

# **SPREAD**

#### **Newsletter - December 2015**

Thank you so much for your prayers and support in our ministry, together we really make a difference. In this edition we share news of: amazing church growth in Colombia; a Paraguayan missionary who has taken our courses to Japan; news of a new SEAN International trustee; & more updates on our work in Africa, Spain, France and Venezuela.



## Colombia

When a national church begins to show significant growth, it is good to discern the reasons behind this growth. On July 7-10, 2015, the Colombian Church Association (AIEC) established by the Latin America Mission in 1945, celebrated its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Sincelejo, Colombia. It was discovered that from 10 congregations, they had grown to over 900!

For 33 years, the Colombian Institute for Pastoral Education (CIPEP) has helped train thousands of their pastors and leaders. During the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, CIPEP held a graduation service for 160 leaders, most of them studying SEAN courses. It was most impressive indeed to see these leaders joyously receive their diplomas as they faithfully serve the Lord.

We praise God for how he has used CIPEP through the SEAN materials to help spur the growth of the Church in Colombia. To God be the glory!



Ubaldo Restan, CIPEP Director



Delegates at 70th Anniversary



**CIPEP Graduates** 



**Nick Woodbury, SEAN Trustee** 



#### Japan

As an example of how our courses have spread around the world, here is Antonio Jacquet, a Paraguayan missionary trained by TEE (SEAN) in Paraguay, who is now

serving in Japan. This is a photo of an Abundant Life graduation and they want to continue with further courses! Antonio is on the left in the black jacket.





#### **Africa**

Almost every week, we are contacted by someone from the African continent who wishes to use SEAN materials. Currently we are dealing with new enquiries in connection with: Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Interestingly, our partners in Botswana, the Flying Mission, have asked us to supply them with the *Abundant Life* course in Chinese! One of their 'pastor contacts' has several Chinese people in his congregation who prefer to do the home study in their own language.

Our growing number of contacts in Portuguese-speaking Africa (Angola and Mozambique) has led to the need for key SEAN materials to be translated into Portuguese. We are very grateful to Filipa Candeias for agreeing to translate our

newsletter, SPREAD, into Portuguese. The first ever Portuguese version was published in July as 'NOTÍSEAN'. It was circulated, not only to Angola and Mozambique, but also to SEAN users in Portugal and Brazil. Thank you Filipa! We now need to find a native French speaker who will do English/French translations for us for use in French-speaking Africa.

#### **NEW TRUSTEE**

We are very pleased to announce that the Revd Andy Angel has agreed to serve as a trustee of SEAN International. Some years ago, he saw SEAN in operation in Chile. He is very enthusiastic about this ministry and thoroughly committed to it. More about Andy in our next newsletter.

## Further points for prayer & thanksgiving: Spain & France

Please pray for Benjamin, who is pastoring a church in Girona, Spain. He was in touch with us recently asking to get copies of our Abundant Life course in French. Their denomination is 60 years old and comes from Argentina. In recent years they have had significant growth in Europe, and for the last 6 years in France too. They now have three churches in France - Marseille, Lyon and Paris.

### Venezuela

The following testimony from José Echenique is typical of many emails we get from people requesting to use our materials. They are walking testimonies to the impact of spending time studying God's word and now want to share it with others..."The book for discipleship: Abundant Life has a lot of meaning for me, the Lord used this material to take me to the feet of Christ. So knowing its impact and quality we have great interest in how we can use SEAN courses for the discipleship of new believers. Thank you very much for your attention, Sincerely, José Echenique."

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## **Supporting SEAN International Financially**

We are so grateful to all those who choose to give financially to support SEAN International. Your gifts help us to work towards our vision of seeing 'Local churches worldwide empowering all their members for whole life discipleship, mission and ministry in their context.'

Information about how to give can be found on our website at: http://www.seaninternational.com/support-us.html

• Donations can be made via Paypal by using the 'Donate' button



- By post, please make your cheque payable to 'SEAN International' and send it to: SEAN International, Ferndale, Cranston Road, East Grinstead, W Sussex RH19 3HL
- Online you can use our secure online giving facility at give.net. (https://my.give.net/seandonationgen)
- If you would like to give regularly to SEAN International, please complete the <u>bankers' standing order form</u> and post it back to us at the address above.
- If you are a UK taxpayer and would like to 'Gift Aid' your donation, please use the <u>Gift Aid declaration</u> <u>form</u>.