

CAMPUS CRUSADE IN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Report #C11

SURVEY RESULTS

In our survey of 2294 Christians in the CAR, the third most frequently named organization for having maximum impact in the CAR was *Campus pour Christ* (Campus Crusade for Christ, now CRU). Respondents rated it highly in terms of training leaders.

ABSTRACT

Campus Crusade has been present in CAR for over 25 years, and has been involved in a wide variety of ministries, including putting the Jesus Film into different languages, and engaging top leaders in government and academia on behalf of the gospel and discipleship.

HISTORY

Campus Crusade in CAR is a branch of Campus Crusade International founded in 1951 by Dr. Bill Bright and his wife. It was during their theological studies that God inspired them to speak to a category of people, notably students. They did not hesitate to share the vision with one of their lecturers whose name was Smith, who suggested a name to them: "Campus for Christ." The purpose of this institution is to work with students on university campuses to equip them to be better leaders in the future. In many social institutions, most of the leaders have university backgrounds. Therefore, they need to be equipped for the nations to have good leaders to lead them. Thus, Campus Crusade was born in the United States of America (USA) in 1951. But in CAR, the movement was inaugurated May 1, 1987. Therefore, Campus Crusade has been in the CAR for more than a quarter century and has undergone changes in this time.

The organization began first to work with students on campus and then opened a branch that worked in partnership with the churches. Campus Crusade for Christ had a fairly extensive partnership with churches in such a way that in the majority of churches there was a cell called the local coordination of Campus Crusade for Christ whose vision was to contribute to the numerical and qualitative growth of these churches.

MISSION/VISION

Campus Crusade for Christ is an interdenominational Christian organization that has a vision to help churches fulfill the Great Commission--Matthew 28:18-20: "Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Campus Crusade is a movement ordered and directed by God, composed of men and women who are committed to Jesus Christ and to help fulfill the Great Commission, especially by means of the principle of 2 Timothy 2:2 which says: "You have heard me teach many things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Teach these great truths to trustworthy people who are able to pass them on to others." (NLT) Therefore, Campus Crusade is committed to fulfilling the Great Commission by making disciples who are called to reproduce themselves up to four generations. Campus Crusade's mission consists in going anywhere to preach the Good News to all creation as Mark 16: 15-16 says. So, we work with everyone.

For Statement of Faith, See Appendix.

Core Values

In order to pursue its objectives, Campus Crusade bases its actions on the following values:

- ❖ The Lordship of Christ.
- ❖ The Ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer as it is taught.
- ❖ Life of constant meditation with an attitude of fervent prayer.
- ❖ A personal Growth in the knowledge of Jesus Christ through the reading, hearing, memorization and meditation of the Word of God.
- ❖ Personal holiness.
- ❖ The basic doctrines of the Word of God according to the statement of faith of Campus Crusade.
- ❖ The principle of national leadership.
- ❖ A total confidence in God knowing that His grace is sufficient to meet all our needs.
- ❖ The fulfillment of the Great Commission in this generation and every generation to come until the Lord returns.
- ❖ The systematic use of strategies, planning and evaluation to accomplish the task.

Activities

As an international organization based in Bangui, Campus Crusade for Christ wants to reach our world, that is to say, the entire population of the country. However, knowing that we cannot conscientiously do it alone, we will, therefore, develop a partnership with other institutions in the country to achieve this goal. We are organized in a strategic manner to reach all the strata of the population by organizing various activities:

➤ *Discipleship*

Evangelism and discipleship are the focal points to Campus Crusade for Christ. For this organization, the most important things are: to win souls, edify and send them to do the same. “In any case, we are makers of disciples, and we are really making disciples,” says the national director.

➤ *Evangelism*

Campus Crusade for Christ is involved in evangelism and discipleship using specific materials with specific strategies. In any case, we are specific about what we do.

➤ *Students' Training*

To reach students with the gospel and train them to be servant leaders according to the Bible, Campus Crusade for Christ organizes training sessions on the campus.

➤ *Planting of churches*

Through the global movement of churches, Campus Crusade for Christ is greatly involved in the church planting movement through its staff, volunteers, associates and trained disciples.

