

Catholic Biblical Federation (CBF)

www.c-b-f.org

Acts 2:5-8

“Now there were devout people living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, and each one was bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely,' they said, 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language?’”

Pentecost

- it is not the Apostles who speak different languages, but rather it is the listeners who hear the message of the Apostles each “in their own language”
- the inculturation of the Gospel (Pablo Richard)
- the message of God, which is unique, becomes concrete in different ways in different cultures

Vatican II

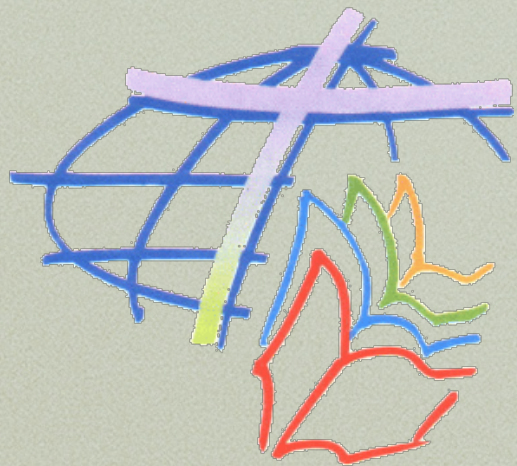
“Therefore, like the Christian religion itself, all the preaching of the Church must be nourished and regulated by Sacred Scripture. For in the sacred books, the Father who is in heaven meets His children with great love and speaks with them; and the force and power in the word of God is so great that it stands as the support and energy of the Church, the strength of faith for her sons, the food of the soul, the pure and everlasting source of spiritual life.” (DV 21)

Post-Vatican II

1966-1969: Under the directives of Pope Paul VI, Cardinals Bea and Willebrands, successive presidents of the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity, organised the contacts between representatives of Biblical associations across the world in order to work towards the implementation of the DEI VERBUM's chapter 6: "Sacred Scripture in the Life of the Church"

