

Annual Report 2024

TRANSLATING SCRIPTURE.
TRANSFORMING LIVES.



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A word from our president

Dear friends,

What a blessing to participate in what the Holy Spirit is doing around the world in the lives of his people. Every culture and language offers unique insights into God’s Word. Translated Scripture is a gift both to and from minority language groups, enriching the body of Christ. Your prayers and generosity continue to make this possible. Thank you for your commitment.

Last fall, I had the privilege of joining Bible translation ministries from all over the world at the Global Gathering in South Africa. I was deeply touched to see so much passion and devotion, and to hear stories of how the local church is taking up the responsibility of Bible translation. At Wycliffe Canada, we celebrate this global shift towards local church leadership.

Our commitment to Vision 2025—the goal that a translation program would begin in every language that still needs one by the end of 2025—positioned us well for this shift. Focusing on a specific date pushed us to partner more closely with local churches and other translation organizations. It led us to embrace technology and innovation. This focus also revealed to us the importance of training and building capacity in communities around the world.

Before Vision 2025 launched in 1999, Bible translators engaged new languages at a rate of 30 per year. Today, that engagement rate is 515 languages per year. Together with our partners, we are currently working in more than

3,000 languages, with fewer than 1,000 waiting for translation to begin! Praise God for this incredible progress.

Now, we are leaning into Target 2027, a strategic plan that’s helping us hone how we support the global Bible translation movement. We want to engage the church—both in Canada and around the world. We desire to build new models for sending and funding that allow us to better respond to the expressed needs of local churches. This means focusing on excellence at Wycliffe Canada, so that we can endure and flourish as an organization.

As Jesus reminds us in John 15, “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” I believe that it is because we have pressed into Jesus that we see so much good fruit in the Bible translation movement. Let us remain in Jesus and press forward together.

Your partner in Christ,

Jon ImBeau
President, *Wycliffe Canada*





Target 2027

Target 2027 is a four-year strategic plan designed to help us endure and flourish as a Bible translation ministry. We are carefully adapting to meet current and future needs, because there is so much good work still to be done.

Everything we do is for the sake of seeing God transform lives through translated Scripture.

Engage

We will listen and learn from the church in Canada as we develop a new engagement model that supports Bible translation. This includes

- Implementing a church engagement strategy,
- Increasing youth involvement, and
- Educating churches on the importance of Scripture and Bible translation.

Evolve

In 2024-2025, we will develop a sustainable staffing and funding model to support the global church's evolving needs for Bible translation.

By 2027, we aim to enhance funding for projects, personnel and operations to ensure the long-term impact of Bible translation.

Excel

We will clarify and develop our unique role in the Bible translation movement, and engage in it with excellence. We will

- Expand support for language projects,
- Strengthen partnerships, and
- Explore opportunities in Canada and around the world.

Enhance

Refining our policies, communication and organizational culture will help us stay connected and become the best we can be. This involves

- Enhancing Wycliffe organizational culture,
- Fostering spiritual growth, and
- Improving resource stewardship to better support our staff and partners.

BIBLE TRANSLATION

Bible Translation, Engagement with Scripture, Literacy and Capacity Building are the four pillars of Wycliffe Canada's work. They enable us to steward our resources faithfully and to support the holistic impact of translation.

“I struggled to understand the Word of God in English, but as it was being read in the mother tongue, I understood it better. As the book was read, I heard it in a deeper way than I have heard it before.”

—Philomene, reviewer of the Bangolan New Testament

God has spoken, and continues to speak, through His Word—the Bible. The Scriptures point to Jesus, the source of life, restoration and salvation. But 1 in 5 people around the world still don't have access to the whole Bible in a language and form they clearly understand.

Bible translation allows people everywhere to meaningfully engage with the Word. God speaks through it to transform lives in every culture, whether it's shared in written form, sign language, oral Bible storytelling, audio or videos.

As a member of the Wycliffe Global Alliance, Wycliffe Canada partners with more than 100 organizations in the global work of Bible translation. This year, for the first time ever, fewer than 1,000 languages are still waiting for a translation program to begin.

We are thrilled by this incredible progress. In 2024, Wycliffe Canada was involved in translation and language-related work in **352 languages around the world**. We

- **Translated and published Scripture** in languages all over the world;
- **Facilitated oral storytelling initiatives** to help people in oral cultures connect with God's Word;
- **Supported video Bible translation projects** that share sign language Scriptures with Deaf communities;
- **Trained local partners** to do the work of Bible translation; and
- **Developed The Bible Translator's Assistant (TBTA)** software so that translated Scripture can reach more language groups, faster.

