

**Cluster them into two categories:
Strengthening the church internally
Focusing outside.
Why seven things.
Stage scale**

**Curriculum Overview for short term training courses of Evangelists and Lay Leaders in
Africa for sustainable Evangelism, Discipleship and wholesome church growth.
CAPA initiative**

Background:

The church in Africa is faced with threat of decline due to postmodern secular trends that are rapidly redefining social order. While it is said that Africa has become the centre of Christianity, the reality is that the kind of Christianity being experienced in Africa has got many faces to it. First it is a Christianity associated with poverty, rendering majority of Africans powerless and optimistic with an emphasis on eschatology. Second is a syncretistic Christianity where most Africans find no problem being dualistic in their spiritual worldview: practicing “Sunday Christianity and mid-week visiting diviners and witchdoctors for further spiritual intervention. Third is a Christianity driven by material possession. What has come to be popularly known as “prosperity gospel”. Fourth is a nominal Christianity that interacts with secular world, following and participating all manner of secular activities without questioning its impact on spiritual growth. Fifth is tribalized, ethnicized, clanized or culturized Christianity where majority of Africans find it a challenge to live and practice their Christianity among people of other tribes or ethnic orientation. The emergence of African traditional religions becoming a pattern of life is a typical example of how majority of Africans Christians are rapidly backsliding into world of darkness. The Sixth is perverted Christianity that has embraced and demised sex into a god, openly promoting sexual orgies such as homosexuality, lesbianism, bestiality, pornography and denial of Christ. Seventh is biblical authentic Christianity. A Christianity that is biblical and Christ centred, striving to live out Christian faith in a polarised world.

It is important to state that Christianity in Africa is on the verge of being rendered irrelevant if the church in Africa does not re-visit its Biblical theology founded on the principles and doctrine of Trinity, Great Commission and Ecclesiology (Church life).

Justifications:

First: Authentic Christian living: One challenge that describes that above scenario is lack of authentic church leadership, discipleship that focuses on nurturing,

growing and maturing Christians into Christ's followers and witnesses of their faith in public sphere.

Second: Empowering Lay people for authentic church leadership: The second challenge is that the church in Africa need to refocus its training and equipping strategy to lay people. This is because lay people play a critical role in the daily running of church life. They highly gifted and ready to serve when given opportunity. In view of the Anglican Church, the majority of people who run and lead churches are Evangelists and Lay Readers who are ill-trained and equipped to manage the modern societies.

Third: Training ground for future ordinands: The challenge the church has focused is lack of clear systematic strategy of recruiting people into priestly ministry. By rolling out this training course focusing on lay people provides opportunity for the church to identify those being called into church ministry and recommend them for further training after they have been given a foundational course for ministry work at the local church level.

The objective:

- 1) To provide basic ministry training for those who might not afford to join theological colleges due to academic challenges but have a calling to serve God.
- 2) To offer affordable ministry formation training suitable to propel local churches towards becoming healthy churches
- 3) To offer tailored course that seeks to respond to ministry emerging issues in society.
- 4) To provide a firm foundation for those who may want to pursue further theological training in future.
- 5) To mobilize the entire church (Laity) at the congregational level into ministry within the community.
- 6) Propel the church to rapid growth: Spiritual depth, numerical increase and material or economic strength.

Nature of training:

The nature of the course is a discipleship course, where those graduating will be required to set up their own training teams at the local church level to replicate what they have learned. This will happen as part of course deliverable indicators of effectiveness of training.

The course work is tailored to achieve a number of outcomes.

1. Offer knowledge on a wide range of theological themes or topics.
2. Train and offer skills for holistic practical engagement with issues in society.
3. The course will be offered anywhere in Africa with approval of a Diocesan Bishop.

4. *The emphasis of this course is not academic certificate but equipping lay people for ministry: The focus will be on acquisition of knowledge and skills for effective ministry at the local church level.*
5. To mobilize every member of the local church to actively take part in missionary life of the church.

Assessment:

1. Class participants will be a must for participants to qualify for the final awarding of certificate.
2. Each participant will be required to set up one personal economic program as a model for the rest of church members
3. Each participant will be encouraged to identify practical ministries to engage in in their local contexts for ministry reflection.
4. Each participant will be required to initiate a transformative project involving Church or community members as part of applying both knowledge and skills acquired in class.
5. In the course of training the training personnel/Diocesan Mission Director/Education secretary will visit the participants in their local contexts to ascertain that all prerequisites have been met.
6. The Participant will be required at the end of training to set up a cohort for training before graduating. This will be within a duration of one to two months. *(This forms the foundational basis for the training. To encourage church growth and multiplication at local church level)*

Duration:

The course is a one year none residential program offered at the convenient of participants. It will adopt people's schedules of life, geographical locations and environmental factors (eg, Urban/rural) At the completion of the course, students will be given one to two months period to go and set up their own discipleship teams before they can qualify for graduation. This will be done under supervision and guidance.

