

***Work
beginning
in a new
language
every day!***

**Wycliffe
Bible
Translators**



Your Bible translation progress report 2022–23



Two Ilchamus women enjoy reading the Ilchamus New Testament in Kenya for the first time.

'As the Ilchamus community receives the word of God in their language today, may it become a light to their feet for a great spiritual transformation.'

Rev Dr Robert Lang'at, Bishop of Africa Gospel Church of Kenya, at the Ilchamus New Testament launch

Cover photo: The Fanamaket New Testament in Papua New Guinea, held by a Fanamaket women, was one of the many new translations launched over the last year.

Thank you!

from the Executive Director

In a year of uncertainty, your faithful praying and giving is helping Bible translators to have the courage they need to persevere to bring God's word to their communities.



The last 12 months have been marked by political instability and economic uncertainty. Events in the UK have led concerned Bible translation teams to ask us if we are still able to honour the financial promises we made to them, especially as their own costs are under strain.

Yet in the midst of all this uncertainty, God remains steadfast. His mercies never come to an end. Great is his faithfulness.

Last year the Bible translation movement saw work begin in 367 new languages – that's one a day!

We rejoice that **last year proved to be a record-breaking year for Bible translation, with work beginning in 367 languages – that's the equivalent of one a day!** That means that every single day, one more people group is setting out on the journey towards having Scripture in its language for the first time. How's that for a good news story?

This is made possible because of supporters like you. Your generosity gives us the confidence to tell Bible translators we can meet their rising costs. And it gives us the faith to say yes to more Bible translation teams who are asking for funding to bring God's word to their communities in the language which speaks to them best.

So thank you for standing alongside Bible translators during difficult times. Together with other supporters across the UK and

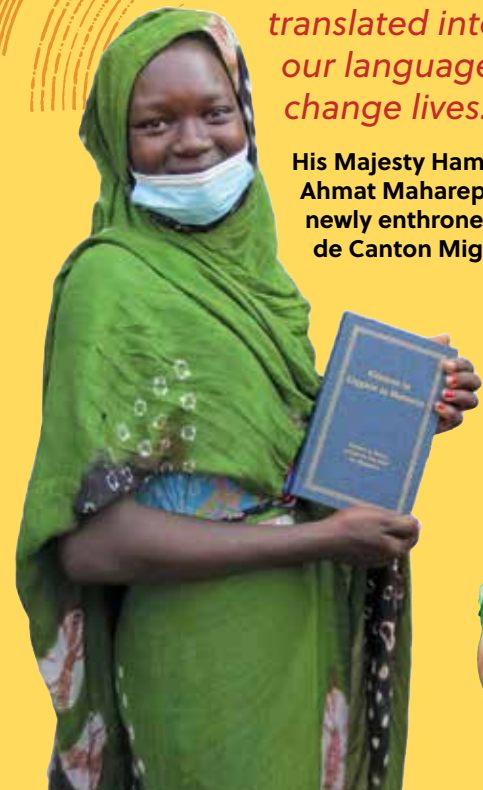
Ireland, you are helping to create a world where everyone can know Jesus through the Bible.

Thank you,

James Poole
Executive Director

'The word of God translated into our language can change lives.'

His Majesty Hamza Ahmat Maharep, the newly enthroned 'Chef de Canton Migaami'



'Today, you can find God right here, in the pages of this book. He has come to your house today.'

Blaise de Pascale Yankombona, a Ngbugu Christian in the Central African Republic



'People understand the Scriptures better; they understand grace.'

A Moma speaker at the Moma New Testament launch in Indonesia



'I was a doubting Thomas, thinking that the Bible would not be available in Tennet. But now I know that it is real!'

Commissioner Okach, a Tennet speaker in South Sudan



A Migaama woman holds her Migaama New Testament in Chad.

Pastor Jacques Aba holds up the brand-new Ngbugu New Testament.

