



# **The Development Process**

The Global Impact Celebration



**This Pamphlet is part of the ‘The Development Process’ range of publications produced by Global Focus and whilst it can be used on its own is most effectively used as part of the wider Global Focus Process.**

**Other pamphlets in the range include:-**

*The Global Outreach Plan  
Changing the Structures  
Investing in Prayer  
Communicating God’s Heart  
The Faith Commitment Offering  
Effective Short Term Opportunities  
Strategic Ministry Partnerships*

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## Suggestions and Guiding Principles For Running a Global Impact Celebration by a Local Church

**The Global Impact Celebration is the core of a local church's strategy for putting Local and Global Mission back into the Heart of the Church. This is the device that drives all the other processes that will result in the congregation re-owning their own vision and responsibility for the goal of the church.**

Although an annual event and usually taking place over a weekend, (although churches have extended it to 5 days or in one case a month) it is not to be confused with a traditional 'Missions Weekend'. The latter is usually the weekend that the church 'gives away' to a Mission Society that they support and it is not unknown for the Pastor to take a break this weekend.

In contrast, the Global Impact Celebration (GIC) is the highlight of the church's annual calendar and is completely owned by the church leadership and the congregation. This is your time as a church to take stock and celebrate, confirm the vision and commit to the goals for the coming year.

1. Always plan a year ahead. It takes this time to do it well and to raise the expectations of the congregation about the event.
2. In deciding which time of year to have it bear two things in mind:
  - a. Avoid clashing with any other major church event. Leave 30 days before and after the GIC clear
  - b. Avoid times when a good percentage of the congregation are on holiday
3. Be clear about the three major objectives as outlined below and plan your programme to accomplish these objectives:
  - a. Celebration. It is important that we take time out of the year to stop, take stock of all that the Lord has done through us in the last year and thank Him with celebration.
  - b. Communicate the vision. This is the time to present to the church what we believe the Lord wants to do through us in the coming year. It is the time to present the church's Global Outreach Plan (GOP) and recognise this as a step of faith by all of us.
  - c. Commit ourselves to achieving the goals. This is the opportunity for us all personally to 'own' the vision and to commit our time and talents in whatever area we can contribute.
4. Many churches add a fourth objective to the above by having an opportunity to demonstrate a local segment of the church's GOP. They do this often by having some form of church outreach or community involvement that many of the congregation can be involved in.
5. Consider the possibility of getting an outside speaker who can address the issue of the churches responsibility to local and global mission and brief them well as to the objectives.



6. Also consider the possibility of getting other outside help such as children's ministry, worship group etc. to give your own people a break and allow them to be ministered too.
7. Have a key enthusiastic and visionary leader to head up or coordinate the GIC with an assistant who could possibly take over the main coordinators role after two years. This way you are always rotating and training leadership. Look at other areas where you can further develop younger members in leadership.
8. Plan to bring to the church some of your overseas partners so that the congregation feel that they get to know these people. Use these in home groups, at various GIC events etc. but realise that public ministry might not be their gifting so in any public meetings plan well, using set interviews, clear time limits etc.
9. During the GIC try to arrange events to touch every segment of the congregation in different ways and at different times. For example, children, youth, single adults, the elderly, men etc. Reinforce the plenary objectives in these groups.
10. 'Eating Meetings' can be a great way to gather people and encourage involvement.
11. Make the event relevant by being contemporary while making sure that you fit the church's personality, offering variety and even involving the local community.
12. Examine the possibility of having a public signing of a Partnership Agreement with one of your potential mission partners in either local or global ministries.
13. Plan on a revelation of the church's mission activities by having an exhibition where all the various local and global ministries can recruit for their activities.
14. Begin mobilising prayer for the event during the prior year and have a strategy to transfer this prayer onto the ministries that make up the church GOP after the event.
15. Follow the GIC with an evaluation meeting with all from the church who took leading roles. After the evaluation you can begin the preparation for the next years GIC by asking for ideas on theme, content, activities etc. from this group.
16. One of the keys to a successful GIC is participation by as many people as possible, especially in preparing and conducting the GIC.



## GIC Programme Planning Aid

As an aid to establishing the best programme for your church, we suggest that you begin by looking at the objectives and consider how best to achieve each of them.

