



WESTMINSTER
FOUNDATION FOR
DEMOCRACY

2010

Annual Review



Working to support and strengthen
democracy around the world through
developing political parties and
parliamentary institutions

WFD ANNUAL REVIEW 2010

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WESTMINSTER
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DEMOCRACY

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME



I am delighted to introduce the Westminster Foundation for Democracy's Annual Review 2010.

The unique strength of the Foundation is the strong networks it has developed between the Westminster political parties and sister parties around the world. WFD has access to a large pool of current and former politicians of all parties who are able and willing to share their professional experience and knowledge with politicians overseas on a peer-to-peer basis.

WFD also has the unique ability to support multi-party democracy through working to develop sustainable capacity among parliamentarians, parliamentary staff and parliamentary systems.

I have been committed to the work of the Foundation for many years. With the change of Government, I took over as Chairman of WFD and have been impressed by the dedication of all staff to making this organisation a success. Now with several field offices around the world delivering sustainable political party development and parliamentary programmes, the Foundation has grown in size and capability and I am looking forward to what the next year holds.

I want to pay tribute to my predecessor, Meg Munn MP, who Chaired WFD for two years. Under Meg's leadership, the Foundation moved from a period of change and transition into a period of stability but also growth. I also want to thank Linda Duffield for all her hard work and creative thinking as Chief Executive over the past year.

I hope you enjoy reading this review. It charts some real successes across the range of our work, as well as progress in other areas. The case studies in particular offer a snapshot into some of the more interesting programme outcomes, demonstrating the impact we are making in collaboration with our partners around the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Streeter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gary Streeter MP
Chairman

INTRODUCTION FROM CEO



The Westminster Foundation for Democracy is the leading UK foundation in the field of political party development and parliamentary strengthening. Our priority is to build accountable and responsive democratic institutions which meet the needs of citizens, and to do so by developing strong local partnerships in the countries in which we work.

WFD now has close to 20 years' experience working with countries emerging from authoritarian regimes, in post-conflict societies and in consolidating democratic reforms in developing countries. We have a strong record of achievement in building democracy in Central and Eastern Europe after the collapse of the Soviet Union and have applied this experience in many other countries since, tailoring our support to local needs.

Because of our strong partnership with all the Westminster political parties, WFD is able to promote cross-party dialogue, debate and cooperation where this is needed, as well as provide substantial assistance on a sister party basis to develop policy-based campaigning and platforms which give the electorate a real choice.

This year our work has taken us beyond our traditional programme regions of Africa, Europe and the Middle East to Asia, where we have developed and started to implement a tailored programme of support to the Bangladesh Parliament and political parties, with funding from the Department for International Development (DFID). We expect this programme to make a real difference not just in Bangladesh but also in the region more widely.

This demonstrates WFD's ability to concentrate our resources on areas where we can make a real difference over the long term but also to respond quickly and flexibly as need arises. This year we have also tried to be innovative and "do more with less" in the current economic climate to ensure all of our projects and programmes deliver real impact and offer value for money.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Duffield". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Linda Duffield CMG
Chief Executive

POLITICAL PARTY DEVELOPMENT



Over the last year the Conservative WFD programme has ranged geographically from the Balkans and Eastern Europe, to Africa, and Latin America. It has covered subjects including Conservative principles and values, policy development, communication skills, campaigning methodology, and party building and branch development. This year however, there has been a particular focus on working with **women** and **youth** from centre-right parties across the world.



In **Serbia** and **Montenegro** the Conservative WFD programme organised a series of seminars looking at how women from G17 Plus and the Movement for Changes (PzP) could improve their communication skills, and raise their profile in the party. Conservative trainers were able to talk to the G17 Plus and PzP women about their own experience of politics, and of contesting elections as local and parliamentary candidates.

In **Uganda**, we have worked intensively with the women's wing of the Forum for Democratic Change (FDC) looking at ways in which they can strengthen their organisation, and appeal to women voters. We have also sought to bring women together from centre-right parties across Africa to exchange information and experiences through our work with the Democratic Union of Africa (DUA).

In our work with **youth**, the Conservative WFD programme has organised a series of seminars in **Serbia** with the Democratic Party of Serbia (DSS) and with VMRO-DPMNE in Macedonia looking at the importance of party policy and how it can be communicated. Through a series of interactive exercises, the participants were able to, stage by stage, develop their policies, draw up communication plans, and then defend their policies from their opponents' criticisms. In **Ghana**, we worked with the New Patriotic Party (NPP) to ensure that youth play a full and active role in the party at all levels as it reorganises itself in preparation for the 2012 elections.

Both **women** and **youth** from the Balkans, Africa, and other parts of the world participated in an intensive observation programme during the 2010 general election in the UK. The observers were able to get an overview of the national campaign organised at CCHQ as well as at constituency level. They were placed in a range of different constituencies from Battersea to Pendle and from Romsey to Bury. The observers were able to see how the election unfolded in the last week of campaigning and on polling day, before finally watching the results on election night.

Over the next year the Conservative WFD programme will continue to prioritise working with women and youth as a key element in our programme focused on strengthening the political identity and organisational and campaigning capacity of centre-right parties across the world.

"The Westminster Foundation for Democracy carries out important work across the globe with projects making a real difference in so many countries. Not only does the Foundation help to strengthen democracy and ensure political parties are responsive to their citizens; it also helps to change the culture of war-torn and divided nations to build stronger, more open and more tolerant societies. I am proud to give my strong support to the Foundation and I want to thank everyone involved for everything that they do."

Rt Hon David Cameron MP, Prime Minister and Leader of the Conservative Party



International solidarity is at the heart of the Labour Party's tradition and values. We have historically been at the forefront of campaigning against oppression, alleviating poverty and combating the effects of climate change. Through funding from WFD, we deliver projects with parties who share our social democratic belief that we can achieve more together than alone. In 2009-10, we held a number of regional workshops in Africa, the Caucasus and elsewhere to bring together like-minded politicians and activists to promote common ideas and principles.

In Africa, we initiated a renewed focus on women by implementing two projects for sister parties from countries including Botswana, Cameroon, Ghana, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda. The first achieved two tangible outcomes: it improved the participants' awareness of the position of women across Africa and, by insisting on the participation of men as well as women, brought about a renewed commitment to changing that situation. The second workshop offered practical skills training for potential women candidates, including communication skills training. This not only improved their skills, but more importantly, their confidence.

In the **Caucasus**, the Labour Party delivered a regional programme to train and develop a new generation of young social democratic leaders. The first of two workshops was led by Labour Party experts who offered new skills to participants from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. The regional dimension ensured more groups were targeted by increasing the opportunity for learnt skills to be shared further as participants returned home and offered additional workshops. It also encouraged greater regional dialogue which is often difficult to promote in this part of the world.

We organised a forum for young social democrats active in the Middle East. The Labour Party sent representation to this, as did many other Western European foundations. It created an environment to exchange dialogue and exposed the participants to methods of engagement at the local level. It is hoped that this will contribute to developing long term relations between social democratic actors in the region.

Regional capacity building is the most cost effective and high impact method of political capacity building as it allows Labour Party experts to train a wider audience, and creates a forum to exchange experiences and ideas. For one local councillor to hear of a similar plight from a neighbouring country and how they dealt with it is an inspiring and effective method for sharing best practice and boosting morale. It proves the merits of international solidarity and how we can achieve more together than alone.

“The Westminster Foundation for Democracy's work promoting good governance and global justice is unique. In particular, its support for the consolidation of democratic practices, and the support it provides to political parties around the world, is unrivalled. I wish the Foundation continued success.”

Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP, Leader of the Labour Party



CASE STUDY: New Media Campaign Workshop

In preparation for Moldova's general election in April 2009, the Labour Party trained local campaign teams from the Democratic Party of Moldova (DPM) in methods of direct voter contact and ways to use new media in their campaign. This contributed to maximising the support for and awareness of the DPM campaign. A tool kit was also created which consolidated these skills so that they could be used by the wider party.

New media plays a critical part in any modern election campaign, and in Moldova, the "Twitter Revolution" was instrumental in the results from the April elections being recounted.



The Liberal Democrats WFD programme aims to develop democracy, based on the values of liberalism, in Africa, Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

We use our WFD projects to help other liberal, democratic parties develop their capacity so that their liberal values and democratic message can be better heard. The four areas where we offer assistance are: party building and organisational development, more effective campaigning and communicating at the national and regional levels, the promotion of women and youth within the political process, and the development of message and policy-making skills. We do this in agreement with the parties and in response to requests from them.

Examples of our work include **Bosnia**, where we worked with the Nasa Stranka Party to help them to develop an effective strategy for communicating their message ahead of the 2010 General Elections. We worked closely with several of their candidates to develop their skills both as leaders and representatives of a constituency. We also worked with the party's campaign managers to ensure that the party's strategy reflected the priorities of the Bosnian electorate.

We also supported regional cooperation between liberal democratic parties to share best practice, give mutual assistance and build support for democratic values.

An example of this is our work to strengthen the **Africa Liberal Network (ALN)**, the **Liberal Arab Network (LAN)**, and the **Council of Asian Liberal Democrats** (see photo - who visited our Annual Conference in Liverpool), which bring together Liberal parties from these regions.

The Secretariat of the Africa Liberal Network is supported by our WFD programme. The ALN has grown gradually and now has 27 members from 21 countries. In 2009-10 the ALN held a cross-ALN policy workshop on gender issues, which was attended by 20 women politicians from the ALN countries. The policy, which was formulated at the workshop, has since been adopted by the ALN and will be implemented by the member parties of the Network.

“The work we in the Liberal Democrats do with WFD is important. We have great experience within the Party at both national and local level of working within a democratic system and we are delighted to share that experience with our like-minded Liberal partners in new and emerging democracies in Africa, Eastern Europe and the Middle East. Our excellent cooperation with the WFD enables us to do this.”

Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats and Deputy Prime Minister

CASE STUDY: Council of Asian Liberal Democrats (CALD) study visit to the Liberal Democrats Conference in Liverpool

In September, as part of our WFD programme, the Liberal Democrats invited a delegation of 10 members of Council of Asian Liberal Democrats (CALD) to participate in the Annual Liberal Democrat Conference in Liverpool. The CALD delegates came from **Thailand, Philippines, Burma, Indonesia, Singapore, Taiwan, Malaysia, Cambodia** and **Sri Lanka**. There was also one member of the CALD Secretariat, which is based in Manila.

The visit was very successful because we put together an intensive programme for them, which enabled them to experience, learn and participate in wide range of activities during their time at the conference.

Liberal democracy is strong in South East Asia, where our sister parties are in government in the Philippines and Thailand. The overall aim of CALD's visit was to help build their capacity and also to learn from them. The programme therefore focused on party building and organisation, democratic decision-making and policy development. They also met and exchanged views with senior Liberal Democrat figures, including the Deputy Prime Minister.

The Chair and Secretary General of CALD said of their visit: *“Members of the CALD Executive Committee who participated in the programme were in unanimous agreement that it was one of the most invigorating and stimulating party conferences that they have ever attended, and they expressed their desire to replicate such programme in their respective political parties. The CALD delegation to the conference study visit is particularly impressed with the high quality of the meetings and the debates, as well as the level of organization, manifesting the amount of preparation that your office devoted to the programme.”*



THE SMALLER PARTIES

The Westminster smaller parties have continued to work with small and medium-sized political parties across Europe and Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2009-10, the smaller parties collectively have undertaken party-to-party projects in **South Africa, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia, Ukraine** and **Georgia**, as well as contributing to other cross-party projects. Our party-to-party programmes have concentrated on effective communications in rural areas, and the advancement of women and youth within political parties.

DEMOCRATIC UNIONIST PARTY (DUP)

The DUP continued their engagement with the National Unity Democratic Organisation (NUDO) in **Namibia**, concentrating on campaigning capacity and strategy ahead of Namibia's November 2009 elections. The DUP have also assisted a small party in **South Africa** with whom they share a number of ideological ties, in their policy development and messaging by facilitating a policy and strategy roundtable meeting.



PLAID CYMRU

The Ukrainian Republican Party – SOBOR's – cooperation with Plaid Cymru entered its third year and focused on developing the party's youth wing. The two parties completed the third in a series of workshops across different parts of **Ukraine**, sharing skills and techniques as well as discussing the party's structures and internal communication. SOBOR Youth have subsequently been heavily engaged in the party's campaigning at the grassroots level. There are plans for future work in other parts of Europe.



SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND LABOUR PARTY (SDLP)

SDLP's WFD Programme in 2009-10 focused on an inward study visit to Northern Ireland by members of the Young Socialists of Georgia (YSG), and a workshop on campaigning skills to promote the group's policy work. During their visit, YSG were exposed to many aspects of the SDLP's internal structures and became more familiar with the history of the conflict in Northern Ireland. This prompted discussion about how the model of Northern Ireland could help resolve conflict in Georgia. The impression of gender equality, at the heart of the SDLP, was seen as important in the visit. These two issues, gender and conflict resolution, will be taken forward in future work with the YSG.



SCOTTISH NATIONAL PARTY (SNP)

The SNP have continued to consolidate their relationships in **Malawi** and **Zambia**, both countries with historical links with Scotland. Work has focused on mass mobilisation and increasing the parties' capacity to effectively collect and use data. The **Zambian Forum for Democracy and Development (FDD)** are planning for the upcoming parliamentary and presidential elections for which the SNP will continue to provide support. The SNP have also facilitated workshops aiming to develop the internal and external communication capacity of two Malawian parties in rural constituencies, as well as organisational development ahead of the May 2009 elections.



“Through our Westminster Foundation for Democracy programme, Plaid Cymru has contributed to the development of political parties around the world, sharing our values and experiences. We feel ideally placed to contribute to good governance and democratic change and to learn from partners and our WFD programme has allowed us to make this contribution.”

Dr Gwenllian Lansdown, Chief Executive, Plaid Cymru.

CASE STUDY: Young Socialists of Georgia (YSG)

When the SDLP made contact with YSG during an assessment visit in 2009-10, the group had developed a manifesto highlighting the lack of coherent youth policy in Georgia, as well as other issues. The manifesto had been developed with assistance from university lecturers. The group were keen to promote the document, but lacked the capacity and skills to do so effectively across Georgia. The SDLP were able to coordinate a workshop facilitated by members of their own vibrant youth wing, on campaigning skills to assist in bridging this gap. This was complemented with a visit to Northern Ireland by some of the group’s leaders to see the work and methodology of the SDLP first hand. The group continue to promote their manifesto to interested groups in Georgia.



PARLIAMENTARY STRENGTHENING

AFRICA

For many African countries, local government remains a key avenue through which citizens can engage effectively in the political process. This is where people have a real voice to influence their elected representatives about needs within their local communities. Equally, elected representatives have a responsibility to ensure good governance and economic development reaches all levels of society. However, a lack of transparency and accountability are common challenges to improving governance, and there is also a need to clarify the respective roles of local councillors and parliamentarians in service delivery and representation so that people understand how they can influence the democratic process. WFD has developed several programmes in 2009-10 to address these common issues across Africa.

In **Sierra Leone**, WFD supported three local organisations to cooperate in strengthening the relationship between MPs and their constituencies. Through this partnership constituency offices in selected areas in the north and south were established for the first time and, as a result, there is now a formal channel for regular MP and constituency engagement.

In **Kenya** WFD supported a local partner, the Governance Forum, to inform marginalised communities about devolved funds and to exert pressure for greater accountability in the use of these funds.

WFD has worked with the **Uganda** Women Parliamentary Association (UWPOA) to support gender legislation advocacy. As a direct result of the programme, a common women's legislative agenda has now been launched in the Ugandan parliament and four new progressive gender bills enacted, improving women's rights and access to justice. UWOPA wrote that *"WFD has been very instrumental in enhancing links between members of Parliament and local leaders... all these achievements would not be possible without your specific contribution in enhancing legislative discussions"*.

In the coming year, we will continue to focus our efforts on parliamentary strengthening and citizen engagement in political processes across the East and West Africa regions. In East Africa, we will draw synergies between our work in Kenya, Uganda and with the East African Legislative Assembly. Likewise in West Africa, we will facilitate regional parliamentary exchanges between Ghana and Sierra Leone to maximise the reach and impact of our country programme work.



CASE STUDY: Implementing Domestic Legislation Requires a Regional Approach

WFD has been working with the **East African Legislative Assembly (EALA)** to strengthen the integration of its five members – **Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda**; to help EALA disseminate information and communicate its work to the citizens of the East African Community (EAC), and to open up EALA debates for public scrutiny, encouraging feedback and information exchanging between EALA and members of the public.

In partnership with the Thompson Reuters Foundation, WFD provided media training to EALA's public relations and television broadcasting staff. The sessions were delivered concurrently with staff from the Kenyan National Assembly, thereby promoting inter-EAC parliamentary staff liaison.

Civil society outreach was also strengthened through public fora and presentations in EALA member states, in partnership with local organisations. These events provided an opportunity for wider engagement on key issues such as formalising youth engagement in EALA, proposing a new human rights bill, addressing discrimination and violence against East African albinos and deepening economic integration in East Africa. With WFD's support, EALA created a platform for discussion which gave greater traction to these issues in the wider EAC, while also increasing the profile of EALA itself.

Communications resources were also developed to ensure the availability of and access to information on EALA throughout the EAC. Specifically, WFD supported EALA to purchase the www.eala.org domain name and update the site with information and promotional material, as well as promoting understanding about EALA's role within the wider EAC integration process. In addition, all members were provided with a standardised eala.org email address, to encourage greater dialogue between members. These online resources were complemented by 2,000 EALA information booklets, which were provided to schools and universities.



EUROPE

Parliaments in Eastern Europe often play a weak role in the political process, due to poor administrative capacity and a lack of political will among MPs to represent the interests of constituents, hold the Government to account, and scrutinise legislation.

Addressing these weaknesses is a priority for the countries in the region, particularly as they seek greater integration with the European Union. In response to this need, WFD developed programmes in **Macedonia** and **Ukraine** in 2009-10 that brought together UK and local expertise to offer practical and interactive training programmes for parliamentary staff.



In **Macedonia**, the WFD programme has led to the development of strong local partnerships, most importantly between the national parliament and specialist local organisations. Despite some initial doubts, parliamentarians were soon convinced of the ability of local partners to deliver high quality training. These local organisations proved their expertise not only as trainers but also by providing the Assembly with other services, such as developing a communications strategy, advising on budgetary issues, and providing analysis to parliamentary committees.

In addition to addressing administrative capacity, improving political dialogue was also central to the programme. In a highly political environment such as a parliament, this was not an easy task. However, here WFD and the UK political parties worked to foster a common sense of belonging to the institution of parliament among the whips of the political parties in parliament. This brought a number of tangible results including improvements to the Law on Parliament and better coordination of parliamentary business.

In **Ukraine**, the courses developed by WFD's UK and local partners became an accredited part of the Verkhovna Rada's (Parliament) own professional development programme. The challenge ahead is to ensure that these new skills and best practice are embedded into the every day work of staff. WFD also worked to improve the role of civil society organisations (CSOs) in the parliamentary process, through a series of courses which increased understanding of parliamentary procedures, how to develop well-evidenced policy recommendations and present them professionally to MPs and parliamentary committees, and how to work with the media when running advocacy campaigns.



The CSOs put their new skills to the test by forming and developing policy small coalitions recommendations on a particular issue, which they then presented in parliamentary committees. In one case, five out of six recommendations that the CSOs put forward were accepted by the relevant committee.

Involving local partners to develop and deliver components of both the Macedonian and the Ukrainian programme has ensured a high level of ownership by local stakeholders. However, to ensure long-term sustainability WFD will work strategically to develop further the skills and knowledge of the parliaments and the local partners. In the case of Macedonia, this includes a Human Resources strategy that will guide the Assembly in strengthening its administrative capacity over the long-term.

CASE STUDY: Strengthening the capacity of the Macedonia Parliamentary Human Rights Committee



In Macedonia promoting and protecting human rights is crucial to democratisation and Euro-Atlantic integration. However, human rights remain a sensitive element in the development of Macedonian society. Despite the international support for establishing fundamental human rights standards, there remains a lack of awareness and understanding of basic human rights principles among relevant political institutions and actors. In response to this, WFD has worked to strengthen the capacity of parliamentary institutions to promote and protect human rights in Macedonia.

The Macedonian Assembly's Oversight Committee on Human Rights is seen as a key body for the promotion and protection of human rights. By providing training for Committee members and staff, WFD has supported activities to strengthen the capacity of the Committee on human rights issues. Two specialist organisations, the Macedonian Young Lawyers Association (MYLA) and the UK International Bar Association (IBA), produced a baseline report and a training curriculum. The training curriculum focused on the role of the Parliament in upholding the rule of law and in the implementation of constitutional and human rights obligations. Training sessions were carried out by several eminent human rights experts supported by an expert from the Human Rights Committee of the British Parliament. In addition, all members and staff received a training package including copies of all major human rights declarations and training presentations - something which Committee members did not have before.

Vesna Bendevska, the Chairperson of the Standing Committee for the protection of human rights said: *"After the training the work of the Committee has been substantially improved because the training helped the members of the Committee to understand better the importance and significance of the human rights issues that arose during the sessions of the Committee."*

Following these comprehensive training sessions, there has been a positive change in communications between Committee members and relevant stakeholders, especially civil society representatives. This has resulted in productive discussion and cooperation within the Committee on three of the most crucial laws: the law on Free Legal Aid, the Law on Anti-discrimination and the Law on Citizens Associations and Foundations. These laws now directly address human rights issues because of the input from civic organizations and interested stakeholders in the work of this parliamentary Committee.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region contains a diverse range of political landscapes and faces many challenges. At the same time, there is a wide demand amongst citizens to participate in the policy-making process and ensure that policies are informed by local needs. WFD has focused its approach on fostering a political environment which allows for informative and participatory policy-making; on supporting local initiatives for greater access to information; and on transparency, accountability, and equality.

In **Iraq**, WFD and its local and regional partners have developed a think tank which aims to provide specialised advice in parliamentary affairs and public policies to the Council of Representatives. The members of the think tank have received training and shared expertise from globally respected think tanks in the UK and the Middle-East. The Iraqi think tank has since released a number of policy papers on key issues, such as: transparency and financial control, health, education and women's rights. This was the first time in Iraq that a non-governmental body has made such technical policy recommendations. Now that the Council of Representatives has started sitting again in Iraq, the think tank will have the opportunity to further develop its relationship with the parliament in the coming year.

“In Iraq, we cannot advance and resolve the pitfalls we are experiencing without concerted efforts. This project is a model for such required collaboration.” Dr Ahmed Soliman, Iraqi Member of Parliament

In **Lebanon**, WFD and the Lebanese Parliament have taken the first steps in 2009-10 towards creating an Advisory Unit which will provide MPs with access to expertise when they need it and help them scrutinise the impact of new legislation and budget expenditure. This aims to increase the capacity of Parliament by allowing it to gain expert advice on the range of legislation which the parliamentary committees are required to scrutinise.

This type of support can improve policy-making by providing access to expert advice. This was evident from the work that WFD and the Finance Committee conducted in reviewing a Government Pensions Bill. The new draft Bill which was subsequently submitted introduced modern pension features and was supported by a financial projection which showed the advantages and disadvantages of the various pension designs which had been proposed. As a result, the Parliament established a sub-committee where the new draft bill was discussed and analysed by representatives of all political parties and trade unions, with the participation of the Minister of Labour. WFD's work with the Lebanese Parliament will strengthen and deepen over the coming year as we extend our programme with the support of the European Union.

In **Egypt**, the recent elections were the first to include a significant number of seats allocated specifically for female candidates. WFD and its partners worked with campaign managers and female candidates from many different parties to improve their skills in campaigning and prepare them for the challenges which they would face in standing for the first time. Although not all candidates were successful in winning office, the professionalism and confidence of their approach was an undoubted personal success for them, and for WFD's programme.



The work with female candidates in Egypt is one element of a wider WFD programme in the MENA region in sharing expertise amongst former women parliamentarians and political leaders. This provides an opportunity to strengthen the bonds between candidates and Members of Parliament in different countries and stimulate debate on the issues and challenges that women face across the region.

Regionally, WFD has continued its work on parliamentary ethics in partnership with the Global Organisation of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) and the regional chapter of Arab Parliamentarians Against Corruption (ARPAC). A handbook on *Parliamentary Ethics and Conduct: A Guide for Parliamentarians* was launched in Doha at the Third Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) in November 2009. The aim of this handbook was to provide a tool for parliamentarians to develop and strengthen ethics regimes in their own parliaments, as well as to promote best practice in this area. A workshop for parliamentarians and researchers from eight Arab countries (**Kuwait, Egypt, Bahrain, Algeria, Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, and Yemen**) was also held to promote understanding of the content and use of the handbook. The participants also discussed the reality of implementing political ethics regimes and potential conflicts of interest in their respective countries.



Also contributing to democracy and good governance in the region, WFD supported the production of an analytical framework for use by donors and reform-minded parliamentarians, in partnership with Global Partners. This tool will now be tested to assess political and contextual factors that shape parliamentary performance. Overall, our carefully targeted programmes have enabled us to contribute strongly to support democratic development in the region and we continue to see scope for this work to bring tangible benefits.

ASIA

WFD is implementing a Political Party and Parliamentary Capacity Building Programme in **Bangladesh** funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID). The overall goal is to “*support a political system that facilitates faster progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)*”.

Bangladesh has a complex history which has affected the evolution of its political system. Bangladesh has many key institutional features such as a Parliament Secretariat, established rules of procedure and functioning parliamentary committees. Through cooperation with the Bangladesh political parties and parliament to strengthen the existing institutions, the country can further progress towards achieving the MDGs.

A cross-party assessment visit to Bangladesh and a successful inward visit by members of the Bangladesh Parliament to explore bi-partisan politics and the workings of the Westminster parliament have taken place, and also served to identify areas of possible engagement and assistance.

A delegation from the Bangladesh political parties was also able to observe the 2010 General Election in the UK, shadowing political parties and visiting different constituencies to see firsthand the various methods of canvassing and how campaigns are run.

There is a clear desire on the part of the parliament and political parties of Bangladesh to continue to work with WFD. We will look to maintain the momentum with more training and support in the coming year, in consultation with key stakeholders.



THE WESTMINSTER CONSORTIUM FOR PARLIAMENTS AND DEMOCRACY



2009-10 saw major developments in the Westminster Consortium's programme *Strengthening Human Resource Development in Southern Parliaments*, funded by DFID under the Governance and Transparency Fund (GTF). The programme reached important milestones in its first full year of implementation in engaging local partners, in the preparation and delivery of learning and development programmes, and the launch of the programme website and online community.

Memoranda of Understanding were signed between WFD and the national parliaments of **Georgia, Lebanon, Mozambique, Uganda** and **Ukraine**, setting out the platform on which the Consortium, local partners and parliaments will cooperate until at least 2013 and beyond. The agreements included provision of offices in each parliament for dedicated WFD programme staff to work with officials in developing learning and development programmes and the establishment of Parliamentary Study Centres. Five WFD offices were established and staffed in 2009-10.



THOMSON REUTERS FOUNDATION

Local partners in Georgia, Lebanon, Ukraine and Uganda also completed baseline assessments of parliamentary performance as a first step to gauge the needs of staff and parliamentarians. Experts from each local partner undertook training of trainers programmes delivered by the Thomson Reuters Foundation to explore best practice techniques in interactive learning modules and training styles. Trainees then adapted best practice curriculum material (developed in 2008-09 by the UK Consortium partners) and introduced case studies to produce learning and development modules tailored to meet the needs identified in the baseline studies. A full cycle of learning programmes was delivered in Georgia, Lebanon, Ukraine and Uganda, while the Mozambique office will commence similar activities in early 2010-11.



In Uganda, relations between the country's supreme audit institution and the Parliament's Public Accounts Committee were strengthened as a direct result of bringing together staff from each institution on training programmes. This is a vital relationship in the UK system as it provides MPs with independent, hard evidence with which to scrutinise the Executive.



University of Essex

Another important milestone was reached with the launch of The Westminster Consortium website in September www.thewestminsterconsortium.org. The site includes discussion fora, professional resources and articles on parliamentary development. Local language sites were developed to support each of the country programmes and to facilitate links between local and international networks of parliamentary staff, members, partners and specialist trainers.



the global voice of the legal profession

WFD developed its monitoring and evaluation systems in 2009-10 to include new tools to assess the impact of the GTF programme. Data collected will contribute directly to the mid-term and final review exercises. WFD also scaled up risk management, monitoring and financial processes to incorporate the increased capacity requirements and new field operations to manage the programme.



National Audit Office

CASE STUDY: Promoting High Standards in Parliamentary Media Communications and Reporting

Strengthening the capacity of the Parliament of Georgia in establishing high standards for parliamentary media communications and reporting is one of the key priorities of The Westminster Consortium's (TWC) programme in Georgia. To this end, the programme team has worked closely with the Parliament's Public Relations and Information Department, whose major priority is to promote a positive public image and understanding of the legislature. In addition, the programme has extended its support to staff of the parliamentary committees and parliamentary parties who were keen to develop skills in media communication.



Throughout Spring 2010, TWC programme sponsored two training sessions: one for the parliamentary staff dealing with media relations; and another for the journalists accredited by the Parliament. These were two separate activities designed and implemented by the Thomson Reuters Foundation (TRF), with the participation of local trainers from the Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (GIPA).

The timing of the training session delivered to the parliamentary staff was particularly important as it was scheduled for the pre-election period in the run-up to the 30 May Local Government Elections in Georgia. Among the trainees were two staff members from the press services of the parliamentary parties, United National Movement and Christian-Democrats. They were specifically engaged in planning and handling press-conferences and meetings with the electorate. Besides working closely with the media, they prepared party members for the interviews. They therefore had concrete opportunities to use the knowledge and skills they had obtained during the training sessions in their every day activities. This allowed them to assess the strengths and weaknesses in their work with the media and they discussed this with the group afterwards. As a result, both the trainers and the other participants saw real evidence of how things taught during the training workshop could be used in practice.

The training session for parliamentary reporters also had notable impact. One of the participants immediately applied the lessons of the training to her work by writing up a story using the principles and standards she had learned. Her editor rewrote the story and made it more biased. The journalist made strong arguments against the changes made and convinced the editor to accept her original version. This is a good example of how TWC programme has empowered parliamentary reporters to promote standards of responsible journalism.

PATRONS, GOVERNORS AND TEAMS*

PATRONS

Rt Hon John Bercow MP (Speaker of the House of Commons)
Rt Hon David Cameron MP
Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP
Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP
Margaret Ritchie MP MLA
Ieuan Wyn Jones AC/AM
Rt Hon Alex Salmond MSP
Tom Elliott MLA

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Myles Wickstead CBE	Chair
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Ken Jones	Member
Andrew Rosindell MP	Member

Terms & Conditions Committee

James Bewsher	Chair
Dr Sean Farren	Member

Parties Management Group

Meg Munn MP	Chair
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*As at December 2010

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Towhidul Alam, Programme Administrator & Finance Assistant

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Thea Kentchadze, Programme Manager
Nino Saganelidze, Programme Administrator & Finance Assistant

WFD KENYA

Hope Muli, Programme Manager

TWC LEBANON

Hovig Wannas, Programme Manager
Sarah ElYafi, Programme Administrator & Finance Assistant

WFD MACEDONIA

Emil Atanasovski, Programme Manager
Marija Kostovska, Programme Administrator & Finance Assistant

WFD MONTENEGRO

Boris Radickovic, Programme Manager

TWC MOZAMBIQUE

Felizberto Mulhovo, Programme Manager
João Vasco Cuna, Programme Administrator & Finance Assistant

WFD SIERRA LEONE

Andrew Lavali, Programme Manager
Michael Katta, Programme Administrator & Finance Assistant

TWC UGANDA

Jill Kyatuheire, Programme Manager
Baker Byamuhangi, Programme Administrator & Finance Assistant

TWC UKRAINE

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Tatiana Rizaeva, Programme Administrator & Finance Assistant

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Nick Branson, Africa Liberal Network Coordinator

SMALLER PARTIES

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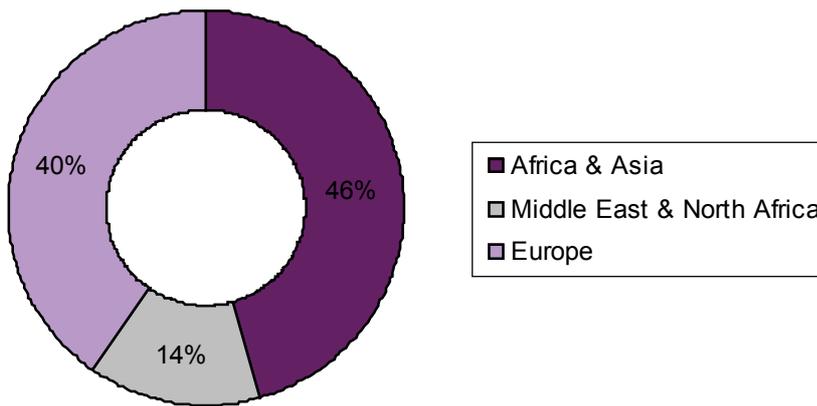
FINANCIAL SUMMARY AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The following summary financial statements are a precis of the information contained in the Westminster Foundation for Democracy Limited's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2010. They do not contain sufficient information to allow a full understanding of the results and state of affairs of the Foundation. For further information, the Annual Report and Accounts should be consulted. They can be viewed or downloaded from our website at www.wfd.org and a free copy obtained by writing to the Company Secretary at WFD, Artillery House, 11/19 Artillery Row, London, SW1P 1RT.

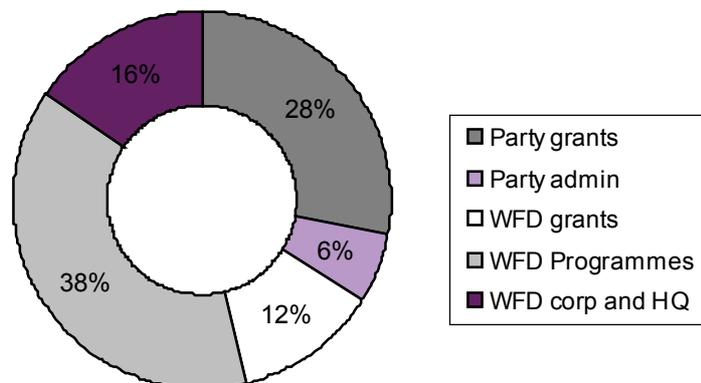
These summary financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and applicable accounting standards and were approved by the Board of Governors on 14 July 2010 and signed of its behalf by Meg Munn MP, Chair; and by Linda Duffield, Chief Executive and Accounting Officer of the Foundation.

The Independent Auditor's opinion on the full financial statements and on the auditable part of the Remuneration Report was unqualified and did not contain a statement under sections 498(2)(a), 498(2)(b) or 498(3) of the Companies Act 2006.

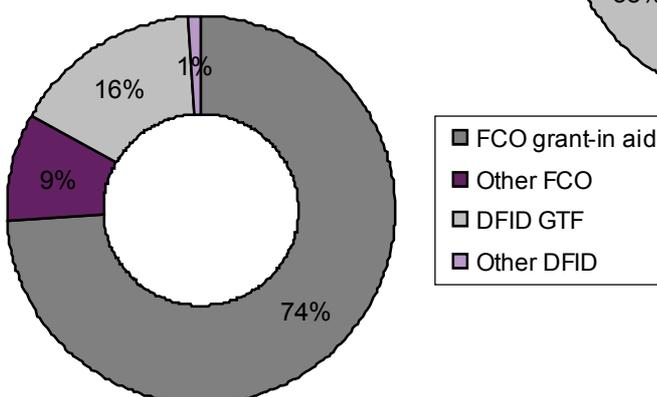
Project & Programme Spend by Region FY 2010



Total Expenditure FY 2010



Total Income FY 2010



	Total 2010	Total 2009		Total 2010	Total 2009
	£	£		£	£
Gross Income		Restated			Restated
Third party funding	1,437,426	571,005	Fixed Assets		
Direct Expenditure			Tangible assets	9,101	17,590
Projects	(4,110,766)	(3,378,566)	Current Assets		
	-2,673,340	-2,807,562	Debtors	365,360	219,395
			Cash at bank and in hand:		
Other Expenditure			Core	61,964	488,193
Staff costs	922,940	736,321	Corporate	32,640	(2,315)
Other operating charges	452,531	504,672		459,964	705,273
Depreciation	8,489	15,452	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	313,815	494,150
	1,383,960	1,256,445	Net Current Assets	146,149	211,123
Net Operating expenditure	(4,057,300)	(4,064,006)		155,250	228,713
Interest receivable	192	4,953	Provision for liabilities and charges	0	(116,355)
Net Expenditure for the year	(4,057,108)	(4,059,054)	Total assets less current liabilities	155,250	112,358
Opening funds balance	112,358	71,412			
Cash Funding from FCO Grant in Aid	4,100,000	4,100,000	Funds		
			Core	108,120	43,416
Funds Balance at 31 March	155,250	112,358	Corporate	47,130	68,942
				155,250	112,358

THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL'S STATEMENT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE WESTMINSTER FOUNDATION FOR DEMOCRACY LTD

I have examined the summary financial statement which comprises the Summary Income and Expenditure Account and Summary Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 March 2010 within this Annual Review.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditor

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Review in accordance with United Kingdom law.

My responsibility is to report to you my opinion on the consistency of the summary financial statement within the Annual Review with the full annual financial statements and the Governor's Report and its compliance with the relevant requirements of section 427 of the Companies Act 2006 and the regulations made there under.

I also read the other information contained in the Annual Review and consider the implications for my report if I become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summary financial statement.

Basis of opinion

I conducted my work in accordance with Bulletin 2008/03 'The auditor's statement on the summary financial statement in the United Kingdom' issued by the Auditing Practices Board. My report on the company's full annual financial statements describes the basis of my audit opinion on those financial statements.

Opinion

In my opinion the summary financial statement is consistent with the full annual financial statements and the Governor's Report of the Westminster Foundation Democracy Ltd for the year ended 31 March 2010, and complies with the applicable requirements of section 427 of the Companies Act 2006, and the regulations made there under. I have not considered the effects of any events between the date on which I signed my report on the annual financial statements (15th July 2010) and the date of this statement.

Amyas CE Morse

Comptroller and Auditor General
National Audit Office
157-197 Buckingham Palace Road
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17th December 2010



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