



Equipping Farmers
International

ANNUAL REPORT



2025

What God Grows:
How the Church Is Becoming a Catalyst for Lasting Transformation



The Soil Was Never the Only Thing Needing Restoration

Across the Global South, millions of families wake up every morning asking the same question: Will there be enough food today?

For many farming families, the answer is no, because of exhausted soil, unpredictable rain, and agricultural systems that have become increasingly expensive and unsustainable. Year after year, families work harder while harvests grow smaller. Hunger deepens. Debt grows. Hope fades. But in villages across Africa, Asia, and Latin America, something different is beginning to happen. Fields once considered barren are producing again. Families who once struggled to eat are now harvesting surplus crops. Churches are becoming centers of practical care, discipleship, and community transformation. Farmers are teaching neighbors. Church communities are feeding vulnerable families. Pastors are learning and teaching agriculture Bible in hand. And through it all, the Gospel is being lived out in visible, tangible ways.

Because when God restores the soil, He always restores much more than the soil.





Message From The **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



Frank Sindler
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

2025 was a year where Equipping Farmers International (EFI) dug deeper to ask some central questions facing all development efforts. Can development break through its historic ceilings? Hundreds of millions of believers already in churches around the world are locked into cycles of poverty. Even more people outside the church remain unreached often in some of the most undeveloped areas of the world. For decades, the most successful development programs have reached a few million people at costs of hundreds of millions or billions of dollars—then stalled.

This scenario is played out in a context of conventional wisdom that often treats the Church as a beneficiary of development rather than its primary agent. But what if we've failed in development precisely because we've pursued pathways that aren't God's?

The Church, born of Christ's life, death, and resurrection, was commissioned to see His Kingdom realized (Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth) throughout the world in all areas of life. Is the body of Christ truly capable of this mission? Or must we somehow improve on God's design with other ways and plans?

Can development be scaled to hundreds of millions by equipping the church to do development—rather than nonprofits implementing programs for the church?

Can this reach the hundreds of millions of small farmers already in churches across the Global South, at a fraction of conventional costs?

Can that be the basis for an economic revolution in the global south that fuels the Great Commission to fully reach the world in the next millennium?

What we've learned in 2025

EFI's 2025 results suggest these questions have compelling answers. Through church-centered agricultural discipleship that is more than technical information transfer, we've documented measurable transformation that multiplies through the church and its existing communities of trust and spiritual formation:

This year alone:

- EFI directly trained more than 9,000 heads of households
- EFI's cumulative reach in just a few years grew to over 27,500 farming households (over 165,000 people) across 50+ countries
- Farmers reported 2.5x increases in production and 70% reductions in input costs on average around the world
- EFI saw 61% adoption rates in programs that are considered effective if we had seen 20% adoption
- Communities experienced improvements economically, environmentally, socially, and spiritually
- Dordt University fully endorsed EFI's International Certificate in Conservation Agriculture (ICCA)
- EFI developed the first ever oral version of a conservation agriculture curriculum for small farmers to increase accessibility and scalability
- EFI refined our partnership process and launched our new model or storehouse program where EFI's partners commit to a cascading multiplication model to achieve their own objectives and then they go on to make that available to every other organization in their nation.





But perhaps the most important thing we witnessed cannot be captured fully in statistics. There has been a movement in different parts of the world where the church has awoken to their calling in this area and:

- We saw churches feeding communities.
- We saw farmers sharing surplus harvests with neighbors in need.
- We saw young people engaged in productive work with purpose and hope.
- We saw pastors, trainers, and local leaders embracing agriculture as a practical expression of discipleship and care for their communities.
- And we saw multiplication happening through relationships instead of dependency.
- We saw our program being used by mission organizations and church networks to reach the unreached and to fund those efforts.

The Multiplication Effect

Using the biblical model of discipleship that cascades through multiple generations of mentors continues to demonstrate extraordinary potential:

- One EFI trained ICCA trainer mentors 10 local leaders who each walk alongside 20–30 farmers in their own communities. Training spreads through existing church and relational networks — not expensive infrastructure.
- The result is sustainable transformation rooted in local church ownership.

