

GLOBAL CHRISTIAN
PUBLISHING SYMPOSIUM

CONFERENCE NOTEBOOK



Colorado Springs, Colorado August 14-15 2025

SYMPOSIUM LOGISTICS

Symposium conference center

Thursday-Friday, Aug. 14-15. 2025

Penrose House

1661 Mesa Avenue

Colorado Springs, CO 80906

(719) 577-7000

Meeting room: Spencer Penrose Room

Get-acquainted informal dinner

6 pm Wednesday, Aug. 13, 2025

On the Border Restaurant

2190 Southgate Rd.

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Meeting room: "Private Room"

Assisting at the symposium

Jennifer Howard - Facilitator

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GLOBAL CHRISTIAN PUBLISHING SYMPOSIUM

Promoting Christian publishing in less-resourced countries

A gathering of leaders advancing Christian publishing worldwide

Purpose

To look for ways to promote, encourage, and strengthen the Christian publishing industry, especially in less-resourced countries. To identify publishing issues not currently being adequately addressed and to seek solutions.

Objectives

Participants in the Global Christian Publishing Symposium will:

- Develop a shared understanding of Christian publishing potential and challenges in a variety of contexts around the world to better perceive each ministry's unique place in the publishing ecosystem and comprehend how we may complement and learn from one another.
- Discover opportunities for collaboration and sharing of resources to enhance the ability of each ministry partner to more dynamically and fruitfully fulfill its mission.
- Explore potential solutions to persistent publishing challenges in complicated and demanding contexts.
- Produce an agreement of commitments to the health and strength of the Christian publishing industry regionally and worldwide.

Organizing committee members

Jeremy Weber, (former) CT Global

Jeremy Taylor, Tyndale

Kim Pettit, Viva Editing

Sharon Mumper, Magazine Training International

Gathuku Kibunga, Africa Speaks

Ian Darke, Letra Viva

Angela Brandle, Synergie Francophone

Naomi Balk, World Journalism Institute

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Schedule.....	PAGE 4
Symposium registrants.....	PAGE 5
Profile section introduction.....	PAGE 9
Africa Speaks.....	PAGE 10
Center for Law and Justice.....	PAGE 12
Christian Communications Ltd.....	PAGE 13
Christianity Today Global Editorial/Partnerships.....	PAGE 14
CLC Kenya.....	PAGE 15
Encompass World Partners.....	PAGE 18
Evangelical Press Association.....	PAGE 19
Fog Generation.....	PAGE 20
Global News Alliance.....	PAGE 23
Gujarati Christians Literature Ministry.....	PAGE 24
Harper Collins Christian Publishing.....	PAGE 26
Korea Christian Publishers Association.....	PAGE 27
Langham Partnership (Publisher Development).....	PAGE 28
Langham Partnership (Langham Publishing).....	PAGE 30
Langham Publishing (Francophone Africa).....	PAGE 31
Leap Publishers/Africanbooks.com.....	PAGE 32
Letra Viva.....	PAGE 35
Magazine Training International.....	PAGE 36
Media Associates International.....	PAGE 37
Mundo Cristão	PAGE 38
Oasis International.....	PAGE 39

Precious Pages.....	PAGE 40
Publish 4 All.....	PAGE 41
Riggins Rights Management.....	PAGE 42
SIM.....	PAGE 43
Synergie Francophone.....	PAGE 45
The Media Project.....	PAGE 46
Tyndale House Publishers.....	PAGE 47
Viva Editing.....	PAGE 48
World Magazine.....	PAGE 49
Writer Training (Miriam Adeney).....	PAGE 50
Synopses Introduction.....	PAGE 51
Challenges Christian publishers face.....	PAGE 52
Attempts to meet the challenges.....	PAGE 54
Obstacles encountered in carrying out the mission.....	PAGE 56
What would help to remove the obstacles.....	PAGE 57
Future challenges and opportunities in publishing.....	PAGE 59
Partnerships experienced recently.....	PAGE 61
Keys to the success or failure of partnerships.....	PAGE 62
Kinds of partnership that could be beneficial.....	PAGE 64
What would you look for in a potential partner?.....	PAGE 65
What would you have to offer a potential partner?.....	PAGE 66

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Penrose House, Colorado Springs

August 13-15, 2025

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13

18:00 - 20:00 Informal dinner

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14

09:00 - 09:40 Breakfast bar/registration

09:40 - 10:45 Introductory session

10:45 - 11:00 Break

11:00 - 12:30 Session: Regional/country reports on Christian publishing

12:30 - 13:00 Catered lunch

13:00 - 14:30 Session: Publishing challenges/overcoming barriers

14:30 - 14:45 Break

14:45 - 15:45 Session: The future of Christian publishing

16:00 Building closes

18:30 - 20:00 Retirement event (optional)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15

09:00 - 09:30 Breakfast bar

09:30 - 10:45 Session: Partnership case studies/discussion

10:45 - 11:00 Break

11:00 - 12:30 Session: Opportunities for collaboration

12:30 - 13:00 Catered lunch

13:00 - 14:30 Summary/Symposium statement

14:30 - 14:45 Closing

GLOBAL CHRISTIAN PUBLISHING SYMPOSIUM

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GLOBAL CHRISTIAN PUBLISHING SYMPOSIUM

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ORGANIZATION PROFILES

With 25 Christians in publishing from 10 countries, the symposium presents a unique opportunity to make contacts with other Christian leaders who share a common desire to promote and encourage Christian publishing around the world.

In order to help registrants decide how best to make use of the limited time available for connecting with others during the symposium, the organizational profiles provided by each registrant are printed in the following pages.

Each organizations' profile describes:

- The mission statement
- Primary activities
- Geographical areas served
- Languages served
- Primary and secondary audiences
- Key programs planned for next 12-18 months
- Plans for next three to five years
- Resources available to share
- Interest in partnering with others
- Types of partnership
- Could offer a potential partner
- Desired in a potential partner

AFRICA SPEAKS

Gathuku Kibunga

Mission Statement: To empower the African Christian publishing community by fostering collaboration, promoting excellence, and overcoming industry challenges to nurture faith, influence society, and shape culture across the continent.

Primary Activities: Industry collaboration and coordination; professionalizing industry and quality standards; technology, fulfillment and distribution; advocacy for discoverability of African authors; Africa Speaks functions as a convener of the Christian publishing ecosystem.

We facilitate: ASROCO (Africa Speaks Roundtable Consultation), our flagship triennial conference that brings publishing professionals together across the continent to discuss industry challenges; regular webinars focused on current publishing trends, challenges, and collaborative opportunities; a vibrant WhatsApp community of 500+ professionals for rapid knowledge exchange and partnership-building; a Christian publishing directory highlighting editors, designers, reviewers, and printers.

We recognize the urgent need for advanced editorial training programs in partnership with MTI/MAI and select universities, promoting structured career paths for publishing professionals with competitive remuneration; building a digital repository of best practices, publishing case studies, and guides; implementing quality assurance through the Africa Speaks Awards and Seals of Excellence to promote trusted standards in print and digital books.

To bridge the digital and logistical divide, Africa Speaks is enabling creation of an integrated e-commerce platform for Christian books across Africa, integration of payment systems and metadata tools to improve book discoverability; partnerships for discounted access to digital publishing and print-on-demand technologies; coordinated presence at global and regional book fairs through collective exhibition booths

Advocacy for discoverability of African authors to access an international audience. Therefore, we champion: increased investment in indigenous language publishing and translation of theological content; advocating for increased seminary and discipleship literature authored by Africans; promoting African Christian books in international markets through rights events and global visibility campaigns.

Geographical areas served: Africa Speaks operates across sub-Saharan Africa, with particular focus on East, West, Central, and Southern Africa. It will also seek international bridges through partnerships, global book fairs, and licensing efforts in Europe, North America, and Asia.

Languages served: Primarily English and French, while strongly advocating for growth in indigenous African languages across publishing, translation, and distribution.

Primary and secondary audiences: Primarily African Christian publishers, authors, editors,

distributors, donors, and international publishing partners, designers, printers, and booksellers. Secondly seminaries, denominational leaders, bookstores.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: Launch of an African Christian book catalogue and metadata system; hosting the next ASROCO (Africa Speaks Roundtable Consultation) in 2027; advanced editorial training programs and MFA scholarship development; and establishment of a digital publishing infrastructure and e-commerce platform.

Plans for the next three to five years: We plan to build a publishing ecosystem and infrastructure that networks the entire industry in Africa.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: None at this time

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes

We actively seek: Professional apprenticeship with international publishers in other regions; investment in fulfillment and other logistics service providers; technical partnerships in advanced professional editorial training; expertise in running industry awards to improve standards; international marketing of African authors

Kind of partnership: Alignment with Christian values and commitment to contextual literature; willingness to invest in Africa-led solutions; experience in publishing, distribution, and professional training.

Could offer a partner: Africa Speaks warmly invites international publishers, donors, distributors, and Christian institutions to join us in shaping the next chapter of African Christian publishing. We are not just building an industry—we are cultivating a movement of spiritual formation, cultural affirmation, and professional excellence.

- Fulfillment Companies: We offer access to a growing community of professionals who need technical solutions for their trade
- International Publishers: A promising growing market and access to publishing rights of great African authors
- Donors: Opportunity to invest in the next frontier for the spiritual maturity of the African church

Desire in a potential partner: N/A

CENTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE

Asif Aqeel (not able to be present at symposium)

Mission Statement: Center for Law and Justice and Christian Heritage Institute

Primary Activities: Research on the Pakistani Christian community's social, cultural, legal, and political issues that affect them. Also, looking at their history from cultural and social aspects.

Geographical areas served: Pakistan and to some extent India because the heritage of the Christian community comes from colonial period when both countries were under the British rule.

Languages served: Urdu

Primary and secondary audiences: Pakistani and Indian Christians but also the general audience.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: Launching a YouTube channel for the coverage of our challenges, heritage and way forward.

Plans for the next three to five years: I see my organization reaching both Pakistani and Indians with academically correct history of Christianity in these lands.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: I plan to launch this channel sometime middle of next year because it requires a Herculean task of going through various types of histories, political landscape of today and the past, social challenges today and the past and bringing a picture that could make our people understand who they are and where they come from. For an American audience it is a given thing but for Pakistani Christians this is not even yet their discussion. They lack a solid identity and without knowing who they are and where they come from, our people cannot stay committed to the Christ.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes

Kind of partnership: A support from Christian organization that has expertise in social media and if possible in financial support that can be very helpful.

