

# Engagement Accelerators



## What they are

Engagement Accelerators **highlight key factors that can help move a people group toward a stronger and more sustainable gospel presence**. They are not separate phases but domains of strategic engagement (e.g., prayer, Scripture access, training, collaboration) that can be leveraged differently at each phase. **Accelerators are diagnostic and catalytic**—they surface gaps, spark ideas, and focus next steps. They are not a scorecard, prescription, or one-size-fits-all method.

## How to use them (simple team workflow)

- 1. Identify your phase.** Confirm the current Phase of Engagement for the people group. (See Appendix for phase definitions)
- 2. Find the Accelerator Diagnostic Questions** - (Page 3 and 7-14)
- 3. Pray and diagnose.** Prayerfully review the Diagnostic Questions; answer honestly with field reality in view.
- 4. Discern and choose.** Think beyond the questions to the wider ministry domain. Ask God what 1-3 items (or your own ideas) would most strengthen engagement and help you take a step toward the next phase.
- 5. Plan and act.** Use the Accelerator planning worksheet (page 6) to assign the next step, identify partners, and set goals. Keep it small, specific, and culturally appropriate.
- 6. Learn and update.** Note what happened, what you learned, and any phase-shift signals (e.g., new baptisms, new groups, leaders emerging). Could you share updates with your network and Mission Information Community?

## Guiding principles

- Context first:** Adapt ideas to language, culture, security, and local wisdom.
- Sequence matters:** Choose actions that **advance** the phase rather than entrenching the current one.
- Look for where God is already at work and join in.** Build on existing strengths—whether people, relationships, or approaches—and be careful not to replicate what's already succeeding.
- Partner widely:** Involve local believers, proximate cultures, diaspora, and specialty ministries.
- Keep it light:** This is a guide for prayerful creativity—use it to focus, not to add burden.



# The Engagement Accelerators

## Prayer

Sustained intercession aligned to the people group's realities, seeking God's guidance, protection, and breakthrough. Includes personal, household, and multi-church rhythms.



## Scripture/Resource Access

Ensuring heart-language access to Scripture and gospel content in appropriate formats (print, audio, app, oral). Prioritizes distribution pathways, local stewardship, and feedback to translation/production.

## Vision Casting

A clear, compelling picture of gospel advance for the people group that aligns teams, churches, and partners. Uses stories and simple data to set direction and sustain momentum.



## Multi-node Engagement

Coordinated presence across channels and geographies (rural/urban hubs, strategic cities, diaspora, media, online). Prioritizes and adapts nodes as conditions shift to reach more of the people group.

## Mobilization/Sending

Identifying, preparing, deploying, and caring for workers (local, near-culture, cross-culture). Includes simple pipelines, coaching, and member care that endure over time.



## Collaborative Engagement

Shared prayer, learning, data, and mutual care among churches, agencies, and local believers. Clarifies roles through simple agreements and works together on crises and opportunities.

## Meeting Needs/Compassion

Tangible expressions of love that dignify communities and open relational doors. Designed to "do no harm," be locally led, and connect naturally to long-term discipleship.



## Critical Contextualization

Community-discerned application of Scripture that is biblically faithful and culturally meaningful. Regularly reviews forms and practices with diverse voices to guard against drift and syncretism.

## Research/ Cultural Insights

An ongoing learning posture that maps language, worldview, social networks, migration, and pressure points. Insights are synthesized and fed back into strategy and practice.



## Multiplying Efforts

Habits and systems that drive generational growth of disciples, groups, and churches. Emphasizes lay evangelism, identification and development of leaders, and the wise release of authority.

## Training/Equipping

Reproducible formation for disciples and leaders in evangelism, disciple-making, leadership, formation, and stewardship. Delivered by practitioners and designed to be passed on.



## Marketplace Involvement

Credible businesses that provide access, witness, and tangible blessing. Operates ethically, favors local ownership, and integrates workplace discipleship where appropriate.

**Use the diagnostic questions on the next page to identify opportunities.**



# Accelerator Diagnostic Questions

**How to use:** Review all 12 questions. Identify 1-2 that expose your biggest gap or opportunity for moving toward the next phase. Brainstorm specific next steps. For additional ideas, consult the phase-specific questions on pages 7-14.

