



SOE MISSION TRIP QUICK AUDIT

Thank you so much taking a few minutes to reflect on your mission program and how it can improve. We're glad to be part of your process through this Quick Audit and beyond. This tool is designed to be a way for you to identify strengths and weaknesses and to know where to start addressing change.

Below you will see a set of True-False questions for each Standard. Answer each question and total the "true" and "false" answers for each section. As you read the questions, take time to consider them but don't overthink. Often your first instinct is the correct one.

Standard #1: God-Centeredness

An excellent short-term mission seeks first God's glory and his kingdom, and is expressed through our **purpose, lives, and methods.**

- T or F 1. We have a clear, written purpose for engaging in a mission trip.
- T or F 2. All participants understand the purpose of the mission trip.
- T or F 3. Goers are screened based on necessary qualifications.
- T or F 4. Goers are challenged to grow in faith and character.
- T or F 5. Our methods are wise, biblical, and culturally appropriate.
- T or F 6. There is clear evidence of positive fruit from our methods.

Standard #2: Empowering Partnerships

An excellent short-term mission establishes healthy, interdependent, on-going relationships between sending and receiving partners and is expressed by: **primary focus on intended receptors, plans which benefit all participants, and mutual trust and accountability.**

- T or F 1. The primary focus of our trip is on the intended receptors.
- T or F 2. Our trips do not have unintended negative consequences.

- T or F 3. The goal and purpose of the partnership is clear and measurable.
- T or F 4. The partnership achieves long-term goals for senders and receivers.
- T or F 5. Senders and receivers regularly evaluate the partnership.
- T or F 6. Senders and receivers demonstrate good stewardship with resources.
- T or F 7. The senders and receivers demonstrate trust in one another.

Standard #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, the goer-guests ability to implement their part of the plan, and the host receivers' ability to implement their part of the plan.**

- T or F 1. Mission trips help accomplish the goals of the partnership.
- T or F 2. Senders and hosts are aware of each other's long-term goals.
- T or F 3. Mission trips are designed collaboratively by senders and receivers.
- T or F 4. The goers are able to follow through on their part of the plan.
- T or F 5. The receivers are able to follow through on their part of the plan.

Standard #4: Comprehensive Administration

An excellent short-term mission exhibits integrity through reliable setup and thorough administration for all participants, and is expressed by: **truthfulness in promotion, finances, and reporting; appropriate risk management; and quality program delivery and support logistics.**

- T or F 1. Mission trips are truthfully promoted and reported.
- T or F 2. Trip budgets are appropriate and reasonable.
- T or F 3. Finances are properly tracked and accounted for.
- T or F 4. We provide travel medical insurance for all goers.
- T or F 5. We have a method for identifying and mitigating risk.
- T or F 6. Each trip has a crisis and contingency plan.
- T or F 7. We have policies and procedures should crisis occur.
- T or F 8. We have the capacity to meet the needs of our constituents.

Standard #5: Qualified Leadership

An excellent short-term mission screens, trains, and develops capable leadership for all participants, and is expressed by the leaders' **character, skills, and values**.

T or F 1. Your leaders demonstrate the character (wisdom, discernment, flexibility, sensitivity, spiritual giftedness, responsiveness to authority) of a leader.

T or F 2. Your leaders demonstrate the organizational abilities to manage logistics and to keep the group safe.

T or F 3. Your leaders demonstrate the communication skills needed to prepare the team for the trip and to resolve conflict.

T or F 4. Your leaders demonstrate cross-cultural understanding and the ability to work and to communicate cross-culturally.

T or F 5. Your leaders empower and equip others for cross-cultural ministry.

T or F 6. You provide opportunities for current and new leaders to grow and develop.

Standard #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-, on-, and post-field);** and **qualified trainers**.

T or F 1. Supporters/Donors are given information about the purpose of the trip and how to support goers emotionally, spiritually, financially, and so on.

T or F 2. Goers are provided training necessary to prepare logistically for the trip including packing, passports, visas, vaccinations, and other practical details.

T or F 3. Goers are provided training that prepares them spiritually, for cross-cultural ministry, and to work with others and resolve conflict.

T or F 4. Hosts receive proper training and provide training necessary to deliver their part of the plan.

T or F 5. Qualified trainers are used for training and preparation.

Standard #7: Thorough Follow-Through

An excellent short-term mission assures evaluation, debriefing, and appropriate follow-through and is expressed by: **comprehensive debriefing of all participants, thoughtful and appropriate follow-through for goer-guests, and on-field and post-field evaluation among sending and receiving partners.**

T or F 1. Goers are prepared for reentry back into their home culture.

T or F 2. Goers are provided debriefing/opportunity to reflect on their experience.

T or F 3. You follow-through with goers to help ensure ongoing growth.

T or F 4. Hosts provide debriefing and follow-through for those with whom and to whom they minister.

T or F 5. Evaluations are provided to the goers, leaders, and hosts.

T or F 6. Leaders from the senders and hosts evaluate the trip and accomplishment of the trip's and partnership's goals and purposes.

Standard Totals

#1 God-Centeredness T_____ F_____

#2 Empowering Partnership T_____ F_____

#3 Mutual Design T_____ F_____

#4 Comp. Administration T_____ F_____

#5 Qualified Leadership T_____ F_____

#6 Appropriate Training T_____ F_____

#7 Thorough Follow-Through T_____ F_____

Now that you've answered the questions and totaled your answers, begin reviewing your "false" answers. Begin with the Standard with the least. As you review these, keep in mind that you shouldn't focus exclusively on the number of "true" or "false" answers. You might find that a "false" answer to one question has more far-reaching consequences than three "false" answers somewhere else. As you review the results, record your thoughts and impressions. The goal of this review is to identify your two strongest and weakest Standards.

My two strongest Standards are:

My two weakest Standards are:

Now that you've identified your two weakest Standards it's time to consider some next steps. Answer the following questions to begin the process:

1. How would I like to see improvement in my two weakest Standards? Write a 2-3 sentence description or summary for each one.
2. How much time each week do I have to devote to these improvements? When?
3. Who is impacted by my desired changes?
4. How can I get input from those impacted before I make changes?
5. Whose help do I need to facilitate change?

My Next Steps are: *(You may consider using the following chart to get started.)*

Action Step	People Impacted (stakeholders)	Who is Responsible For Implementing?	Resources Needed	Target Date for Completion