



The Re-Forma Informa

September 2026 (Issue #16)



Confronting ignorance

The Spirit of the Lord is on me. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free. *Luke 4:18.*

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Testing the Standard

Unreached people groups are one challenge. Untrained church leaders are another.

Re-Forma is an unusual NPO. Rather than donating Bibles, building churches, or providing humanitarian aid, it equips church leaders with non-formal Bible training. In the Majority World, more than 90% of church leaders lack access to formal training because it is unaffordable, inaccessible, or limited by language, academic, cultural, or denominational barriers. Without sound biblical teaching, churches are vulnerable to false doctrine, poor leadership, and a weakened Christian witness.

Deep and wide integrity?

Established in 2019, Re-Forma began as a small initiative and, within seven years, has expanded to **98 countries** with learning outcomes translated into **100+ languages**. The ministry is supported by **10 National Coordinators** serving India, Nepal, Kenya (2), Tanzania, Rwanda, Nigeria, South Africa, Côte d'Ivoire (francophone Africa), and Guatemala. Re-Forma's 37 ministry outcomes are underwritten by the World Evangelical Alliance and used by partner training organizations worldwide.

The ministered-to become ministry partners

Those church leaders who sign up for Re-Forma's interactive training program, form a study group, and together, over the period of, on average, a year, they learn, discuss, and implement 37 competency-based outcomes to become more like Jesus – in knowledge of the Word, real-life application, and showing a compassionate and mature character.

To ensure they remain biblically faithful and effective across diverse cultural contexts, **the outcomes have been formally tested on at least three separate occasions.**

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A Vision Casting breakfast in Bengaluru, Karnataka. Nine denominational leaders committed to strengthening their ministry through Re-Forma's program.

Kariuki Thiba, Living Faith Ministries, Kenya.

Re-Forma has taught me that Jesus was, and still is, the greatest teacher, who modelled through practical teachings and applications; I have learnt to focus totally on Jesus as my life model in doing the ministry. If Jesus did not do it, then it's irrelevant. One significant change came with how I handle the word of God. It



never occurred to me that events, geographical locations, and cultural events meant anything while preparing a message. Yet every account matters.

TEST 1. Reviewing the outcomes – east to west



The 2023 Review Committee: fltr, **Paul Hemming**, Re-Forma's Director for Africa, **Miguel Alvares**, President of Seminario Bíblico Pentecostal Centroamericano (SEBIPCA) in Guatemala, **David Durey**, President of Teleo University, USA, which conducts both formal and non-formal training programs around the world, **Rachel Rajagopal**, a Singaporean Christian from a Hindu background, and founder of Faith Ablaze International Ministries in Mexico, **Margaret Gichuki** and **Benny Chippala**, Re-Forma National Coordinators for Kenya and South-East Asia, **Lazarus Phiri**, an evangelical Zambian theologian, and **Daniel Eguiluz**, a Reformed theological educator from Peru, South America.

2023. Re-Forma gathered a **review committee** from the major regions of the world, church streams, and theological education sectors, all with wide experience of ministry in diverse locations. Every outcome was tested, and enhancements added; such areas as prayer, worship, the role of women, care of creation, church administration, overcoming spiritual evil, the 'Big Story' of the Bible with Jesus at its center, the superiority of the biblical worldview, and conflict resolution.

TEST 2. Testing for 'anchored flexibility'

Re-Forma's program enables "Romans speaking to Romans" – every people group hears the gospel in its own language and cultural context from its own people, rather than through an outside voice. But can the program remain both culturally adaptable and firmly anchored in Scripture?

In his 2026 **Master's thesis**, Re-Forma's Director for Africa, Paul Hemming, examined the program's effectiveness in Kenya. He found that it developed "biblical literacy, servant leadership, and ethical maturity" in

Director for Africa,
Paul Hemming,



ways that were culturally relevant while remaining aligned with its structured biblical outcomes. The research confirms that Re-Forma does not compromise under local cultural pressures. Instead, it communicates biblical truth in locally meaningful ways without departing from the principles and beliefs of the Christian faith.

