



Increase Conference



Light for the Journey

Did you know that you are the expert?

- You know the local situation, issues, people, theology, context
- Translated courses are good as far as they are relevant in each context.



You are our light for the journey!
Ты свет стезе нашей!

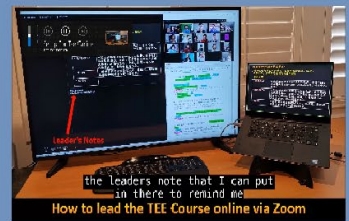
We praise you, Lord!
Славим Тебя, Господу!



Oh, You're beautiful



Hosanna, hosanna,



the leaders note that I can put in there to remind me
How to lead the TEE Course online via Zoom

Over to you...

Come up with 1-2 more stories from the Bible where you can see practical applications of lessons taught that lead to transformational learning. Explain also in one sentence why this leads to transformational learning.

Type your answers in the chat box when we are back in the Zoom meeting (please use the chat box to see practical applications)



Annual Report 2021

Dear Increase friends



Greetings to you! Looking back at all the challenges of 2021, we can only thank God for all the progress that was made, for His protection and provision and we can say that Increase's story is surely *His* story. As the world around us is getting darker, the light of God shines the brighter. So let's focus on the good things and God's blessings given in 2021. I want to mention a few highlights:

- Our executive team grew in number and now includes four different people with different gifting and roles complementing each other.
- Our virtual conference "Light for the Journey" in March 2021, gathered over 200 participants and was a great way to build new relationships and strengthen the existing ones. It involved a lot of preparation and as a result we now have many video resources. Dr Tim Green stepped down and Dr Graham Aylett was commissioned as Increase General Secretary at the conference.
- A special achievement of 2021 was publication of the book *TEE for the 21st Century: Tools to Equip and Empower God's People for His Mission* which includes contributions of experienced TEE practitioners and global theological education experts.
- We learnt new technology skills in 2021, learning together how to use zoom for TEE.

You will find much more in this Annual Report, but it is still like the tip of the iceberg showing only about 10% of all the work that was done by all the Increase members, Task Groups, prayer teams, Executive Team and others.

"Thus far the Lord has helped us" for 16 years now and we trust Him for 2022 and all the other years ahead.

We thank you for being good partners in God's work and all your valuable contribution to the Increase Association, for your prayers and support.

We pray for God's blessing and protection for you.

Anneta Vysotskaya

Chair of Increase Association Committee

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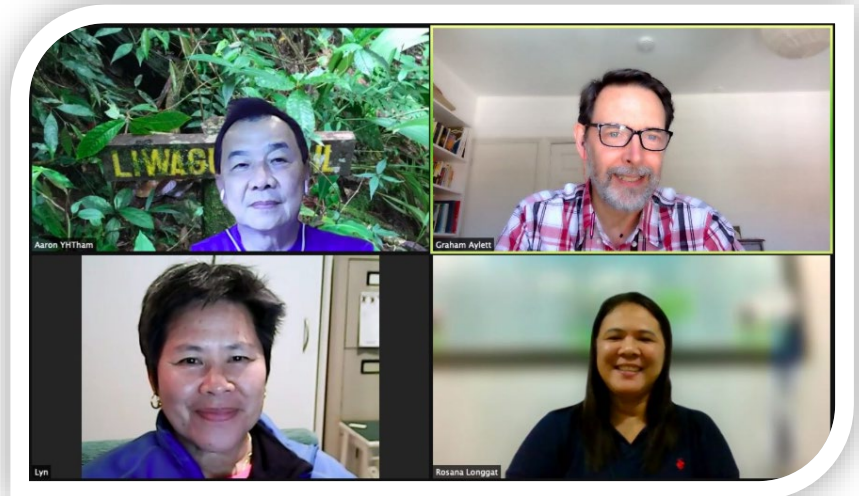
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Executive Team

The Executive Team started working together in January 2021.

