



# Firm Foundation



# Firm Foundation

As believers, our faith in Christ is our firm foundation. His Word is living and active, guiding us each day and strengthening us through every storm.

Yet millions of people around the world do not know that a firm foundation is within reach. Living in spiritual darkness, they are beaten and battered by war, disease, hunger, and hopelessness.

Let us celebrate that through the prayers and partnership of friends like you, men and women—entire villages—are finally getting the chance to read and understand God's infinite love, His promises, and the transformation they bring.

Throughout the pages of this annual report you'll hear from pastors, national Bible translators, and others who are seeing God at work in their own lives and throughout their communities as Scripture comes to

life for the first time in new languages. You'll see deep gratitude in the faces of believers who have been equipped to launch Bible translation in some of the most dangerous places on Earth.

From the Middle East to Asia to Africa, they are receiving the specialized training and technology through the gifts of Christians who heard their appeal,

*"Please give us God's Word in our own heart language!"*

Thank you for standing with all of us at Wycliffe Associates to continue undeterred in our commitment to equip every language group with God's Word in their own language. Together we can break down every obstacle, from poverty to persecution, famine and flood, war and unrest . . . bringing Scripture to life and transformation to countless hearts in 2024.

In His Service Together,

Simoun Ung  
President/CEO  
Wycliffe Associates

Linda H. Allen  
Board Chair  
Wycliffe Associates

*"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock."*

—MATTHEW 7:24-25 NIV

# GOD— *Our Firm Foundation!*

**In 2023, support from friends like you helped advance Bible translation in countries around the world through:**

- Church Owned Bible Translation: Equipping National Translators
- TNTs (Technology for National Translators)
- BTAKs (Bible Translation Acceleration Kits)
- BTRKs (Bible Translation Recording Kits)
- Scripture Distribution
- Papua New Guinea (PNG) Advance
- Under the Radar Project
- Africa Advance
- Red Sea Initiative
- Middle East Advance
- Operation Clean Water Project
- Emergency 911 Fund
- Farm Animals for Bible Translators
- Symbolic Universal Notation—Scripture for the Blind and Deaf

# 2023 Ministry Highlights

- Page 5** Empowering the Local Church and Equipping National Translators
- Page 6** Bible Translation Technologies  
TNT, BTAK, BTRK
- Page 8** Scripture Distribution
- Page 9** Middle East
- Page 10** Africa
- Page 11** Asia
- Page 12** Pacific
- Page 13** Clean Water and Community Development
- Page 14** Emergency 911 Fund
- Page 15** Financial Update:  
Statement of Financial Activities
- Page 16** Financial Update:  
Statement of Financial Position
- Page 17** Looking Ahead While Mobilizing God's  
People: *More in 2024!*
- Page 18** Board of Trustees

A close-up, profile view of a woman with dark hair, wearing a green top and a small, ornate earring. She is looking down at an open book she is holding, with her finger resting on the page. The background is blurred, suggesting an indoor setting.

# Empowering & Equipping

*the Local Church* *National Translators*

An end to the waiting! Language groups around the world are hearing there is a way to translate God's Word into their own heart language. With tools, specialized training, and technology from Wycliffe Associates, national Bible translators can do the work themselves rather than waiting for a missionary to begin a translation project for them.

Local churches, including underground ones, are lining up for the chance to begin a Bible translation project of their own. And while Church Owned Bible Translation has revolutionized Bible translation for language groups all over the world, hundreds more are still waiting, hoping, and praying for the chance to begin.

No church, no Christian should be without God's Word in a language they can read, study, and share with others. Thank you for your partnership that is equipping believers to begin translating God's Word, even in areas of extreme persecution.

*"We are thanking the Lord for His grace and mercies and for choosing us for translation of the Bible to our mother language," says the Rai\* Community in East Africa. "This has given us an opportunity to engage more in the Holy Scriptures and has given us a deeper understanding and revelation of the Bible."*

\*Name and photo have been changed for security purposes.



*Thank you for providing*  
**Tools & Training**  
*for Church Owned  
Bible translation!*

Technology and the specialized training to use it effectively are critical for believers to launch Bible translation. Your support in 2023 equipped national Bible translators around the world with the tools and support needed to begin work, bringing Scripture to life where it has never existed before.

*“We praise the Lord for WA. Through Bible translation we have an opportunity to experience firsthand technology. The tablets provided to us have really made the work so easy, translation of our Bible could not be possible without the tablets and software provided to us. The translation of the New Testament took us 10 months because of technology, and now we have started the Old Testament thanks to technology.” —Marm\* Language Leaders, East Africa*

*\*Name and photo have been changed for security purposes.*



## TNTs — Technology for National Translators

### Laptop Computers and Tablets

- Compact and mobile, TNTs make it possible for national Bible translators to work safely and secretly in areas of persecution.
- National Bible translators can work together faster, sharing and ensuring the quality of their work through secure, online channels.
- Fully loaded with translation software and resources, TNTs make it possible for national Bible translators to start work immediately.

