

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR TRACKS

4/14 window 7-year Global Initiative from 2010 to 2017

Transform World New Generation – Raising up Christ Followers from the 4/14 Window.

*This article is taken from: Handbook for the 4/14 Window Global Initiative (Draft)
Transform World New Generation - Raising up Christ Followers from the 4/14 Window.*

Strategic Plan for the Spiritual Transformation Track

VISION

The **Spiritual Transformation** track's 7 year vision is: engaging local churches around the world to reach and disciple children, thereby raising up a new generation from the 4/14 window to transform the world.

MISSION

The central purpose and role of Spiritual Transformation track is defined as:
Seeking to fulfill the Great Commission by equipping members of the body of Christ to effectively reach and disciple children for Christ in their own churches and communities around the word.

STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, THREATS, OPPORTUNITIES

This strategic plan addresses the following key strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities related to the mission of the **Spiritual Transformation Track**:

Strengths: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An emerging groundswell of church and mission leaders who see the value of strategic focus on ministry to and with kids.• More great children's ministry training and curriculum resources available to the body of Christ than ever before.• Renewed focus on ministry to children in context (families, crisis issues, etc)• Growing strength and focus on disciple-making rather than scattering evangelistic sees• Renewed focus on reaching and discipling families, not just children.	Weaknesses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local churches often still lack awareness, motivation and commitment to reaching, discipling and empowering children.• Global lack of training and resources for churches and workers to reach and disciple children.• Old paradigms of children's ministry continue to lead to ineffectiveness in both reaching and discipling kids (lots of short-term effort, little long-lasting result).
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<p>Threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global youth culture (materialism, modern thinking, media influences, misplaced priorities, etc). • Other religions. • Lack of unity in the body of Christ. • Weak believers (those who should be discipling kids) are not experiencing a transforming relationship with Jesus Christ themselves. 	<p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Openness among global church and mission networks to work together to focus on ministry to and with children. • Millions of people with a heart for children..but little training or tools. • Unprecedented opportunities to communicate, develop relationships and share information globally. • More resources available to the body of Christ than ever before in history. • More unity and Kingdom willingness to work together among children’s ministry leaders than ever before.
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LONG TERM OUTCOMES

(based on outcomes listed in the 4/14 handbook)

1. Children worldwide hearing and understanding the truth of the gospel (from their local children’s leaders/church members, families, friends, school teachers, social workers, caregivers, or other Christians) and making decisions to follow Christ and grow in Him
2. Significantly increased focus on reaching and discipling children (awareness/vision, equipping/skills and implementation/action) among church networks, denominations, mission agencies, Christian NGOs and other social development organizations.
3. Programs, curricula and other teaching and training strategies developed and implemented to reach and disciple the 4-14 generations (leading them to becoming effective agents of transformation) made easily available to local churches, mission organizations, and Christian development organizations worldwide.

KEY STRATEGIES

Our overall strategy for reaching and discipling children around the world for Christ involves EQUIPPING the body of Christ at the grassroots, local church level around the world. EQUIPPING includes the following key strategies:

Training:

- **Outreach-Discipleship Training:** Train an army of leaders (especially local children’s workers, parents, teachers, children and church leaders) to effectively reach and disciple children in their own communities around the world. (1 for 50 initiative).

Networking and Vision Casting:

- **Vision – casting to church leaders:** Participants with vision-casting and networking events for church leaders at the national (and regional) level, (4/14 Forums or other vision events) prepared with “next steps” resources, training and perspective tools specific to helping churches reach and disciple kids.
- **Children’s ministry networks:** Facilitate the planning and development of shared training and children’s outreach-discipleship efforts at national and local events by strengthening (or beginning new) children’s ministry networks. Provide tools/training for casting vision locally and beginning new local partner/networking initiatives (4/14 network? Alternatively, existing networks with other names.)

SUPPORTING STRATEGIES

Resources

- **Development of local resources:** Facilitate the development of resources to meet the needs of the above strategies both globally and locally (curriculum writing and publishing workshop/training).
- **Open source:** Work with resource agencies to provide as much wide access to open source and shared resources as possible to support the above strategies as possible.

Leadership Development

- **Global networking for emerging leaders:** Launch an annual Global Children's Ministry Conference to continue to raise the vision and to strengthen the development of an emerging global staff of children's ministry leaders around the world. (Global Children's Ministry Conference).
- **Children's ministry lay-leader certificate program:** Create a certificated children's ministry training program for lay leaders who may never attend an institution of higher education, by desire more advanced training to reach and disciple children.
- **Mentoring:** Provide mentoring and leadership development tools to local networks.

MAJOR GOALS

As the Lord directs our steps and provides the strength, the Spiritual Transformation Track will achieve the following key targets over the next seven years:

Training

- Launch the 1 for 50 initiative in at least 150 nations. Begin with several pilot models in key ministry regions. This relies heavily on networking initiatives. It also includes developing a global pool of trainers available to serve in various areas of the world.

Networking – vision casting

- Facilitate 4/14 Forums (or other vision-casting events) in at least 150 nations.
- Engage with or strengthen the establishment of children's ministry networks in at least 150 nations. (as part of development of 1 for 50 initiative)
- Engage with at least 350 of the 700+ nationals and global ministry networks and movements that have potential to influence church leaders, mission effort and church planting efforts to consider and embrace the integration of ministry to and with children. (Offer vision-casting and 1 for 50 tools/resources and network to these leaders).

SUPPORTING GOALS

Resources

- Present open source, curriculum development training, and mentoring tools as part of the vision-casting, networking, and 1 for 50 initiatives.

Leadership Development

- Launch and run an annual Global Children's Ministry Conference. First conference planned for Lebanon in 2010. Second conference planned for Thailand in 2011. (The conference will be suspended to allow for participation in the 4/14 Global Congress in 2012 and resume in other nations after that).
- Form a development group to create and launch a globally available lay-leader certificate program for children's ministry.

NOTE: *The Spiritual Transformation Ttrack* anticipates working closely with these 4/14 Tracks (and possibly others) to achieve these goals and maximize our effectiveness.

- Parenting/Family (training)
- Educational Transformation (training)
- Pastoral/Church leaders (networking)
- National Leaders (networking)
- Literature based transformation (resources).

STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAMS

We anticipate the following strategic action programs will be implemented:

- 1 for 50 initiative
- 4/14 Forums (or other vision-casting events)
- National Children's Ministry Networks (and Networking) (4/14 Networks?)

Supporting Programs

- Global Children's Ministry Conference (annual)
- Children's Ministry Certificate Program
- Development of new resources and integration with open source networks/hubs as needed.
- Global Congress (part of the broader 4/14 Transform World global plan.)