The team feels like a spiritual community and not only a business meeting. – Lyn

The team brings together four people with different gifting who meet weekly. This allows them to share plans and tasks and to help each other improve ideas. Working as a team frees up time. Everyone is up to speed but can focus on different areas.



Aaron Tham - Graham Aylett
Lyn Pearson - Rosana Longgat

Joy and Sadness

In 2021 we celebrated the Increase Association's 15th birthday. When we look back at these 15 years two things stand out: how prayer has always been vital, and how the Lord brings people together with a common vision, which creates a lot of energy and creative partnerships. We want to take this forward in the coming years. We are joyful that we can celebrate these 15 years!

We were so sad to report the tragic deaths of the Director of Increase Core Member, ITEEI, Kishor Kumar Rai, and his son, Gershom, due to COVID. In 2015 ITEEI became a founder member of Increase. ITEEI serves Nepali speakers in Darjeeling, and their tutors and students mostly live in rural villages. Our prayers are with Kishor's widow Ruth, and their two daughters.

New Increase Members

TEE Aotearoa: our vision is to grow together and put our faith into action through whole-life discipleship. Our mission is to make practical Bible study more accessible to all New Zealanders.

TEE Australia: our goal is to help Australian Churches make disciples and grow their own leaders with the aim of "every believer becoming a disciple and worker for Jesus."

Friends of Grace: we work mostly among the Chinese-speaking diaspora. "Our Team started TEE courses 10 years ago in Chinese, English, Japanese, Burmese, and in Vietnamese."

CAF: a network for the Kingdom of God to be established among the people in Central Asia. CAF aims to equip, enable and encourage each other.

Judson Education Center (aka Judson Bible College): we exist to advance theological and cultural education among the diaspora from Myanmar wherever they are resettled in the world today.

Meeting our goals in 2021

The purpose of Increase is to connect and strengthen church-based training movements across Asia and beyond. This part of the annual report shows how Increase worked towards its purpose in 2021.

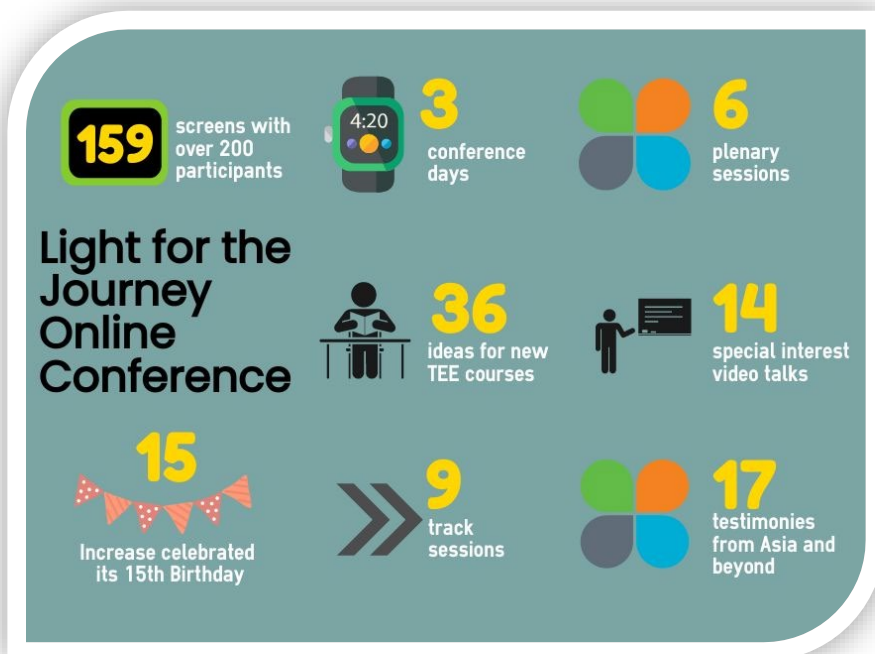
❖ build a network of good relationships

Virtual Conference

On March 23-25, Increase organised the virtual conference *Light for the Journey*. This was a great way to build and strengthen relationships.

