

UK local government and international development – an overview



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Commonwealth Local Government Forum



- Ministries of local government, national associations of local government, councils across the 53 countries of the Commonwealth
- Promotion of local democracy
- Exchange of experience
- Capacity building

The UK Local Government Alliance for international development



- At this meeting representing the UK Alliance



The Alliance



- 5 local government bodies
- promote local government in development
 - UK central govt
 - European & international level
- facilitate council involvement
 - Knowledge sharing
 - Access to support

Local government and international development



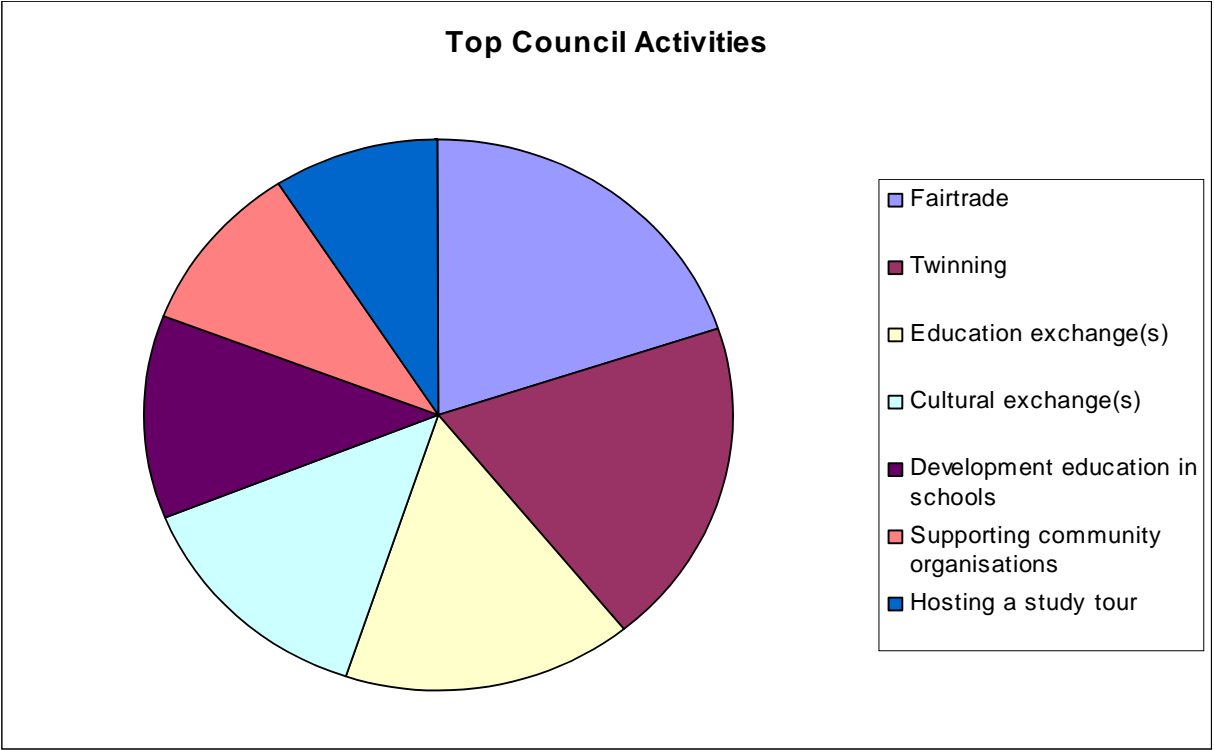
- 2000 – MDGs to end global poverty by 2015
- Local government is at the frontline of delivery of these commitments (health protection, waste management, sanitation, water etc)
- Often lack capacity and profile
- Challenges of rapid urbanisation (stats) and recognition of the role of LG – by 2009 3.3bn live in urban areas and by 2030 this will be 5bn – particular role for local government

