

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

All Creation Waits



A WORD FROM TIM

Tim Neu | *Interim President/CEO of Wycliffe Associates*



“For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope.” Galatians 5:5 NIV

God has done so much this past year—above all we could ask or think—through YOU!

I am in awe at the miraculous and powerful ways God has worked, even during a pandemic that brought so much of the world to a screeching halt.

Many people groups have been waiting for generations for God’s Word . . . longing to know that God can speak to them in their heart language. But in 2020—because of you—that waiting came to an end.

Although 2020 was a year filled with challenges, Church Owned Bible Translation work did not stall out. Instead, *local churches held fast, determined to launch and continue their Bible translation projects.* Even a global pandemic could not stop—or even slow—the pace at which God is moving to bring His Word to all who are longing to hear it in their

heart language . . . and even with economic fallout from COVID-19, our committed partners continued to donate to equip and encourage national translators to persevere in their work!

God has used your gifts abundantly, and He is giving us more opportunities in 2021 to keep pressing forward in the work of Bible translation. Ephesians 2:10 reminds us, “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

With an increase in the number of language groups reaching out for translation resources and technology, we see even more clearly how great the need is and how much more work there is still for us to do!

Believers around the world don’t want to live without God’s Word any longer. Every day, they

see their people dying without hearing the gospel—eternally lost—and they carry this heavy burden to share the Truth with them. Local churches have the translators and the passion . . . they just need the tools.

As you continue to faithfully give—and as we take every opportunity that comes our way in 2021—we will press on to the goal of God’s Word in every language by 2025!

I pray you will be encouraged by what you read within the pages of this annual report. **May these stories inspire you to prayerfully ask God how you can use even more of your time, talent, and treasure for Church Owned Bible Translation.** You are an integral part of this team, and together, we will accomplish great things in 2021 for His glory!

Blessings,
Tim

GOD'S WORD *is on the Move*

In 2020, supporters like you helped advance Bible translation in 108 countries around the world through:

- COVID Food Shortage Emergency 911 Response
- Church Owned Bible Translation: Equipping National Translators
- Print On Demand (POD)
- Tablets for National Translators (TNTs)
- Bible Translation Recording Kits (BTRKs)
- Scriptures for New Frontiers
- Under Attack Project
- Africa Advance
- Middle East Advance



2020 Ministry HIGHLIGHTS

- Page 5** Helping Translators During COVID-19
- Page 6** Empowering the Local Church and Equipping National Translators
- Page 8** Bible Translation Technologies
 - ▶ Tablets for National Translators
 - ▶ Bible Translation Recording Kits
- Page 9** Scripture Distribution: Print On Demand
- Page 10** Scriptures for New Frontiers
- Page 11** Africa
- Page 12** South Asia
- Page 13** Pacific
- Page 14** Mobilizing God's People
- Page 15** Financial Update
- Page 17** Looking Ahead: *More in 2021!*
- Page 18** Board of Trustees



A Global Crisis Creates A GLOBAL OPPORTUNITY



The COVID-19 pandemic brought the world to a screeching halt . . . but it did not stop the momentum of Bible translation!

While many countries closed their borders and businesses shuttered their windows and locked their doors, God's Word was advancing! God used a pandemic to accomplish His plans and purposes to bring Scripture into the heart languages of those who have waited for generations.

In Southern Africa, two national translators found themselves stuck at the Namibian border as the COVID-19 lockdowns began. Although they were stuck inside of a country that was foreign to them, they didn't let their time go to waste.