A Moma-speaking woman reading her New Testament.

A Tennet man avidly reads his newly launched New Testament.

Last year in numbers

Bible translation progress is accelerating

367

new language projects started

49

full Bible or New Testament translations launched

3,266

languages have ongoing work in progress

16 million

people who did not have access to any Scripture a year ago now do

Wycliffe Bible Translators and our partner organisations are involved in over **75%** of Bible translation work worldwide.

Your giving is accelerating the work of Bible translation

Your generosity was doubled!

In Christmas 2021, a group of Wycliffe supporters offered to double every donation until we raised £250,000 – our biggest ever appeal. Your incredible generosity raised £330,000 for Bible translation teams worldwide.

Your generosity means that the dreams of translators like Lonh in Cambodia are becoming reality – the Bunong translation is progressing, and the team is on track to have the whole Bible in their language by 2030. Lonh's message for you is: **'We are so grateful to you for your generosity. Thank you so much!'**



Christians who couldn't carry a Bible openly – now can



You gave £49,000 to support our brothers and sisters around the world who are living in places that are hostile to the gospel – and where it is dangerous to be caught in possession of a physical Bible.

Thanks to your help, more persecuted Christians, like those speaking Lenthomi* in Central Asia, now have the Bible in specially designed apps that can be hidden on their smartphone to keep them safe.

*name changed for security reasons

Bible translators can rely on Give the Word partners

Over 750 of you are Give the Word partners – people who are now committed to supporting Bible translators with a monthly gift. During a cost-of-living crisis that is being felt both here and overseas, we're so grateful that so many of you are providing monthly support for the ongoing work.

Your generosity means that Bible translators like Aristarchus in Uganda can keep focused on their work and the long-term impact it will have. He says: **'Thank you so much. What joy it is to be part of something that will last for generations and generations.'**



The word of God is everything

Carol Williams, a Give the Word partner, explains why being part of Bible translation through giving regularly means so much to her.



What role has the Bible played in your life?

The word of God is everything to me. Absolutely everything. From those early years when I was just a teenager, I read and read my Bible, I wore out my Bible. I've worn out a few Bibles. But that's okay to wear out your Bible! Because God uses it to speak to you personally.

When did you first hear about Wycliffe?

I must have been about 17 or 18. A woman from Wycliffe came and I've never forgotten her – and that's almost 60 years ago! I was really blessed by that and I never forgot what she said. I've often shared with different people what she said and what she did. I mean, her life was in danger. But that's how I got to know about Wycliffe.

Why do you think that Bible translation is important?

The Bible says that God's word will not return void. His words are more important than our words – that's the promise we've got. The other thing that is important is that the Bible says that in the last days every nation will hear, every

ear will hear. How can they hear unless they understand? So it is vital for people to have the Bible in their language. That's the bottom line. It's essential that people have the word of God in their own language.

How do you play your part in Bible translation?

I'm a Give the Word partner with my direct debit with Wycliffe. I was very excited. I think you've got to ask God what he wants you to give your money to. And I know for definite that God wants me to give money to Wycliffe so the word of God can get into the hands of people.

What would be your message to other supporters of Wycliffe?

I think it's vital that God's word gets out there, to every nation and to unreached people. It doesn't just happen, it costs – the personal cost of people's time and skill, but also the financial cost. So I think it is a vital thing to give money towards God's word being translated, which takes years and years of work. I feel quite emotional about it and I pray God's blessing on everyone as they serve him in this wonderful ministry.



**Work beginning in a new
language every day!**

**Wyc|iffe
Bib|e
Trans|ators**



Why is the pace of Bible translation increasing?

More Bibles have been translated into new languages already in this century than in the previous hundred years.

The happiness that comes from having the Bible in your language! This Tennet woman smiled with joy at the launch of the Tennet New Testament in South Sudan.

Did you know that 42% of the world's 724 Bibles that have been translated, were published since the year 2000? The pace of Bible translation is increasing.

