

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

All Creation Waits



ACCELERATING
BIBLE
TRANSLATION



ALL CREATION WAITS

For more than 50 years, Wycliffe Associates has supported Bible translators all over the world by supplying volunteers, sending technology, providing translation methods with training, and performing other important services, all with the prayers and financial support of friends like you.

But the last couple of years have been truly extraordinary, with God opening doors in new ways, and in regions where it has been historically difficult—dangerous, even deadly—to translate the Bible.

No one can deny that the global pandemic disrupted lives and livelihoods, while also giving hostile authorities new tactics to curb the gospel. *But it didn't work.*

In fact, God has used the pandemic to open more hearts to Him. The list of local churches asking for the tools and training to launch their own Bible translation projects is long and growing.

Within the pages of this Annual Report, you will see how God is

using support from friends like you to empower even the most isolated believers to realize their most fervent prayer, a dream that has been decades in the making—to see Scripture in their very own language for the first time.

It is the purpose of an Annual Report to look back, but this report also serves as a blueprint for the days ahead; we are already at work, and are preparing to begin work, in nations from the Middle East to Africa to South Asia and beyond.

With your ongoing prayers and partnership, Wycliffe Associates is committed to saying *yes* to as many churches and to as many Christians as possible so they, too, can finally see and share Scripture in the language of their heart.

In His Service Together,

Simoun Ung
President/CEO
Wycliffe Associates

Linda H. Allen
Board Chair
Wycliffe Associates

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:1 NIV



BRINGING GOD'S WORD TO A HURTING WORLD!

Thank you to friends and supporters for helping advance Bible translation in 71 countries around the world through:

- Church Owned Bible Translation: Equipping National Translators
- Mobilized Assistance Supporting Translation (MAST)
- Scripture Distribution and Print On Demand (POD)
- Technology for National Translators (TNTs)
- Bible Translation Recording Kits (BTRKs)
- Bible Translation Acceleration Kits (BTAKs)
- Indonesia Advance
- Under Attack Project
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- Middle East Advance

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Celebrating a Translation Milestone— 500!



Every translated word, verse, chapter, and book of the Bible is cause for celebration, especially for people who have waited a lifetime to see Scripture they can read and understand.

In 2021, Bible translators in a remote region of Russia completed their New Testament. It was a joyful time for the villagers who had done the hard work and seen their prayers answered.

Their victory is also cause for celebration among supporters like you, and Wycliffe Associates' many friends and partners, too, because this project marks the 500th New Testament to be completed with our support!

With the distribution of more technology and training tools, Wycliffe Associates is trusting God to exponentially grow the number of launches and completions in the years ahead.

“I sincerely thank God for giving us the opportunity to translate the Bible into our own language. We feel very privileged and honored. Translation work was very exciting. This translation has brought both personal and spiritual growth, deeper and more elaborate understanding of God’s Word. I believe that through this translation of ours, many will join us next to our Lord, and His Truth will make them all free of sin and death. Thank you for the opportunity you gave . . .”

—Linara, a grateful Bible translator

EMPOWERING the Local Church and EQUIPPING National Translators

“

I'm ready to do anything for Christ. We are proud to know the Word of God in our own language. Now, our children will be able to read and learn the Scriptures. We have no greater joy than this!

—KHUASHBOO, SOUTH ASIA

There was a time when it took a foreign missionary traveling halfway around the world, taking time to assimilate into a village or people group, and then beginning a Bible translation that could take decades. But now, God is raising up leaders in local churches around the world to begin translation projects!

Your support is providing the tools, technology, and training to local churches so they can start and execute their own Bible translation projects. In 2021, Wycliffe Associates partnered with translation teams from Nairobi to Papua New Guinea and dozens of countries in between. Even amid a global pandemic and heightened persecution, God's Word is being translated, shared, and believed by people who might otherwise never experience the gospel in their own language!



2021 STATISTICS:

Total 2021 language starts: 125

Completed New Testaments to date: 502

Bible translations in progress: 768

OVERALL 2022 GOAL:

**To help 150 language groups
begin their translations**

TECHNOLOGICAL BREAKTHROUGHS IN BIBLE TRANSLATION!



They're persecuted, and they were weathered and worn. You could see it in their bodies and their faces. Yet, they were so excited. Their eyes were so bright just getting the chance to translate Scripture. It was really encouraging to watch them do that.

—LEADER OF AN ORAL TRANSLATION
WORKSHOP USING BIBLE TRANSLATION
RECORDING KITS

God breaks down barriers to reach His beloved children. Even in areas of extreme persecution, crushing poverty, and other hardships, doors are opening so that even the most isolated believers can launch their very own Bible translation projects.

Your support in 2021 made it possible for Wycliffe Associates to equip and empower churches and translation teams with the tools they needed to swiftly, safely, and accurately translate God's Word where there once was no opportunity to do so.