Ernandes and Tomussone used this unexpected opportunity to settle into a local campground and invite local believers from three different language groups to a mini Bible translation event! Each of the three language groups translated several books of the New Testament into their languages. **Both of these men rejoiced at the opportunity, and when they returned home to their families, their hearts were satisfied to know that more people in Africa would soon have access to God's Word in their heart languages.**



EMPOWERING *the Local Church &* EQUIPPING *National Translators*

"I woke up from a 22-day coma and told everyone around me that God brought me back so I could complete the Bible translation work I started. I finished 50 Bible stories, and now, we are working on the Old Testament. God's glory will be known among the Mixteco people . . . and soon they will hold a complete translation of the Bible in their hands!" —RAUL, MEXICO

** Photo changed for security purposes*

The word is out that people and language groups don't have to wait for foreigners to lead Bible translation work. Local believers are requesting help to start their own Bible translation projects, and God is raising up leaders in local churches to lead their teams!

Through Church Owned Bible Translation, national translators and local churches are receiving translation resources, training, and tools, and they are being empowered to translate Scripture for themselves!

Church Owned Bible Translation is providing a path forward for local believers and national translators to have God's Word in its fullness. Not only so they can have access to a Bible in their own heart language, but so that all can be presented mature in Christ as they study and follow His Word.



2020 STATISTICS:

- Total 2020 language starts: 294
- Completed New Testaments to date: 447
- Bible translations in progress: 773
- Overall 2021 goal: To serve 225 language groups to start or accelerate their translations

Technology to REACH MILLIONS!

God's Word is on the move, and those that have waited for generations will now have an opportunity to have Scripture in their heart language. This is possible because you are helping to put Bible translation technology in the hands of national translators, and it has the potential to bring God's Word to millions more people in some of the most hard-to-reach areas!



BIBLE TRANSLATION RECORDING KITS (BTRKs)

Not every language is written. Many languages around the world are only spoken—passed down from generation to generation through speaking, not through writing . . . they don't even have an alphabet. The spoken word is the way they share and understand truth. For millions of people within these spoken-only language groups—often some of the most marginalized and isolated people groups—**BTRKs put Scripture into an audio format so they can experience the truth of God's Word in the way that is best for them.**

TOTAL BTRKs DISTRIBUTED TO DATE: 1,286

TABLETS FOR NATIONAL TRANSLATORS (TNTs)

Small computer tablets, put into the hands of national translators, are powerful tools *filled* with resources to translate Scripture into local heart languages. Not only do these tablets unlock a digital library full of helpful commentaries and lexicons, they also open the door to online collaboration. Importantly, these tablets are small enough to be used discreetly to protect the safety of translators in countries where Christians are persecuted.



TOTAL TNTs DISTRIBUTED TO DATE: 6,402

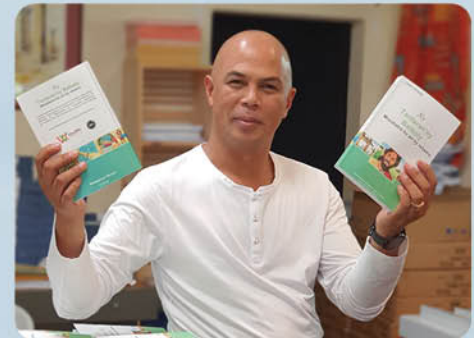
Printing God's Word IMMEDIATELY

Translating God's Word is just the first step . . . sometimes a translation is finished, but language groups still wait years to actually hold God's Word in their hands. Our Print On Demand (POD) units change that! As soon as a translation team finalizes a translation—or even a portion of a translation—a POD unit allows them to print and distribute God's Word immediately!

POD units make God's Word tangible, reproducible, and sharable in a way that has never been possible in the past. Now, in just moments, the local churches and national Bible translators can begin distributing the hope found in God's Word to their communities! High-speed mobile units are small and compact, easy to conceal; larger high-capacity units can print Scriptures for a whole region. These systems are revolutionizing the work of translation teams all around the world!

