![Lausanne Movement | International Student Ministry logo]

International Student Ministry
Issue Network

2025

Growth Reflection
Based on the Lausanne Issue Network Health Framework

Why Health Matters

The health of a network determines its ability to bear fruit that lasts.

The Issue Network Health Assessment exists to help catalysts and your teams reflect prayerfully on the state of your network and discern what the Spirit may be inviting you to nurture next.

This process is not evaluative but formative – an opportunity to pause, celebrate, and re-root in God's calling.

As the International Student Ministry [ISM] Issue Network participates in this growth reflection, the focus is on deepening vitality, strengthening connections, and extending impact.

Health, in this context, is not static but dynamic: a continuous process of tending the soil, pruning where needed, and rejoicing in new growth.

Understanding the Report

Each assessment question was rated on a 1–5 scale, producing average scores for each area of health. These scores correspond to stages of health that are relevant to ISM's size and growth stage, and are:

THRIVING AREAS

LIVING AREAS

THIRSTY AREAS

(Your top 3 scores)

Flourishing and healthy

(Your middle 6 scores)

Active growth, but with room for strengthening

(Your bottom 3 scores)

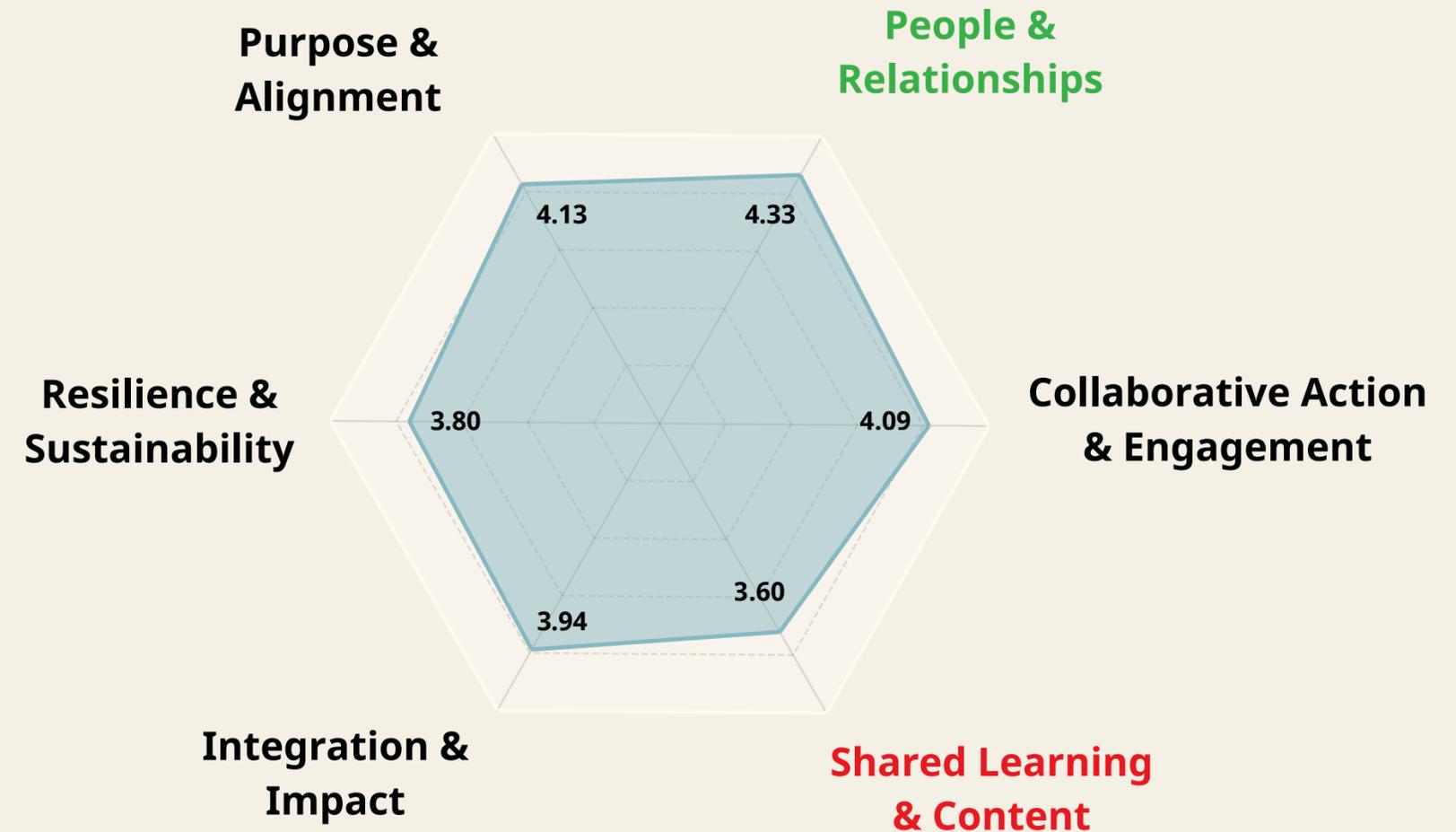Fragile or underdeveloped, requiring renewed focus