Catholic Biblical Federation

Rome - April 16, 1969

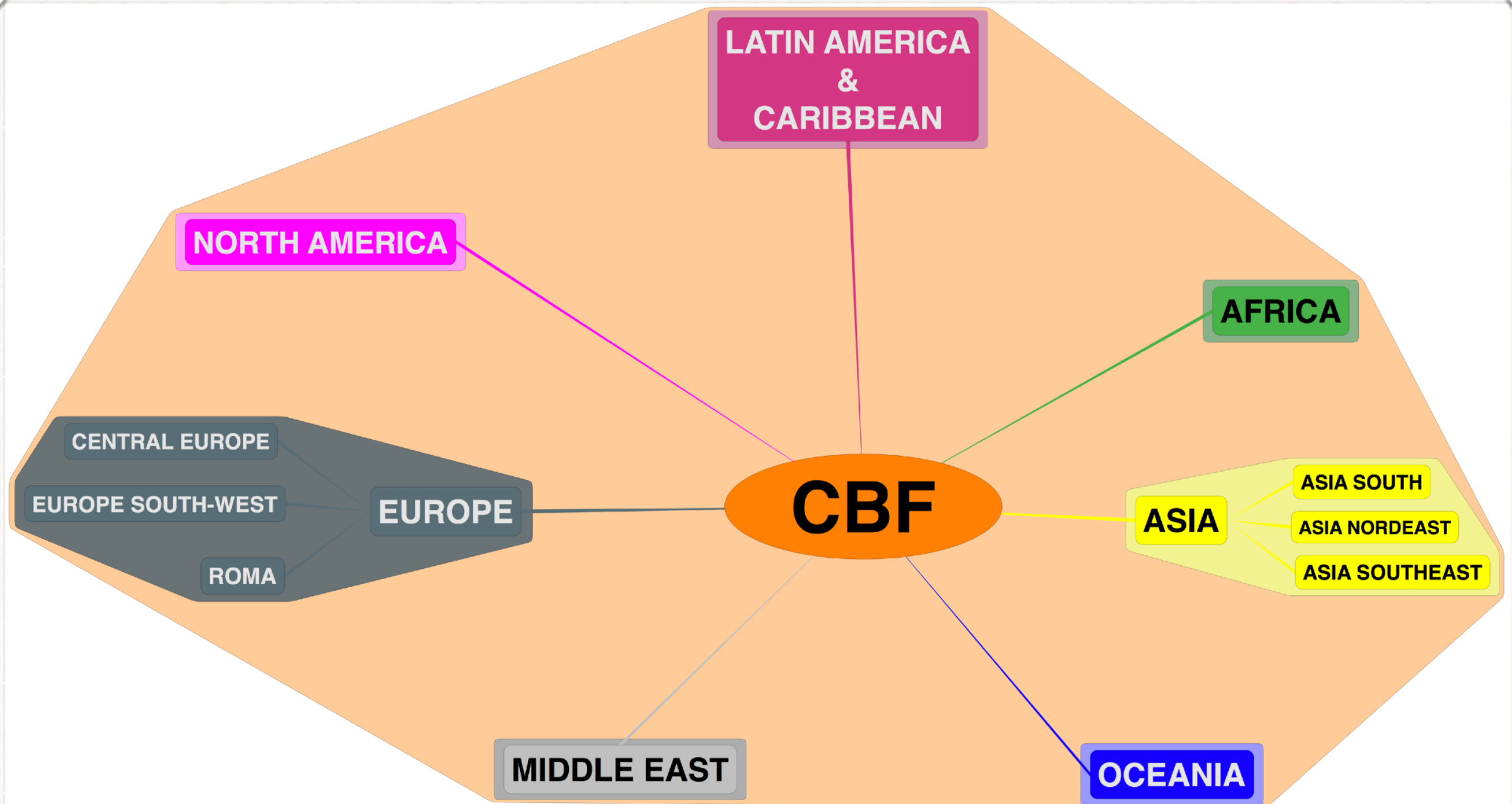


General Secretariat in Rome

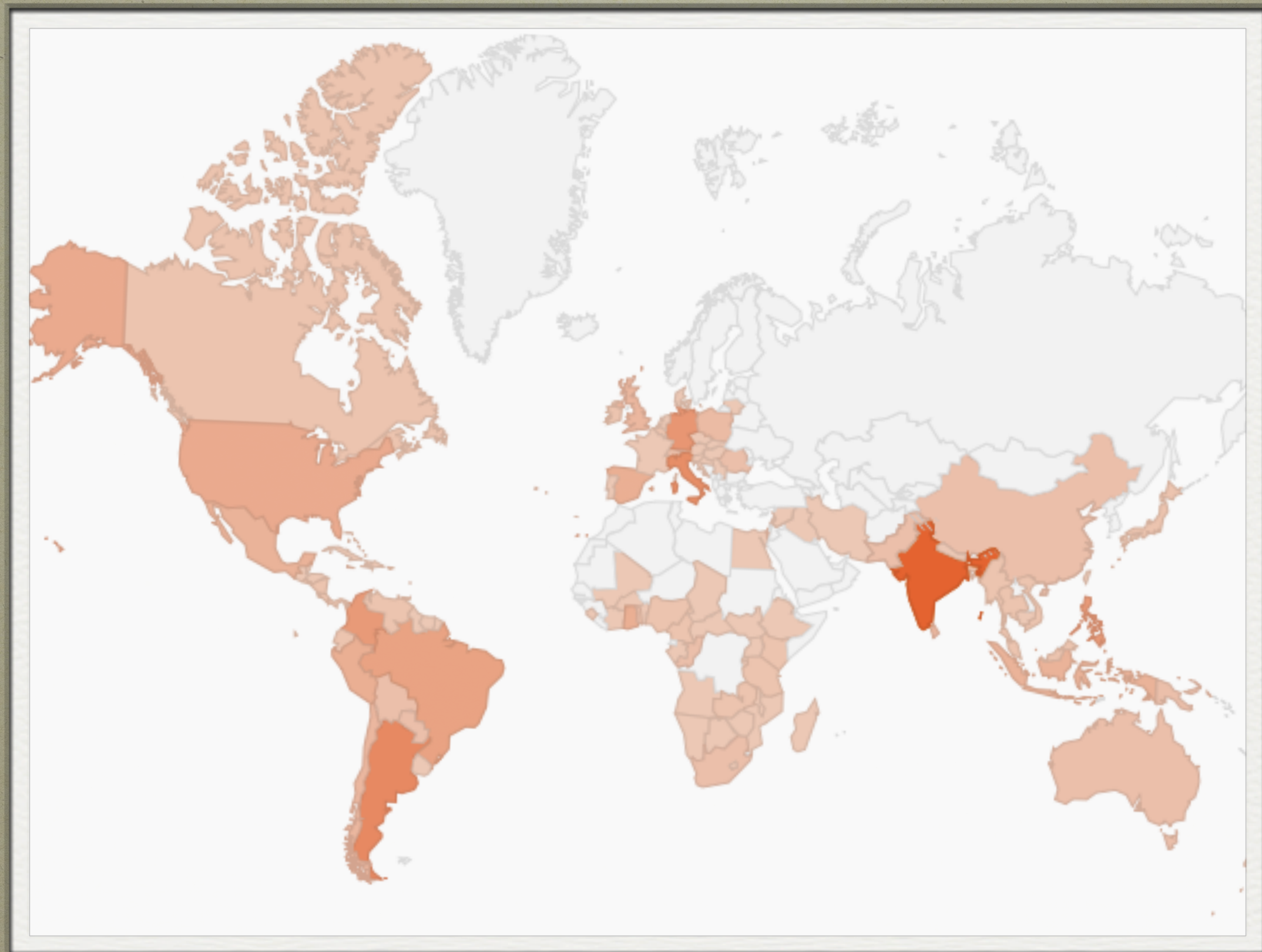
CBF Purpose

Const. 9.1. (...) promote and develop the Biblical Pastoral Ministry in such a way as to allow the Word of God as present in Sacred Scripture to become a dynamic source of inspiration for all areas of the life and mission of the Church in today's world, following the lines set forth in the Second Vatican Council's Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation "Dei Verbum" and in the Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation "Verbum Domini", as well as in the documents of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, and in collaboration with the Bishops and the Bishops' Conferences

