

## **LINKING NEEDS AND RESOURCES TO INCREASE MISSION IMPACT**

### **The importance of improved information management within the global mission community**

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#### **1) JIMI: A forum for mission information management and resource linking**

- a. 1992 Student Christian Movement conference – young guy wanted to go as missionary to Russia. How could he be supported when he was from one of the poorest parts of SA and a church of 100 people of whom 80 were unemployed?
- b. Key question: Where to find people, funding, and equipment to start, continue and expand Christian ministry? As a Ukrainian friend said: “We will continue with the work of God, whether we receive the resources or not, but just think how much more could we have done if we did have the resources!”
- c. The solution? A global network of interlinked Christians, churches and organizations sharing resources with one another to maximize mission output. Could be done by using the 21<sup>st</sup> Century technologies such as Computer Centers, databases and websites.
- d. Many foundations, churches, groups and individuals with resources that can meet needs. God has already given resources to meet needs!
  - Human resources - 688,034,000 “Great Commission” Christians;
  - 7,000 denominations;
  - 3,714,000 churches;
  - 29,340 mission agencies;
  - 43,000 Christian periodicals
  - Financial resources –\$340 billion giving to Christian causes annually.
  - Equipment - 440 million computers in Christian service Though Christians should be an interconnected global network of believers that share resources with one another, there is often a gap between resources and needs.
- e. The Joint Information Management Initiative (JIMI) bridging the gap between resources and needs and improve linking global resources with global needs so that more people can be transformed through the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God expressed in communities?

#### **2) Why JIMI: The Joint Information Management Initiative?**

- a. Why JIMI? The need for information to serve and evolve within the context of missional communities; Avoid duplication of effort and competition for scarce resources – without an opportunity to explore synergistic partnership; Gap between the collection of information, and access to this information through easily accessible media; Facilitating missionary collaboration on global proportions requires closely supportive information infrastructures capable of bridging between countries, cultures, languages, economic development levels and diverse missionary challenges.

- b. JIMI areas of operation:
  - Funding - Good mission projects that need funding to be linked with funding resources; Individuals, churches, groups who have funding linked to mission projects that make a real impact
  - People
  - Equipment
  - Mission information

### **3) Information management systems**

- a. Macro systems are needed that demystify the wealth of scattered information that exists in the Christian community. The Global Share System is one such system that will be reviewed. The GSS includes applications for advanced research, emergency response, resourcing relationships, and collaboration management.
- b. Global Project Verification System: The JIMI discussion in South Africa will focus in on a very specific proposal for the GPVS (a module of the Global Share System). The broad contours of the GPVS will be debated and formulated.
- c. Global Funding Linking System

### **4) What can be done?**

- a. Development of Global Verification System: Outcome in South Africa: A broad design proposal for the GPVS.
- b. Development Global Funding Linking System
- c. Global Mission Fund? Outcome in South Africa: A broad design proposal for a Global Mission Fund associated with the WEA MC.

### **5) Developing JIMI as taskforce within the World Evangelical Alliance Mission Commission**

- a. Develop xGlobal and other organizations as a platform for JIMI related initiatives
- b. Develop a JIMI working group
- c. Networking with national Evangelical Mission Commissions
- d. Develop JIMI networks around specific information management needs
- e. JIMI operations
- f. The way forward

#### **JIMI Taskforce leader**

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