➤ *Ministry with Executive Officers*

Campus Crusade for Christ also has a ministry for leaders, which is to say for the executive officers. This department is divided into several strategic sources to reach specific targets. It is with this vision that ‘Ambassade Chrétienne’ is in charge of working with graduates, executive officers, ministers and other people. This department was used to gather ministers and professors to attend the seminar on Transformational Leadership.

➤ *Family Life*

This technical branch of Campus Crusade for Christ is in charge of the social and spiritual lives of families and family heads.

➤ *Training of Youth*

Campus Crusade for Christ also has a strategy that promotes youth leadership; we provide training on how to prepare the youth to be effective leaders for their nation. Campus focuses on an area called Life at the Crossroads.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS WITH SIMILAR FOCUS/MISSION

There are several churches and Christian organizations that work for the same purpose than Campus Crusade for Christ. There are the Baptists, for example, the *Association Nationale des Eglises Baptistes (ANEB)*, which has a department of mission and evangelism. *Adonai Mission Internationale*, for instance, that does the same thing as Campus Crusade for Christ. *Société Biblique* is about to plant churches through a strategy that uses the record of the Holy Scriptures. In any case, there are many Christian organizations that do the same thing than Campus Crusade for Christ and at all levels.

CURRENT LEADER

Crusade CAR is currently led by Mr. Iddo Malessembe. He is a lawyer by profession. He has a B.A. and M.A. in Law in General Administration. He also has a Masters in Leadership Evangelism and Mission and a Ph.D. in Endogenous and Basic Integration Development: Leadership Missionary Theology. He also applied to the DAI program at FATEB and is waiting for the defense of his dissertation. After his appointment at Campus Crusade in 1994, he was sent to Mali for four years for training at the Supreme Court of Bamako. At the end of his training, he was appointed as a lecturer for five years. When he came back to CAR, he was the Acting National Director until 2012. He was confirmed National Director in October 2012 of Campus Crusade in CAR.

Under his leadership Campus Crusade put in place the following training:

- Higher Institute of Applied Research in Evangelism and Leadership (ISRAEL)
- Creation of two training centers for evangelist Nurses
- Training journalists to be communicators of the Good News
- An agro-pastoral and mining structure.

Regarding his strong point, we note that he is a man to whom God has given the gift of leadership because he is successful in everything he does.

BOARD STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION

According to the international structure of Campus Crusade for Christ, no national representation should have a board that has the power of a General Board. Indeed, the role of the Board is entrusted to an international structure. So Francophone Africa has a board of directors for National Directors who are located in every country, and audits are thus made at this level. The mobilization of resources for major projects is also made at this level. However, nowadays things are changing, and countries tend to become autonomous. Thus, every nation is encouraged to create an advisory board that will gradually replace the international leadership to play the role of the Board. In CAR, a Board of Directors is already put into place, and this board is led by the National Director himself to avoid any deviation regarding the vision of the organization. The Board is composed of full-time missionaries, partners who support financially, materially and spiritually the work and also of committed disciples. However, this board is somewhat limited because the influence of the International Board is still there. The International Board controls the management and recruitment of the personnel and the reason for that is to avoid that RCA loses the vision.

BOARD AND STAFF RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION

The leadership team of Campus Crusade must have a B.A. in any field. They then are sent to the training center of Campus Crusade to be trained according to the vision of the organization. They are therefore sent to a training center for the Great Commission, and there they are trained in the field of missionary leadership. When they come back, they are automatically recruited by Campus

Crusade. In fact, this training requires that the national team must first accept the candidate. The training process normally takes time. Therefore, the candidate must be a Christian for at least one year, has participated in the different seminars organized by Campus Crusade, and be well acquainted with the movement. The candidate then goes to the training center of the Great Commission and spends one academic year there before coming back. After that, the candidate spends two years in a practical ministry of discipleship with a former student and then becomes a complete leader ready to work where he will be sent.