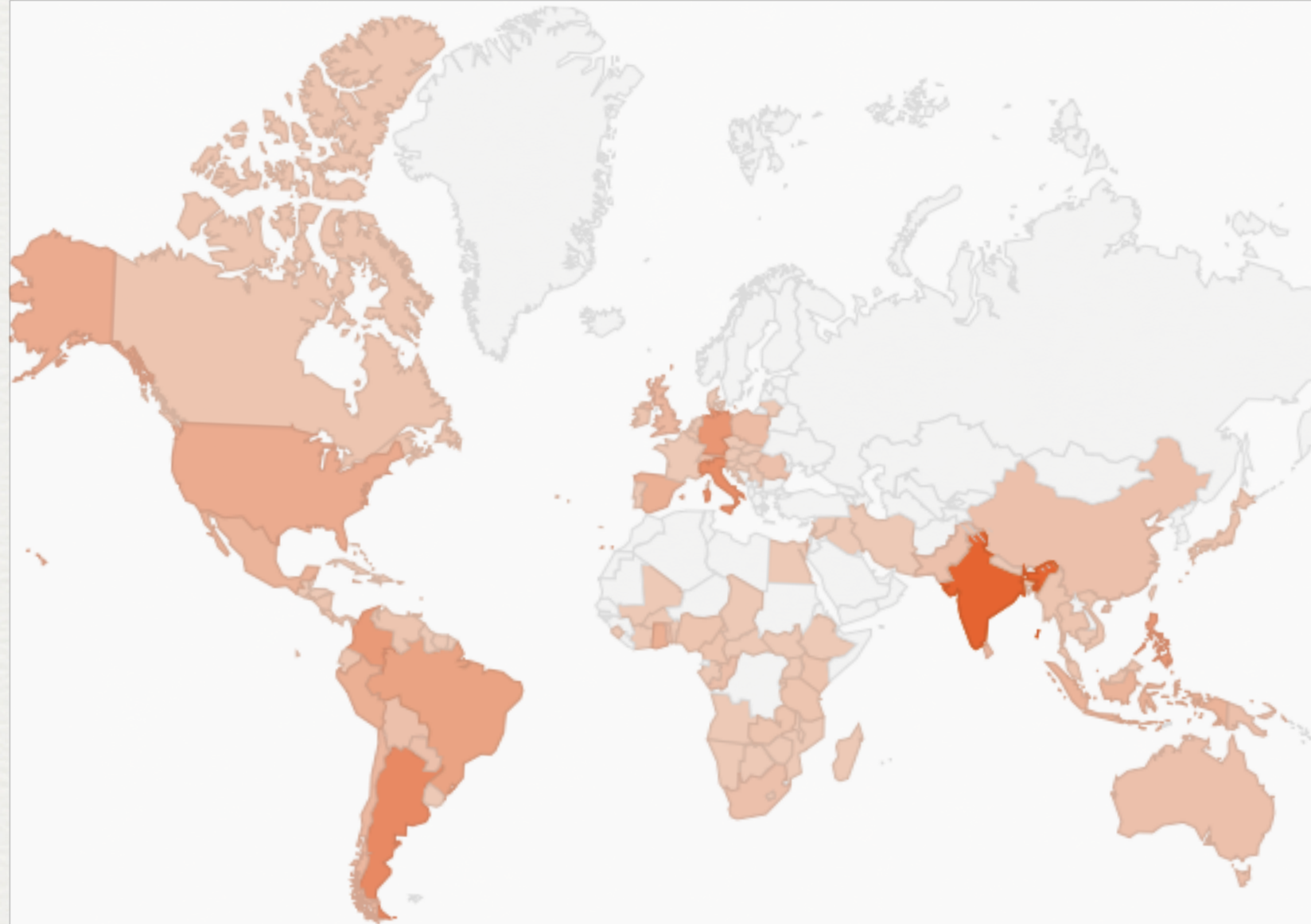
CBF Structure - Regions



CBF Members



CBF MEMBERS



Full Members - 102

Associate Members - 242

Latin America - 117

Asia - 74 [S-34; SE-27; NE-13]

