

African Partnership for Church-based Wholistic Transformation

Vision: We see an International Partnership Team with expertise in wholistic ministry practices, networks, theological education, administrative management and leadership development that will support and build the capacity of an expanding network of regional structures that are strengthening local churches serving God's Kingdom purpose of transforming our cities, nations and world.

Mission: To assist the church in Africa in responding to the great need for servant and prophetic leadership through accessible, Bible-based, transferable, transformational training.

Strategies:

1. This program will be **owned** by and for Africans.
 - a. All levels of leadership, management, curriculum and training will be done by Africans.
 - b. Identify and coach a team to serve both organizations and individuals.
 - c. Programs will be both interdenominational and multi-ethnic.
 - d. Program should be self-sustainable (funded from Africa.)
2. **Contextual**(ized) biblical curricula written and edited by Africans.
 - a. Curricula will be written and kept current by innovative Africans.
 - b. Courses will be tested in one region before they are made available to other regions and other languages.
 - c. Obtain and maintain accreditation.
3. Church-based **wholistic** discipleship will be truly transformational.
 - a. Concentrate on wholistic, lifestyle discipleship both in materials and in teacher training.
 - b. Strive for pastoral teaching and modeling in the local church.
 - c. Expand training through students becoming trainers.
 - d. Promote transferable teacher training (multiplication).
 - e. Focus on transformation initiated through local churches.
 - f. Balance qualitative and quantitative assessment of educational outcomes.
4. Effective networks and **cooperation** will facilitate the spread of the program.
 - a. Facilitate cooperation among African leaders by enhancing mutual awareness.
 - b. Achieve sufficient resources and expertise through multiple partnerships.

Critical Success Factors:

1. The program must be sustainable, accessible and church-based.
2. The materials must be relevant, transformational, practical and transferable.
3. The scope must be comprehensive, crossing national, gender and ethnic lines.
4. The bottom line needs are start-up capital and available skilled volunteers.

The Church in Africa today:

The Christian community in Africa is splintered, dependent on foreign resources, and in need of contextualized education and training opportunities. There is a high rate of biblical and theological illiteracy in the leadership of the Church due to a lack of programs, resources and training. Church growth is far greater than the spiritual training available, giving way to a lack of transformational discipleship. And the Church is ignored by many as a means of bringing restoration and renewal to communities.

What is needed for the Church to reach its full potential?

For the Church to become a transformational change agent in its community, it will need resourceful people, Bible-based curriculum, funds (from donors and from students), and facilities for training.

In order to empower the Church in Africa, we will need to:

1. Produce, design, and market relevant curricula and courses.
2. Train and mentor trainers of these courses.
3. Provide service centers for training and follow-up.
4. Coach and mentor in organizational sustainability, management, fundraising and partnership.
5. Implement, administer and monitor the accreditation process.
6. Monitor and evaluate to guarantee quality control.
 - a. Church volunteerism for community development
 - b. Seed projects
 - c. Training and curriculum development
 - d. Small businesses

As a result of the above activities, we will see the following outcomes:

1. The Christian community will have a platform from which to serve the region, bridging denominational, ethnic and regional barriers.
2. Partnerships will become sustainable, recovering costs through joint educational programs.
3. As worldviews are changed, church members will become change agents, practice biblical stewardship and volunteer in community development projects.
4. Spiritual leaders will have transferable skills, multiplying themselves through mentoring of next generation practitioners.
5. Contextually relevant, transformational and affordable theological and biblical education is available to a large group of people.
6. Government-accredited educational programs are financially accessible to the poorest of the poor.
7. Practice becomes the heart of education as learning is taught in the field.
8. Theologically and biblically literate African congregations, whose minds are renewed and characters transformed by the Holy Spirit, are empowered to transform their communities.

We will: **ENVISION** the Church through vision casting.

ENGAGE the followers through vision conferences.

EQUIP the disciples to maturity through training classes and courses.

EMPOWER the specialists through mentoring, contextualization and best practices.

For more information go to www.samaritan-strategy-africa.org