INF

THE HEART & HIGHLIGHTS

FUTURE DIRECTIONS 2015–20

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Following an extensive time of prayer, consultation and discussion, the INF Nepal and International boards have approved a comprehensive five-year plan from Dec 2015. We want to share with you the heart and the highlights of what we believe God is calling us to be and to do.
INF
THE HEART
OF OUR
WORK

LIFE
IN ALL
ITS
FULLNESS
Jesus said that he came to give us “life in all its fullness” [John 10:10]. This is at the heart of INF’s work. It’s what we long to see becoming a reality in the lives of those we serve. But it’s also our motivation for service. It’s only out of our own experience of Jesus and the fullness of life that He brings that we can serve effectively [John 15:5].

INF’s primary calling is to empower the most marginalised and least served through health and community development that is distinctively shaped by our Christian identity and values.

What does “life in all its fullness” look like for those we serve? How should our Christian identity and values shape our clinical and community work? We want these questions to be at the heart of our thinking, planning, and working over the next five years.
LISTENING TO GOD
As we prayed, studied God’s word together, and planned, the following bible verses came to mind that we believe are significant for INF for the next five years:

- **OUR HOPE**
  “WITH MAN THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE, BUT WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE.”
  Matthew 19: 6

- **OUR PROVIDER**
  “THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD. I LACK NOTHING.”
  Psalm 23: 1-2

- **OUR EXAMPLE**
  WE FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS IN BRINGING AND BEING “GOOD NEWS TO THE POOR”
  Luke 4: 14–21

- **OUR HOPE**
  “I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU, DECLARES THE LORD”
  Jeremiah 29: 11

- **OUR MANNER**
  BEING ROOTED IN OUR CHRISTIAN IDENTITY AND FAITH WHILE RELATING TO PEOPLE OF OTHER FAITHS “WITH GENTLENESS AND RESPECT”
  1 Peter 3: 13-17

  BEING “JOYFUL IN HOPE, PATIENT IN AFFLICTION, FAITHFUL IN PRAYER”
  Romans 12: 12
With God’s help we will strive to be an organisation that is at the cutting edge of heralding His Kingdom in all its fullness amongst Nepali people.

We want to be an organisation that effectively blends Nepali and international cultures, perspectives, and people as a visible sign of His worldwide Church. We recognise the need for change in our organisation. Over the next five years we will strive to:

• Strengthen our identity as a Christian mission
• Develop leadership at all levels of the organisation
• Improve the quality of our technical work through the support of specialist advisors
• Become more creative, innovative and responsive to change
• Improve our human resource practices to ensure the productivity and development of staff at all levels. This includes implementing annual reviews and personal development plans, increasing the representation of women and underprivileged groups in senior posts and the development of management training and internship programmes
THE HEART OF OUR WORK

OUR COMMUNITY WORK
INF empowers poor communities to lift themselves out of poverty. We use a tried and tested approach that enables communities to continue making significant improvements to their lives, long after INF support finishes. We will continue to use this empowering approach, recognising the significant changes affecting the vulnerable communities that we work with. These include the extension of new road, electricity, and phone networks into remote areas, migration, and rural depopulation.

We want to increase our focus on helping vulnerable communities to build their resilience to natural disasters, partly as a result of the recent earthquakes but also because of a predicted increase in flooding and landslides as a result of global warming.
THE HEART OF OUR WORK
We help people with disability to live healthy and fulfilled lives in their communities. Our future work will have a stronger focus on empowerment; helping people with disability to organise and lobby effectively for their rights so that they can access services from government and other agencies. We will develop a significant new project supporting people with disabilities affected by the recent earthquakes and will begin a new strand of work encouraging Nepali churches to support people with disability in their fellowships and communities. We will continue to support individuals, particularly those we have cared for in our hospital or clinics, using a range of medical, social and economic approaches.

Much of our community work takes place in areas with a very limited church presence. We will encourage and support our Christian staff in these areas to play an active role in their local church communities.
THE HEART OF OUR WORK

OUR CLINICAL WORK
We believe that God is calling us in faith to provide centres of excellence and training in disability and rehabilitation with a strong Christian ethos.

Nepal’s hospital sector is steadily improving but there are still significant gaps in care, including in disability and stigmatising illnesses. We will continue to provide care for people with leprosy and spinal chord injuries while developing new specialist services in physical rehabilitation, obstetric fistula, ear diseases / deafness and palliative care.
We face significant financial challenges in our clinical work; care is often expensive because hospital stays are lengthy while clinical work is becoming less of a priority for many donors. And yet, the recent earthquakes highlight just how much this care is needed. INF is already playing an important role in rehabilitation of people who have been disabled by the earthquakes and we want to develop the capacity of our medical teams to respond to future disasters.

Achieving this vision will not be easy and will require significant changes including more flexible and efficient ways of working, charging for some services to allow us to provide free services to the poorest, increasing the financial return on our land and building assets, diversifying clinical services and concerted and new approaches to fundraising both locally and internationally.
We want our clinics to offer holistic care that’s shaped by our Christian identity and values, including provision of counselling and the offer of prayer for healing. This will require our work to be staffed by doctors and senior medical staff who share our faith and vision.

We want to increase our focus on training so that doctors, hospitals and health-care professionals across Nepal are better able to meet the needs of people with disability.

We plan to continue to provide services in our clinical centres in Pokhara, Surkhet and Nepalgunj. We will hand over our clinical work in Jumla to the local hospital but provide ongoing support for leprosy services for as long as needed.
INF THE HEART OF OUR WORK

SANJAAL
INF Sanjaal [meaning ‘network’ in Nepali’] is an INF team that supports partner organisations who share INF’s vision and mission.

- Our Faith@Work programme will mobilise and equip the growing number of Christian Nepali professionals to be effective in serving their communities and their country—in charitable, government, business, arts and other sectors.
- Our Strategic Partnerships Programme will second technical experts to support the development of Nepal’s health and education sectors. We are particularly excited by the opportunity that INF has to play a lead role in the development of palliative and pastoral care services in Nepal.
- Our NGO Support Programme will help Christian NGOs to play an effective role in serving their communities and wider Nepali society.
- Our Diaspora Initiative will reduce the vulnerability of migrants to exploitation, and support effective advocacy when they encounter difficulties.
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YOUR PART
You are what makes us an international fellowship — a global movement of Christians united by a common vision, mission and calling. We are honoured to have so many dedicated colleagues, partner organisations and individual supporters around the world. We look forward to journeying with you as we keep in touch about our progress and share opportunities for you to support us practically. We value your prayers, support and service as we work together and with God’s help to make these plans a reality.
INF
A CHRISTIAN MISSION SERVING THE PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF NEPALI PEOPLE

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