



BRIEF OVERVIEW: The Seven Standards of Excellence in Short-Term Mission

- 1. GOD-CENTEREDNESS** An excellent short-term mission seeks first God's glory and his kingdom, and is expressed through our:
 - Purpose — Centering on God's glory and his ends throughout our entire STM process
 - Lives — Sound biblical doctrine, persistent prayer, and godliness in all our thoughts, words, and deeds
 - Methods — Wise, biblical, and culturally-appropriate methods which bear spiritual fruit
- 2. EMPOWERING PARTNERSHIPS** An excellent short-term mission establishes healthy, inter-dependent, on-going relationships between sending and receiving partners, and is expressed by:
 - Primary focus on intended receptors
 - Plans which benefit all participants
 - Mutual trust and accountability
- 3. MUTUAL DESIGN** An excellent short-term mission collaboratively plans each specific outreach for the benefit of all participants, and is expressed by:
 - On-field methods and activities aligned to long-term strategies of the partnership
 - Goer-guests' ability to implement their part of the plan
 - Host receivers' ability to implement their part of the plan
- 4. COMPREHENSIVE ADMINISTRATION** An excellent short-term mission exhibits integrity through reliable set-up and thorough administration for all participants, and is expressed by:
 - Truthfulness in promotion, finances, and reporting results
 - Appropriate risk management
 - Quality program delivery and support logistics
- 5. QUALIFIED LEADERSHIP** An excellent short-term mission screens, trains, and develops capable leadership for all participants, and is expressed by:
 - Character — Spiritually mature servant leadership
 - Skills — Prepared, competent, organized, and accountable leadership
 - Values — Empowering and equipping leadership
- 6. APPROPRIATE TRAINING** An excellent short-term mission prepares and equips all participants for the mutually designed outreach, and is expressed by:
 - Biblical, appropriate, and timely training
 - On-going training and equipping (pre-field, on-field, post-field)
 - Qualified trainers
- 7. THOROUGH FOLLOW THROUGH** An excellent short-term mission assures evaluation, debriefing and appropriate follow-through for all participants, and is expressed by:
 - Comprehensive debriefing of all participants (pre-field, on-field, post-field)
 - Thoughtful and appropriate follow-through for goer-guests
 - On-field and post-field evaluation among sending and receiving partners