

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 January 2023
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 2023

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Development Studies Association

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 January 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 January 2023.

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 2023**

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:

1. Advance connections between people that will extend and deepen understanding of development issues
2. Raise the profile of the UK development studies community and provide a platform for its collective voice
3. Build the institutional strength of the DSA
4. Nurture the future of development studies in the UK through support to students, early career researchers and Higher Education teachers
5. 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 2022-2023:

1. Annual Conference

The 2022 Annual Conference was held virtually again due to the coronavirus pandemic, organised and hosted by University College London, 6-8th July. Key statistics being Participants: 725; Papers/presentations: 311; Plenaries: 3; Panels and Study groups: 67. The event had an asynchronous element.

Planning for the next annual conference began in July 2022 and it was agreed, further to positive evaluation results, that a three-day event will be hosted by University of Reading in late June 2023 in hybrid format. This accords with what previous delegates and members would like, allowing for the first face-to-face meeting since 2019, while still enabling high levels of inclusion amongst global South colleagues and limiting our carbon footprint.

2. Communications

The DSA Communications Manager stepped down from their position in August 2022 due to a better job offer elsewhere. Council agreed that a Grade 6, 0.6 FTE Communications Officer better met DSA needs over the next 18 months, taking forward the strategy and work done by the outgoing Communications Manager. DSA advertised and hired a new Communications Officer in October 2022: Rowena Harding. The new CO has coordinated with the Communications sub-committee to put in place regular social media items and expand the DSA's reach and following; the newsletter continues to draw larger numbers of subscribers, and the website is better managed and curated, among many other tasks.

3. DSA Newsletter

The DSA Newsletter is emailed out monthly to nearly 2300 individuals, offering an important service to members and the sector as a whole. It allows members to publicise events, publications, jobs and other news of interest to the sector. It is compiled by the Communications Officer from contributions from members and continues to attract interest as a means to reach the development sector worldwide.

4. Study Groups

Study Group activity remained low during 2022 due to the coronavirus pandemic and the resulting hiatus in activities as well as several changes of Study Group convenors. However, there was continued active participation in the annual online conference. The following activities have been undertaken:

Development Studies Association

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 January 2023**

- A new group was created - the Global South Study Group which aims to stimulate interest among academics, researchers and development practitioners from the global South and increase their participation in scholarly discourse. It is likely this group will subsume the Africa and South Asia Study Groups.
- Politics and Political Economy Study Group organised a workshop in January 2023 entitled: The Politics of Development Studies. This was well attended and hosted at GDI at the University of Manchester. They also organised a DSA2022 panel - P52: The Politics of Economic Transformation: Finance and Industrial Policy
- Business and Development Study group organised a DSA2022 panel P30: Development perspectives on transforming economies for nature, climate, and society
- NGOs in Development Study Group organised a DSA2022 panel - P57: Challenges to Justice and Equity in a post-Pandemic Context: civil society responses.
- Religions & Development Study Group organised a DSA2022 workshop W11: Faith-sensitive creative and decolonised research and learning
- Urbanisation and Development Study Group organised a grant writing workshop for ECRs at DSA2022 and held their annual meeting during the conference.
- The following Study Groups held meetings during the annual conference: Business & Development, Urbanisation and Development, Land, Politics and Sustainability, NGOS in Development, Politics and Political Economy, Religions and Development.
- Africa, DSA Scotland, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change, Information, Technology and Development, Multidimensional Poverty and Poverty Dynamics, South Asia & Development, Gender, Policy and Practice, Women and Development, Migration, Development and Social Change, Rising Powers, Decolonising Development Study Groups - NO ACTIVITY.

5. Students

During 2022, one of our student representatives finished her term on Council resulting in limited activity in promoting student activities and interaction with the DSA. At financial year-end there were 194 student members of the association (21% of total membership) - similar to the previous year.

The student mailing list was kept current and a few 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. There was a DSA students' meeting at the annual conference 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 conference.

The DSA continued to offer its annual Masters' level dissertation and its annual PhD thesis Development Studies prize. The award winners were announced and presented their prizes at the annual conference and both winners presented their work at the conference. The winning dissertations were mentioned on and linked to from the DSA website.

6. Heads of Centres

A Heads of Centres meeting was held at UCL on 8 September 2022. The main focus of the meeting was a REF2021 learning event organised by DSA for the development studies community. The Chair of the joint Anthropology and Development Studies unit of assessment was present along with three other panel members. A presentation set out the REF2021 results for development studies in comparative perspective (with REF2014 and with cognate disciplines at REF2021), identified trends in the field and also identified the key ingredients of a vital and sustainable research environment.

7. Perspectives on the UK's 2022 International Development Strategy - DSA webinar

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Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 January 2023**

The DSA hosted a panel of experts on 27th May 2022 to reflect on the implications of the UK government's 2022 International Development Strategy (IDS). It was attended by over 100 people with a good level of discussion and the recording has been viewed over 100 times on the DSA YouTube channel.

8. Development in crisis?

The DSA jointly organised a panel with the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI) at King's College London on 3rd November 2022 to discuss this and other questions from the perspectives of disaster risk research, peace and conflict research and the multiple development challenges faced by a single country on the example of South Africa.

9. Publications

The DSA-OUP book series published four titles during this year: The Many Faces of Socioeconomic Change by John Toye (open access), Politics and the Urban Frontier by Tom Goodfellow, They Eat Our Sweat by Daniel E. Agbibo, and Equity, Evaluation, and International Cooperation by Gabriella Y. Carolini.

10. South-South Mentoring Scheme

The Global South Sub-Group on Council proposed a mentoring scheme that would involve senior southern-based scholars offering a structured programme of mentoring advice to more junior colleagues also based in the global South. Council agreed to invest in a pilot version of the scheme, to be extended if successful and if further co-financing could be identified.

11. DSA-EDI Audit

Council also agreed to invest in undertaking an equality, diversity and inclusion audit of the sector. The aim is to arrive at a fuller understanding of equality, inclusion and diversity within UK development studies, from both a quantitative and qualitative perspective, and to make relevant recommendations for advancing equality, inclusion and diversity in the field. This would have a quantitative and a qualitative component and again be piloted with investment from DSA before co-financing would be sought.

Development Studies Association

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 January 2023**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Membership

Individual membership at year-end decreased to 919, mostly due to a decrease in gS members (not automatically renewed every two years to ensure those remaining members are still active and interested). Individual membership is slightly down albeit student numbers stayed constant. Institutional membership remained constant (losing one smaller institution - due reduced funding post-pandemic but gaining a premium member (Centre of Development Studies, Cambridge University).

Finances

With sufficient reserves, the DSA continues to seek to allocate its reserves towards its central purposes: cash at bank increased from £132,415 to £134,140 on 31st January 2023.

Expenditure was lower than budgeted in many areas (Council - no F2F meetings; Marketing materials - fewer website changes or updates required; Conference grants - significant funding raised from other sponsors e.g. UCL and journals; ECR Fund - lack of eligible applicants and the discontinuation of this fund later in the year). However, expenditure was higher for Communications (£39k) which included the yearly payment for our Communications Manager and the first few months salary of our new Communications Officer. With in-person meetings starting again, Study Group expenses were slightly higher than predicted (£5k), which also included the global South Study Group mentoring project pilot). Income was higher than predicted due to the conference surplus (£10.4k) despite lower individual (£3k) and institutional (£2k) subscriptions than predicted and DSA-OUP book series spending (£1.7k). The large unidentified payment we received to the bank account last year was debited from our account this year (£2k).

This was the second year of DSA's main investment of employing a DSA Communications Manager, Grade 6, 0.5 FTE, for three years on a 12 months rolling contract from April 2021. Unfortunately the Communications Manager left the position for another job in August 2022. By October 2022, the DSA was able to hire a Communications Officer Grade 6, 0.6 FTE for 18 months to continue the work started in this role. The post enables DSA to achieve its strategic objectives, particularly in 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 continues to be carried out by NomadIT, on a rolling contract.

FUTURE PLANS

AIMS FOR THE COMING YEAR (2023-24)

Particular goals in the coming year are as follows:

Timing	Activity
Feb 2023 - Jan 2024	Assist Communications Officer to continue to promote DSA activities and boost the visibility of the association.
June 2023	Host and organise the first DSA hybrid conference at the University of Reading
Oct/Nov 2023	Convene Heads of Centres meeting. Continue, and develop some new forms of support for PGR and ECR scholars and DSA members, particularly those based in global South; support and fund the gS-gS mentoring project; reinvigorate Study Group Activity; conduct a EDI Audit of Development Studies institutions in the UK. Foster greater student representation from our institutional members and within Council.
Through the year	

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

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

Development Studies Association

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 January 2023**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

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.