## Prayer

Who specifically needs sustained prayer to move forward, and who can you mobilize to intercede alongside you for breakthrough into the next phase?



## Scripture/Resource Access

What barriers prevent people from engaging God's Word in their heart language and preferred format—and how could removing those barriers accelerate progress toward the next phase?

## Vision Casting

What compelling picture of gospel breakthrough could unite, mobilize, and inspire people to action toward the next phase?



## Multi-node Engagement

Which geographic, demographic, or digital spaces remain untouched or show the most receptivity—and could engaging them unlock movement toward the next phase?

## Mobilization/Sending

What type of worker does your current phase require and who needs to be identified, prepared, or sent to drive progress toward the next phase?



## Collaborative Engagement

What would you gain by partnering more intentionally with other workers, local believers, or nearby churches to strengthen your capacity for moving to the next phase?

## Meeting Needs/Compassion

How can tangible acts of love open relational doors and build trust that positions you for the deeper gospel engagement required in the next phase—without creating dependency or undermining local initiative?



## Critical Contextualization

Where might your current forms or practices feel foreign, create unnecessary barriers, or drift from Scripture—and could addressing these unlock readiness for the next phase?

## Research/ Cultural Insights

What don't you yet understand about how people think, connect, decide, or resist—and how could learning this remove obstacles to the next phase?



## Multiplying Efforts

What's currently reproducing on its own versus requiring your constant involvement—and what would need to multiply to sustain movement into the next phase?

## Training/Equipping

Who needs to be trained or equipped, in what specific skills or biblical foundations, to catalyze the breakthrough needed for the next phase—and who has the capacity to provide that training?



## Marketplace Involvement

How can the work lives and business connections of believers—both emerging and established—create natural spaces for witness and sustainable presence that advance progress toward the next phase?



# Appendix



# Phases of Engagement



## Phase 0: Waiting

There is no known reported engagement to establish self-sustaining churches, or; "0-R" - Previous efforts have not resulted in ongoing activity or have not been updated in three years. Sub-indicator "0-R" marks that a restart is needed.

## Phase 1: Entry

Workers or near-culture believers gain access and begin laying relational foundations to share Christ and plant churches. The focus is on connecting, learning, and building bridges.

## Phase 2: Evangelism

Regular, culturally relevant gospel engagement is taking place, with the intention of planting self-sustaining churches.

## Phase 3: Discipleship

Individuals or small clusters respond in repentance and faith. Early discipleship stresses obedience to Scripture, laying foundations for self-sustaining churches consistent with evangelical faith and practice.

## Phase 4: Local Church

Believers from the people group gather regularly, functioning as a local church that is consistent with evangelical faith and practice. Leaders from the people group are emerging among these churches.

## Phase 5: Reproducing Church

Churches from the people group are sending out evangelists or church planters to plant new churches among their own people. Second-generation groups and churches are forming.

## Phase 6: Multiplying Church

Generational church streams spread across the people group, reaching 4th generation or beyond of both churches and leaders. Church network structures remain lightweight, empowering localized oversight.

## Phase 7: Sustained Gospel Presence

The people group has either: (1) 10% or more following Christ and worshipping in churches, or (2) several multiplying church planting networks led by believers from the group, who are sending workers to other peoples while continuing to mature at home.



# Accelerator Planning Worksheet

People group: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Phase: 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

## Step A — Select Accelerator Ministry Domains (choose up to 3)

Check the domains most likely to move this group toward the next phase; see the diagnostic prompts for each domain.

- Prayer  Scripture/Resource Access  Vision Casting  Multi-node Engagement
- Mobilization/Sending  Collaborative Engagement  Meeting Needs/Compassion  Critical Contextualization
- Research/Cultural Insights  Multiplying Efforts
- Training/Equipping  Marketplace Involvement

## Step B — From Domain → Local Application

For each checked domain, summarize an insight from the field for why this is a gap or opportunity.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

(Tip: Use the phase-specific diagnostic questions to surface gaps/opportunities.)

## Step C — Action Ideas (brainstorm, then pick 1-3)

List concrete ideas for the domains above. Circle your top 1-3 to develop into plans.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Step D — SMART Plans (create 1-3 mini-plans)

Action Item	Objective	Controllable Measure	Owner	Due Date



# Phase 0 Accelerators



## Prayer

- Is there prayer for workers and intercessor teams to be mobilized?
- Are there simple prayer profiles available?
- Is there a prayer network for this people group?



