

Opportunities to serve

REACHING THE UNREACHED IK PEOPLE



WHO ARE THE IK?

The Ik people live in Northeast Uganda. Their small villages (called Manyattas) are spread over a number of mountain ranges, many perched on the edge of the great Rift Valley. They are an indigenous, agricultural people and while their origins cannot be guaranteed, it is felt they came from Egypt, via Ethiopia and settled in Ik area. The Ik call their language Icet ód, (Ik-speech), and it is a Kuliak language, (Nilo-Saharan).

The Ik are a marginalised people, numbering between 5,000–10,000 and are incredibly vulnerable and liable to attacks from Dodoth (a subgroup of the Karamojong), the Toposa and Didinga of South Sudan, and Turkana warriors from Kenya. They are historically a non-violent people and, as a result, they have become what one report has described as “the archetypal middlemen – unarmed, non-combative and numerically weak”. They often face famine, and for 50 years received Food Aid. This has now stopped, but the roots of dependency are strong.

WHAT'S THE VISION?

We would love you to share the vision to see reproducing, Christ-centered, self-sustaining churches amongst the Ik, being led by the Holy Spirit, sharing the gospel and making disciples.

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...



Christ-centred churches among all African peoples





WHAT CAN I DO?

LONG TERM

From June 2016, AIM plan to place a Training in Ministry Outreach (TIMO) team from the global church to live among the Ik in Kapalu and Tulutul for two years. This team will come as learners and become trained and equipped in cross-cultural ministry and, together with Ik believers, plant and nourish other gospel-centred communities. If you are interested in joining this team or another TIMO team amongst an unreached people, please contact us at personneladmin.eu@aimint.org or **0115 983 8130**



SHORT TERM

There will also be a number of short term opportunities from the beginning of 2016 to help set up housing for the TIMO team. These houses will not be plush or luxurious, but simple and appropriate to the community the team will live in. If you are interested in serving short term amongst the Ik or elsewhere in Africa, please contact us at shorttermadmin.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 www.aimint.org/eu/ik for a prayer sheet on the Ik, or visit www.aimint.org/eu/pray for more prayer resources from AIM.

European headquarters

AIM International
Halifax Place
Nottingham NG1 1QN
United Kingdom
0115 9838 120
admin.eu@aimint.org

[fb.com/aimeurope](https://www.facebook.com/aimeurope)
[@aimeurope](https://twitter.com/aimeurope)

Scotland

0115 8242202
scotland.eu@aimint.org

South England/Wales

0115 8242205
south.eu@aimint.org

Ireland

0115 8242203
ireland.eu@aimint.org

North England/Wales

0115 8242204
north.eu@aimint.org

French speaking

france.eu@aimint.org

Netherlands

netherlands.eu@aimint.org

eu.aimint.org



PROGRESS SO FAR

FROM EVERY SIDE

For many years and for many reasons the Ik have been marginalised and forced up onto a tiny ridge in Northeast Uganda. Any closer to the edge and they'll fall the 3,000 feet down into Kenya. Just north of them is the Kidepo National Park and in the south, the Timu Forest. Both are rich in resources and protected by the government, which means the Ik are continually at risk of being banned from accessing these areas. They are also caught up in the ongoing cattle raids between the Kenyan Turkana in the east and the Ugandan Karamojong from the west. As a result, they are often beaten, killed, raped and plundered. Everywhere they turn they face opposition. Their weakness, isolation and vulnerability has also meant there is poor healthcare, extremely low educational levels and a massive problem with alcohol. Yet the biggest concern is that they have believed the lie that in the face of the worst of life, there really is no hope. And that just isn't true.

COMMUNITY VALUES

In September 2014, a survey was carried out to obtain the local leadership's approval for a TIMO team to work amongst them. One of the TIMO team's values will be to share the Ik's identity by living amongst them. What's instantly obvious about the Ik is their strong community values. They live in small clusters of houses called manyattas, with their homes and protective fencing made from African Juniper. They provide great protection from the outside and a strong sense of family within - so it was a great answer to prayer that the Ik leaders were open for a team to come, live amongst them and share their lives with them. We were also excited that Team leaders, Christoph & Heidi Rauch from Germany were able to locate an area to build their home and agree with local land owner, Angarab Zachary to build a house there.

LIGHTS ON A MOUNTAIN

It's exciting to see progress being made to reach the Ik, but why have a vision to see a small, vulnerable and forgotten mountain people reached at all? Let us not forget the beauty, pattern and power of the gospel of Jesus Christ. God so often uses the small things to show us he's big, the vulnerable to demonstrate his strength and the forgotten to make himself known.

Please join in praying that God would shine in the hearts of the Ik and give them the light of the knowledge and glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.