Europe - 69

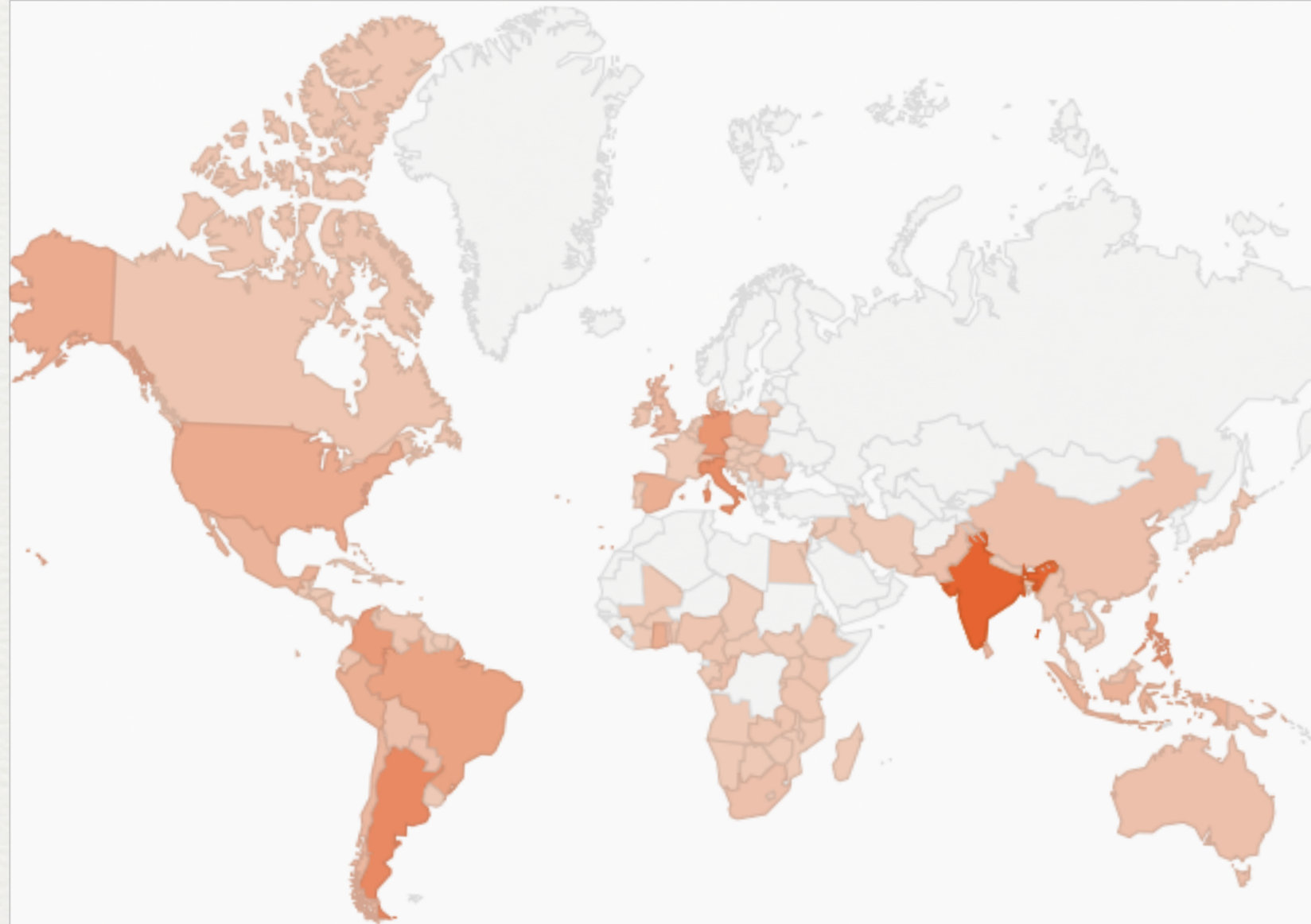
Africa - 52

Oceania - 11

North America - 12

Middle East - 9

CBF MEMBERS



Full Members - 102

Associate Members - 242

Latin America - **23** + **94**

Asia - **17** + **57**

Europe - **23** + **46**

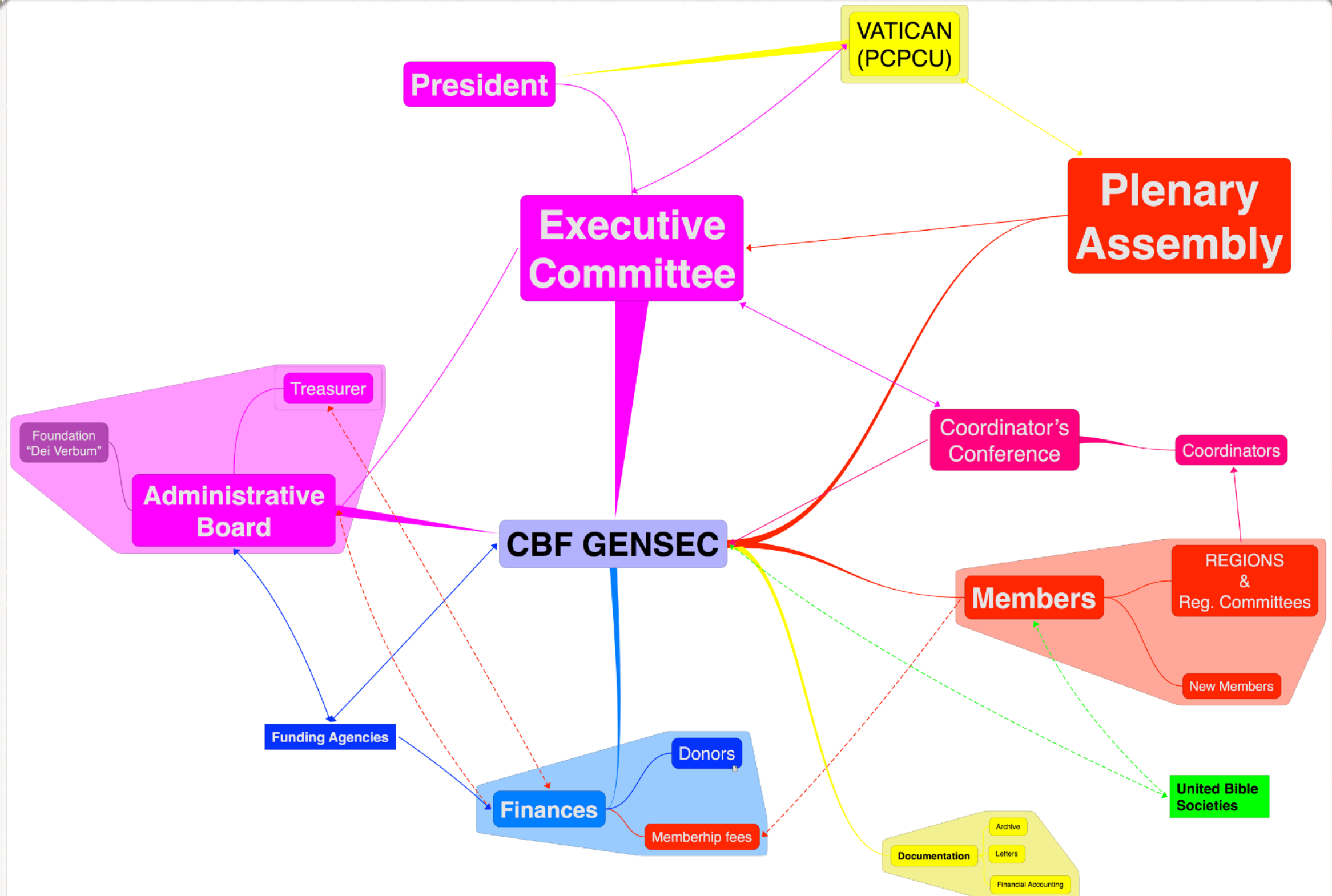
Africa - **28** + **24**

Oceania - **3** + **8**

North America - **2** + **10**

Middle East - **6** + **3**

CBF Structure



Development of the CBF

- main facts

- 1972 - 1st Plenary Assembly, Vienna (Austria); General Secretariat transferred to Stuttgart (Germany)
- 1978 - 2nd Plenary Assembly, Malta: *"Biblical Spirituality"*
- 1984 - 3rd Plenary Assembly, Bangalore (India): *"God's Prophetic People"*
- 1990 - 4th Plenary Assembly, Bogotá (Colombia): *"The Bible in the New Evangelisation"*

The Word of God

CBF Plenary Assembly Bogotá (1990)

“The New Evangelization to which we are committing ourselves demands from us new ways of reading and proclaiming the Word, in continuity with the sound tradition of the Church. This should enable us to discover God’s plan today in our midst and to respond to it adequately and relevantly. We should start with the reality in which we actually find ourselves today, and we should allow the Word of God to throw light on this reality. This would entail on our part, attentive listening to the God who speaks through the Scriptures, through his Church, and through the human situation. In this process the joys and sorrows of the world will have to become the joys and sorrows of the disciples of the Lord. Such a reading will reveal to us the true face of God, not the God of abstract philosophy, who remains unmoved by the events of the world, but the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose face in Christ and through the coming of the Reign of God is turned in loving compassion and concern for all those who suffer in every age and are struggling to find meaning in their life.”

