Lausanne Movement
Children-at-Risk

Children-at-Risk
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 Children-at-Risk 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 Children-at-Risk's size and growth stage, and are:

THRIVING AREAS

(Your top 3 scores)

Flourishing and healthy

LIVING AREAS

(Your middle 6 scores)

Active growth, but with room for strengthening

THIRSTY AREAS

(Your bottom 3 scores)

Fragile or underdeveloped, requiring renewed focus

Assessment Summary

Overall Network Health Status

GROWING

Children-at-Risk shows meaningful signs of growth, marked by strong Christlike leadership, a culture of belonging, and strong adaptive capacity. Deepening shared spiritual rhythms, strengthening communication, and developing ways to track and reflect on impact will help the network thrive with lasting fruitfulness.

Purpose & Alignment — 3.58

People & Relationships — 4.17

Resilience & Sustainability — 3.80

Collaborative Action & Engagement — 3.45

Integration & Impact — 3.47

Shared Learning & Content — 3.92

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

Thirsty

Average Score
3.43

Range
2.5–4.2

Variance
Low–Moderate

Reflection

Your network shows sincere desire to follow God's leading, and experiences His empowering in its mission. Yet shared spiritual practices are irregular, with limited communal prayer, reflection, and Scripture-shaped discernment. Developing consistent rhythms of seeking God together will deepen unity, dependence, and Spirit-led direction.

Encouragement

You desire for the network to be Spirit-led. Creating simple, regular rhythms of shared prayer and Scripture reflection will deepen unity and collective discernment.

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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

Average Score

3.73

Range

2.8–4.3

Variance

Low–Moderate

Living

Reflection

Your vision is clear, shared, and biblically grounded, and your activities generally align well with it. Yet objectives remain broad, and action plans lack clarity. Sharpening measurable goals and establishing consistent follow-through will help translate shared conviction into sustained, strategic progress.

Encouragement

Your unity of vision is strong. The next step is strengthening – defining measurable goals and establishing simple follow-through actions.

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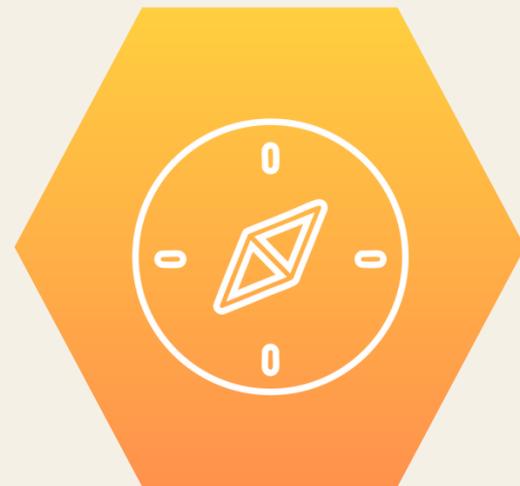
Additional Reflections

Spiritual Atmosphere

Described by words like **prophetic**, **life-giving**, **community**, **committed**, and **good comraderie**, revealing a spiritually vibrant community marked by unity and expectancy.

Vision Metaphors

The most common imagery was a map 🗺️, but a seedling and a bridge were also identified. 🌱🌉
This suggests openness to growth and connection, though also ambiguity as to direction.

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

Average Score

4.23

Range
3.8–4.5

Variance
Low

Thriving

Reflection

Your leaders model Christlike humility, integrity, and spiritual depth, creating a culture of trust and clarity. Leadership is strong and accessible, guiding the network with wisdom. Yet governance processes remain informal and unevenly understood, with a need to clarify accountability and strengthen coordination.

Encouragement

Your leadership provides good soil for growth. Clearer governance structures and sharing responsibility are the next steps to grow with confidence and cohesion.

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

Children-at-Risk
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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

4.10

Range
3.3–4.8

Variance
Low–Moderate

Reflection

You reflect a strong culture of belonging and kingdom-shaped diversity, where varied voices are welcomed and respected. While inclusion is intentional, underrepresented regions and younger leaders would benefit from clear pathways for participation to broaden representation and strengthen future leadership.