Recognition:

Despite that fact that the course is not academic in nature, it will require an endorsement by a body of Church leaders (Bishops) to authenticate as suitable for training. Participants may receive a certificate from CAPA or in collaboration with specific theological colleges from various countries.

Training personnel:

CAPA shall establish a pool of various expertise in various fields to offer training on the themes described in the course outline. Once every year the trainers will come together in a summit to evaluate effectiveness of the training and recommendations for improvement.

Course overview:

No.	Course Code	Name	Description
1.	THM	Theology of Missions	Biblical Foundations for missions
2	HMWA	History of Missionary work in Africa	Contribution of African fathers towards promoting spread of Christianity in Africa
3	OT&NT	Old Testament and New Testament Survey	Biblical theology
4	PPC	Principles of Pastoral care	Exploring skills of Pastoral care
5	LCE	Life and Calling of An Evangelist	Understanding the vocation
6	ST	Stewardship: Human resource, Time, Finances, Environment,	Exploring a theology of holism: Creation care, resource mapping accountability
7	EW	Evangelism and witnessing	Theology of Evangelism and practice of witnessing
8	TFL	Transformational Leadership; The art of leading and managing	Theories and practice of leadership from a Biblical perspective. Acquiring both management and administrative skills in a local church
9	CPCG	Church planting and Church growth	Theology and practice of Church planting and church growth.
10	CCA	Christianity in Contemporary Africa	Exploring on issues influencing Christian thought in Contemporary Africa
11	THC	Trauma Counselling and Healing 1, 2, 3	Towards understanding trauma, its causes and the healing process
12	UM	Urban Mission:	Introduction to Urban Mission: Scanning the urban context; sociology, spirituality and mission practice.
13	CH	Church History	Introduction to Church history
14	DDM	Discipleship and Disciple making	Theology of Great Commission, principles of discipleship. Dealing with doctrine of Creation and fall of man (sin), Christology (Salvation), Soteriology (Holy Spirit), Ecclesiology (Church life) Great Commission-(Christian mission)
15	HM	Hermeneutic	Preaching and sermon preparation
16	YM	Nurturing of children and youth: The now and future	Psychology of children and youth, development and influencing factors on

		generation	behavioural change of young people	
17	Anglicanism	Brief history Anglican church, worship, spirituality, ethos, and practice	Towards understanding Anglican church	
18	FMA	Financial management and administration	To empower Church workers with basic skills on Budgeting, interpretation of financial records etc	
19	SW	Spiritual warfare	Exploring theology of prayer, demonic world/Satanism, deliverance and healing;	
20	CMS	Communication skills	Learning basic principles of Communication	
21	TH	Theology of Holism: CCMP 1,2,3	Empowering society to develop and nurture skills on wholesome living. Food security, Economic empowerment for personal growth and society.	
22	EMN	Ecumenism	Towards understanding Christians from other Christian traditions and living in harmony with them	
23	IFR	Inter-faith relations	Towards understanding people of other faiths and learning to live a life of witness among them	

Expected outcome:

1. To raise 1000 equipped evangelists across Africa in the next five years actively involved in healthy sustainable church life and mission outreach.
2. Increased sustainable church planting especially in regions with less church representation.
3. Raise a generation of professional disciples in every sector of life positively impacting centres of influence.
4. To reverse the church from threats of decline to revitalized growth.
5. Establish 100 economic incubators across Africa.
6. Equip both clergy and lay people with skills of engaging towards healings of African nations.
7. To see the church in Africa actively take part in the conservation of nature and improve in food security.
8. Facilitate theological Colleges on the continent explore effective methods of theological training.

Budget:

This being a none academic course and given the fact that it is targeting mostly Evangelists and Lay leaders in most parts of Africa. The fee charges shall be conservative and affordable to accommodate all who may be interested in the training. The cost will be shared between the hosting Diocese and the students taking part in the training. The hosting Diocese will cater for accommodation and meals. To facilitate the viability of the training, each student shall be required to pay \$ 150 per each session including cost of training materials. To cover three sessions the student will pay \$450.

Considering economic disparity in the continent of Africa, CAPA shall explore partnering with strategic partners to support this great initiative towards equipping the church in Africa become a beacon of hope.