At the conference we celebrated God's faithfulness over fifteen years. Tim Green officially stepped down as Increase General Secretary, and Graham Aylett was commissioned.

The aim of the plenary sessions was to explore what going online can do for TEE and to see the enormous potential of digital delivery.



The best part of the conference was meeting, interacting, and praying with others of the same interest and ministry"

The conference comprised three separate tracks:

Preparing for Partnership: Participants explored several types of partnerships that can benefit TEE programs:

Sustainable Funding: Participants learnt how to build sustainable funding, how to work with donor agencies, and

got ideas to generate local funding.

Transformative Learning: Participants explored the role of practical application to make TEE transformational.

Testimonies from all across Asia showing how God is using TEE to build up local churches and local believers were also much appreciated. You can listen to one of those by scanning the QR CODE!



"Listening to the talks from people all around the world was encouraging. It was great to see and hear from many different people how God is using them [to] advance His Kingdom in the missions."

Meeting directors of core members

Over the summer period, Graham and Aaron held Zoom calls with directors to introduce Aaron. These conversations, as well as the Zooms held with members and partners in the *Seeking the Lord* process, have been beneficial in building up relationships.

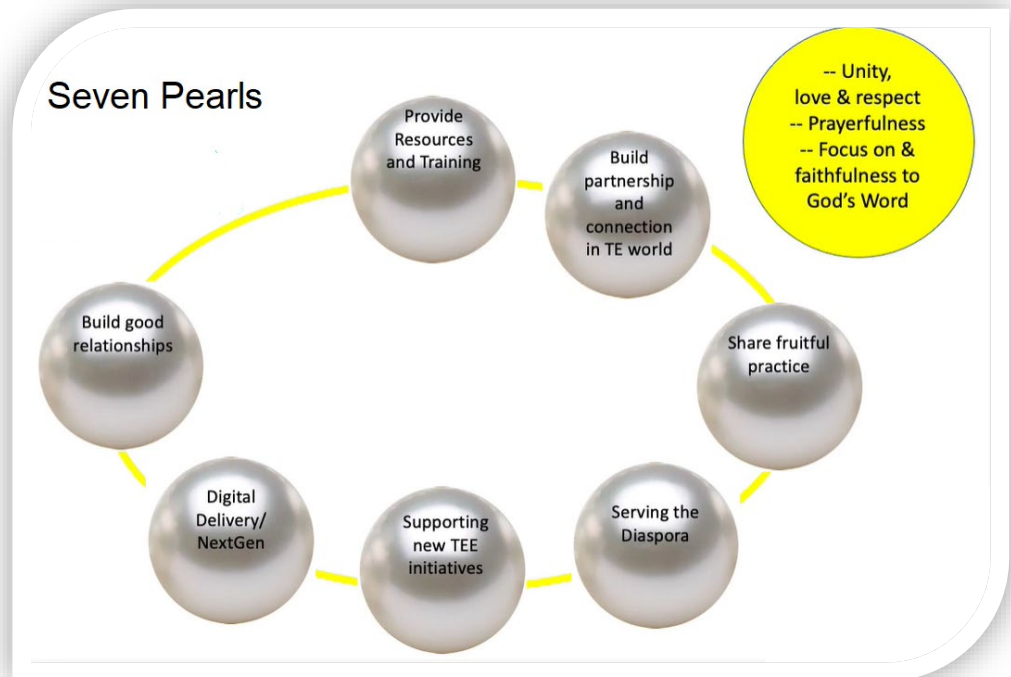
Seeking the Lord

From August through to October we had a season of *Seeking the Lord* for his plans, purposes and priorities for the Increase Association over the next few years. Three overlapping areas were involved: prayer, consultation and research.

Increase leadership met in consultation with many of you. These meetings were supported by times of prayer from the Intercessors.

As a result of this process, seven pearls held by one golden thread emerged.

After the process the results were shared with Increase members in an online Members' Forum.