Recent milestones

Bangolan: completed New Testament translation in Cameroon.

Naskapi: completed and dedicated the book of Exodus in Canada.

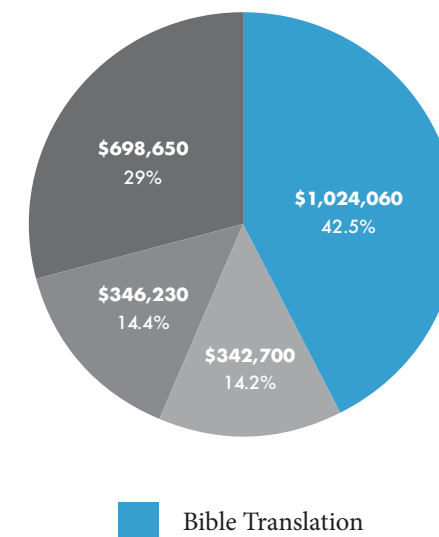
Tazig* and Sukkha*: dedicated New Testaments in South Asia.

Southern Thai: completed and recorded a set of 47 oral Bible stories in Thailand.

Jade Star* sign language: continued translating and filming the book of Acts in Southeast Asia.

* pseudonyms used.

Total commitments to focus projects in fiscal year 2024



ENGAGEMENT WITH SCRIPTURE



“The workshop taught me that parenting is a God-given responsibility. I learned the importance of being a good father ... and that children are a gift from God. I now have hope.”

—Nyan, a participant in a Scripture-based family workshop in the Kinsha region of Southeast Asia

God’s Word is eternal and unchanging, transforming lives wherever it goes. While the truth of God’s Word remains the same, people around the world relate to Him through Scripture in vastly different ways—because people, communities and cultures differ.

Bible translation doesn’t stop with the completion of printed, audio or visual Scripture. Life transformation begins when people and communities learn how to truly engage with Scripture. Together with partner churches and organizations worldwide, Wycliffe develops creative methods to help people everywhere understand the Word, interact with it and integrate it into their daily lives.

People and communities find dignity, hope and meaning as they engage deeply through Scripture with the God who loves them. Churches grow, thrive and make disciples. God’s Kingdom expands.

Wycliffe is committed to helping language communities around the world truly engage with

Scripture. In 2024, we

- **Printed songbooks, Bible study guides and prayer books** for language communities all over the world;
- **Hosted family well-being workshops** that taught participants to apply principles from Scripture to their family relationships;
- **Held showings of the JESUS film and other biblical films** to reach visual learners with the gospel message;
- **Led trauma-healing workshops** that helped participants find comfort and healing by connecting with God through Scripture;
- **Researched Scripture engagement and use** in communities that already have Scripture access; and
- **Helped people engage with Scripture through the arts** including music, drama and visual arts.

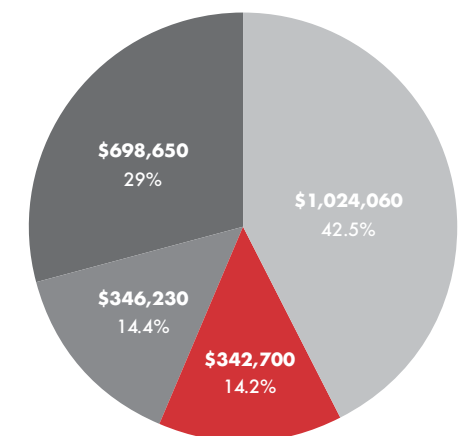
Recent milestones

Eastern Lawa: completed a songbook that includes 57 songs for use in church services in Thailand.

Kinsha: led 80 Scripture-based family workshops for over 3000 participants in Southeast Asia.

SURAM Cameroon: completed a survey about Bible engagement in 28 language groups in Cameroon.

Total commitments to focus projects
in fiscal year 2024



Engagement with Scripture



LITERACY

“I have realized that there is a big need for literacy. If the Bible is translated and people are not able to read it, it won’t help them ... I have realized that my literacy work will not only help people become literate in my mother tongue but it is a form of discipleship. It will help them read the Bible in their mother tongue and then know God better!”

—Emmanual, Bangolan church elder and literacy teacher

When people can read Scripture in a language they clearly understand, they can better interact with it and integrate it into their lives. That’s why literacy programs often go hand in hand with Bible translation. And when local churches gain access to other translated resources like Bible studies and devotional materials, they grow and thrive spiritually.

