



**2019 MISSION SUMMARY**

## Bringing in a Plentiful Harvest



Dear AE Members, Partners, and Friends,

It is the start of yet another year, in which we look back at the previous year with gratitude, and look forward in faith at what we anticipate will be a great year!!

This last year has been a great year for us in African Enterprise as we conducted 8 major missions across the continent of Africa. These missions remain so critical as we see a continued surge in Africa's population and, therefore, resonance with the Lord's call that "the Harvest is plenty but the laborers are few - pray that the Lord of the harvest that he may send forth laborers to His harvest!" Some of our major achievements that led to the combined total outcome of sharing the gospel with at least 1,089,072 people, with at least 120,223 making commitments to Christ included:

1. An increase in the number of associate Evangelists that formed our 2019 missions, as you will notice in the subsequent pages of this report. These numbers excite me, being an answer to our Lord's Luke 10.1-2 cry: The Harvest is plenty, the labourers are few; pray for labourers to be sent forth! Our missions, besides winning people to Jesus, are also becoming a practical training ground for evangelism. Once these associates return to their various cities and churches, they go sharpened, charged and inspired to carry out similar stratified evangelistic missions in their cities and church Neighbourhoods and, therefore, occasion a spiral evangelism effect!
2. Evangelism Training materials: One of our Strategic Plan's commitment is the continuous improvement of our competencies. This last year, we had a chance to train our leadership staff from across the continent on the new materials we have developed in a quest to consolidate our experiences and avail them to the body of Christ across the continent. This will go a long way in contributing to the cause of evangelism across the continent - way beyond the circles of African Enterprise.

I really want to thank you for being part of our journey across this continent! It is your prayer and financial partnership that has kept us going. Just as documented by Luke in 8.3-4 of Jesus and His faithful support base that supported Him and the disciples out of their means - so you are our support base and partners in bringing forth the plentiful African Harvest! Please do keep us in prayer and in your Christian giving! We appreciate you being a Gospel Patron through us!

Blessings

**Stephen Mbogo**

**AEI CEO/ITL**

# 2019 Mission Areas



## Refining Strategies for a Plentiful Harvest



The continent of Africa continues to be true to the words of Jesus in Matthew 9:37, that the harvest is plentiful. The following are some telling facts to this effect:

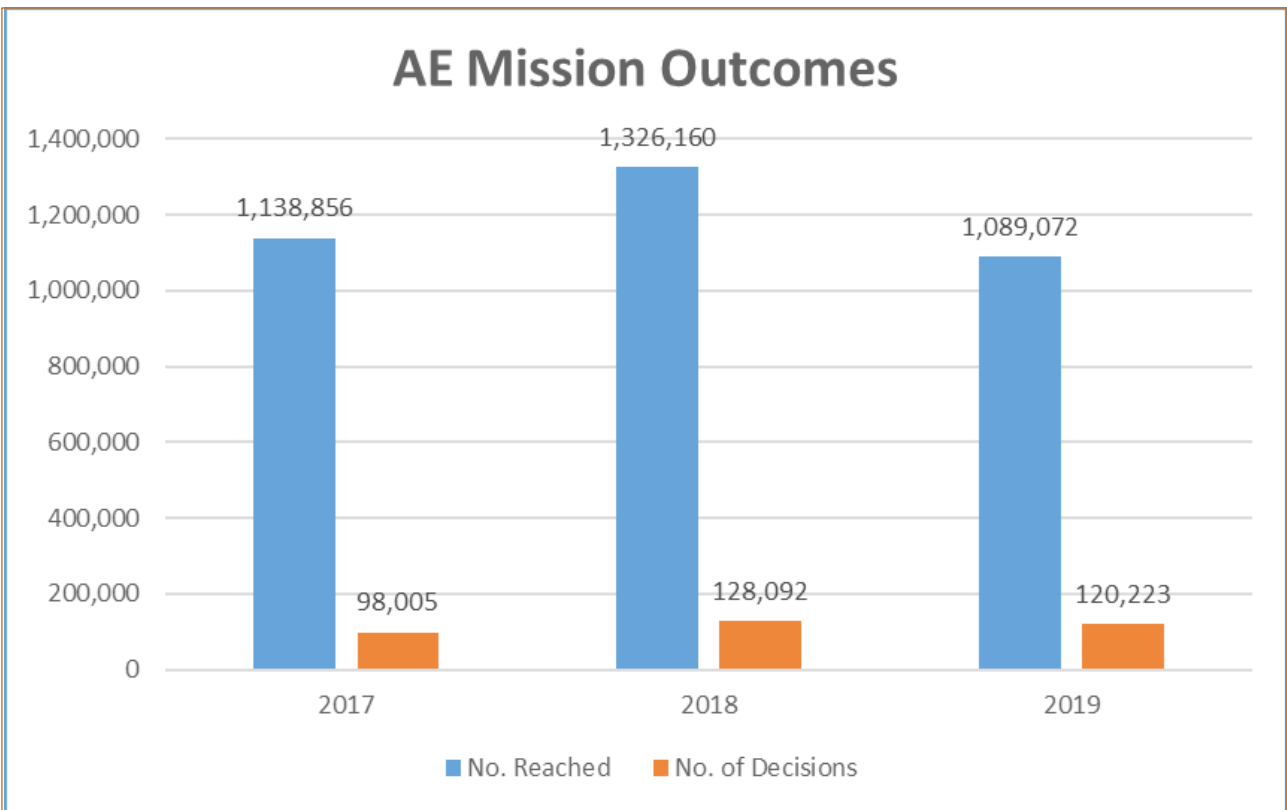
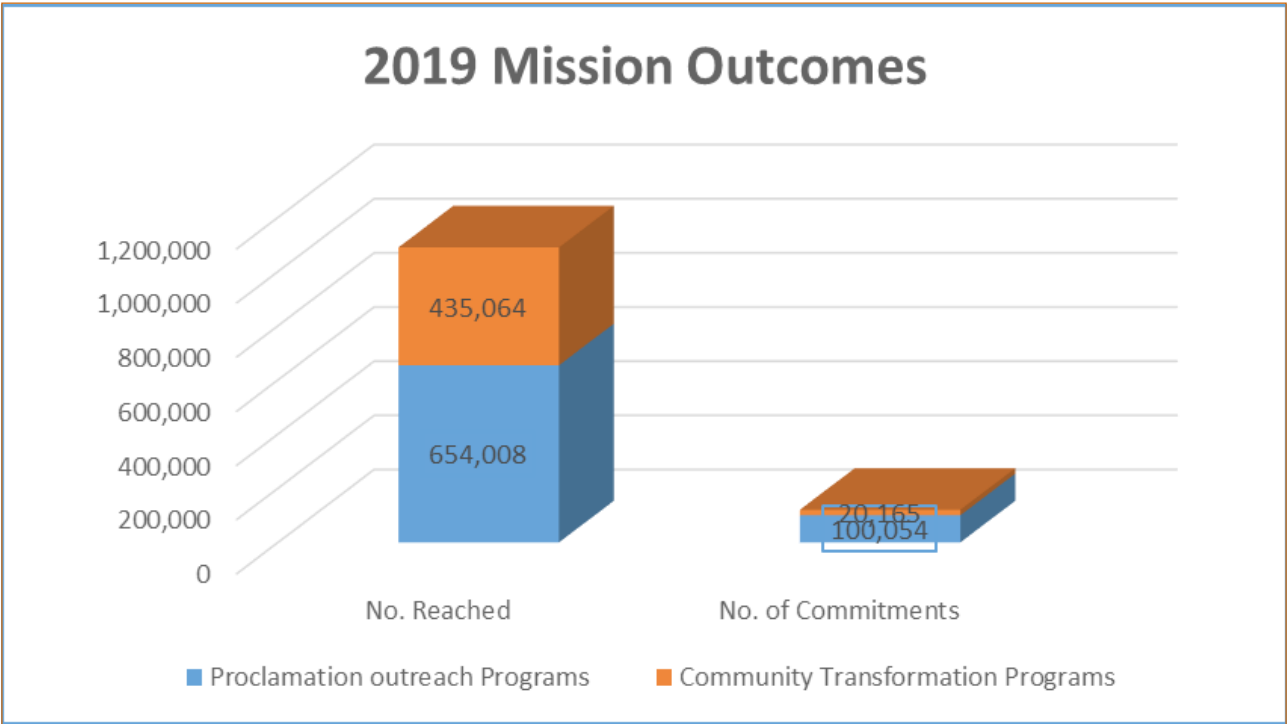
- More than half of global population growth between now and 2050 is expected to occur in Africa, and the population of sub-Saharan Africa is projected to double by 2050.
- From 2018, urban population growth in the world has exceeded total population growth. In Sub Saharan Africa, the urban population will increase from 324 million in 2010 to 730 million in 2035 (GOK & UNFPA, 2013).
- Cities continue to be the hub of diverse social challenges across the continent, such as drug abuse, crime, poverty, family breakdown, and religious apathy among others.
- Africa has the youngest population in the world, with a median age of 19 years.

