

# Participation Streams in the Wycliffe Global Alliance

(2 April 2020 revision)

## Introduction to the Streams

The Wycliffe Global Alliance Participation Streams represent the diversity of God’s provision so that every Alliance Organization can take part in the Bible translation movement. Each Organization is gifted, in their context and culture, and in their ability to serve regionally and globally. This document provides an overview of the Streams that are recognized as the primary means by which Alliance Organizations contribute to the holistic transformation of language communities worldwide.

Each Stream lists accompanying characteristics that indicate how an Alliance Organization may be involved. These characteristics help Alliance leaders and Alliance Area Directors understand and assess how an Alliance Organization is participating.

## Assumptions about the Streams

- Each Alliance Organization’s involvement in a Stream includes contributing beyond support of its own personnel (in prayer, funding, etc.). While an Alliance Organization may be engaged in these functions on behalf of their personnel, they also value and participate in a wider, networked context that supports global Bible translation movements.
- An Alliance Organization may have a particular focus based on region, culture, demographics, etc. But, whatever the focus, Alliance Organizations are encouraged to participate with others in the Alliance and with partners as a demonstration of the unity of the body of Christ.
- Alliance Organizations are encouraged to discern how God has called and equipped them to contribute. There is no greater value placed on being involved in a greater number of Streams. The desire is to see Organizations as wise stewards and contributors according to their calling and capacity. The Alliance Area Director maintains a database on each Stream. The Alliance Organizations in that Area provide information and regular updates on their involvement in the Streams in which they participate.
- Alliance Organizations are encouraged and expected to share, within the Alliance community, experiences and learnings from their Streams involvement.

## The Participation Streams

All of the Streams are considered important. Therefore, they are not presented here in any order of priority. The characteristics of involvement noted are not meant to be comprehensive, and by listing them there is no expectation of full involvement in each of them. The characteristic statements are examples.

<b>CHURCH</b>	An Alliance Organization relates to local churches and church organizations for the purpose of participating together in the mission of God. These relationships include a focus on Bible translation and/or related ministries with minority language
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	<p>communities. It is recognized that some Alliance Organizations are churches or church denominations.</p> <p>Alliance Organizations demonstrably come alongside churches to nurture relationships, listen and learn, encourage, help strengthen, and help equip them to fulfil a meaningful role in Bible translation.</p> <p>Involvement with a church or church organization may, for example, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increasing missional awareness</li> <li>• networking/partnering</li> <li>• vision sharing and advocacy</li> <li>• encouraging involvement in Bible translation movements and related ministries</li> </ul> <p>The relationships of the Alliance Organizations with a church or church organization are inspired by the Statements on the <a href="#">Church</a>.</p>
<p><b>Characteristics Demonstrated:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Alliance Organization has an intentional focus on relationships with churches and/or church organizations.</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization has staff involved in nurturing, expanding, and deepening relationships with local churches and church organizations.</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization can describe how the churches they relate to are participating in Bible translation movements.</li> </ul>

<p><b>PRAYER</b></p>	<p>Prayer plays an important part in the life of every Alliance Organization, but for those Organizations involved in the Prayer Stream, we recognize the part they play in encouraging and supporting prayer by means of, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• developing and/or overseeing prayer programs and initiatives (often in cooperation with other organizations and networks).</li> <li>• participating as advocates in prayer movements and events.</li> <li>• coordinating, sharing and distributing prayer information to stimulate and sustain regional and global prayer groups and networks in prayer for Bible translation movements.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Characteristics Demonstrated:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Alliance Organization has an intentional focus on prayer advocacy and development of prayer support.</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization has staff involved in coordinating prayer and prayer information, vision sharing and other related activities. (This prayer focus extends beyond the prayer needs of their own personnel.)</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization uses communication networks to share stories of how God is working through prayer movements and the prayers of His people.</li> </ul>

<b>FUNDING</b>	<p>An Alliance Organization encourages generosity for Bible translation by raising funds in the country where it is located, for the operations and/or support of Bible translation programs. Initiatives and activities that result in income generation are recognized as funding. An Alliance Organization distributes its financial resources in a way that values and demonstrates an appreciation for national, regional and global efforts within the Alliance community.</p> <p>Funding practices among Alliance Organizations are inspired by the Alliance’s Principles for <a href="#">Funding</a>.</p>
<b>Characteristics Demonstrated:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Alliance Organization has an intentional focus on building capacity in funding and/or conducting fundraising activities.</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization has staff involved in fundraising and the funds raised are for use beyond the needs of their own staff and their organization’s operating budget.</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization has measurable fundraising activities.</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization helps donors/contributors/philanthropists understand the importance of the Alliance Principles of Funding.</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization uses communication networks to share stories of how God is generously providing.</li> <li>• An Alliance Organizations partners in biblically-based generosity training in churches or ministries giving generously for the work of Bible translation.</li> </ul>
<b>PEOPLE</b>	<p>An Alliance Organization recruits and/or sends people to serve in Bible translation movements either in their country of origin or elsewhere in the world. These people may serve in their own organization, another Alliance Organization, or other partners of the Alliance. This function also includes ongoing supportive care.</p> <p>People practices among Alliance Organizations are inspired by the Alliance’s Statement on <a href="#">People</a>.</p>
<b>Characteristics Demonstrated:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Alliance Organization has a measurable and intentional focus on seeing people engaging and serving in Bible translation movements in its own country and/or another country.</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization has staff involved in the engagement of, and caring for, people serving in God’s mission.</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization has policies relating to all relevant processes in its context regarding care of personnel.</li> </ul>
<b>BIBLE TRANSLATION PROGRAMS</b>	<p>An Alliance Organization manages one or more Bible translation programs, which will typically include Scripture engagement and</p>

	literacy. The Alliance <a href="#">Translation</a> Programs Philosophy inspires and guides Alliance Organizations in these programs.
<b>Characteristics Demonstrated:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Alliance Organization has an intentional focus of managing a Bible translation program(s).</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization has one or more full-time (or equivalent) staff involved in the management of a Bible translation program(s).</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization has one or more full-time (or equivalent) staff involved in directly assisting a Bible translation program(s) and if it is in another country, this is done in cooperation with the Alliance Organization(s) or other partner(s) of that country.</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization has the capacity to maintain an adequate database on translation needs in their country.</li> </ul>

<b>TRAINING IN BIBLE TRANSLATION ROLES</b>	An Alliance organization regularly offers courses in topics relevant to Bible translation programs. These courses are often in cooperation with other organizations.
<b>Characteristics Demonstrated:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Alliance Organization shows an intentional focus on training in Bible translation roles.</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization has one or more full time (or equivalent) staff involved in the offering of training for Bible translation roles.</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization regularly offers training courses in topics relevant to Bible translation programs.</li> </ul>

<b>SPECIALTY SERVICES</b>	An Alliance Organization provides practical help and/or specialized consultation services, often for specified periods of time. This can include, for example, services in the areas of finance, technology, administration, organizational development, partnerships, human resources, etc. These services are provided based on needs expressed by stakeholders and partners in Bible translation movements relating to minority language communities. The relevant Area Director is made aware of these services so that other Alliance Organizations may be informed and benefit from them.
<b>Characteristics Demonstrated:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Alliance Organization has an intentional focus on one or more Specialty Services that serve Bible translation movements in its own country and/or another country.</li> <li>• An Alliance Organization has staff involved in the offering of specialty services to other Alliance Organizations or Bible translation partners.</li> </ul>