And it's not just the number of Bible translations being completed that is increasing rapidly, but the number of new ones that are starting. A record number of 367 language projects started last year – that's a rate of one a day.

But why is the pace quickening?

God is using three main pillars to build this acceleration of the work of Bible translation on:

More technology

'Computers really help us a lot,' says Edoh, a translator with the Ifè team in Togo. Access to computers – and

generators that enable computers to work in places with unreliable electricity – give translation teams the essential equipment they need to progress.

Cutting-edge translation software is also making a huge difference in the quality and pace of translation. This software enables translators to compare their work side by side with other translations and with the original languages the Bible was written in. And increased connectivity means that people working in different places – and even across different continents – can now work together using this software in real time.

The development of technology that translation teams can draw on continues to develop rapidly. Wycliffe

people like Mark Woodward, who is from Wiltshire, are serving as part of teams developing Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology using data science to help with the translation checking process. 'We think AI can be a tool that can make things better and more efficient for Bible translators,' Mark explains. 'It could be a similar revolution within the work of Bible translation to when translation teams started to use computers.'

More people

People are the backbone of Bible translation. Over the last few decades there has been a huge investment in training local people to translate the Bible – and to lead the work of translation in their countries and communities.

Now that many of those people have gone on to train others, it means that there has been huge growth in the number of people working to translate the Bible around the world. And that means a big jump in the amount of ongoing translation happening each and every day.

More funding

While most of the work of translation is now being done by local people, the majority of the funding that enables translation to happen comes from the generosity of people like you.

Your love for others, expressed through your giving, means that we have been able to invest more in people to translate the Bible, and in developing more technology to help those people work as efficiently and effectively as possible.

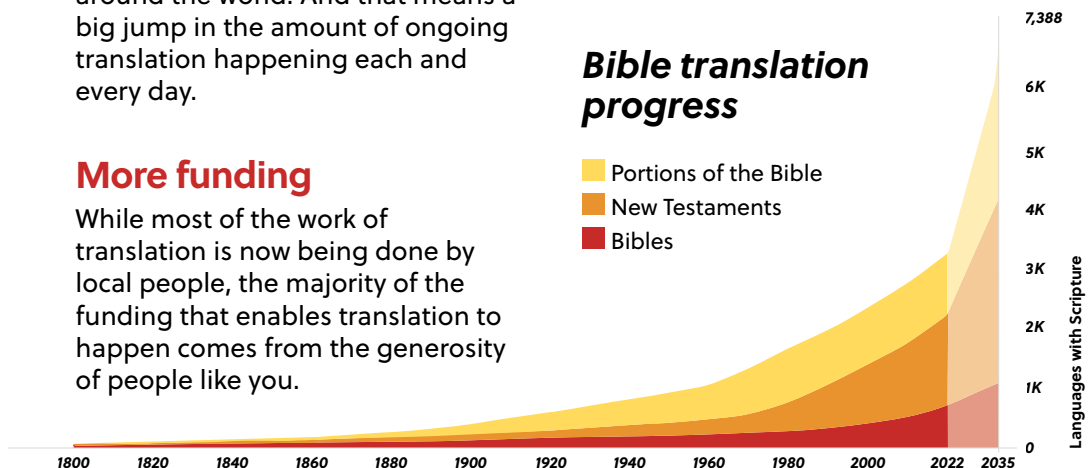
'The ultimate aim of everyone who is part of Bible translation is that people can access the Bible,' Mark Woodward notes. The role you play through your giving is being used by God to make a huge difference in the number of people who will be able to know Jesus through the Bible in the coming years.

Thank you!

Thanks to your support, over 360 people – like Mark and Laura Woodward – are serving with Wycliffe.