Encouragement

Your unity amid diversity is deeply encouraging. Continue by enhancing opportunities for younger and underrepresented leaders to step in, grow, and shape the future.

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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, everyone envisions **healthy dialogue** – indicating strong relational trust within the network.

Network Diversity

Diversity in the network is mostly **geographic** and across **gender** lines, although representation of **cultural/ethnic** diversity is also recognised. There is a need to have more **generational** inclusivity and to diversify across **theological** perspectives.

Collaborative Action & Engagement

Trusting partnerships and clear communication, upholding unity

Collaborative Engagement

STATUS

Average Score

4.01

Range

3.5–4.5

Variance

Low

Living

Reflection

Collaboration within the network is warm – marked by growing partnerships, relational trust, and diverse contribution to strategy. Yet engagement remains uneven, with unclear membership participation and inconsistent follow-through. Intentional, shared projects will help collaboration mature into consistent, sustainable action.

Encouragement

Relational trust is strong. The next step is clarity – defining your membership base and launching collaborative projects that invite wider participation and shared ownership.

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

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

Average Score

2.89

Range

2.2–3.5

Variance

Low–Moderate

Thirsty

Reflection

Communication shows warmth, yet regularity and mutual exchange are limited. While platforms support broad participation, irregular updates and limited two-way dialogue weaken unity. Strengthening communication frequency, feedback channels, and reinforcing spiritual vision would deepen engagement across the network.

Encouragement

Your communication foundations are in place. The next step is depth – increasing rhythm and dialogue to nurture shared understanding and stronger relational unity.

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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 Children-at-Risk. Everyone could name 3 people they could collaborate with on a shared initiative.

Communication Channels

Information flows mainly through WhatsApp and Email – reflecting accessible communication.

Content & Training

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

STATUS

Living

Average Score

3.90

Range
3.3–4.3

Variance
Low

Reflection

Your content and training show strong theological depth and cultural relevance, equipping leaders for real mission needs. However, limited distribution, inconsistent learning rhythms, and irregular storytelling reduce impact. Broadening formats and strengthening shared learning story-sharing will extend reach and deepen formation.

Encouragement

You are producing rich, contextually relevant resources. The next step is accessibility – broaden reach through diverse formats, regular learning practices, and intentional storytelling.

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

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

Living

Average Score

3.93

Range

3.8–4.2

Variance

Low

Reflection

Your network offers respected, theologically grounded insight that contributes meaningfully to global mission conversations, and your leaders are recognised voices in wider forums. Yet broader influence remains limited. Increasing accessible invitations to learn and intentionally promoting resources would extend your impact beyond internal circles.

Encouragement

You are offering thoughtful, respected contributions to global mission dialogue. The next step is broadening participation and promoting your resources with greater visibility.

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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

