

## THE STRATEGIC FIVE-YEAR GOAL

To send **10 new missionary households** from the U.S. to launch **5 new fields** by **2025**.

*In launching these new fields, we will pursue partnerships with Evangelical Friends groups in other countries who share our vision and wish to work with us.*

During the next two years we expect to launch at least 6 new fields. To accomplish this, we will focus on three goals:

1. Lay a strong foundation of prayer – locally, regionally and nationally.
2. Send missionaries to launch each new field.
3. Establish a disciple-making ministry presence in each field.

### STAGE FOUR MAJOR BENCHMARKS (2024)

- Regions establish Field Prayer Team/s who meet regularly at home in the U.S. to pray for each field (March)  
*“Lord Jesus, please raise up prayer teams from around the world who would faithfully pray for these new fields.”*
- EFM post Help Wanted Signs for short- and long-term missionary households for each field (May)  
*“...the workers are few, so Lord Jesus, please cast out more workers into your fields.”*
- Regions send annual 10:2 Prayer Trip/s to each field to pray for the soil and for workers\* (Nov)
- EFM commissions Field Study Group/s to complete Pre-Launch Planning Reports for each field (Nov)
- Field Study Groups initiate conversations about missions-sending plans with any potential partnerships (Nov)
  - Multinational partnerships with international sending yearly meetings.
  - Formal or informal partnerships with organizations with whom we may collaborate with in launching field.
  - Inter-regional/yearly meeting collaboration within EFC-NA is encouraged to build capacity in the EFM family of churches.

#### *Regional Strategic Considerations:*

- ✓ *Missions ambassadors communicate a HELP WANTED for workers with every local church*
- ✓ *At least 3-4 potential missionary households have visited each field (1-2 weeks or 2-12 months)*
- ✓ *At least double the number of people directly engaged with pre-field development (praying, planning, giving, visiting) this year.*

### STAGE FIVE MAJOR BENCHMARKS (2025)

- EFM receive at least 2 short-term (2 years) or long-term (4 years or more) applications for each field (May)
- Regions send annual 10:2 Prayer Trip/s to each field to pray for the soil and for workers\* (Nov)
- Field Study Groups propose partnership agreements where applicable (Nov)
- EFM Deploys at least 2 missionary households placed on each field (short term or long term) (Dec)

## POTENTIAL FUTURE BENCHMARKS 2026-2028

During these next three years:

1. Expand prayer ministries on every front.
2. Follow EFM protocol to provide care and support to each field.
3. Develop a long-term disciple-making strategy for each field.

### STAGE SIX MAJOR BENCHMARKS (2026)

- Regions send annual 10:2 Prayer Trip/s to each field to pray for the soil and for workers\* (Nov)
- EFM in collaboration with regions provide care for missionaries on every field who are engaged into full time focus on immersion language learning and culture bonding during at least the first 2 years. This includes some home-stay immersion experiences and maintaining a learning posture.

### STAGE SEVEN MAJOR BENCHMARKS (2027)

- Regions send annual 10:2 Prayer Trip/s to each field to pray for the soil and for workers\* (Nov)
- EFM provide care for missionaries on every field, in collaboration with regions. Conversations are taking place about possible long-term strategy.
- Field Study Groups propose appropriate updates to any formal or informal partnership agreements. (Nov)

### STAGE EIGHT MAJOR BENCHMARKS (2028)

- Regions send annual 10:2 Prayer Trip/s to each field to pray for the soil and for workers\* (Nov)
- EFM receives proposals from Field Study Groups in sponsoring regions for vision and long-term field strategies for each field. (May)  
*Regions are asked to receive proposals and insights from missionaries with field immersion experience.*
- Field Study Groups identify growth plans needed for pioneering missionary team. Update Help Wanted signs. Recruit more missionary team members as appropriate. (May)

## PREVIOUS BENCHMARKS 2020-2023

### STAGE ONE MAJOR BENCHMARKS (2021)

- Regional Think Tanks select at least one field to propose to EFM for exploration
- At least 10 potential fields chosen by EFM for exploration (May)
- Each region commits to adopting at least one of the new fields (Sept)

### STAGE TWO MAJOR BENCHMARKS (2022)

- Regions visit their adopted fields for exploration (May)

### STAGE THREE MAJOR BENCHMARKS (2023)

- At least 15 potential missionary households getting field experience (May)
- All potential fields visited for at least the second time (Nov)
- At least five new fields approved by the EFM Board (Nov)

## **GLOSSARY, EFM's Luke 10 Initiative**

**Luke 10 Initiative:** The systematic EFM initiative to discern where and who and how to launch new mission fields.

**Four Types of People:** The EFM initiative is intentional to invite and include 1) future missionaries 2) people with missions experience 3) influential church leaders 4) people from other nearby countries, usually Friends Church leaders

**EFM CAN GO Criteria:** The five criteria EFM uses for discernment in decision to send missionaries to start a new mission field: Champions, Affirmation, Need, Gifting, Opportunity.

**Luke 10 Think Tank:** Regional or national discernment gatherings specifically for prayer, receiving reports, discussion and forming proposals to the EFM Board in the Luke 10 Initiative process. Formed originally to determine what locations and peoples to explore.

**Luke 10 Exploration Trip:** Group deployed by sponsoring region/yearly meeting **missions team** who gathers information and makes trips to potential fields. CAN GO Reports and proposals are made with the sponsoring region/yearly meeting missions team to the EFM Think Tank. *This is "exploration" terminology EFM used in pre-EFM "yes or no" decision of commitment to launch field.*

**Field Study Group:** Group deployed by/with sponsoring region/yearly meeting **missions team** to continue gathering information and making proposals with the regional missions team in next steps of launching field. The Field Study Group, for example, provides the Pre-Launch Planning Report and leads conversations and proposals for partnerships. *This is terminology EFM uses after "yes" decision to launch field.*

- Field Study Group, Regional missions team, and Luke 10 Exploration Team usually involve some of the same people for continuity in the process, "wearing different hats" through the process.

**National Luke 10:2 Prayer Gathering:** EFM's monthly national conference call prayer gathering on the second Thursday of each month to pray for workers and pray for EFM's efforts in the initiative.

**Regional Field Prayer Teams:** People in sponsoring (and collaborating) regions gather for prayer on a regular basis "at home" to pray for each field. (specific leader/s, established meeting times, identified regular participants)

**10:2 Prayer Trip:** Regions deploy a group to travel to the field to pray for the soil and pray for the workers. In the purest sense, this group is not required to do anything but pray! This is an opportunity for people to see and experience the places where we are going so that they are better prepared to be prayer and financial partners and champions/mobilizers for this field.

**Pre-Launch Planning Trip:** Regions are asked to provide Pre-Launch Planning Reports in order to help EFM identify basic information that is needed in order to actually have a missionary move to the field to get started. This may require trip/s.

**Partnerships and Collaborations:** Partnership Agreements are to be written by regional field study groups in collaboration with EFM staff to be proposed to the EFM Board for approval (may involve EFM Think Tank). These partnerships may be "works in progress" in this journey.

- **Multinational partnerships** with international sending yearly meetings. These occur when EFM and a missions-sending board in another yearly meeting outside of the U.S. endeavor to both send missionaries as multi-national missionary teams to work together to start/oversee a mission field together.
- **Partnerships with organizations** with whom we may collaborate with in launching the mission. These occur when EFM works formally with an organization in order to accomplish the goals of the mission. We wish to have expectations from both parties summarized in writing for clarity. This does not include informal 'relationships' or 'friendships' with other organizations or missionaries who we may consult with or collaborate in a strictly relational capacity.
- **Inter-regional/yearly meeting collaboration** within EFC-NA is encouraged to build capacity in the EFM family of churches. This occurs when one or more regions/yearly meetings within the U.S. create an intentional relationship with the sponsoring yearly meeting of a new field in order to help accomplish benchmarks

**Missions Ambassadors:** Regions organizing and naming people at crucial moments to physically visit and verbally announce a brief missions message from EFM to each local church. This is being initiated for EFM's Help Wanted message.