

**“Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you... be strong and brave! You must lead these people” Joshua 1:5-6, ICB**

**6 February 2021**

Big news! The SIL International Board has appointed me to the role of Associate Executive Director for Global Resourcing. I will still be a Wycliffe missionary, assigned to SIL. Nothing is changing in that regard. Wycliffe views this as a strategic assignment to increase the robustness of an essential partner in language ministry. I agree and appreciate Wycliffe's heart of generosity toward SIL.

### **Backstory**

In late 2015, the SIL Executive Team appointed me to champion the innovation agenda for SIL as their first Chief Innovation Officer. My tiny team of two set out to discover options for making SIL's economic situation more robust because our economics were causing us to say "No" to ministry opportunities we should have been saying "Yes" to. Since 2015 our innovation unit has grown to 25 people and cultivated an organization-wide network of another 75 innovators across five continents.

### **Motivation**

Someone recently asked me what motivates me to keep advocating for innovation on the hard days. I told them, "It hurts my heart to see the sadness in my colleagues eyes when they have to say 'no' to a ministry opportunity when they should be saying 'yes'. Worse, some of my colleagues have lost hope that more resources will be available to them when they need them. I keep doing this because I want to inspire hope in God, that He will provide in new and different ways than we expect. Because He does! I have a lifetime of evidence to prove it. History in the Bible proves it. SIL's history proves it. God is faithful to resource His mission and resourcing is a key part of the way he transforms his people. Look at how God transformed Israel by inventing manna and faithfully supplying it for 40 years! This is the same God we serve."

I am convinced that God wants His image bearers to thrive with the languages He's given them. I am convinced that God will send people, resources and opportunities to SIL if we are committed to joining Him in cultivating the lives of His image bearers; especially where life and language collide.

### **Excitement**

From Feb 15 - Mar 16 I will take a mini-sabbatical, to focus on family time, reflection and personal/spiritual refreshment. In April I will officially step into this new role, reporting directly to Dr. Michel Kenmogne. I will restructure a series of departments to create a new unit that includes Innovation Development (my current unit), Marketing & Communications, Advancement, Professional Services, Commercial Services, and Intellectual Property Management. This means the Chief Marketing & Communications Officer, Chief Innovation Officer, Chief Advancement Officer, Head of Professional Services, CEO of Commercial Services and their units will report to me in a new unit called GRO. Together we will focus on growing resourcing opportunities for SIL to advance its global ministry to help people everywhere flourish in community with the languages they value most.

Thank you for enabling us to serve in this way through your prayers and financial partnership. We are an extension of your ministry and deeply appreciate your continued prayer during this time of transition and growth.

Together for the gospel,

Steve & Glenda Moitozo

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