TOTAL POD UNITS DISTRIBUTED TO DATE: 127

"I found hope! Now, I understand I'm valued. Jesus died for me! I can't understand English very well, but to read the Bible in my language, I understand what God is telling me . . . how He shows love for me!" —**JAVAD***, MIDDLE EAST



**Name and photo changed for security purposes*



NEW FRONTIERS

Hope—Even In Hostility

Despite violent persecution, death threats, beatings, and jail time . . . the local church is committed to ending generations of waiting for God’s Word. Our Scriptures for New Frontiers outreach provides the resources necessary for Bible translation to advance in areas of the world which are closed to Christianity! And when people groups have God’s Word in their heart language, they have hope in Jesus—even in the midst of hostility.

Through Scriptures for New Frontiers, the powerful undercurrent of God’s Word grows stronger, drawing more men and women out of spiritual death and into eternal life.

In 2020, your prayers and faithful support spurred on men and women determined to keep translation projects moving forward in areas of persecution. Your gifts brought the waiting of entire people and language groups to an end . . . and God’s Word is finally available in many of these hard-to-reach languages.



“I couldn’t read God’s Word in the language of my heart—the language I grew up with, the language I thought, dreamed, and prayed in—because there was no translation of the Scriptures in my language. And I thought, every day, about all of my people who continue to live without God’s Word . . . people who continue to wait for this hope and promise of salvation.

I was determined to change that! And now, I am a part of a team of national Bible translators. We are close to finishing a translation of the entire Word of God in my heart language!”

—BITA*, MIDDLE EAST

**Name and photo changed for security purposes*

AFRICA

The Light Breaks Through

For centuries, this continent has been torn apart by war, tribal conflict, extreme food shortages, and political turmoil. Entire language groups have been waiting—for generations—to experience the hope of God's Word . . . in their heart language.



But now, as the light of God's Word breaks through the spiritual darkness, people are experiencing peace and hope!

The news is traveling fast: local believers and churches are learning that—with the right resources—they can translate the Scripture for themselves. Let us rejoice that these

languages can have access to the tools and resources to show their communities that God speaks their language.

Nearly one-third of the world's languages are found in Africa—and despite the daunting task of reaching every language, faithful national Bible translators are sacrificing all they have to accomplish this endeavor and advance God's Word across this vast continent!

In 2020, your prayers and faithful support brought the waiting to an end for language groups throughout Africa! And the translated Word of God is transforming hearts and lives! From large urban cities to remote villages, God's Word is bringing hope in the local heart languages.



"I lived my life to persecute Christians. I was a devout Muslim, and I believed that the local Christians were leading our village astray. One day, I had a dream, and everything changed.

In my dream, a man was walking toward me. When He got close to me, He said 'I am the way, the truth, and the life.' I was stunned—I have heard the Christians use that statement before, and I couldn't stop thinking about Christianity."

—REVEREND HIKA,
now a Bible translator

** Photo changed for security purposes*

SOUTH ASIA

It's Time to Rise Up!

Christianity is a minority religion, and every step of obedience to God's Word can bring more persecution and danger. Oppressive regimes constantly monitor and track the actions of believers in an effort to stifle the growth of the Church—but that is completely impossible!

In isolated regions, amongst some of the most unreached people groups on Earth—those that have waited for generations for God's Word without giving up hope—a secret underground movement is gaining momentum.

Local churches and national Bible translators are using the tools and resources you've helped provide to quietly translate God's Word into their heart language and distribute it throughout their communities. And a mighty revival is stirring as other believers rise up to carry the mantle of Bible translation into other regions—combatting the spiritual darkness that has had a hold on this region for so long.

In 2020, your partnership encouraged local churches to continue the task of Bible translation . . . even in the face of suffering. And because of this, lives—and even entire communities—are forever changed.



"All my life, I had been a Buddhist living in a people group that had almost no contact with believers. But that day, I gave my life to Jesus! I saw very clearly in the Scriptures—that I was hearing and reading in my language—the truth that Jesus is Lord. I was baptized, and my life is forever changed.

I continue to translate God's Word because without Scripture in our heart language, my people will never feel the fire of truth burning inside them like I feel. And it isn't just Bible translation now; I have even started a church group in my house!"