Could offer a partner: This I am not sure. It depends on the needs of the partner.

Desire in a potential partner: Whatever the type of support, it should be looking for building something over years and turning it into an institution that can last for coming generations.

CHRISTIAN COMMUNICATIONS LTD - CHINA

Matthew Fung (*not able to be present at symposium*)

Mission Statement: Our mission is to serve the Chinese church, support its healthy growth, and make disciples. Through ministries such as resource publishing, leadership networking, and consulting services, we equip leaders who align with God's heart to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandment, becoming leaders who bring positive influence to families, workplaces, churches, and society.

Primary Activities: Leadership training and publishing

Geographical areas served: Hong Kong and Mainland China

Languages served: Chinese, in both traditional and simplified character

Primary and secondary audiences: Pastors/Christian Lay Leaders in various sectors.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: To complete the series of (1) Systematic Bible teaching material (2) Practical theology for lay leaders

Plans for the next three to five years: To equip and be the companion of Christian leaders as to fulfill their calling.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: Brief intro of the development of Chinese Church and its generation of leaders in last couple of decades.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Be Flexible

Kind of partnership: Flexible and mutually respectful

Could offer a partner: N/A

Desire in a potential partner: N/A

CHRISTIANITY TODAY

GLOBAL EDITORIAL/PARTNERSHIPS

Jeremy Weber

Mission Statement: To strengthen the central nervous system of the global body of Christ, so that Christian leaders can inform and disciple each other more equally across every tribe, tongue, and nation.

Primary Activities: First, expanding the ecosystem of Christian publishing—from online news and multimedia to print periodicals and books—by facilitating more research, training, integration, partnerships, and fundraising. Second, increasing Christian unity via the production of theological education popularized and packaged for multimedia engagement by time-starved and information-saturated readers. Third, supporting the persecuted church via improving evangelical engagement with the international religious freedom community.

Geographical areas served: Primarily the Global South in Asia, Africa, and Latin America; secondarily Europe and bilingual diaspora communities

Languages served: I have significant experience with multilingual publishing in English, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese, French, Korean, Indonesian, Arabic, Japanese, Russian, and Ukrainian.

Primary and secondary audiences: Primary audience is Christian thought leaders; secondary audience is general readers (often non-Christians) interested in news about Christianity and theology.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: I advise ministries on how to authentically globalize their storytelling for maximum and measurable impact, including content creation and networking at key global gatherings.

Plans for the next three to five years: I hope to help more ministries follow the globalizing transformation that I led at Christianity Today, preserving their strengths and expanding their partnerships while making their resources more accessible and impactful to the global church.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations : I have a deep knowledge base and large relational network from 15 years of journalism and publishing at Christianity Today (55 countries, 10 languages, thousands of articles, millions of readers), and I delight in sharing it with ministries to help them find trusted partners with common vision and complementary skills. I'm also a veteran writer and editor, with global experience in content strategy, market research, audience development, and fundraising.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Could offer a partner: Yes, of course. 15 years of expertise in global Christian journalism and publishing, including content strategy, market research, audience development, and fundraising.

Desire in a potential partner: A common desire to bring the global church closer together via publishing and content creation.

CLC KENYA

Dr. Muthoni Omukhango

Mission Statement: To honor God by making Christian literature & resources available & accessible to all nations, to help people come to faith and maturity in the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Primary Activities: a) Writing Training, Publishing and Print-on-Demand (POD) Services (b) Author Development and Collaboration Platforms (c) The Family Unit: Parents, Children, Teenagers and Youth Engagement (d) Literature and Missions Outreach

Geographical areas served: Anglophone Africa

Languages served: English (and partly Kiswahili)

Primary and secondary audiences: a. The Family Unit b. General Body of Christ

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: a) Writing classes in CLC Kenya, at Chariots for Hope children’s home in Kitui, at Kabubbu Development Project in Uganda, at Nairobi Pentecostal Bible College (planned to upscale to college learning unit for 6,000 students), in South Africa, and in Nairobi for Lugha Ishara Foundation for Deaf Children. (b) Publishing of 30 new books focused on the family unit. (c) Print on Demand for authors in the body of Christ, printing about 30,000 books per annum. (d) Hold 5th African Christian Authors Book Award (ACABA) Gala in Nairobi for authors from 19 Anglophone countries in Africa in November and 5th Book Fest in Kampala, Uganda, in October. (e) Monthly reading & publishing clubs for kids and teenagers in Kenya and Uganda. Also graduate about 50 kids and teenagers from the kids writing class with about 10 books published through Mama Africa Book Box (MABB). (f) Host a literature mission for 100-150 pastors in Mombasa for the Centre of Redemptive History South Korea for their books—History of Redemption Series.

Plans for the next three to five years: Working towards establishing: (a) A continental leader in African Christian publishing. (b) A thriving ecosystem for author empowerment. (c) A transformed reading culture among children & teens and their parents. (d) A Catalyst for literature-driven missions. (e) A globally-recognized literary award Platform – ACABA. (f) A Purpose-Driven Retreat Centre for Writers and Authors in Oltepesi, Kajiado country, 65 km’s from Nairobi.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: a) Over the last 5 years, I have developed a guide called *Publishing in Africa* at <https://kenyaclc.org/publishing-in-africa/?v=a2e1f137298d> to guide authors on their writing journey (post publishing). (b) I have developed another guide on publishing soft skills at <https://kenyaclc.org/an-authors-journey-clc-kenya/?v=a2e1f137298d> that we teach to authors in the pre-gala year. (c) I have developed a comprehensive authorship training at <https://africanauthors.net/authors-training-and-empowerment/> that we train authors in post-gala. (d) I co-authored a writing journal for beginners in 2022 <https://kenyaclc.org/shop/a-writers-journal/?v=a2e1f137298d>

CLC Kenya, cont.

e) I authored a teen's version in 2024 <https://kenyaclc.org/shop/writers-guide-for-igen-teens-by-clc-kenya/?v=a2e1f137298d> (f) I authored a kids version in 2024 <https://kenyaclc.org/shop/writers-guide-for-heritage-kids-by-clc-kenya/?v=a2e1f137298d> All the above can be accessed on the respective websites or can be shared for redistribution as PDF's or printed workbooks for your networks.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Absolutely

Kind of partnership: At this stage in its vision journey, CLC Kenya is intentionally seeking Kingdom-aligned partnerships—not just for resourcing or reach, but for meaningful collaboration that advances the shared goal of discipling Africa through Christian literature. We are especially focused on partnerships that align with our core objectives: authorship, readership, and the family unit. Our heart beats most loudly for ministries that serve children, teenagers, young adults, marriages, and parents—because when families are disciplined, nations are disciplined.

So, organizations developing Christian authorship and readership in Africa: We are eager to partner with ministries, NGOs, publishers, and institutions who are invested in nurturing African writers—not just to tell stories, but to tell truth, to teach, to disciple, and to influence culture Biblically. Ideal partners may include: Christian writing academies and theological seminaries with a publishing arm. International publishing ministries willing to mentor, train, or co-publish with an African author as well as provide relevant (family unit) book rights for the African markets. Literacy programs seeking to embed Christian worldview into their reading initiatives. How it helps CLC Kenya: Strengthens our author development tracks and writing boot camps. Increases the volume and quality of indigenous Christian content. Expands our reader base through shared networks and co-hosted programs.

Also, organizations with a strategic focus on the family unit. In this season, families are our front-line focus. We believe that if the father, mother, teenager, and child are disciplined together, generational transformation becomes not only possible—but likely. We are therefore especially drawn to partners whose vision touches the family holistically. High-priority partnership areas: Children's ministries and publishers who create age-appropriate, biblical content. Youth and teen-focused programs that address identity, purpose, and godly living. Marriage and parenting ministries rooted in sound doctrine and practical Biblical wisdom. Schools, home schools, and discipleship curriculum seeking faith-aligned resources.

Examples of synergy: Co-developing devotional plans for parents and children. Distributing Christian books through school networks and family outreach programs. Hosting family literacy and discipleship festivals in churches, schools, or community centers. Providing publishing support to Christian family counselors, therapists, and mentors. This includes partners who support literature distribution and access, content and intellectual property partners, and mutual growth and impact partners.

Could offer a partner: a) Established infrastructure in Christian publishing and distribution. Over 15 years of experience in editing, design, print-on-demand, and hybrid publishing models tailored for the African context. A growing catalogue of African Christian authors, both adult and children's categories. Ability to print and distribute locally in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and other neighboring countries, reducing costs and enhancing regional access. What this means for a partner: You gain access to a trusted, operational publishing and distribution engine for content contextualized for African readers. This includes: deep access to Christian networks across Africa through ACABA and MABB, content development and author coaching expertise, missional programs with measurable Impact, cross-cultural integrity and local execution, and shared Kingdom vision and mutual accountability. CLC Kenya and its subsidiaries, ACABA and MABB invite potential partners into a strategic Spirit-led and enduring collaboration to disciple nations through Christian literature. Whether your interest is in publishing, education, missions, or children's ministry, there is room to co-labour for lasting impact.

Desire in a potential partner: At CLC Kenya, we seek Spirit-led partnerships rooted in a shared commitment to Christ, mutual value, and a passion for discipling Africa through literature. We value partners who uphold integrity, honor cultural context, and bring complementary strengths—particularly in developing Christian authorship, readership, and family discipleship. In this season, we prioritize collaborations that serve children, youth, marriages, and parenting. Most importantly, we desire partners who prayerfully seek God's direction, trusting that lasting impact flows not from strategy alone, but from alignment with his will.

ENCOMPASS WORLD PARTNERS

Greg Burgess

Mission Statement: Publications pour la jeunesse africaine (PJA) creates and distributes publications for African young people with a biblical and Christian perspective that promote the love and understanding of the Bible and its values. We focus on giving opportunities to writers and artists to produce culturally relevant content. We actively seek to work with existing Christian publishing structures and distributors in Africa with the goal of acting in a collaborative, fraternal, and constructive way that contributes to the long-term growth of local Christian publishing in Africa.

Primary Activities: Book publishing, comics publishing and Bible publishing.

Geographical areas served: French-speaking Africa and Europe.

Languages served: French. Occasionally, African languages and English.

Primary and secondary audiences: Primary: African young people and adults. Secondary: Young people and adults in Europe.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: 1. African authored and illustrated children's book and comics series. African authored topical series (for adults) and Bible study materials.