Throughout, **outcomes retained their key qualities of simplicity, accessibility, and contextual adaptability.**

From east to west, north to south Re-Forma's program reflects God's standard for godly leadership, interpersonal relationships, and spiritual growth and maturity.

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Daniel Gwara, Siaya County, Kenya. Participants in the Re-Forma program have grown in confidence in their personal relationship with God. They have come to understand that access to God is not mediated through objects, rituals or special intermediaries, but only through Jesus Christ. As a result, many have stopped seeking "special prayers" involving candles and other practices from religious leaders. The change has been so significant that some of those religious leaders have reportedly complained, saying, "Re-Forma has ruined our business. **People no longer come to us for special prayers using candles.**"

Promoting Re-Forma's program through Vision Casting presentations in Kenya – Sori, Migori County, Magarini, and Mtondia – many students enrolled to study the 37 outcomes.



TEST 3. How effective? Facilitators' survey

July 2026. Re-Forma conducted a survey to which 755 facilitators (group leaders) from different parts of the world responded.

A **key question** asked was: "How effective were Re-Forma's outcomes to prepare your students for ministry?" **84.4%** of respondents indicated Highly Effective.

Upskilling facilitators

The Re-Forma Certificate is increasingly recognized as a **global benchmark** for non-formal training that develops church leaders of Christ-like character who faithfully handle God's Word. Its credibility depends on **consistent assessment** and **skilled facilitators**. Following the 2023 review, Re-Forma introduced **assessment guidelines** for all 37 outcomes, enabling reliable evaluation of ministry competence across cultures. A **Train-the-Trainer** program further equips facilitators in participatory training, mentoring, and assessment. Reflecting 2 Timothy 2, Re-Forma combines faithfulness to sound biblical teaching with the ability to equip reliable leaders to apply that truth effectively in diverse cultural contexts.

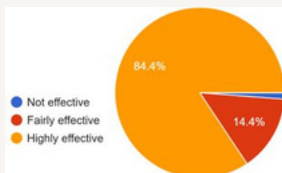


Alain Kouakou, Côte d'Ivoire.

I served zealously as a rural church assistant but neglected my personal relationship with Jesus. This led to spiritual decline and sexual immorality that nearly destroyed my family. Through a Re-Forma study group and church discipline, I re-engaged with daily prayer and Bible meditation. Over time, my character changed, showing patience, gentleness, and humility, and my home was healed. I have since planted a church in Soungou with my family to disciple others.

To the question, "How difficult was it adapting Re-Forma's program to your context?", the majority (95.2%) indicated Moderately to Very Easy, on a scale of 1 to 5.

To the question, "How difficult was it assessing your students based on the outcomes?", again the majority (94.4%) indicated Moderately to Very Easy, on a scale of 1 to 5.



A study group in Thailand.



How wide is Re-Forma's reach?

So far, more than **11300 certificates** have been issued to students completing the course, and more than **9700 groups** are currently studying their way through the outcomes. But we are only scratching the surface. The gap in the number of churches and the number of trained pastors is widening; given the growth in population and the spread of Christianity, the number of church leaders needed would stretch into millions. By 2050, 9.7 m pastors will be needed.

Example of an Outcome

The 37 Outcomes reflect the competencies we believe pastors need to know, to do and to be, to truthfully represent the Lord Jesus Christ in their communities and in their culture. They reflect **Head competency** (knowledge), **Hand competency** (ability to apply), and **Heart competency** (a compassionate, mature character). The outcomes are grouped into:



Outcome – Leading like Jesus

1.1 Bear the fruit of the Spirit in all areas of life and practise humility, integrity and simplicity.



Join –

– as **partners** to Re-Forma, who, for the first time in church history, present a global standard for non-formal ministry training.



Pray –

– for Re-Forma's **leadership and team, national coordinators, facilitators, and groups**, for strength, courage, wisdom and resilience, as they raise competent church leaders.



