

VERSION 0.3  
2020



THE  
UNFINISHED TASK  
NETWORK

# THE UNFINISHED TASK NETWORK

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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## THE UNFINISHED TASK NETWORK

*“Dignity Now, Hope for Eternity.”*

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### WHO ARE OUR LEADERS?

#### EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

**David Neely, Co-Founder**  
**Dane Fowlkes, Co-Founder**  
**John Hollan**  
**Jonathan Lock**

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### WHAT DO WE DO?

**MISSION:** *The Unfinished Task Network (UTN) is a catalyst for holistic church planting that results in transformed lives, communities, and people groups.*

We accomplish this in two ways:

**EQUIPPING:** UTN equips Christian church planters, trainers, and local congregations to plant indigenous churches that become bases for community transformation.

**ENCOURAGING:** UTN incorporates these leaders into regional networks for ongoing encouragement through regular interaction with the UTN Global Leadership Team and other network members. Regional networks serve as caring, inclusive communities that encourage leaders to endure and persevere.

In this way, we seek to equip & encourage church planters and church leaders as a **process** rather than a program.

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### WHY IS HOLISTIC CHURCH PLANTING IMPORTANT?

*The Unfinished Task Network sees the indigenous local church as the proper and best agent of transformation. For too long, the church has relinquished to governments and non-government organizations (NGOs) her responsibility and opportunity for community transformation.*

#### ▪ TRANSFORMATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Unfinished Task Network’s understanding of mission is best described as holistic mission. This is in contrast to the common practice throughout the world of distinguishing preaching from social action, separating church ministry from community transformation. UTN’s calling is to equip and encourage church leaders to initiate living, thriving, prophetic communities of faith that embody the Good News of God’s mission in words, deed, and character in their own specific contexts. Transformation results when we implement **asset-based development** that focuses on what people have rather than what they do not have.

#### ▪ PROJECT: TRANSFORMATION

We define churches as prophetic communities of faith. **Project: Transformation** is the name we give to the process by which UTN equips a church planter or pastor to lead the church to be an

agent of transformation implementing asset-based development within the larger community as well as within his own church family. The church leader leads the church to foster relationships that result in empowered followers of Jesus Christ who embrace community transformation as God's purpose for the church in a particular village, community, or city.

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## HOW ARE WE ORGANIZED?

The Unfinished Task Network is organized globally by geographical regions. Currently, these regions include:

- ❖ East Africa
- ❖ West Africa
- ❖ South Asia/East Asia
- Each regional network is led by a Regional Network Coordinator who coordinates the equipping and encouraging of local church planters and church leaders through Project: *Transformation*. Country-specific Field Representatives work with the Regional Network Coordinators to develop an active network of church planters and church leaders from among those trained according to Project: *Transformation* in the field representative's assigned country.

Regional Network Coordinators along with UTN's Executive Leadership Team comprise UTN's **Global Leadership Team**.

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## WHAT IS OUR CALL TO ACTION?

*"When it is at its best, the church is the sign, a witness to the kingdom of God breaking into the world.... This means that church planting cannot be the final objective of mission, only the beginning. A church full of life and love, working for the good of the community in which God has placed it, is the proper end of mission. Transformational development that does not work toward such a church is neither sustainable nor Christian"* (Bryant L. Myers, *Walking with the Poor: Principles and practices of transformational development*).



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