African Enterprise continues to be at the forefront in mobilising and equipping a mission force for this harvest field. In 2019, AE engaged in a process of evaluating and refining its strategies for the task. This resulted in a decision to focus on six main strategies:

1. Stratified evangelism and discipleship
2. Community transformation,
3. Youth empowerment
4. Transformational leadership enhancement
5. Peacebuilding and reconciliation,
6. Capacity development and governance.

# Our Impact in 2019

1,089,072 people were impacted with the gospel, out of which 120,223 made commitments of faith in Christ.



## Developing Capacity to Reach the Cities



Over the last several years, AE has focused on improving the capacity of its national teams and partnering churches to reach the cities of Africa. Through these efforts, we have refined our process of mobilising and training volunteers, which is already bearing fruit as we witness significant increase in the number of volunteer evangelists and disciple makers.

In Lome, Togo, AE partnered with GoodWord Partnership to train 520 church leaders in preparation for the 2020 mission in the city. At the end of the three-day training, the General Secretary of the Christian Council – Togo, Rev. Elie (pictured, above right), said: “The African Enterprise training could not have come a better time than this. You have come to open our eyes to see the core mandate of the Church and the important things we have to commit our lives to – discipleship. I believe the Church in Togo will not be the same after the mission in 2020.” He added, “Though, you may see us moving at a snail pace, we shall surely support AE fully, to accomplish what the Lord has entrusted to your care for Togo.”

Refining our mission processes has the effect of increasing our capacity to reach cities, by having more partner churches, more and better equipped volunteers, greater focus on preserving the fruit of the mission, and thus having more people reached and more of the new converts disciplined.

In Mombasa, Kenya, the team had:

- 405 partner churches and Christian organisations
- 942 visiting mission volunteers from 41 different towns
- 1,831 mission volunteers from the city itself
- 2,773 being the total number of the mission force
- 1,225 stratified evangelism meetings
- 164,138 people reached with the gospel
- 19,332 people making commitments to Christ.

In Kolwezi, DRC, a small team of only four staff mobilised and trained 250 mission volunteers from 40 local churches to reach their city. This collaborative effort and investment in training enabled them to reach 16,275 people with the gospel, with 4,120 of them making commitments to Christ.

## The Gospel Across Religious Boundaries – Sheikh Ramadhan’s Story



Way before the AE mission team arrived in the city Tabora, Tanzania, for the proclamation week, God was already preparing the hearts of people to receive his word. One such person is Sheikh Ramadhan Shaban, a 59 years old religious teacher at a local mosque in the city.

As is common in places with mixed religious groups, there is very little chance of a Muslim leader attending a public Christian meeting. Shaban was, however, driven by questions that had troubled him for a while to seek answers at one of the open air meetings facilitated by the AE missions’ team. He stood at the edge of the crowd, from where he followed the presentation of the gospel.

As he would later tell some of the mission volunteers who approached him for a conversation, Ramadhan had, over the preceding couple of months, had 5 dreams concerning Jesus. In one of them, he dreamt about the second coming of Christ, something even Muslims believe in. What bothered him was that, in the dream, he was not allowed to enter into heaven. Before he could resolve this puzzle, he dreamt about someone in a white robe giving him a bible. So, here he was, listening and seeking understanding.