Support –

– Re-Forma's **work and programmes** as they expand rapidly around the globe. You can donate to this vital work on <https://www.re-forma.global/make-payment>.

From our National Coordinators

3 Pauls at Nigeria QATI



They contributed to a smooth-running QATI. From **right** to left – **Paul Alabi**, NC for Nigeria, **Paul Hemming**, Director for Africa, and **Jean Paul Quassy**, NC for francophone Africa.

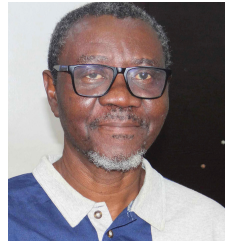
Paul Alabi, Nigeria, writes: The long-awaited QATI drew 53 attendees, some travelling 1000 km despite significant challenges. Their commitment reflected a deep hunger for sound training. The gathering was marked by God's tangible presence, fellowship, unity, love, and openness to the Holy Spirit. Participants testified to renewed passion for God, encouragement, and fresh spiritual insight.



Re-Formas Biblical Training for Ministry program is not another typical Bible school. It transformed my spiritual character towards increased patience, humility, integrity and much more – and other participants testified the same.

Akala-George Bolanle

The QATI was an experience that goes beyond theoretical head knowledge to bring genuine, heartfelt transformation to ministry leadership. I will use Re-Forma's practical tools and assessment insights to guide the younger generation and strengthen my ongoing mission work. **Dr Olatunde Oladoyinbo**



After the Nigerian QATI: A joyful group of newly-trained facilitators of study groups.



➡ **Kenya.** Quoting Wycliffe Ochieng, Administrator of Angaza Bible Institute and an RPL Assessor, during a **Re-Forma Vision Casting**, at Restoration Ebenezer Church, Kamukuywa, Bungoma County:

Re-Forma's program aligns with recognized accreditation bodies. Those who successfully complete the Re-Forma Learning Outcomes will require a small skills-gap training before proceeding to RPL Level 6 – more than 70% of the required competencies are covered within the Re-Forma outcomes. I strongly recommended the program to church leaders.

Esron Maniragaba, Rwanda, writes: These church leaders attended a **Re-Forma Vision Casting** in the Western Province.



Benny Chippala, India, writes: I held **Vision Casting** meetings at the Odisha Pastors Fellowship Conference in Sunabeda; and in hard-to-reach Kerala, Bengaluru, Karnataka, and Coimbatore, Salem and Tiruvannamalai in Tamil Nadu; attended by many ministry networks from many districts, with an overwhelming response; over 180 church leaders enrolled, many women.

➡ **Deeply moving – the commitment of grassroots leaders:** Tamil Nadu is a strategic area, with a significant Christian population, and numerous non-formal ministry workers who need effective ministry training. Many travelled more than 100 km, and some about three hours to attend a Re-Forma Vision Casting.

Country graduations - 1 June to mid-August 2026



Argentina

62 Student groups graduated.
906 Certificates issued.

Chella Durai, Tamil Nadu. *The outcomes have changed my life. I have lost much, but my life is back on course through the teaching. As it touched me, so it will touch many more pastors and believers.*



Tabora, Tanzania



Zimbabwe



Dar es Salaam, Tanzania



Lagos, Nigeria



Ibadan, Nigeria



Benin

Graduate, Kenya. *I am building a Sunday school for 30 children, and my view on children's ministry has expanded. I am so grateful that Re-Forma's program was in a language I could understand - and that it is a global standard.*



Our NEWSLETTER has thousands of readers. We had return mail from Burkino Faso, DR Congo, India, Liberia, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia. Wankabi Jethro James from Uganda writes: **Great update. What started small is now a huge ministry blessing people around the world!**



Study group, Kenya

Magaly Hernández, Guatemala: *This was a beautiful growth in studying the Word of God, and practicing it with our hands, our feet, and our mouths. Let this blessing touch your life so that you may be able to take the Word to all nations.*



Study group, Guatemala