TECHNOLOGY FOR NATIONAL TRANSLATORS (TNTs)

Our TNT computers are powerful tools, filled with resources to equip translators as they translate Scripture into local heart languages. This equipment provides access to a digital library of commentaries and lexicons, and it opens the door to online collaboration. Plus, they are sturdy and small enough to be used discreetly in countries where persecution of Christians is high.

BIBLE TRANSLATION ACCELERATION KITS (BTAKs)

These kits provide a satellite connection, an internet modem and router, and solar power capabilities, allowing even the most remote translators to access Bible translation resources. A true breakthrough strategy, BTAKs allow translators to work safely and quietly in the midst of hostile authorities.

BIBLE TRANSLATION RECORDING KITS (BTRKs)

Many languages around the world are only spoken—passed down orally from generation to generation. Because the spoken word is the way they can share the hope of the gospel with others, BTRKs are a critical technology that enable translators to record Scripture so others in their people group can experience God's Word.



THE GREAT GIFT OF GOD'S WORD—IN PRINT!

Translating God's Word is the critical first step . . . but for many language groups, having access to print their newly translated Scripture is impossible. Another strategic technology distributed by Wycliffe Associates, Print on Demand (POD) units allow translation teams to print their work and share Scripture with others.

Your support makes two versions available—a mobile unit, which is small and compact and easy to conceal, and a larger high-capacity unit, which can efficiently print Scriptures for a whole region.

These POD systems have made God's Word tangible, reproducible, and sharable in a way that was once unheard of. Now, local churches and Bible translators can print and share God's Word with others in minutes! Thank you for making this incredible equipment available to translation teams around the world throughout 2021!

MIDDLE EAST

Advancing the Gospel in the Middle East

In 2021, many Bible translation projects were advanced across the Middle East, some in volatile regions that are closed to Christianity. The passion and commitment of local churches to have God’s Word in their heart language demonstrates the hope they have in Jesus.

The threat is always there for these believers—persecution, death threats, beatings, jail time—but their hunger for God’s Word outweighs their fear of danger . . . as does their joy in sharing Scripture with those who have yet to know their Savior, like Ester.*

Ester heard God’s Word in her own language during a dark, despairing time in her life. She tried to reject the pastor’s teaching but was astonished to find the Scripture took root in her heart!

“He was talking about a God who loved me and said the god of my childhood had not been good at all,” Ester says. “I found myself worshipping and rejoicing with these believers. Later, I decided to give my heart to Christ.”

Thank you for your compassion and generosity that fuels Bible translators to keep projects moving forward in areas of persecution while sharing the hope of the gospel with the unreached.



In the Middle East, oftentimes, they will say we have to have Luke and the Book of Acts in our heart language [so] we’d better translate those two books first. They say that because they need to memorize from Luke and Acts . . . because they know that they’re going to be in prison for their faith and they need to have the gospel in their hearts and in their minds. They need to be able to directly quote the Scriptures because the Scriptures aren’t allowed in prison . . . They’ll need the Scriptures to strengthen themselves, and they’ll need the Scriptures to reach out to other prisoners.

MIDDLE EAST TRANSLATION WORKSHOP LEADER

**Name and photo changed for security purposes*

AFRICA

Advancing God's Word Across Africa

The hunger for God's Word is sweeping across this vast continent, which is home to nearly one-third of all the world's languages.

Translation projects are underway in big cities and tiny villages, despite ongoing challenges from the pandemic, famine, drought, civil war, tribal violence, and political instability. And when a new translation is launched, often other language groups see what is happening and ask for the tools and training to begin their own project, too!

We pray for your ongoing support to say *yes* to every translation and for God's protection over churches and translators in areas of heightened persecution—like in Nigeria, where militant Muslim gunmen murdered a local pastor. Others fled to escape a similar fate.

Only God's Word can bring hope and healing to this continent. Bible translation leaders know this, and yet they are still willing to sacrifice all they have to see Scripture in a language they can understand and use to bring the unreached to faith. Thank you for your prayers and partnership in 2021 to advance God's Word across Africa!



This translation has changed the lives of many of us by giving us more knowledge of the Scriptures, and our Christian life is becoming more and more mature. The joy of having the Bible has taken away the worries, fear, disappointment, and desolation we had before. Our lives are now filled with the light of the Scriptures, and we no longer feel left behind! We know we are no longer alone, and this makes us want to live . . . and continue and practice life in Jesus.

PASTOR ALLI, TOGO

** Photo changed for security purposes*

SOUTH ASIA

Hearts Are Opening to God in South Asia

Across South Asia, Christians are few, and every effort is made by hostile authorities to stop the spread of the gospel. Yet, God continues to break down obstacles and open hearts to hear the truth. In highly persecuted areas, churches are underground, but that doesn't stop these believers from risking it all to see the Bible translated into the language of their heart.