“The preachers explained to me what the dreams meant and the reasons why I needed to invite Jesus Christ into my life. I had the desire to receive the peace of God. I, therefore, made the commitment to receive Jesus Christ as my saviour and Lord. I am ready to start a new journey in my life in Christ.”

Ramadhan returned to the open air meeting grounds the following day to meet with the AE Team and to share his testimony.

Ramadhan’s experience is a humbling reminder of the presence and power of God that has precede and accompany AE mission teams into various cities around the Continent, including places and populations that would otherwise be considered unlikely.

## AE Brings the Gospel to the Drug Dens of Mombasa



In the backstreets and dark alleys of Mombasa North, away from the prying eyes of an otherwise orderly modern city, lies evidence of one of the greatest social ills plaguing this coastal city in Kenya. Drug abuse and addiction is wasting away a significant part of the city's population. Worsened by the city's cultural diversity as a tourist centre, the drug menace has over the years enticed hordes of residents into its jaws. Starting with that "innocent" trial, many have died as a result, scores of families have been broken, careers destroyed, and thousands remain as helpless addicts, whiling away their time in the numerous drug dens in various parts of the city. They identify themselves as "mateja", street language for "clients".

AE mission volunteers ventured into these drug dens, where they offered the hope of freedom and salvation found in the gospel. By the end of the day, 17 young people responded to the invitation to entrust their lives to Christ.



John Beo (pictured, center), has been one of the "mateja" (drug addicts) in Mombasa. Found by AE mission volunteers in his usual drug den, Beo confessed to being tired of life as a drug addict, a lifestyle which has made him lose literally everything. Now, having fled to take hold of the hope offered to him in the gospel, Beo is trusting God for complete freedom and transformation.

Now, having fled to take hold of the hope offered to him in the gospel, Beo has begun a totally new journey of freedom and transformation in Christ.



## Encountering Jesus in the University



Rwanda's Huye District, where AEE Rwanda had its 2019 mission, is known as the "academic city" because of the concentration of universities within it. Due to this, the city also hosts a large number of youth migrating from all over the country into the city for studies. Away from home, bombarded by a new culture and facing the socio-economic challenges common to such environments, these students make a population in great need of the transforming power of the gospel and the stability that faith in Christ brings.

On Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> May, the AE mission team was at the University of Rwanda, Huye Campus, where they held an open forum at the University's main playground. AE evangelists engaged more than 500 students with the message of the gospel.

*I have lived a life that pushed me away from God but now he has shown me his mercy. I am glad Jesus is now in my heart.*

Clementine Namusabyimana is a third year student who participated in the forum. When the Gospel was preached, Clementine felt in her heart the need to receive Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. She said: "I am glad Jesus is now my Lord and my Savior. I have lived a life that pushed

me away from God but now he has shown me his mercy. Today's message was specifically for me and I am glad Jesus is now in my heart. Never again will I be a slave to sin and to fear."

Clementine now looks to the future with renewed hope and confidence. She reckons that her encounter with Jesus will also lead to the transformation of her family, where only her mother has been a Christian. She looks forward to sharing with them the good news of salvation in the coming days and months. Her prayer is that God, who has drawn her to himself, will keep her strong and growing, and enable her to also be a bearer of the good news that she has received.



## Welcoming Back the Prodigals



Fourteen years ago, **Tamirat**, (pictured, above left) a resident of Arba Minch, Ethiopia, made a decision to abandon his faith and walk away from God, towards what he saw as a stress free life. Nothing, not even the pleadings of his Christian mother could persuade him to change his mind.

Like happened with the prodigal son of Luke 15, Tamirat soon discovered how deceptive the allure of a better life outside of Christ is. Heavy drinking soon gave way to other kinds of drug abuse, in pursuit of this elusive happiness. Ultimately, Tamirat found himself miserably poor, lonely, despised by the community, sick, and abandoned by former friends. His life appeared to be one long, unending darkness.

It was while in this condition that Tamirat one day decided to walk to church. As God's providence would have it, AE mission facilitators were in the city. It was their joy to represent the Father in welcoming home this returning prodigal, with great joy. Tamirat says: "I am truly regret wasting away half of my life. I was in terrible self deception. Hereafter, I want to make the best use of my life because I have now clung back to Jesus. He is so good that he accepted me back to the fold. I want to get stronger in the faith and then go out to preach the gospel to many people who live in the dark."