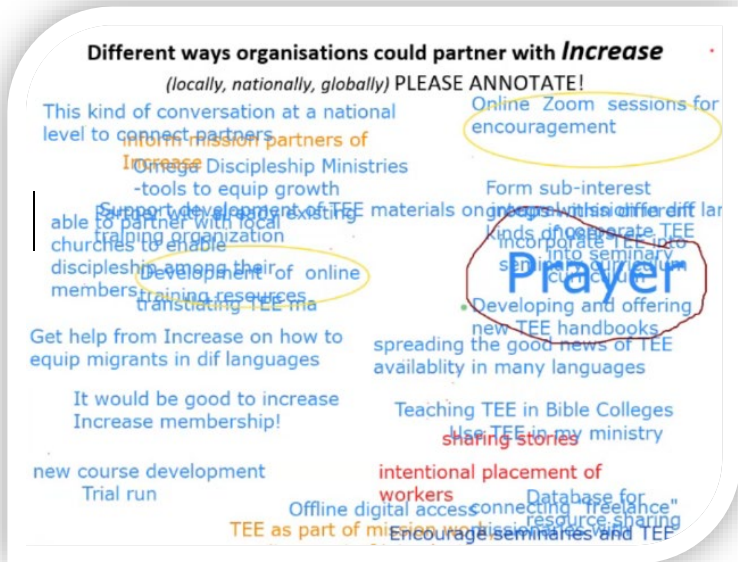


Click on the picture to hear Graham share the story with you in three minutes!

❖ encourage collaborative projects and partnerships

Focus on Partnerships

Lyn Pearson, our Partnerships Coordinator, led a 90-minute 'Focus on Partnerships' meeting before the Virtual Conference.



Interactive notes from Focus on Partnerships

This was a great time where we met with representatives from mission agencies, theological education networks, church denominational networks, and donor agencies.

Diaspora Task Group

It is vital to strengthen the network of relationships in Increase surrounding diaspora TEE. Access to TEE courses is one of the issues. A promising possibility may be the online shop that TEE Australia and the *Diaspora Task Group* are working on.

In May, June and July, a working group discussed issues surrounding national and transnational TEE programs working in the same country. This presents both challenges and opportunities.

The group produced a summary of attitudes and actions that could lead to good partnership. This document is now circulated among members.

Overseas Council

Increase has had a significant opportunity to connect and contribute with *Overseas Council*, and the leading seminaries and Bible colleges from around East and South-East Asia who participate in their Institute of Excellence. Qaiser, Tim and Graham facilitated a session on partnership with church-based training for leaders of campus-based seminaries in March.



Session with Overseas Council

Sharing our Courses Task Group

A number of new courses have been written as a result of the Increase Course Writers' Training Workshops. More are in preparation. We want to see these new courses shared with other Increase members.

The *Sharing our Courses Task Group* identified key issues around copyright, royalties and translation and production agreements. The Task Group is producing templates for agreements, and proposals for good practice.

❖ initiate and catalyze innovative approaches



TEE on Smartphones

The Virtual Conference in March showed that there was great interest in finding effective ways to use TEE courses on smartphones.

As a result, the *Educational Foundations for TEE on Smartphones* group was formed, and developed a paper to help programs understand how the personal study component of a TEE course can be delivered effectively on smartphones.

The group has given rise to three sub-groups looking at m-learning, at target audiences for specific courses on smartphones, and at re-imagining a sample lesson of *Abundant Life* for smartphones.

❖ sharing fruitful practice

Members' forum: online meetings

In January we held a third Members' Forum. This was a highly interactive session by Singaporean *Kenneth Kwan* demonstrating how to use Zoom more effectively.

He demonstrated numerous creative ways of engaging with multiple participants. This Members' Forum was great preparation for the virtual conference.

Relay Trust, Gold Project, Word of Life, SEAN International and Increase

Leadership from these five organisations met in Oxford in October and sensed that there were real possibilities for partnership.

