WHAT DOES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MEAN?

Community development work goes hand in hand with our desire to see Christ-centred churches among all African people. Not merely as an inroad to facilitate our mission work, but as a goal in itself. Our heart is to see people’s whole lives redeemed by the love of Christ, and communities changed as people understand their value in God’s eyes.

For some, that can mean adopting ‘Farming God’s Way’ agricultural practices as communities come to understand their role as stewards of God’s creation. Or, it can mean communities working together to provide education for their children, or sustainable healthcare systems. The list is probably endless.

Often the people we work among see themselves as poor. We have the privilege of letting them know that they are not poor in God’s eyes but are valued and valuable. This is a transformation that can inspire communities to make positive changes for themselves. Changes that can also mobilise communities for mission, as they recognise the gifts and abilities that God has given them to share his good news with their neighbours.

Could you be part of our community development work and see lives changed by the gospel?

“Our heart is to see people’s whole lives redeemed by the love of Christ, and communities changed as people understand their value in God’s eyes.”

WHO ARE AFRICA INLAND MISSION?

Africa Inland Mission are an evangelical, interdenominational organisation with the vision of ‘Christ-centred churches among all African peoples.’ We exist to help churches in Europe send mission partners to Africa, to partner with the African Church in reaching Africa’s unreached peoples with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

WHAT IS TIMO?

TIMO (Training in Ministry Outreach) is AIM’s two-year training programme with a team approach to learning. It’s main focus is to reach the unreached with the good news of Jesus Christ and plant churches that plant churches...

eu.aimint.org/go/communitydevelopment
WHAT CAN I DO?

LONG TERM
Twelve months to a lifetime... If God is calling you to use your community development skills among African people groups we would love to partner with you and your church. You could join as part of a team, including our TIMO programme, and be part of pioneer ministry amongst the unreached, or work to support the existing African church in their missions. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact us at personneladmin.eu@aimint.org or 0115 983 8130.

SHORT TERM
If you’re taking a year out, a career break, early retirement, or just simply wanting to offer up time to serve God, you can apply either as an individual or as a team of two or more for 3-12 months service. In that time, you can be part of important work in among African communities, demonstrating God’s love and care and directly support development initiatives. If you are interested, please contact us at sta.eu@aimint.org or 0115 983 8128.

BUT I DON’T FEEL CALLED TO GO…
“And how can anyone preach unless they are sent?” Paul in Romans 10:15 reminds us that senders play just an important role as goers. We are always thankful for the many people who don’t go, but faithfully help send others. One vital way that all believers can be involved in overseas mission, is to pray. Visit eu.aimint.org/pray for prayer resources to help you pray for the work in Africa. If you would like to financially support the work in Africa, please visit eu.aimint.org/give.

FARMING GOD’S WAY

Redeeming people’s relationship with nature is literally transforming the landscape in Africa. Growing Nations is a project based in Lesotho, a country whose soil has been damaged by intensive farming. Through the Farming God’s Way programme Growing Nations teaches and trains farmers in a Biblical worldview that leads them to see themselves as stewards of God’s creation.

Ntate Peiso was trained through the Growing Nations resident student program last year, being taught how to ‘Farm God’s Way’ and in transformational development principles.

AMAZING DEVELOPMENT
It has been amazing to see how Peiso has developed personally and spiritually over the year, and he is now training the current year resident students and others in his community.

“...now I have a new found freedom and am able to share [the gospel] with everyone.”

Ntate Peiso said, “Before I was trained with Growing Nations I farmed my father’s land but it was hard work and I had little knowledge. We never grew enough to live on. I now have the knowledge of how to farm and I know that we will grow enough to live on this year.”

“I am far more confident now and I love teaching others about farming and about the gospel too. Before I was very shy and found it difficult to share the gospel with others but now I have a new found freedom and am able to share with everyone.”