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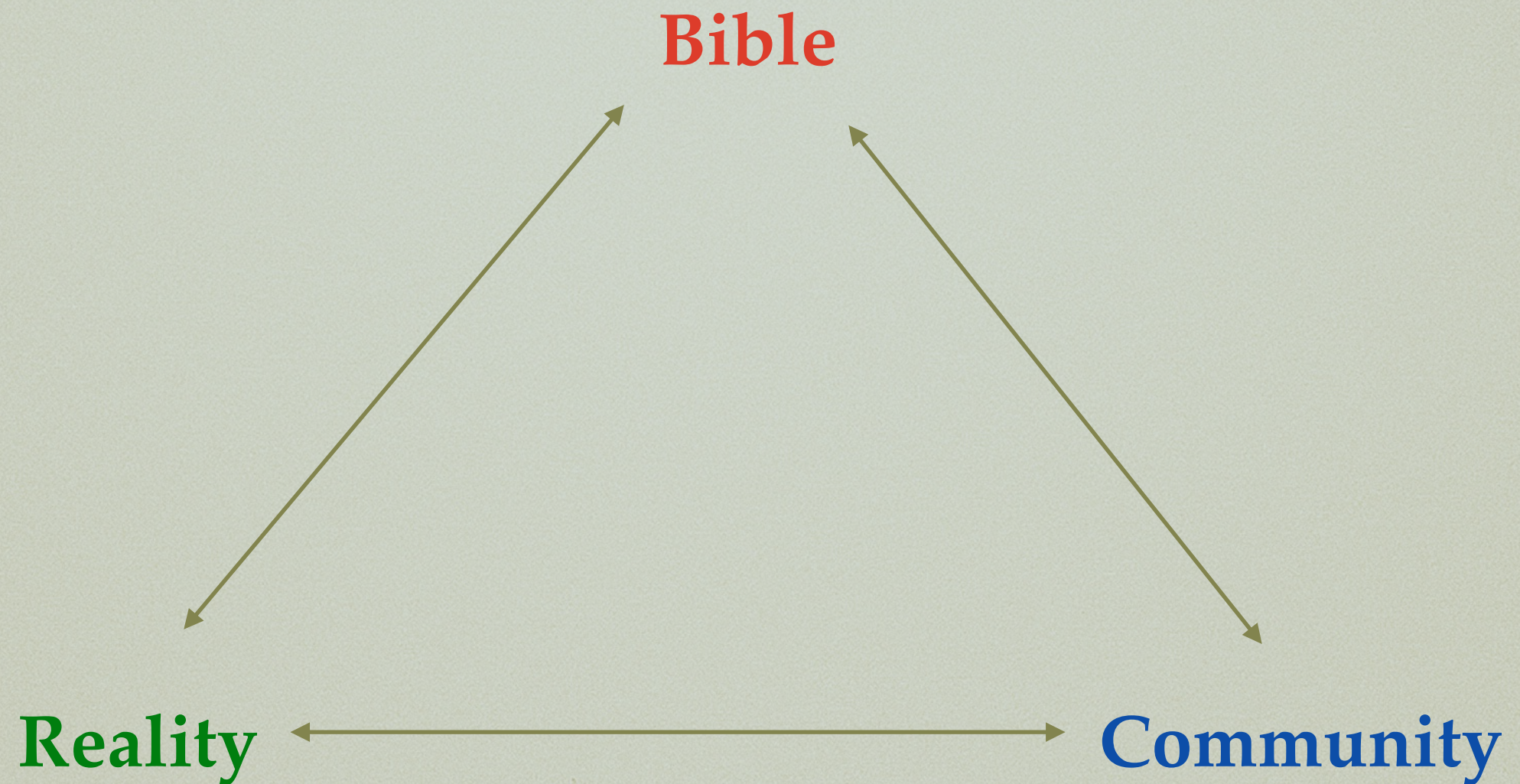
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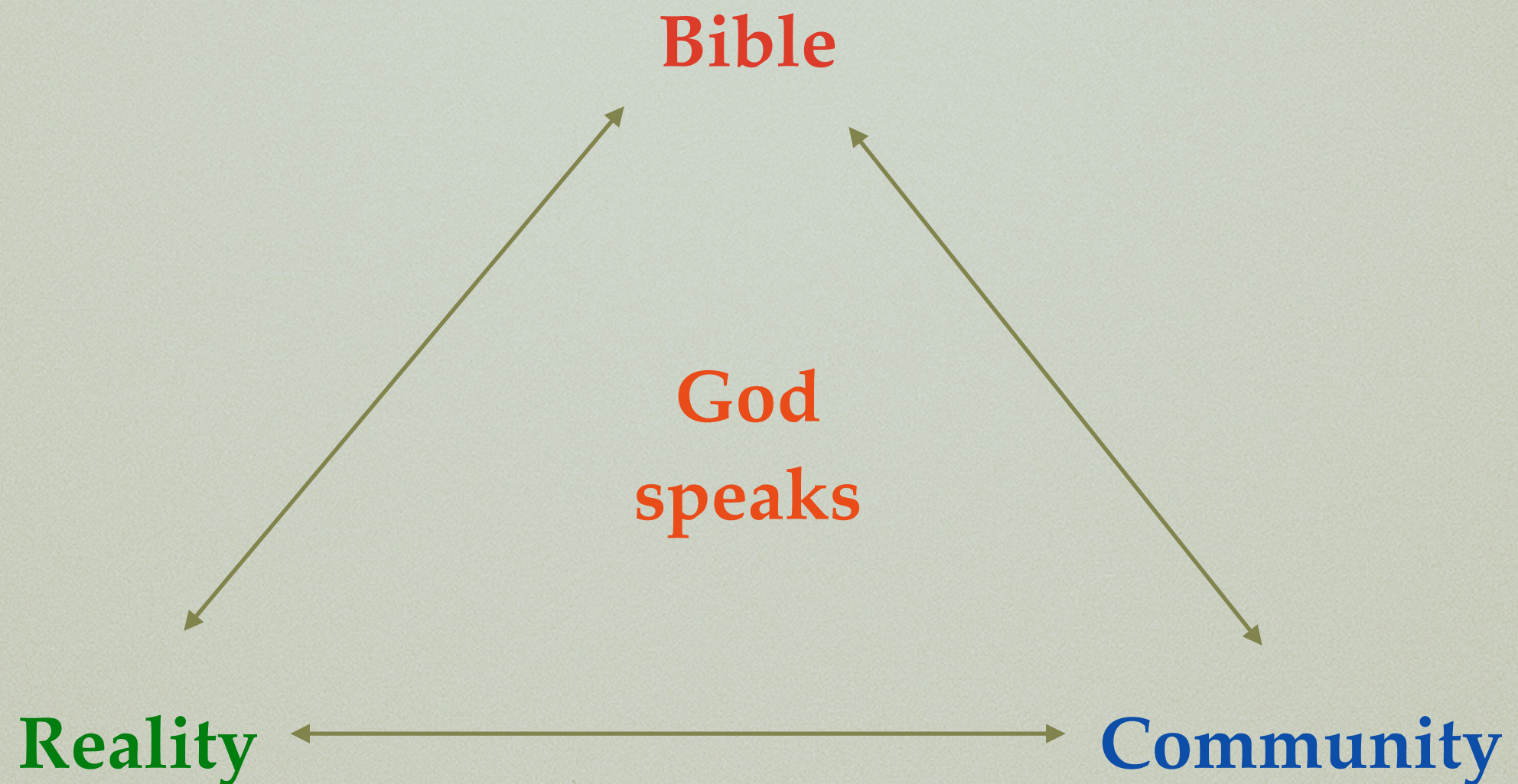
CBF Plenary Assembly Bogotá (1990)