Plans for the next three to five years: To develop ministry in new areas, extending the children's and youth catalog, entering new collaborative partnerships with African authors, artists and publishers, and developing distribution in Europe. PJA will also develop audio and online content in the next three to five years.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: The relationships PJA has developed in publishing circles in Africa and Europe are a resource. Work alongside MAI is a training and relational resource to be shared.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes

Kind of partnership: Partnerships that contribute to the long-term systemic and structural health of Christian publishing in French-speaking Africa.

Could offer a partner: A desire to see the long-term systemic and structural health of Christian publishing in French-speaking Africa and relationships with publishing professionals and content creators in Africa.

Desire in a potential partner: Partners interested in collaborating with local authors, artists and publishing professionals and structures.

EVANGELICAL PRESS ASSOCIATION

Lamar Keener

Mission Statement: The Evangelical Press Association exists to provide inspiration, instruction, and networking to strengthen evangelical periodicals.

Primary Activities: To provide training and resources for magazine publishers. Annual convention for professional development. Annual contests for critiques and recognition.

Geographical areas served: Primarily North America, but expanding to more worldwide.

Languages served: English

Primary and secondary audiences: Primary: Christian magazines, newspapers, newsletters and digital platforms. Secondary: freelancers

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: DigitalMediaCon Oct 21-23, 2025—an annual virtual conference focusing on digital communications. Our annual convention in Nashville, TN, May 11-13, 2026. And the migration into EPA of the virtual/digital training program and online resources previously provided by MTI.

Plans for the next three to five years: Expanding into an international association.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: We can offer special rates for our virtual training programs.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes, very interested.

Kind of partnership: One that provides added value for our members where we can support and provide value and exposure to them.

Could offer a partner: training resources, speakers, discounts to our own programs

Desire in a potential partner: A shared mission and similar audiences.

FOG GENERATION/BRING ART BACK TO THE CITY

Joshy John

Mission Statement: To revive creativity in communities by merging art and faith, empowering neglected and undiscovered talents through exhibitions, workshops, fellowships, and collaborative spaces. BABC exists to create a platform where artists can express, grow, and glorify God through their unique gifts.

Primary Activities: BABC has recently launched in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). We've begun building a creative community through our website, Instagram page, and WhatsApp groups to connect like-minded individuals and spread our vision. In India, BABC has collaborated with other organizations to host art exhibitions, live painting sessions, creative workshops, and outreach programs that merge faith and artistic expression. As we grow in the UAE, we aim to build similar partnerships, host events, and create platforms to nurture hidden and neglected talents.

Geographical areas served: BABC primarily focuses on activities in the UAE and India. As we grow, we remain open to partnerships and outreach opportunities globally, wherever there is a need to bring art, faith, and purpose together.

Languages served: English and Malayalam.

Primary and secondary audiences: Primary Audience: Artists, creatives, and individuals with unique talents—especially those who have been overlooked, marginalized, or lack platforms to showcase their abilities. Secondary Audience: Art lovers, community leaders, faith-based organizations, sponsors, cultural institutions, and anyone interested in supporting or engaging with artistic expressions for community transformation.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: 1) Businessmen Award 2026 & Coffee Table Book Publication. We are planning to honor exemplary business leaders from the region through the Businessmen Award 2026. Alongside the event, we will publish a premium coffee table book profiling 100+ influential business figures. This initiative aims to celebrate excellence, inspire the next generation, and create a meaningful networking platform.

2) The Leadership Legends Award 2026 will spotlight potential and proven leaders across various sectors in the Middle East. Through a curated recognition ceremony and networking event, we seek to highlight leadership that makes a difference—especially in regions where public faith-based gatherings are restricted. 3) Community Art Shop & Gallery to serve as a creative interaction hub, showcasing works by emerging and underrepresented artists, selling original and handmade pieces, and functioning as a community touchpoint.

3) Digital Expansion and Artist Network Platform to connect Christian artists across India and globally—featuring virtual exhibitions, artist profiles, collaboration spaces, and downloadable church art resources. This digital space will amplify BABC's reach and allow isolated creatives to find support and community.

4) Integration with Church and Mission Movements. We intend to partner with local churches, seminaries, and mission agencies to reintegrate art into worship, teaching, and outreach. This includes producing art resources, training worship teams, and developing art-based evangelism tools.

Plans for the next three to five years: At BABC we are prayerfully and purposefully laying the foundation for growth and greater impact in the coming years. We plan to appoint our first full-time staff member and establish a Creative Community Centre where artists and creatives can gather, express their talents, and worship freely. This space will serve as both a performing arts hub and a spiritually enriching worship centre designed especially for the artistic community. With God's favor, we envision expanding BABC into other Middle Eastern countries, connecting with more creatives across borders, and building a network of faith-led art movements. In India, we plan to establish Creative Hubs for artistic discipleship, exhibitions, and public engagement. Art & Theology Training: Launch a certificate/diploma-level program integrating biblical formation and artistic development. Rural Outreach: Mobilize mobile art teams to engage under-served areas through contextual storytelling and creative gospel expressions. Digital Expansion: Build a robust online network to connect artists globally and provide resources for churches and ministries.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: At present, we do not have ready-made materials to share with other ministries. However, we run a professional design and publishing company based in the UAE with a strong track record in delivering high-quality creative services at international standards.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes

Kind of partnership: We are particularly interested in collaborations that can help us strengthen Christian publishing efforts: We welcome partnerships with organizations involved in writing, editing, translating, or distributing Christian literature—especially those working within restricted regions like the Middle East.

Could offer a partner: We bring to the table a unique combination of creativity, ministry experience, and professional design expertise. Our key offerings to potential partners include: Through our events arm, FOG Events, we've successfully conducted musical concerts, multicultural Christmas choirs, and Christian recognition award ceremonies in partnership with churches and ministries. These experiences equip us to organize impactful gatherings while navigating local restrictions. As founders of BABC, we are building networks of Christian professionals, artists, and leaders in the Middle East. We aim to connect and support creative believers across various fields and denominations.

Desire in a potential partner: We are seeking partners who share our heart for Kingdom impact through creativity, discipleship, and strategic outreach. Specifically, we value partnerships with

Fog Generation/Bring Art Back to the City, cont.

those who are aligned with our mission to glorify God through creative ministry—especially in regions where open Christian activity is restricted. A shared biblical worldview and a heart for the unreached are essential.

Mutual trust and transparency are the backbone of any lasting partnership. We value honesty, openness, and a spirit of collaboration where both sides contribute with integrity and commitment. We welcome partnerships where each party brings unique gifts—whether in publishing, ministry, training, funding, technology, or media—that together create a stronger impact than either could alone.

Long-term relationship mindset. We seek to build ongoing, meaningful relationships—not just project-based collaborations. A partner who is willing to walk the journey with us, through seasons of growth and challenge, would be ideal.

Flexibility and cultural sensitivity: Given the cultural and legal sensitivities in the Middle East, we value partners who are willing to work within local frameworks and adapt creatively without compromising the message of the Gospel.

Ultimately, we are looking for Kingdom-minded individuals or organizations who are committed to equipping believers, engaging communities, and empowering creativity in service of the Gospel.

GLOBAL NEWS ALLIANCE

Sam Ebersole

Mission Statement: GNA's mission is to stretch a cooperative news-gathering network around the globe so that no significant developments to the Church go unreported.

Primary Activities: Reporting the news about what God is doing and sharing that with believers around the world.

Geographical areas served: Global

Languages served: English and Spanish

Primary and secondary audiences: Primary: believers who engage with media content provided by our media affiliates: e.g., Revelation TV, GoodTV, AlfaOmega.TV, etc. Secondary: visitors to our website

Key projects or programs for the next 18 months:

1. Increase the number of media affiliates using GNA news reports
2. Increase the number of reporters contributing stories to GNA
3. Train citizen journalists in multiple countries around the world by launching online resources and in-person training

Plans for the next three to five years: We are, the Lord willing, hoping to expand our reach and scope of our stories about what God is doing around the world. To that end, we are working to develop and train citizen journalists from many churches, cities, countries, and continents. Currently, we do not have development plans for new areas of ministry.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: We have video journalism resources available on our YouTube channel and via the Zoho Learn platform.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: YES

Kind of partnership: Any ministry that has a journalistic story to tell and any media enterprise that has an audience that would benefit from hearing those stories could be potential beneficial partners.

Could offer a partner: GNA can provide news content to content providers, and we can provide training and consultation to individuals or ministries that desire to tell stories about what God is doing.

Desire in a potential partner: A shared commitment to fulfilling the Great Commission.

GUJARATI CHRISTIANS LITERATURE MINISTRY

Joseph Benjamin (*not able to be present at symposium*)

Mission Statement: To publish and distribute Christian magazines, books and Scriptures for the education, encouragement and motivation of the global Gujarati language-speaking population.

Primary Activities: a) Publishing a monthly magazine named *Gujarati Christians* which has the largest readership and circulation among the Christian magazines in Gujarati language and is regularly published for the last 19 years (b) Publishing Christian spiritual book titles aimed to revive the faith and courage of spiritually inactive Christian believers. It rejuvenates and strengthens them in the knowledge of Christ, which empowers them to make disciples and start house churches/fellowships. c) Translation, editing, typesetting, and publishing of the Gujarati NLT Bible. Gujarati NLT New Testament is already published and worked wonders during the time of Covid-19 to bring people to Christ. (d) Publish some very effective and successful books in an easy-to-understand modern Gujarati language. (e) All the literature we publish helps and guides the Gujarati non-Christian seekers, to search and embrace Jesus. It also helps new believers in their faith walk with Jesus to grow spiritually.

Geographical areas served: We work among the entire Gujarati-speaking population of the world. Our main focus is on the western state of India named Gujarat and all the Gujaratis throughout India. The Gujarati diaspora is one of the most geographically widespread Indian diasporas, found in a significant number of countries worldwide.

Languages served: Gujarati

Primary and secondary audiences: We work among the Gujarati-speaking audiences of all ages, whether Christian or non-Christian.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: We will be publishing the Gujarati NLT Bible (Tyndale House Publishers) and will continue publishing our monthly magazine *Gujarati Christians* and other effective Christian literature.