LOP 82: **https://lausanne.org/occasional-paper/towards-a-biblical-and-theological-framework-for-child-participation-in-the-missio-dei**
Listening to Children LOP
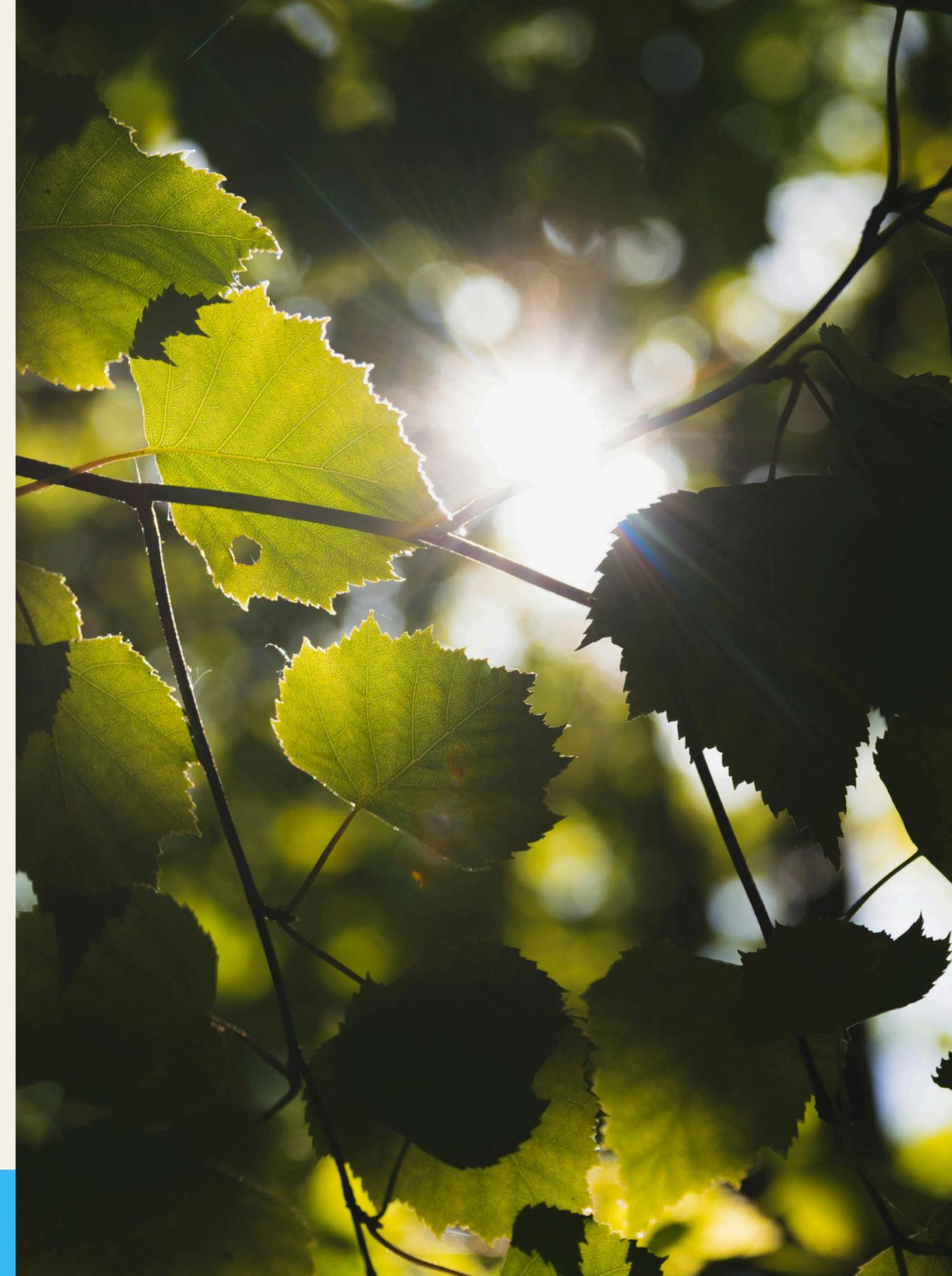
The Network's Voice

Most judge Children-at-Risk's voice as **emerging but growing**, while one sees it as **only occasionally heard**.

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

Thirsty

Average Score

2.87

Range

2.7–3.2

Variance

Low

Reflection

Clear, Spirit-led impact is evident, yet the network lacks consistent systems to capture and evaluate it. Storytelling, data collection, and reflection remain sporadic, offering only a partial picture of effectiveness. Establishing regular review rhythms and simple metrics will strengthen alignment, insight, and shared accountability.

Encouragement

God is using you to bear fruit. Develop consistent ways to track, reflect, and share impact so the whole network grows in clarity and confidence.

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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

4.07

Range
3.8–4.8

Variance
Low

Thriving

Reflection

Children-at-Risk shows strong agility, responding to change with creativity, unity, and attentiveness to global realities. Prayerful experimentation is a clear strength, though feedback and discernment practices remain inconsistent. Embedding regular learning loops and Spirit-led reflection will help sustain innovation and deepen resilience.

Encouragement

You innovate with maturity and courage. Strengthen this by normalising feedback and shared discernment, ensuring creativity remains both Spirit-led and sustainably rooted.

