EFC-Rwanda Partnership Draft

DRAFT (AND PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH EFC-RWANDA)

Proposal for an Agreement Between EFM and EFC-Rwanda for 2026-2027

From EFM's South Sudan Field Study Group

For some time now the Evangelical Friends Church of Rwanda (EFC-R) and Evangelical Friends Mission (EFM) have each felt a calling to begin a missionary work in South Sudan. In this place that has experienced such trauma and instability, there is yet an openness to the gospel of Christ and all of the benefits that are a part of life in Christ. Yet there are challenges that make it difficult for either organization to do the work alone. Being in existence for less than 50 years and being fully independent for less than 15 years, EFC-R has never sent missionaries and because of political challenges and economic realities at home (currently only 7 of 47 churches are open and meeting together), fulfilling the calling alone is daunting. EFM on the other hand has experience in raising up and supporting missionaries for decades but would benefit tremendously with partners who have recent church growth and disciple-making maturity as well as closer culture similarities. As we have spent the last 5 years dialoging, dreaming and discerning together EFC-R and EFM believe that there is wisdom in adopting this work and sharing this calling. Sharing a calling and doing a work with each other is not without challenges, not the least of which is cultural assumptions and unequal economic realities.

EFC-R has identified a missionary family (Nicodeme and Annonciata Basebya) who is a seasoned pastor, gifted teacher, and proven leader, well versed in individual and church development work in addition to being a powerful proclaimer of the gospel. He has shown the ability to both lead and follow well and will serve as the leader of the mission in South Sudan. He is currently in Juba for three months to establish the social connections and the facilities to serve as a home base in South Sudan.

EFM has approved South Sudan as a field but has not yet identified a missionary to join Nicodeme. EFM is working to locate missionaries who are called and we are in conversation with any future missionaries who are interested.

This history and current circumstances have led the South Sudan Field Study Group to propose the following. This is to begin once EFC-Rwanda deploys their missionary family, and to be the agreement for the first 24 months.

- EFC-Rwanda will pay for the Rwandan missionary personal support package.
- EFM will pay for approved field budget/ministry expenses.
- EFM will match EFC-R 50/50 on outfitting costs (setting up household items which are owned by the mission)

Going forward, we believe that EFC-R should raise the salary support for their missionaries and EFM for EFM missionaries. Full support of their respective missionary's salary provides mutual buy in and dignity for each organization. The expectation is that in the future our partnership will

change so that EFCR covers some of the ministry expenses as well. But our proposal is that EFM covers ministry costs for the first 2 years. This will enable the EFC-R leaders to continue casting vision for missions and sacrificial giving while we help to carry a significant part of the costs. EFC-R brings relational and social strengths in South Sudan that EFM lacks and EFM brings missions experience and financial strength that EFC-R lacks.

Much conversation continues between EFC-R and EFM in order to have a mutual understanding of expectations for many things: everything from financial reporting and bookkeeping to the end goal of the mission and anything in between. We believe that we are much better together and that together we can better fulfill the mutual calling of proclaiming the Gospel of Christ and growing His Kingdom in South Sudan.

This agreement will be reviewed at least annually, as both parties consider what adjustments to make after 2027. As EFM sends a missionary or new factors emerge, further agreements may be formed.

BUDGET DRAFT (under review as info is collected and both parties discuss)

MISSIONARY PERSONAL PACKAGE

$14,400	EFC-Rwanda missionary salary: Nicodeme and Annoinciata
$6,000	House rent at $500/month
$1,000	Health insurance
$21,400	Total Missionary Salary Package

FIELD BUDGET

$2,400	Ground travel in country
$1,000	Flights in country
$1,000	International flights
$1,200	Language and culture helper/s
$600	EFM language coach from Acquire in U.S. ($50/session)
$240	Communication
$2,000	School fees for kids
$1,200	Training conferences/schools
$1,000	Field Retreat
$600	Internet
$1,000	Strategic social meetings
$600	Ministry Expenses
$2,000	Misc unexpected
$3,000	EFC-R Coaching visits/trips
$2,000	Emergency
$20,400	Total Field Budget Ministry Costs

OUTFITTING COSTS (costs under investigation)

- Moving the missionary family, living room and dining room furniture, beds, mattresses, refrigerator, cabinets, stove, kitchen utensils, etc
- Computer, phone, office supplies, marketing
- Government Registration

Notes from EFM Directors

- Let's work with EFM Board to create a policy which will help guide EFM for all partnerships with Yearly Meetings who are sending missionaries to new EFM-approved fields. After the Think Tank sees this draft, it will be presented to the board strategy committee as a case study at hand while the strategy committee begins forming an umbrella policy proposal.
- It might be helpful to state upfront with Rwanda that expectations are for certain line items to be moved, after this first 2 years, into their responsibility of paying for missionary personal support package. For example, school fees for kids.