Plans for the next three to five years: (a) After the Gujarati NLT Bible is released we intend to start working on the Study Bible with NLT as its base text. (b) We want to start a digital edition of our magazine alongside the print edition so that in future if the print version is not economically viable we can continue our magazine ministry in digital format. (c) Right now we have published about 50 titles of spiritual books consisting world Christian bestsellers, missionary biographies, Bible commentaries, Bible study books, etc. Nearly half are bestsellers and are being sold in large quantities among the non-Christian Gujarati population as well.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: We have diverse Christian literature in the Gujarati language for missionaries working among the Gujarati population, and we can definitely share this literature with them. We can provide type-

setting, page layout, and other services to publishers from less-resourced countries who are interested in getting such work done at a reasonable rate.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes

Kind of partnership: Any kind of partnership like prayer support, financial support, suggesting helpful literature we should publish, and helping us get permissions from their source language. In short, we want to partner in every way which helps us to reach each and every person speaking and reading Gujarati to fulfill our mission and vision.

Could offer a partner: We can offer utmost integrity, transparency, faithfulness to God and to our partner, promise of our commitment to hard work and our dedication to glorify God in all that we do for Him.

Desire in a potential partner: Someone who is on the same page with us in sharing our burden to reach every Gujarati person on the planet. We prefer a financial partner who would be fine with annual financial reports, but not require constant reporting on our operations.

HARPERCOLLINS CHRISTIAN PUBLISHING

Cris Garrido

Mission Statement: We inspire the world by meeting the needs of people with content that promotes biblical principles and honors Jesus Christ.

Primary Activities: Publishing Books and Bibles in Spanish

Geographical areas served: U.S. and Latin America

Languages served: Spanish, English-Spanish Bilingual and some English-only

Primary and secondary audiences: 1) Evangelical Christians of all ages and stages and (2) seekers and consumers of spiritual content.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: 1) Bibles in multiple translations for all ages and stages. Particularly several key study Bibles that look at the entirety of scripture through a specific lens or context to help the user maximize the benefit. (2) Non-fiction books from indigenous voices addressing key issues of the Christian life and praxis.

Plans for the next three to five years: Increasingly local. Leveraging advances in digital technologies both for diversifying formats and consumption habits (e.g. print vs. e-book vs. audio) and reducing speed to market and discoverability (e.g. Local POD, SEO, metadata, etc.)

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: I believe the needs need to drive the resourcing. I'm happy to share the learning, tools and resources I'm aware of as I become aware of the needs across other symposiasts.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes/Maybe. Short-term is easier, as it allows us to measure success and reassess after every project.

Kind of partnership: Content creation/acquisition for distribution.

Could offer a partner: Strong distribution in U.S. and Latin America.

Desire in a potential partner: As with any author, the content proprietor needs to have clarity on the felt need the content meets and the path towards discoverability and re-marketing throughout the book's lifecycle.

KOREA CHRISTIAN PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

Park Dong-Eun (*not able to be present at symposium*)

Mission Statement: We are committed to the mission of literature ministry by spreading the teachings of the Bible, the Christian worldview, and Christian ethics through Christian books.

What are your primary activities: We promote the publications of member publishers and support book sales and exhibition events.

In what area of the world do you chiefly focus: Throughout South Korea, primarily in Seoul.

In what languages do you work: Korean

What are your primary and secondary audiences: Our primary audience is member publishers, and our secondary audience is all subscribers of Christian publications.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: We regularly organize 5 to 6 different events each year.

Plans for the next three to five years: We seek to uphold and promote book publishing, which is the original founding purpose of the association.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: Our association has occasionally donated Korean-language books overseas. However, we currently lack the resources to continue doing so.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: No. We're sorry, but we don't have the capacity at the moment. If an opportunity arises, we will certainly make a request or offer a proposal.

Could offer a partner: If given the opportunity, we would be glad to introduce the projects led by our association and share our know-how.

Desire in a potential partner: We would like to receive information on programs and events that can broaden the horizons and bring commercial benefits to our member publishers and the association.

LANGHAM PARTNERSHIP

PUBLISHER DEVELOPMENT

Colin MacPherson

Mission Statement: Langham Partnership exists to see churches in the Majority World equipped for mission and growing to maturity in Christ through the ministry of pastors and leaders who believe, teach and live by the Word of God. Langham Publisher Development is Langham's service of support to indigenous heart language evangelical publishers, aiming to stimulate, build resilience, and help them hone their impact in a contextually relevant way.

Primary Activities: Assisting indigenous evangelical publishers through long-term relationships of encouragement, vision casting, networking, access to training, strategic financial investment and prayer.

Geographical areas served: Global perspective; working currently in 20-25 countries, primarily Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe.

Languages served: Albanian, Amharic, Arabic, Bangla, Burmese, French, Hakah Cin (Myanmar), Tedim Chin (Myanmar), Falam Chin (Myanmar), Greek, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Khmer, Mongolian, Nepali, Oromiffa (Ethiopia), Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Serbian, Spanish, Tamil, Thai, Tigrinya (Ethiopia), Turkish, Ukrainian, Uzbek, Urdu, Vietnamese.

Primary and secondary audiences: Primary audience is indigenous evangelical publishers, editors and writers. Secondary Audience is the national church and community of believers in each of the languages represented by the publishers and writers we serve.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: We continue to provide whatever help we can to about 25 heart language publishers around the world. Most of these have been multi-year and even multi-decade relationships. We are in the early stages of significant publisher launches in Ethiopia and Angola. This involves much discussion and encouragement of those who have felt called to undertake a publishing ministry in these countries. Also, vision casting, planning, mentoring where possible, networking, and strategic seed-capital investment. We are also helping a Peruvian theological publisher with a major project for a series of locally-authored and contextually-relevant Old Testament commentaries.

Plans for the next three to five years: We hope to be in a position to maintain the relationships that have already developed, and connect with new publisher development opportunities in the most needed places, where national believers are being called into ministry, and where the Lord gives us opportunity to serve them in a meaningful way. We are open to any new countries/languages which meet these criteria and as funding and manpower resources permit.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: Our resources consist primarily of: 1) Our relationships with some exciting, energetic, visionary evangelical publishers around the world, 2) Experience of the challenges, needs and opportunities in indigenous heart language publishing in many different contexts, over several decades.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: YES

Kind of partnership: Collaboration in serving Majority World publishers: information sharing, provision of differing skills sets, training and finance. All with a view to equip and empower.

Could offer a partner: 1) A certain amount of experience in Majority World publishing start-ups and early stage publisher development projects. 2) Connections and relationship with various Majority World publishers.

Desire in a potential partner: Complementary expertise and resources. A servant attitude which highly esteems national colleagues and is willing to serve them and their ministries without obligation or expectation in return.

LANGHAM PARTNERSHIP

LANGHAM PUBLISHING

Luke Lewis

Mission Statement: Langham Partnership's mission is to strengthen the ministry of the Word of God through: Nurturing national movements for training in biblical preaching; multiplying the creation and distribution of evangelical literature; and strengthening the theological training of pastors and leaders by qualified evangelical teachers.

Primary Activities: Langham Publishing produces academic books for, and by Majority World scholars. Our publications are rooted in the Scriptures and also contextually reflective, providing rich and diverse resources that represent the global church.

Geographical areas served: The Majority World

Languages served: English & French

Primary and secondary audiences: Students & Scholars, Christian Leaders

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: Publication of 60+ books from authors ranging from Latin America, Central & Eastern Europe, Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia and South-East and East Asia

Plans for the next three to five years: Continuing to grow the global catalogue of relevant and key publications in the areas of theology, biblical studies, missions, and Christian/church history.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: N/A

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes, very interested

Kind of partnership: Content/ publishing collaborations

Could offer a partner: Technical experience, marketing and representation platform

Desire in a potential partner: Eagerness to develop contextual resources for the local/regional church

LANGHAM PUBLISHING

FRANCOPHONE AFRICA

Yacouba Sanon

Mission Statement: Langham Publishing is an international academic and professional publisher with the goal of strengthening the global church. Our titles enrich readers in theological institutions, seminaries, and churches with biblically sound and relevant content from Christian scholars, leaders, and preachers that represent the global diversity of the church – furthering our understanding of Scripture, our mission as God’s people, and our love in Christ.

Primary Activities: Publish textbooks, commentaries and research-based resources that primarily serve the African academic market

Geographical areas served: LivresHippo, which is an imprint of Langham Publishing, is focused on Francophone Africa.

Languages served: French

Primary and secondary audiences: Besides seminary professors and students, our secondary focus is church leaders and learned lay people.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: Publication of four to six books by Francophone authors for Sub-Saharan Africa and the Francophone world.

Plans for the next three to five years: Establish LivresHippo as a key partner of seminaries in the publication and distribution of contextual resources in biblical, theological, missions, and historical studies.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: N/A

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes

Kind of partnership: Content, and publishing collaborations; training.

Could offer a partner: Technical experience, marketing and representation platform

Desire in a potential partner: Eagerness to develop contextual resources for the local/regional church; particularly for Francophone Africa.

LEAP PUBLISHERS/AFRICANBOOKS.COM

Lena Pira

Mission Statement: LEAP Publishers: Our mission is to proclaim the message of Jesus Christ by empowering African Christian authors and content creators. We provide professional writing and publishing support that equips them to share transformative, gospel-centered messages with excellence and integrity.

AfricanBooks.com: Our mission is to amplify the Christian African voice by making authentic, Africa-based Christian content easily accessible to readers around the world through a dynamic and inclusive digital platform.

Primary Activities: We offer Christian publishing services, including manuscript development, editing and design for both print and digital formats. In addition, we operate a dedicated online e-Book platform (AfricanBooks.com) that showcases and sells African literature globally.

Geographical areas served: We focus on Africa for content development, partnering with African Christian authors and creators to cultivate authentic, gospel-rooted material. However, our distribution and sales efforts through AfricanBooks.com are global—making African Christian content accessible to readers worldwide.

Languages served: We primarily work in English, but we also support and publish content in selected African languages as well as other global languages such as French and Spanish, to reach diverse audiences across the continent and beyond.

