

**Report of the Trustees and**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**for the Year Ended 31 January 2021**  
**for**  
**Development Studies Association**

Sterling Partners Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Chartered Tax Advisors  
2nd Floor, Grove House  
774-780 Wilmslow Road  
Didsbury  
Manchester  
Greater Manchester  
M20 2DR

**Development Studies Association**

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for the Year Ended 31 January 2021**

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**Development Studies Association**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 January 2021**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 January 2021.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

## **Development Studies Association**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the Year Ended 31 January 2021**

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES** **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the Association are to promote and advance international development as a field of study, research and action, with a mission to deepen understanding of how global poverty and inequalities are produced, sustained and may be overcome, and how a better future may be advanced.

#### **VISION**

In taking forward its mission and vision, the DSA is committed to:

- Advance connections between people that will extend and deepen understanding of development issues
- Raise the profile of the UK development studies community and provide a platform for its collective voice
- Build the institutional strength of the DSA
- Nurture the future of development studies in the UK through support to students, early career researchers and Higher Education teachers
- Promote greater inclusiveness, diversity and equity within the development studies community

#### **ACTIVITIES**

In pursuit of these objectives, the DSA has achieved the following during the Financial Year 2020-2021:

##### **1. Annual Conference**

The 2020 Annual Conference was held virtually due to the coronavirus pandemic, organised and hosted by the University of Birmingham, 17-19th June. Key statistics from the Conference are as follows: Participants: 490; Number of papers/presentations: 248; Plenary sessions: 3; Panels and study groups: 45.

Planning for the next annual conference began in July 2020 and it was agreed, further to positive evaluation results, that a 5-day event would be hosted by the University of East Anglia also in late June 2021. This will also take place as a virtual online conference due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

##### **2. DSA Newsletter**

The DSA Newsletter is emailed out monthly to nearly 1750 individuals. The Newsletter performs an important service, appreciated by members and the sector as a whole, to allow members to publicise events, publications, jobs and other news of interest to the sector. It is compiled from contributions from members and continues to attract interest as a means to reach the development sector worldwide.

##### **3. Study Groups**

Study Group activity dropped during 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic and lockdown preventing in-person meetings, however there was continued active participation in the annual online conference. The following activities have been undertaken:

- Business and Development Study group: DSA2020 panel P01: Private Sector Leaders, Processes and Linkages in the Global South: Changing structures and the pursuit of the SDGs.
- Decolonising Development Study group: September 2020 Launch event online: Decolonising Development: Looking back, looking forward
- Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change Study group: Feb 2020 Workshop: Making Interdisciplinarity work in Environmental Change Research at the University of Edinburgh. They also held a DSA2020 panel P03: Leadership in and for natural resource management
- Gender, Policy and Practice Study group: January 2021 online event: CONFINED BY COVID: women and girls, HIV and SRHR
- Information, Technology and Development Study group held a DSA2020 panel - P42: Digital Development Leadership
- Multidimensional Poverty and Poverty Dynamics Study group - DSA2020 panel - P48 - Leadership or Cooperation? How is development cooperation initiated and managed at the micro-level? and they organise the PhD Masterclasses prior to the DSA2020 conference.

## **Development Studies Association**

### **Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 January 2021**

- NGOs in Development study group organised a DSA2020 panel - P06 - Exploring leadership in CSOs and in November 2020 a webinar entitled: Covid19 Challenges, Shifts and Civil Society Organisations.
- Religions & Development study group organised a DSA2020 panel P02: Faith Leadership for Global Challenges.
- Women and Development Study group in October 2020 held an online initial Reading Group meeting: 'Beijing +25: where are we now?'
- Two new Study Groups formed during this DSA year: Land, Politics and Sustainability Study group and Politics and Political Economy Study group.
- Africa, DSA Scotland, Tourism, South Asia & Dev, Migration, Development and Social Change, Rising Power & Urbanisation and Development Study Groups - NO ACTIVITY

#### **4. Students**

The two student representatives on Council remained active in promoting student activities and interaction with the DSA. At financial year-end there were 207 student members of the association (21% of total membership): a decrease (70 members) in numbers and percentage (due to increased gS member numbers) over the previous year.

The student mailing list was kept current and items of interest and communication with students took place via this list. The DSA Facebook group continued to share updates on DSA news, development sector news, job and paid internship opportunities as well as workshops, conference and training opportunities. At DSA2020 there was a DSA students' meeting to find ways that students can interact more effectively with the DSA and gain more information about student activities, events etc. There was also once again a well-attended Publication strategies briefing for students and early career researchers (ECR) at the online conference.

The DSA continued to offer its annual Masters' level Development Studies dissertation prize. The award was announced at DSA2020, however the winner: Euan Crispin (SIID, University of Sheffield) was unable to attend the conference to accept his award in person for his work "The Dubai of Africa? Exploring the role of aesthetic representation in the construction of Eko Atlantic City, Lagos". The winning dissertation was linked to on the DSA website.

