



Dear valued partners and friends,

Welcome to **"From the General Secretary Desk"**.

In this edition, we reflect on the Lausanne Congress, highlight the IFR4NPO Project's progress and share updates from the Global Office. Read about these exciting developments and updates.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE LAUSANNE CONGRESS

In my inaugural newsletter, I shared initial insights from the Lausanne Conference. The conference yielded three pivotal documents: [1] the State of the Great Commission, [2] the Seoul Statement and [3] the Collaborative Action Commitment.

Given the comprehensive 500-page report on the State of the Great Commission, I invite you to join me in exploring its key findings over the next 12 months. In this edition, we'll delve into the State of the Great Commission Report, structured into three parts:

- Part 1:** Current Situation (Key Indicators)
- Part 2:** Future Considerations (Key Questions)
- Part 3:** Regional Reflections (Key Observations)

Focusing on Parts 1 and 3, we'll examine critical indicators and their implications for our respective ministries.

Key Highlights:

Missionary activity in bible translation, church planting and disciple making movements have grown exponentially.

Given that the world population has tripled from two billion to seven billion, the percentage of global Christianity is still the same at 33% since 1900. We have work to do.

The number of people evangelized and reached with the gospel have grown tremendously over the last 150 years.

The fulfillment of the Great Commission requires an integrated approach that combines proclamation, praxis, and presence.

The importance of cultural appreciation and understanding in mission is paramount and the potential of migrant believers as a modern mission force is critical.

The role of digital technologies in missionary activity is emergent.

The need for a global and collaborative approach to fulfilling the Great Commission is paramount.

Regional Observations:

The current status of various traditional missiological measures, including the growth of Christianity in Sub-Saharan Africa, the decline of Christianity in the Middle East, North Africa, and Western Europe, and the rise of independent Christian traditions.

The church needs to maintain its growth in Africa and emphasize evangelization, youth discipleship, and an integrated theological vision.

Asia may produce half of the global GDP by 2040. India's economy has grown into a powerhouse.

The Four Asian Tigers (Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea, and Taiwan) have maintained high levels of economic growth.

The Tiger Cub Economies (Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam) have maintained steady growth in recent decades.

The world's five largest economies are projected to be China, the US, India, Indonesia, and Germany by 2050.

Urbanization is rapid in East Asia and the Pacific, with 68% of the world population projected to live in urban areas by 2050.

Implications for Our Ministry Partnership:

Considering these key indicators, we must reflect on their implications for our shared vision of transformed lives and changed communities. Join the conversation and share your reflections.

- How can we effectively integrate evangelistic proclamation with the practical gospel application in our missiological engagements to enhance holistic impact?
- What strategies can Christian faith-based initiatives employ to promote sustainable development, alleviate poverty and address systemic inequality?
- How can we cultivate a nuanced understanding of regional contexts to inform contextualized approaches to evangelization, discipleship and sustainable development?

Here are helpful links & resources from the Lausanne Movement:

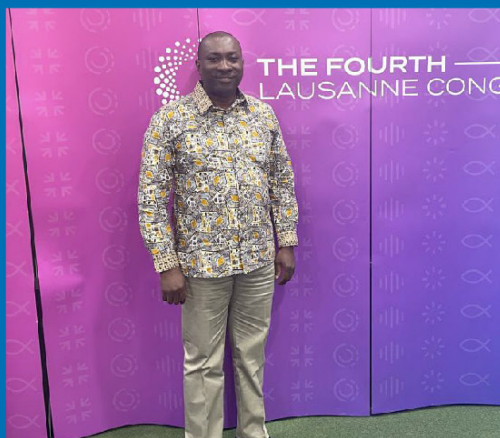
Lausanne Movement Website

The Seoul Statement

Lausanne Collaborative Action Hub

The State of the Great Commission Report

The Accelerate Platform



SHAPING THE FUTURE OF FINANCIAL REPORTING FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS

The IFR4NPO Project is a pioneering initiative aimed at developing International Financial Reporting guidance specifically tailored for Non-Profit Organisations (NPOs). This collaborative effort is jointly led by Humentum, a renowned global NPO convener, and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) in the United Kingdom.



Technical Expertise and Stakeholder Engagement

To ensure the project's technical rigor, a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) was established, comprising esteemed individuals nominated by standard setters from various countries, including the UK, USA, Canada, Sierra Leone, New Zealand, Australia, Colombia, Malaysia, Austria. The Pan-African Federation of Accountants (PAFA) and the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) participates as formal observers.