Assessment Summary

Overall Network Health Status

GROWING

ISM shows encouraging growth, supported by relational unity and global diversity. However, uneven content development, limited resourcing, and modest external influence continue to restrict momentum. Prioritising cultivating shared learning pathways and amplifying collective wisdom will help move the network toward greater effectiveness.

Purpose & Alignment — 4.13
People & Relationships — 4.33
Collaborative Action & Engagement — 4.09
Shared Learning & Content — 3.60
Integration & Impact — 3.94
Resilience & Sustainability — 3.80

These numbers reflect the combined scores of the 2 areas of assessment under each dimension of health.

Thriving Dimension

Thirsty Dimension

Purpose & Alignment

Spiritual vitality and strategic clarity rooted in God's purposes

Spiritual Vitality

How rooted the network is in prayer, biblical truth, and dependence on the Holy Spirit as the foundation for all vision and collaboration.

STATUS

Living

Average Score

4.13

Range
2.8–5.0

Variance
Moderate

Reflection

Your network displays genuine spiritual depth, marked by shared prayer, testimony, and a clear sense of God's presence in your work. Yet the desire for Scripture engagement and collective discernment to be more consistent was expressed, suggesting the need for more intentional rhythms of listening to God together as you plan and act.

Encouragement

You are cultivating healthy roots. The next step is spiritual discernment – creating intentional rhythms for Spirit-led reflection, direction, and planning.

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When prayer and dependence on the Spirit anchor your work, every strategy becomes an act of worship and obedience.

Vision & Objectives

The degree to which the network operates with clearly defined, Spirit-aligned purpose and measurable, obtainable objectives that directly contribute to Lausanne's fourfold vision.

STATUS

Living

Average Score

4.13

Range

3.3–5.0

Variance

Low–Moderate

Reflection

Your vision is clear, biblically grounded, and widely embraced, providing strong alignment between purpose and practice. While collaboration is valued, it is not yet fully leveraged, and several objectives remain too broad. Sharpening measurable, Spirit-led goals and deepening shared ownership will strengthen focus and collective momentum.

Encouragement

Your shared vision is strong and unifying. The next step is to translate conviction into coordinated action through measurable goals and deeper collaborative ownership.

