

Why no short-term pilots.

There are several reasons why we do not utilize short-term pilots.

- 1) 99% of MAF operations are one pilot , in single engine aircraft over some of the most remote and rugged terrain on earth. Weather is difficult and the majority of the airstrips are one-way with other factors requiring special checkout. You may say, Yes, that is exactly the kind of flying I want to do! For safety reasons we have training and check out program that is quite extensive. The initial training last 6 weeks and cost over \$10,000. Then there is on going route checks and airstrips checks for the first 2 years a person is on location.
- 2) MAF operates in 25 countries around the world. MAF aircraft are licensed in each country where we operate so each pilot must also have a current license in that country where they are going to work. In most countries this requires a specific work visa for a pilot and takes time to get.
- 3) MAF pilots are paid a salary after they participate in fund raising. We have a team called Ministry Partnership who works with each staff. They teach how to give presentations and build a team of supporters. It normally takes 1 year to raise 100% of the support needed.
- 4) MAF staff attend one year of language school before beginning work. It is important to be able to communicate to passengers about emergency procedures, loading information, in route updates. Pilots also deal with government officials such as military and police as well as civil workers at the airports.

Our vision is to make a difference in the lives of the people we work with. We desire to be a living example of Jesus Christ and communicate the gospel in how we serve them. We feel our staff can best do this if they speak the language of the country they work in.

All of these steps above can take 2 ½ years and more than \$10,000 before a pilot is operational.