

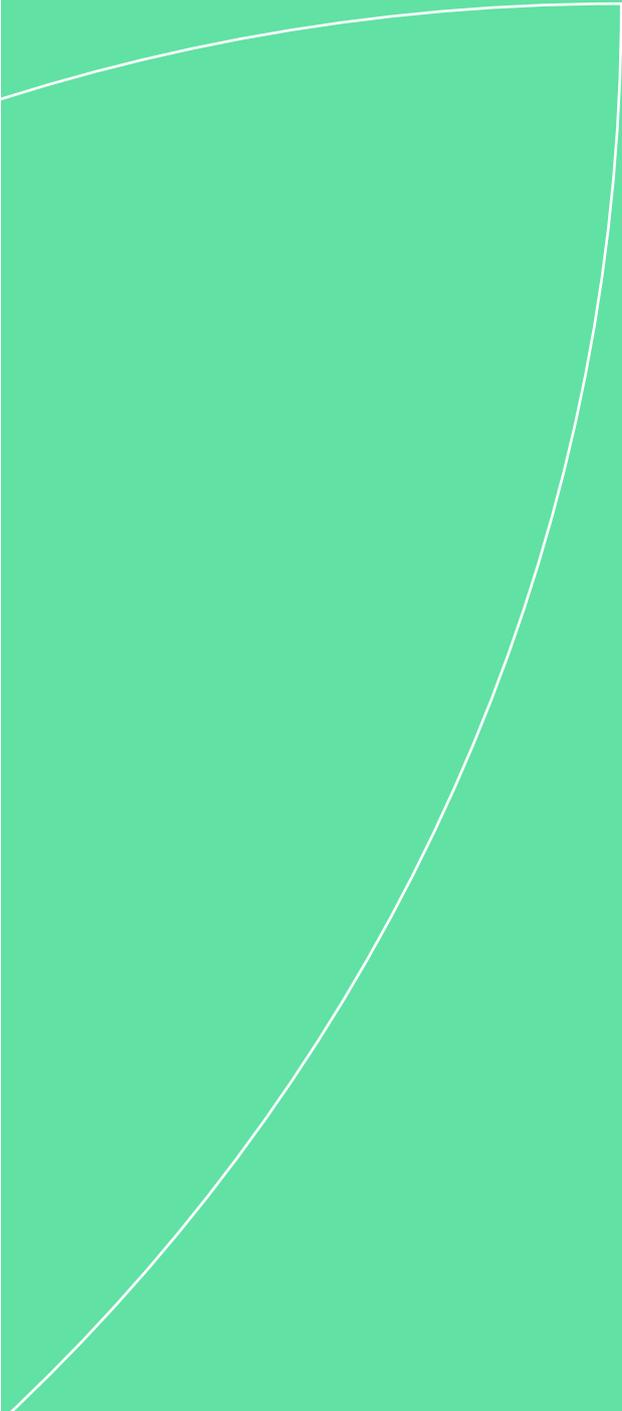
NPI SUCCESSION BOOKLET

# IMPACT INDONESIA

NPI SUMATRA







The National Pioneers Initiative (NPI) is a ministry of Christian Vision (CV). Founded in 1988, CV is called to introduce people to Jesus and impact nations for Christ. In Indonesia, the NPI started in 2010 as an outworking of our burden to see the unreached spiritual sons and daughters of Ishmael reached with the gospel.

A Bible verse that the Lord put on my heart at the time is found in Isaiah 42:12:

***“Let them (the villages of Kedar) give glory to the LORD and declare His praise in the islands.”***

# NPI Sumatra



Starting with a number of church partners and mission organisations on the island of Sumatra, 12 national pioneers were sent to preach the gospel where the name of Christ had never been heard. From this small gospel seed planted in the spiritual soil of Sumatra has come a movement to Christ amongst the sons and daughters of Ishmael, a Samaritan nation which has long been neglected and generally despised by the Church.

## NPI Mission Effectiveness 2010-2021

SUPPORTED PIONEERS	100
PEOPLE EVANGELISED	166,827
BELIEVING FOLLOWERS	41,590
BAPTISED BELIEVERS	12,902
FELLOWSHIP LOCATIONS	11,816
ATTENDEES MEETING	58,329
PIONEER SUCCESSORS	4,082
PASTORAL REPLACEMENTS	19
SUSTAINABLE CHURCHES	15





## Mission Effectiveness is about local spiritual and financial sustainability.

A spiritually and financially sustainable church is under the spiritual oversight of an ecclesiastical leadership and able to support itself financially at a local level based on local conditions.

In Indonesia we are 55% financially sustainable and 110% spiritually sustainable. Pioneering successors, as the spiritual children of the pioneers, are one of the most important indicators of whether churches will continue to send out indigenous workers to impact their people. Pastoral replacements should roughly match sustainable churches as they shepherd these newly planted fellowships to spiritual maturity.

In a movement amongst people such as this, due to family, community and government pressure—even persecution—believers are often isolated from other believers, hence the large number of fellowship locations over the life of the project and low number of sustainable churches.

