

Exercise for Chapter 12 Promotion Model Assessment

If you are considering pursuing the Promotion Model, you should explore this possibility by answering the following questions.

As you do so, it is very important to apply the **Integral Mission Principal**: *The global body must function in such a way that the local church is able to use its gifts to engage in integral mission: proclaiming and demonstrating among people who are poor the good news of the kingdom of God in a contextually appropriate way.* This means that the local church (or organization) in the Global South should be the ones asking these questions of themselves and of the people in the community. They understand the local culture better than outsiders, and it is important from the very outset that they are seen as the embodiment of Jesus Christ in their community. The role of the outsiders in this process is a supportive rather than a frontline role: providing encouragement, prayer, technical assistance, and appropriate input when asked.

If you are a missionary working in a frontier region where there is no local church, you may have to play a more hands-on role. But even in this case, we still encourage you to use local people to conduct interviews in the community as much as possible.

In the questions that follow, the term “your church” refers to the local church in the community in the Global South, for it is the primary organization that should be asking these questions.

1. Look back at the results from the *Financial Landscape Assessment* that you completed in the Application Exercise for Chapter 8. If you did not get data about ROSCAs or ASCAs, go back and talk to more people to see how they access lump sums of money. Do they use ROSCAs or ASCAs? Use local names for ROSCAs and ASCAs when you talk to people.
2. Talk to several people in your church about ROSCAs and ASCAs. What do they think about them? Are they involved in any? Why or why not? Would

they be supportive of your church promoting ROSCAs and ASCAs? Why or why not?

3. Think about holistically impacting your target group through reconciled relationships with God, self, others, and the rest of creation. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the Promotion Model in fostering such reconciliation? How do the strengths present opportunities for you? How could you address the weaknesses?
4. If you believe the Promotion Model is an appropriate approach, do you think it would be best to start with a ROSCA or an ASCA? Why?
5. Are there any other organizations already promoting SCAs within your target population? If so, could you collaborate with them somehow? Why or why not?
6. Ask people in your target community if they would be open to your church promoting ROSCAs or ASCAs. Why or why not?
7. Ask people in your target community if they are interested in any other non-financial services. For example, might they be interested in business, home, and health training? What topics in particular? See the resources that are described in Ministry Component #4 in Chapter 7, which can be downloaded from the website associated with this book.
8. If your church is already involved in a ministry to the target population, what are the pros and cons of adding the promotion of ROSCAs and ASCAs to that work?
9. Would starting with a Promotion Model and then seeking to graduate the members to MFIs or local banks be a viable strategy in your ministry

context? Why or why not?

10. Stop and pray that God will give you wisdom as you try to discern the best course of action.

11. If you believe that God is calling you to move forward with the Promotion Model, the Chalmers Center's *Restore: Savings* handbook, which is available on the website associated with this book, can walk you can walk you through this process.