



International Formation Team

Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd

Rome, 28 January 2025

Dear Sisters and Partners-in-Mission,

The International Formation Team (IFT), along with Sr. Linda Buck CSJ, the consultant for the Global Formation Plan, gathered in Rome from January 14th to 18th, 2025. This was a significant and enriching time for sharing, especially after numerous meetings conducted via Zoom. The gathering allowed the team to connect on a deeper level, get to know each other better, and engage in meaningful dialogue.

During the time together, the team had the opportunity to reflect, listen, and dream collectively about creating a better future, embarking on a synodal journey as "pilgrims of hope." The focus was on mutual understanding and cooperation as we continued to shape the vision for global formation.

One of the key highlights was the meeting with the Congregational Leadership Team (CLT). This was an opportunity for the IFT to share the progress of our work and the updates on the Formation Plan. The feedback from the CLT was highly encouraging, motivating the team to proceed confidently into the next phase of the Global Formation Plan.

The team is aware of the realities faced by the Congregation, Region, and individual Units, which pose significant challenges. These challenges are pushing us to move beyond our comfort zones, embracing a deeper transformation—an inward-out process, as we described it, moving beyond ourselves and our current limitations.

The Global Formation Plan is calling for a cultural shift, one that requires deep introspection and courage to embrace change. The team reviewed key elements from the 2014 to 2024 formation efforts for mission partners, including the "2019 Supplement to 2014 Formation Guidelines", using these as a foundation for the ongoing global formation process. The IFT has worked on Global Formation Plan keeping in mind the reflections and feedback from the brainstorming sessions with Mission Partners across the Congregation, which is a very integrated plan for the formation of Mission Partners.



Experiential: Integrating work and spirituality, reflecting together.

Contemplation: Living with the heart, seeking the Divine in the everyday.

Connection: Creating communities based on co-responsibility and authenticity.

Participation: Getting actively involved in the process of change.

Implementing these elements of transformation, we walk towards a cultural change in the transformation of mentalities and behaviours to adapt to the future.

This was a significant step forward in ensuring that the plan aligns with the evolving needs and aspirations of the Congregation. The IFT will be moving forward by reaching out to various groups involved in the process to ensure the final outcome.

In summary, the gathering in Rome was a time of profound reflection, sharing, and renewal of commitment to the radical transformation required for Global Formation. The encouragement and support received have inspired the team to move ahead with renewed energy and a strong sense of purpose.

United in Mission,

The International Formation Team



Asunción *Am. C.* *Celine Anind*
Edwina *Julia* *Joseph Cough* *Melania Jung*