### 1. Celebration

- a. What public programme(s) could we have that would enable us to celebrate all that God has done this last year?
- b. What could the general content of each programme look like?
- c. How could this involve the whole church?

### 2. Communication

- a. What methods could we use to communicate the vision the Church's Global Outreach Plan?
  - i. Meetings? (e.g. Church; Children; Youth; Senior Citizens: Local Community; Focus groups; clubs etc.)
  - ii. Publications?
  - iii. DVDs?
  - iv. Small Groups?
  - v. Banners etc?
  - vi. ....
- b. Plan the focus and overall content of any meetings planned and agree who will be responsible for the detailed programme planning.
- c. What would the content of any publication include?
  - i. Vision Statement?
  - ii. Global Outreach Plan (GOP)?
  - iii. Financial information?
  - iv. Opportunities for involvement including Short Term Teams?
  - v. Future training information?
  - vi. Prayer material?
  - vii. A response mechanism?
- d. Agree who the responsible person for the Publications will be.
- e. Follow through the planning in the same detail as above with each of the communication methods agreed upon.
- f. Appoint an overall Communications Coordinator and arrange regular coordination meetings with all those responsible for communication.



### 3. Commitment

- a. How could we gather member's commitment to the Global Outreach Plan?
  - i. Would we have a specific meeting for this issue or have it as part of an existing meeting such as the final GIC meeting? Again discuss the content, responsibility etc. If you agree to have a public opportunity to respond we would recommend that the Pastor is the person responsible for this appeal.
  - ii. Would we use a written response mechanism?
  - iii. How would we prepare the congregation in advance?
- b. How could we follow up on commitments made?
  - i. Meetings?
  - ii. Training?
  - iii. Matching gifting and experience to opportunities (NB For this and the previous item, consider the use of the '*Personalisation Process*' available from Global Focus).
  - iv. Personal interviews?
- c. We suggest that the Pastor be the lead person for this aspect of the GIC.

### 4. An outreach event.

Many churches use the GIC to provide an opportunity to run an event that demonstrates a 'Local' element of the Global Outreach Plan. Conceive of an event that builds into an existing ministry, provides opportunities for many of the church members to be involved and creates a link with your local community.

### 5. Overall Coordination

As mentioned in point 7 in the Suggestions and Guiding Principles section of this booklet, it is imperative that there is an overall GIC Coordinator appointed to make this event happen. For this person and extensive '*GIC Resource Manual*' is available from Global Focus if required.



## Preparing for the Global Impact Celebration (GIC)

### Pre-Celebration Annual Timeline

The following timeline is intended to serve as a guide and checklist as you plan for your Global Impact Celebration. It is an abbreviated extracted from a full '*GIC Resource Manual*' (which is available on request from Global Focus), and only covers the first 6 months of the 12 months planning process in detail. Blank pages are also available for you to tailor the final three and one month check lists to meet your own specific programme needs.

This guide is designed to be as comprehensive as possible; however you will want to adapt it to fit your needs, especially as you get nearer to the GIC. A thorough reading and understanding of the timeline checklist will serve you well. Plan to periodically review the checklist as you count down the months and days to your GIC.

Many people will be involved in planning and implementing your Celebration. The pastor and church leaders should be involved in all decisions and planning. Your GIC planning should be a synergistic effort between the Church Leadership, the *Church's Local/Global Outreach Leadership Team* (if it has one) and the *Church's Global Impact Celebration (GIC) Team*.

#### Definitions:-

*The Local/Global Outreach Leadership Team* is the ongoing team for church's mission strategy and implementation. If your church does not yet have such a team, you will find it helpful to develop one during the process of putting together your Celebration. At the same time it is important to consider how this team fits into the church leadership structures. As an aid to this process Global Focus provides another pamphlet in '*The Development Process*' range called '*Changing the Structures*'.

*The Global Impact Celebration (GIC) Team* is an ad hoc task force which you will form to implement the Celebration and is led by the GIC Coordinator.