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The Word of God



The Word of God



CBF Plenary Assembly

Bogotá (1990)

8.1.1 We appeal to Bishops and Bishops' Conferences to ensure that the Dogmatic Constitution *Dei Verbum* is implemented in the various dioceses and regions through the establishment of biblical-pastoral centres or institutes.

8.1.2 We appeal to Bishops and Bishops' Conferences to give the biblical apostolate the priority it deserves in their pastoral endeavours and to encourage it through the formulation of a biblical-pastoral plan and through the conscientization of the faithful through pastoral letters on the biblical apostolate or other appropriate means such as the celebration of Bible Sundays, weeks, months or even a Bible year, especially in those areas where this is not yet a practice.

8.1.3 We appeal to Bishops and Bishops' Conferences to dedicate the next Synod of the Bishops to "Biblical-Pastoral Ministry" so that the relative neglect of the Conciliar Document "Dei Verbum" may be set right.

“Verbum Domini” (2010)

"The Synod called for a particular pastoral commitment to emphasizing the centrality of the word of God in the Church's life, and recommended a greater "biblical apostolate", not alongside other forms of pastoral work, but **as the Biblical animation of all pastoral life**. This does not mean adding a meeting here or there in parishes or dioceses, but rather of examining the ordinary activities of Christian communities, in parishes, associations and movements, to see if they are truly concerned with fostering a personal encounter with Christ, who gives himself to us in his word. Since "ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ", the **Biblical animation of every ordinary and extraordinary pastoral outreach** will lead to a greater awareness of the person of Christ, who reveals the Father and is the fullness of divine revelation" (VD 73)

Evangelii Gaudium (2013)

"Not only the homily has to be nourished by the word of God. All evangelisation is based on that word, listened to, meditated upon, lived, celebrated and witnessed to. **The sacred Scriptures are the very source of evangelisation.** Consequently, we need to be constantly trained in hearing the word. The Church does not evangelise unless she constantly lets herself be evangelised. It is indispensable that the word of God "be ever more fully at the heart of every ecclesial activity". God's word, listened to and celebrated, above all in the Eucharist, nourishes and inwardly strengthens Christians, enabling them to offer an authentic witness to the Gospel in daily life" (EG 174).

Development of the CBF...

- 1996 - 5th Plenary Assembly, Hong Kong: *"Word of God, Source of Life"*
- 2002 - 6th Plenary Assembly, Lebanon: *"Word of God, Blessing for all Nations"*
- 2005 - International Congress in Rome: *"Sacred Scripture in the Life of the Church: 40th Anniversary of Dei Verbum"*
- 2008 - 7th Plenary Assembly, Dar es Salaam (Tanzania): *"Word of God, Source of Reconciliation, Justice and Peace"*
- 2009 - General Secretariat transferred to Stuttgart (Germany)
- 2010 - International Congress *"Sacred Scripture in the Life and Mission of the Church"*
- 2011 - 8th, Extraordinary Plenary Assembly, Ariccia: *"Word of God, Source of Constant Renewal"*