Primary and secondary audiences: Our primary audience is African Christian writers who we equip and support in developing and publishing impactful content. Our secondary audience is a global readership—both Christian and non-Christian. Through AfricanBooks.com, we offer a wide range of books that appeal to all readers, with the goal of using the platform as a gospel outreach tool. While it functions as an e-bookstore, at its core, AfricanBooks.com is a ministry platform designed to draw people toward the message of Christ through compelling, high-quality literature.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: Over the next 12–18 months, we are focused on significantly enhancing AfricanBooks.com, our online e-Book platform, expanding our catalogue of titles, improving platform functionality and user experience, growing our user base through strategic partnerships with publishers and authors, and introducing new formats such as audio books and video books. We also plan to launch global print-on-demand services to make African content more accessible worldwide. In parallel, we are scaling up operations at LEAP Publishers to support a larger number of African Christian authors and publishers, with the ultimate goal of increasing the volume, quality, and visibility of African Christian literature in both local and international markets..

Plans for the next three to five years: In the next three to five years, we envision our organization as a leading force in both the African e-book market and the African Christian publishing space. Our goal is for AfricanBooks.com to become the go-to platform for all African-authored books—past, present, and future—regardless of where the author is based globally. We also plan to expand our reach by establishing global print-on-demand services, giving readers the option to access physical copies of our books in addition to digital formats. We also plan to expand into new impact areas over the next three to five years. We will increase our writing trainings and author development workshops to nurture and equip more African Christian voices. We plan to invest in early childhood literacy initiatives by supporting reading programs in schools and communities. Our vision is to cultivate a strong reading and writing culture from a young age—so that the next generation not only consumes great content but also contributes meaningfully to it.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: We are committed to collaboration and resource-sharing wherever possible. Our platform—including dashboards for authors, publishers, and readers—is freely accessible to anyone who would like to use it. We provide free access for authors and publishers to upload, manage, and distribute their content through AfricanBooks.com, making it easier for ministries and individuals to share their work with a global audience. While the books themselves are not free (prices are set by authors/content sellers), the majority are priced affordably—typically under \$5—to ensure broad accessibility. We’re always open to partnering with other ministries, publishers, and authors to grow the platform, expand the reach of Christian content, and ensure African voices are heard and read across the world.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes, very interested.

Kind of partnership: The types of partnerships we find most beneficial include: 1. Technology partnerships to support the development and scaling of our digital platforms with innovative, user-friendly, tech expertise, and sustainable solutions. 2. Grant and funding partnerships to help us expand our reach, develop original content, and strengthen infrastructure while maintaining the heart of our mission. 3. Distribution and logistics collaborations to increase global access to African Christian literature, both in digital and print formats. 4. Marketing and promotional partnerships to grow awareness and readership of African Christian content across diverse global markets. 5. Publishing and author partnerships for those seeking to use our platform, AfricanBooks.com, as a tool for wider distribution and impact without needing to invest in their own infrastructure. 6. Content development partnerships with those who are looking to support the production of African Christian content.

Could offer a partner 1. A robust digital platform (AfricanBooks.com) that provides global visibility and access to African-authored Christian content, enabling partners to reach new and diverse audiences without building their own infrastructure. 2. Publishing expertise through LEAP Publishers and a commitment to high-quality editing, design, and content development

Leap Publishers/Africanbooks.com, cont.

services aligned with international standards. 3. A growing network of African Christian writers, readers, and publishers, offering opportunities for collaboration, content sharing, and ministry impact. 4. A mission-driven partnership, rooted in Christian values and committed to making African Christian literature accessible, affordable, and transformative. 5. Insight into local African markets and reader behavior across the continent, including experience with mobile-first users, pricing sensitivities, and the realities of both oral and emerging reading cultures. 6. Flexibility and innovation, particularly in developing scalable, tech-based solutions to overcome publishing and distribution barriers in under-resourced settings.

Desire in a potential partner: Shared Christian foundation and values, like-mindedness in vision and mission, particularly a passion for advancing African Christian literature with purpose and impact, a commitment to excellence, integrity and transparency in all dealings, aligned goals and a collaborative spirit, with a willingness to work toward mutual benefit and kingdom impact, and lastly, a strong reputation and credible track record.

LETRA VIVA

Keila Ochoa Harris (with Ian Darke)

Mission Statement: Letra Viva is a network of Evangelical Christian publishers, working across Spanish-speaking Latin America, which share a commitment to produce relevant, biblically-based books that contribute to the healthy growth of the church in the continent. As of this year (2025) the network links 22 evangelical Christian publishers in the continent.

Primary Activities: The primary activities of the network include the promotion of the books published by member publishers through a web site and social media; training webinars for staff; sharing information through a weekly newsletter; and personalized advice.

Geographical areas served: Spanish-speaking Latin America

Languages served: Spanish

Primary and secondary audiences: Pastors and church workers including Bible study leaders and children's workers; then the whole church community, especially families.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: To expand the presence of promotional material in more social media; to consolidate the program of training webinars, and to help member publishing ministries participate in international book events.

Plans for the next three to five years: The publishing world is changing in many ways. The network will need to evaluate its structure, which is extremely "lean," and there is the question of succession in some of the roles. Key figures that have been working in Letra Viva for a long time. New leadership might entail reorganizing the way we work, which is an area of opportunity.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: We have training materials for writers and publishers, all in Spanish.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes, we consider the possibility.

Kind of partnership: It is important not to impose, but to understand. Our members have decades of experience dealing with complex issues. Realistically, our finances are fragile, so help with costs is important.

Could offer a partner: Latin American warmth and vitality!

Desire in a potential partner: Openness, patience, respect.

MAGAZINE TRAINING INTERNATIONAL

Sharon Mumper

Mission Statement: Magazine Training International's mission is to encourage, strengthen, and provide training and resources to Christian magazine publishers as they seek to build the church and reach their societies for Christ.

Primary Activities: Magazine Training International is dedicated to seeing lives changed as vital Christian magazines in under-resourced countries make an impact for Christ. Our goal is to use every possible means to equip those God has called to the ministry of Christian publishing. This includes onsite conferences, online training, video and audio courses, published materials, including training manuals and textbooks, and a resource-rich website.

Geographical areas served: Global

Languages served: Primarily English, with one live workshop offered in another language annually.

Primary and secondary audiences: Our primary audience is Christians in under-resourced countries with little experience in publishing, but strong motivation to publish. Our secondary audience is Christians in publishing in Western countries.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: Transitioning the ministry to EPA (Evangelical Press Association), and MAI (Media Associates International).

Plans for the next three to five years: MTI's online training ministry, including online courses, live workshops, hundreds of print, audio, video, and e-publications have been transferred to EPA, along with a resource-rich website. MTI's onsite training program will become a magazine track in MAI's triennial LittWorld Conference.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: An online training program annually includes two trainer-led, four-week courses and six or seven live workshops. Topics include magazine writing, editing, design, management, digital publishing, social media, and leadership, along with a variety of other publishing-related subjects. A plethora of resources are available on the information-packed website, where visitors find hundreds of downloadable resources on publishing, including e-books and web-based videos, as well as on-demand workshops and self-study courses. The resources are now available through EPA under the MTI name.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: NA

MEDIA ASSOCIATES INTERNATIONAL

Heather Pubols (*not able to be present at symposium*)

Mission Statement: We equip and encourage Christian publishers and writers in hard places of the world to create excellent content that enriches the Church and influences society.

Primary Activities: Training, consulting and connecting global Christian writers, editors and publishers

Geographical areas served: Global

Languages served: English, Spanish, French

Primary and secondary audiences: Primary Audience: Christian Writers, Editors, Publishers (our beneficiary community); Secondary audience: 1) Consumers of the content our beneficiaries create 2) the partners who provide financial, prayer, and human support (volunteers) who keep our programs going.

Key projects or programs for the next 18 months: Two key “listening and learning” projects (market research and a think tank) to connect with our community and plan our future together

Plans for the next three to five years: We will invest in building an online learning platform and building stronger partnerships, especially with those outside of the publishing world (but who benefit from what the publishing community does).

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: We’re happy to help with training in writing, editing, and publishing. Our webinars are already available on YouTube to access at any time.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes

Kind of partnership: We are always looking for partners to help our community in training and consulting in writing, editing, and publishing. We are also looking for groups that would benefit from our training and who want to share what we do with their community.

Could offer a partner: A connection to our global community of writers, editors and publishers, and opportunities to engage in our training

Desire in a potential partner: Spiritual maturity, humility and a willingness to learn from and share knowledge, experience, and relationships with our community.

MUNDO CRISTÃO

Mark Carpenter

Mission Statement: To publish and distribute the best content reflecting a Christian worldview, serving as an instrument for the transformation of lives.

Primary Activities: Bible and Christian book publishing

Geographical areas served: Brazil and the Portuguese-speaking world

Languages served: Brazilian Portuguese

Primary and secondary audiences: Students & Scholars, Christian Leaders

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: Expanding our line of children's books and young-adult novels; introducing new Filament-enabled Bibles; working with Brazil's largest TV network to adapt fiction for TV; increasing the proportion of books written by Brazilian authors.

Plans for the next three to five years: Higher market share in secular retail outlets (online and physical stores). Publish our local authors in other languages, through licensing and/or our MCGlobal initiative in partnership with Ingram's worldwide P.O.D. network. Show evidence of growing influence of our authors throughout church and society. We believe we can double the size of our organization within five years.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: As we celebrate our 60th anniversary in 2025, we have built expertise in publishing Bibles and books in a developing economy. We are open to consulting with publishers in other parts of the world who may be facing difficulties in any aspect of the publishing process.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes, very interested.

Kind of partnership: Licensing and adaptation of our books for TV and cinema; offering access to the Brazilian book-selling network (physical, online, secular, religious).

Could offer a partner: Knowledge and expertise related to successful publishing in Brazil; a large and diverse catalog of Brazilian authors; a talented and experienced staff; a nondenominational viewpoint.

Desire in a potential partner: Alignment with our mission and corporate structure; capital for investment in significant market opportunities.

OASIS INTERNATIONAL

Matthew Elliott

Mission Statement: Satisfying Africa's Thirst for God's Word: We create and distribute world-class, contextualized Bibles and biblical resources.

Primary Activities: Publishing contextualized books and Bibles for Africa

Geographical areas served: Africa

Languages served: English and French

Primary and secondary audiences: Students & Scholars, Christian Leaders

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: Working with the Christian Association of Nigeria to supply pastors with Africa Study Bibles, launching text Bible as an official textbook in Kenyan schools, and working with Arise Africa to equip pastors in crisis areas.

Plans for the next three to five years: Launching the Africa Study Bible in Portuguese, expanding reach into Francophone Africa, and becoming more Africa-centric in staffing and financial viability.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: African book distribution network.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Absolutely

Kind of partnership: All kinds possible, editorial, distribution, marketing

Could offer a partner: Anything that makes discipleship more effective; we will talk about anything

Desire in a potential partner: Integrity, shared vision, shared values, putting the mission before personal concerns or organization.