## Pre-Celebration Annual Timeline

<b>Time before GIC</b>	<b>Designated Task</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>12 Months</b>	<b>1) Choose the dates of your Celebration</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	a) Determine the best time of the year based on:  1.) Church Calendar: Be sure to select a time when most of your people are likely to attend. Clear the church calendar of any major additional functions 4 weeks prior to and after the GIC.  Community Calendar: It is wise to consider other events; e.g. Bank Holidays, half terms etc.	
	b) Determine the length of your Celebration based on:  1.) Is this your first Celebration? If so, you might want to conduct a Friday to Sunday GIC.  2.) Are you experienced in planning and executing a GIC? If so, consider a Wednesday to Sunday.  3.) Is your congregation accustomed to attending additional services and events? Some churches can schedule for several nights. Others can have special events with limited additional public services. Contextualise the length to your church's personality.  4.) What is the size of your church? In order to fully saturate your congregation, a larger church should consider a Celebration of at least five days, a smaller church a three-day GIC.	
	<b>2) Recruit the GIC coordinator and co-coordinator to lead the GIC team organizations.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>3) Begin consideration of a theme for your Global Impact Celebration.</b> Solicit counsel from others; i.e. church leadership, Local/Global Outreach Team, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>



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Time before GIC	Designated Task	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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12 Months (Cont)	<b>4) Determine the general outline of the Celebration Programme.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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How many public services will you have? What special events will you have and when will you have them? See GIC Programme planning aid below.

	<b>5) Agree and invite speakers, musicians, youth workers etc. and special guests for the GIC.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	<b>6) Begin the development of your church's local/global mission strategy (i.e. the Global Outreach Plan).</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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This will be vital in thorough planning for your Celebration. Refer to the '*Global Outreach Plan*' which is part of the 'The Development Process' range of support leaflets produced by Global Focus. A final version of your Global Outreach Plan should be presented at the GIC.

	<b>7) If applicable, contact your denomination for a list of missionaries that will be available for your Celebration.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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a) Consideration should be given to travel requirements; budgetary limitations and variety in your mission participants.

c) Consider inviting some retired missionaries and short-term volunteers.

d) Consider including local, regional, and national ministries and missionaries as part of the local/global balance.

	<b>8) Begin inviting any missionaries as soon as possible.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Use the "25-50" principle. Invite one missionary unit (couple or single) for every 25-50 regular small group adult attendees.

	<b>9) Begin development of your GIC budget.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Time before GIC	Designated Task	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9 Months	1) Finalise your GIC theme.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2) Finalise your GIC budget.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3) Continue to confirm speakers and other special guests. Send a confirmation letter to each.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	4) Make sure the church members, who have responsibilities that must be coordinated with a special guest (i.e. musician, children's specialist, etc.) communicate and coordinate their efforts.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	5) Determine the global mission organisations and missionaries with whom you may wish to partner in their mission field strategy in the future.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	6) Consider inviting nationals (leaders and Christian workers of other nationalities) to your Celebration, especially those with whom you have – or plan to have – a working partnership.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	7) Review any special GIC teams needed and their specific responsibilities. Start recruiting team leaders.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	8) Plan for the development of your prayer strategy:	<input type="checkbox"/>



Time before GIC	Designated Task	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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6 Months

1. **Finalise the confirmation for all invited guest etc.**
2. **Finalise any special GIC teams and team leaders.**
3. **Schedule a monthly meeting** between now and the GIC with GIC coordinators, special team leaders, and other key people.
4. **Encourage any special team leaders to meet with their teams regularly for coordination, progress and prayer.**
5. **Begin work on publicity and promotion of the GIC.**
6. The Celebration brochure is the single most important promotion piece you will create. This will present the GOP and also opportunities for involvement Plan to distribute it widely starting three to five weeks prior to the Celebration.
7. **Develop your Faith Commitment strategy** (if you plan to use this method of financial involvement). Note a **'Faith Commitment Booklet'** is available from Global Focus which includes advice, small group Bible study material and much more.
8. **Plan for and schedule a Commitment Follow-up Meeting for those who will respond at the GIC Commitment Service.**



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**Time before GIC**

**Designated Task**



**3 Months**





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**Time before GIC**

**Designated Task**



**One Month**





## NOTES





## MASTER LIST

### GIC PLANNING PROCESS

No.	ACTION STEPS	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	RESOURCES NEEDED	COMMUNICATION NEEDED	OTHERS EFFECTED	DEADLINE DATE
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						