

PRAISE & PRAYER



Students across Francophone Africa (including this group in Togo) gathered to pray on World Student Day - and many took the opportunity to reach out and share Christ too.

**JOY AND
PASSION.**

EQUIPPED TO EVANGELISE

IFES staff work hard to equip movements and their students to thrive in sharing Jesus in their universities. We are often asked about what this looks like today, so here are some recent examples:

- ▶ In South Asia, webinars inspired by Paul's preaching in Acts 17 empower participants to better understand and reach students from other faith backgrounds. Sessions take aspects of the language, imagery and rituals of a different worldview and share how the gospel speaks into this and how to share Christ effectively.
- ▶ In Latin America, the regional team developed a menu of training options to serve a variety of contexts. The workshops move through understanding integral mission from a theological perspective into creating practical evangelistic activities tailored for participants' mission fields.

This year, after these workshops, 15 Uruguayan students staged a Mark Drama (pictured), performing the Gospel of Mark for their friends and course mates in a local school and a church. This experience impacts audience and participants, bringing the Good News to life and leading to many discussions with those who have never read the Bible. In the Dominican Republic, workshop participants trained other students



▲ Mark Drama, Uruguay

at their leaders' retreat. IFES Latin America staff Gisela shared: "The movement in Guatemala saw that, after the workshop, the students opened up their Bible study groups, both virtual and in-person, becoming more intentional in making them open and welcoming for nonbelievers. They also began a fruitful dialogue with a student resistance movement that had taken over one campus. The Christian students brought them food and started conversations with them to better understand their concerns and the reality of that university."

- ▶ In a report on the 2023 FEUER (Fellowship of Evangelists in the Universities of Europe) conference with participants from 45 countries, Michael Ots wrote: "In the seminars and tracks we addressed how we can approach current contemporary issues, and connect them to the gospel

(AI, sexuality and gender, Critical Race Theory). We also looked at how we proclaim the gospel appropriately to different groups of students (sciences, arts, internationals, and those living in times of war and crisis)."

- ▶ From an IFES Eurasia staff member: "We were able to send again a summer team to a closed Central Asian country this August. It was an excellent team, and each of us sees a responsibility now in staying connected and mentoring one or two of those students. We were focusing on very basic [discipleship and evangelism] topics. One guy moved with three other students into a flat and shared the gospel with them. This week one of his flatmates accepted Jesus. I talked yesterday with this new believer. What a joy!"



▲ FEUER Conference, November 2023



Students in Bulgaria and DR Congo set up prayer stations, including this Bulgarian one focused on evangelism, where they prayed for their friends

PERSEVERE IFES WORLD STUDENT DAY

25,300 people from 138 countries and territories united to pray for students around the world on 20 October. This included in person and online meetings, connections across and between continents.

In Honduras, groups' activities included a prayer walk and inviting fellow students to share prayer requests: *"It was very special to see how some students were quick to share with us prayer requests for their lives, the need for Jesus is still palpable even in those who are reluctant to receive Him. Pray that we can connect with more students in these universities and our leaders can "Persevere" in continuing to preach the Gospel with love and passion."* Students in DR Congo also used the event to reach out, including taking steps in pioneering a new campus group. They shared: *"One notable testimony came from a student who evangelised for the first time and discovered a new passion for the experience."*

IFES Francophone Africa held a regional prayer meeting online, as did those involved in the Logos and Cosmos Initiative, and movements in places as diverse as Bolivia and St Lucia. The movement in Ivory Coast showed an inspiring short film made by students. Bangladeshi groups celebrated with specially decorated cakes. The team in Brazil took the opportunity of World Assembly to film delegates from other countries sharing prayer requests, including Indonesia, Denmark and Gambia, which they subtitled and shared on social media. Students from the Philippines, the USA and Nigeria prayed together online, as did students in Equatorial Guinea and Mexico. South African students from across Cape Town worshipped God together and prayed for students in Israel and Palestine. Thank God with us for the blessing of praying together and ask that the encouragement would see students praying more and more.

THANK YOU!

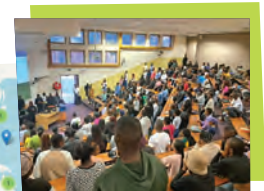
As we look back on a busy year for the IFES family, and forward to a new year of ministry we wanted to say a HUGE THANK YOU for all the ways you have supported IFES during 2023. Your prayers and gifts have enabled more students to hear about Jesus, more students, staff and volunteers to be trained, and allowed the offices which serve the frontline ministry to perform all the various practical functions which sustain campus work. As well as the many thousands of specific gifts for staff, movements and projects, the donations (including gifts in wills) made for ministry worldwide and where most needed allowed IFES to respond to situations and funding gaps which arose, including evangelism and ministry training, and ensuring that staff who struggle to raise their own support were able to continue in ministry. We praise God for each of you!



▲ Students in Sorsogon, Philippines held a prayer night



◀ Students in Vanuatu prayed using IFES maps.



Groups and individuals all over the world took part



IFES PERSON: MICHEL KENMOGNE

CHAIR OF THE IFES BOARD

At World Assembly 2023, Michel Kenmogne was elected to serve as the Chair of the IFES Board. Having been involved in GBEEC Cameroon as a student and graduate, he served on their Board, as well as representing the Francophone Africa region on the IFES Board between 2011 and 2019. With a background in teaching, language and linguistics, Dr Kenmogne has served with several organisations working in Bible translation and literacy and is currently Executive Director of SIL International. He and his family live in Germany.

Please ask God to give Michel wisdom as he chairs the IFES Board and provides valuable support and encouragement to IFES General Secretary Tim Adams.

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