

## Partnership at the heart

Dear All,

Welcome to our latest newsletter. I hope you enjoy this update in which we will explore some of the ways in that *partnership*, in all its forms, is at the heart of what we do in the Salt Network.

The truth is, at the Salt Network, it all starts with partnership and no more so than the partnership with our members— our aim is always to really listen, support and journey together in discipleship. I like to think that the network is like the body of Christ – we all have different ways in which we are being disciples in the workplace and we all have different skills, talents and areas of focus. When we come together we get a chance to share those experiences and support each other to think through how we can run businesses which have human flourishing and care for creation at their core. Businesses which are Kingdom building in every way. As the Salt Network Manager, it's truly humbling to be a part of the discipleship journeys of our members. But this journey is not just about supporting, inspiring and equipping – it's about listening too. At the end of every Salt event we always ask for feedback and we're taking the opportunity this summer to ask for a little bit more. So whether you have been to one Salt event or five, or would like to get to one but haven't managed yet, we want to know what you think— both what you love about the network and what you would change. All members should have had a link to the survey but if you haven't just email [salt@christian-aid.org](mailto:salt@christian-aid.org) and we'll send one out to you—Raise your voice! It's your network so together let's make it all it can be!



The graphic features five headshots of speakers arranged around the Salt logo. The quote is: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect." Below the quote is the reference "Romans 12:2".

**Salt**  
THE CHRISTIAN AID  
BUSINESS NETWORK

**Conference 2018: #StandTogether**

Friday 5 October 9:30am-4:30pm

Whether you are a Salt member, a partner organisation or simply keen to get a better understanding of what Salt is all about then we hope you will join us for our first conference #StandTogether this October. Partnership is certainly the ethos of this year's conference — rather than try and replicate the kind of space we create in our Salt workshops, we

wanted to open the doors to a range of partner organisations and signpost some of the amazing work they are doing. So whether you are interested in exploring workplace culture, work/life balance, how to fit reflection time into your busy day, business and the bible, modern day slavery, the B-corp movement, leading purpose driven businesses or what 'break-even' might look like in a triple bottom line business then this event is for you. We also have some incredible speakers from across the worlds of faith and business. Tickets are selling quickly so please purchase yours now.

If you want to find out more about the network and can't make the conference, you are always welcome to join us at a Salt workshop. See page 4 for full details of upcoming events and new hub launches.

## Leading Change

With multiple hubs operating across the UK now, our members are talking about a wide range of topics. Over the last few months several hubs have been exploring 'Tackling Inequality' and really thinking through how they can help ensure people from the margins of society are included in business. We have been delivering these events in partnership with local charities (including [Leicestershire Cares](#), [Crisis](#) and [Junction 42](#)) who support a wide range of individuals in finding work placements, from care leavers to the homeless and ex-offenders.

As at every workshop members explore the topic and then think about pledges or discipleship challenges they can take on, both to reduce the risk of their business having a negative impact on communities and to explore how their business assets can best be used to have a positive impact.

Their pledges have included:

- Working with the Board and leadership team to define pay ratios
- Exploring the 'leave no one behind' agenda with their management teams
- Incorporating ideas of equity/community/helping others into company values
- Mapping the breadth of minority groups being supported through their CSR programmes and identifying omissions / gaps

Our London hub have also recently explored the topic of 'Good Investment' where we were joined by CEO of Kingdom Bank, Chris Sheldon and ShareAction as we explored how financial assets could be used for the common good, both in terms transactional cash, pensions and impact investment. We hope to run this session in a number of hubs in the Autumn and it is certainly inspiring members to review their transactional banking, offer more ethical pension options to employees and consider the transformational potential of impact investment.

Asking members to lead change within their own business is an essential part of Salt – we want Salt to be more than a 'talking shop' – we want it to be a space where business leaders can reflect on their faith and think about how they can influence their business to be Good News in the world. Pledges help us understand the kind of movement that Salt is becoming and the type of impact it can have. They help us communicate clearly to the wider world how members are being both Salt and Light in their businesses on a daily basis and explain their discipleship journeys.