Despite these enormous challenges, a major strength of this NPI is the huge number of successors personally led to Christ and disciplined by our national pioneers. Confirming this strength are the numerous baptised believers. Most were baptised at night, in secret, in homes, on deserted beaches and riverbanks and in hotel swimming pools.

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## Alone No More!

This report is not just about numbers. It's also about each person who has been personally blessed by this NPI. For example, Mrs Asih shares about leading an organic movement to Christ amongst the majority people. She is so thankful because CV has helped her to feel part of something much bigger:

*“Our biggest challenge was feeling alone, because we were not sent by any organisation. There was no one to support and encourage us. However, once we partnered with CV, our calling was strengthened by their vision and support. We did not feel alone anymore as we fellowshiped together with pioneers from other movements to Christ amongst Muslims and the many churches that are part of this project. The training that CV provided helped us to produce many successors, which strengthened our ministry even more.”*





### Working together

Praise God, despite there being disunity at the start of our NPI between a number of churches and mission organisations who had never worked closely together before, now there is incredible unity. Throughout Sumatra more than 20 church denominations, mission organisations and three organic movements to Christ amongst our target people have been able to work and fellowship closely together to the glory of God and growth of his Kingdom. The leader of the largest indigenous movement to Christ amongst our target people, Ustad Farid, shared of his joy as people from his movement fellowshiped and prayed together with conservative and charismatic Christians united in their calling to Impact Sumatra. He joyously said, *“We must have more of these gatherings. They are such a blessing for us and unify us all!”*

Hosting regular gatherings of pioneers and partners encourages fellowship and collaboration. It also allows us to learn from each other. Some of the training that we have done together includes entrepreneurship, small business, discipleship, church growth, digital evangelism and discipleship.

### Sowing and reaping

This movement to Christ has not only involved churches but at least three organic, indigenous movements to Christ amongst the spiritual sons and daughters of Ishmael. The future spiritual impact of these movements will surely be enormous and are the fulfilment of the prayer cries of a great cloud of witnesses who have sowed over many years so that today we can reap a great a harvest.

To these heroes of the faith, including my father, now in glory, who served in Palembang, we say thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Without the good and faithful works of these sowers we would not be reaping the harvest we are now.

### The role of the church

Indeed, our God is amazing! Amongst the tens of thousands of new believers there are former Islamist Separatist Movement who were once drug traffickers and arms dealers. Now they and their successors are part of God’s army who are winning many of their own people to Christ and his Kingdom.



## “God’s General” Testimony



*“Leading a group of guerrillas fighting for an independent Islamic province, Mahmud\* and his men survived by smuggling guns, illicit drugs, kidnapping and extortion. After a miraculous meeting with Jesus Christ, Mahmud’s life has dramatically changed from a killer into a peacemaker. His former guerrilla leaders are now his spiritual successors, sharing the Good News of Jesus amongst their people while making a legal living through agriculture and aquaculture. We are blessed to have been able to play a part in training and supporting Mahmud and some of his successors who are now largely self-sustaining their valuable peace-making work locally.”*

## Mr Tarigan Testimony

In what is known in Indonesia as the “Veranda of Mecca”, there is a miraculous unity amongst churches, missions and entrepreneurs in their joint support of pioneers. In fact, churches far and near are working together in this pioneering movement.

Here is a testimony from one of our church partners, Mr Tarigan, whose church in Medan supports pioneers and their churches in Aceh. Mr Tarigan shares:



“*Together with CV, our church in Medan sends out and supports pioneers in the field. Some pioneers in Banda Aceh started a Counselling Centre to financially support themselves, however they did not have a local church who could spiritually support their work. So, our church decided to provide this spiritual support. Every three months we brought them to Medan for reporting and spiritual refreshing. Eventually we also helped oversee the churches that they planted locally. Here, I believe it is important that established churches can help support pioneers who are working independently in the field.*”

**Mr Tarigan was also a national advisor. With every NPI, we bring together church, mission and business leaders who can advise us spiritually and practically about our NPI.**

## Importance of entrepreneurs



To effectively run an NPI, we gather church and mission leaders as our partners and national advisors. Entrepreneurs are also invited to play their part. Why?

Entrepreneurs have a way of looking at things and working that effectively support mission work, especially in difficult, hard places. Similar to CV founder Lord Edmiston, every entrepreneur should be valued not only for their financial contributions, but also for their entrepreneurial nous and unique ability to see business opportunities.

For example, our pioneering partners in a hard place are so thankful for the help they have received from a number of local entrepreneurs who helped them become financially sustainable through small businesses producing tea and other medicinal products from the Moringa tree.

Other pioneers have been helped with carts to sell sugar cane juice and other local produce. Pioneers can earn an income while evangelising their customers by sharing about the living water of Jesus Christ and selling a cooling drink of sugar cane juice. Another group pioneers sell freshly produced soya milk door-to-door. All of these small businesses are blessed by entrepreneurs who have helped pioneers with effective ways of doing business and managing their money wisely.