PRECIOUS PAGES

Josephine Yoong (*not able to be present at symposium*)

Mission Statement: Bringing words of life. Retailing and publishing books that transform lives.

Primary Activities: Retail of Christian and general books, publication of Christian and general books especially children's books, distribution to bookshops. Talks by pastors and authors from all over the world.

Geographical areas served: Malaysia. Books are sold in Singapore and Australia too.

Languages served: English and some Chinese and Bahasa

Primary and secondary audiences: primary audience- adults, children. Secondary audience- school teachers

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: Publication of children's material for Sunday school about creation and nature, a book for a chain of schools, more revivalist centric books, two autobiographies

Plans for the next three to five years: More publications including international authors/pastors. Perhaps duplicating the book shop model in other states, more talks by authors. Greater emphasis on online publishing as well as use of social media platforms (collaborating with those in the industry)

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: Help with printing projects; translation services.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes

Kind of partnership: schools or organizations which may like to promote/sponsor our books to their communities.

Could offer a partner: printing services as our country has one of the lowest printing cost, access to Asian authors / speakers

Desire in a potential partner: international markets for book distribution, translations to other languages

PUBLISH4ALL

Tim Kelly

Mission Statement: Publish4All empowers indigenous communities in the Majority World with decentralized print-on-demand technology to promote literacy, economic opportunity, and access to Christian and local literature.

Primary Activities: We help facilitate the opportunity to print directly.

Geographical areas served: Africa

Languages served: Our partners operate in many languages.

Primary and Secondary audiences: Missionaries, Churches

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: Micro print on demand systems in Sierra Leone, Uganda, Guinea. Cloud development for printing.

Plans for the next three to five years: We desire to expand to every country in Africa.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: We don't currently, but we have the ability to get resources distributed.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: YES

Kind of partnership: Partnering in specific locations and focusing on distribution. Financial would be a plus.

Could offer a partner: Access to our cloud and our micro-print on demand.

RIGGINS RIGHTS MANAGEMENT

Jade Doyel (*not able to be present at symposium*)

Mission Statement: Representing a mosaic of inspirational content, to reach people around the globe in their heart language, that positively impacts their life and faith.

Primary Activities: Representing our clients' books to international publishing houses for translation licensing.

Geographical areas served: We work globally, with territory managers located in Brazil, Ukraine, and South Korea, and another representative for the Middle East.

Languages served: Primarily in English, but our territory managers also communicate in their respective languages (Arabic, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Ukrainian, Polish, Russian)

Primary and Secondary audiences: Primary audience is acquisitions editors of international publishing companies; secondary would be domestic licensees (audio book publishers, large print, etc.)

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: Bible studies and youth fiction have always been difficult categories to license overseas. So we are preparing some special promotions and marketing to help get these some more notice. An example is a special catalog for only Bible study books that we will have for all the main book fairs we attend for the next year.

Plans for the next three to five years: We have grown significantly over the past 5 or 6 years, with nearly 30 Clients now and doubling our staff. We hope to continue growing and looking for new areas to be involved. We are already testing waters in representing international publishers to US/English publishing companies; we are also starting to expand in the Catholic market.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: We don't produce content ourselves, but we could make our services, international licensing experience, and legal background available for consulting or just simple Q&A sessions in this area.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes

Kind of partnership: Since we have local people in other countries with a lot of experience and connections throughout the industry, we like to connect people.

Could offer a partner: Apart from our regular business of translation licensing, we enjoy seeing ministries being connected to the right people for spreading Christian literature in individual heart languages in a global context.

Desire in a potential partner: Just building more connections!

SIM

Tim Welch

Mission Statement: Convinced that no one should live and die without hearing God's good news, we believe that He has called us to make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ in communities where he is least known. Therefore, compelled by God's great love and empowered by the Holy Spirit...

- We cross barriers to proclaim the crucified and risen Christ, expressing his love and compassion among those who live and die without Him.
- We make disciples who will trust and obey Jesus, and become part of Christ-centered churches.
- We work together with churches to fulfill God's mission across cultures locally and globally.
- We facilitate the participation in cross-cultural ministry of those whom God is calling.

Primary Activities: My title is the SIM ministry point person for literature. I oversee the Pastors' Book Set (PBS) projects for SIM. I also try to encourage authors within SIM, editing their books in English and French. In addition, I am on the board of Africa Speaks, where we try to encourage collaboration and excellence among African Christian publishers.

Geographical areas served: I have worked primarily in Africa, since I lived in Cote d'Ivoire for 31 years. But now that I'm based in the US, I am also trying to promote PBS projects in Latin America and Asia.

Languages served: We have done PBS projects in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Amharic and Hausa. One in Russian did not come to fruition.

Primary and Secondary audiences: I work with individual missionaries when they are writing or when they are overseeing a PBS project for their country, and secondly I work with publishers when trying to launch a PBS project for a given language.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: We are finishing up a PBS project in French for seven francophone countries in West Africa, where 13,000 pastors received or will receive a book set consisting of 36 Christian books in various formats (print, e-book, audio book). This project includes hosting 28-30 local conferences in those seven countries. Books are only distributed at the end of the conference. Hopefully in two years we will launch a similar project in Portuguese for lusophone Africa, although it will probably be smaller in terms of pastors who participate. Initial contacts with pastors and publishers have been made, but much more needs to be done.

Plans for the next three to five years: I am beginning a training program for missionaries to oversee a PBS project in their own country, whether they be missionaries with SIM or some other mission. I have an International Literature/PBS Team within SIM and I hope to add some people from other agencies as well.

SIM, cont.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: Convinced of the importance of getting good Christian resources into the hands of pastors and Christian leaders, I want to train others in how to oversee a PBS project, both within and outside of SIM. Our goal is to see churches transformed, and our strategy is to see that happen via good Christian books and conferences for pastors.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Absolutely!

Kind of partnership: I would love to train other people in how to oversee a PBS project.

Could offer a partner: They would have an opportunity to provide good Christian literature, including reference books, study Bibles, etc., to their pastors and church leaders.

Desire in a potential partner: Integrity, good people skills, love for books, willingness to work hard.

SYNERGIE FRANCOPHONE

Angela Brandle

Mission statement: Synergie Francophone exists to honor God as we participate in bringing in his harvest by facilitating the creation and distribution of culturally appropriate biblical resources to share his good news, make disciples, and equip God's church to grow, reproduce, and influence communities and nations in the French-speaking world with his transforming love.

Primary activities: Facilitating publishing and printing, partnering with indigenous partners who provide training and distribute literature where it is lacking, encouraging indigenous writers, educating about the francophone world, sending teams, and missionaries.

Geographical areas served: Potentially any French-speaking area.

Languages served: French

Primary and secondary audiences: Christian students; the mostly unreached general public.

Key projects or programs for next 12-18 months: Helping a print shop in the DRC reach sustainability. Provision of libraries for high schools. Distribution of Bibles and books to remote, unreached areas. Making our updated Sunday school curriculum available to train teachers and reach the largest generation of youth. Developing francophone writers.

Plans for next three to five years; plans to develop ministry in new areas: We are in a program of renewal, bringing in younger staff, missionaries, board members, and a new generation of indigenous partners. There is so much to be done in the huge French-speaking world that even as we penetrate new areas, we are always at a new frontier. In North America, our role is educational about the fifth largest linguistic group in the world. We are developing strategies to finance our activities and operational costs.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: An updated Sunday school curriculum developed for African and island cultures and oral learners.

Would consider partnering with another organization: YES

Kind of partnership: Synergistic: 1+1=3

Could offer a partner: Knowledge of the French-speaking world; networks; mentoring

Desire in a potential partner: Compatible vision, win-win scenarios, commitment to mutual goals.

THE MEDIA PROJECT

Stacy Varghese

Mission Statement: The Media Project (TMP) empowers journalists to provide a more profound understanding of the role of religion in public life through accurate, thorough and intellectually honest reporting. The Media Project educates journalists on the importance of religion at training programs worldwide. We welcome friends from all faiths to these events and discussions.

Primary Activities: The Media Project convenes, trains, publishes, and supports journalists around the world. We offer training in three international cities each year for more than 100 journalists. In 2019, TMP launched ReligionUnplugged.com (RUP), an award-winning online magazine, and its related podcast, video and social media channels. RUP publishes 10-15 pieces per week on religion from our TMP friends and members around the world, including news, enter-prise features, commentary and analysis.

Geographical areas served: We work in all regions of the world, but have a special focus in training journalists in Latin America, Asia-Pacific, Europe, and Africa.

Languages served: English primarily, but we also offer trainings in Spanish.

Primary and Secondary audiences: Journalists are our primary audience, followed by our readers of Religion Unplugged.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: The Media Project will hosted trainings of journalists in Prague in July, six cities in Asia from July-January, and two cities in Africa.

Plans for the next three to five years: We are in the process of a creating a five-year strategic plan with our board.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: We are always interested in training new journalists in regions around the world. At Religion Unplugged, we often write articles on new books that would be interesting to our readers.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes

Kind of partnership: We'd like more partners in other countries as we train journalists on accurate reporting on religion in public life.

Could offer a partner: We have access to high-quality journalists around the world who can be wonderful trainers and coaches for special events for Christian journalists.

Desire in a potential partner: An organization that can host training events for journalists and help us convene local journalists to support them as they work. Many journalists face many hardships, especially those who are Christian or are from a religious minority, and we need help to identify the next generation of journalists so we can be a greater support to them and their work.

TYNDALE HOUSE PUBLISHERS

J. Peter Cerra

Mission statement: To minister to the spiritual needs of people, primarily through literature consistent with biblical principles.

Primary Activities: I lead the International Publishing and Sales team. My primary responsibilities are to oversee all sales of our English titles outside of North America, coordinate the licensing of our titles for translation and use globally, and sales of Spanish titles globally.

Geographical areas served: Europe, Africa, Asia, the Americas. (Basically the entire world)

Languages served: We publish directly in English and Spanish but we license to over 70 languages.

Primary and Secondary audiences: Primary would be the Christian global market, secondary would be the overall book market.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: We are working on some key new language projects for Bible translation and focusing on growing our impact in Africa and India.

