People
Progress
Provision

Institute for Global Engagement Annual Report
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Dear Friend of IGE,

Well, there we have it; another year in the books! I am so grateful that the Lord still sees fit to give me breath in my lungs for another day here on His green earth. Gratefully, I have been blessed to see more of His green earth than my own back garden this past year. We have finally begun to 'open up' and some of my travel resumed, for which I am most grateful. I miss seeing you! I miss seeing our partners. I miss attending our programming and seeing firsthand the impact that IGE is having! Now more than ever I commit much of my time to prayer. What might God have in store for IGE next? If you do not flip further in this book, can I ask that you commit to praying for us? We send a monthly email with prayer points and I would be honored if you would join us in praying for the work that God has for IGE.

I remain committed to the mission of IGE: to catalyze freedom of faith worldwide. The need is greater than it has ever been. As you dive into this report, I pray you will find encouragement, as I do, about the work that the Lord has called IGE to do—and—how I believe we are being faithful to fulfill His calling. The 'core' programs that IGE runs are thriving. Opportunities abound to go deeper in our current programs, as well as to expand our model to other countries that recognize they could use the help making religious freedom actually happen. Thank you for reading and spreading the word about IGE and our mission. I am blessed to know you!

Sincerely in Jesus,
John Boyd | President & CEO
Mission

IGE catalyzes freedom of faith worldwide so that everyone has the ability to live what they believe.

Pillars of our Approach

I. THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS

We believe, share and live what Jesus taught us—love, acceptance and reconciliation lived in a way that compels engagement and understanding for all.

II. RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Committed to universal human dignity, we work for a future when all people, of any faith or no faith, have freedom of belief and equal citizenship. We spread the truth that religious freedom is integral to a flourishing society and a stable state.

III. RELATIONAL DIPLOMACY

We overcome obstacles of culture and religion by creating and nurturing mutually beneficial relationships, inviting all viewpoints to the table, working together as partners for the common good.
Why We Do What We Do

Our programs in different countries build up an indigenous network of leaders in government, religion, and academia that are equipped to influence policy making, legislation, and public opinion. The change that IGE works for is systemic, long-term, and sustainable.

How IGE Programs Effect Change

Our programs in different countries build up an indigenous network of leaders in government, religion, and academia that are equipped to influence policy making, legislation, and public opinion. The change that IGE works for is systemic, long-term, and sustainable.

Why We Do What We Do

Through our global training programs we engage with senior government officials in authoritarian or restricted contexts. IGE is often asked by these officials, “Why do you do this?” We take that opportunity to share that our Christian faith calls us to love God and our neighbor, and we firmly believe that when freedom of faith abounds, there is greater economic development, social cohesion, and societal flourishing.
In August 2021, IGE convened a Religious Freedom Education and Dialogue Seminar in Laos’ Phongsaly Province for the second time. The program is critical as there are an increasing number of tribal minority people who have become Christians in this region.

The percentage increase in unique end-of-year donations in 2021 vs 2020.

The number of articles from IGE’s quarterly journal, The Review of Faith & International Affairs (RFIA), translated into Russian for use in future programming in regions including Central Asia and Eastern Europe.

The percentage increase in monthly donors in 2021 vs 2020.

The number of RFIA articles translated into Vietnamese for use in future IGE Vietnam programming.

The number of face-to-face interviews that IGE conducted during a research visit to Uzbekistan. IGE met with leaders from the government and religious communities who have specific, first-hand knowledge of the current status of religious freedom in the country.
The number of chapters in the newly published Routledge Handbook of Religious Literacy, Pluralism, and Global Engagement, co-edited by IGE President Emeritus Chris Seiple and IGE Senior Fellow Dennis Hoover.

The percentage of downloads of RFIA articles from outside the United States, demonstrating worldwide reach and interest.

The number of countries represented in IGE’s Center for Women, Faith, & Leadership (CWFL) Fellowship cohorts.

The number of participants globally that attended our Religion and Rule of Law Training program which featured legal experts and religion scholars from the U.S., Canada, United Kingdom, Slovakia, Brazil, Japan, India, China, Indonesia, and Vietnam.

The percentage increase in net revenue from appeals in 2021 vs 2020.

The number of women of faith leaders trained through IGE’s CWFL Fellowship Program.
The number of CWFL trainings conducted in 2021.

The number of copies of a Vietnamese translation of IGE’s book, Religion and Security: The New Nexus in International Relations, disseminated within Vietnamese government and academic institutions.

The number of Vietnamese participants that attended a first-of-its-kind online training on religious literacy and international standards of religious freedom protection.

The population of the Kachin people, brutally persecuted by the Burmese military. IGE partnered with the Kachin Baptist Convention to hold a Religion and Rule of Law training for Kachin pastors and civil society leaders from six different regions of Myanmar.

