



## VIA – Vision, Ideas, Assets

By Gary Edmonds

There is a need for diverse entities and individuals to actually come together to work on matters of common concern. In order to take joint action, they will need to find agreement in vision and strategy and they will need to understand the assets that each practitioner brings to the effort. It will be imperative that a common planning model or template be used that will permit the different practitioners to partner well in the work of advancing the Kingdom of God. We are proposing that we call this planning model or template, “*the VIA*” – **Vision, Ideas, Assets**. The VIA gives a group a road map towards a preferred future.

### Vision

Where and how we go is determined by the desired destination. Consequently, we advocate that the partners take adequate, prayerful time to consider and write out the preferred future. This preferred vision will give direction to the practitioners. It will differentiate the past from the future as well as differentiate alternative destinations that allow the partners to say “yes” and “no” to various options that will inevitably arise. Clear objectives and agreement on expectations of each practitioner will be worked out based upon the Vision.

### Ideas

Ideas are the strategies and action steps that will be carried out in order to realize the preferred vision. Essentially the group will ask the question, what do we do to reach our desired destination? Of course there will need to be regular adjustments and course corrections due to the ever changing environment and challenges.

### Assets

- Hope – prayer, pastoral encouragement, consultancy for vision and ideas, etc.
- Tools – programs (Kids Games, Alpha Course, etc.), materials (Jesus Film, etc.), equipment (computers, musical instruments, projectors, etc.), training courses to run their own programs (Mentor Link, IJM training, etc.)
- Resources – money, skilled people, business loans, grain/seeds, food, clothing, etc.

I believe that when a national alliance develops the VIA, we can more readily identify the needed or desired assets. This message will allow us to work with the R&D groups, local churches, and donor bodies to ask them to supply Assets needed. We more easily can communicate a message that is understood by local churches and we offer them an opportunity to play in fulfilling the Vision. I believe that we will become adept at mobilizing assets and engaging the common members of the church more effectively. In our work to expose or create awareness, we will be able to cite the potentially needed assets for the nations to fulfill the dream of sustainable transformation.

## A Conceptual Model: The Triangle of Transformation

- Leaders of Local Churches
- Leaders in Local Churches and of the Community
- Non-Residential Partners influencing the community

Vision  
Ideas = VIA  
Assets

## Triangle of Transformation