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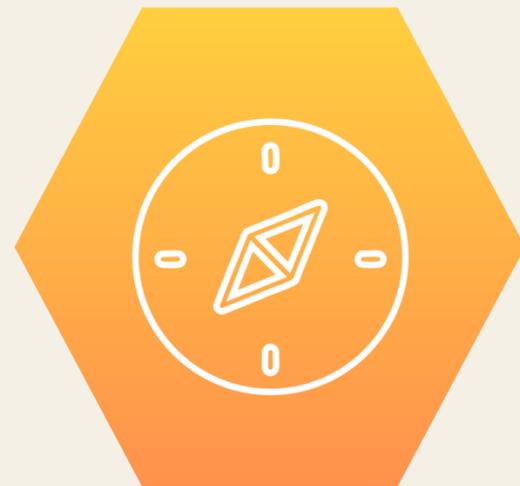*Clarity of purpose gives direction; when your vision is Spirit-led and shared, the network grows with unity and confidence.*

Additional Reflections

Spiritual Atmosphere

Described by words like **humility**, **unity**, **prayerful**, **robust**, **bonded in spirit**, **grace**, **openness**, **caring** – revealing a spiritually grounded community marked by trust and fellowship.

Vision Metaphors

The most common imagery was a map 🗺️. This and other symbols chosen suggest a vision marked by guidance, hope, and progress.

People & Relationships

Christlike leadership and inclusive, polycentric community with shared values

Leadership & Governance

The effectiveness, integrity, and structure of the network's leadership – how leaders model Christlikeness, provide direction, share decision-making, and uphold good governance.

STATUS

Thriving

Average Score

4.33

Range

3.3–5.0

Variance

Low–Moderate

Reflection

Leadership of ISM is marked by Christlike humility, integrity, and unity, creating a healthy and trustworthy culture. Decision-making draws on diverse voices, strengthening collaboration across the network. As leadership continues to grow, more consistent rhythms of relational and spiritual care will deepen connection and sustain long-term health.

Encouragement

You are leading with humility and openness. The next step is intentionality – strengthening regular rhythms of relational and spiritual care to sustain healthy leadership.

———— 🙷 ————

Servant-hearted leadership nurtures trust and credibility – where humility guides, integrity protects, and shared decision-making brings peace.

Diversity & Inclusivity

The breadth of the network's representation (across cultures, ethnicities, genders, denominational traditions, and generations) and how intentionally it includes and values all voices in unity.

STATUS

Thriving

Average Score

4.33

Range
3.7–5.0

Variance
Low–Moderate

Reflection

ISM's rich cultural and generational diversity is a clear strength, celebrated as a gift that deepens collaboration and mission – reflecting God's kingdom design. Expanding the range of professional backgrounds within leadership would further strengthen insight, innovation, and perspective.

Encouragement

Your diverse community is a powerful witness. Keep widening the table by inviting broader professional expertise, enriching perspective, and strengthening innovation for the network's continued growth.

When every culture, generation, and voice is valued, the network reflects the fullness of Christ's body in mission.

Additional Reflections

Conflict Resolution

If a disagreement arose, most envision **healthy dialogue** would ensue, though a few are **uncertain** or expect **stalling** – indicating room for growth in governance clarity and trust.

Network Diversity

Diversity in the network is mostly **cultural/ ethnic**, although **geographic** representation as well as **gender** diversity is also recognised. There is a need to diversify across **theological**, **generational** and, if appropriate, **professional** lines.

Collaborative Action & Engagement

Trusting partnerships and clear communication, upholding unity

Collaborative Engagement

STATUS

Average Score

4.29

Range

2.8–5.0

Variance

Moderate

Thriving

Reflection

Collaboration within the network is strong, shaped by deep trust, shared identity, and Spirit-led partnership. A clear leadership core fosters unity and momentum, though broader participation in planning and more consistent joint initiatives would strengthen collective ownership and extend the fruit of your collaboration.

Encouragement

Your relational strength is a gift, with unity being fertile ground for deeper collaboration. The next step is connection – ensuring all voices are heard, and planning for joint projects.

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True collaboration is born from trust; when members serve one another, and shared mission flourishes beyond individual strength.

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Communication

The effectiveness of communication within the network (between members and leadership) and to external stakeholders (to the broader Lausanne Movement, church, and public).