The number of Christians in Laos’ Phongsaly Province, most of whom converted in just the past 5-6 years. Since IGE’s programming took place, persecution and restrictions on this community have eased significantly.

As a result of IGE’s work in Uzbekistan registration fees for religious organizations were cut from 18.4 million to 3.6 million Uzbek som (approximately $1,800 to $340) – and reporting requirements were reduced from four reports to one report per year.
Impact: Programming At Home and Abroad

While the pandemic forced much of IGE's work to shift online, bringing with it many limitations, we are thankful to God that new opportunities were opened as well!

Vietnam
Myanmar
Laos

Uzbekistan

Center for Women, Faith & Leadership (CWFL)
Vietnam

IGE and our partners conducted an annual training course on religion and the rule of law for government officials and faith leaders, as well as facilitated the publication of a unique graduate-level textbook on religious freedom and law, and a bilingual four-volume compendium of articles from IGE’s journal, The Review of Faith & International Affairs. Most recently we conducted a “training of trainers” program; the first-of-its-kind online training addressed building religious literacy and international standards of religious freedom protection. Participants included government officials overseeing religious affairs. Overall, there were over 200 participants who heard from prominent experts on religion, religious freedom, and rule of law from Europe, the United States, and Vietnam. Moving forward, IGE will continue its training programs as well as initiate a new project on helping faith-based drug rehab ministries in Vietnam gain legal protections. Vietnam’s laws currently do not allow faith-based organizations to operate, a result of the ideological legacy of the ruling Communist Party. Leveraging IGE’s reputation and track record in Vietnam, this project will promote awareness and build relationships between faith-based drug rehab ministries and government officials in order to reform laws and policies adversely affecting these ministries.
The conference gave me very valuable lessons. I learned from the speakers from many parts of the world. They shared many researches on the regulations and laws on religious issues of different countries as well as the practice and exercise of religious freedom. The presentations gave me a much broader picture of the overall view of human rights in general and religious rights in particular. As a lawyer working in the field of human rights, I see that religion is a matter of survival of a country."

IGE’s trainings in Myanmar have provided rare opportunities for the Kachin people to learn from international experts and religious freedom practitioners and be equipped with knowledge and tools for strengthening the church, engaging other faith communities, and dealing with government authorities. IGE has facilitated three religious freedom training programs in partnership with the Kachin Baptist Convention, training 119 church pastors, lay leaders, and civil society activists from 13 different states in Myanmar (with the most recent training occurring in July 2021). Rev. Dr. Maru Brang Seng, who serves as the Vice Principal for the Kachin Theological College and Seminary, was a participant in one of IGE’s trainings and shared, “If we can hold trainings like this more frequently in the future, the ministers, church leaders, and seminary lecturers and those who are working on the ground will benefit so much in leading the congregation with the attitude, thoughts, perspectives, and strategy we learned.”
What we have learned this year was very practical and helpful to us because we have been under the coup since February and there has been no rule of law since then, but we had a chance to learn about the importance of the rule of law and the role of religion at the training.

–Rev. Dr. Awng Nan, Director, Leadership Training Department, Kachin Baptist Convention (KBC)
Uzbekistan

Uzbekistan is one of the rare instances where religious freedom has significantly improved over the past few years and is at the forefront of fundamental shifts in freedom of faith in the Central Asia region. While IGE’s original plans for a major program in 2021 had to be postponed due to the pandemic, our Senior Fellow for Central Asia Wade Kusack was able to travel to Uzbekistan and conduct multiple in-person meetings with government and religious leaders which yielded fruitful insights on the results of IGE’s work in the country over the past few years. Both government and religious leaders pointed to positive changes in religious freedom that have impacted every part of society.

As travel restrictions are loosened or lifted, IGE is well-positioned to resume its programs in Uzbekistan in 2022.
Wade Kusack, IGE’s Senior Fellow for Central Asia, traveled to Uzbekistan in April 2021 to meet with a wide spectrum of religious leaders and listen to what impact the government’s reforms have had on their communities. Wade also met with IGE’s local partners to plan for further programming based on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in 2018 between IGE and the Uzbekistan government to partner together in efforts to build religious freedom in the country.