In addition, the project facilitates extensive stakeholder engagement through the Practitioners' Advisory Group (PAG), comprising approximately 20 representatives from NPOs, donors, and auditors worldwide. This diverse representation ensures the final guidance is relevant, practical, and addresses the unique needs of NPOs.

Objectives and Scope

The IFR4NPO Project seeks to enhance the quality, transparency, and credibility of NPO financial reports, promoting comparability for informed decision-making.

Key areas of focus include:

- Accounting for grant expenses
- Fundraising costs
- Measurement of assets
- Classification of expenses
- Financial statement presentation
- Narrative reporting

A Global Initiative

The IFR4NPO Project presents a unique opportunity to contribute to the development of internationally recognized guidance tailored to NPOs. As the country champion for Ghana, I am honoured to be part of this global effort. To stay updated on the project's progress, please visit the website at www.ifr4npo.org and subscribe to the [newsletter](#).

CHANGES TO THE GLOBAL OFFICE TEAM

We are pleased to announce updates to the Global Office Team, effective November 1, 2024. Our team consists of the full-time General Secretary and Coordinators who work as independent contractors or through Global Partner offices. The Global Office facilitates ministry partnerships, fostering collaboration and driving meaningful impact. Our four-fold function encompasses: [1] Strengthening Partner Countries, [2] Developing Resource Opportunities, [3] Promoting Collaboration and Engagements, [4] Enhancing Stewardship and Accountability.

New Appointments and Transitions

We warmly welcome Collins Togom as Programmes Coordinator (full-time), based in Nairobi, Kenya. Collins is a development practitioner with over 12 years' experience specialized in project design, implementation and management as well as fundraising strategies. Collins previously served as Programmes Manager with Homecare Fellowship in Kenya. I am grateful to Rev. Dr. Judy Mbugua for allowing Collins to participate in grant acquisition strategy meetings since 2022. Collins holds an M.A in Project Planning and Management from Maseno University-Kenya and currently a PhD Candidate in Development Studies at Daystar University-Kenya. His research interest is in sustainable funding models and sustainable interventions of Faith-Based Organizations. Among his responsibilities, he will oversee the implementation of MPM, provide technical support to Partners, coordinate the Global Grants Acquisition Team (GGAT) and the Project Managers Forum (PMF). Join me welcome Collins to the role. His email address is collins.togom@internationalneeds.global.

We bid farewell to Isaac Arthur, who has assumed higher responsibilities as Head of Programmes for IN Ghana. We express our gratitude for Isaac's dedication and passionate commitment to supporting Partners. Although he will no longer be part of the Global Office team, Isaac will continue to support the network through the Ghana office. We wish him God's speed in his new role and pray for impactful leadership. I am grateful to Cromwell Awadey, Executive Director of IN Ghana for his immense support releasing Isaac to serve the Global Office. Let's appreciate Isaac for his labour of love and congratulate him on his elevation. You can reach him through his email address – isaac.arthur@internationalneeds.global.

Additional Team Updates

Sangeetha, based in Bangalore, India, assumes the role of General Services Coordinator (part-time), responsible for supporting The Link App implementation, coordinating monthly prayer calls, and administering digital resources.

Priscilla, based in Accra, Ghana continues as Finance Coordinator (part-time), overseeing inter-partner transfers, and financial reporting.

Patrick, based in Ohio, USA, serves as Communications Coordinator (part-time), responsible for the global

website, partner portal, digital assets, design and communications support.

We are excited about these changes and look forward to continuing our mission of facilitating connections, equipping partners, and empowering collective action towards our shared vision of transformed lives and changed communities.



Collins Togom

Upcoming Events – Save the date

- Call to Prayer (November 6, 9 am and 6 pm GMT)
- Executive Committee Meeting (November 11 – 15, 9 am GMT)
- Executive Directors Working Group 2 (November 19, 12 pm GMT)
- Learning Session: Building Communities of Practice (November 21, 11 am GMT)
- Annual Thanksgiving Service and Communion (December 4, 9 am and 6 pm GMT)

Prayer Points

- Pray for fruitful outcomes for all the upcoming events particularly travelling mercies for the Executive Committee meeting in Sri Lanka.
- Pray for divine guidance for purposeful planning and execution for leaders across the network.
- Pray for boldness and courage for our brothers and sisters serving in restricted contexts when they face persecution.

May the favour of God rest on us; establish the work of our hands and prosper all our endeavours as we partner together in furtherance of the Great Commission (Psalm 90:17).

Blessings

Edmond Vanderpuye PhD, CA
General Secretary