

Links Proposal 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters

Erma Bombeck, an American humor columnist wrote *“There are people who put their dreams in a little box and say ‘Yes, I’ve got dreams, of course I’ve got dreams’. Then they put the box away and bring it out once in a while to look in it, and yep, they’re still there.”*
Over the last 20 years I have been working with nationals in Eastern Europe who are not simply checking on their dreams in the box, but rather are actively pursue the dreams God planted in their hearts, dreams of rebuilding, shaping and changing their nations.

We are all aware that 20 years ago the communist regime fell and the nations have advanced not in small steps over this time, but often in huge bounds. We also know it takes more than technical and material advance to change a nation. It takes a change in people’s thinking and hearts. These people have had the courage to pursue their dreams and through training events, one on one support and God’s grace they have grown themselves and been a major factor in developing change in their nation. Silently the books produced by these daring people are influencing lives across the nations, not only impacting today’s generation, but generations to come.

As Walt Disney once said *“All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them.”*

Here is what people are saying:

2009 Adobe Training: Daniel came for the first time. *'In this global training event I met Christians in the same work, but from others parts of Romania and the world. I saw professionals teaching others and breaking language barriers that separate us at times. It inspired me to build the same connection between students and teachers that we enjoyed at the event, with the students that I teach'*

Romanian Training Event: Kent Wilson asked Vasile Gabrian *'To what do you attribute your success as a publisher?' his prompt response was humbling... 'to Rick Iles and Bob Clark and their passion to inspire us to excel to be the best we can be, through the yearly training events and one on one times together.'*

'LINKS' and 'Global Connections International' are continuing to train, develop and dream with national publishers for Eastern Europe.

"All men dream, but not equally. Those who dream by night in the dusty recesses of their minds, wake in the day to find that it was vanity: but the dreamers of the day are dangerous men, for they may act on their dreams with open eyes, to make them possible." T.E. Lawrence a British Lieutenant Colonel during the Arab Revolt.

Would you consider investing in continuing to develop these dreamers in Eastern Europe to influence and shape their nations?

We are requesting \$35,000 as a grant to help sponsor 4 training events and cover one on one visit's to publishing houses to help in coaching/mentoring these publishers.

Spring 2010 – Romanian training in publishing

Autumn 2010 & 2011 – training in desktop publishing 'Adobe'-open to all countries

Autumn 2011 – Central Europe training in publishing

Visit's to publishing houses throughout 2010- 2011

For each training event we require a registration fee from participants, which is affordable for nationals according to the country situation. They are also expected to cover travel costs. Allowcated in the funds we are asking for, is the hiring of equipment, suitable conference rooms/accommodation, line up, advertising, training materials and some sponsorship where necessary (for example we had a Moldovan come to the Romanian conference. This country is very poor in comparison to Romania and we only asked him to find his way to the Romanian conference site), along with covering speakers costs while in the country.

The breakdown of funds is as follows:

Romania 35 people for 3.5 days and 3 nights \$ 6,000

Central Europe 20 people for 3 days \$ 4,500

Romania Adobe 20-25 people for 3.5 days and 3 nights \$ 4,000 x 2

Visit's to publishing houses throughout 2010- 2011 \$16,500

I am happy if this is seen as one proposal, or if you would prefer to divide each event, making five separate proposals.

Through your funding of such events, national Publishers will be better equipped to be able to

achieve both producing and distributing evangelical Literature to their peoples and minority groups situated in countries close by (like Moldova is for Romania).

Also through these events we are encouraging and developing the building up of national authors, making the work more indigenous.

There will be a full report sent to you at the end of each event, with details from the perspective of the nationals, what they have benefited from over these times and the effectiveness of the funding.

At the request of the national these training events were developed with the idea of being nationally run in the years to come. We have done training in Romania for the last five years and one of the main comments from these conferences was *"we needed an international person to begin such a thing so we could finally know one another face to face, as it is not easy for us to cross denomination in our countries, especially in business. They helped us to begin relationships which we only had on paper, and they have now become brothers and sisters to us and have given us the opportunity to see publishing in our country move forward together"*.

The essence of LINKS is to supply teaching in their countries, relationship building and encouragement, looking at ways they can work more closely together and eventually as relationships are built, organise these conferences themselves, handing on the vision and responsibilities to them, to continue.

In regard to funds left over from a conference or generated through nationals being able to afford more or supply more, then the extra funds would go towards future training events.

Your gift would go to Global Connection International. It is fully tax deductible and the funds will be used exclusively for LINKS training events in Eastern Europe. If you have any further questions I would be happy to discuss these with you.

Sincerely,

Rick Iles

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Along with

Doug Ross, Executive Director

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Gifts can be sent to:

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