

Glossary

This glossary explains the meaning of certain words according to the way they are used in this book.

accountability	explaining decisions, actions or use of resources to stakeholders
advocacy	helping people to address underlying causes of poverty, bring justice and support good development through influencing the policies and practices of the powerful
beneficiary	someone who benefits from an initiative
bias	a view in favour of, or against, something
catalyst	something that causes change to happen
Christian organisation	Christian organisation that seeks to transform communities through development, relief and advocacy work. It is not the same as the local church
church and community mobilisation	the act of mobilising a local church to act as a facilitator in mobilising the whole community to address their needs
church mobilisation	the act of mobilising a local church to respond to needs in the community
coerce	to use pressure to make people do things they do not want to do
congregation	the same meaning as 'local church'
demonstration	showing people what it means to be part of God's kingdom, such as through caring for others. Also called 'social action' or 'social involvement'
denomination	a system into which local churches are organised and linked
desertification	a process by which land becomes dry until almost nothing can be cultivated, making it a desert
diocese	a district under the authority of a bishop
displaced	forced to move away from one's usual home
donor	a person or organisation that gives financial support
empowerment	the process by which people gain self-confidence and become agents of change
envision	to pass a vision to other people
eviction	when people are forced to move out of their home
exploit	to take advantage of someone or something for personal gain

facilitator	someone who enables a process to happen by encouraging people to find their own solutions to problems
gospel	the good news of Jesus Christ
hazard	a natural or man-made event or situation which could lead to danger, loss or injury
initiative	an activity or set of activities carried out by a local church or community to address a community issue
integral mission	speaking of and living out our faith in an undivided way in all aspects of life
labour-intensive	describing an activity that requires a large amount of human input
local church	a sustainable community of local Christian believers, accessible to all, where worship, discipleship, nurture and mission take place
Memorandum of Understanding	a document which states the intentions and responsibilities of two or more parties who have agreed to work together on a specific issue
mentor	a person who provides advice and support to those less experienced
midwife	someone who helps to deliver babies
mobilise	to help people to act on a vision and make it happen
multi-dimensional	having different aspects
NGO	non-governmental organisation
participatory	describes a situation where many people are taking part
pilot	a noun or a verb related to trying something out before implementing more widely
poor / poverty	lacking basic needs, such as food, clothes, shelter, social networks, political voice, faith in God
proclamation	telling people the gospel. Also called ‘evangelism’
project	an activity carried out by a Christian organisation directly in a community
relief	help provided to those in need after a disaster
replication	repeating a process somewhere else
secular	not concerned with religious or spiritual matters
social action / social involvement	the process of a local church addressing material needs in society. Also called ‘demonstration’
sustainability	when the benefits of an initiative continue
tangible	able to be felt or seen
welfare	provision of help to people in need, often without their participation