STAKEHOLDERS

Campus Crusade for Christ is not a company but a Christian organization and does not have stakeholders. However, every missionary of Campus Crusade for Christ must contact partners, and these partners may be called shareholders, but they are not stakeholders because they do not receive any profits. These partners may decide to give money monthly or every three months to support the mission to do the work.

FINANCES AND OTHER RESOURCES

The financial resources of Campus Crusade for Christ come uniquely from donations. Indeed, every national direction has an annual budget based on the size of the country. Individually, every missionary has a budget which amount varies according to the size of every family. It does not take into account seniority, but what matters is family sensitivity in the operating system of Campus Crusade for Christ.

For our operation, the organization needs sufficient financial resources. For this, every missionary is responsible for resource mobilization. It should be noted that part of the budget of the National Office consists of the resources that are generated by the missionaries. However, it is forbidden for missionaries to receive directly the support that comes from donors. Thus, any funds transferred to a missionary's account, the Administration takes 5%. That 5% contributes to the budget of the organization. Every year, there is an audit of the management of the resources.

PARTNERSHIPS/LINKS

For the moment, Campus Crusade for Christ does not have partners. Besides, this is what we are looking for and would like to have. However, we are interested in financial partnerships. We want to have enough funds to carry out our vision, and we are looking for organizations that can sustain and support our mission and vision. Regarding the support of churches in CAR, it should be noted that churches do little to support the organization. However, occasionally, according to our needs, we send them a letter requesting financial support. But what they contribute is very small. Also, the institution receives limited support from abroad. As an organization that functions as a branch of the Church, Campus Crusade for Christ equips and influences greatly churches in CAR with the vision and strategy that we consider to be a vision for all Christians. For example, lately, Campus Crusade donated film equipment worth 5,000,000 FCFA [\$10,340] to 10 churches. This equipment for each church was a gift from the International Headquarters. Campus Crusade for Christ partners with churches to which we gave this equipment that will be used by the disciples trained by the organization for evangelism and the planting of new churches.

SWOT: STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES AND THREATS

Considering the strength of Campus Crusade for Christ, we must recognize that it is an instrument that the Lord has chosen to spread the Good News in the nation, and it is a tool that actually helps to transform and therefore, eradicate the evil that corrupts the society. It is an institution that is really

strong, which can overcome obstacles that may stand before of her. In addition to evangelism, Campus Crusade for Christ has much more strength in the area of discipleship. Since we are working with people, we are involved in the follow-up and this work is not only done on the spiritual level but also on a physical level. Also concerning the strength of Campus Crusade for Christ, we must say that we live more by faith, and that is what makes our strength. The other thing that makes the strength of Campus Crusade for Christ is that contrary to other organizations that use materials produced by other institutions, Campus Crusade for Christ has this ability with the vision of our founder to develop our own materials. Thus, all the materials, the four spiritual laws, spiritual strengthening, brochures on how to be filled with the Holy Spirit, the messages, Jesus' Film, not only the film but all the equipment to show the film, these are things that are developed by Campus Crusade for Christ. In spite of some strength displayed by Campus Crusade for Christ, we must recognize that we also have some weaknesses that are related to a problem that prevents the organization to reach some of its goals.

Regarding opportunities, it should be noted that the fact that the country is on a secular system and the opening of churches to Campus Crusade for Christ's activities constitutes the two important opportunities that the institution has to fulfill its mission. Finally, the military socio-political turmoil that CAR experienced is one of the challenges that block and prevent Campus Crusade for Christ from reaching its objectives. To this must be added the challenge of transformational leadership in the nation because CAR is a country that consists of more than 80% Christians, but when we look at what is happening in the country; the rate of poverty, recurrent crises ... there is a real challenge to a leadership of transformation because Christians hold leadership positions in certain organizations or the administration.