**Berhane** (pictured, above right) is a mother of 2 who made a decision, during the Arba Minch, Ethiopia mission, to recommit herself to follow Jesus. She says "I was a follower of Jesus until my husband prevailed on me to backslide. I retreated from The Way for 5 years just to please my husband and live together with him. However, the 5 years were years in hell. These are the darkest years of my life; with neither joy nor hope. Finally, I chose life and came to church. It is now as if my soul has returned back to me. Life without Christ is walking in the dark. My husband is not happy about my move, but I have chosen what is eternally valuable. I hope and pray that someday he will come back to Jesus.

## Transforming Communities, One Individual at a Time



AE Malawi has, as part of its outreach, been providing economic empowerment for vulnerable women through skills training at the AE vocational centre in Lilongwe. Additionally, those with diverse psychological scars have been reached with the message of comfort and hope, and counselled. These initiatives have led many to faith in Christ, made them self-reliant and able to support their families, and also enabled them to contribute their skills and finances towards the activities and programmes in their local churches.

Pastor B. Banda of the Living Waters Church in Lilongwe is among the church leaders who are witnessing and celebrating this transformation in individuals, communities and churches. He says, "Indeed, this outreach is transforming many of the previously vulnerable women. I have witnessed its fruit in the life of one of the members of my church, who has gradually been enabled to meet the needs of her family and is now actively involved in supporting the ministry of the church. On behalf of my fellow church leaders, I would like to thank African Enterprise for its charitable work which is empowering women economically and spiritually."



Annie Kachali Karried, a graduate of AE Malawi Women's transformation Project has managed to establish a successful tailoring business. She says, "With the skills which I acquired from AE sewing school, I have been able to improve my family's living standards. Through this activity, I am able to generate income of about MK15, 000.00 (\$20.00) a week which helps me to meet my family's basic needs and also contribute to church activities. I am glad to state that I have managed to pass the same skills on to my neighbour's daughter who can now manage to do a

commendable work. Not only did I learn sewing from the vocation centre, but AE also guided and trained me to share the Gospel. I am no longer ashamed to serve the Lord through the sharing of His word. I, therefore, wish God's hand to continue blessing and guiding this ministry."

In Zimbabwe, the AE Team undertook to share the love of Jesus with the inmates at the Khami Maximum Prison, Bulawayo. The initial gesture of donating soap, cooking oil and plastic dustbins was used by God to open wide, hitherto unimagined doors for the gospel. The leaders of the Zimbabwe Prisons and Correctional Services were so impressed by the AE team that they not only offered to open up all the six prisons in Bulawayo city for AE mission volunteers, but actually assigned a senior officer to accompany the team and facilitate their access to the inmates. Since prisons are usually quite restricted areas, this was nothing short of a miracle. The resultant harvest was so large, as more than 3,000 inmates in the six prisons gave their lives to Christ.

At the Khami Maximum Prison, one of the inmates who had accepted Christ asked the team: "Now that we are saved, we also need to be baptised. How will that happen?" This passionate plea led the prison chaplain to request AE to seriously consider building a baptism pool at the facility; a request AE is currently considering.

"This is historic and we wish more churches and corporate organizations could emulate African Enterprise and the Bulawayo churches by teaming up with us in the correctional services through practical deeds of mercy like this donation," said Khami Maximum Prison Chief Superintendent officer in Charge A. Sibanda.

## The Gospel for a Youthful Continent



AE continues to give prime place to the youth in its ministry, appreciating the reality that youth form majority of the Continent's population. Youth have, therefore, been significantly involved as AE evangelists (especially through the Foxfires flagship programme), and also as a rich mission ground, especially in learning institutions.

### Stacy's Story: Saved from the Edge of Suicide

Stacy is an orphan whose mother died as a result of physical violence from the father (the father also died later on). Stacy's young life has, consequently, been characterized by fear and trauma. Having been helped by her maternal grandmother, as well as other well-wishers, through her education, she is now in her final year of high school.

