

A Global Community Development Network?



Framework Discussion Paper

Mike Tyler July 2018
The Aid for Trade Foundation

A Global Community Development Network?

A Discussion Paper

Why a New Development Network?

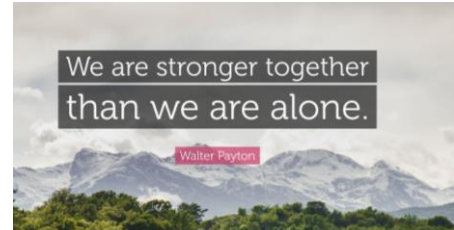


The World Bank report that 780 millions or 10% of the world's population still live in very severe poverty with less than £1.20 per day income and that over 70% of these poorest people live in rural communities – the largest numbers in S/Saharan Africa

There are many Christians, especially in diaspora communities and those running small charities helping or wanting to help reduce poverty and contribute to community development, but struggling to find helpers, supporters and funding.

Overseas there are many thousands of churches, missions and local charities committed to helping their members and communities but lacking 'know how' - who can be reached and helped via the internet

Developing a global network engaging with Christian diaspora representatives will provide new opportunities for encouragement, collaboration and for an increasing collective contribution to the development of disadvantaged communities and to integral mission



A Global Community Development Network?

Background from Published Papers



“Around the world, poor people are often politically oppressed, economically exploited, socially marginalized and neglected, spiritually bound, and culturally inhibited. Women, in particular, are even more oppressed and marginalized by traditions, cultural practices and political discrimination. Rarely are they (or their views) listened to, which means they almost never participate in the affairs that most directly influence their lives. As a result, development is silenced along with the numerous constructive and creative ideas that go voiceless.....”

"Transformation is the change from a condition of human existence contrary to God's purposes to one in which people are able to enjoy fullness of life in harmony with God " (IFECOUR [1996], 7)

From: 'Journey to Transformation' by the Sentinel Group (www.sentinelgroup.org)
Transformation needs.....”.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GBtphQhG0uE>

“Any discussion of the agents of Transformational Development (TD) that does not mention the role of the church would be ignoring the only institution that has a divine mandate of leading the charge in promoting spiritual change within the world. There is no question that the Church must be involved in every attempt at TD.

It is this idea that makes transformation an inherently radical concept. Radical because it not only attempts to address the needs highlighted by secular development, but reaches deeper to touch the root of our problems. It is about bringing abundance, empowerment, service, and character into the economic, social, political, and especially spiritual aspects of poor and disenfranchised people's lives everywhere.”



A Global Community Development Network?

Mission Statement?

A global collaborative network of Christian individuals and agencies assisting disadvantaged communities to develop their social, economic and spiritual potential for the common good

Network Objective

To share knowledge, provide or develop appropriate training and information resources and progress collaborative practical aid and project opportunities to equip local Churches and Christian agencies to help the poor and their communities via the internet or other media to develop their best potential



Possible Approach

Establish a UK based Steering Group, with UK Diaspora to direct formation of this new network. Steering Group members might then either stand down or become Trustees or Board members depending on structure and name adopted ('Mission Aid' which is linked to Aid for Trade is an option)

Applying the principles of CDD (Community Driven Development) ABCD (Asset based Community Development) and TD (Transformational Development) with concern for spiritual welfare, protecting the environment and providing equal opportunities for all

PEOPLE WITHOUT HOPE
WON'T TAKE ACTION.
IF YOU WANT TO
HELP SOMEONE,
GIVE THEM
HOPE.

Some Internet Links on Community Development:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHnKZ2ttcCo>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=leN7_TICGXM

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Gf8vPaZfY>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_muFMCLebZ4

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kroek9foq1c&t=6s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uRb97vsehaM>

A Global Community Development Network?

1. The Network will support integral Christian mission and contribute to the United Nations 17 Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) – focussing on the No.1 priority of severe poverty reduction and implementing Goal No.17 for Partnerships – see all 17 goals at end
2. A new collaborative multilingual website probably needs to be developed to enable all members to provide an online profile of their objectives, activities, community needs, location and contact details, accessible only by other members, so that effective useful communication between members can take place
3. Existing downloadable Aid for Trade training programmes to be freely available to all members with an agreed programme for further development of downloadable or multimedia training and information resources, plus practical collaborative projects and models suitable for replication
4. Wherever possible collaboration will be used to bring focus on helping the disabled, disempowered women, unemployed young people long term refugee settlements and prisoners approaching release
5. Develop and adopt an international accreditation scheme for trading enterprises adopting a code of good business ethics, implementing equal opportunities, supporting social development and environmental protection

Potential Member Benefits of Diaspora linked Network

1. Share experience via a website and liaison
2. Increase impact helping disadvantaged communities
3. Collaborative development opportunities
4. Improve collective funding access
5. Prioritise and progress new development programmes and resources
6. Equip Diaspora representatives, local Churches and Community leaders anywhere to assist or lead community development
7. Newsletter for innovation, encouragement and inspiration
8. Shared affiliations, insurances and travel support

A Global Community Development Network?