—Wade Kusack, IGE Senior Fellow for Central Asia
Laos’ Christian leaders are often unaware of their legal rights under Lao law in the face of persecution. IGE’s training equips both clergy and lay leaders to respond creatively and strategically to persecution. IGE is the only non-governmental organization (NGO) that the Lao government has worked with to address religious freedom. Over the last 19 years, IGE has developed trusted relationships with the Lao government which has enabled the implementation of unprecedented religious freedom and peacebuilding training programs at the national and local levels in the country. A Lao participant characterizes IGE’s role as “a bridge between the government and religious organizations in the countryside allowing them to share and learn from each other as well as discuss religious problems that have arisen.” This has resulted in “a more positive relationship between local authorities and the central government of Laos.” August 2021 brought the opportunity to hold a program in Laos’ Phongsaly Province. The seminar brought together local government officials and religious leaders to discuss laws and policies in Laos related to religious freedom. It also provided an opportunity for representatives from the country’s various religions to explain the history of their faith in Laos. This was only the second time Phongsaly Province has allowed a seminar to take place in the province, and the first time it has taken place in Muang Mai District. This is significant because there is an increasing number of tribal minority people who have become Christians in this District. Just the year before, three tribal Christian leaders were detained without charges in Muang Mai District. A few months afterwards, IGE held a seminar in a nearby district after Muang Mai turned down the opportunity to host. Two weeks after the seminar, the three Christian leaders were released.
"It’s very encouraging that a year later after the detention, Muang Mai is now hosting its own RFED seminar," Bailey said, "Our hope is that relations between the local government officials in Muang Mai District and all the religious communities will continue to improve."

—Steve Bailey, IGE Laos Program Officer
The Center for Women, Faith & Leadership (CWFL) supports and equips women of faith to assume and advance in leadership roles and influence decision making in global affairs, with particular emphasis in areas where women are most affected yet have had the least influence – religious freedom, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding. CWFL offers a litany of resources for women of faith with the most notable being our Fellowship programs. 2021 marked the 5th year of our Fellowship programs and the second year that we offered both distance learning and hybrid options in order to serve more women globally. The foci for 2021 were built on three core focus areas: interpersonal psycho-social groups, skill-building, and experiential self-care. Sessions covered topics such as: Prayerful Strategic Planning, Public Speaking and Dialogue, Negotiating Conflict, Building Philanthropic Partnerships, and Social Entrepreneurship. The Fellowship concludes with a capstone project where Fellows work to apply their skills and networks to a particular issue or challenge. In the process, the Fellows demonstrate how women of faith can play integral roles in decision-making in global and community affairs, while also building a global movement of women experienced and equipped to be difference makers both in analyzing problems and implementing practical solutions. Looking ahead, CWFL will convene additional cohorts and grow the women of faith network as well as advance the sustainability of programming through annual alumna opportunities.
I greatly improved in my public speaking and negotiation skills and as a result, was invited to serve with the United Nations in partnership with representatives from other NGOs with a focus on advocacy and human rights, in Geneva, Switzerland. The CWFL program... [became] for me a surprise gift and a blessing in the divine plan of God.”

Sr. Francesca ‘Franca’ Edet-Oqua
(2021 CWFL Hybrid Fellow),
January

- The government of Laos awarded an official commendation to IGE’s Laos program officer Dr. Stephen Bailey for his work in peacebuilding and conflict transformation in the country.

- IGE welcomed three new members to its Board of Directors: Darrell L. Bock, Executive Director of Cultural Engagement for the Howard G. Hendricks Center for Christian Leadership and Cultural Engagement; Nadine Maenza, Chair, U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom; and, Paul Marshall, Wilson Professor of Religious Freedom and Research Professor in Political Science at Baylor University.

February

- The Burmese military arrested Myanmar’s top leader along with several senior leaders from her party. Widely recognized as a coup, protests sprung up with many being met with harsh crackdowns from security forces. IGE launched a prayer campaign and continues to pray for the safety and freedom of our Myanmar partners and that God’s peace, justice, and righteousness be established in Myanmar.
March

- IGE cosponsored a memorial event to remember the life and legacy of Shahbaz Bhatti on the 10th anniversary of his assassination. Shahbaz Bhatti was a courageous Pakistani Christian who defended all religious minorities from persecution.

- IGE received accreditation from the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) for compliance with established standards for responsible stewardship, financial accountability, transparency, sound board governance and ethical fundraising.

- IGE’s Center for Women, Faith & Leadership (CWFL) launched its 5th Hybrid Fellowship and 2nd Distance Learning Fellowship. The Hybrid and Distance Learning Fellowships are one-year programs for women of faith seeking to advance their leadership through skill building, as they advocate for the vulnerable and marginalized.

- IGE Vice President of Global Operations James Chen guest lectured at the John Leland Center for Theological Studies for a class on International Religious Freedom.

- The spring 2021 issue of The Review of Faith & International Affairs was published as part of the journal’s ongoing Covenantal Pluralism series.

April

- IGE’s Senior Fellow for Central Asia Wade Kusack traveled to Uzbekistan to meet with a wide spectrum of religious leaders and learn what impact IGE’s work and the government’s reforms have had on their communities.
June

- IGE’s Center for Women, Faith and Leadership (CWFL) hosted its 2nd Virtual Prayer and Self-care Summit for its fellows and alumna.