The Relay Trust (www.relaytrust.org) is developing hardware ('The Well') that could be extremely useful in delivering courses digitally even where there is no internet coverage. They have very similar vision and values to the Increase Association.



Kenneth Kwan in action

❖ communicate widely the news and stories from Increase members



Newsletter

The newsletter appeared four times and has a growing member base, currently 355 subscribers, a growth of 15% since last year. The aim of the newsletters is to reach a wide audience of partners and interested people with current developments in Increase.

New Website

In May the new website for Increase went live. This was the result of months of preparation and good partnership with Tony Khoo at Madsquared in Malaysia.

An important new feature is the blog. The blog features stories from Equippers, members and others to show current developments in Increase. Multiple people have written for the blog so far.

[visit the blog](#)

[visit the website](#)

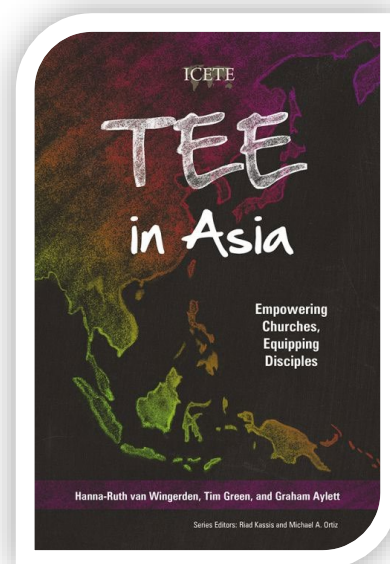
Social Media

The online communities on Facebook and Twitter community are growing. Martin Hickey, who assists the Increase Communications Coordinator, regularly posts updates on both platforms to grow interest in the work of Increase. Several posts have reached over 500 people this last year, and the post about TEE for the 21st Century reached a record 2,100 people!

TEE in Asia

In February the book *TEE in Asia* was reprinted in the ICETE Series published by Langham.

We are grateful for this partnership because this will help reach many more people with the stories from our members.



❖ provide support, resources, advice and training

Prayer support

Prayer is vital for all we do in Increase. The weekly prayer letter goes to a growing number of people: 172 in total receive the prayer points Jolyon Trickey, Increase Prayer Coordinator, sends every week. These help the Increase community support each other with prayer.

Prayer support has been crucial to the *Seeking the Lord* process, which included weekly prayer for a month.

An English language and a Korean language prayer group are gathering monthly to pray for Increase members and Equippers.

*“The weekly prayer news is so key and helpful” –
Increase member*

“The fact that prayer is now hard wired into the three-stranded golden thread of our renewed vision & strategy is of great importance.”

-Jolyon Trickey

Course Writers Training for ORTA

Good progress has been made towards the Course Writers Training for four Russian writing teams.

Nicholas Ivins and Hanna-Ruth van Wingerden are making the materials from the previous workshops available in an online format. Nearly all materials have been delivered to the ORTA writing teams.

Equippers Tim Green, Freda Carey and others are coaching the teams as they work on their courses. One of the courses is meant for wider use in Central Asia.

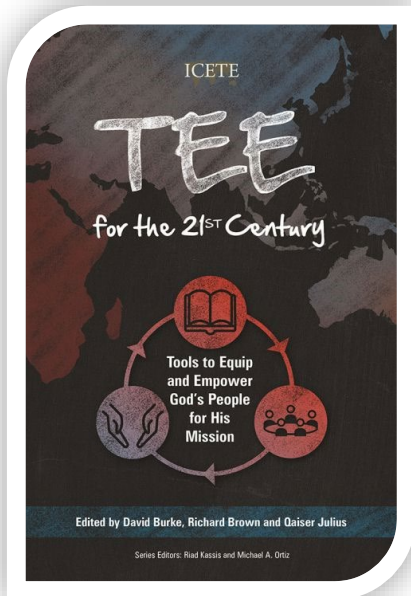
Virtual consultancy

The Increase Association serves its members in the TEE world and beyond. Over 20 Equippers with a wide range of expertise are the 'hands and feet' of the Association to fulfil our purpose. They connect and strengthen Increase members as they visit, give advice, encourage, and provide training.

