

Local congregations are frequently approached by mission organizations, both global and local, asking for support. How does the mission committee make the difficult decisions about how the church will decide which projects to support? This guide will help committees know the important questions to ask. This will help make sure that in-depth accountability is in place and that all the dollars going toward mission are being put to best use. The Global Missions committee of the Presbytery is using this Guide to review all projects.

MISSION PROJECT ASSESSMENT GUIDE **for use by Local Congregations**

Organization Information about the Project:

What is the primary purpose of the project/agency? Whom does it serve?

Annual Report provided that is easy to understand and clear about income and expenses

Service Figures - how many people are served by the project each year? What is the percentage of budget money that is direct service vs. administration costs?

Audit done annually?

Personal testimony - do you have the ability to hear first-hand about the work of the project?

On-site visits - is it possible to visit and see first-hand the work that the project is doing and assess its effectiveness?

Source of the Request:

Who is asking us to consider this cause, group, or agency? (member, outside contact, agency itself)

Would we consider the request if someone else was asking?

Fit with the overall mission of the church:

Even if the project is a very worthwhile one, does this project fit into the overall mission of our church?

Involvement of our Congregation:

What calls to ministry/passions does this organization address?

What opportunities for personal involvement of members of our congregation does this project offer?

Possible Results of Deciding to Support this Request:

If we decide to contribute to this project, will we give a one time special offering or shall we put it in the annual budget?

How will evaluation of our involvement in the project happen and when?

What kind of publicity will the project provide for our congregation? Positive or negative?

What are the risks?

What are the opportunities?