## Scripture/Resource Access

- What Scripture resources exist (audio, portions, NT, full Bible)?
- Is scripture available in a trade language that is accessible to most people in the group?

## Vision Casting

- Is a simple people group profile available?
- Have the people group been adopted for prayer?
- Are you regularly sharing about the need among the people group?



## Multi-node Engagement

- Have the key nodes been identified, including diaspora hubs in neighboring countries / global cities?
- Have you researched entry opportunities and barriers?

## Mobilization/Sending

- Have you identified other networks working in proximity to the people group?
- Have short-term exploration teams been sent?
- Are easier access nodes being considered for mobilization?
- Are there low-barrier first steps—prayer groups, discovery nights, exposure trips, digital engagement?



## Collaborative Engagement

- Are there like-minded ministries in proximity who can be partners for engagement?

## Meeting Needs/Compassion

- Do we understand priority felt needs?



## Critical Contextualization

- Do you have a basic understanding of the people groups worldview and religious practice?

## Research/ Cultural Insights

- Have you completed online or historical research?
- Have you listed or mapped all strategic access points?



## Multiplying Efforts

How are the following multiplying?

- knowledge of the people group
- resources for mobilization

## Training/Equipping

- Do you have a basic understanding of how to share the gospel, make disciples, plant churches, and develop leaders in your own context?
- Have you been equipped to a healthy view of risk, resiliency, and safeguarding?



## Marketplace Involvement

- Is there a viable legal, ethical, sustainable vocational pathway for presence?
- What visa, registration, or business structures are credible locally?

# Phase 1 Accelerators



## Entry

### Prayer

- Are you praying by name for persons of peace and households?
- Has the initial area been spiritually mapped and spiritual strongholds identified?
- Are there more in-depth prayer opportunities through short-term teams or online resources?

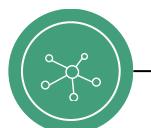


### Scripture/Resource Access

- How is truth most frequently communicated in this context? i.e., print, oral, radio, by mouth, or digital/web
- What are the key resources needed for development at this phase?
- Has feedback been given on existing translations?

### Vision Casting

- Are others vision-casting for these people group?
- Are the needs of the community being shared?

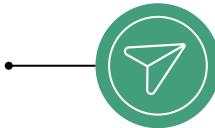


### Multi-node Engagement

- Can you continue in this node long-term?
- Are 'nodes' prioritized by gospel access potential?
- What is the next node of engagement?
- Will sharing freely in this context affect my ability to stay here?

### Mobilization/Sending

- Do you have enough workers for the current project?
- Are you mobilizing people to work through media?
- Are diaspora believers from this PG engaged as bridge people?



### Collaborative Engagement

- Are there any near-culture Christians that can be mobilized?
- Does the people group have an aspired identity that relates to a geographically close Christian group?
- Can you help direct any local ministries to serve this people group?

### Meeting Needs/Compassion

- Are compassion activities requested by locals and legally permitted?



### Critical Contextualization

- Are outside workers aware that their actions could be perceived as offensive?
- Is there a growing understanding of how to interact with the different power structures in the community?
- Are entry strategies leveraging the resources already in the community?

### Research/ Cultural Insights

- Have you confirmed the key access points for Christians?
- Have you completed in-depth ethnographic research?
- What are the key religious or cultural centers of the people?



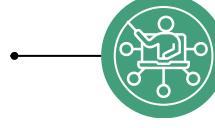
### Multiplying Efforts

How are the following multiplying?

- Prayer
- Access Nodes
- felt-needs projects

### Training/Equipping

- Do you know how to learn basic worldview?
- Do you know how to learn language?
- Is there understanding of helping without hurting?



### Marketplace Involvement

- Are we prototyping 1-2 credible roles (teacher, health worker, trader, tech) to sustain presence?

# Phase 2 Accelerators



## Prayer

- Are you offering prayer to people you meet?
- Are prayer networks praying specifically for and during times of evangelism?
- Are you praying for those who have shown interest by name?
- Is intercession focused on specific households/segments and followed by intentional visits or calls?



