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### **ALTECO Research Reporting and Planning**

#### **2022 ALTECO Research Report:**

Research projects have been ongoing through 2022, albeit at a notably reduced rate of intensity and focus compared to previous years. Countries of current focus are Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia. In these countries I have been engaged in this work with Jordan Keefe of Ethnos360 in the Colombian Amazon region, Isaiah DiLorenzo who is an independent missionary in the Peruvian Amazon region, and Walter Jost, a German missionary in the Bolivian Amazon region. They all value the role that research serves for effective field ministry and have shown willingness to partner and share information. As a missionary living among Peru's Asheninka tribal groups, Isaiah DiLorenzo is my primary active field contact currently in that country. Together we have been refining our field survey questionnaire that Nehemias Pino and I originally drafted in context of Peru to make it ready for full deployment. I also created maps for our Peru team in February for use during their visits to communities in Madre de Dios and Cuzco departments. The maps display the locations and approximate populations of each of the various tribes currently known to be present in these regions based on available open-source information and are useful for the purpose of prayer and mobilization. During Walter Jost's current furlough in Germany, we have been collaborating remotely on a 2023 research strategy for when he returns to Bolivia with his family in October. We do not yet have a survey adapted to the Bolivian Amazon region and drafting this in context of the needs of our FRALIC, our network in Bolivia, will be a priority into 2023. Etnopedia is the primary platform for the ongoing updating and sharing of research information. My engagement with this platform (since 2010) recently led to a connection with a U.S.-based ministry called Team Expansion, referred to me by David Markham, the director of Etnopedia. Team Expansion has substantial financial resources available combined with a desire to fund research and missionary outreach to a very specific list of tribes in Colombia and Brazil (not just research in general). The tribes listed are all difficult to engage, as they are isolated by location and/or ongoing conflict in their regions. I facilitated a connection between Team Expansion and our Colombia team to begin communication and the start of a potential working relationship with the MTO. This led to an invitation sent to them by Cesar Rodriguez to have a representative observe the LICAC conference in July. During the conference I coordinated meetings between the Team Expansion representative, Linda Epeards, and key leaders present at the meetings. Linda met with our core Colombia team, Henrique Terena regarding tribes in Brazil, and with Jordan Keefe. Jordan is my primary ongoing contact for field research in Colombia, as he helps me with updates about specific jungle tribes, their status and needs. I continue to serve as the liaison between Team Expansion and the MTO. In lieu of gaining fresh information from my very limited active field contact base in South America, I make heavy use of open-source information gathered through a process of online data mining that I have refined over the last ten years.

#### **2023 ALTECO Research Plan:**

In June 2022, while meeting with Javier Mayorga and the ETO via Zoom we discussed a proposed plan for research in 2023. We decided that for the first six months I will focus on developing a revised list of indigenous tribes in the following countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, and

Suriname. I will also conduct research to determine which entities currently serve among or are engaged in some manner with the tribes in those places. This will then be followed by a plan to conduct a thorough field research initiative in Peru, engaging our Peru team and as many field contacts as they can possibly source for training and to carry out this critical endeavor. Plans are also in place to develop and carry out a survey specific to the needs of MTO/FRALIC in Bolivia.

ALTECO Research Coordinator needs:

- **ALTECO operational budget specifically for research.** My inability to personally finance this work is unsustainable making it very difficult for my family to remain in full-time ministry.
- **A large field team of people in each country with a shared, passionate vision to reach the unreached tribes with a solid understanding of the necessity of research as a key component to help accomplish this.** I do not need full time field personnel; I need a network of people who when they travel or engage in their unique ministries, carry with them a burden to ask questions that are always vital to the research process.