Plans for the next three to five years: The goal is to continue to grow in our global reach through different initiatives. One of Tyndale's pillars is "reach," and we are focused on reaching people throughout the world with books and Bibles.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: N/A

Would you consider partnering with another organization: YES

Kind of partnership: I'm not sure but I am open to discuss.

Could offer a partner: What we can offer will depend on the partnership.

Desire in a potential partner: An alignment of mission and focus.

VIVA EDITING

Kim Pettit

Mission statement: I am not currently on staff with a ministry that has a global Christian publishing vision. From 2015-2021, I served on the board of Magazine Training International. From 2009-2013, I led ChristianTrade Association International (CTAI) and ChristianTrade World Ministries (CTAIWM). CTAI's mission was "to support the growth of the Christian products industry through forming, recognizing and supporting national Christian trade associations, holding international regional trade conventions, publishing an annual directory of the Christian trade, and serving as a catalyst for growing the Christian trade worldwide." CTAIWM's mission was "to support the distribution of Christian products through training programs that increase the effectiveness of Christian retail stores and suppliers." From 1999-2009, I was on staff with David C. Cook's foundation; at the time, it sought to train Christian publishers worldwide.

Primary Activities: Currently, my primary activities are editing, instructional design, and curriculum development for two primary clients: Oral Roberts University (ORU) and Summit Ministries (SM).

Geographical areas served: For ORU, I work on online courses for students anywhere in the world; for SM, my work is primarily for US-based Christian K-12 schools.

Languages served: English and Spanish

Primary and Secondary audiences: K-12 and university students and their instructors

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: At ORU, I hope to complete writing courses for the new M.A. in Strategic Communication degree program; at Summit, I will contribute toward the revision of the Understanding the Times high school curriculum.

Plans for the next three to five years: I expect the ministries I work with to be in roughly the same position in the next three to five years. With ORU, I hope that additional programs will be offered in Spanish.

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: On my personal website, VivaEditing.com, I have posted many training articles from InterLit, the publisher development magazine I edited at Cook. These are available for use at no charge.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes, gladly.

Kind of partnership: It depends on the project.

Could offer a partner: Mainly, my understanding of the industry and my editing and instructional design skills.

Desire in a potential partner: A good reputation and a clear understanding of what the partnership would entail for each party and for how long.

WORLD MAGAZINE

Kevin Martin

Mission statement: Sound journalism, grounded in facts and Biblical truth

Primary Activities: Reporting and analysis of news stories, delivered via print, digital devices, podcasts, and video streaming.

Geographical areas served: We try to cover the whole world. It doesn't always happen, but we try.

Languages served: English

Primary and Secondary audiences: Primary audience is American evangelical Christian families. We do distinguish between adults in our audience and students in our audience, but we don't think of either of those groups as primary or secondary—they are both primary.

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: We will be working to expand our WORLD Watch program, which currently is a daily video news program for teens. We plan to add elements and increase the audience. Also, we expect to expand our journalism training program, World Journalism Institute.

Plans for the next three to five years: Journalism training and professional development; much greater global reporting presence

Materials or services the organization could make available to other organizations: We are very interested in sharing resources. Our reporters and editors

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Definitely yes

Kind of partnership: We're open to anything, but I do think content production/sharing is a likely area of partnership.

Could offer a partner: The ability to help train, some financial resources, a lot of administrative resources.

Desire in a potential partner: People on the ground, robust Biblical perspective, service orientation.

WRITER TRAINING

Miriam Adeney (*not able to be present at symposium*)

Mission statement: Creating excellent, locally authored Christian content that nurtures the Church and influences society. Equipping Christian leaders to think and write from a Biblical worldview, empowering them to speak to minds as well as hearts. Advancing the Gospel.

Primary Activities: I am an author, consultant, writer trainer, and missiological anthropologist. I train writers to sharpen and refine their topics, structure the outline of their books and individual chapters, integrate significant theological themes, integrate significant cultural dimensions, develop dynamic style, and adapt their work for maximal market penetration.

Geographical areas served: Southeast Asia, Middle East, Latin America, Africa

Languages served: English and Spanish, but also with writers in other languages from Bahasa Indonesia to Arabic

Primary and Secondary audiences: Thoughtful Christians and non-Christians

Key projects or programs for the next 12-18 months: N/A

Plans for the next three to five years: N/A

Materials or services you could make available to other organizations: I offer writer training modules that include teaching, exercises, writing labs, and critiques. We emphasize writing that is interesting, organized, culturally-contextualized, biblically rich, researched, and marketable. I prioritize significant topics, everyday cultural contexts, the appropriate language, and the appropriate medium (print, digital, oral, or a combination). I want to help writers express profound truths simply, contextually, and powerfully.

Regarding language, I like to help people write in the language that their readers use. There are techniques for doing this profitably, with an interpreter on hand. I charge no fee, but accept honoraria if offered.

Would you consider partnering with another organization: Yes

Desire in a potential partner: have worked happily with local publishers, writers' groups, seminaries, colleges, denominations, parachurch organizations, etc. The partner chooses the writers, arranges the locale and logistics, and provides me with very simple housing and transportation. Potential writers should have a passion to communicate to their people, a mature Christian character, teachability, and perseverance.

My focus is not just any writing, but significant, biblically-rich, culturally-contextualized material in the language that the local people read. This may mean theology textbooks or general books, newspaper or magazine articles, study or discussion guides, blog or social media posts, radio talks, or scripts for videos or live dramas. All can serve thoughtful readers, listeners, and viewers.

SYNOPSIS OF ISSUES

The following 14 pages are AI-generated summaries of answers by participants to questions about issues, solutions, and partnership.

THE QUESTIONS

- What are some challenges Christians encounter as they attempt to provide quality Christian literature in the region where you work?
- How has your organization attempted to meet the challenge, either in directly providing literature or in equipping others to do so?
- How would you rate the level of success of those efforts:
- In your own ministry, as you seek to encourage and promote Christian publishing, what key obstacles have you encountered in carrying out your mission?
- What would help to remove the obstacles?
- As you look to the future, what are the challenges and opportunities your organization will face in accomplishing your mission in the next five years?
- In what ways have you collaborated or partnered with another organization in the last 10 years?
- What were the keys to success or failure of the collaboration?
- If you would consider partnering long or short-term with another organization, what kind of partnership would be beneficial?
- What would you have to offer a potential partner?
- What would you look for in a potential partner?

The synopses were generated from the compiled responses of 32 publishing leaders from Kenya, Uganda, Côte d'Ivoire, France, the UK, Malaysia, China, Korea, Mexico, Pakistan, the UAE, Brazil, India, and the U.S. For more detailed information, the full compilations of questionnaire responses with names of respondents are available on request as a 50-page PDF addendum. Contact Sharon Mumper at semumper@magazinetraining.com to request the addendum.

SYNOPSIS

(AI generated)

What are some challenges Christians encounter as they attempt to provide quality Christian literature in the region where you work?

Financial Constraints/Affordability/Budget Cuts

- Cost of production, printing, shipping, or content development
- Evangelical publishing rarely viable or sustainable without donations
- Limited financial resources, sustainability
- Limited or no budget from ministries/churches; management cutting budgets
- Books are unaffordable for many readers; price is a major issue
- Difficulty securing donors, donor's changing priorities
- Inflation

Distribution & Logistics Barriers

- Distribution barriers or logistical challenges
- Challenging infrastructure or transport systems
- Cross-border restrictions or difficulty paying invoices
- Availability and trust [related to distribution and local partnerships?]
- Lack of Christian bookstores

Lack of Training/Skilled Personnel

- Lack of training or exposure to good models
- Difficult to find skilled writers/editors/illustrators/translators
- Limited expertise or personnel
- Limited training or education structures
- Lack of mentors/platforms to develop emerging Christian writers

Poor Infrastructure (Physical/Industry/Digital)

- Postal service, internet, or infrastructure doesn't work
- Publishing industry infrastructure is poor –
- Infrastructure and systems for distribution lacking
- Challenging conditions for sales and payments
- Lack of access to quality printing, poor quality local production

Opposition to Christianity: Legal, Social, and Cultural

- Government censorship or strict regulations
- Circulation limited to church premises [in UAE]
- Decline of religious affiliation

Low Reading Culture/Declining Literacy/Oral Traditions

- Low reading levels or habits
- Preference for oral storytelling
- Decline of reading and literacy
- Shortened attention spans

Translation/Contextualization Issues

- Many languages lack literature in heart language
- Mechanical or poor translations
- Need for contextualized, high-quality content addressing local realities
- Need to develop indigenous voices

Market Size & Sustainability/Commercial Viability

- Publishing rarely commercially viable
- Poor publishing industry infrastructure
- Marketing and visibility expenses
- Markets cannot create needed scale

Low Demand/Lack of Interest/Value Gaps

- People don't want to own or read books
- Lack of awareness of importance of books and print magazines

Digital Divide/Limited Internet Access

- Reliable internet access limited
- Limited digital literacy with older readers

Piracy/Copyright Infringement

- Piracy or illegal PDF distribution and copyright infringement

Government Regulations (non-censorship-specific)

- Legal issues like customs taxes on books
- Regulations on book circulation

Cultural & Generational Shifts/Polarization

- Generational and cultural shifts
- Polarization in the church

Other Challenges

- Journalism's declining reputation and blurred boundaries between PR and journalism
- Competition from social media
- Competition from self-publishing
- Political/other challenges such as civil war, drug cartels

SYNOPSIS

(AI generated)

How has your organization attempted to meet the challenge, either indirectly by providing literature or in equipping others to do so?

Cost

- Print-on-demand
- Digital books are less expensive
- Reduce the retail prices by up to 50%
- Flat fee for access to all textbooks
- Publishing costs on installments model
- More ministry-type agreements, rather than commercial

Distribution

- Shipping books from Europe and Canada
- Simplify distribution through international dispatch centres
- Resources are now provided online through e-books and other digital formats
- Worldwide access to African Christian literature
- Establishing digital outreach
- Books distributed to those affected by war
- Publish for a broader audience

Training & Equipping Others

- Equip the Church
- Partnering with seminaries, missions, and churches
- Training module called MarketPlace Ministries
- Training, Consulting, Community Building/Networking
- Equipping with the ability to provide
- Support to the interventions proposed by professionals

Reading Culture/Demand

- Cultivating a reading culture within churches
- Promote books to distributors and bookstores
- Persuade a big-name author to sponsor

Digital Publishing

- Affordable digital platforms
- Internet versions didn't hurt print sales
- Print certain titles locally

Quality Control

- Strict adherence to publishing standards
- Quality of our work is now marketing
- Feedback was solicited

Contextualization / Local Voices

- Contextualize theological resources
- Locally and contextually relevant resources
- Mission minded voices already serving globally

Collaboration / Partnerships

- Relationships of service and support
- Collaborating on projects
- Partnerships and collaboration with local publishers and printers
- Assist with some ministry programs

SYNOPSIS

(AI generated)

In your own ministry, as you seek to encourage and promote Christian publishing, what key obstacles have you encountered in carrying out your mission?

