

# Empowering youth

By **LLOYD DORFMAN CBE**

CHAIRMAN, THE PRINCE'S TRUST



**LLOYD DORFMAN** is Founder of the Travelex Group, the world's largest provider of retail foreign exchange services. He is also Chairman of The Office Group, and in 2014 co-founded and became Chairman and joint shareholder with Network Rail, of Doodle. He is Chairman of The Prince's Trust Council, a non-Executive Director of M & C Saatchi plc, a Trustee of the Royal National Theatre, the Royal Opera House, and the Royal Academy. He is also a Governor of St Paul's School, where he was educated.

**A**s Chairman of The Prince's Trust, the UK's leading youth charity, I've had the privilege to see the difference it makes to so many young people's lives.

Since the charity was founded in 1976 by HRH The Prince of Wales, 825,000 young people have benefited from our help. Our programmes offer practical and financial support that helps young people to overcome their issues and challenges and move forward to a more positive life.

We are proud of what so many of our young people in the UK have achieved; three in four of those supported by The Prince's Trust move into work, education or training. We want to see other young people around the world experience the same success.

Youth unemployment in the UK peaked at over one million during the depths of the recession. Now it has fallen back, but a generation is left bearing the scars.

Other countries still face shockingly high rates of joblessness. It is estimated that globally around 70 million young people – more than one in ten – are out of work. Many governments across the EU and beyond are working to alleviate this problem.

Inspired by the work of The Prince's Trust, more than 20 governments and agencies across the world have approached us for advice and support. It became more and more evident that an international organisation, modeling itself on The Prince's Trust, needed to be established. That is how Prince's Trust International was born.

As a Trustee of The Prince's Trust's sister charity, I am convinced we have something inspirational to export to other countries. By providing expertise, guidance, training and support, we can help them to benefit from our four decades of experience.

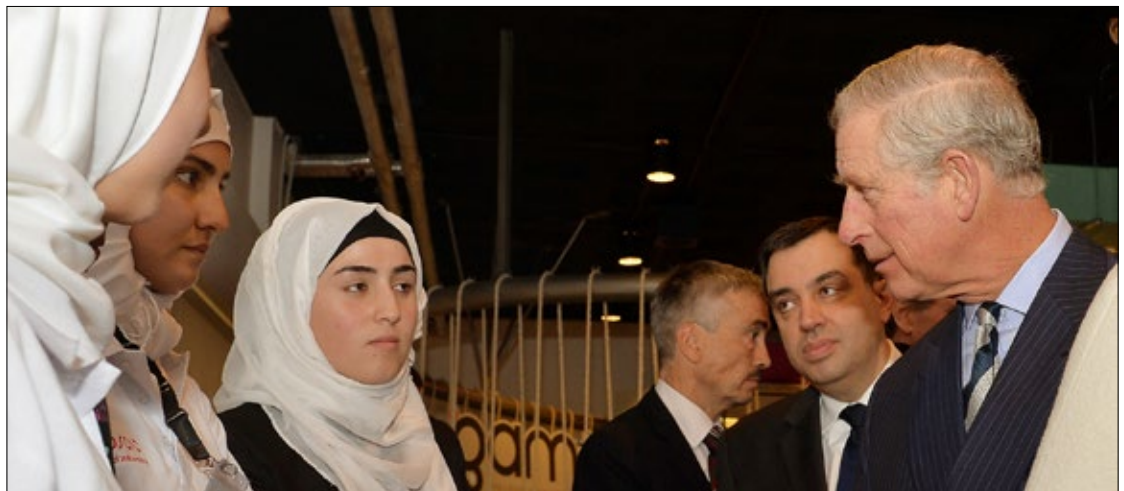
On 26th November we will launch Prince's Trust International in Malta. This official event coincides with the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, where global leaders will be pondering the big issues of the day.

In Malta, Prince's Trust International has already started working on several projects in coordination with The President's Trust, a charity set up a few months ago by the President of Malta, Marie Louise Coleiro Preca.

In Maltese schools, young people who are struggling and who are at risk of exclusion are being helped by both Trusts. HSBC Malta has invested in this project, based on Prince's Trust xl Clubs. Another project developed in Malta is an employability programme for unemployed young people run by Marks and Spencer in Valletta.

Beyond Malta, pilot projects are under way in Jordan and Oman, and discussions are ongoing with other Middle Eastern and Commonwealth countries. The potential is immense.

In the UK, The Prince's Trust is part of the fabric of society. In years to come, we may be well known in countries throughout the world. Given how many young people lack all hope for the future, it's an opportunity for us to reach out and make a positive difference. **LE**



Since The Prince's Trust's foundation in 1976, some 825,000 young people have benefited from its help