



considering service

Extract from INF's 'Selection and Service Criteria' policy

In keeping with INF's vision and values, and in consultation with Nepali leaders, the following are considered to be desirable attributes of expatriate secondees. These will be considered during the selection process, however, we will prayerfully remain open to the leading of the Holy Spirit which may override what seems to be a logical decision.

We are looking for people who;

- *are responding to a sense of calling.*
- *are spiritually mature, willing and able to combine their faith with their professional work.*
- *have normally had some missiological / biblical training.*
- *are flexible (able to work outside their own culture).*
- *are sensitive to the traditions, feelings and culture of Nepalis and are committed to learning and adapting to local ways of working.*
- *are open to serving long-term, but not necessarily fixed in one place or role.*
- *are ready to give their advice, but who are willing to follow the lead and direction of others.*
- *competent in their roles and have an ability to pass on, and develop, these skills in others.*
- *have compassion.*
- *are able to see the big picture / overview.*
- *are not cold professionals who don't mix faith and work.*
- *are not people who have a need to take the lead'.*

PREPARATORY TRAINING

For many expatriates, the change in life and work dynamic is a big challenge - often to their sense of personal identity. Therefore, you need to be well-grounded in your God-given identity. Your time in Nepal will benefit from an ability to revise your understanding of what is considered to be 'achievement' or 'success'. Building good relationships with national colleagues, and to be accepted and valued as part of the team, may be the key 'achievement'. Such objectives should be considered just as valuable as the more traditional Western task-focused outcomes (e.g. productivity).

As with all things, being well prepared makes the transition to living and serving in Nepal a better experience. Not only that, it helps us to be more effective in our ministry. You should be considering all areas of your life and what kind of preparation you need in order to meet the following aims:

Mind, body and spirit

To develop the right heart and mind to be effective for God in an alien environment, to be able to do more than survive; to grow in maturity and thrive. For this, self awareness and the practice of spiritual disciplines are very helpful.

Practical living

To have some preparation for the lifestyle changes that are likely – this may simply be adjusting to shopping without your own transport or cooking only with basic and-seasonal ingredients.

Culture

To understand the primary concepts of culture and be equipped to work and live cross-culturally i.e. be able to 'relate & integrate'. For this you need a basic understanding of values and worldview and have an ability to understand and embrace other people's ways of doing things – whether that's nationals or other expats in your team.

Missional

Preparation that enables the you to communicate (through words or deeds) the Gospel of Christ, to minister to others and to ensure your own spiritual health. For this, a basic understanding of the biblical basis of mission, of exegesis and hermeneutics, and contextualisation will be helpful.

Professional

To develop skills and attitudes that will enable you to be effective in a cross-cultural environment. To be able to transfer your skills and to have appropriate expectations.

Please get in touch if you would like more details on any of these areas.



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