STATUS

Living

Average Score
3.88

Range
2.2–5.0

Variance
Moderate–High

Reflection

Communication across the network carries genuine spiritual warmth and is supported by regular gatherings that keep members connected. Yet clarity, consistency, and two-way dialogue vary across regions. Varied responses suggests some desire more regular and inclusive communication rhythms articulating vision and goals.
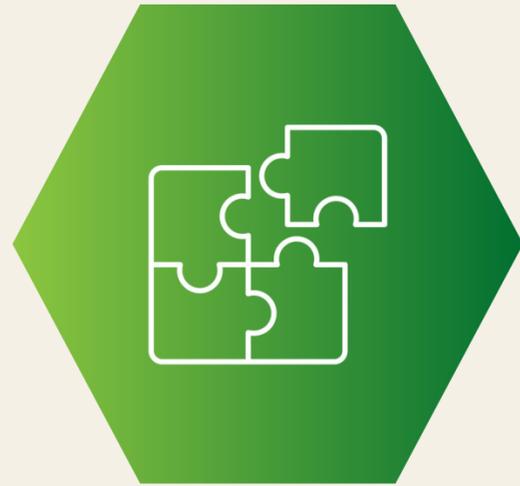
Encouragement

Your communication carries warmth and connection. The next step is regularity – establishing simple communication rhythms, ensuring inclusivity, and clearer vision messaging.

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Healthy networks speak with clarity and grace – amplifying vision, inviting participation, and ensuring every member is heard.

Additional Reflections

Collaborative Relationships

There is a strong sense of collaborative potential within the network. Everyone could name 3 people they could collaborate with on a shared initiative.

Communication Channels

Information flows mainly through WhatsApp, with some use of email, reflecting accessible communication.

Shared Learning & Content

Thoughtful theological reflection, missional leadership, motivating and equipping the outworking of the vision

Content & Training

Does the network equip others through quality, theologically grounded resources and training that meet real missional needs in diverse contexts?

STATUS

Average Score
3.54

Range
1.8–5.0

Variance
High

Thirsty

Reflection

Although meaningful resources exist, content creation and cultural relevance remains uneven. Limited reach and inconsistent storytelling reduce impact. Strengthening biblically rooted content, diversifying formats, and systematising story-sharing will broaden learning and better serve the global church.

Encouragement

The desire for influential content production is visible. The next step is expansion – refining content, widening distribution, and capturing stories more consistently.

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Networks that equip others through biblically grounded learning multiply wisdom and strengthen the church for global witness.

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Growth Reflection | 2025

Thought Leadership

The extent of the network's contribution to biblically faithful, Spirit-led insight that shapes global mission thinking and guides others in their practice.

STATUS

Thirsty

Average Score

3.65

Range
2.7–4.8

Variance
Moderate

Reflection

Thought leadership remains limited in visibility and reach. Invitations to contribute externally are occasional, resources rarely extend beyond internal circles, and collective discernment lacks consistency. Strengthening public engagement and widening dissemination will enhance the network's theological and missional influence.

Encouragement

You have valuable insights to offer. Lean into wider platforms, share resources more broadly, and deepen shared discernment to strengthen your global voice.

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Spirit-led thought leadership inspires the church to think deeply, act courageously, and pursue mission with prophetic clarity.