Partners testify: "EFI has significantly empowered small farmers across Africa, Asia, and Latin America through work that is catalytic and builds on integrity, professionalism, and effectiveness."

The Scale Vision

We believe this matters deeply because the challenge before the world is enormous. Nearly 2.3 billion people experienced moderate or severe food insecurity in 2024, while hundreds of millions continue facing acute hunger. Many of these are our brothers and sisters in Christ. This should not be the norm for people in churches around the world. The church, not governments or NGOs, should also be the solution for hunger outside the church. God has given the church the tools it needs to change this.

The need is urgent. But so is the opportunity.

- EFI is working to build our staffing and partnership network to a capacity to train 10,000 ICCA trainers annually.
- 10,000 ICCA trainers embedded in partner organizations who mentor 100,000 community leaders.
- Those 100,000 community leaders who each work with 20-30 farmers reaching 2-3 million smallholder farmers every year.

Starting in 2026 EFI will begin to develop several storehouse partners in every country in the Global South. In the first quarter of 2026 we signed 15 new storehouse partner agreements throughout the world. At full capacity, this system would reach tens of millions over a decade and potentially hundreds of millions as the church is equipped to take ownership of development as its own responsibility throughout the Global South, and at a fraction of conventional development costs.

What This Means

The evidence suggests that development through the Church isn't just more scalable—it's more sustainable. It also feeds directly into the great commission when it is owned by the Church. By equipping local church leaders rather than creating parallel structures, we tap existing networks, relational trust, and intrinsic motivation. Whatever the church has a vision for and desires, the church does.

The result: transformation that multiplies through discipleship, not dependency.



Perhaps the breakthrough isn't a new agricultural method or a new development strategy. Perhaps it's returning to God's original design: the Church as His agent of restoration in every sphere of life, including the fields that feed the world.

**With Gratitude,
Frank Sindler - Executive Director**

THE NEED

For many smallholder farmers, hunger is not an abstract global issue. It is personal. -
It looks like exhausted soil after years of plowing. It looks like crops failing under drought conditions. It looks like parents skipping meals so children can eat. It looks like communities trapped in cycles of dependency, rising input costs, and shrinking harvests.

2.3 B

Approximately 2.3 billion people experienced moderate or severe food insecurity in 2024

673 M

Roughly 673 million people continue facing hunger and malnutrition

282 M

More than 282 million people experienced acute food crisis conditions across 59 countries



Emergency aid can only provide temporary relief. But communities need more than temporary relief. They need hope and restoration.

EFI Is Transitioning to “Storehouse Partnerships”

THE STOREHOUSE VISION

As EFI's vision has continued to mature, so has our language. Initially, EFI used the term “Model Partner” to describe organizations, church networks, and ministries that take ownership of and adopt EFI's agricultural discipleship model and multiply it throughout the communities they serve.

What these partners are becoming is much better described as a storehouse

Throughout Scripture, storehouses were not simply places where resources were accumulated for self focused or limited use. They existed to preserve life, strengthen peoples, care for the vulnerable, and prepare communities to respond faithfully in times of need. Storehouses represented stewardship, provision, preparedness, community care, and ultimately, provision through God's abundance.

That is the vision EFI sees emerging through our storehouse partnerships across the Global South.

Storehouses of Restoration

EFI's Storehouse Partners are local organizations, church networks and ministries who embrace a shared vision of holistic restoration and long-term sustainability.

These partners do more than host training. They become centers of multiplication.



Places where:

- Vision has taken root deeply
- Objectives are set for food security, improving livelihoods, and ministry sustainability including outreach, church planting, and strengthening other ministry initiatives through local funding
- The local organization makes people, time, and financial resources available from day one as they invest in agricultural discipleship and take ownership of working to achieve their objectives
- Multiple generations of trainers are trained
- Farmers are discipled
- EFI and the storehouse partner map their progress together towards their objectives
- Local capacity and ownership grows as each objective is reached
- And eventually the local partner has their own capacity to come alongside other organizations in their own region or country to equip them in the same journey. The partner becomes a storehouse of God's blessings and begins to share that with others.