—CHO*, SOUTH ASIA

**Name and photo changed for security purposes*

PACIFIC

Breaking Through the Isolation

Physical isolation is only part of the reality these language groups face every day. Spiritual bondage has long gripped this region. People are crying out for something, anything—longing for hope—yet, many continue to embrace animistic practices and idol worship . . . the only thing they know.

But now, there is a multitude of believers that have risen up, passionately pursuing the advancement of God’s Word. Local churches and national Bible translators

want to see God’s glory declared on every island. Their time is now, and these national translators will offer their lives to see God’s Word translated into their heart language.

And as they faithfully continue the work of Bible translation—putting God’s Word into the hands of men and women in their communities—the Light is piercing the darkness, and the captive are being set free.

In 2020, because of you, language groups throughout Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, and other Pacific nations have seen great progress on their translation projects.

Remote villages are no longer waiting for God’s Word, and the knowledge of Christ is coming to some of the most isolated islands on Earth!



“When our youth leader announced a Bible translation event during the one-week school holiday, I was excited and asked my father if I could attend . . . I know that I have a calling on my life and that God wants to use me. I wish to be part of the Bible translation team and to teach other language groups who wish to translate the Bible in their own heart language.”

—SANDRA, FIJI

AN UNSTOPPABLE PARTNERSHIP!

Working Together to Advance Bible Translation

Bold. Unwavering. Full of faith . . . these are just a few ways to describe God's people rising up all over the world to help get Scripture translated into the heart language of every language group on Earth!

And it does take everyone . . .

Bible translation workshops are the front lines where local churches and national Bible translators utilize Bible translation tools and resources created by a team of volunteers from all around the world. Without these *Bible scholars preparing high-quality translation tools, workshop facilitators making sure the logistics of a translation workshop run smoothly, technology specialists writing code and developing and supporting the apps used by translators on their tablets . . .*

without each of these individuals, the vision of God's Word being translated into every language would come to a screeching halt!

And through your commitment to faithfully praying for Bible translation and giving generously of your financial resources, **you are an integral partner in helping translate God's Word into heart languages!**

When you give to support the ministry of Bible translation, you stand shoulder to shoulder with national translators—transforming communities and putting God's Word into the hands of millions longing to know that God speaks their language.

Thank you for your faithful partnership in 2020—to God be the Glory!

GET INVOLVED IN 2021 WITH YOUR TIME, TALENT, OR TREASURE:

- Support Bible translation teams through prayer and giving
- Involve your local church
- Volunteer to support Bible translation
- Share your specialized skills

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

2020 Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2020

Where Our Support Comes From

| | Fiscal Year 2020 |
|--|---------------------|
| Contributions | \$27,282,129 |
| Contributed services and facilities usage | \$17,849,517 |
| Interest and other revenue | \$827,691 |
| Total contributions and other revenue and net assets released from restrictions | \$45,959,337 |

Where Your Support Goes

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Bible translation ministry programs | \$35,418,938 |
| Supporting services | |
| Fundraising | \$7,260,716 |
| Management and general | \$2,088,272 |
| Total expenses | \$44,767,926 |
| Change in net assets | \$1,191,411 |

Note: Wycliffe Associates' volunteers provide labor and other services for various ministry activities. Contributed services meeting the criteria for revenue recognition in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States amounted to approximately \$16,969,969 and are included in the Statement of Activities as "contributed services and facilities usage" revenue. Volunteer services during the year ending September 30, 2020 not meeting the criteria for recognition in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, have been estimated by management to be approximately \$1,868,815 (unaudited). Although these services have a significant impact on making the ministry effective, the estimated value of such services is not reflected in the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

2020 Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2020

Assets

| |
|-----------------------------|
| Current assets |
| Long-term assets |
| Property and equipment, net |
| Other assets |
| Total assets |