Bible translation progress

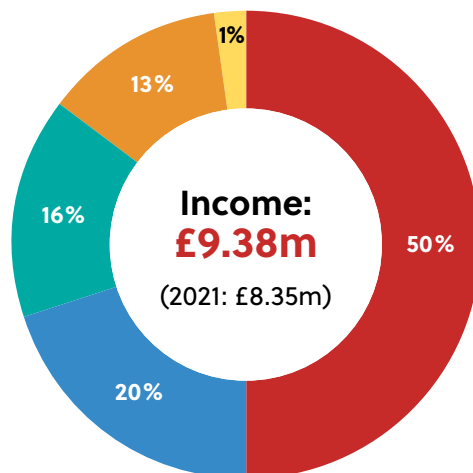
Portions of the Bible
New Testaments
Bibles



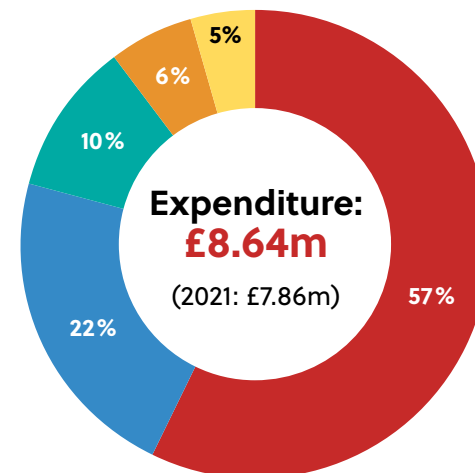
Thank you! Accounts for year ended 30 September 2022

Accounts for year ended 30 September 2022. These are provisional accounts. Audited accounts will be available on request. All numbers rounded to the nearest hundred.

Individuals
£4,670,900
Trusts and Organisations
£1,894,600
Churches
£1,542,300
Legacies
£1,185,600
Other
£84,100



Supported people
£4,925,600
Programmes and partners
£1,889,400
Supporting charitable costs
£886,600
Church and supporter relations
£548,600
Fundraising
£388,000



Thank you for supporting the work of Bible translation – we are grateful to God for you.



'We think that everyone should have access to the Bible in the language that speaks to them best. Translation takes time, so we give regularly to Wycliffe so that translators have stability and ongoing support to do their vital work.'

Tom and Eleanor Sharpe,
Give the Word partners



'I want to thank all the people from the UK and Ireland who are supporting us. Your financial support means that we can do the work we are supposed to do – translating the Bible so more people can understand it. We thank God for you.'

Elisabeth Gning, Bible translator
for Contemporary Wolof in Senegal

'We are so grateful to the people and churches whose regular support allows us to focus on the task at hand. Many people serving with Wycliffe are experiencing the impact of global economics; it's so encouraging to have supporters we can rely on.'

Paul and Jo Murrell, serving with Wycliffe



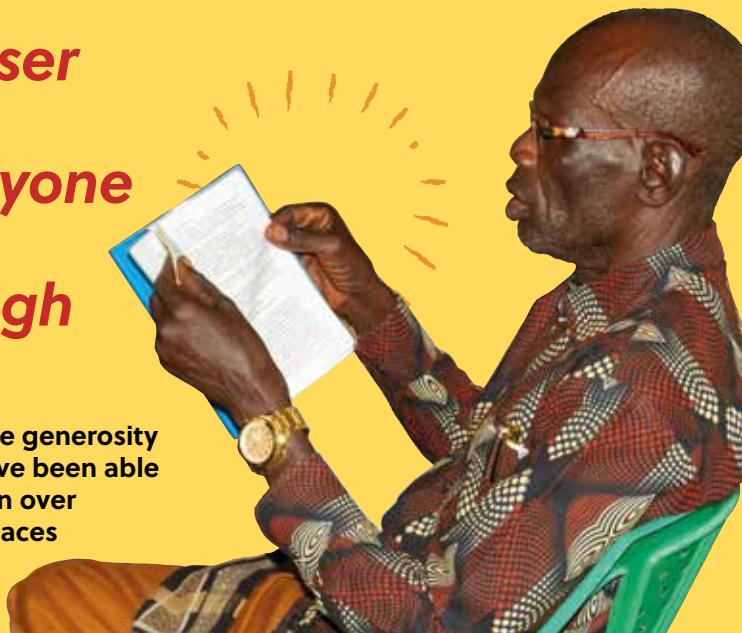
'I have supported someone serving with Wycliffe for many years and adding Wycliffe to my Will makes sense. Bible translation work is important to me because I believe everyone should have access to God's word.'

