Church Planting Movements and Models

Training for Church Multiplication

AsiaCPI 2012
CPMs in Acts

Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace. It was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, churches were multiplied, living in the fear of the Lord. Acts 9:31
Indigenous Principles & CPMs

Vision: A growing cluster of reproducing churches that are:

- indigenous
- healthy
- interdependent
- self-governing
- self-propagating
- self-supporting
The concepts of indigeneity and church planting movements are both critical to multiplication. These two concepts go together, as we believe that only indigenous churches will be churches that truly reproduce and multiply... Indigeneity is a necessary, but not sufficient condition for church multiplication. Many other factors are at play... (Ott and Wilson 2011:66)
Ten Common Elements of CPMs

- Prayer
- Abundant Gospel
- Sowing
- Intentional Church
- Planting
- Scriptural authority
- Local leadership
- Lay leadership
- Cell or house
- Churches
- Churches planting
- Churches
- Rapid reproduction
- Healthy churches
How New Testament clusters of churches started

- Judea & Syria - Spontaneous expansion – Acts 2, 8: 1-4, 11:19-21
- Macedonia - Supernatural guidance – Acts 16:6
- Corinth and Ephesus - Strategic plan – Rom 15:23-25
Two Types of Movements

- The Jerusalem CPM in Acts 2-10
  - Spontaneous disciple-making movement
  - Included extension efforts by evangelists such as Peter and Philip
  - Led to reproducing (Acts 9:31)

- The Ephesus CPM in Acts 18-21
  - Intentional disciple-making movement
  - Included extension efforts by local church planters like Epaphras (Col.4)
  - Led to reproducing churches (Rev. 1-3)
The Ephesus CPM

- Extent (breadth) of the movement
- Depth (impact) of the movement
- Divine agency
- Human agency
Regional Strategies

- Harvest Priority
Regional Strategies

- Harvest Priority
- Strategic Beachhead
Regional Strategies

Church Planting in Former East Germany by the Evangelical Free Church in the Early 1990s

http://www.gesis.org/Datenservice/DDR_NBL/images/DDR_Karte.gif
Regional Strategies

- Harvest Priority
- Strategic Beachhead
- Cluster Church Planting
Regional Strategies

Cluster Church Planting in Greater Munich

1967
1977
1987
1989
1991
1993
1995
2001
2007

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Cluster Church Planting in Greater Lima

“Encounter With God” Churches in Lima, Peru

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Regional Strategies

- Harvest Priority
- Strategic Beachhead
- Cluster Church Planting
- Spreading Vine Church Planting
Regional Strategies

Church Planting by the German Alliance Mission in Mali

Church Planting in the Mopti Region

San – Korientze 330 km
Church Planting in the Bamako Region of Mali
Regional Strategies

- Harvest Priority
- Strategic Beachhead
- Cluster Church Planting
- Spreading Vine Church Planting
- Dandelion, Spontaneous or Diaspora
Unleashing God’s Resources

- Jesus left behind three divine means
- So often we well-meaningly add human means that get in the way
- What can we do to get in step with Him?
Avoid excess baggage

“As long as we are bound by the tradition that only those who have been to seminary or Bible school can effectively plant churches, the world doesn’t have a chance... In church planting which is unlimited and unhindered, we must understand that the local church is an organism brought about by the Holy Spirit long before it needs to have buildings, extensive programs, choirs, etc...” Charles Brock, Indigenous Church Planting
Favor local, sustainable forms of church & mission

“Church planting movements thrive on indigeneity. They must have internal momentum if they are to rapidly multiply through a people group. One of the surest ways to cripple a church planting movement is to link reproduction to foreign resources.”

David Garrison, Church Planting Movements 2004:267
Trust God to work through His Local People

“When, in the name of Christ’s commission, we [read expatriate missionaries & churches] do for indigenous believers what they can and should do for themselves, we undermine the very church God has called us to plant.”

Steve Saint, The Great Omission 2001:54
Focus on what is locally owned, sustainable and reproducible

“Priority should be placed not on strategies that required a high degree of education, specialized training, or exceptional gifts, but rather on methods that draw on Christians’ natural means of communication and social intercourse.”

Ott & Wilson Global Church Planting 2011:22
e.g. storying
Obstacles to Multiplication

- Which of the 10 elements of CPMs can be seen in your regions?
- What are the most significant obstacles in your region?
  - External
  - Internal
Obstacles to Reproduction in Southern Brazil

1. Lack of missionary vision
2. Excessive preoccupation with the established church
3. Faulty theology or missiology - reflection and teaching
4. Not disposed, not willing to pay the price
5. Lack of conviction or of call
6. Inability to work on a team or independence
7. Satan doesn’t want it.
8. Lack of financial and human resources
9. Lack of motivation and leadership
10. No adequate church-planting strategy
11. Lack of training for church planting
12. The church doesn’t beat with the heart of God
13. Sin and spiritual coldness
Discussion

- What must be done to remove the obstacles standing in the way of church multiplication in your region?
- Must local churches and their workers be self-sustaining and supporting for viable, sustainable, and reproducible church planting?
- How can an established pattern of dependency be turned around?
Challenge to Pray

- CONFESS - Acknowledge the hindrances to a CPM both personally and corporately
- BE - the kind of person that God can use as a catalyst for church multiplication
- BELIEVE – God’s plan is for churches to reproduce not to be sterile. Believe that God can and will remove obstacles
- PRAY INTENTLY – Call out to God for Revival. Pray for God’s Eph. 3: 20 work and for God’s people.
- ACT – What does God want you to do next?