14 Plenary Assembly







113 Participants

59 Full Members

58 Associate Members



New Executive Committee

CONSTITUTION

OF THE CATHOLIC BIBLICAL FEDERATION

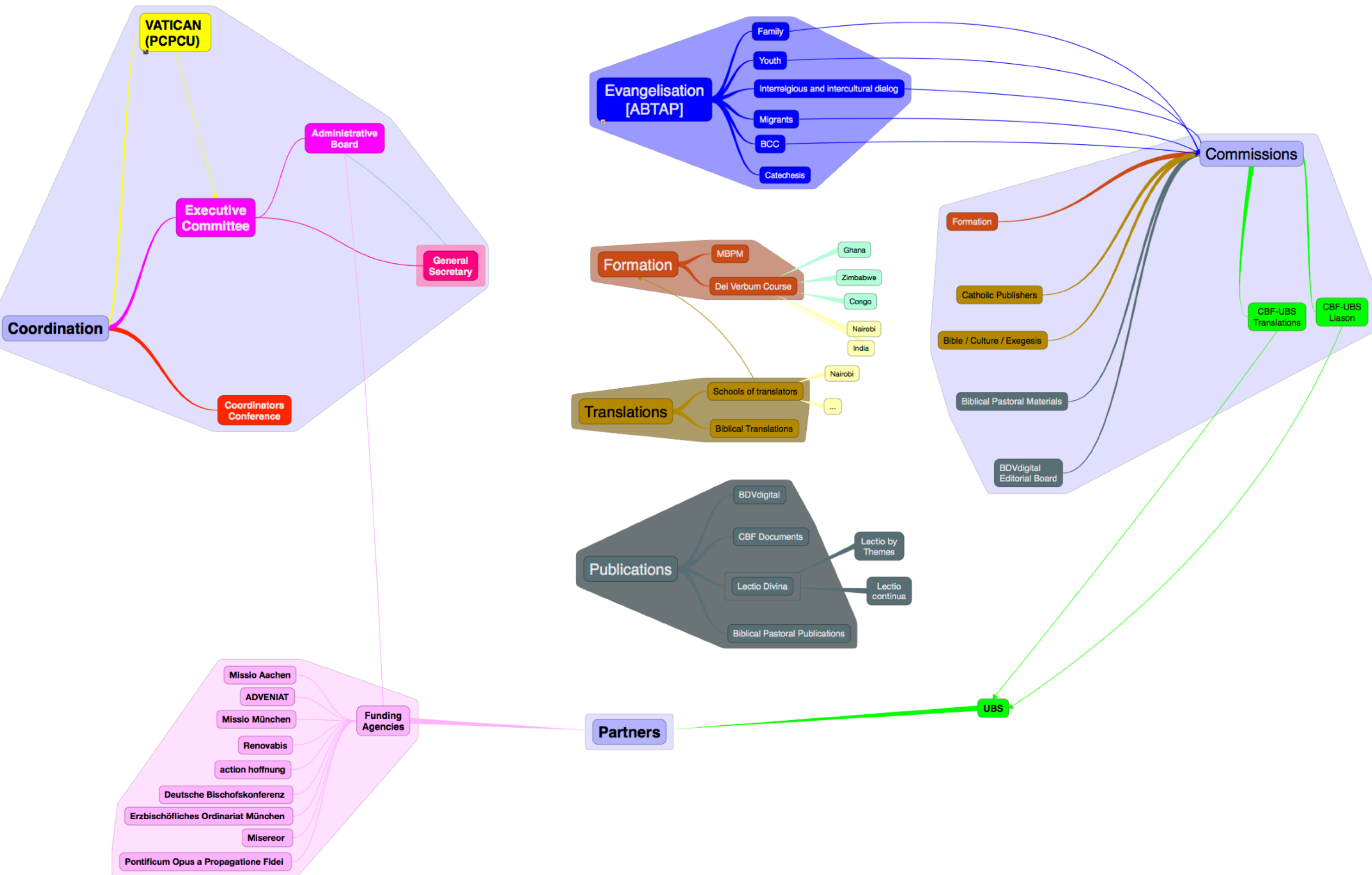
New CBF Constitution

Voted by the IX Plenary Assembly
June 18, 2015

Approved by the Holy See
October 19, 2015

Promulgated by the CBF President
October 22, 2015

CBF Action Plan 2016-2021





God's Word for the World



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Ninth Plenary Assembly Home > Ninth Plenary Assembly

Ninth Plenary Assembly - Nemi, Rome



CBF Ninth Plenary Assembly - Nemi, Italy.

June 18-23, 2015



The Catholic Biblical Federation held its ninth Plenary Assembly on 18-23 June 2015. 130 representatives of most of the 100 Episcopal Conferences and more than 200 Catholic Biblical Institutions associated with the Federation met at the Ad Gentes Center in Nemi, near Rome under the theme : **"Sacred Scriptures source of evangelization - What we have seen and heard we are proclaiming to you" (1 Jn 1:3).**

The Plenary Assembly, was chaired by the newly elected President, Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle of Manila, approved ammendments to the constitution, elected a new executive committee, developed an action plan for the next 6 years and celebrated the 50th anniversary of the proclamation of the Vatican II constitution "Dei Verbum" ..

Theme : "Sacred Scriptures source of evangelization - What we have seen and heard we are proclaiming to you" (1 Jn 1:3).



Audience with the Pope

- ⊗ Address of the CBF President, Card. Luis Antonio Tagle, to His Holiness Pope Francis. [IT](#) [ES](#) [EN](#) [FR](#) [DE](#)
- ⊗ Address of His Holiness Pope Francis to participants of Ninth Plenary Assembly. [IT](#) [ES](#) [EN](#) [FR](#) [DE](#)



Important Papers Presented

- ☑ Nuria Calduch-Benages: De la Dei Verbum a la Evangelii Gaudium [ES](#) [EN](#) [DE](#) [FR](#)
- ☑ Maricel Mena López: Los frutos de la Dei Verbum [ES](#) [EN](#) [DE](#) [FR](#)
- ☑ + Luis Antonio G. Cardinal Tagle: Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Dei Verbum Some Paths and Challenges for the Future [ES](#) [EN](#) [DE](#) [FR](#)



Program Materials & Documents

- ⊗ Assembly Schedule
- ⊗ Action Plan 2015-2021
- ⊗ Final Message [ES](#) [EN](#) [FR](#) [DE](#)
- ⊗ Material for the Press [ES](#) [EN](#) [FR](#) [DE](#)



Gallery





Biblical-Pastoral Congress (23-26 April 2019)

Year of the Bible 2019-2020 ("Bible2020")

16 April 2019 - 30 September 2020

CBF Online

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