Additional Reflections

Most Shared Content

https://lausanne.org/statement/nairobi-notice
http://thewinhub.org
The World at Your Doorstep: A Handbook for International Student Ministry by Lawson Lau | Goodreads
The Global Table: Conversations in International Student Ministry | Podcast on Spotify
Hiyori Nishimura: Japanese International Student Reaching Japanese |The Fletcher Podcast
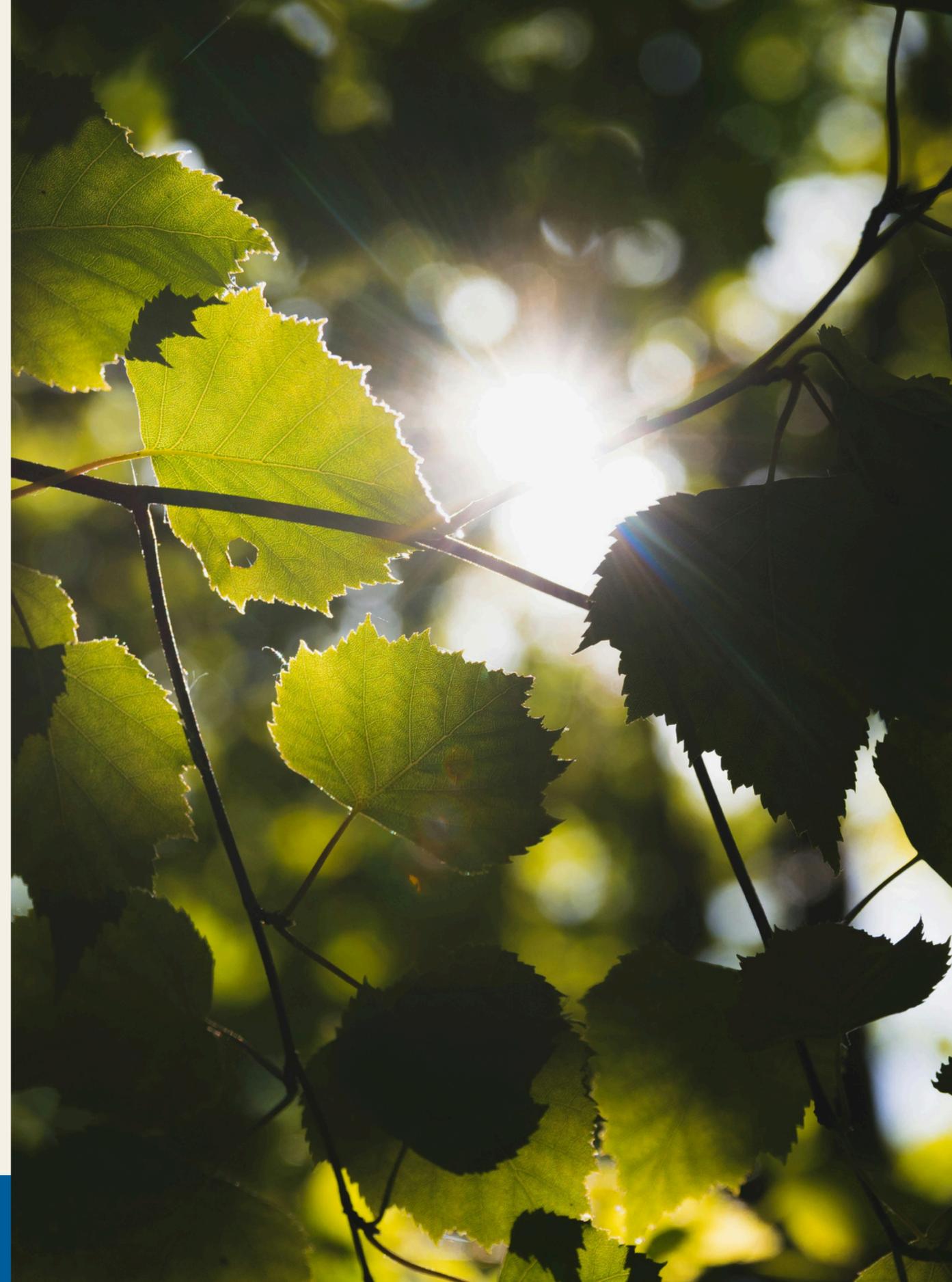
The Network's Voice

Most judge ISM's voice as only **occasionally heard** or **mostly internal**, while some see it as **emerging but growing**.

Integration & Impact

Shared initiatives marked by innovation and relevance, achieving tangible global impact

Missional Impact

The degree to which the network makes a meaningful spiritual and strategic difference in fulfilling its mission.