Fiscal Year 2020

| |
|---------------------|
| \$3,706,233 |
| \$14,938,061 |
| \$1,581,596 |
| \$910,141 |
| \$21,136,031 |

Liabilities and Non-Current Liabilities

| |
|--------------------------|
| Current liabilities |
| Other liabilities |
| Total liabilities |

| |
|------------------|
| \$488,507 |
| \$0 |
| \$488,507 |

Net Assets

| |
|----------------------------|
| Without donor restrictions |
| With donor restrictions |
| Total net assets |

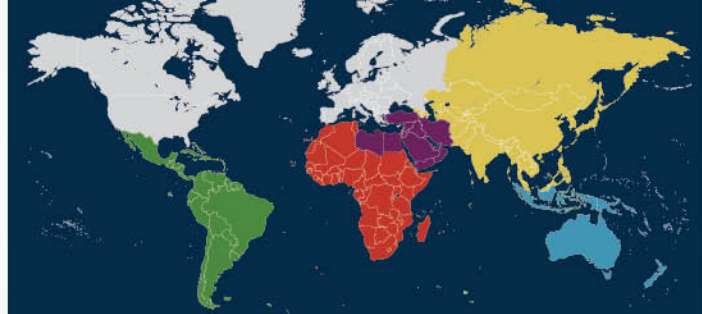
| |
|---------------------|
| \$15,608,951 |
| \$5,038,573 |
| \$20,647,524 |

| |
|---|
| Total liabilities and net assets |
|---|

| |
|---------------------|
| \$21,136,031 |
|---------------------|

Complete audited statements as audited by Batts, Morrison, Wales & Lee, P.A. are available upon request or can be downloaded at wycliffeassociates.org/about/financial-reports/

The Fullness of GOD'S WORD!



AFRICA LATIN AMERICA MIDDLE EAST PACIFIC ASIA

All creation waits . . . longing for the day they will be set free from the chaos and confusion of this world . . . longing for the day they can find hope through God's Word in their heart language.

And now, that wait is coming to an end!

In every region of the world, local churches and believers are reaching out and asking for tools and resources to help start Church Owned Bible Translation projects. **And because of your faithful financial support, we are saying "YES!"** and providing these groups with the translation assistance they need.

And as you continue to support the work of Bible translation, together, we can reach a **goal**

to serve 225 language translations in 2021!

But, that means more than just seeing a new Bible translation workshop launch . . . that means making deep connections with local churches and the local community of believers.

If they have a portion of Scripture, they need the rest to fully understand the heartbeat of God. If they have the New Testament, they need the Old Testament to understand the context of the stories and prophecies that bring Scripture alive!

Wycliffe Associates cares deeply about seeing every people group experiencing spiritual growth in Christ, and we are building teams to focus on Bible translation training around the world.

The Lord is raising up the next generation with a God-given zeal to provide their communities with God's Word. And with your help, we will be there to support the next generation of leaders, encouraging them in Christ. We are grateful for the men and women that God has provided, and trust that He will provide even more with the courage to allow His good work to be done through them in their communities.

Let's continue to run with perseverance. Let's continue to faithfully serve and partner with national Bible translators. And let's pray together that in this coming year we see millions of men and women break out of spiritual darkness—transformed by God's Word in their heart language.

2020 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Linda Allen, Chair

Business Owner

Ken Axt

Business Owner

William Baker, Secretary

Residential Designer

Cindy Hawkins, Treasurer

Business Owner

Chip Hull

Chief Financial Officer

Retired

Chris Magill

Consultant

Reverend Dr. Stephen Panya Baba

President, Evangelical Church

Winning All, Nigeria

Rebecca Smith

Business Owner

Gay Ellen Stulp, Vice Chair

Consultant

Simoun Ung

Business Owner



ACCELERATING
BIBLE
TRANSLATION

11450 Translation Way | P.O. Box 620143 | Orlando, FL 32862
1-800-THE WORD (1-800-843-9673)
www.wycliffeassociates.org