## BTAKs — Bible Translation Acceleration Kits

- BTAKs provide a laptop computer, satellite connection, internet modem, and router, allowing national Bible translators to discreetly and securely connect to the internet and access Bible translation resources from *anywhere in the world*—even places where they have no internet access or where hostile authorities monitor web activity.

## BTRKs — Bible Translation Recording Kits

- BTRK systems enable Bible translation of God’s Word to be recorded into languages which are not written, only spoken.
- For people groups who have long been among the world’s most marginalized and isolated, bringing them the Scriptures in audio form—BTRKs—is the best way for them to experience the truth of God’s Word.
- For the multitudes of people in any language group who have never learned to read, BTRKs are essential.



# At Last—

*A Bible to Hold,  
Study, and Share!*

Holding the Word of God in their own language is an answered prayer for national Bible translation teams who have worked so hard and risked so much. Thank you for your support to print Bibles and distribute them. However, in some of the countries where Bible translation is under way, there are no printers, no local copy shop. These are not places where we can print Bibles and ship them in, either, because just owning a Bible invites persecution.

We must get creative to find ways for these Christians to get Scriptures quietly, even secretly, so God's Word in the heart language is available to read... in church and in the home.

In these situations we are able to provide digital copies of the Bible!

On behalf of underground churches, gathering in secret, and believers who have long dreamed of having a Bible of their own, thank you for your prayers and partnership that is delivering the Scriptures that believers are waiting and praying for.



Mrt\* believers in Siberia began using their new Bible translation for preaching and Bible study in the church, and after a year of seeing how effective their translation was, they committed to share 1,000 copies of the Gospel of John with people in their community who had never heard nor read the Scriptures in their heart language. After passing out nearly 900 copies to unbelievers in their community, they report that people are responding!

*\*Name and photo have been changed for security purposes.*





# *Bible Translation Flourishes in* **the Middle East**



Believers in the Middle East risk much for their faith. Being discovered often brings persecution, jail, or even death. Yet requests pour in from local churches who long for the tools and training that will finally give them God’s Word in their own language.

Through the prayers and support of caring friends like you, Wycliffe Associates can establish safe haven locations where believers receive specialized training in safety and are provided the technology they need to begin translating the Bible.

Once a Shia Muslim Jihadist, Thomas\* hated Christians and was plagued by hopelessness. He asked Allah for answers—but it was Jesus who appeared to him in a dream.

***“Jesus gave me a light, different from the darkness I knew, different from Allah,”***

he says. His desire to know Jesus led to him being ostracized and forced to flee. A Christian community helped answer his questions and guided him in his faith journey. He recently received Bible translation training to help the underground church in his home country have the truth of God’s life-giving Word.

*\*Name and photo have been changed for security purposes.*

# God's Word Is Changing Hearts in **Africa**

In many parts of East Africa, extreme anti-Christian persecution is common. Tragically, some national Bible translators have even lost their lives, yet our brothers and sisters are not retreating in fear. Rather, even more language groups are sending requests for Bible translation tools because they are seeing God's Word transform their world.

Even in areas of intense war, tribal violence, and political instability, God's Word is bringing peace and comfort, and is changing hearts!

Thank you for providing the tools and training to launch Bible translation projects, equipping teams of believers and churches across Africa to experience God's Word in their heart languages.



When Dab\* encountered the Scriptures in his own heart language, he was transformed.

***“We shall translate the whole Bible!”***

he cried. *“We want our people to be set free! Now we know: Only knowing God through His Word—only God—can save us!”*

*\*Name and photo have been changed for security purposes.*



# Translators Are at Work in **Asia**

Asia remains a difficult place for Christians. In a country in South Asia, prayer meetings and church services have been interrupted and believers have been physically assaulted. Their churches and homes have been burned, and dozens of church leaders have been taken to court and imprisoned because of illegal “religious conversion” activities.

We can rejoice that Bible translation continues, as passionate and determined believers work in secret to bring God’s Word to life in their own language for the first time. And more requests for tools and training continue to come in from underground churches and pockets of isolated believers . . .

Thank you for saying ‘yes’ to believers who long to have Scripture in the language of their hearts and are willing to risk all to see God’s Word come to life!

In one Southeast Asian country, translators were being prevented from attending their final workshop to translate the New Testament into Tang\*. *“When I learned the project had been shut down, I felt empty,”* said one of the translators. *“We prayed, asking the Lord to grant us favor and to touch the hearts of the authorities so they would let us through.”* Shortly after, the team was granted clearance!

***“The Lord really performed miracles,”***

the Bible translator says. *“Thank you to everyone for helping us in completing our New Testament. Praise God for everything!”*

*\*Name and photo have been changed for security purposes.*



God's Word Is Transforming Lives throughout

# the Pacific



The Pacific has long been a stronghold of evil forces where demonic spirits and ancestor worship are part of the daily reality for many people.