Alliance Survey Results

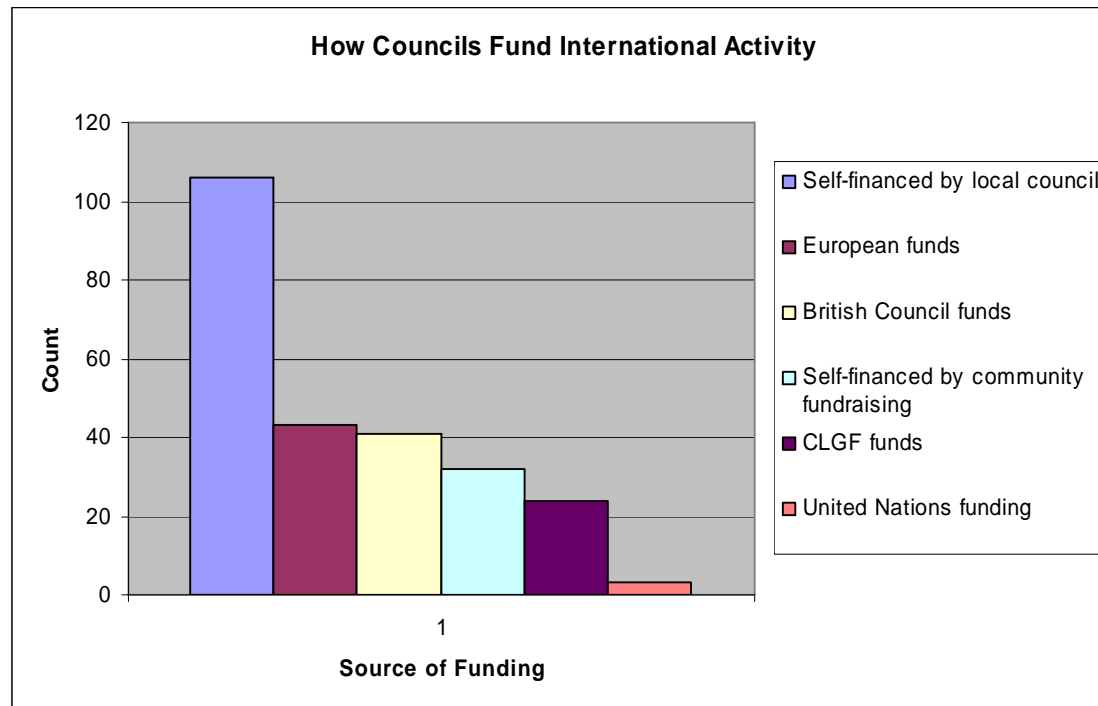


- Over 450 responses
- 66% officers, 2.5% chief executives, 8% councillors
- wide range of council departments (27 environmental services)
- over 200 councils
- 80% think councils have a role to play and 36 Environmental services departments are already actively engaged in some kind of international development activity

What are councils doing?



How do councils fund their activities?



Is there a role for local government officers and how do we get involved?



- There is a role for local government in international development
 - Good Practice Scheme – supports partnership projects between councils in the Commonwealth and councils in South Africa, India, Ghana, Jamaica, Sierra Leone, and Pakistan – funded by DFID
 - Sierra Leone and India have a focus on managing waste and we still have a few councils looking for partners
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Hosting Environmental Health Staff



- A number of UK local councils have also hosted environmental health officers on extended placements under the Commonwealth fellowships programme/other schemes eg Warwickshire and Daventry
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What if I want to get involved as an individual?



- CLGF practitioners database
 - Responding to individual requests and needs eg Zimbabwe
 - Linking up with other councils already engaging internationally through networks such as CIEH/Alliance etc
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Other possible funding opportunities



DFID Community linking scheme

www.dfid.gov.uk/working-with-DFID/FundingSchemes/DCLP/

European Funds (eg LG and NSA)

<http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid>

Businesses and other potential sponsors

Greater collaboration



- Would value a closer link with CIEH
- Encourage greater coordination eg lobbying work to raise awareness of the role of local government in development
- Possibilities for linking up more closely in joint programming and project delivery

Other resources



- Alliance newsletter and website
- Community of practice – join up and have your say/learn from what others are doing
- Submit an article to the CLGF's e-journal