In 2021 travel was limited, but the Increase Equippers now offer Virtual Consultations to give advice in a range of areas.

- ❖ make a global contribution to theological education and adult learning

Tee for the 21st Century



TEE for the 21st Century: Tools to Equip and Empower God's People for His Mission was published on September 14th. It highlights how TEE effectively addresses current church demands.

The editors have brought together experienced practitioners in TEE, along with select global theological education leaders, to offer a robust and timely collection.

We truly praise God for this book! We held a joyful online book launch on October 8th, with some 85 people participating.

The main editors talked about the reasons for and contents of the book and people in the wider theological world, like Michael Ortiz (ICETE), Thomas Schirmmacher (WEA) gave their endorsements.

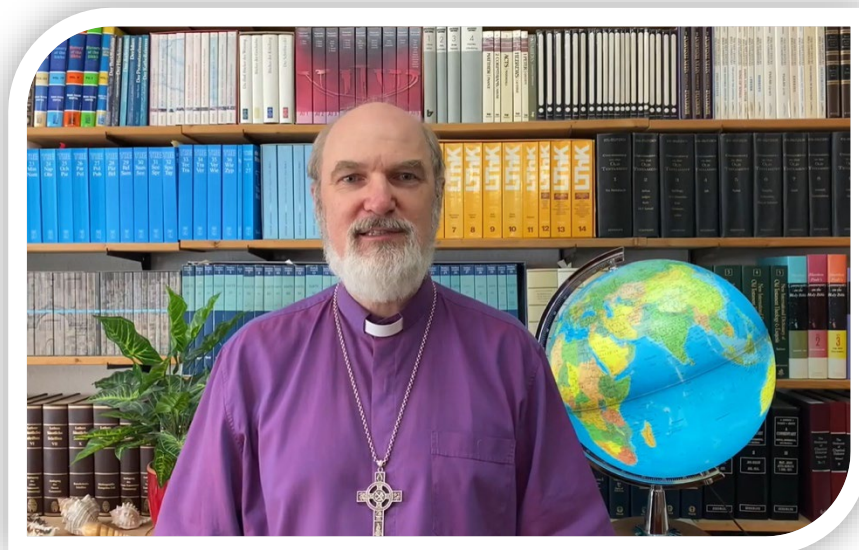


Scan to hear from David Burke about the book!

WEA

Increase became a member of the World Evangelical Alliance's Global Theology Department. The Global Theology Department exists to lead an ongoing global discussion process between WEA's wide range of members, churches, training institutions, theologians, and researchers.

This is a great platform to build deeper connections and for further contributions by Increase to theological education worldwide.



Click on the picture to hear what Thomas Schirmmacher said to Increase

❖ connect with other church-based training associations and accrediting associations

Anglican Communion

Increase has had significant opportunities to connect and contribute with the Anglican Communion in a couple of webinars organised by TEAC (Theological Education in the Anglican Communion).

Increase promoted a vision for collaboration between seminaries and church-based theological education

Alpha Asia

Alpha Malaysia will now offer TEE as their 'After Alpha' option. This happened because of good relationships with Alpha Malaysia.

ICETE

The International Council for Evangelical Theological Education, ICETE, is the umbrella body for eight regional accrediting associations. Increase was invited to apply for Associate membership of ICETE, and welcomed into membership in March.