Each Storehouse Partner adopts EFI's training model within their own cultural and community context while committing to multiplication, discipleship, and local leadership development that will be shared with all churches and ministries in their country. A true storehouse is established when the blessings begin to overflow. Malachi 3:10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

"Storehouses were never meant to hoard abundance
— they existed so communities could flourish."

"Then Joseph stored up huge quantities of grain, like the sand of the sea..."
— *Genesis 41:49*

"If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry... your light will rise in the darkness."
— *Isaiah 58:10*

"The Lord will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest."
— *Psalms 85:12*



A Different Kind of Development

EFI believes sustainable transformation happens differently.

It happens when local communities are equipped to lead their own restoration. It happens when at the end of the local community says, “Look what God and we have done together for ourselves and our people.” This is why EFI invests deeply in vision casting, discipleship, and local ownership before formal partnerships even begin.

Potential Storehouse Partners are identified by several key characteristics:

- a strong discipleship focus
- concern for food security and community flourishing
- desire for sustainable and healthy global relationships
- willingness to embrace multiplication
- commitment to long-term community impact

The goal is to cultivate local centers of restoration capable of serving their communities long after EFI's initial involvement.

What a Storehouse Partner Does

EFI's Storehouse Partners serve as multiplying hubs of agricultural discipleship and community transformation.

A photograph of two men in a lush green field. The man on the left, wearing a blue shirt and a dark jacket, has his arms outstretched towards the man on the right. The man on the right is wearing a dark shirt and is holding a wooden staff. They are both smiling. The background is filled with green foliage and trees.

Through partnership with EFI, they:

- host ICCA, farmer (oral and literate based), 2.0 complimentary trainings
- identify and mentor local leaders
- establish peer support networks
- track community impact
- adapt training objectives to local needs
- multiply training through churches and relationships
- strengthen food security, livelihoods, and ministry local sustainability within their own communities

EFI then continues walking alongside these partners through:

- Technical support
- Ongoing mentorship
- Curriculum development
- Assistance to implement complimentary 2.0 programs
- AI-enabled learning support
- WhatsApp collaboration groups
- Monitoring and evaluation systems
- Strategic coaching and troubleshooting

The result is not dependence on EFI. The result is increasing local ownership.

The Vision: Storehouses in Every Nation

EFI's long-term vision is bold:

To see Storehouse Partners established throughout the Global South in 110-120 countries — equipping churches and communities to pursue holistic abundance through biblical agricultural discipleship.

EFI's strategic plan envisions partnership based active in-country training infrastructure throughout the Global South, with every village eventually having access to EFI training within one day of travel.

EFI believes the Church is called not simply to survive within broken systems, but to become a visible instrument of God's Kingdom restoration in the world.

Storehouse Partners are one practical expression of that calling.

THE EFI DIFFERENCE

Equipping the Church to Restore Communities

EFI's approach is built around a simple conviction: The Church is uniquely positioned to create sustainable transformation.

Instead of building dependency on outside organizations, EFI equips trusted local leaders already embedded within communities — pastors, ministry leaders, farmers, educators, and community servants.

Through EFI's International Certificate in Conservation Agriculture (ICCA), leaders receive practical, field-based agricultural training rooted in stewardship, multiplication, and discipleship.

Farmers learn three core conservation agriculture practices:

- Minimize soil disturbance
- Keep soil covered
- Rotate and diversify crops

Farmers also learn farm management built on basic biblical stewardship principles

- Do all things on time
- Do things without waste
- Do all things at standard
- Do them with joy for God's glory

The results are transformational:

- Healthier soil filled with rich organic matter
- Restoration of a living soil that regenerates fertility naturally
- Increased harvests
- Reduced input costs
- No need to use dangerous chemicals inputs
- Water management that massively improves drought resilience
- Stronger household food security
- More sustainable livelihoods
- More income for families and their churches

But EFI's work goes beyond agriculture.