Heledd Smith, supporter



Moving closer to a world where everyone can know Jesus through the Bible

Thanks to your incredible generosity over the last year we have been able to fund teams working in over 40 extra languages in places across Asia and Africa.



Your kindness means not only that the work of Bible translation has moved forward significantly during 2022, but also that it will continue to do so throughout 2023. That means that this year, and in the years to come, the number of people who will be able to know Jesus through the Bible will continue to grow and grow.

Some of the exciting and pioneering work you are enabling to happen is:

Democratic Republic of the Congo

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is one of the poorest countries in the world – and has a huge need for Bible translation. Your giving is now supporting translation work in 10 languages – and preparatory work for future translation in over 20 more languages. This will make a huge difference in the number of people across the DRC who can access the Bible.

Anyssa*

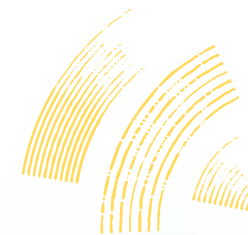
In a place in Asia where less than 0.01% of the population is Christian, the translation team has asked for support to build on the small number of passages that have been translated in Anyssa. As videos are often the most effective way to reach people who are hostile to the gospel, the team is also producing videos about Jesus, Abraham, David and some of the parables as a way of drawing people into engaging more deeply with translated passages.

Lutian*

The Lutian people in Asia are unreached, their language has just been written down for the first time! As well as engaging the community by encouraging literacy, the team aims to translate the Gospel of Mark in 2023 and to share it safely online.

Thank you so much for your generosity, it makes such a difference!

The first public reading of the Ilchamus Scriptures in Kenya was accompanied by shouts of 'Amen', as the people affirmed a new dawn for the community. The New Testament was received with much joy, with some people holding it to their chests or even kissing it. That's how much it meant!



◀ The Ilchamus people in Kenya shout for joy at the launch of the New Testament in their language!



/ Doug & Rachel from Darlington / Rachel from Worcester / Alex from Rugby / Sawyers Church in Brentwood / All Saints Church in Normanton / Christ Church in Alsager / Leyland Pentecostal Church in Lancashire / The Radstock Trust / Samuel from Llandrindod Wells / David from Bridgend / Blandford Evangelical Church / Helen from Hook / John from Aylesbury / Charlotte Baptist Chapel in Edinburgh / Andy from Sheffield / The Presbyterian Church in Ireland /

Work beginning in a new language every day thanks to **YOU**

Anne from Redhill / Mary from Southampton / Assemblies of God / Grantham Baptist Church / The Crowded House Church, Sheffield / Jonny from Craigavon / Richard & Patrina from Spalding / Henry & Rose from Nottingham / George from Birmingham / The Stuart Hine Trust / Magnus from Shetland / Trinity Road Chapel in Tooting / Iain from Belfast / Hidalba from London / Malcolm from St Andrews / Geoffrey from Tavistock / Michael & Vera from Birmingham / St Peter's Church in Loudwater / Dukiel from London / Daniel from Mullingar / Doreen from Bridgend / Adelaide Road Presbyterian in Dublin / Queensway Chapel in Melksham / Mary from Orkney / Everyday Church in London / Thiago & Megan from Chesterfield / Killymurris Presbyterian in Ballymena / Michael from Bolton / Christine from Glasgow /