#### **5. Heads of Centres**

A Heads of Centres meeting was held online on 14 October 2020. After the usual updates, the main business for discussion was REF2021. The DSA President had invited the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Anthropology and Development Studies sub-panel to discuss the REF process with HoCs. A link to the recorded version and full minutes of the discussion were circulated afterwards. The Deputy Chair, with responsibility for Development Studies, welcomed the President's suggestion that she and potentially other REF panel members used the opportunity that REF2021 offered to take stock of development studies in the UK and to hold a DSA organised event on the state of the field after the REF process had been concluded (subject to confidentiality constraints).

#### **6. FCDO and the Future of UK Aid webinar**

The DSA organised and hosted a webinar with invited panelists on 12 January 2021, Preet Gil, Labour MP and Shadow Secretary for International Development, Ranil Dissanayake, Centre for Global Development, Melissa Leach, Institute for Development Studies, University of Sussex, Stephanie Draper, Chief Executive of BOND. The Co-Chairs were: Sam Hickey (DSA President, University of Manchester) and Annalisa Prizzon (ODI and DSA Council member), with a roundtable style discussion on the FCDO and the future of UK Aid. The event was well attended (376) and resulted in two blogs published on the DSA website.

## **Development Studies Association**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the Year Ended 31 January 2021**

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **Membership**

Individual membership at 31st January 2021 increased to 996. This is largely due to a large increase in GS members, which resulted from the conference taking place online, which made it more accessible to those in the GS, who then subscribed in order to obtain the GS registration fee to attend the online conference. Individual and student membership were slightly down from the previous year, probably due to financial constraints both within departments and among individuals due to the effects of the global pandemic. Institutional membership dropped very slightly to 36.

##### **Finances**

With sufficient reserves, the DSA continues to seek to allocate its reserves towards its central purposes: cash at bank decreased from £158,576 to £146,632 on 31st January 2021.

Expenditure was lower than budgeted in many areas (Council, Hocs, Study groups) due to the pandemic but slightly higher for Communications (2k) and some more usage of ESRC monies remaining from this grant was spent during this year (6k). Income was reduced due to conference losses (9.5k resulting from the higher than predicted workload in organising the first-ever online DSA conference) and reduced individual (2k) and institutional (3k) subscriptions.

DSA's main investment has been to directly employ a DSA Communications Manager, Grade 6, 0.5 FTE, for three years on a 12 months rolling contract from April 2021. The post aims to enable DSA to achieve its strategic objectives, particularly in terms of advancing connections to deepen understanding of development, raising the profile of the UK development studies community and providing a platform for its collective voice and increasing our institutional strength.

##### **Administration**

The administration of the DSA continued to be carried out by NomadIT.

#### **FUTURE PLANS**

##### **AIMS FOR THE COMING YEAR (2021-22)**

Overall aims for the coming years are given in the Business Plan, 2019-22. Particular goals in the coming year are as follows:

<b>Timing</b>	<b>Activity</b>
April 2020 - Mar 2021	Assist Communications Manager to begin to promote DSA activities and boost the visibility of the association.
May 2021	Submit nominations for Fellowship of the Academy of Social Sciences.
June 2021	Host and organise the 2nd DSA online conference in a new platform.
Oct/Nov 2021	Convene Heads of Centres meeting.
Through the year	Develop support for PGR and ECR scholars and DSA members based in global South; support Study Group Activity; pursue possibility of establishing a DSA journal.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

##### **Recruitment, appointment, induction and training of new trustees**

Trustees are recruited from members of the DSA with upcoming vacancies signalled in communications to all members from the Chair of the Board. Applicants present their credentials and intentions to the AGM in person or by letter and their appointment is subject to vote. Induction and training takes place before applicants make their approach through informal discussions with existing board members and/or after their appointment. Positions with specific responsibilities (Chair, Treasurer, Secretary) involve more prior training and preparation.

## **Development Studies Association**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the Year Ended 31 January 2021**

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Risk management**

The DSA Council reviews sources of, and responses to, risks at least annually. Sources of risk include fluctuating membership, conference attendance, level of study group activity and the status of development studies in the UK. Risks are mitigated through regular consultation with institutional members through Heads of Centres' meetings, monthly newsletters and email communication, reviewing membership categories and rates, reviewing the purpose and design of annual conferences and reviewing costs involved in administering the charity.

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

##### **Registered Charity number**

283670

##### **Principal address**

23 Linton Road  
Hove  
BN3 5HF

##### **Trustees**

Professor G Mohan (resigned 8.6.2020)

Dr F Nunan (resigned 19.6.2020)

Dr S White (resigned 8.6.2020)

Dr L Camfield

Professor U Kothari (resigned 8.6.2020)

Dr N Gooptu

Dr L C Hammond

P Anand

J Quan (resigned 8.6.2020)

Mrs K Hochstetler (resigned 8.6.2020)

S Hickey

D Brockington

Ms A Chammas

Miss B Ezeomah

Dr U Kambhampati

Dr R Slater

Miss N Kabeer

Ms R S Dieng

Ms A Prizzon (appointed 19.6.2020)

B Radley (appointed 19.6.2020)

