

SIDA Trustee Nominations 2025

This year there are three vacancies on the Board of Trustees that are open to be filled at the AGM on 26 November 2025. As a membership organisation, our board seeks to represent the full diversity of our membership but equally needs a range of skills. Three nominations have been received.

Harriet Dodd from TopHat Discovery CIC.

Stephen Cooper from Signpost International.

Yulia Nesterova from the University of Glasgow – standing for her second term as a board member with SIDA.

Nomination statements below.

Harriet Dodd nominated by Balmore Trust and Scottish Fair Trade

I am suitable for this role for the following reasons:

1. Seasoned board member having been chairperson and member of several boards including People in Aid; Transaid; LinkUpLondon (advisory)
2. Knowledge of HR having formerly held the role of Director People and Culture Plan International
3. Knowledge and commitment to international development through 30years + in leadership roles internationally and in UK (VSO, Oxfam, Save the Children, Plan, CARE, Mercy Corps and MSI)

Now coach and mentor assisting charity leadership and boards

Stephen Cooper nominated by Scottish Love in Action and Firefly International

I would like to be considered for election to SIDA Board of Trustees. With over 30 years in International Development, I offer relevant knowledge, experience and skills to the Board and SIDA. I have held senior positions in diverse settings, both overseas and at headquarters level.

Currently, I work as Overseas Desk Officer with Signpost International, a Dundee-based charity managing projects in water and sanitation, improved livelihoods, women's empowerment, hunger and nutrition in Africa. This part-time role would allow my full commitment to trustee responsibilities.

I am passionate about supporting indigenous NGOs and CBOs demonstrating local leadership and capacity to deliver effective, sustainable community change. I am committed to working towards a more equitable world and eliminating poverty and injustice. I firmly believe that shifting power to partners and supporting them appropriately creates sustainable impact in low-income countries.

Throughout my career, I have developed strong strategic planning, partnership management and programme development skills. I understand the complexities of working across cultures and the importance of locally led development.

I consider SIDA an important and effective membership organization, keeping international development issues prominent with government and the public. I would be pleased to contribute my expertise to advancing SIDA's mission and supporting its member organizations.

Yulia Nesterova nominated by University of Strathclyde and University of Glasgow – Glasgow Centre for International Development

Yulia is Lecturer at the University of Glasgow. Her work lies at the nexus of education, development, and peacebuilding. Her other current roles include: Member of the International Working Group on Youth, Peace, and Security at [FBA](#), the Swedish Agency for Peace, Security and Development; Co-Chair, [Peace Education SIG](#), Comparative and International Education Society; Co-director, [Memory Lab](#) at the University of Glasgow; and Associate Editor of the journal [Diaspora, Indigenous, and Minority Education](#). Yulia has been Trustee and Policy Committee Member, Scotland's International Development Alliance since 2022.

Yulia has over 16 years of research and work experience in international development, including on projects with partners in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Pacific. She is currently working on several research projects, that primarily focus on youth and community-driven peacebuilding. These include, for example: Re-building peace through participatory action research with youth in Bosnia and Herzegovina; Developing indicators for Youth, Peace, and Security agenda; and Intergenerational engagement for Youth, Peace, and Security.

Prior to joining Glasgow, Yulia was with UNESCO MGIEP and UNESCO Asia-Pacific working on peacebuilding, sustainable development, and youth engagement, and worked closely with a range of other international actors. She was educated in Sweden, Finland, and Hong Kong.