STATUS

Living

Average Score

3.81

Range

2.0–4.5

Variance

Moderate–High

Reflection

Missional impact is evident through inspiring stories and visible community transformation, yet assessment remains uneven. While testimonies highlight God's work, limited data collection and inconsistent tracking make it difficult to see the network's full reach. Strengthening systems for metrics will deepen insight and inspire even greater mission impact.

Encouragement

You're already making a gospel difference. By strengthening simple systems to track outcomes and consistently share stories, you'll deepen clarity and celebrate God's work.

———— 🎔 ————

Healthy networks bear visible fruit – lives changed, communities renewed, and the gospel taking root where it was once absent.

Adaptability & Innovation

The ability to adjust and innovate in response to changing circumstances or challenges, maintaining effectiveness and mission faithfulness over time.

STATUS

Average Score

4.06

Range

3.2–5.0

Variance

Low–Moderate

Living

Reflection

ISM shows genuine openness to adapt and respond to changing needs, with agility and Spirit-dependence. Yet feedback, learning, and discernment are applied unevenly. Strengthening shared reflection, normalising feedback, and integrating Spirit-led discernment into planning will deepen innovation and sustain healthy adaptability.

Encouragement

Your adaptability is a real strength. Lean further into shared learning – using feedback and data to guide innovation and timely responses.

Spirit-led innovation keeps the network fresh – ready to respond with courage, creativity, and faith to changing mission needs.

Additional Reflections

Network Impact

The most prevalent impact is **personal transformation**, **missional awareness**, and **new partnerships**. ISM bringing **community transformation** and having **cultural influence** were rated low.
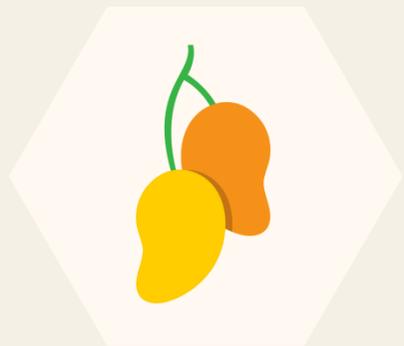
Innovation Culture

Most common response:
🚲 Bicycle – Slow but steady, powered by a few
This and other varied responses imply that ISM sees itself as steadily moving forward but limited by pace, clarity, and shared momentum, highlighting the need for broader participation.

Resilience & Sustainability

Resources and generational continuity, ensuring longevity and multiplication beyond the network

Resources

The ability of the network to steward finances, people, and knowledge with transparency and interdependence, ensuring sustainability for its calling.

STATUS

Average Score
3.69

Range
2.3–4.7

Variance
Moderate

Thirsty

Reflection

A generous culture of sharing strengthens the network, yet limited time, funding, and structured support constrain long-term capacity. Inconsistent investment in emerging leaders and insufficient resourcing highlight the need for more intentional planning, broader mobilisation, and clearer systems to sustain ongoing growth.

Encouragement

Your open-handed generosity lays a strong foundation. The next step is sustainability – strengthening how financial, human, and operational assets are mobilised and maintained.

Stewardship done in unity – sharing time, gifts, and finances – builds interdependence that sustains mission beyond any one generation.

Multiplication

The extent to which the network cultivates leaders, initiatives, and contextual expressions that carry the vision forward with generational continuity and global reach.