Although grateful for the help she has received from relatives and well-wishers, bitterness remained a constant factor in Stacy's life. She was bitter with God, who she believed had allowed her to be in this predicament. She says:

"I was often depressed whenever I saw other students visited by their parents. I suffered serious identity crisis, leading me to be increasingly suicidal. One night, I tried to take my life in one of the rooms, but I was found by others and the school matron counselled me. The next day, the AE Kenya Foxfires came by and shared with us the Good News. What gripped me most was the message that God loves me, cares for me and wants me to be his child. That night, I responded to the altar call, asked God for forgiveness and committed my life to him."

Stacy is now full of joy following this life changing encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ. She lives with a peace of mind she had never experienced before, and has greatly improved in her studies.

"The Foxfires made it a point to look for me anytime they came to our school, and the conversations with them have enabled me grow a lot. I am thankful to God for his mercies and for using the Foxfires to lead me to salvation, peace and hope in Christ."

## Creatively Impacting Young People With the Gospel

*"I am sending you like sheep amongst the wolves. Therefore, be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves."* (Matt 10:16)



The AE South Africa Foxfires team often visits some of the most crime-ridden areas of South Africa to give some of the youngest, most innocent children hope of a better life in Christ. These young children in primary school are often targets for gang members to become runners in diverse illicit engagements. In a school system whose ratio of students to teachers is so low (sometimes 70:1), degrees of discipline vary widely, and the Foxfires have many considerations

as they prepare to reach out to the young school communities through drama, dance and personal testimonies.

Senior Foxfires member, Bongani, explained the impact that the Foxfires had in one of their outreaches: "It's been exciting to see the eyes of the children, because it's likely that no one has seen this type of performance before", he said. "Mostly, they have only seen secular songs and 'crumping', and this is the first time they have heard a gospel song, with accompanying dance and drama. Even people outside the school came to watch and listen through the school gates. It's something that people in Mitchell's Plain were not used to hearing."

One of the eight members of the Foxfires team, Mpumi, mentioned how the ministry breaks through some of the false perceptions of living a Christian life. "We break through the stereotypes on how a young person can live for God. They can have joy and fun in their life and listen to positive music, and that Christianity is also a faith-based lifestyle that serves God."

The Foxfires have been confronted by the extent to which the young community is exposed to alcohol and drugs, and how life's bitterness turns some young children into bullies. This is an important part of their message to have a values-based foundation and make wise choices for life.



In terms of their own growth, a fellow member of the team, Luyanda, talks about the divine commissioning before God to dedicate at least a year of their life after school for evangelistic activities. "Sometimes I don't feel like I have done enough, but both support team members and the schools have been incredibly supportive", she said. "We have been consistently called back to schools to reach other generations, which we will do if possible. The various evangelists, pastors and volunteers involved in the mission also minister to us. Even though we may have

our own personal battles back home, God sustains us", she said.

## Reaching the City by Reaching the Leaders



Africa continues to be in great need of Christ centred leadership, that will translate its immense potential into reality. Reaching the leaders of the city, therefore, remains a significant part of the AE mission strategy.

In Arua, Uganda, the AEE Uganda team conducted nine separate leadership events, as a result of which:

- 532 leaders were reached with the gospel
- 142 leaders accepted Christ as Saviour
- 35 leaders who had lapsed in their faith rededicated their lives to Christ
- 190 leaders made a commitment to be faithful stewards of influence, power and resources.
- 244 leaders committed to lead God's way.
- 100 leaders indicated their need for further engagement with AE.



"There is a higher calling because serving is better than receiving. I thank AEE for bringing a crusade-like session to the forces because it makes us get closer to God. Most of us had turned away from God but at such events we get an opportunity to turn back to God." (Lt. Col. Charles B. Mwigha – Special Forces Command, Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces, West Nile Region)

"I learnt that in (a) democracy there are no kings and queens... there are no permanent stations, that's why leaders come and leaders go!" (Stella Aletiru – District Councillor, Arua District Local Government)



## **Vision**

**To be the most faithful and effective catalyst for holistic urban evangelism in Africa.**

## **Mission**

**To evangelise the cities of Africa in word and deed in partnership with the church.**

## **Values**

**Authority of Scripture**

**Commitment**

**Excellence**

**Integrity**

**Unity**