## Next Generation Successors

Every sustainable movement to Christ must produce successors to become spiritually sustainable. Praise the Lord, next generation successors are a major strength of our NPI Sumatra project. Most of these next generation successors have started pioneering work in many new places in Sumatra. In fact, some have even crossed the Straits of Malacca to pioneer work in a neighbouring country.

**Following are two of our successor testimonies:**

*“My name is Satria. I was raised in a fanatically religious family. Whilst in college, I was captured in a miraculous way by the Lord Jesus and became his follower. My life was transformed. I longed to share my testimony with my family. It turned out my family already knew I had become an apostate.*

*When I arrived home, the whole clan had convened a religious court. Publicly my family stated that I was no longer their son. A sentence of death for leaving our religion was declared. My uncle had a can of petrol ready and doused me with the liquid. As the match was about to be lit, my mother screamed, “Stop!”*

*She said to release me to go—on the condition that I never return to my village again. By God’s grace, I moved to a place where I met a pioneer from my tribe, Ibu Yanti, also from my religious background. She has been like a mother to me. Together with Ibu Yanti and her small team, I am now a pioneer successor reaching my own people for Christ.*”

*“I am Andi. Thank you for sending and supporting me as I pioneer work in a neighbouring country. My studies at a local Muslim university are not my most important mission. Sharing the good news of Jesus Christ is. One of my university colleagues, Mukmin, is a children’s education activist for Sea Gypsies.*

*We get on well together because of our mutual interest in educational activism for the disadvantaged. After six months of friendship, I shared the gospel with him and he accepted Jesus as his Saviour. He reads the Bible secretly on his phone and together we join a Zoom group for discipleship run by my spiritual father in Indonesia.*

*Praise the Lord for Mukmin, because I believe he has great potential as a messenger of the gospel to his people. Praise God, I have many contacts with whom I share the good news. Pray that I will be wise in sharing the gospel here, because there are many spies seeking to arrest people like me.*”

These next generation successors and their spiritual parents truly represent the paradigm of sacrificial succession that is the basis of every NPI. Here is what some of our NPI Partners say about the paradigm of sacrificial succession, which is about putting the last (our successors) first:

1.

Sacrificial succession according to the Word of God. The Apostles handed over their leadership to local successors. History has proven that mission agencies that fail to let go of leadership usually fail to multiply. **Titus, Mission Leader**

2.

This is biblical. The Apostle Paul said that whatever you learned from me, pass it on to those who are trustworthy and able to teach others. Sacrificial succession is effective especially in multiplying house churches. **Denny, National Advisor**

3.

In a sacrificial succession a leader needs to pass on his authority to capable successors. This principle suits mission work because it allows continuity of the work. It is like a relay race that should continue till our Lord returns. **Jommin, Aceh Church Partner**



## Into the Future

Even though, after 10 years, we have now handed over this massive harvest of souls to local church partners, we are not done yet. Now and into the future we will continue to mobilise and resource our pioneers, successors and partners with a new paradigm, the online digital opportunity.

## Digital Pioneering Opportunity

With the use of mobile, digital technology and an understanding of our audience, it is possible to reach even more people and establish real connections online. People are more open to talk online if you create the space to do so. They need to know that God not only exists, but that he also loves them. These people need people like you to help link them to the truth. We believe the local church is at the centre of God's plan to reach the world with the good news of Jesus. We therefore look forward to continuing our digital pioneering work together with church partners.

**Currently we have a number of mobile, digital tools that are especially effective for online evangelism and discipleship. These mobile, digital tools include:**

**1.**

### **M SHARING TOOL**

This is an especially helpful tool for mission workers who are sharing the good news with people from the majority religion, with links to videos, audio and text that meet their felt needs.

**2.**

### **MISSION EFFECTIVENESS**

This triangulated digital tool helps multiple partners (churches and mission organisations) provide transparent qualitative and quantitative monthly reports sent from three independent sources: pioneering workers, field coordinators and team leaders.

**3.**

### **DISCIPLESHIP TOOL**

This mobile, digital tool is for online discipleship and has been designed especially for those with a majority religion background.

We are blessed indeed if you want to use these digital tools. Training will be provided by us to help you effectively use these digital tools. This is the starting point of our digital pioneering partnership with you.

# Thank you for your Contribution

Thank you for such a great and productive partnership. In closing we want to acknowledge some of the key people, heroes of the faith, who made this NPI project possible.

**Lord and Lady Edmiston**  
CV Founders

**Delly**  
Project Leader

**Field Coordinators:**  
Herry – North Sumatra  
Melki – Central Sumatra  
Ida - South Sumatra

**Advisory Board:**  
Bpk Titus L  
Bpk Farid  
Bpk Eko C  
Bpk Lukas S  
Bpk Ichdar H  
Bpk Hendry T  
Bpk Denny A  
Bpk Binsar A  
Bpk Rudol S  
Bpk Nando T  
Bpk Hendra S

Thank you once again for your partnership.  
May the Lord bless you mightily.



**Paul Rattray**  
Impact a Nation Manager  
CV Asia Pacific

