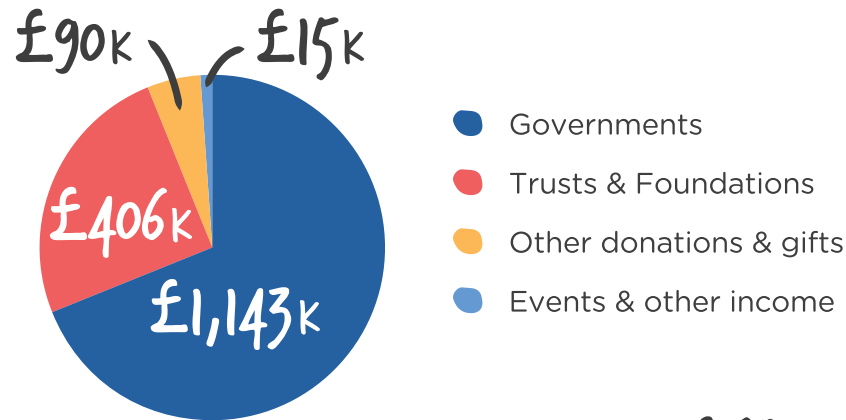
TRUST AFRICA



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# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

## Income 2016-2017



## Expenditure 2016-2017



98P OF EVERY £1  
IS SPENT DIRECTLY ON OUR  
LIFE-CHANGING PROGRAMMES

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