

Globalisation and the International Job Market

Roger Wells, TASK

POSITIVE FACTORS

Increase in Business

- The Growth of International Capitalism. The opening up of markets in Eastern Europe and the ex-communist world. Trans-national corporations.
- Technological Development. Communications industries throughout the world. Importance of China
- The growth of the international tourist industry
- The growth of the use of English world wide (again one key factor in this has been computerisation)
- Enormous growth in development programmes

Movement of People

- Customs Unions
- Refugees (enforced)
- People seeking work/economic migrants. Increased mobility of world labour market (Lithuanians in UK)

Easier to serve abroad

- Careers more varied and changeable. Easier to keep up professionally when overseas, but years abroad not always validated
- Much easier contact through internet. Resources to encourage can be sent inc children's entertainment
- More frequent travel. Firms have set a good pattern re children's holiday visits etc

NEGATIVE FACTORS

Closed doors?

- Reactions to globalisation (nationalism and desire to protect cultures)?
- Self sufficiency achieved in different professional skill areas
- How far within some countries has globalisation penetrated?

Terms of Christian service

- Trend towards short term service

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

Globalisation

- In our lives overseas, how can we counter the view that Western culture is immoral, exploitative, and insensitive? Is this one aspect of pre-evangelism?

Ministry Platforms

- What are the ministry platforms God has used in the past? Is globalisation changing this? What are the new ones for the future?
- Identify from your own knowledge and experience some of the opportunities that were successfully taken to minister in the workplace. And not taken.....! And what can we learn?
- Which countries offer exciting opportunities for ministry at the present time?