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

Dr L Camfield
P Anand (resigned 7.7.2022)
S Hickey
D Brockington (resigned 7.7.2022)
Ms A Chammas (resigned 7.7.2022)
Dr U Kambhampati
Dr R Slater
Miss N Kabeer
Ms A Prizzon
B Radley
P Taylor
Ms S Fennell
J Fisher
Dr I Kvangraven Trustee
Dr I Roy
Dr M Jennings Trustee
Ms R Arora Trustee
Ms R Dieng (appointed 7.7.2022)

Independent Examiner

Mr Saeid Mokhtassi
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 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Bankers

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 30 June 2023 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 2023.

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

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

Date: 29 June 2023

Development Studies Association**Statement of Financial Activities**
for the Year Ended 31 January 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		1,063	-	1,063	2,693
Charitable activities					
Promotion of development research		127,980	-	127,980	110,830
Investment income	2	451	-	451	371
Other income		(468)	-	(468)	(468)
Total		<u>129,026</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>129,026</u>	<u>113,426</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Promotion of development research		<u>127,301</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>127,301</u>	<u>127,643</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		1,725	-	1,725	(14,217)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		132,415	-	132,415	146,632
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>134,140</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>134,140</u></u>	<u><u>132,415</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

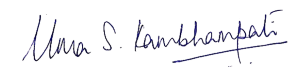
Development Studies Association

Balance Sheet

31 January 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash at bank	5	134,140	-	134,140	132,415
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>134,140</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>134,140</u>	<u>132,415</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		134,140	-	134,140	132,415
NET ASSETS		<u>134,140</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>134,140</u>	<u>132,415</u>
FUNDS	6				
Unrestricted funds				134,140	132,415
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>134,140</u>	<u>132,415</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 30 June 2023
and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
Trustee

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.

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Interest received	451	371
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 January 2023 nor for the year ended 31 January 2022.

Trustees' expenses

Trustees expenses of £Nil (2022: £Nil) were paid during the year.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 January 2023

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	2,693	-	2,693
Charitable activities			
Promotion of development research	110,830	-	110,830
Investment income	371	-	371
Other income	(468)	-	(468)
Total	<u>113,426</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>113,426</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Promotion of development research	<u>127,643</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>127,643</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(14,217)	-	(14,217)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	146,632	-	146,632
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>132,415</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>132,415</u></u>

5. CASH AT BANK

	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>134,140</u>	<u>132,415</u>
Total	<u><u>134,140</u></u>	<u><u>132,415</u></u>

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.

Development Studies Association

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued **for the Year Ended 31 January 2023**

7. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 January 2023.

8. FUNDS

Project	Funds brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer between funds £	Funds carried forward £
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General fund	132,415	129,026	127,301	-	134,140
	132,415	129,026	127,301	-	134,140
TOTAL FUNDS	132,415	129,026	127,301	-	134,140

9. ACCRUAL BASIS

The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payment basis. Should the accounts of been prepared on an accruals basis, then additional £9,842 of administrative costs should be accrued. This would result in a deficit of £8.1k for the year ended 31st January 2023.

Development Studies Association**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 January 2023**

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	1,063	2,693
Investment income		
Interest received	451	371
Charitable activities		
Subscriptions	63,381	57,433
Conference and exhibitions	64,599	53,397
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	127,980	110,830
Other income		
Other income	(468)	(468)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total incoming resources	129,026	113,426
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Conference	53,820	48,987
Administration	18,566	31,349
Study groups	2,926	-
Bank and credit charges	543	960
Workshop series	-	5,007
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	75,855	86,303
Support costs		
Management		
Wages	2,045	-
Council expenses	2,556	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4,601	-
Governance costs		
Sundries	3,179	500
Accountancy and legal fees	2,346	1,980
Consultancy fees	36,185	36,000
Donations	5,135	2,860
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	46,845	41,340
Total resources expended	<hr/>	<hr/>
	127,301	127,643
Net income/(expenditure)	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,725	(14,217)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements