



**Christian Economic
Development Network**

**CULTIVATING RESILIENCE IN
TRANSFORMATIVE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

***2023 CED SUMMIT
April 25-26, 2023***

About the CED Network

The purpose of the Christian Economic Development (CED) network is to create a space where Christ-centered organizations and individuals can share best practices, learn from each other's challenges, and encourage each other in our pursuits of transformational economic development.

We accomplish this through peer learning activities including in-person events and webinars and resource sharing.

We're motivated by Christ's love for us (1 John 3:1, 4:19-21), Christ's response to those in need (Psalm 113:7-8, Luke 4:17-19), and the desire to see His Kingdom flourish here on earth (Matthew 6:9-10).

2023 CED Steering Committee

CED Administration	Community of Practice Chairs
Steering Committee Chair: Becca Spradlin, On Mission (Interim) Michael Cerna, HOPE International (Incoming)	Chair for Microfinance & SME: Gillian Foster Wilkinson, HOPE International
CED Events Manager: Annie Angeles, HOPE International	Chair for Integral Mission: Alexis Beggs Olsen, VisionFund Co-Chair for Integral Mission: Dan Williams, HOPE International
CED Events Manager: Lizzie Stoltzfus, HOPE International	Chair for Savings Groups: Courtney Purvis, World Relief Co-Chair for Savings Groups: Anne Figge, Five Talents
	Chair for Business Training & Mentoring: Debbie Velis, Partners Worldwide
	Chair for Agriculture: Jared White, Plant With Purpose

About the 2023 CED Network Summit

The annual CED Network Summit, hosted by HOPE International, is an opportunity to foster deepened collaboration and relationships among Christ-centered economic development practitioners.

Tuesday, April 25

Full-day lateral learning sessions

- 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, breakfast and lunch included
- Optional dinner with colleagues

Wednesday, April 26

Two half-day workshop options

- 8:00 am to 12:00 pm, breakfast and lunch included
- Option 1: Innovate, Innovation Workshop
- Option 2: Serving well in Christian-minority contexts
- *Optional afternoon excursion: Museum of the Bible*

CED Summit Agenda – Tuesday, April 25

Day 1

8:00 am	Breakfast & Welcome
8:30 am	Introductions Around the room
9:00 am	Conference overview Becca Spradlin, On Mission Advisors
9:15 am	Devotions Michael Cerna, HOPE International
9:45 am	Session 1: Perseverance while serving in difficult contexts Gil Odendaal, Gil Odendaal Consultancy and Life in Abundance Global Institute, Executive Director

10:30 am	<i>Break: Coffee & fellowship</i>
11:00 am	Session 2: Resilience in serving in challenging contexts: CEOSS and CSS Bangladesh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rev. Mark Munshi, CSS Bangladesh - Michael El Daba, Director at CEOSS (Egypt) - Medhat Ayad, Head of Microfinance at CEOSS (Egypt)
12:00 pm	<i>Lunch with optional table topics</i>
1:30 pm	Session 3: Case studies of cultivating resilience through agriculture, entrepreneurship, and innovation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jared White, Plant with Purpose - Debbie Velis, Partners Worldwide - Tabitha Kopic, Chalmers Center
2:30 pm	<i>Break: Coffee & fellowship</i>
3:00 pm	Session 4: Resilience in program endings and exits: Lessons learned from World Relief and HOPE International <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Courtney Purvis, World Relief - Dan Williams, HOPE International
4:00 pm	Recap & Reflection
4:30 pm	Closing
5:30 pm	Dinner (Optional)

CED Summit Agenda – Wednesday, April 26

Day 2

8:00 am	Breakfast & Welcome
8:30 am	Devotions Peter Greer, HOPE International
9:00 am	Workshop Options (Choose one)

1. **Designing for Resilience: Innovation Sprint:** Innovate workshop facilitated by Tabitha Kapic, Chalmers Center and Dan Williams, HOPE International

Innovate Sprint: In three hours participants will use the Ukraine simulation to map the stakeholders in the community, explore community and individual assets, create a challenge question, brainstorm ideas, and create simple prototypes of top ideas.

2. **Serving well in Christian-Minority Contents**

Discussion facilitated by Gil Odendaal of Life in Abundance and Michael Cerna of HOPE International; Discussions will focus on key questions related to serving and partnering well in countries with limited Gospel access.

12:00 pm

Lunch & Closing Remarks

Speakers

Gil Odendaal, Managing Principal with Gil Odendaal Consultancy and Executive Director of the LIA Global Institute | Keynote Speaker

He supports, creates and innovates initiatives that capacitate Global South leaders and their organizations, especially those that work in fragile/ and Christian minority contexts. Much of his time is spent designing and crafting New Wineskin-solutions for the challenges originating from the emerging paradigm of Global South – Global North missional collaborations, His goal is always to unleash the capacities of these leaders, organizations and churches so that they can embrace full partnership responsibility with Global North partners for wholistic Kingdom work.



He is a missional entrepreneur with more than thirty years of ministry experience as missionary, educator, pastor, leader, author and public speaker. From serving as Senior Vice President with World Relief and Global Director for PEACE Plan Implementation with Saddleback Church to building innovative programs for other reputable global ministries, and serving as pastor at churches with membership of 100 to 23,000, he has equipped leaders, organizations and churches around the world to seamlessly integrate word and deed ministries that transform communities. His passion for seeing Christ proclaimed where there is no church and strengthening the church where it barely exists, has resulted in ministry on five continents serving the least, the lost and the last. He has published several articles and is also the author of, *Standing with the Vulnerable: A Curriculum for Transforming Lives and Communities*. He completed his PhD in Intercultural Studies at Trinity International University and a D.Min at Westminster Theological Seminary.

Gil has been married for 47 years to Elmarie and God has blessed them with 3 children and 6 grandchildren.

Peter Greer, President & CEO, HOPE International

Peter Greer is the president and CEO of HOPE International, a global Christ-centered economic development organization serving throughout Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Eastern Europe. Prior to joining HOPE, Peter worked internationally as a microfinance adviser in Cambodia and Zimbabwe and as managing director for Urwego Bank in Rwanda. He received a B.S. in international business from Messiah University and an MPP in political and economic development from Harvard's Kennedy School. Peter's favorite part of his job is spending time with the entrepreneurs HOPE serves—whether harvesting coffee with farmers in Rwanda, dancing alongside savings groups in Haiti, or visiting the greenhouses of entrepreneurs in Ukraine. As an advocate for the Church's role in missions and alleviating extreme poverty, Peter has co-authored over 10 books, including *Mission Drift* (selected as a 2015 Book Award Winner from Christianity Today), *Rooting for Rivals* (selected as a 2019 Leadership Resource of the Year in Outreach magazine), *The Spiritual Danger of Doing Good* (selected as one of the top 40 books on poverty by WORLD Magazine), *Created to Flourish* (which his mom reviewed with five stars and a smiley face emoji), and *The Gift of Disillusionment*. More important than his role at HOPE is his role as husband to Laurel and dad to Keith, Liliana, Myles, and London. While his sports loyalties remain in New England, Peter and his family live in Lancaster, PA.



Becca Spradlin, On Mission Advisors Interim CED Steering Committee Chair

Becca specializes in executive facilitation, organizational assessment, strategy design, execution, and change management. She brings over 15 years of experience leading strategy, workshops and evaluations of businesses and nonprofits across five continents. Becca is certified in change management, adult learning, and human-centered design. She holds a master's degree in applied economics from Johns Hopkins University and undergraduate degrees in business and communications. Becca resides in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. In 2020, she co-authored the [*Mission True Workbook*](#) with the authors of *Mission Drift*.



Michael Cerna, Director of Partnership Strategy at HOPE International, Incoming CED Steering Committee Chair

He previously worked with McKinsey & Company before entering the Christian Relief & Development sector with Mission: Hope, a community development organization based in Atlanta. Michael is a strategic leader who has spent the last decade forming collaborative communities across the sector, most recently leading the creation of a Formation & Care Alliance within the Accord Network. Michael lives with his wife and two children in the Atlanta area.



Rev. Mark Munshi, CSS Bangladesh

CSS is a humanitarian and socio-economic development organization working in Bangladesh since 1972.

CSS is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), working in multi sectors such as disaster response, primary and secondary health care, formal & non-formal education, technical and vocational education, micro enterprise development, women empowerment & gender equality, water & sanitation, child care homes & orphanages, child labor & trafficking, HIV/AIDs etc. The overall purpose of the organization is to lift the marginalized population out of the cycle of poverty and envisions a society free from discrimination and injustice where men and women equally contribute to the overall development process.

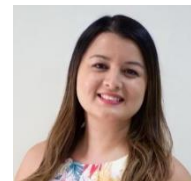
Michael El Daba, Director at CEOSS (Egypt)

Medhat Ayad, Head of Microfinance at CEOSS (Egypt)

The Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS) seeks to promote a decent life, justice, and coexistence. This contributes to instilling moral and spiritual awareness in society, enhancing a sense of belonging, respecting diversity, resolving conflicts, and promoting social justice for individuals and societies.

**Debbie Velis, Global Training Manager, Partners Worldwide
CED Chair, Business Training and Mentoring**

Debbie grew up eating pupusas in the small country of El Salvador. She studied Economics and Business at Calvin College. During her last semester of college, Debbie interned at the Partners Worldwide home office in Michigan, working to support a program of university students that served in Honduras. Now Debbie serves as the Global Training Manager for Partners Worldwide. During the last ten years, she has been involved in small business development working closely to entrepreneurs in Honduras and El Salvador. She also co-founded and ran a co-working space to develop an entrepreneurial community and business training initiatives for startups. She loves building tools and resources to help businesses grow!



**Jared White, Regional Director for Africa, Plant With Purpose
CED Chair, Agriculture**

Since 2016, Jared has served as the critical link between Plant With Purpose's San Diego office and all of their programs in Africa. He is motivated by his faith in Jesus and passionate about working collaboratively and interdependently with their locally staffed and locally led teams to design a sustainable and impactful program and nurture a culture of mission and high-impact driven transformational development. Prior to joining Plant With Purpose, for 10 years Jared lived and worked in Uganda expanding his experience and passion for international development. He co-founded Pulse Village Transport Limited, an innovative enterprise that manufactures and distributes locally assembled motorcycle ambulances needed for critical medical transportation in Uganda. Prior, he served as a director of Invisible Children's community development initiatives on the ground in Uganda. Jared oversaw program design, implementation, and operations. Jared has his Master of Arts in International Development from Eastern University's School of Leadership and Development and a Bachelor of Arts in



Graphic Design and Biblical Studies from Biola University. In 2009, Jared received the Young Alumni Award from Biola University for his mission-driven work in Uganda.

Tabitha Kapic, Director of innovation with the Chalmers Center

Tabitha has spent more than twenty years helping organizations grow and change while maintaining strategic focus on their core mission and vision. An avid practitioner of Design Thinking and innovation methodologies, Tabitha has worked in the humanitarian space both internationally and in the United States. She worked with the American Embassy in London, led Medair US during their response to the 2010 Haitian earthquake, and facilitated strategic planning, fundraising, and design thinking processes through her work with Covenant College, her own consultancy firm, and Bridge Innovate. She is delighted to serve alongside her colleagues at The Chalmers Center to end poverty and innovate God's kingdom. Tabitha, her husband, Dr. Kelly Kapic, and their children, Jonathan and Margot, love long talks, adventures of all sorts, and the kind of laughter that makes your eyes water.



**Courtney Purvis, Senior Technical Advisor, Savings for Life at World Relief
CED Chair, Savings Groups**

Courtney Purvis is World Relief's Economic Development Senior Technical Advisor since 2011. She is the author of their unique faith-based curriculum and methodology, Savings for Life, and has written many other curricula and training modules for World Relief such as Deciding Together, a couple's financial decision-making training, Financial Literacy and Business Development training, and a Smart Spending guide for guiding savings group members in wise financial investments. She has a Masters of Arts from Eastern University and 17 years of experience living and working in Sub-Saharan Africa. When she's not working, Courtney enjoys hiking, running, and biking with her husband and four kids.



**Dan Williams, Vice president of Integrated Strategy at HOPE International
CED Co-Chair, Integral Mission**

Dan joined HOPE in 2011, bringing a passion for working with the global Church to bring about holistic transformation. He studied international business at the University of South Carolina and, after graduating, served for 2.5 years as a missionary in Niger with Assemblies of God World Missions. Dan has served in a variety of roles at HOPE, first working with HOPE's partner Esperanza International in northern Haiti then returning to the U.S. to serve as a microenterprise technical advisor. With his extensive field experience, Dan has played a significant role in bringing the Church and the voices of those we serve into discussions about program design. He lives with his wife, Ashley, and their daughters, Maelyn, Ruby, and Cedar, in Durham, NC, where they are active members of Christ Central Church.

