

GIFT Can Align The Church With Innovative And Emerging Efforts In Global Relief

1.) To meet the needs of the poorest of the poor around the world, business strategists are advising corporations to work with Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) including Church-based organizations. These collaborative efforts can bring much-needed innovation and support to dramatically improve the lifestyles of a vast population now struggling to survive.

NGOs are enlisted to form and work with Self-Help Groups (SHGs), comprised of 6-20 women who represent their families and communities. NGOs provide hope, education and oversight to help SHGs demonstrate wherewithal and financial stewardship so they can secure resources to build homes, create businesses and improve their communities.

The Church can work with “SHG” structures to share Christ’s love in tangible ways. GIFT can help the Church explore working with SHGs.

2.) Cell phones represent new opportunities for the global poor to increase incomes through such means as monitoring agriculture prices, determining which retailers need restocking, affecting point of sale processing, receiving remittances, even receiving education. With 3 billion+ people connected, cell phones provide a network for addressing concerns and sharing Christ’ love. GIFT can help the Church explore affecting mobile solutions.

3.) Solar may seem expensive in developed countries since it is incremental to existing generation and wires, but in lands where there is no power grid or generation, solar can be cost effective and impactful. Solar can enable irrigation, computers, phones, refrigeration, lighting and more. Shared solar can be even more economical. Solar can even be developed as a micro-enterprise providing earnings opportunities and much-needed solutions. GIFT can help the Church explore affecting solar solutions.

