

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF EVANGELICAL STUDENTS

IFES annual report 2010



living stones vision to 2020

Through student initiative our goal is to double the number of students involved as active, committed members of IFES groups, influencing their universities and societies for Christ.

Implementing the Living Stones vision

How can the Living Stones vision become a reality in my context? How can I learn from the ideas and experiences of IFES movements in other countries?

In March 2010, a Living Stones consultation in Malaysia brought together 187 IFES staff and representatives of national movements, to hear of the successes and challenges of implementing the vision in

local contexts, to see where we are already strong, to determine where we need to focus future efforts, and to provide tools and resources to help implement the vision. The meetings also provided vital feedback as we shape our priorities and develop international programs for the next three years. Meeting together also gave us the opportunity to mobilise and unite the Fellowship in prayer, to look ahead in the same direction.

'The consultation showed us the importance of strategy, renewed our passion and helped us to better communicate the vision.'



IFES: A global family committed to community, scripture and prayer

The body of Christ knows no geographic, ethnic or political boundaries – and one of the wonderful things about IFES is how it reflects this truth through partnerships forged with and across cultures. In 2010, IFES movements around the world showed their solidarity with the movement in **Haiti** after the devastating earthquake, giving generously, some out of their own poverty, toward helping students rebuild their lives. Throughout IFES, staff workers have been seconded to other movements: **Mali to Senegal, Mexico to Honduras, and India to Guyana**, to name a few. **Australia and New Zealand** have collaborated with movements throughout the **South Pacific** islands, and report that staff and teams of students both provide and experience themselves great encouragement and growth.

COMMUNITY

'I found the family I had been longing for and a community that was there for me,' said Tevin, a member of InterVarsity, the IFES movement in the **USA**. After a difficult first semester in college, he was invited to a prayer time by a friend. Tevin went on to reach out to Latino students, making a welcome home for them in his IFES group, and eventually leading a mission trip.

This is a story repeated around the world, as students – both Christian and non-Christian – are invited into the IFES Fellowship, finding there not only love and concern, but a Lord and Saviour. Being part of a community that focuses on prayer and the scriptures helps ensure that students become growing disciples of Christ, living out their faith in word and deed.

SCRIPTURE ENGAGEMENT

Bible study skills are taught at many occasions, but several regions, including the **Middle East and North Africa, Francophone Africa and English- and Portuguese-Speaking Africa**, held events primarily focused on engaging with God's word. From **Kenya** we heard about one bible conference: 'We had 600 delegates from throughout the country and even some from beyond (**Norway, Tanzania and UAE!**). This was twice as many participants as usual. The sessions equipped us with the skills required to handle God's word effectively, as well as the attitudes required to handle it faithfully and find its relevance in various areas of life.'

PRAYER

Recognising that we rely totally on God's grace, we want to be a community of prayer. **World Student Day**, celebrated each year, gives us a special opportunity to unite in prayer. New technology such as social networking helps students to connect and pray for each other. We want to see this annual event grow and become adopted by churches around the world. Many of you receive our weekly **prayerline** email, which informs and challenges the Fellowship to pray. **Praise and Prayer** is also published quarterly, both in printed and electronic format.

DYNAMIC GROWTH

In **South Asia**, the leaders of UESI, the IFES movement in **India** report a veritable explosion in the number of students who professed faith in the last year. Around 550 prayer triplets with a mixture of graduates and students pray regularly and specifically for individuals. Around 5,000 people gave their lives to the Lord in one state in this densely populated country. There have been 90 evangelistic outreach events and in total more than 100,000 students have heard the gospel.

In **Francophone Africa**, students in **Cameroon** regularly hold an evangelistic outreach, 'Student Conquest', coinciding with the university games which draw athletes from all the universities in Cameroon. In 2010 they proclaimed the gospel to around 12,000 students at these sports competitions. More than 600 students committed their lives to the Lord.

What are the ideas and plans that God might have? How can I be using gifts, talents, time and energy in a way that moves the kingdom forward? These are some of the questions students are asking themselves at events that are part of IVCF **Canada's** decade-long vision to launch 20,000 Extraordinary Kingdom Leaders across Canada and into the far reaches of the world.

In **Latin America** student leaders understand evangelism as a lifestyle, and are mobilising their local groups to develop activities that promote evangelism and opportunities for mission. One student from **Mexico** commented after a recent training event: *'This has been one of the best experiences in my walk with Christ. I learned to dig deeply, interpret and apply the Word of God so that I might teach it in college, home and work. We must ask God to let us see the world as he sees it and give us a heart to get to work and preach the gospel, raising our voices against injustice, behaving like true sons of the Creator, in order to bring a living hope to people.'*

Twenty-eight graduates and young professionals from 15 countries (**Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, China, Germany, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Poland, Russia, Spain, Ukraine, UK, US**) participated in a seven-week Bible and Culture training course in Austria, learning to think biblically about the world today. One participant said, *'I had never thought about the validity of a Christian perspective in politics before.'*

Young graduates are not only missionaries in secular employment, but also can be excellent mentors for students. *'What can I do for my country, ministry, church or for students?'* asked Nino after attending Bible and Culture. *'I will teach in the IFES student group any time they ask me!'*

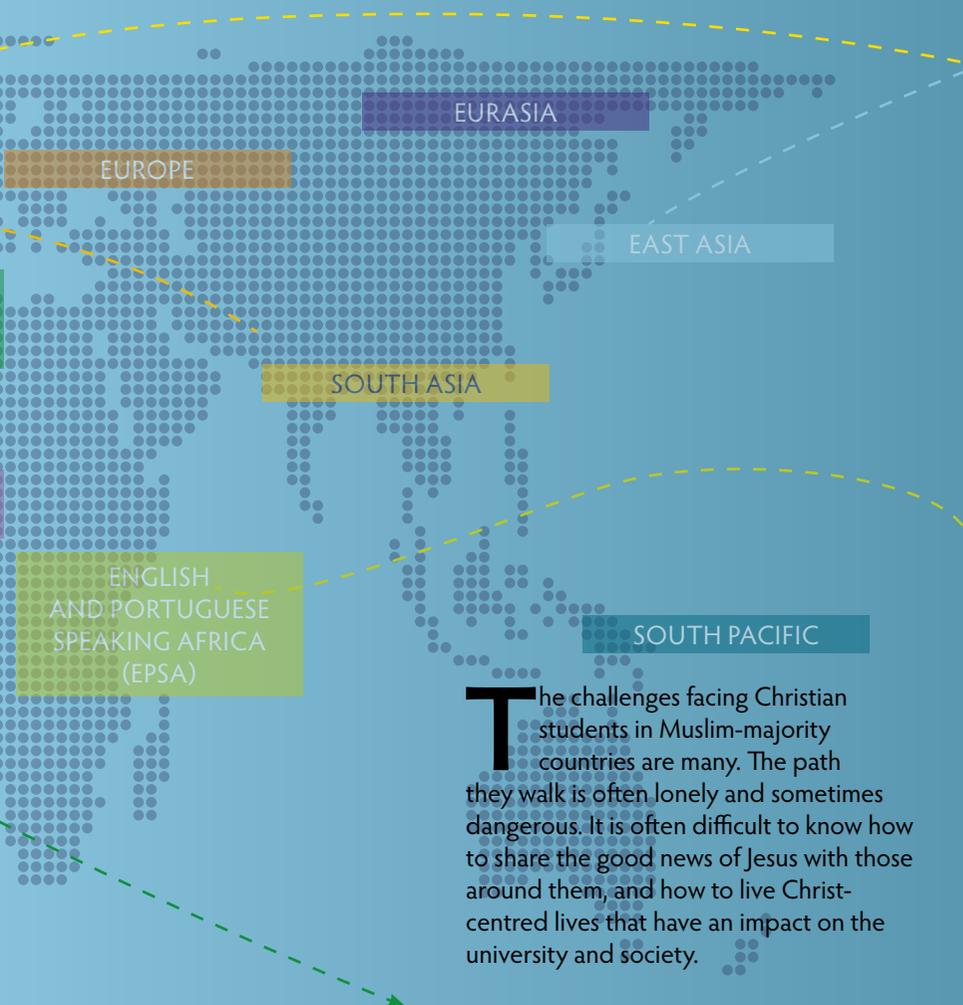
COMMUNICATING
THE GOOD NEWS

STRENGTHENING
LEADERSHIP

EQUIPPING
GRADUATES



THANKS TO YOU



EURASIA

EUROPE

EAST ASIA

SOUTH ASIA

ENGLISH
AND PORTUGUESE
SPEAKING AFRICA
(EPSA)

SOUTH PACIFIC

The challenges facing Christian students in Muslim-majority countries are many. The path they walk is often lonely and sometimes dangerous. It is often difficult to know how to share the good news of Jesus with those around them, and how to live Christ-centred lives that have an impact on the university and society.

In September 2010, 55 people from 23 countries representing each of the IFES 11 regions met in Bangkok, **Thailand** for a consultation on ministry in Muslim contexts. Following the meetings, the regional secretary for the **Middle East and North Africa** was encouraged to see students engaging in discussion with their Muslim friends in some countries where previously they had not dared to do so. Discussion groups with Muslim students now being set up are a direct result of the consultation.

In **Japan**, Christians are only about 1.5% of the population. Some student groups are very small, with perhaps only five members. Yet every group decides at the beginning of the year on the level of support they are going to give to IFES ministry worldwide.

In **Nigeria**, students took on the challenge of raising funds to buy a meeting tent for their mission conference in 2010. In just one year, they raised around US\$18,000.

In **Ireland**, student leaders decided to grow beards for IFES. Daily photo updates on facebook helped spread the word, and within two months they had surpassed their target. They also raised funds at conferences for individual student movements. One president commented: *'It is encouraging to see students enthused by linking with movements across the world.'*

Encouraging students to support IFES ministry is only one facet of building sustainable support, which remains a challenge for us. Last year, however, we identified Kehinde Ojo to be program director for Indigenous Support Development, and we look forward to reporting advances in this area in 2011.

In **Trinidad**, the local IFES group on one university campus collaborated with local churches to organise a debate with an atheist professor on the existence of God. Vinoth Ramachandra, IFES Secretary for Dialogue and Social Engagement, has participated in many university debates in **Malaysia, US, Belgium** and **Denmark**. The movement in **Moldova** is developing a good partnership with the university, and talks are underway to have social work seminars taught from a Christian perspective.

Nenad, the General Secretary of **Slovenia**, writes of their efforts to engage the university: *'The public round table discussions on whether or not Christian belief is absurd were amazing; entirely unthinkable just couple of years ago. For the last two discussions we had to carry in many more chairs to squeeze in over 80 students!'*

ADDRESSING
GLOBAL ISSUES

BUILDING
SUSTAINABLE
SUPPORT

ENGAGING THE
UNIVERSITY



DYNAMIC GROWTH

THANKS TO YOU



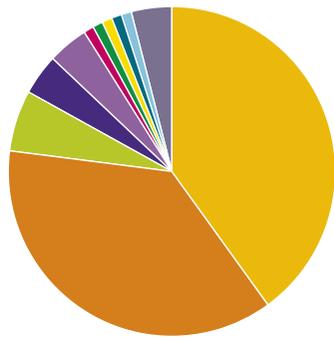
It is a privilege for me to share with you what God has been doing around the world through IFES over the past year. Today we are present in 157 countries, and God is using each group of students in a unique way as they become passionate about our Living Stones vision. This report will give you a taste how God has worked through student initiative in IFES movements during 2010.

We are thankful to the Lord that, despite the global financial crisis, he has provided faithfully for our needs during 2010. You helped us raise \$5,558,315 over the past year, enabling us to continue to retain all of our staff, who are so critical to vibrant student ministry. We had to make considerable budget cuts, however, and if we want to grow we will need significant additional resources this year and in the years to come.

With your continued support we hope to achieve much more in 2011 and beyond. Together, we can be faithful, courageous and persevere in equipping students around the world to communicate the good news in universities and throughout society.

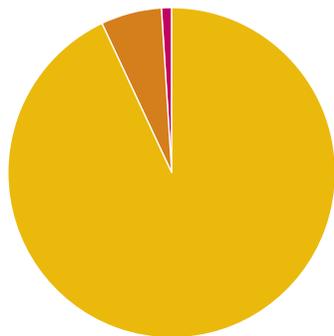
Daniel Bourdanne
IFES General Secretary





Income by country		
United States of America	40.4 %	
United Kingdom	37.3 %	
Canada	6.0 %	
Switzerland	4.3 %	
Germany	3.6 %	
Norway	1.2 %	
Netherlands	1.2 %	
Denmark	0.7 %	
Singapore	0.7 %	
Spain	0.6 %	
Others ¹	3.9 %	

¹ Other countries, in order of amount given, include South Korea, Ireland, Hong Kong, Brazil, United Arab Emirates, Nigeria, Sweden, Oman, France, Australia, Bangladesh, Ukraine, New Zealand, Taiwan, Belgium, Bahrain, Lithuania, Malaysia, Ghana, Saudi Arabia, Chile, Finland, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Kazakhstan, Costa Rica, Zambia, Moldova, Italy, Czech Republic, Latvia, Austria, Argentina, Thailand, Jamaica, Central African Republic, Kenya, India, Congo, Ecuador, Bosnia, Hungary, Guatemala, Chad, Rwanda, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Dominican Republic, Benin, Slovakia, Lesotho, Malawi, Madagascar, Bermuda, Togo, Mozambique, Bulgaria, Guinea, El Salvador, Malta, Armenia.



Expenditure		
Student ministry	93 %	
Fundraising	6 %	
Governance	1 %	

Expenditure	2010	2009
Total Income	5,558,283	6,613,788 ²
Total Expenditure	6,411,765 ³	5,596,651

² includes three large gifts restricted for use in 2010

³ includes three large gifts given in 2009 for use in 2010

General Fund (Reserves)	2010	2009
balance 1 January	923,343	1,116,144
movement on General Fund	-34,233	-192,801
balance 31 December	889,110	923,343



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