Perhaps the breakthrough isn't a
new development model at all.
Perhaps it's returning to God's
original design:

**the Church as His agent of
restoration.**



When the Harvest Begins to Overflow

In village after village, the story is becoming familiar.

Families once struggling to survive are now harvesting enough not only to feed themselves — but to serve others.

One farming family reported maize harvests increasing from 3–4 bags to 8 bags per plot. Another stored 90 bags of maize, creating stability during lean seasons while allowing surplus sales.

In Zimbabwe, Evas Kache shared: “I now get some extra produce to sell and buy things we need like soap.”

But the impact rarely stops with one family.

Neighbors “shocked at the results” begin asking questions and copying the new farming methods.

Tribal Chiefs organize compost drives. Churches start community gardens. Youth groups begin working fields together. Women lead surplus sales and diversify crops for household nutrition.

In some communities, churches are even using harvests to support ministry needs — including collecting peanuts to help re-roof church buildings.

One church saw a significant increase in attendance after their church building was re-roofed. Their attendance went from 10 people to 65 people! Another ministry is replacing half the external funding for pastoral training with funding from local agricultural projects.

This is what multiplication looks like. Not dependency. Not temporary aid. Communities equipped to flourish together.



What Partners Are Saying:

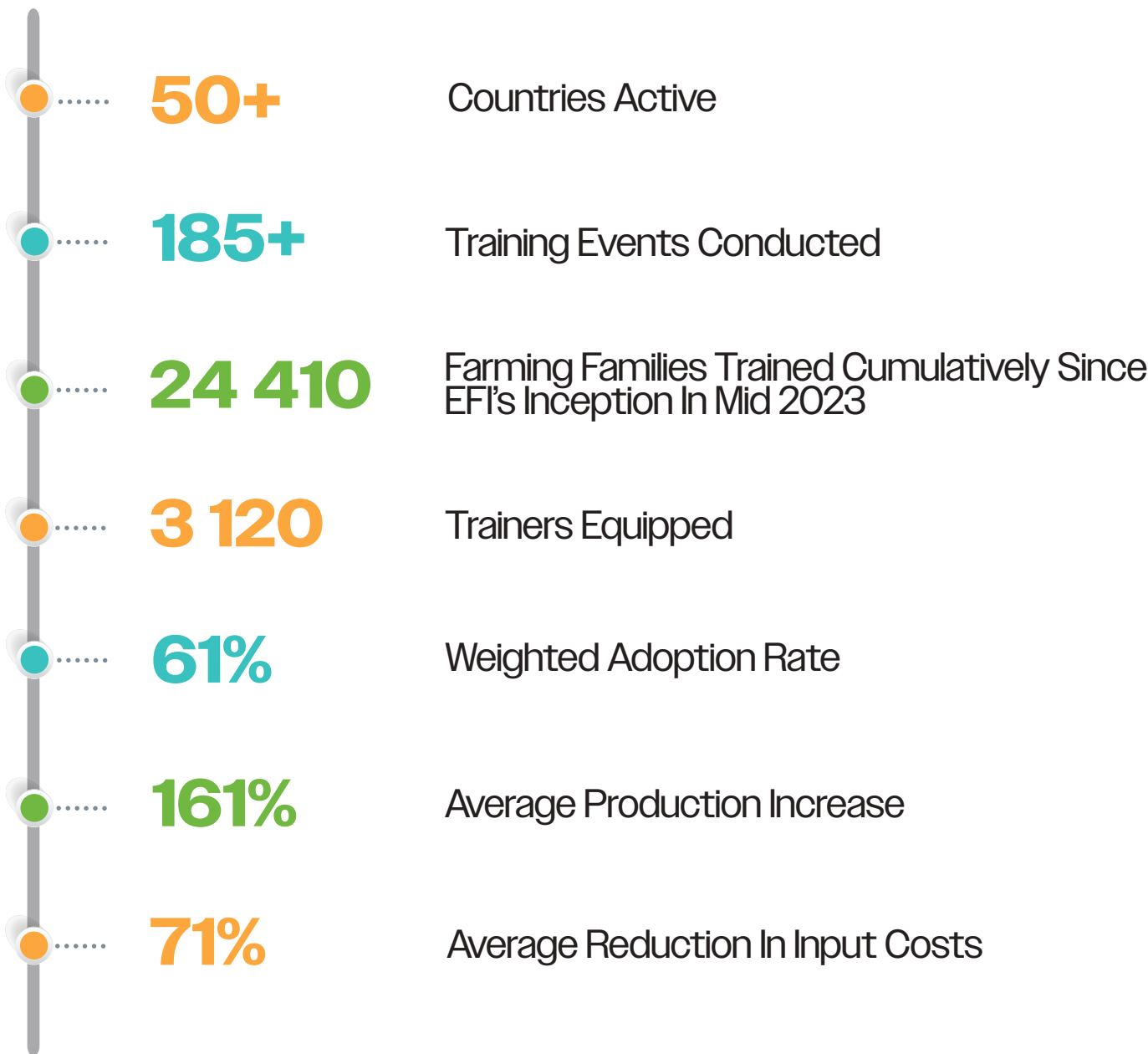
Together, we are making a meaningful difference in the lives of farmers, churches, and communities.



IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

PROOF IN THE HARVEST

EFI's impact in 2025 reflects both measurable results and growing momentum across the Global South.



These numbers represent more than agricultural outcomes.

They represent:

- Families eating consistently
- Reduced dependence on expensive fertilizers and dangerous pesticides
- Churches becoming centers of hope
- Communities learning to steward land sustainably
- Local leaders training others

The impact extends economically, environmentally, socially, and spiritually. In multiple reports, communities described increasing generosity, hospitality, and cooperation as harvests improved.

This is one of the most beautiful aspects of EFI's work:

Restoration tends to multiply.

A restored field strengthens a family.

A strengthened family blesses a church.

A strengthened church serves a community.

And communities transformed by hope become living testimonies of the Gospel.





THE POWER OF MULTIPLICATION

A Model Designed to Spread

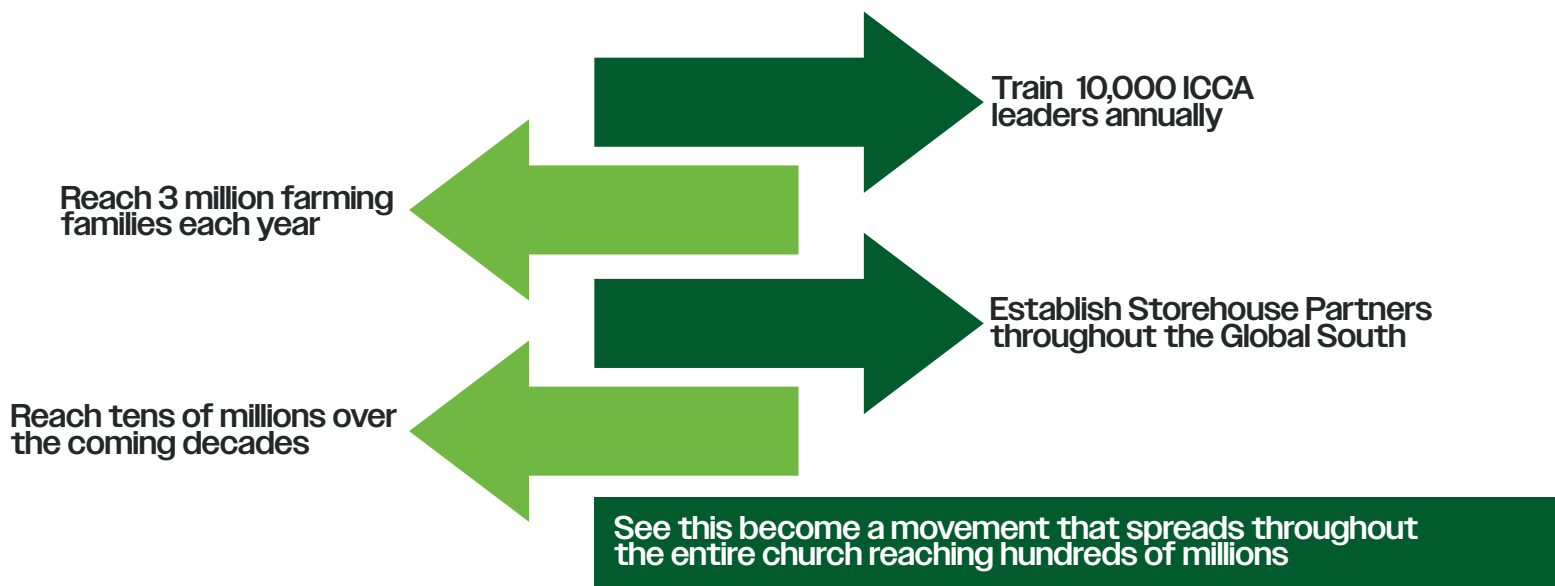
EFI's cascading multiplication model may be one of its greatest distinctives. But it isn't really an innovation, it is simply returning to discipleship as the core calling for the restoration of the Kingdom.