## Scripture/Resource Access

- Are Scripture and gospel resources available through multiple modes?
- Are the religious terms a barrier to understanding?
- Are you hearing of felt needs that scripture stories can address?

## Vision Casting

- Are near culture or proximate believers aware of need for gospel witness?
- Are stories of interest/response being anonymized and circulated to sustain prayer?



## Mobilization/Sending

- Are you recruiting to a variety of modes and nodes of evangelism?
- Do you have on-ramps for short-term evangelism trips?
- Are proximate believers active and mentored?



## Multi-node Engagement

- Is the digital space being engaged?
- How many geographic nodes are hearing the gospel?
- How many different segments of the population are being engaged?
- Are we measuring engagement by node (rural/urban/online/diaspora) to learn where grace is opening doors?

## Meeting Needs/Compassion

- Do compassionate works open doors for group conversations rather than only individual?



## Collaborative Engagement

- Are you freely sharing gospel resources you have discovered or developed?
- Are you allowing others to learn from what you are learning?
- Is there a people group focused coalition of ministries to facilitate collaboration?

## Research/ Cultural Insights

- Have you identified cultural bridges for the gospel or redemptive analogies?
- Are you tracking gospel conversations and their responses?
- Are you learning of additional needs of the community?



## Critical Contextualization

- How do people explore spiritual truths, individually or communally?
- Where do meaningful conversations take place?
- Where are people starting at religiously?

## Training/Equipping

- Is there understanding in how to bridge spiritual conversations?
- Is the team equipped to use cultural bridges and illustrations in sharing the gospel?
- Is there knowledge in overcoming objections to the gospel?
- Does the team naturally include Bible stories in conversations?



## Multiplying Efforts

How are the following multiplying?

- evangelists
- access points for gospel materials
- distribution of resources and scripture

## Marketplace Involvement

- Are there workplaces where natural relationship building takes places that leads to spiritual conversations?

# Phase 3 Accelerators



## Prayer

- Are new believers praying for their friends and family?
- Are they praying for new believers?
- Are they praying for leaders to emerge?
- Are they praying for families to journey in discipleship together?



## Scripture/Resource Access

- What are new believers saying about the current scripture and resources?
- Do new believers see a need for more localized resources to be created?
- Are there dialects among the primary language that need specific resources?

## Vision Casting

- Do new believers see the importance of sharing with their friends and family?
- Do new believers see the principle of spiritual reproduction?
- Do new believers sense discipleship is surrender to the Lordship of Jesus?



## Multi-node Engagement

- Are new disciples providing insight into unseen influential nodes?
- Do new disciples see themselves as access nodes to their friends and family?

## Mobilization/Sending

- Do you have sufficient workers to disciple new believers?
- Are you mobilizing new believers to share with their family and friends?
- Are proximate believers discipling alongside cross-cultural workers to transfer ownership early?



## Collaborative Engagement

- Are you sharing testimony of God's work with others for mutual encouragement?
- Are you sharing best practices you are learning with other workers?
- Is there a need to collaborate with people who aren't frequently viewed as key to reaching a group?

## Meeting Needs/Compassion

- Does meeting needs relate to discipleship rhythms?



## Critical Contextualization

- Do initial discipleship lessons align with the culture's overarching worldview (honor/shame, power/fear, guilt/innocence)?
- Is baptism communicated and performed in a manner that is sensitive to cultural realities?
- Does the means of discipleship lean toward people needing to leave their community?

## Research/ Cultural Insights

- Have common worldview obstacles that new believers face been identified?
- Is there a scripture set for new believers that addresses cultural issues?
- Has the best method been identified by local believers for scripture engagement?



## Multiplying Efforts

How are the following multiplying?

- Disciples sharing their story and God's Story
- Confidence to facilitate discipleship gatherings
- Baptisms

## Training/Equipping

- Are new disciples sharing their story with their friends and family?
- Can new disciples lead others in discipleship?
- Is baptism freely given and taken by those who follow Jesus?
- Is persecution or spiritual warfare happening?



## Marketplace Involvement

- What is the new disciple's sphere of influence in the workplace?