P Taylor (appointed 19.6.2020)

Ms S Fennell (appointed 19.6.2020)

J Fisher (appointed 19.6.2020)

##### **Independent Examiner**

Mr Saeid Mokhtassi

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Sterling Partners Limited

Chartered Accountants

Chartered Tax Advisors

2nd Floor, Grove House

774-780 Wilmslow Road

Didsbury

Manchester

Greater Manchester

M20 2DR

**Development Studies Association**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 January 2021**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Bankers**

CAF Bank Ltd  
25 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
Kent  
ME19 4JQ

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on ..... and signed on its behalf by:

.....  
Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of  
Development Studies Association**

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Development Studies Association**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Development Studies Association (the Trust) for the year ended 31 January 2021.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mr Saeid Mokhtassi  
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales  
Sterling Partners Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Chartered Tax Advisors  
2nd Floor, Grove House  
774-780 Wilmslow Road  
Didsbury  
Manchester  
Greater Manchester  
M20 2DR

Date: .....

**Development Studies Association**

**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the Year Ended 31 January 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies		745	-	745	730
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Promotion of development research		89,278	-	89,278	151,656
Investment income	2	949	-	949	48
Other income		(468)	-	(468)	(908)
<b>Total</b>		<u>90,504</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>90,504</u>	<u>151,526</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Promotion of development research		102,448	-	102,448	190,227
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		<u>(11,944)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(11,944)</u>	<u>(38,701)</u>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<u>158,576</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>158,576</u>	<u>197,277</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>146,632</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>146,632</u></u>	<u><u>158,576</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Development Studies Association**

**Balance Sheet**  
**31 January 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Cash at bank	5	146,632	-	146,632	158,576
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>146,632</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>146,632</u>	<u>158,576</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		146,632	-	146,632	158,576
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>146,632</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>146,632</u>	<u>158,576</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	6				
Unrestricted funds				<u>146,632</u>	<u>158,576</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>146,632</u>	<u>158,576</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on  
..... and were signed on its behalf by:

.....  
Trustee

## **Development Studies Association**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements** **for the Year Ended 31 January 2021**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

##### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 permits a charity to prepare a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities where gross income in the financial year does not exceed £250,000, therefore receipts and payments accounts and a statement of assets and liabilities in its balance sheet) have been prepared and presented for the year; this is consistent with previous years.

##### **Income**

All income, including the subscriptions, conference income and bank interest are recorded when received.

##### **Expenditure**

All expenditure are recorded when paid.

##### **Trustees' expenses**

These expenses are included in the financial statements once amounts are expended by the Trustees on behalf of the charity.

##### **Trustees' indemnity insurance**

No charitable funds have been used to purchase insurance to indemnify the Trustees against the consequences of any neglect or default on their part.

##### **Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computer equipment - 33% on cost

##### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

##### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### **2. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Interest received	949	48
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**Development Studies Association**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 January 2021**

**3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 January 2021 nor for the year ended 31 January 2020.

**Trustees' expenses**

Trustees expenses of £856 (2020: £2,095) were paid during the year.

**4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	730	-	730
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Promotion of development research	151,656	-	151,656
Investment income	48	-	48
Other income	(908)	-	(908)
<b>Total</b>	<u>151,526</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>151,526</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Promotion of development research	190,227	-	190,227
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	<u>(38,701)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(38,701)</u>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<u>197,277</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>197,277</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u><u>158,576</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>158,576</u></u>

**5. CASH AT BANK**

	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>146,632</u>	<u>158,576</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>146,632</u></u>	<u><u>158,576</u></u>

**Development Studies Association**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 January 2021**

**6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

Each of the below funds have arisen due to the donors specifying that the funds donated have to be spent on the specific projects.

Restrictions are imposed through contracts which are signed at the beginning of each project.

**7. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 January 2021.

**8. FUNDS**

Project	Funds brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer between funds £	Funds carried forward £
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General fund	158,576	90,504	102,448	-	146,632
	158,576	90,504	102,448	-	146,632
TOTAL FUNDS	158,576	90,504	102,448	-	146,632

**Development Studies Association**

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the Year Ended 31 January 2021**

	2021 £	2020 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	745	730
<b>Investment income</b>		
Interest received	949	48
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Subscriptions	54,234	60,408
Conference and exhibitions	35,044	91,248
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	89,278	151,656
<b>Other income</b>		
Other income	(468)	(908)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	90,504	151,526
 <b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Affiliations	-	514
Conference	51,264	90,280
Administration	20,556	37,668
Study groups	1,440	1,918
Stationery, print and postage	4,800	1,208
Council expenses	856	2,095
Bank and credit charges	512	1,171
Head of centres	-	271
Workshop series	6,317	33,369
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	85,745	168,494
 <b>Support costs</b>		
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Sundries	500	1,363
Accountancy and legal fees	1,980	1,980
Consultancy fees	14,223	18,390
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	16,703	21,733
Total resources expended	<hr/>	<hr/>
	102,448	190,227
<b>Net expenditure</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(11,944)	(38,701)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements