



# THE SEVEN STAGES OF EFFECTIVE ENGAGEMENT

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1. UPG adoption
2. Initial Engagement of the UPG
3. First disciples are Brought to Christ
4. First Church is Planted
5. First 2nd Generation Church is Planted
6. Church Planting Movement Begins
  - A. Breakthrough Movement: 2nd Gen and some 3rd Gen
  - B. Emerging Movement: 3rd Gen and some 4th Gen
  - C. Sustaining Movement: Consistent 4th Gen and Beyond in Multiple Streams
7. Movement Catalysts (Missionaries) Fielded to other UPGs



# STAGE ONE: UPG ADOPTION

- Commitment to the UPG
- Research to pinpoint the opportunity
- Candidate selection
- Training
- Early strategy identified
- Authentic platform identified
- Financial and member care support in place
- Other logistics done

# EXAMPLE OF STAGE ONE: UPG ADOPTION



The Bondo Poraja people of India

A GlobeServe partner ministry in India has identified the Bondo Poraja as a nearby people group that hasn't yet been reached with the Gospel.

They have adopted the Bondo Poraja and begun to pray about sending workers to reach them





## STAGE TWO: INITIAL ENGAGEMENT OF THE UPG

- Missionaries arrive on the field
- They find suitable housing
- They begin language and culture studies
- They conduct research into suitable ways to reach the people group
- They develop relationships

## EXAMPLE OF STAGE TWO: INITIAL ENGAGEMENT

The Buton of  
Indonesia –  
adopted in  
2019 by a  
GlobeServe  
partner

They live on  
Buton Island



## EXAMPLE OF STAGE TWO: INITIAL ENGAGEMENT



In Spring 2020 the ministry leader took two young trainees “to prayer walk and spy out the land.”

These missionaries have now settled on Buton Island.

They are beginning to build relationships with the Buton people



## STAGE 3: FIRST DISCIPLES BROUGHT TO CHRIST

- Missionaries continue relational development
- Fears and aspirations of the local people begin to be identified.
- These are addressed by a contextual approach to ministry.
- Workers find appropriate ways to share God's Word with the people. Discovery Bible Studies are a great way to get started.
- First believers come to Christ and discipleship begins.

## EXAMPLE OF STAGE 3: FIRST DISCIPLES

The Yaw people of  
Myanmar



Myanmar mission school trainees shared the Gospel and held numerous evangelistic events in Yaw villages.

In February 2021, eight new believers joined the ten families that make up the beginnings of a church.



## STAGE 4: FIRST CHURCH PLANTED

- The number of new believers grows
- Workers find a viable discipleship approach
- New disciples learn how to lead others to Christ
- New disciples learn how to disciple and lead others
- A church is started when there is a sufficient number of disciples



# EXAMPLE OF STAGE 4: FIRST CHURCH PLANTED

The Kotokoli of Togo –  
being reached by trainees from the Ghana hub



When a large enough group of believers is formed, they begin meeting together as a church.

Their meeting place can be very simple.

This keeps the focus on the people, where it belongs!





## STAGE 5: FIRST 2ND GENERATION CHURCH IS PLANTED

- The local church develops its own leadership
- Discipleship and leadership development in the new churches undertaken by the indigenous church
- The new church plants at least one new church.



# EXAMPLE OF STAGE 5: FIRST 2ND GENERATION CHURCH IS PLANTED

The  
Chamar of  
India



A church was  
planted among the  
low-caste Chamar  
people in 2016.

That church has  
now planted two  
more churches and  
two house groups.





## HYPOTHESIS: EFFECTIVE ENGAGEMENT IS ACHIEVED AT STAGE 5

Once the indigenous church has planted at least one additional church, this is a strong indication that the Gospel has taken deep root in the culture in a contextualized manner that produces local ownership of the ministry initiatives.

Care must be taken that the new churches are thoroughly biblical.



## STAGE SIX: A CHURCH PLANTING MOVEMENT IS ESTABLISHED

- Ordinary believers are motivated to share their faith with others
- They are given a simple and easily replicable process to use such as the Discovery Bible Study method
- New groups overcome community pressure and organize into viable churches
- Churches continue being planted along relational lines using simple, reproducible methods



## STAGE 6A: BREAKTHROUGH MOVEMENT

- Consistent Second-Generation Churches come into Existence
- Some Third Generation Churches are planted



## STAGE 6B: EMERGING MOVEMENT

- Consistent 3rd Generation Churches are Established
- Some 4th Generation Churches are Planted

## EXAMPLE OF STAGE 6: AN EMERGING MOVEMENT

An Indonesian GlobeServe partner has planted a church among the Sunda UPG that has planted many more churches.

He has started a training school to equip Sunda believers to reach their own people.

The Sunda of Indonesia





# STAGE 6C: SUSTAINING MOVEMENT

- Consistent 4th Generation Churches are Established
- The Movement goes Beyond the 4th Generation into yet more Generations
- The Movement goes into Multiple Streams



## EXAMPLE OF STAGE 6: A SUSTAINING MOVEMENT



A rapidly multiplying church in India





## STAGE SEVEN: MOVEMENT CATALYSTS (MISSIONARIES) ARE SENT TO OTHER UPGS

- The church is expected to be a missional church from the very beginning
- Early missional efforts to another people group will work best along relational lines
- The church is taught basic principles of cross-cultural ministry
- Missions to another people group can be done even as the home churches continue to reach out and grow within their own group.