Every ICCA trainer mentors local leaders. Those leaders walk alongside farmers in their own villages. Farmers then teach neighbors. Communities begin replicating what works.

And because the work is rooted in local churches and indigenous leadership, transformation continues long after initial training ends.

EFI's oral curriculum expansion is accelerating this even further, allowing training to spread organically from farmer to farmer in low-literacy environments.

EFI's long-term vision is bold



From One Trainer To Thousands

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graph TD; A[ICCA Trainer] --> B[10 Local Leaders]; B --> C[20-30 Farmers Each]; C --> D[Entire Communities Impacted];
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ICCA
Trainer

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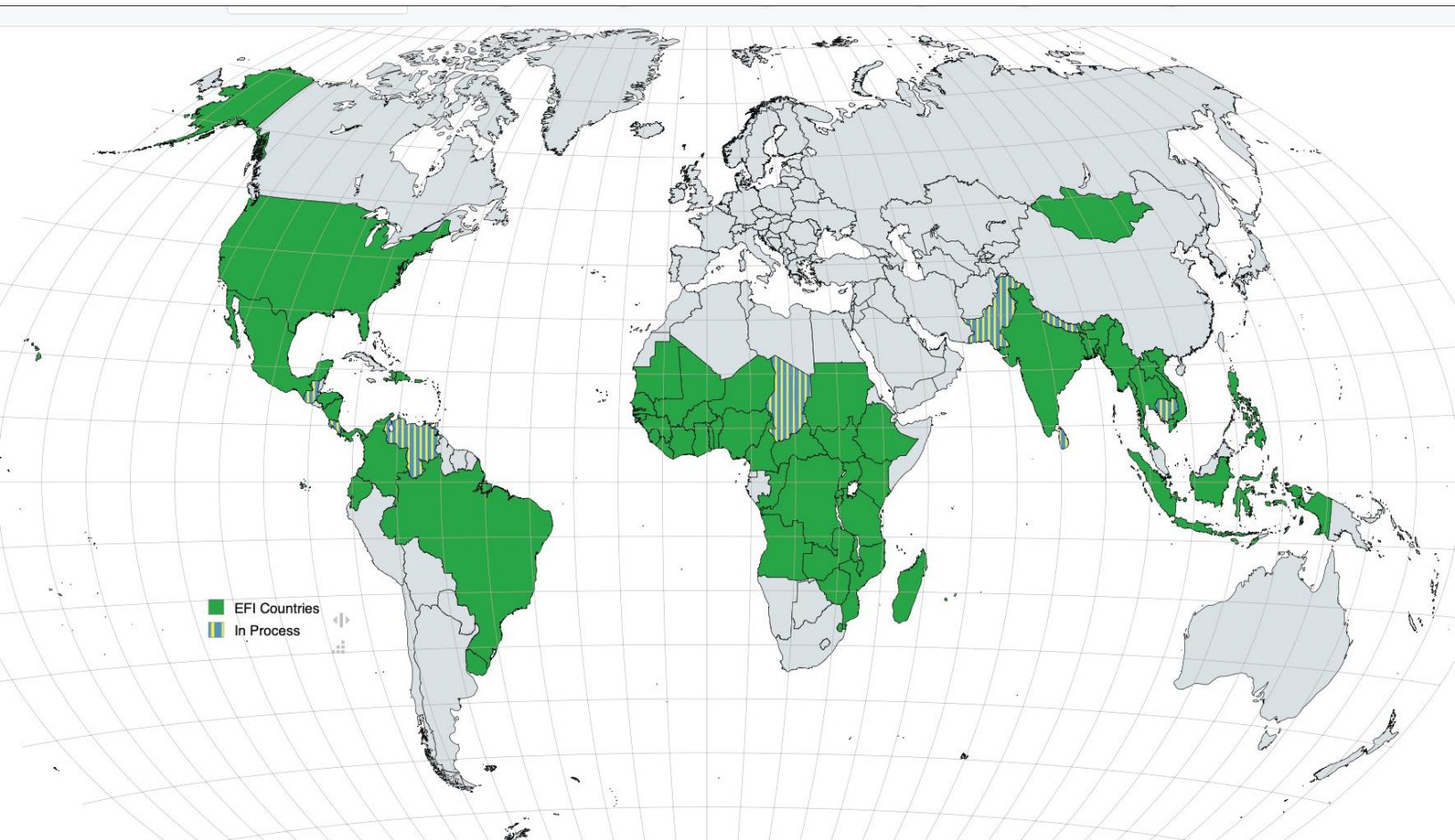
A GLOBAL MOVEMENT OF RESTORATION