Increase spoke about collaboration for the Anglican Communion

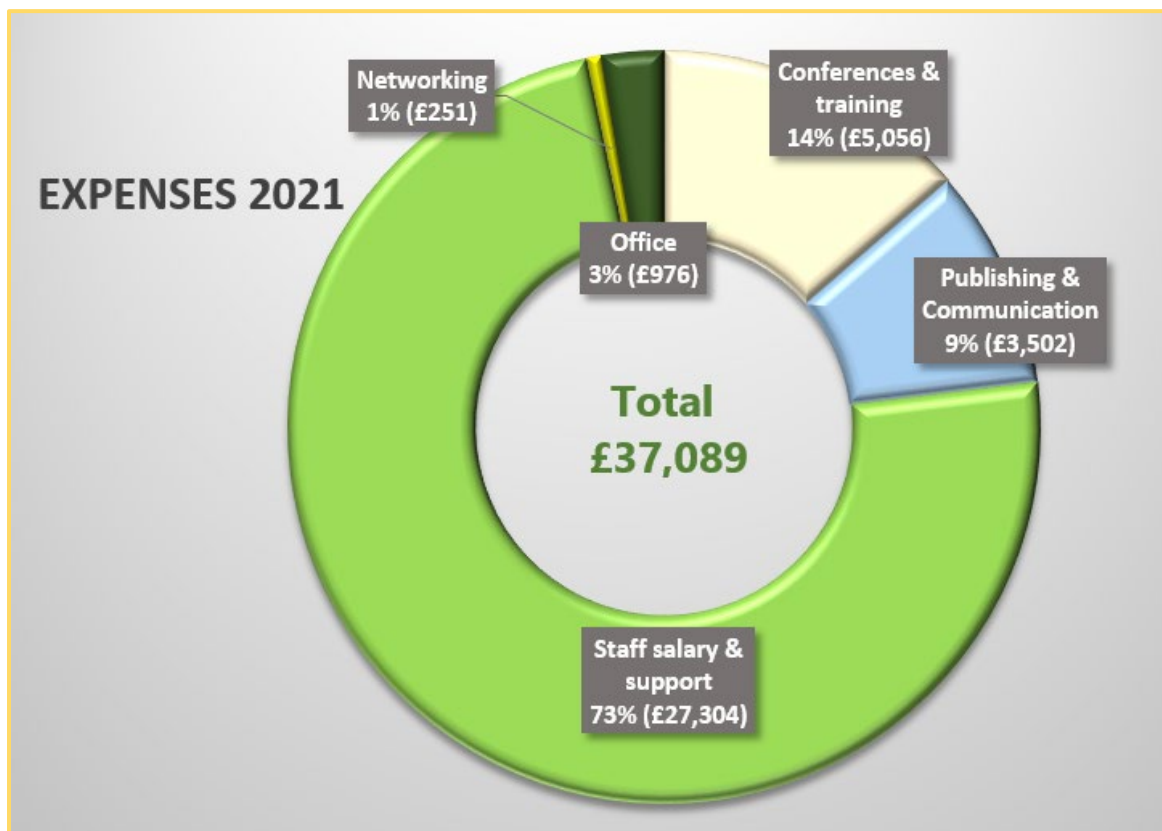
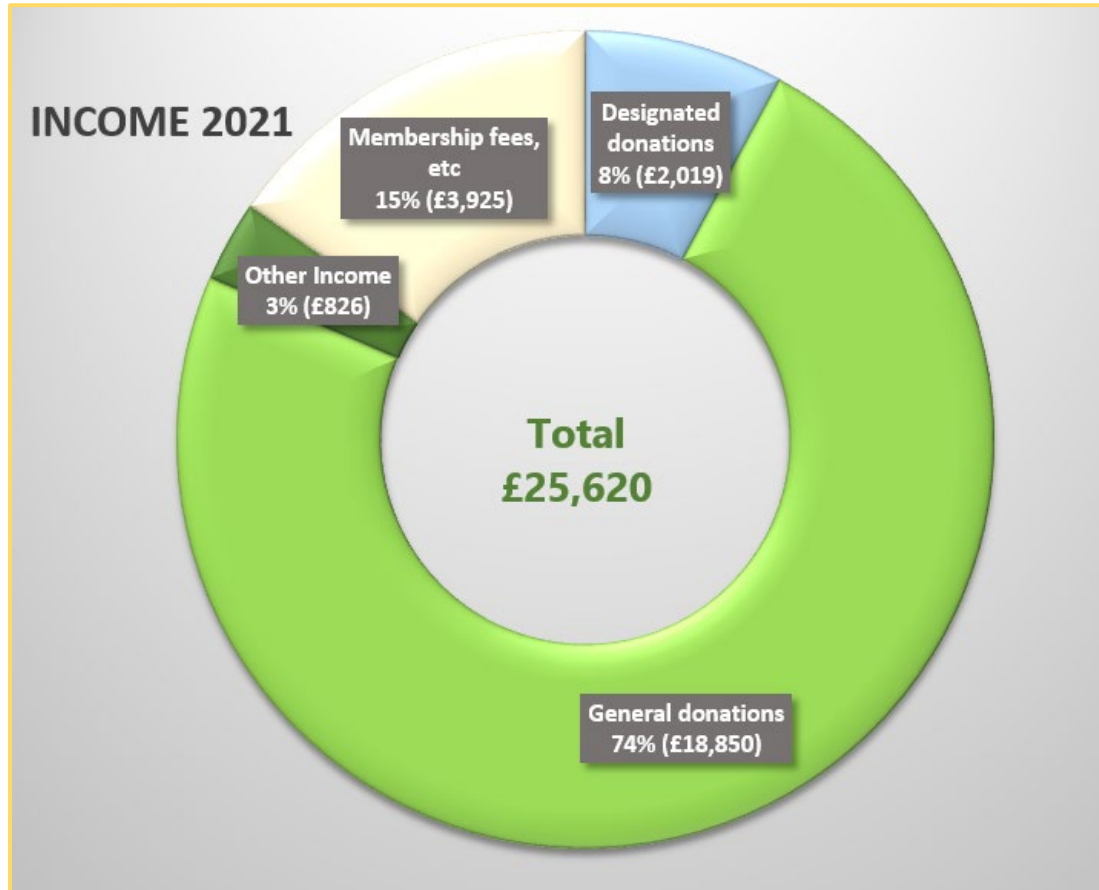
CONVERSATION BETWEEN MICHAEL ORTIZ (ICETE) AND QAISER JULIUS (OPEN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, PAKISTAN, AND ATA ASIA) AND RAMESH RICHARD (RREACH) (4 JUNE 2021)



ICETE arranged a series of three Facebook-live sessions in June exploring what is meant by 'formal' and 'non-formal' education and how these interrelate. Qaiser and Graham spoke on behalf of Increase.

Qaiser and Graham also had opportunity to speak at ICETE's hybrid Triennial Consultation, *Formal and Non-formal Theological Education in Dialogue* in November. The aim of these sessions was to see the whole people of God involved in discipleship. Increase hosted a Pacific time zones watch party for this event.

Financial Report



Looking ahead!



2021 has been a year of challenge and change for the Increase Association, as it has been for many organisations. We are so grateful to God for the way that he has led us through!

As we look ahead to 2022, two words that I mentioned when I was commissioned as General Secretary in March 2021 come back to me: *fruit* and *glory*.

As an Association, we want to be *fruitful*, walking closely with the Lord, and sharing what he entrusts to us. Our 2021 process of consultation highlighted a 'golden thread' of unity, love and respect, prayerfulness, and faithfulness to God's Word. We'll be looking for practical ways to strengthen these things through 2022. They are surely key to Increase's continuing fruitfulness!

And as an Association, we want to bring *glory* to God. In addition to the 'golden thread', our consultation process also highlighted seven 'pearls' or focus areas for Increase. We will be praying into and exploring these areas in 2022, especially as we plan for the major conference in November.

These focus areas will open up many possibilities for Increase members to serve churches in their contexts, and in diaspora, more effectively. And as they do, God will be glorified in the lives of individuals, churches, and communities around Asia and beyond.

Thank you for reading this far, for your interest and your prayers.

To God be the glory!

Graham Aylett