

# ITINERARY OF THE MARIST GLOBAL NETWORK OF SCHOOLS

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he MARIST GLOBAL SCHOOLS
NETWORK project is a response to
the call of the XXII General Chapter
of the Marist Institute (2017) to
"Journey together as a global
family".



The General Council of the Institute entrusted the Secretariat for Education and Evangelisation with the project to launch the Network.

In May 2019, the Secretariat convened an *ad hoc* team, representative of the different regions of the Institute, to design the bases and the outline of the project for the launch of the Marist Global Network of Schools. This team chose to use Design Thinking as a working methodology with the support of the Innovation Laboratory of the Marist University (PUCRS) of Porto Alegre (Brazil). Design Thinking is a methodology for generating innovative ideas that focuses its effectiveness on understanding and providing solutions to the real needs of the users of a product or service.













he ad hoc team proposed to the Marist world a global consultation to empathise with the needs, expectations, and feelings about the launch of an international network of schools. The survey involved 15,956 school members, including principals, teachers, administrators, students, and families from 58 different countries.

The survey answered, among others, three central questions: How could a global network improve your school? What should "the best possible network" look like? What are your expectations and feelings about the network?

In 2020, the ad hoc team presented a **framework document** with the bases of the Marist Global Network
of Schools Project. It outlined the **value proposals of the network** focused on the promotion and
strengthening of aspects such as: identity and sense of
belonging, innovation, educational and evangelising
quality, commitment to the student, the development of
global thinking and work, the use of technology to share
human resources and educational materials, the
generation of spaces for educational leaders to deepen
exchange and support, and the promotion of synergies
and collaboration.







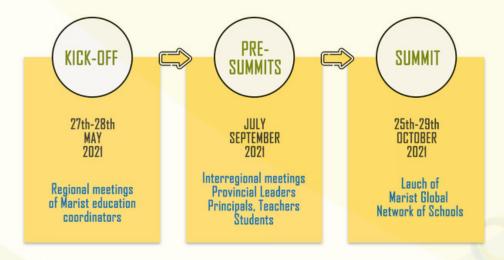


n 2021, with the advice of the IDelA Institute of Barcelona (Spain), the co-creative design phase of the Network prototype began, following the Appreciative Inquiry approach. This approach includes all the voices of a system - in our case, the Marist system -, investigates the best of the experiences and build the future based on the strengths.



Through different meetings, a larger number of people and groups were involved in the process, co-creating the Network from the bottom-up. These were: students, families, educators, and educational leaders. Among them, they shared, inquired, dreamt together, and made proposals.

In the meetings, described below, the four phases of Appreciative Inquiry were experienced: discovering, dreaming, designing and destiny, through which the areas of opportunity (themes and initiatives) to promote the Network were defined:







MEETINGS with Regional and Provincial Education Coordinators (May 2021). On 27th May the Marist regions of Asia, Oceania and Africa met (26 members from 8 provinces and 1 district) and on 28th May the regions of Europe, America Sur, and Arco Norte (with 40 members from 16 provinces). The main purpose of this meeting was for the participants to begin to feel the project of the Network, to fall in love with this dream and from their experience to encourage the participation of others in their areas of mission.

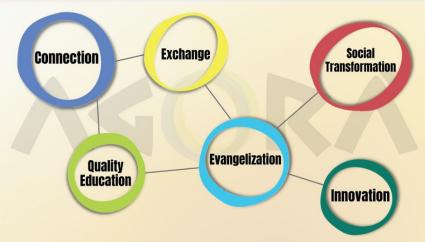
>>> INTER-REGIONAL PRE-SUMMITS of provincial educational leaders and members of the educational community (principals, teachers, students, families (August-September 2021): on 26th August, the Marist regions of Asia and Oceania, on 9th September Arco Norte and America Sur, and on 23rd September Europe and Africa. Around 500 people took part. The purpose was to continue the dream of being a GLOBAL MARIST NETWORK of SCHOOLS, to feel the Network through Appreciative Inquiry and to make an effective experience of interconnected work. As a result of the pre-summits, the different areas of opportunities of the Network emerged: Quality Education, Connection, Exchange, Innovation, Technology, Evangelisation and Social Transformation.