IMPACT/SUCCESS/ASSESSMENT

"I can say that we are confident that we have impacted our society, and we bless the Lord because you said that you have conducted surveys, and the outcomes have revealed it. If we assert that, and people do not see the impact we have on them, they will consider us as pretentious persons. We know this because we work according to an established plan, and we have an evaluation program that follows the work up, and we are aware of it, and we also have structures." says the National Director of Campus Crusade for Christ in CAR. He continues by admitting that "Our new slogan at Campus Crusade for Christ is 'moving around,' that is to say, spiritual movement everywhere. This slogan is real in CAR because everywhere, every day, people gather in the name of our organization to assess and plan activities. Therefore, tonight if you move around churches, you will find somewhere people who come together and are in the process of planning an activity. You will also find people who are in the process of projecting the Jesus' film somewhere. In any case, we have an impact and many people who came to the Lord in churches say that it is thanks to Campus Crusade for Christ."

It should also be noted that the success of Campus Crusade for Christ is manifested through the Jericho Radio Station that is set up by the organization which broadcasts daily praises and programs. Besides, Campus Crusade for Christ decided to increase the level of training of our missionaries and disciples by creating the *Institut Supérieur de Recherche Appliquée en Évangélisation et en Leadership* (The Superior Institute of Applied Research in Evangelism and Leadership) that offers Bachelor and Master's degrees, and this was realized three months ago. Moreover, to raise the level of pastoral leadership Campus Crusade for Christ creates an endogenous school that is operational three months ago in a church that partnership with the organization. Thus, pastors who have served more than five years in churches will study there to raise the level of their ministry.

Campus Crusade for Christ also has a school for discipleship that integrates the holistic aspect with the health component as a specialty. This school is training for the moment 150 students who are trained in the field of the health along with the new life program that will make of these students good disciples and evangelists. We have so many projects that are designed and implemented. Some projects are called “Explos” that is to say the saturation of cities. In fact, these projects have been set up to saturate cities with different methods and strategies of evangelization. There is another important project that is synchronization of the Jesus’ film in local languages. In fact, the film is of course in the original language which is English and French, but Campus Crusade for Christ was able to synchronize the Jesus’ film in eight languages spoken in CAR. So, the film is already synchronized, the tapes are ready, the CDs are available, and people can watch the movie in their own languages. The film exists in Aka language the pygmies’ language, the Fulani, Nzakara, Gbanou languages and other languages. Finally, regarding reporting, we must say that Campus Crusade for Christ functions on the basis of reports especially with their slogan “Leading with Information” because it is based on reports that we can make good decisions.

TRAINING/LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Campus Crusade for Christ makes a lot of modules available to the public. The first module is the basic training about the Christian life. There is also a teaching on the four spiritual laws and how to approach someone who does not know the Lord to help the person know Him. There are also series of lessons that allow the strengthening of someone who just comes to know the Lord for him to grow. And, there are also teachings called transmittable messages to help anyone who wants to be involved in the work of evangelism and to be equipped with spiritual resources to do the job. There is an intermediate training following the basic training and also an advanced training that comes after the intermediate training. Campus Crusade for Christ also provides training for leadership in the fields of mission and evangelism that close the curricula of the new life formation.

PRINT AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Campus Crusade for Christ produced the Jesus’ Film and different Curricula of training. There are also CDs for Transformational Leadership. As Campus Crusade for Christ is currently training leaders, we hope to have teachings on discipleship as the most important publications of our work.

FUTURE

Campus Crusade for Christ has a strategic plan that runs from 2012 to 2021. This is a long-term plan that contains everything. But each year, it develops an annual plan that outlines the most important points. In fact, every department is inspired by the general Strategic Plan to develop its plan. For the coming year, we want to continue with the synchronization of the Jesus’ film in other languages. There are about 64 languages spoken in CAR, but at least, twelve are already synchronized. Therefore, the concern of this institution is to continue with the synchronization so that every ethnic group has the Biblical literature in their language on an audio-visual medium. Finally, Campus Crusade for Christ wants to create an insurance company to ensure the education of children and the risks that the population takes. The idea is that Campus Crusade for Christ wants to develop people in general, whether Christian or not, by playing the role of salt for the earth and light of the world in our nation. We want this insurance company to become – after two years – a Christian Bank that grants loans to Christians to implement great projects, even missionary projects because we already have missionaries in the Congo-Brazzaville and the Democratic Republic of Congo. However, to be able to send missionaries around the world, we must develop resources, that is why we are focusing on this priority so that within five or ten years, Central African Republic will become a missionary country that can reach all ends of the earth above the actual Window10/4.