Without the hope of the Gospel, people are trapped in fear, and conflict arises often as tribes seek to appease local deities and protect their people and land.

Believers know the transformative power of God's Word and ask for the chance to launch the Bible translations that share the truth of Christ and His power to set them free.

Thank you for your prayers and support that are strengthening believers and reaching the unreached through Bible translation projects that are truly transforming entire regions!

In Papua New Guinea, an Ontenu Bible translator says, *"I actually thank God for allowing the tribal conflicts to occur. Bad things happened, but God turns bad into good. After our houses were burned it took time to rebuild homes, but it's been such a blessing to see our translation project through to completion."*

***"This is a gift for our future generations  
that will have eternal reward."***

Another Bible translator added, *"It was a hard start with many challenges . . . but we took responsibility over it, and others eventually joined in. My desire is to see each village citizen with an Ontenu Bible in their hands soon."*

# Healthy Communities

## *Advance Bible Translation*

Clean, drinkable water is a huge challenge for millions of people around the world, particularly in India and Africa. Accessing clean water could mean walking for miles in dangerous conditions. Food shortages in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East mean families suffer . . . and Bible translation projects stall out.



Community development projects are changing everything through the installation of water wells and the distribution of “starter” livestock. As communities find health and economic stability, Bible translation projects come to life, too.



Through support from caring friends like you, national Bible translators are receiving tools and specialized training to launch their projects while their communities are being restored, which opens more hearts to hear about God’s love.



**IN A SOUTHEAST ASIAN VILLAGE,** a new water system pumps clean water directly into village homes. National Bible translators there have translated 65% of the New Testament into the local language of Gka\*, which will be a huge blessing in a nation that is 90% Muslim.



**A FARM ANIMAL PROJECT IN KENYA** will provide food and financial security in a region hit by severe drought. The food produced in eggs and livestock will help nourish Bible translation teams at a local training center, providing Scripture to millions who have never heard the Gospel in their own language!

*\*Name and photo have been changed for security purposes.*



# A Deep Commitment to Bible Translators

Your support for national Bible translation partners goes beyond the specialized training and technology needed to launch a Bible translation project. A true partnership ensures emergency help is available to our brothers and sisters when violence or disaster threatens lives and bring translation projects to a halt.

In 2023, your gifts to the Emergency 911 Fund rushed help to Bible translators and their churches in terrible situations, including:

- Helping national Bible translators in Ukraine get to safety so they can keep working on translation projects for minority languages in Eastern Europe
- Providing food, clothing, and shelter for translators and fellow Christians fleeing their homes due to war in Nigeria and in Sudan
- Helping provide relief and clean water for translators living in a refugee camp in East Africa, who had fled for their lives from attacks near their home
- Rushing relief to national Bible translators affected by natural disasters in Malawi, Vanuatu, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

On behalf of these partners, thank you for your prayers and support that made a huge difference in a time of crisis!

# Statement of Financial Activities

2023 Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2023

## Where Our Support Comes From

	Fiscal Year 2023
Contributions	\$22,143,202
Contributed services and facilities usage	\$15,560,868
Interest and other revenue	\$1,214,856
<b>Total contributions, other revenue, and net assets released from restrictions</b>	<b>\$38,918,926</b>

## Where Your Support Goes

Bible translation ministry programs – Supporting services	\$31,553,174
Fundraising	\$7,496,385
Management and general	\$2,416,544
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$41,466,103</b>

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 \$14,545,000 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, 2023 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 \$1,764,000 (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

2023 Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2023

## Assets

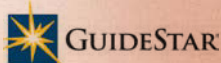
	Fiscal Year 2023
Current assets	\$2,093,159
Investments	\$13,273,828
Other assets	\$869,045
Property and equipment	\$247,025
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$16,483,057</b>

## Liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$777,692
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$777,692</b>

## Net Assets

Without donor restrictions	\$9,131,696
With donor restrictions	\$6,573,669
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$15,705,365</b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$16,483,057</b>



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/report/](http://wycliffeassociates.org/about/financial/report/).



# The Firm Foundation *of God's Word*

Thank you for partnering with Wycliffe Associates through your gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Looking ahead to 2024, there are so many ways to help:

- Please give as you are led by God.
- Consider becoming a Bible Translation Ambassador to spread the word about national Bible translation in your circle of influence.
- Volunteer your time in support of Bible translation.
- Involve your church in supporting Bible translation.



## Please Pray With Us—

- Ask God to break down every obstacle to launch a great many more Bible translations in 2024.
- Pray that together we can meet the needs of local churches and translation teams as they bravely begin to bring Scripture to life in new languages.
- Pray God will use you and all of us at Wycliffe Associates to advance the Gospel into every spiritually dark corner, reaching the unreached with the firm foundation only found through salvation.
- Pray for our brothers and sisters who are still waiting for God's Word in their heart languages—and Wycliffe Associates field staff who work tirelessly alongside these Christians to have Scripture in a language they understand.



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