## Provoking a Community of Change

One of the aims of Salt is to give members a united voice to speak out to the wider business community, church community and policy makers on issues that affect the world's poor and encourage and support members to influence others. To this end, Simon Hickman, CEO Access Insurance, shared some of his journey with the Salt network at a partnership event with the LICC in June on the topic of 'Putting Values to Work'. We were also joined by Revd Edward Carter, Canon Theologian at Chelmsford Cathedral who led an interesting and lively discussion where we applied a range of values 'lenses' to a fictional business scenario. As well as partnership events, we are also exploring possible campaign and advocacy actions for 2019 that are linked in particular with the focus on global inequality in the review process on the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as how good investment could be further mainstreamed in meeting the shortfall for financing SDGs.

## Resourcing Change

Partnership has always been at the heart of Christian Aid's development work, partnering with local organisations on the ground who are best placed to understand the issues and opportunities that communities face. We hope to give some of our Salt members a real insight into how this partnership works later this year as part of our first Salt members' trip. A small group will be travelling with us to Bolivia to see a range of projects that some members having been supporting through our Social Enterprise Programme (SEP). The SEP has provided support for 14 enterprises across three continents to date with enterprises being supported to make key improvements in order to reach a point where they are commercially viable and well managed businesses with clear growth milestones, at which point they may want to seek external investment in order to grow further.



Travelling to Chalalán S.A. - the Eco lodge is only accessible by boat

One of the enterprises we will be visiting is Chalalán S.A., a community owned ecotourism company located in the heart of the Madidi National Park in the Bolivian Amazon. Chalalán targets national and international mid and high income tourists looking for a premium experience in the wilderness.

The enterprise directly impacts 633 indigenous people in the community of San José de Uchupiamonas and the project has also helped the indigenous community secure title deeds for their land. As well as protecting their land rights, 50% of the profit from this enterprise is returned to the community of San José de Uchupiamonas for social benefit use and sustainability. The Eco-lodge also promotes green energy and recycling as well as raising awareness in conservation of nature and bio-diversity.

The supporters who are travelling with us to Bolivia are looking forward to updating members on this and other projects on their return. If you are interested in supporting this type of work financially either individually, corporately or by fundraising, please contact Helen by emailing [salt@christian-aid.org](mailto:salt@christian-aid.org)

## Dates for your Diary:

### September:

Tuesday 11th September 3.00-6.00pm: **Salt East Midlands** Workshop—Good Investment (Derby)

**NEW DATE:** Friday 14th September 10.00am-1.00pm: **Salt Exeter** Workshop—Good Investment (Exeter)

Thursday 20th September 4.00-7.00pm: **Salt North West** Workshop—Putting Values to Work (Manchester)

### October:

Friday 4th October 9.30am-4.30pm: **Salt Conference 2018 #StandTogether: Faith, Business & the Sustainable Development Goals**

Join us for a unique opportunity to explore Faith, Business and the Sustainable Development Goals and how you can be supported and equipped to be a changemaker in whichever business God has called you to. Learn how the Salt movement is developing and how Christian voices are uniting to show how business can be Good News in the world. Listen to Christian business leaders from a range of sectors and hear how they are being part of transforming business, transforming communities and transforming lives. Find out how you can join with other Christian business leaders to #StandTogether and be a real force for good in the world. Be part of the transformation.....

**£55 per ticket.** Purchase online [here](#)

### November:

Tuesday 13th November 3.00-6.00pm: **Salt Scotland Launch** (Edinburgh)

Thursday 15th November 4.00-7.00pm: **Salt London** Workshop—Tackling Inequality

Thursday 29th November 3.00-6.00pm: **Salt North East** Workshop—Good Investment (Newcastle)

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November 6.30-8.00pm: **Salt West Midlands Launch** (Birmingham)

To register for your place at any of these events just visit our events page [here](#)

**2019 plans:** include the launch of Salt Ghana, Salt Bristol & Salt Yorkshire.... Watch this space!

## Interested in Salt and would like to find out more?

If you want to find out more about the kind of people who join Salt and why—visit the new Salt [webpages](#) to find out more about our members and what motivates them. If you have any questions or would like to be part of this exciting new movement just contact the [Salt Network](#) Manager, Helen Howe for further details: email [hhowe@christian-aid.org](mailto:hhowe@christian-aid.org)