In one nation where Christians are heavily persecuted, a quietly operating seminary has sprung up where young believers gather to train for the planting of other underground churches. Your support is fueling these faithful friends and providing them with the technology and training they need to translate Scripture that will help them strengthen believers and lead others to Christ!

Thank you for making this outreach possible across South Asia in 2021 and in the days ahead!



Before, they didn't have any hope for eternal life, but they do now. Before, they didn't have any religious book in their own language, but now they are translating the Bible in their own language.

CADAO,* SOUTH ASIA

**Name and photo changed for security purposes*



PACIFIC

Shining God's Light into Darkness

2021 saw great progress in Bible translation throughout the Pacific. Even the most remote villages are now no longer out of reach, waiting, and wondering if they will ever have the chance to see and share Scripture in their own language.

With every translated word, more people are learning of God's love for them *and* the lasting hope He gives for this life and eternity. They are being set free from animism, ancestor and idol worship, spiritual darkness, and despair.

In one village, translators shared Acts 16:31, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved." The words sparked hope in the hearts of a childless couple who were told their barrenness doomed them for eternity. Eager to learn more, the couple took hold of the truth and placed their faith in Christ!

Your support is sharing the hope of the gospel with people who are hungry to hear it—thank you!



Every time I read the Bible that I have translated, I feel a deep joy . . .

PIETER,* A COUNTRY IN THE PACIFIC

**Name and photo changed for security purposes*



WORKING TOGETHER TO ADVANCE CHURCH OWNED BIBLE TRANSLATION

Your prayers and partnership are being used by God to equip and empower people around the world to translate Scripture. Our prayer is that one day soon, every language group on Earth will have a Bible they can read and understand . . . and share with others!

The challenges are many, but God continues to open doors of opportunity so the hope of the gospel can be planted in every heart—hope for this life and eternity.

Despite the lingering pandemic, heightened persecution, crippling poverty, war, and unrest—more people are pleading for the tools and training to begin their own translation. Wycliffe Associates Bible translation workshops are a vital outreach, equipping local churches and national Bible translators with the tools and resources they need. And where gathering is too dangerous, translators are equipped with the technology and encouragement to work “under the radar.”

For people who have waited a lifetime to read the Bible in their heart language, every translated word is a life-transforming gift. Let us not weary of doing good while even one person hungers to see and share Scripture in their heart language!

MORE WAYS TO TAKE GOD’S WORD TO OUR HURTING WORLD:

- Become a Bible Translation Ambassador and influence your social circles for God by sharing Bible translation news on social media
- Support Bible translation teams through your prayers and ongoing support
- Involve your local church in sponsoring Bible translation projects
- Volunteer your time to further Bible translation efforts

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

2021 Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2021

Where Our Support Comes From

Contributions
Contributed services and facilities usage
Interest and other revenue
Total contributions, other revenue, and net assets released from restrictions

Fiscal Year 2021

\$23,917,611
\$17,294,198
\$1,603,492
\$42,815,301

Where Your Support Goes

Bible translation ministry programs - Supporting services
Fundraising
Management and general
Total Expenses

\$30,982,362
\$6,386,348
\$2,163,563
\$39,532,273

Note: Wycliffe Associates' volunteers provide labor and other services for various ministry activities. Contributed services (GAAP) meeting the criteria for revenue recognition in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States amounted to approximately \$16,414,651 and are included in the Statement of Activities as "contributed services and facilities usage" revenue. Volunteer services (non-GAAP) during the year ending September 30, 2021 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 \$1,079,958 (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

2021 Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2021

Assets

Current assets
Investments
Property and equipment
Other assets
Total assets

Fiscal Year 2021

\$5,196,341
\$17,244,914
\$314,954
\$1,109,655
\$23,865,864

Liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued expenses
Total liabilities

\$372,256
\$372,256

Net Assets

Without donor restrictions
With donor restrictions
Total net assets

\$18,169,746
\$5,323,862
\$23,493,608

Total liabilities and net assets

\$23,865,864

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/

ANSWERING GOD'S CALL IN 2022

Because all creation waits . . . that is the reason we pray and work together each day to equip people around the world with the tools and training they need to translate the Bible into their heart language.

What greater gift can we give believers who want more than anything to see, study, and share Scripture in a language they truly understand?

What greater gift can we give the unreached than the opportunity to come to faith through God's Word in their own language?

Please partner with Wycliffe Associates today, and throughout the year ahead, to support the local churches and believers who are ready to do the hard work, often risking it all to translate the Bible into a language where it does not exist.

And please pray with us that 2022 will see many more breakthroughs to accelerate Church Owned Bible translation efforts so more people will hear and come to faith in Jesus Christ.



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