

## PRAISE & PRAYER



ENGAGING  
MANY  
CULTURES

▲ IFES students are using the Bible to speak truth and hope into every culture.

### ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL

What does it look like to engage students with the gospel? A simple question, but it doesn't necessarily have a simple answer.

*"As you might think, the answer is going to vary depending on whether you're in Southeast Asia or West Africa or Europe. We are developing leaders through consultations and gatherings. We're training and equipping them, but also empowering them to develop answers that fit their contexts. You will have seen that a lot of books, ministry resources, and ideas come from the West. Praise God for that, but there are a lot of experts in other places, in every corner of the IFES. Maybe it's taking something they have expertise in, an evangelism strategy, or something they have written down, which can be published more widely and shared with others."* Deron, talking about his Global Resource Ministries team's work to support national movements' outreach.

IFES regional and global ministries teams are using cultural insights and local ideas to reach today's students. They are supporting movements to build sustainable ministry in Bible-based ways which reflect local cultures and contexts. Please hold these examples of current and upcoming events and programs in your prayers:

The IFES Scripture Engagement team is training students and staff to produce their own contextually relevant, biblically faithful resources made with their own students in mind and suitable for use in evangelism.



The program includes principles of Bible handling and helpful prompts on creative approaches. This year they are equipping trainers in the Caribbean region to work with movements across the three language communities (Dutch, English and French). It's a complex context, but the long term value of locally produced, locally relevant materials – and people trained to produce them – is exciting. Ask God to use them for his glory.

The IFES regional team in Francophone Africa are using biblical principles and

digital skills training, combining them with cultural storytelling traditions to help movement staff and volunteers working on communications and fundraising. By creating content with engaging stories which show how God is working in and through students in their movements, they can both attract students to activities, and build trust and support from churches and graduates. Please pray for upcoming training in Gabon (July), Senegal (October) and the Central African Republic (November).

In the previous Praise & Prayer we shared about IFES research and resources on reaching Gen Z. The Gen Z podcasts in English, French and Spanish have launched, each a conversation among people from different cultures on a key theme. You can find them at [ifesworld.org/genz](https://ifesworld.org/genz). Pray for an upcoming Gen Z consultation in Eurasia, a region with its own complex background and contexts.

Please join us in our prayer that new materials, programs and ideas will bless many movements, and will be shared across the IFES family, bringing new voices and insights to a wider audience.



▲ Praise God for some recent events in IFES regions and movements: IFES EPSA General Secretaries Training, Rwanda, May; CCX Ukraine Mission Week in Lviv, March – Mark Drama; SONOKO Cambodia students gathering with theme: 'Who am I, March

## IFES AND YOUR CHURCH

Could your church join with what God is doing on the world's campuses?

IFES is committed to seeing such student witness established in every university in the world. And we warmly invite churches everywhere to partner in this ministry – locally, nationally, and globally.

Together, we can shape lives and develop leaders who will serve not only on campus but also in the church. Together, we can equip student groups to be the church's evangelistic arm on campus.

Our global reach can connect you with those serving in specific regions or ministry areas. We can link you with people and resources which can give your congregation a window into



what Christian student ministry looks like elsewhere in the world. If you'd like to know more about how IFES can support your church, please see our webpage and the resources available at [ifesworld.org/church](https://ifesworld.org/church)

## RADIANT WITNESS – THANK YOU!



It's a privilege to be part of a global family that has risen up in loving solidarity and deep generosity for Global Giving Day! Please celebrate with us the donors from 101 countries and territories who have given, including match funding, over \$242,000 USD to support radiant witness across IFES.

So, thank you for your contribution – whether you donated, prayed, or shared content.

Students, graduates, and staff workers who are equipped as radiant witnesses will powerfully connect with a student generation that's hungry for authentic faith. That is what you're gifting to IFES movements. That is how you're a part of God's mission on the world's campuses. We are sincerely grateful for you.



### IFES PERSON: EMMANUEL BAGUMAKO

IFES REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR FRANCOPHONE AFRICA

Emmanuel Bagumako will take on this role in July 2026 having spent the preceding months working with the outgoing Regional Secretary, Klaingar Ngarial, to support a smooth handover.

Emmanuel, from Burundi, began his student ministry journey during his engineering studies and later served as UGBB Burundi General Secretary. Family has always been central to Emmanuel's life. The son of a pastor and one of 13 children, he is married to Gladys and they have four children. In 2016, he joined the IFES regional team, and, in 2024, was appointed as Associate Regional Secretary, directing the student leadership training program, which helps to ensure that each movement has similarly high standards by sharing a Common Minimum Program, and contributing to global IFES initiatives including the Global Leadership Initiative.

Student ministry in Francophone Africa is changing rapidly: cultural shifts and theological and sociological trends are influencing churches and student movements. Emmanuel recently completed a Master's in Global Missional Leadership at Fuller Seminary, strengthening his vision for ministry in a rapidly changing world.

Please pray for Emmanuel and Klaingar during this transition time. Pray for wisdom, unity and strength for Emmanuel and the regional team as they serve the student movements of Francophone Africa and equip a new generation of leaders.

## CONTACT DETAILS

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