



Serving. Training.
Energizing Partnerships.

INDONESIA

History of our Partnership

The partnership between Canadian Baptists and the Convention of Baptist Churches of Indonesia (KGBI) began in 1972 with the sending of the Byrne and Card families to North Sulawesi. This was in response to a request from the KGBI to help them, as a small group of indigenous churches, to develop their own seminary for training pastors, missionaries and church planters. They had an ambitious vision to reach their country, the largest Muslim country in the world, with the good news of Jesus Christ and knew that they needed many more well-trained and gifted leaders to realize this vision. The Indonesia Theological Seminary (STI) was established in Manado and trained many of the men and women who are still giving strong leadership to the KGBI today.

By the early 1980's the partnership entered a second phase of outreach and church-planting on the island of Borneo. The KGBI sent missionaries to West Kalimantan province who were engaged in evangelism and church

planting. They worked primarily among the aboriginal Dayaks who were largely animistic in their beliefs. This second initiative involved a number of new missionary families and also included establishing a second school, Kalimantan Theological Seminary (STK). STK has grown to become one of the largest theological schools in Southeast Asia today.

KGBI has established churches in 18 of Indonesia's 35 provinces. They have 46 national missionaries working in 15 provinces. Eleven of these national missionaries are funded by CBM grants. The KGBI's two seminaries have a combined enrollment of 255 students.

Recent Challenges

During the first 25 years of CBM's work in Indonesia, the strong rule of President Suharto and his enforcement of their philosophy of Pancasila resulted in minimal conflict between major religions and very little persecution of Christians. But the past 10 years have been characterized by greater political freedom and significant persecution of Christians by Islamic extremist groups. In the last three years alone, 110 churches have been closed or destroyed in Indonesia. Students and staff are well aware of the harsh challenges that they may encounter because of their faith. This is simply the reality that the churches face in many parts of Indonesia today.

Indonesia has been confronted with many crises recently. One of the worst though was the earthquakes and Tsunami of December 26, 2004 which devastated northern Sumatra. That has been followed by several more very

The rapidly expanding church in the developing world requires more pastors and lay leaders who can equip and empower people to proclaim the transforming Gospel through word and deed - a powerful witness of God's grace in the context of poverty, despair, disaster and conflict.



serious earthquakes in subsequent years. In each of these crises, the KGBI and other churches have been very active in relief and reconstruction efforts with the support of Christians in other parts of the world, which has resulted in amazing opportunities for witness, evangelism and church planting.

Your Contribution at Work

True partnership requires mutuality in that CBM honours the ministry priorities of our partners, and they in turn value ours. Therefore the financial contribution of STEP partners will be allocated according to these priorities.

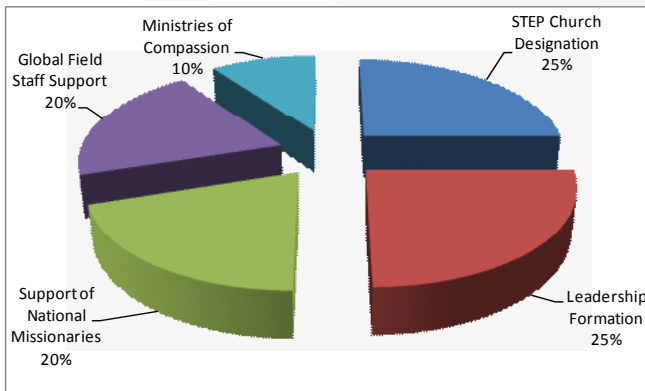


Students from Kalimantan Theological Seminary dedicate their holiday and school breaks to visit remote villages to share the Good News and build new friendships.

Above: Just one of many baptisms happening today in Indonesia.

Leadership Formation

CBM assists with the direct costs of training over 250 students in the KGBI's seminaries, as well as providing some scholarship support for further training for teachers at those schools.



Global Field Staff

In addition to funds, CBM also contributes personnel to the work in Indonesia. Our Global Field Staff are involved in both teaching ministries at STK as well as in developing church planting strategies and encouraging the national missionaries and pastors in their work.

Ministries of Compassion

Borneo is one of the poorest parts of the world, with many people living on less than \$1 per day. Christian workers seek to demonstrate Christ's love in tangible ways when confronted with desperate need. CBM's relief and development department, The Sharing Way, is involved in the initial stages of expanding their profile for sustainable programming in Indonesia.

Joint Pioneer Outreach

CBM supports 11 national missionaries in their church-planting work in the provinces of East Kalimantan, West Kalimantan and Central Kalimantan. CBM's contribution covers the salary, housing, and transportation costs of the missionary, as well as some of the ministry expenses related to the church plant.



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