ONE MISSION. MANY NATIONS. SHARED HOPE.

Today, EFI is active in more than 50 countries through a growing network of trainers, churches, schools, ministries, and Storehouse Partners. Each region carries its own unique challenges, cultures, crops, climates, and opportunities. Yet across every context, the same pattern continues to emerge: When local leaders are equipped, communities begin to flourish.

In 2025 EFI established seven regions:

- West Africa
- East Africa
- Central & South Africa
- Latin America
- East & Southeast Asia
- South Asia
- North America



Restoring What Was Broken

At its core, EFI's work is rooted in the Bible's vision of restoration. Scripture teaches that mankind's separation from God fractured every part of creation (Genesis 3:17-19; Isaiah 59:2; Romans 5:12; 8:19-22). The consequences of sin were never only spiritual. Brokenness entered relationships, communities, humanity's sense of purpose, and even the land itself.

Throughout the world today, that brokenness can still be seen clearly:

- families trapped in cycles of hunger and poverty
- exhausted soil unable to sustain crops
- communities divided by scarcity and instability
- people disconnected from purpose, dignity, and hope

Through Christ, God is reconciling and restoring all things to Himself. (Colossians 1:19-20) This restoration is holistic. It touches our relationship with:

- God
- Ourselves
- Others

The land we've been entrusted to steward

This is why EFI's work cannot be reduced simply to agricultural development.

Conservation agriculture becomes more than a farming method. It becomes an expression of stewardship, discipleship, dignity, and purpose.

As communities learn to restore depleted soil, they often begin restoring relationships as well:

- families working together again
- churches serving their communities
- neighbors sharing harvests
- young people rediscovering purpose
- communities moving from scarcity toward generosity

Again and again in 2025, we witnessed restoration spreading outward in ways that were both practical and spiritual. Fields once exhausted began producing food again. Churches became centers of care and community transformation. Pastors connected biblical stewardship with daily work and discipleship. Families once struggling to survive began sharing surplus harvests with neighbors in need.

The Gospel does not merely prepare people for eternity. It begins restoring creation now.

