Ministry Resourcing

SPRING 2026 / ISSN 2202-9818

Wycliffe Bible Translators

PHOTO BY GARY MCMASTER

What is Wycliffe Ministry Resourcing?

Wycliffe Australia's Ministry Resourcing department seeks to support the work of our members and organisational partners on the field. We are committed to building strong relationships, with an emphasis on mutual respect, trust, collaboration and prayer.

Our three main objectives are to:

- work closely with national Bible translation organisations
- support strategic partnerships with SIL Global
- support Australian members on the field with their project needs.

Take heart, projects of perseverance

At this time of year, the season turns and the days begin to grow longer. Early morning walks in the winter are long, cold and dark. Yet, I persevere, knowing it is good for both my body and mind. I leave in darkness, and return in darkness. Ah, but how nice it is in the Springtime to set out in darkness and watch as the sun rises to illuminate the world, bringing light to the shadows. The imposing shapes lining the roads become trees, and the black expanse turns to green pasture.

The projects listed here all reveal that despite physical challenges – whether it be sickness, terrain, even death – there is light in the darkness. We invite you to participate, through prayer and financial support, in the work God is doing in these communities who have experienced much pain and darkness. Despite the continuing challenges, there is hope.

By Jade Cummings,

Wycliffe Today editor

Medical Equipment for PNG

Project 8884

WYCLIFFE RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION PROJECT

Empowering Tagbanua communities.

One hygienist. A whole region in need. Help us change that.

The SIL Medical Clinic in Ukarumpa provides services to local communities in Papua New Guinea. Their latest priority is to assist the clinic in updating their dental facility. In the past they have had a fully staffed team in the dental clinic, but currently there is only one dental hygienist! Consequently, many people in the area suffer significant dental issues. Currently the closest dentist is two hours' travel on public transport, along rural roads.

The hope is to accommodate dentists who wish to work in PNG. The project will also aid in recruiting dentists, dental assistants, and dental lab technicians, as they will have a better facility to work in. This project will co-fund the purchase of the needed equipment, alongside medical specialists and the clinic's own resources. Dental hygiene can often feel like an optional add-on to health care, but dental issues quickly impact on overall health and wellbeing. If dental problems persist, they can lead to more significant health issues.

Target: A$22,000

MORE *For more information go to wrdf.org.au/pacific/png/png-medical-equipment/*

Wycliffe Relief and Development Foundation Projects

Wycliffe Relief and Development Foundation is a separate company owned by Wycliffe Australia, which works through local partners to improve the practical aspects of life in marginalised communities. We aim to demonstrate Christian compassion and provide practical assistance in literacy and education, disaster relief, medical and basic health support. Donations to the Foundation are tax-deductible.

For WRDF projects, visit wycliffefoundation.org.au

Wycliffe Field Support Projects

Wycliffe Australia is committed to helping our field teams and the organisations they work with to thrive and serve effectively in their communities. Ministry Resourcing can help with providing funding for computers, village housing, travel costs, delivery of training, consultants and other services.

See more projects at wycliffe.org.au/projects/

Scripture Distribution Bible Society Vietnam

Project 8825

WYCLIFFE FIELD SUPPORT PROJECT

This story is adapted from an article by The Bible Society of Vietnam

How far would you walk if it meant fellowship with other believers and hearing the Word of God? The highland women of Vietnam live arduous lives. Their days consist of strenuous agricultural work, chores and caring for family. Despite their circumstances, these women walked the winding rugged road from Dak Rip Church, wading through streams, climbing mountains and arrived at a gathering organised by the Christian mission church. They arrived not with fatigue but instead joyous smiles.

There, the Sedang ethnic women shared their testimonies of God's work in their lives, rescuing them from long, dark nights of illness, alcoholism and the darkness of superstition. One spoke of how the moment Jesus entered her stilt home, everything changed, and peace reigned in their home and their hearts. Another woman shared how desperately she cried out to the Lord to heal her chronically ill child. On their knees, the whole family prayed together for healing, and the Lord heard their cries. The child's strength and health returned. The mother, with tears streaming down her face, said 'I have nothing to repay the Lord, I only know how to love Him and follow Him to the end of my life.'

While they were there, the women were gifted Bibles from Wycliffe Bible Translators Australia, through Bible Society, and they joyfully held them tightly, exclaiming that the Bibles were, 'a love letter' written by God.

The Vietnam Bible Society wrote:

> We learned a profound lesson from their testimonies: their joy does not come from easy circumstances. The farm work remains arduous, the journey home is still far, and life is still full of hardships. That joy is undoubtedly deeper and more enduring because it comes from the presence of the One who loved them first, died for them, and promised never to forsake them. It is a joy that the world cannot give, nor can it take away.

Target: A$16,666

MORE *For more information go to wycliffe.org.au/projects/scripture-distribution-bsv/*

Moba Literacy Project

Project 8310

Moba is an African language spoken by the Moba people of Northern Togo. The Moba literacy project provides opportunities for the poor and illiterate. The funds raised in this project cover the cost of the classes, in which 75% of the participants are women.

Yendoube wanted to run literacy classes in his church so that the people would be able to read the Bible in the Moba language. It was a historically hostile area where many church plants had failed in the past. Yendoube explains the struggles and joys:

> The beginning of the course was not easy. We met multiple diabolical attacks, sickness, and even death. In spite of all that, the Lord, who is the inspiration for and master of this project allowed success, for the glory of his name. I rejoice to be used as a servant in this praiseworthy project, to glorify the name of the eternal God and our Lord Jesus Christ. … Truly, words fail me for telling of all the wonders that the Lord has accomplished in my life and in that of the members of my church, through these literacy classes.

Target: A$31,111

MORE *For more information on the Moba Literacy project, visit wycliffe.org.au/projects/moba-literacy-africa/*

Lama Old Testament Translation

Project 8315

WYCLIFFE FIELD SUPPORT PROJECT

Have you ever felt like God was speaking directly to you through the words of a sermon, song or Bible passage? That is exactly what happened to one of the mother-tongue translators working in the Lama language.

Lama is an African language spoken by the Lamba people of Togo, Benin and Ghana. The Lama New Testament was dedicated in 1995, and work on the Old Testament has been underway since the year 2000. Praise God that, after years of hard work and cooperation between SIL and the Bible Society of Togo, the first draft of the entire Bible has now been completed!

Translation consultants involved in the project recently met to read through the draft with the mother-tongue translators to check for errors and to test whether the translation into Lama was clear, accurate and natural. During the process of reading, one of the translators, David, gained a new appreciation for God's holiness and power. He shares his experience:

When the translators brought us together to present the plan on the read-through of the entire Bible in Lama, great joy could be seen on all our faces. Finally, the Bible in the Lama language will soon be here!

Target: A$9,444

MORE *For more information on the Lama Old Testament Translation project, visit wycliffe.org.au/projects/lama-old-testament/*

Wycliffe Bible Translators

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