To achieve the goals for the years to come, the organization puts in place some strategies:

- The implementation of ministries of evangelism and the training of disciples that is adapted to the culture.
- Emphasize on the program of spiritual multiplication: teach, win, build, train and send.
- Implementation of the Superior Institute for Applied Research in evangelism and leadership.
- Implementation of a university that takes into account all fields of science with a basis and a biblical orientation.
- Development of the Institute of Transformational Leadership.

REPORT INFORMATION PREPARATION

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POST-CONFLICT INTERVIEW REPORT

8/5/15, Interviewed by Paul Sakalaima

Campus Crusade was greatly affected by the conflict. Their offices were looted and vandalized by the Selekas, and they moved their headquarters to a small space on the campus of FATEB. Most of their staff are now unemployed, and several have been violently attacked and robbed. Campus Crusade's missionaries, staff, and supporters were displaced because of the violence, and their ability to continue the ministry of evangelism has been greatly limited. Communication and transportation have been severely limited. The result of the conflict has been that virtually all their planned projects, including radio broadcasting and leadership training, have been either postponed or canceled altogether.

During the conflict, Campus Crusade had the opportunity to organize seminars on social cohesion that were attended by teachers, youth leaders, and Imams.

The director says that members of Campus Crusade were particularly encouraged by the scripture Matthew 28:18-20, when Jesus commissioned his disciples to go minister and evangelize, and told them "I am with you always, even to the end of the age." The director said, "God always blesses the one he sends on mission, even when there are obstacles... Despite all we went through, we committed ourselves to fulfill our mission, that is to announce the Good News to the whole world making disciples, obedient, disciplined and Christ-centered."

Campus Crusade has received some financial assistance from overseas partners. Going forward, they hope to be able to recover and begin again with their projects of holistic community development, church planting, leadership training, and screening the Jesus film in different languages.

APPENDIX: STATEMENT OF FAITH OF CAMPUS CRUSADE

- ❖ The only foundation of belief for Campus Crusade is the Bible, the infallible written Word of God, the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testament. We believe that the Bible was verbally and fully inspired by the Holy Spirit and it was without inherent error in the original manuscripts. It is the supreme and final authority for all matters that it refers to. Campus Crusade explicitly states its belief in the biblical teachings that follow:
- ❖ There is only one true God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, each one of them with equally all the attributes of God and the characteristics of personality.
- ❖ Jesus Christ is God, the Living Word, who became flesh through the miraculous conception of the Holy Spirit and the virgin birth. Now, it is the perfect God and true humanity united in one person forever.
- ❖ He lived a sinless life and voluntarily atoned for the sins of men by dying on the cross as a substitute, thus satisfying divine justice and accomplishing salvation for all who believe in Him alone.
- ❖ He raised from the dead in the same body, though glorified, in which he lived.
- ❖ He ascended bodily into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God, where, as the only mediator between God and man, He continually intercedes for His own.
- ❖ Man was created in the image of God. He sinned by his disobedience to God in this way he was separated from his creator. This historic fall placed the whole humanity under divine condemnation.
- ❖ The nature of man is corrupted, and he is thus completely unable to please God. Every man needs to be regenerated and renewed by the Holy Spirit.
- ❖ The salvation of man is entirely the work of the free gift of God and not of the deed, in whole or in part, of man or good deeds or religious ceremonies. God imputes His righteousness to those who put their faith in Christ alone, and are thus justified in His eyes.
- ❖ It is the privilege of all who are born again of the Spirit to be assured of their salvation from the moment they believed in Christ as their savior. This assurance is not based on any kind of human merit, but is produced by the witness of the Holy Spirit, who confirms to the believer the testimony of God in His written word.
- ❖ The Holy Spirit came into the world to reveal and glorify Christ and to proclaim the salvation of men. He convicts and draws sinners to Christ, communicates to them a new life, living constantly in them from the moment of their spiritual birth and seals till the day of redemption. The believer appropriates in his life the fullness of the Holy Spirit, his power and control by faith.