

VUSA Missions Partnership Leader Guidelines

One Page Overview

As of February 2024

The purpose of a Vineyard Missions Partnership Leader (PL) is to encourage Vineyard church planting and health in the nation or nations where they are working. This job description is intended to help PLs Plan, Implement, Inspire and Align with Vineyard Missions.

- Healthy Partnerships are connected with healthy local churches.
- Partnership leaders commit to Five Core Commitments of Vineyard missions.

Responsibilities include:

1. Recruiting new churches and responding to Vineyard congregations wanting to begin work in the region by connecting them with the partnership.
2. Supporting the work of the indigenous churches and leaders in the country by proactively fostering relationships, in person or online, with leaders in the country and connecting them with available resources.
3. Ensuring a response to the requests for help from individuals or churches who are in the country but who are not part of the Vineyard movement.
4. Overseeing the partnership budget, assuring clear and accurate financial accounting of partnership funds.
5. Facilitating partnership meetings and members to discuss and implement vision, strategy, goals and cross-cultural awareness.
6. Regularly participating in the MLM for training, support, and connection.
7. Connecting with Regional Coordinator with a country update.
8. Praying regularly for the leaders, and churches, and people groups within the country.
9. Working with other Association of Vineyard Churches (AVCs).
10. Working with strategic Kingdom Minded Organizations.
11. Partnership Leaders to remain up to date with Vineyard Missions resources and training.

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General Characteristics of Partnership Leaders for Vineyard Missions:

- **Maturity:** committed to actively developing self and others, as a Kingdom leader and follower of Christ in all areas of life.
- **Discipleship:** committed to holistically developing self and others as a life-long disciple of Christ.
- **Cultural diversity:** committed to valuing, respecting, honoring, understanding, and developing people from the various cultures within the local context and in the area of responsibility.
- **Collaboration:** committed to actively and lovingly working together cooperatively with all stakeholders.

Healthy Partnerships are connected with healthy local churches

(We want people doing in missions what they do at the local church level)

- Ideally the partnership leader provides leadership in a local Vineyard church in the area of missions (decision maker or key influencer)
- Healthy local Vineyard leaders and their churches participate in VUSA community:
 - Area meetings
 - Regional meetings
 - National meetings
- Healthy Vineyard churches see people coming to know Christ and being discipled
- Healthy Vineyard churches honors 3% commitment to VUSA

Partnership leaders commit to following Five Core Commitments of Vineyard Global missions:

1. Local Church Based Missions (LCBM),
2. Partnership as a key strategy,
3. Establishment of church planting movements (multiplication of local churches),
4. Development and release (recognition and empowerment) of national leadership,
5. Contextualization of Vineyard (Kingdom) values in each culture

Responsibilities include:

1. Recruiting new churches and responding to Vineyard congregations wanting to begin work in the region by connecting them with the partnership,

- The PL is expected to respond within one week to churches who are interested in your focus country. These may come from our Missions Mobilizers or Regional Coordinators. If so, copy the Missions Mobilizers and the Regional Coordinator on any follow up given.
- The Goal is for every Partnership to have at least 3 VUSA churches actively involved in the Partnership. However the larger the number of churches involved, the better. The expectation is that Partnership be actively involved in trying to recruit new Partnership members. Help in doing this from Missions Mobilizers and Regional Coordinators can be requested.

2. Supporting the work of the indigenous churches and leaders in the country by proactively fostering relationships, in person or online, with leaders in the country and connecting them with available resources.

- It is expected that quarterly contact with a minimum of at least twice per year.
- Our approach is to invest in multiple indigenous leaders with at least three leaders being developed as Key or Emerging leaders

3. Ensuring a response to the requests for help from individuals or churches who are in the country but who are not part of the Vineyard movement (see our new guidelines on how to deal with unsolicited funds and requests from organizations outside of the Vineyard).

- Our approach is to dismiss those who are only seeking financial assistance
- We do however desire to connect with those who truly may be a potential partner and we expect our Partnership Leaders to respond in a timely manner to these legitimate requests. (see attached guidelines on these types of requests)

4. Overseeing the partnership budget, assuring clear and accurate financial accounting of partnership funds.

- Goal is to have a sufficient amount of cash available to meet partnership needs (\$7,000). This is a suggested amount considering the cost of running a Partnership, for PLs or their representative to attend the Mission Leaders Meeting (MLM) each year, and for the PL to make at least one trip into the region each year, however each partnership will need to consider their specific situations and the costs of running a recognized VUSA Partnership. Of course an additional budget for needs to support the efforts in their target nation should also be created based on projects and equipment that the indigenous church may need.
- The expectation is to have each partnership church contributing an agreed upon amount.

5. Facilitating partnership meetings and members to discuss and implement vision, strategy, goals and cross-cultural awareness.

- The recommendation is that there are quarterly meetings with a minimum of twice a year, for the keeping up of regular communications and adaptations that need to be made to plans and budgets as the year progresses.

6. Regularly participating in the MLM for training, support, and connection.

- The Partnership Leader is expected to attend the annual Mission Leader Meeting. If they are not able they are expected to send a representative of their Partnership.

7. Connecting with your Regional Coordinator with a country update.

- Partnership Leaders are required to complete the **Annual Partnership Census** which will be sent to them from the VUSA Missions office around and would include information about the following:
 - Number and names of VUSA churches involved in partnership
 - Strategic Short-Term Trips planned over the next 12 months
 - Missionaries working in the country **name**
 - Indigenous Vineyard Churches in the country **number** and **name**
 - Indigenous potential adoptions over next twelve months **number**
 - Indigenous potential church plants over next twelve months **number**
 - Disciple Making Movement Groups **number**
 - Compassion/ Justice activity is it serving or self-sustaining
 - Any government documentation that has been filed
 - Registrations
 - Trademarks
 - Any government hindrances (fill in the blank)
 - Any significant security or safety considerations (fill in the blank)
 - Partnership bank balance
 - Number of churches who financially support the partnership
- Partnership Leaders are expected to respond to a quarterly check in with Regional Coordinator which would most likely discussions around include:
 - How are you doing?
 - Major partnership changes
 - Trips planned in next quarter
 - Leadership changes in country
 - Issues identified
 - What is going well?
 - What do you need help with?
 - Opportunities

- Who are you making disciples of in the nation?
- Is your church regularly praying for our leaders and trips?
- How can we pray for you?

8. Praying regularly for the leaders, and churches, and people groups within the country. Fostering prayer request distribution for Partnership churches, as needed.

9. Working with other Association of Vineyard Churches (AVCs)

10. Working with strategic Kingdom Minded Organizations such as:

- Compassion International (VUSA Identified)
- Convoy of Hope (VUSA Identified)
- Others

11. It would be helpful for Partnership Leaders to remain up to date with:

- Resources that VMissions have available:
- Mission Team Members and their roles and responsibilities
- Training videos and encouraging their Partnership Members churches to view and receive trainings
- Future Podcasts and Missions virtual gatherings
- Be a conduit of information to churches in partnership