# Phase 4 Accelerators



## Local Churches

### Prayer

- Are local churches meeting for corporate prayer and fasting?
- Is there prayer for the community to recognize and affirm emerging leaders?
- Is there prayer for the community to remain bold and faithful in persecution/suffering/ challenges?
- Is there prayer for God to send out new church planters?



### Scripture/Resource Access

- Does the church feel more comfortable using their local language or a trade language in their gatherings?
- Do further leadership development materials need to be translated into the local language?
- What language-specific resource is needed for further scriptural faithfulness?

### Vision Casting

- Do your gathering rhythms emphasize obedience to scripture?
- Does the church have a vision to send?
- Does the church have a health diagnostic tool?



### Mobilization/Sending

- Are you identifying communities that need new churches?
- Do you communicate that the church has a call to go and make disciples?



### Multi-node Engagement

- Are local churches seeing other nodes and taking responsibility to engage them?
- Are churches forming primarily in one type of node at the neglect of others? i.e. rural/urban, young/old, and professionals/laborers

### Collaborative Engagement

- Are churches beginning to network and partner to identify and expand into new locations or types of ministry engagement?
- If multiple churches exist among the people, to what extent are they actively seeking to collaborate?
- How is leadership balanced between the emerging leaders and outside leaders?

### Meeting Needs/Compassion

- Who is leading in ministry through meeting needs?



### Critical Contextualization

- Are churches using local forms for worship and gathering?
- Have redeemed cultural practices been used in church gatherings?
- Do outsiders see the church gathering as foreign?
- Do church gatherings times or locations bring shame to their community or family?

### Research/ Cultural Insights

- Have churches identified other places where business, compassion ministries, or church planting is needed?
- How does the mode and method of gathering relate to those not yet in the kingdom?
- Are churches tracking qualitative and quantitative health metrics?



### Multiplying Efforts

How are the following multiplying?

- Church leaders
- Church planters
- church-based ministries
- release of authority

### Training/Equipping

- Are leaders emerging?
- Is the church growing in faithfulness to the New Testament in practice?
- Is the church reaching its friends and family?
- Is the priesthood of the believer being applied to all levels in the church?



### Marketplace Involvement

- How is the church equipping those in the workforce to grow in their trade and be faithful witnesses?

# Phase 5 Accelerators



## Reproducing Churches

### Prayer

- Is prayer happening for ongoing humility among leaders?
- How are the churches communicating prayer needs to the global body of Christ?
- Are churches praying for 4th generation church starts?



### Scripture/Resource Access

- Are scriptures available in print or on audio devices locally?
- Does each church have a physical copy of the scripture?
- Is all the training needed for church planters available in the heart language?

### Vision Casting

- Is there regular vision casting for planting more churches through developing and releasing more leaders?
- Have leaders been exposed to more fruitful fields to grow their vision?
- Do the majority of people see the call and promise of God to reach all peoples?



### Mobilization/Sending

- Is there a pathway for equipping and mobilization?
- How are church planters being supported?
- Are there people in the church who see it their role to help send?
- Are sending structures and pathways needed at this point?



### Multi-node Engagement

- Are some nodes currently more receptive to the gospel?
- Is there cultural baggage in some nodes that is becoming a barrier to releasing authority to emerging leaders?

### Meeting Needs/Compassion

- Are the current felt needs ministries dependent on external funding?
- What is the sustainability plan?



### Collaborative Engagement

- Are there clear channels of communication between churches for encouragement, accountability, and equipping?
- Are churches collaborating to accomplish more together than they could separately?

### Research/ Cultural Insights

- Have common barriers to multiplication been identified?
- Are there other people groups that have similar culture that have reached phase 6 to learn from?
- Has the church qualitative tracking indicated a deficiency in meeting major health metrics?



### Multiplying Efforts

How are the following multiplying?

- Leaders of leaders
- trainers
- a burden for unreached peoples/places

### Training/Equipping

- How are emerging leaders chosen and equipped?
- How is training multiplying so that the whole community is being lifted together?
- Are trainers in the ministry of church planting?
- Does the training emphasize information or action?



### Marketplace Involvement

- How are you equipping churches to see the sphere of influence of new families coming into as new market segments for additional church planting?