July

- The first-ever International Religious Freedom (IRF) Summit took place in Washington, D.C. There were over 1,200 participants representing faith groups and NGOs from all over the world, making the Summit the largest-ever civil society-initiated gathering focused on IRF. IGE was invited to share its experience and views in a number of Summit events.

- IGE’s Myanmar Program Officer Seng Mai Aung spoke during a webinar hosted by Brigham Young University Law School on “Advancing Religious Freedom in Different Political Regimes”.

Book Published


Speaking Engagement

The first-ever International Religious Freedom (IRF) Summit took place in Washington, D.C. There were over 1,200 participants representing faith groups and NGOs from all over the world, making the Summit the largest-ever civil society-initiated gathering focused on IRF. IGE was invited to share its experience and views in a number of Summit events.

Training Program

IGE conducted a Religion and Rule of Law training for Kachin church leaders and seminary professors. The training was organized at KBC’s invitation to equip their church leaders on how to address the political turmoil in Myanmar, particularly as an ethnic and religious minority.

Translation

IGE scholarship and publications were made available in multiple languages. With an increasing global demand for IGE’s scholarship translated into different languages, our website now has a new section to host these products. Translations of key religious freedom research is now available in Kazakh, Russian, Uzbek, Burmese, and Vietnamese languages.

August

- IGE and its partners conducted a Religious Freedom Education and Dialogue (RFED) seminar in the Muang Mai District of Phongsaly Province, Laos. This was the second time Phongsaly Province has allowed a RFED seminar to take place in the province, and the first time it has taken place in Muang Mai District, which has a growing number of Christians among its tribal population.
**September**

- IGE’s CWFL hosted the 2020 and 2021 Hybrid Fellowship Cohorts for their first week-long leadership development workshop.

- IGE and Vietnam National University (VNU) Law School hosted a Religion and Rule of Law Conference. The two-day conference drew over 100 participants from Vietnam, the U.S., and other countries around the world. The successful conference follows last year’s publication of the first-ever religious freedom textbook in Vietnam, a joint project between IGE and VNU Law School.

- The fall 2021 issue of The Review of Faith & International Affairs was published. The issue, “Who ‘Belongs’ at Uncle Sam’s Thanksgiving Table? Reflections on American History, Identity, and Immigration” includes a special symposium marking the 400th anniversary of the “first Thanksgiving.”

**December**

- The winter 2021-2022 issue of The Review of Faith & International Affairs was published and features a special symposium of “Essays in Honor of Daniel Philpott.” This collection was organized in partnership with the Religion and International Relations (REL) Section of the International Studies Association.
IGE is committed to maintaining the highest standards in financial integrity. IGE is accredited by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA). ECFA accreditation is based on its Seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship including financial accountability, transparency, sound board governance and ethical fundraising. IGE has also received the GuideStar 2022 Gold Seal of transparency. IGE’s finances have been audited by Kositzka, Wicks & Company. IGE’s audited financial statements can be found at: https://globalengage.org/support.

**Income**
- Individuals 29%
- Foundations, Churches & Universities 62%
- Publications & miscellaneous 9%

**Expenses**
- General Operating 11%
- Fundraising & Marketing 13%
- Programs 76%
## Income

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**Net Income**: (290,533)
John Boyd
President & CEO

James Chen
VP of Global Operations

Meagan Carner
Operations Manager

Lindsay Kuntz
Director of Strategic Partnerships

Kristen Lundquist
CWFL Program Manager

Hien Vu
Vietnam Program Manager
Meet the Team

Seng Mai Aunt
Myanmar Program Officer

Steve Bailey
Laos Program Officer

FELLOWS & SUPPORT STAFF

- Kaylee Fisher, CWFL Program Assist.
- Margaret Weber, CWFL Senior Fellow
- Afeefa Sayeed, CWFL Senior Fellow
- Dennis Hoover, RFIA Senior Fellow
- Wade Kusack, Central Asia Senior Fellow
- Knox Thames, Senior Fellow

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Mari Hughes, Chairman
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- Rollin A. Van Broekhoven
- John Boyd
- Nadine Maenza
- Darrell L. Bock
- Paul Marshall
Be a Voice for Religious Freedom

ENGAGE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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- https://www.facebook.com/instituteforglobalengagement
- https://www.linkedin.com/company/institute-for-global-engagement/
- www.globalengage.org

HOST A DINNER

- Contact info@globalengage.org to set one up!

SUPPORT IGE

- https://globalengage.org/support
- AmazonSmile
- Cryptocurrency
Thank you for standing in the gap for those persecuted for their faith around the world.

We welcome your continued partnership in 2022. IGE is a registered 501(C)(3) non-profit organization (Tax ID:23-3042456).

**Address**
P.O. BOX 12205 | Arlington, VA 22219-2205

**Telephone**
703-527-3100

**Website**
www.globalengage.org