“The people of God are not called merely to survive the world, but to participate in its restoration.”

And if you give yourself to the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then your light will rise in darkness and your gloom will become like midday. And the Lord will continually guide you, and satisfy your desire in scorched places, and give strength to your bones; and you will be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water whose waters do not fail. Those from among you will rebuild the ancient ruins; you will raise up the age-old foundations; and you will be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of the streets in which to dwell.

- Isaiah 58:10-12 NASB

Advancing the Great Commission Through Restoration

EFI’s vision is not simply to teach better farming methods. It is to equip the global Church to participate more fully in God’s restoration of the world. EFI partners repeatedly emphasized this connection throughout 2025:

“EFI’s work in conservation agriculture has enabled church partners to improve food security, enhance livelihoods, and generate sustainable local income for ministry.”

“Together, we are making a meaningful difference in the lives of farmers, churches, and communities, ensuring that the gospel, leadership, and Biblical training can continue to thrive in the global south.”

“EFI’s strategy is characterized by a commitment to local empowerment, sustainable agriculture, and a deep reliance on God’s grace and guidance.”

EFI believes long-term transformation happens when the Church is equipped not only to proclaim the Gospel, but to embody it.

That is what donors and partners are helping make possible. Not simply larger harvests.

But visible expressions of the Kingdom of God taking root in communities around the world.





Looking Ahead

The Future Is Local

EFI's future is not built around creating larger centralized systems. It is built around equipping local leaders. When local churches are equipped to lead development themselves, then transformation multiplies naturally. EFI's cascading model is intentionally designed around multiplication.

Each ICCA-trained leader mentors approximately 10 community leaders. Those leaders then walk alongside 20–30 farmers within their own villages and relational networks. The result is not simply information transfer, but ongoing discipleship, coaching, encouragement, and local ownership. The implications are enormous.

EFI already has the operational capacity to train 10,000 ICCA trainers annually. Embedded within Storehouse Partner organizations, those trainers could equip 100,000 local community leaders who collectively serve 2–3 million farming families every year. And because these leaders already live within the communities they serve, the model scales differently than conventional development systems.

It scales relationally, locally, through discipleship, and trust. As EFI continues expanding Storehouse Partner relationships, strengthening monitoring and evaluation systems, and increasing training capacity; the long-term vision is to establish multiple Storehouse Partners throughout every nation in the Global South.

At full maturity, EFI believes this model could reach tens of millions of farming families by 2035, and potentially hundreds of millions over time, and at a fraction of traditional development costs.

The most important part of this vision is what the growth represents.

- Pastors discipling families while teaching them how to steward the land God entrusted to them.
- Communities not just hearing about the love of Christ - but experiencing God's love for themselves through the local church.



What Partners Are Saying:

EFI's work in conservation agriculture has enabled church partners to improve food security, enhance livelihoods, and generate sustainable local income for ministry.

THANK YOU

Thank you for being part of this story.

Because of your partnership:

Innocent in Nigeria says, "Even though we had a few weeks of no rain, my maize is doing well compared to what my neighbors is looking like. I'm sure by God's grace, this year we will have enough to both eat and sell."

Families can cover more of their financial needs like school and medical costs.

Church members are starting to support their pastors as the pastor helps provide for his own family through EFI programs and teaches his church members and helps them have more to give

Missions and churches are using the EFI programs in outreach and to engage communities to plant churches even among the unreached. Yakubu, a pastor in Niger, is sharing bags of maize within his congregation, and the Muslim community is also seeking him out asking, "where is the pastor who is sharing food?"

Missionaries are being trained to use the program in outreach and church planting especially among the unreached.

Mission organizations are using the program to generate income to support indigenous missions efforts.

The Gospel is being demonstrated in practical and powerful ways through a Storehouse Partner planting churches in predominantly unreached Muslim communities.

In short, your partnership is helping EFI reach our ultimate goal of "Establishing Holistic Abundance in Churches around the world to End world hunger while fueling the Great Commission.



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