# Phase 6 Accelerators



## Multiplying Churches

### Prayer

- Are churches praying for cross-cultural church planting teams to be sent out?
- Is there a prayer for the growth of biblical faithfulness?
- Is there prayer for the sustainability of the church multiplication?



### Scripture/Resource Access

- Is the New Testament complete and accepted by local speakers?
- Does the network of churches need to work collaboratively to start a church-based translation project?
- Is there a need for an additional translation for a different dialect or religious background that are being reached?

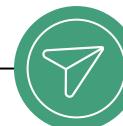
### Vision Casting

- Is God continuing to grow the network's vision?
- What are local leaders saying is next?
- Is vision casting coming primarily from the inside or still the outside?



### Mobilization/Sending

- Are geographic and societal gaps identified for sending new workers?
- Are more experienced church planters contributing a small portion of their time to model for new workers?
- Is sending including pathways for a variety of giftings and callings to participate in God's mission?



### Multi-node Engagement

- Are there strategic nodes that have not yet seen a breakthrough?
- How are different nodes connecting for collaboration and encouragement?

### Meeting Needs/Compassion

- How are churches launching felt-need initiatives that reproduce without external subsidy?



### Critical Contextualization

- Have churches produced their own worship songs?
- Is there diversity in the ways that churches are gathering that reflects the segments of the people group who have been reached?
- Is leadership development happening in the context of culturally appropriate communities of practice?

### Research/ Cultural Insights

- Have case studies of fruitful streams been documented?
- Has outside attention come because of the fruit that could affect the work long-term?
- Are there people offering money with underlying agendas?
- How are the churches growing in maturity?



### Multiplying Efforts

How are the following multiplying?

- church networks
- cross-cultural sending
- problem-solving
- pastoral development
- new church streams

### Training/Equipping

- Has the network captured best practices and compiled a training pathway or package?
- When is a shepherding training pathway needed?
- How frequently do leaders of multiple generations of churches need to have peer learning and problem-solving?



### Marketplace Involvement

- How are the churches spanning and impacting new socioeconomic and societal segments that need the gospel and new churches?

# Phase 7 Accelerators

## >>>>>> Sustained Gospel Presence

### Prayer

- Is the church actively praying for unreached areas and urgent justice issues as part of its regular prayer life?
- Has prayer become a mere formality instead of heartfelt intercession?



### Scripture/Resource Access

- Is Scripture access expanding in print, audio, and digital channels, or plateauing?
- Is there local stewardship for updates, distribution, and new formats?

### Vision Casting

- Is the shared vision still stretching us beyond maintenance toward new peoples and places?
- Are stories and visuals celebrating fresh breakthroughs rather than only institutional activity?



### Multi-node Engagement

- Are rural, urban, diaspora, and media nodes all active, or are some drifting?
- Do we track node health indicators such as new groups, baptisms, leaders, and generations?

### Mobilization/Sending

- Is our pipeline producing new near-culture and cross-culture workers, or has it stalled?
- Do sent workers receive consistent coaching, care, and re-entry debriefs that prevent burnout?



### Collaborative Engagement

- Do regional fraternals still pray, share, and learn together, or have meetings become perfunctory?
- Are there living agreements for data sharing, benevolence, persecution response, and crisis care?

### Meeting Needs/Compassion

- Have compassion initiatives become routine or dependency-creating rather than catalytic?
- Are initiatives opening doors into new nodes and households, or keeping us in safe spaces?



### Critical Contextualization

- Are practices reviewed for biblical fidelity and cultural resonance, or have forms hardened?
- Do diverse voices, including women and younger leaders, help surface drift or blind spots?

### Research/ Cultural Insights

- Are we still listening for shifts in worldview, migration, youth culture, and pressure points?
- Do new insights translate into strategy adjustments, or are we coasting on old assumptions?



### Multiplying Efforts

How are the following multiplying?

- Sending structures
- Engagement of spiritual gifts
- renewal movements

### Training/Equipping

- Are leaders multiplying, or has leadership concentration created bottlenecks?
- Do leaders receive ongoing formation in reconciliation, peacemaking, and healthy correction?
- Is theological education and training harming or expediting progress?



### Marketplace Involvement

- Are marketplace platforms still opening credible witness and new geography, or mainly sustaining jobs?
- How is the church championing Christian ethics in business to reshape trade, city, or regional business practices?