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 **missional awareness**, **new partnerships**, and change within the church, although there were mixed views as to Children-at-Risk affecting **personal transformation** or having **cultural influence**.
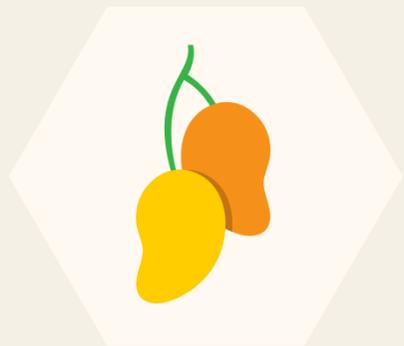
Innovation Culture

Most common responses:
🚲 Bicycle – Slow but steady, powered by a few
🛶 Canoe – Collaborative, but drifting
The network sees itself as steady and relational but lacking coordinated momentum.

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

3.87

Range

3.2–4.7

Variance

Low–Moderate

Living

Reflection

The network demonstrates generous collaboration and trustworthy stewardship, creating a strong relational foundation. However, limited time, funding, and capacity constrain future growth. More consistent resource assessment and intentional planning will ensure sustainability, strengthen execution, and support the network's long-term effectiveness.

Encouragement

You are stewarding resources faithfully. The next step is planning – mobilising broader time and funding support will help stabilise capacity and effectiveness.

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

3.73

Range

3.0–4.5

Variance

Low–Moderate

Reflection

Growth is steadily emerging through your initiatives and committed discipleship, yet it remains uneven. Leadership development, vision replication, and coordination across working groups lack consistency. Clearer pathways for mentoring and stronger regional support would strengthen momentum and sustain long-term multiplication.

Encouragement

You're laying strong groundwork for future growth. The next step is structure – strengthen succession plans and support regional groups so growth becomes a steady reality.

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

Additional Reflections

Resources

Only half the respondents feel confident that the network can be sustained over the next year, with the greatest present needs being identified as:

Financial support
Volunteers or leaders

Multiplication and Growth

Most common responses:
💧 Trickling Stream – Small beginnings
🌊 Flowing river – consistent multiplication
The network sees early, modest growth, even as some experience more continuous and steady growth.

Suggested Next Steps

Missional Impact

Track Strategic Outcomes
Define and track both spiritual and strategic outcomes for your initiatives.

Identify Impact Drivers
Identify areas where your work has made a tangible difference – and why.

Annual Vision Alignment
Annually reflect on how your work advances Lausanne's vision and your network's purpose.

Communication

Coordinate Communication Efforts
Appoint someone to help coordinate and strengthen communication efforts.

Maintain Clear Channels
Use consistent and clear channels to keep members informed and engaged.

Share Vision Regularly
Schedule regular sharing of your network's vision and updates with members and the wider church.

Spiritual Vitality

Plan Rhythms of Prayer
Plan for regular communal prayer and spiritual reflection in the network calendar.

Embed Scripture Engagement
Integrate the Scripture engagement into all network gatherings.

Appoint Spiritual Champion
Appoint someone to champion spiritual vitality across all network activities.

Voices of Reflection

Final recorded thoughts

A Collaborative Foundation

"There is a strong sense of collaboration, partnership, and generosity of spirit among the core leaders."

A trusted core team has resulting in significant resources – foundational documents and research.

Clear Missional Focus

"Our current focus is family strengthening, child protection, trauma and mental health, and child participation… to curate research, advocate, and catalyse action."

Clear priorities guide the network's work, with a commitment to listening, empowering children, and mobilising the church.

Identified Growth Points

"We need to widen our pool of global leaders and engage younger leaders… and we lack constant communication with our members"

Expanding leadership and stronger communication are key next steps.

In closing...

The Children-at-Risk Issue Network shows encouraging growth shaped by compassionate leadership, committed diverse relationships, and a responsive adaptability. Your faithfulness to God's mission and vulnerable children is evident. May the Lord strengthen your shared vision, sustain your calling, and grow your influence and 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