

Domains of Music Use – An Adapted Participatory Tool

Proposed by Jennifer Giezendanner (based on Domains of Language Use participatory tool)

Purpose: To raise awareness about the various kinds of music used in a specific community's life

Who might participate: Pastors, church leaders, Christian musicians and music leaders, community members who care about music in the lives of local Christians

Time required: 1 - 2 hours, depending on size and interest of the group

Step 1. Kinds of Music

Members of the group **call out** the names of all kinds of music that are used in your community's daily life. **Name** as many different kinds as you can and have a scribe **write** one slip of paper for each kind. Think of types of music used by young and old, and all different social groups.

(Note: This is a brainstorming process. The group may want to become more specific about the kinds of music they list. The group needs to define their own categories themselves.)

Step 2. Understanding the Music We Use

Sort the paper slips according to types of music that are used on a daily basis at the top, then under them, the types of music that are used weekly, then below that the types of music that are used monthly, then yearly, then more rarely. Use paper slips of another color to mark "Daily," "Weekly," etc., from top to bottom.

Now, keeping the top to bottom order of the papers, also **sort** the same paper slips from left to right, with the kinds that are mostly local music on the left under the label "Local Music" and those which are mostly non-local music on the right under the label "Non-local Music." You may find that the Non-local music can be divided again into "Regional Music" and "Foreign Music." **Place** other slips in between the two extremes. After this second sorting process you will have a two-dimensional layout of the paper slips, top-to-bottom and right-to-left.

The group can now **add** any other types of music that you think of. You may want to break some categories down further into more specific types. Be sure to include any religious types of music used in the community.

Step 3. Using Music to Proclaim God's Glory or Message

Share and **discuss** what you observe about these kinds of music:

What have you noticed for the first time?

What questions does this raise?

What new thoughts do you have about your community's use of music?

Note: This participatory tool allows groups to take a new look at their community's regular use of many types of music. It can be followed with another participatory tool like:

Cause-Effect Tree: To consider the **results** of using or not using different kinds of music for possible new domains, such as developing new Christian songs in various styles.

Appreciative Inquiry: To **dream** about new ways of developing local music and to **plan** specifically steps to take to make these dreams come true.