Membership



Open globally to any Christian led Church, mission agency, charity or individual supporting the vision and willing to share information and experience with other members and to collaborate in using available resources as appropriate to contribute to progressive community transformation

Member Designation – to encompass existing AFT contacts, this might be

- 'Associates' - in country agencies using available tested programmes
- 'Directors' - in country focal point for promotion and liaison
- 'Ambassadors' - living in UK helping development and liaison
- 'Partners' - agencies providing funding or programmes
- 'Research Associates' - volunteers helping development and planning

2. Members will contribute to the development, use and wider promotion as appropriate, of an increasing range of free downloadable training resources designed to help sustainable poverty reduction and community development with a regular collaborative newsletter
3. Members will be committed to a high standard of integrity, through an agreed Code of Ethics and to tackling corruption wherever possible
4. Liaison/advocacy for collaboration with regional and national education and development authorities will be encouraged by Country Ambassadors and Directors
5. Where programmes are common joint fundraising should be possible

Structure

1. A formal or informal structure could be adopted. Country Ambassadors and representatives of partnering agencies might become Trustees, if the Steering Group agrees to establish some form of registered entity such as an 'umbrella' charity.
2. A regular newsletter of key developments and encouragement topics and innovations for the poor will be circulated
3. The network will have the potential for significant grant funding – for which a formal 'consortium' of interested members will be needed
4. An annual conference will be held if necessary via suitable form of webinar

A Global Community Development Network?

Sustainability

By donations, grants membership charge or trading activity (e.g.: 'Business in a box' sales of affordable essential goods AFT trialled in Mozambique, possible direct online producer/UK product sales or on line advertising/sales commission on small scale plant and equipment



Budget

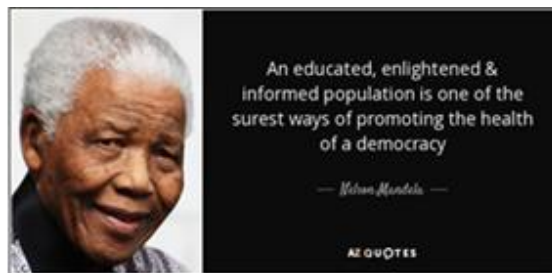
A three year budget would need to be developed and funded

Possible Programme/Resource Use and Development

1. Use by members of programmes such as Sportworks, Youth Steps, and the collaborative development of an appropriate Agribusiness training programme will be recommended, to facilitate early network member collaboration
2. Diaspora members may be able to help translation of programmes
3. Diaspora contacts will be invited to liaise with Aid for Trade partners (15 countries and contacts (8 more countries) in their 'home' country
4. UK school/college students could be invited to support a project – two being approached by AFT as a possible pilot
4. There is a wide range of 'know how' training programme topics which can be prioritised for development by diaspora members, in liaison with home communities or overseas contacts, trialled and then used to equip local Churches, missions or charities to lead or assist community development:

A Global Community Development Network?

Programmes which might be considered and prioritised by local leaders/communities (Most exist but need research and adaptation)			
1	Basic Education/life skills	23	Spiritual Encouragement/Prayer
2	Adult literacy	24	Cultural traditions/Festivals
3	Womens empowerment	25	Care for elderly, disabled and orphans
4	Trade development for income (AFT)	26	Sports and Entertainment
5	Integration of the disabled with income generation	27	Knowledge access (books/internet)
6	Basic low cost home construction	28	Dispute and conflict resolution
7	Best small scale agriculture/aquaculture/apiculture practice	29	Communication (Radio/public meetings)
8	Agri-food development	30	Infrastructure development (Roads/Transport/mail)
9	Retaining and buying seed	31	Community civic services/police and emergency
10	Farmers Associations and Young Farmers Clubs	32	Develop volunteering/teamwork/trust
11	Community produce and perocessing garden for produce	33	Safe homes smoke free/mosquito nets
12	Retaining and buying seed	34	Financial services (Savings and Loan)
13	Community compost production	35	Waste disposal/recycling/saleable products
14	Renting tools and equipment	36	Leadership Basics
15	Integrity/preventing corruption	37	Supply of affordable essential goods
16	Potable and irrigation water	38	Management of climate change and environment
17	Food Security	39	Citizens advice resource
18	Sanitation	40	Internet access, training and safety
19	Healthcare/Medical/Dental	41	HIV control
20	Energy supply options	42	Local crafts/Vocational Training
21	Local Judiciary	43	Spiritual Development Mission needs
22	Council to Manage Development	44	Bitcoin and mobile money



A Global Community Development Network?