**GLOBAL SUMMIT** of the educational community (principals, teachers, students, families (October 2021). The Summit of the Marist Global Network of Schools took place from the 25th-29th October. There were 480 participants from more than 50 countries. The main objective was to continue the process of designing the network model, converting the areas of opportunity and the themes worked on potential networking initiatives. In addition, the summit allowed for the generation of initiatives based on the topics addressed to help motivate the groups. These groups have already begun to interact in the development and consolidation of the network.





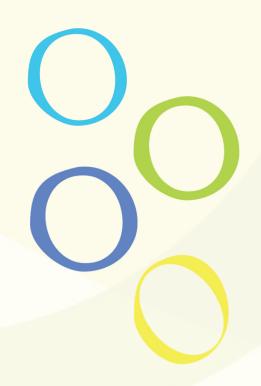


Parallel to the process of designing the network model, works were carried out on the communication and brand positioning that brought together the International Network of Marist Publishers: EDELVIVES (Spain), FTD Educação (Brazil) and GRAM Editora (Argentina) in a common project. A very fruitful work was carried out with their representatives, which produced two types of results:

- 1. The creation of design elements and visual representation of the Network based on the selected name: CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL (design and logo manual).
- 2. Along with the collaborative design of the Network model, it was important to make the Network itself more widely known. To do this, a series of three VIDEO EPISODES were recorded that sought to connect emotionally with the educational communities and in this way position Champagnat Global:

### CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL

## CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL







The first VIDEO EPISODE focuses on being mindful of where we come from: Marcellin's dream. And today's call to "journey together as a global family".





The second VIDEO EPISODE celebrates Marist life being reborn in new educational works and new projects such as the Marist Global Schools Network that is being launched.





The third VIDEO EPISODE invites the International School Community to continue to cultivate the values of Marist education and at the same time to recreate them through innovation and collaboration, through networking.





#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

The common dream built creatively and collaboratively over several years is now materialised in the CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL network of schools. The network is a meeting point for Marist school communities to have the opportunity to interact globally and promote activities of interest that foster quality education, connection, exchange, innovation and technology, evangelisation, and social transformation.





Champagnat Global's operational plan includes activities aimed at the whole school community, such as: face-to-face and online meetings with education coordinators and leaders, webinars with principals, teachers and families, and international educational projects developed jointly by different schools. Massive open online courses (MOOCs) will also be launched on topics of general interest and aimed at a wide range of participants.



Champagnat Global also has a digital platform: AGORÁ. This platform is one of the Network's main tools for communication, meeting, and interaction among the international Marist school community.

#### AGORÁ will facilitate, on a global level to:

- Cultivate Marist identity and sense of belonging.
- Share experiences and best practices.
- Foster synergies and collaboration.
- Encourage exchange between members of the school community.
- Carry out international academic projects.
- Promote solidarity and social transformation.

AGORÁ works based on a proposal of groups that interact around topics of common interest. Being part of a group allows those interested to join a conversation, participate in a discussion or work on initiatives on a specific topic with other members of the international Marist school community.









#### THE NETWORK AND ITS AGILE (ADAPTIVE) INNOVATION PROCESS

he network, since its inception, has been presented as a service in continuous development and improvement. Champagnat Global is a network model built on a cocreative and collaborative design process, using the methodologies of Design Thinking and Appreciative Inquiry, in connection and alliance with the international school community.

The proposed model is a minimum viable product, a prototype, an experiment. It has enough features to allow early adopters to experience the network and validate the assumptions that led to its design.

The experience will allow a great deal of learning to be gathered that will help to correct and improve the proposal. Thus, functionalities will be added to the Network and incremental versions will be developed that respond more and better to the needs of the Marist school community.

As the Network model is validated and experienced, learning and capacities are accumulated, CHAMPAGNAT GLOBAL will be ready to grow and make transformation of increasing impact.

Design (Launch)

(Massive impact)

Validation (Experiment)

Iteration
(Incremental versions)

Designing, validating, improving, and scaling up will become a constant and cyclical process until the initial Network proposal and the final model that successfully responds to the expectations and challenges of Marist school communities around the world are in place.

We invite you to be part of this adventure of innovation. Welcome to Champagnat Global, a place where we all belong.



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