



# Jim M. Ramsay

## President & CEO

### Role at TMS Global

Jim oversees the work of TMS Global, assisted by a leadership team of five vice presidents. Prior to becoming president in 2024, Jim served TMS Global for nearly 18 years in various leadership roles in the area of global operations. This has included oversight of our cross-cultural witnesses, training, member care, and mobilization. He continues to be deeply engaged in mission training and with connecting TMS Global with international mission leaders.

### Background

Jim worked for 12 years in the information technology field as a programmer and IT manager prior to joining TMS Global in 1996. His family served for 10 years as missionaries in Kazakhstan, where he was part of a church-planting team and directed a school operated by the mission. He served as team leader for most of those years. The school and the church still serve the community today, fully owned and led by local leadership. Jim assumed the role of regional coordinator for Asia for TMS Global during his final two years in Kazakhstan. He joined the home office staff in 2006, initially as the senior director of field ministries, then assuming the vice president role in 2011.

### Publications

Jim's doctoral dissertation is entitled, "Here for a Purpose: Mobilization Among Believers in Diaspora Communities of Metro Atlanta."

### Personal

Jim is married to Shawn, who works with the third culture kid ministries for TMS Global. They raised four children during their years as missionaries, all of whom are now adults. They have three grandchildren. Jim enjoys languages and had attained fluency in Danish and a working knowledge of German prior to moving to Kazakhstan, where he became fluent in Russian (even reading Dostoevsky's *Brothers Karamazov* and other classics in Russian). He loves observing and experiencing other cultures. Jim grew up in Kentucky and remains an avid University of Kentucky basketball fan. He enjoys walking and travel. His walks have included the Camino de Santiago in Spain. And he really likes ice cream.

### Media Contact

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### Education

B.A. in Mathematics, Berea College, Berea, Kentucky

M.Div., focus on Intercultural Studies and Counseling, Asbury Theological Seminary

D.Min., Focus on Global Leadership and Diaspora Studies. Bakke Graduate University

### Expertise

Through experience, education, and ongoing studies, Jim has expertise in missiology, mission strategy, and mission best practices. In recent years he has studied the phenomenon of mass migrations of people and implications and opportunities that presents the church in mission. He teaches in various areas of mission, including cross-cultural ministry, cross-cultural partnerships, theology of mission, and leadership.

### Accomplishments

Established and led a stable bilingual primary and secondary school in Karaganda, Kazakhstan, now operating for more than 30 years.

Discipled young people in Kazakhstan, who now live out their faith in their communities and churches around the world.

Developed a connectivity within the larger TMS Global community, anchored by biannual regional gatherings of our cross-cultural witnesses.

Created the foundational design of an alliance structure to create new ways of re-imagining international ministry partnerships.