

A step-by-step guide to open-ended church mobilisation

1. Envision the church

The facilitating organisation envisions a church to understand the need for integral mission through Bible studies, sermons, learning activities, discussion groups, etc.

2. Establish a co-ordination team

The church appoints a co-ordination team of 6-10 people to lead the process forward within the church and to liaise with the facilitating organisation. The facilitating organisation invests time in developing the skills and capacity of this group.

3. Identify key needs in the community

The co-ordination team and/or church identifies key needs in the community. This is done through a variety of means, including door-to-door visits, interviews with key community stake-holders, and research into poverty issues.

4. Analyse the needs

The co-ordination team or church analyses the needs and determines the most appropriate way of responding. This may involve doing an audit of the skills, gifts, professional experience and resources within the church, while praying for God's direction.

5. Plan the response

The co-ordination team then plans the church's response, guided by the facilitating organisation. The response may include further training, but is likely to be simple and based on the strengths of the church already identified.

6. Provide support and training

The facilitating organisation provides further support and training, or introduces the church to another agency that can provide specialist support and necessary training.

Author: Tulo Raistrick