STATUS

Living

Average Score

3.90

Range

2.7–4.5

Variance

Low–Moderate

Reflection

The network shows healthy signs of multiplication, with intentional leadership transfer and new regional initiatives emerging. Yet growth remains uneven, as working groups vary in coordination and support. Strengthening local ownership, clearer structures, and consistent follow-up will help connected, sustainable, and widespread growth.
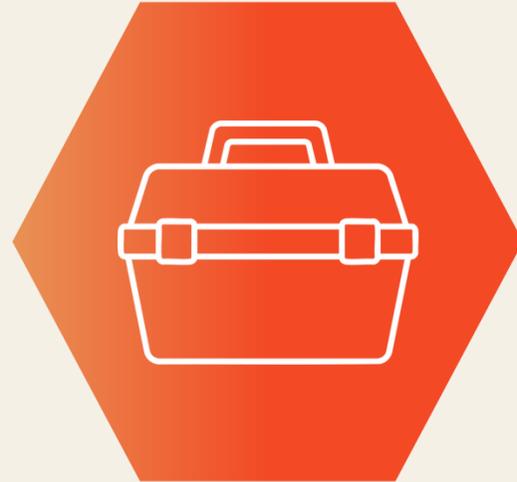
Encouragement

Your foundations are strong. Keep nurturing local ownership and coordination across regions to help new initiatives flourish with greater consistency, clarity, and shared support.

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When leaders reproduce leaders and vision gives birth to new expressions, the network ensures lasting fruitfulness for God's glory.

Additional Reflections

Resources

Most feel confident that the network can be sustained over the next year, yet the greatest present needs are:

Volunteers or leaders
Financial support
Administrative systems
Data access was also named.

Multiplication and Growth

Most common responses:
💧 Trickling Stream – Small beginnings
One sees the growth of ISM as 🌊 Flowing river – consistent multiplication
Growth is beginning but still modest, with early signs of momentum – with the potential for steady, sustained growth already emerging.

Visual Dashboard Summary

Purpose & Alignment

People & Relationships

Collaborative Action & Engagement

Shared Learning & Content

Integration & Impact

Resilience & Sustainability

Spiritual Vitality

Leadership & Governance

Collaborative Engagement

Content & Training

Missional Impact

Resources

Vision & Objectives

Communication

Adaptability & Innovation

Diversity & Inclusivity

Thought Leadership

Multiplication

THRIVING AREAS
3

LIVING AREAS
6

THIRSTY AREAS
3

Suggested Next Steps

Content & Training

Develop Missional Resources
Schedule to develop or curate biblically grounded resources that meet real-world missional needs.

Diversify Resource Formats
Offer resources in a variety of accessible formats to serve diverse contexts.

Foster Shared Learning
Create space for dialogue and resource exchange to prioritise shared learning.

Thought Leadership

Engage Global Conversations
Seek opportunities for your leaders to contribute to broader mission conversations.

Share Spirit-Led Perspectives
Build a rhythm of engaging the global church with new, Spirit-led perspectives on your issue.

Promote Missional Insights
Promote your work through accessible events, platforms, or publications.

Resources

Assess Resource Needs
Develop a rhythm for regularly identifying and addressing resource needs.

Invest in Emerging Leaders
Prioritise investment in the growth and development of younger leaders.

Mobilise Network Resources
Invite members to contribute time, skills, and finances to sustain the network's mission.

Voices of Reflection
Final recorded thoughts

A Vision Worth Amplifying

"The potential is great... but it's been hard to make our voice heard."

The network holds rich and diverse insight, yet visibility remains limited, offering room for greater amplification.

Gratitude and Joy

"It has been a joy to work with like-minded people from all over the world."

ISM's shared purpose and global fellowship is a source of joy and gratitude.

Emerging Priorities

"We need to leverage YLG... and produce more content."

There are clear areas for growth – especially in developing fresh content and empowering younger leaders in line with ISM's strategy documents.

Steady Advancement

"There's good potential and progress, but more could be done."

Growth in partnerships and regular engagement is evident, while leader development – especially among younger leaders – will be key to sustaining future momentum.

In closing...

The International Student Ministry Issue Network shows steady growth fuelled by strong relationships, inclusive community, and a vision rooted in God's heart for the nations. May the Lord sustain your devotion to His mission, empower your efforts, and multiply your impact for His glory.

"...that they may be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendour."

- Isaiah 61:3b