Funding

- Limited funding or financial resources for publishing

Staffing and Time

- Lack of time
- Lack of staff or skilled labor
- Ghosting or non-responsiveness
- Lack of vision or publishing priority

Distribution / Infrastructure Challenges

- Distribution
- Warehousing
- Publishing infrastructure issues

Training

- Lack of training,
- Need of mentorship
- Writer development
- Lack of author readiness

Cultural and Legal

- Cultural barriers to publishing
- Legal barrier to publishing
- Low interest or engagement from readers
- Weak writing culture

Technology

- Challenges with digital tools
- Challenges with publishing platforms

SYNOPSIS

(AI generated)

What would help to remove the obstacles to carrying out your mission?

Strategic Partnerships/Collaboration

- Strategic partnerships or alliances to share resources and collaborate
- Building stronger alliances with churches, creatives
- Creative thinking, networking, sharing resources
- Looking for funding partners across organizations
- Connecting a need with a solution/resources
- Building knowledge, sharing vision, nurturing team relationships
- More openness and less control
- Well-known champions or influencers to promote Christian books
- Promoted by Christian speakers on TV or radio
- Publisher development-minded servants
- Developing a distribution infrastructure

Training

- Raising and mentoring indigenous voices
- Author training and empowerment initiatives
- Encouragement of co-writing
- Technical guidance when needed
- Other equipping initiatives for Christian publishing

Prayer

- A regular time of prayer
- Spiritual discernment
- God's guidance and timing

Funding/Finances

- Major donors
- Financial support and royalty-free rights
- Grants and funding support
- Sponsorship for Christian initiatives
- Forming funding partnerships with multiple organizations
- Consumer purchasing power
- Efficient ways of marketing

What would help to remove the obstacles to carrying out your mission, cont.

Publishing Ecosystems/ Infrastructure

- Develop local publishing ecosystems
- Continental book distribution and warehousing
- Cooperation at regional levels
- Career possibilities for non-Western professionals
- Encouragement to commit to book ministry
- Sustained educational program on conversion causes
- Cultivating a reading culture
- Cross-border distribution challenges
- Excellence in publishing process
- Distribution and marketing support
- Support from international publishing networks
- Bilingual and regional language resources
- Systemic obstacles needing government policy change

Creative Formats

- Exploring digital formats and reading circles
- Short books for short attention spans
- Innovative content presentations
- Communication regarding negative aspects of excess screen time
- Books for small group training

Time

- Personal limitations or other ministry priorities

SYNOPSIS

(AI generated)

As you look to the future, what are the challenges and opportunities you think your organization will face in accomplishing your mission for the next five years?

Technology

- AI is both threat and opportunity
- AI impact on content
- Speed of change in tech
- Digital platform disruption
- Digital acceleration
- Must adapt to digital era
- Mobile-first approach
- E-learning growth
- Online training increase
- Podcasting opportunities

Funding

- Donor fatigue
- Need broader support
- Philanthropic shifts
- Changing donor landscape
- Unstable economic conditions
- Need alternative revenue models

Global / Cross-Cultural Expansion

- African church growth
- Global shift to Global South
- Francophone audience rise
- New global realities
- Cross-cultural complexities
- Localization for new audiences
- Legal/cultural diversity
- Rise of African authors and demand for African voices
- Publishing in local languages
- Global interest in Africa's church

Challenges and opportunities your organization will face in accomplishing your mission for the next five years? cont.

Publishing Quality/Over-saturation

- Poor Christian content flooding market
- Maintain theological depth
- Balance between access and quality

Leadership Transition

- Leadership succession ahead
- Need next-gen leaders

Strategic Partnerships

- Importance of collaboration
- More long-term partnerships
- Shared vision in partnerships
- Unified publishing effort

Audience Behavior / Reader Shift

- Shorter attention spans
- Digital-native readers
- Distractions for readers
- Content must compete for time
- Engage young believers
- Discipling the next gen
- Equip young creatives

Legal / Political Climate

- Religious discrimination risk
- Legal threats to Christians
- Blasphemy laws rising

Creative/Artistic Evangelism & Training

- Art for evangelism
- Train Christian creatives
- Cultural storytelling

SYNOPSIS

(AI generated)

If you collaborated or partnered with another organization recently, in what ways did you collaborate?

Partnerships

- Partnering with ministries, publishers, or networks to advance shared goals
- Developing platforms or technical systems with partners
- Providing creative services in design, media, and communication
- General system and infrastructure development
- Creative approaches and win-win agreements

Consultation

- Providing training, mentoring, consultation, or workshop leadership

Content Sharing

- Sharing content, resources, platforms, or responsibilities

Networking

- Building networks, connecting needs with resources, strategic support

Publishing

- Publishing, co-publishing, or licensing books and Bible editions
- Humanitarian book distribution in crisis zones

Events

- Collaborating on conferences, training events, or LittWorld gatherings

Funding

- Providing financial grants, sponsorship, or donor engagement

SYNOPSIS

(AI generated)

What were keys to the success or failure of the collaboration attempt?

Trust/Respect/Mutuality

- Working as peers across cultures
- Long-term trusting relationships
- Attitude of trust and respect
- Ethical working relationships
- Kingdom mindset instead of brand building
- Mutual benefit
- Generous posture
- Consistent integrity
- Publisher alongside educational organization
- Vision-driven collaboration
- Generosity as a working principle
- Transparent and generous

Communication

- Transparent communication
- Defined expectations and ensure they are met
- Trying to over-communicate
- Discuss progress and problems
- Understanding of roles

Aligned Vision

- Self-interest erodes good collaboration and different agendas cause conflict
- Shared commitment to ministry
- Shared vision and purpose
- Agreed-on values
- Pray together
- Spiritual posture

Cultural Sensitivity/Local Relevance

- Peers across cultures
- Cultural and contextual sensitivity
- Language and local knowledge
- Respect community dynamics

- Relevant examples and values
- Contextual adaptations

Sustainability

- Deeper inputs of time and finance
- Long-term growth and scalability
- Built with sustainability in mind
- Ongoing publication series
- Lump sum vs royalty

SYNOPSIS

(AI generated)

If you would consider partnering long or short term with another organization, what kind of partnership would be beneficial?

Training/Mentoring

- Differing skill sets, training and finance
- Writing, editing, translating, or distributing
- Support production of African Christian content
- Content/publishing collaborations
- Mentor, train, or co-publish with African authors
- Train journalists on religion reporting and storytelling
- Digital storytelling

Financial

- Training in finance
- Support to establish a hub
- Grant and funding partnerships
- Willingness to invest

Content Development/Publishing Collaboration

- Writing, editing, translating, or distributing
- Publishing and author partnerships
- Content/publishing collaborations
- Editorial, distribution, marketing
- Provide relevant book rights

Distribution/Access/logistics

- Distribution and logistics collaborations
- Literature distribution and access
- Industry connections in other countries
- Access to bookselling networks

Shared Vision/Mission Alignment

- Mutual growth and impact
- Aligned with Christian values
- Prayer support

Technology

- Sharing tech expertise

SYNOPSIS

(AI generated)

What would you look for in a potential partner?

Shared Vision/Mission Alignment

- Complementary expertise and resources
- Shared mission, vision, and similar audiences
- Shared commitment to Great Commission

Integrity

- Highly esteems national colleagues
- Trust, integrity, and transparency
- Clear understanding of the partnership
- Good people skills
- Willing to share knowledge

Complementary Strengths

- Complementary expertise, strengths, and resources
- Each party brings unique gifts
- Interested in collaborating with professionals
- Share experience with our community

Long-Term Commitment/Relationship Focus

- Long-term relationship mindset
- Ongoing meaningful relationships
- Willingness to work hard

Cultural Sensitivity/Contextual Understanding

- Work within local frameworks
- Openness, patience, respect
- Honor the cultural context
- Humility and willingness to learn
- Support local publishing structures

Clear Roles/Accountability/Structure

- Clear understanding of each partner's responsibility
- Credible track record

Spiritual Maturity/Prayer Focus

- Prayerfully seek God's direction
- Spiritual maturity

SYNOPSIS

(AI generated)

What would you have to offer a potential partner?

Publishing Expertise

- MW publishing start-ups
- Book and magazine layout
- Publishing expertise
- Technical experience
- Catalog of Brazilian authors
- Print-on-demand and hybrid publishing
- Christian literature, including study Bibles
- Successful publishing in Africa
- Translation licensing
- Content development
- Christian visuals and artwork
- High-quality editing and design

Distribution/Access to Networks

- MW publisher relationships
- Global visibility and access
- Print and distribute locally
- Provide Christian literature to pastors
- Access to our cloud
- Strong distribution in US/Latin America
- Connections throughout the industry
- Fulfillment companies
- Publishing rights of African authors

Training

- Instructional design skills
- Training resources and speakers
- Author coaching expertise
- Train Christian journalists
- Missional programs with impact
- Consultation to tell stories
- Event planning and outreach
- Host literacy and discipleship festivals

- Special events for Christian journalists

Mission Alignment

- Glorify God in all we do
- Mission-minded collaborators
- Spirit-led collaboration
- Discipleship through Christian literature
- Cultivating a movement of excellence
- Spiritual maturity of the African church
- Integrity and transparency
- Christian values and commitment

Marketing/Representation

- Promotional videos
- Marketing and representation platform
- Creative branding services

Technology/Digital Tools

- Scalable tech-based solutions
- Micro-print on demand
- Digital platform for African content

Industry Knowledge

- Localized publishing experience
- Understanding of the industry

Relational Networks/Connections

- MW publisher relationships
- Access to Christian networks
- Relationships with content creators

Note: As with all of the synopses, this synopsis was created from a compilation of all the answers given to the question. For information as to what organizations represented at the symposium could specifically offer a potential partner, check the organizational profiles for details.