Literacy also benefits the broader community. It can preserve previously unwritten languages and help record traditional forms of oral history and storytelling. Literacy is also an important part of life-saving health and hygiene promotion and helps subsistence farmers grow more productively and with sustainability. In a rapidly changing world, literacy opens doors to education, economic empowerment and a better life for the next generation.

Wycliffe Canada encouraged the growth of literacy in many language groups in 2024. We

- **Provided multilingual education programs, language classes and clubs** so that both children and adults can learn to read and write in the language that serves them best;
- **Trained literacy teachers** to teach reading and writing skills to students in their communities;
- **Developed new alphabets and writing systems** in minority languages;
- **Created literacy materials** including story books, songs, videos, apps and social media content in languages around the world; and
- **Continued language development surveys and research** to better understand the needs of language communities.

Recent milestones

Kinsha: Continued literacy efforts—including creating literacy materials and teaching children and adults to read—in 21 languages in Southeast Asia.

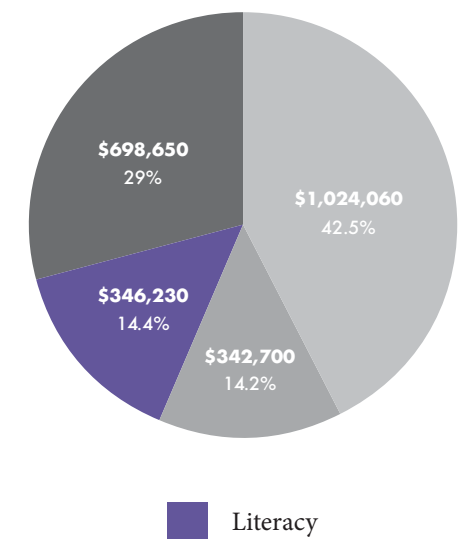
Ndop Cluster: Celebrated a successful school year at multilingual education (MLE) schools in Cameroon.

Northern Warmi: Provided literacy and sewing training to 30 women at two women’s centres in Southwest Asia.

Northern Thai Lanna: Hosted weekly literacy clubs for children in Thailand.

Oji-Cree: Built a multimedia story collection to support language preservation in Canada.

Total commitments to focus projects in fiscal year 2024



Literacy

CAPACITY BUILDING



“I have learned that language development is a bridge to proclaiming the gospel to local people, which is effective and gentle. Language is one of the clearest ways of communicating what God has given to humankind.”

—IngRaw, Payap University scholarship student training to support Bible Translation work

As the global church embraces the opportunity to translate Scripture into every living language, Wycliffe seeks to help eliminate bottlenecks. This means more training for more people in more places. It means local, sustainable ownership of the work. And it means translating the whole Bible, God’s full counsel—not just the New Testament.

Capacity building means strengthening the global church’s ability—today and tomorrow—to carry out Jesus’ Great Commission. Ultimately it means transformed lives giving glory to God.

Wycliffe Canada celebrates the growth of local church ownership of translation work. To support this movement, in 2024, we

- **Trained local partners to translate the Bible** and to support translations with literacy work and language development;

- **Organized pastor-training workshops** to equip church leaders with the tools they need to help their congregations engage with God’s Word;
- **Supported Bible translation graduate students** as they complete their training at Payap University in Thailand;
- **Formed local language committees** to ensure that translations reflect the needs and desires of the communities they serve; and
- **Addressed the worldwide lack of translation consultants** by equipping new consultants to guide translation teams and to check translated Scripture for accuracy and effectiveness.

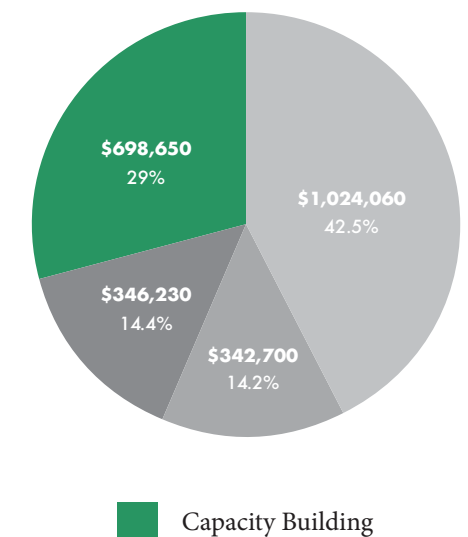
Recent milestones

Kinsha: trained over 300 instructors to teach literacy classes to students in their communities in Southeast Asia.

Mba: Formed a local language committee to ensure translation reflects the needs of the community in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Payap University: Sponsored eight scholarship students who are training to become translators in their home countries in Thailand.

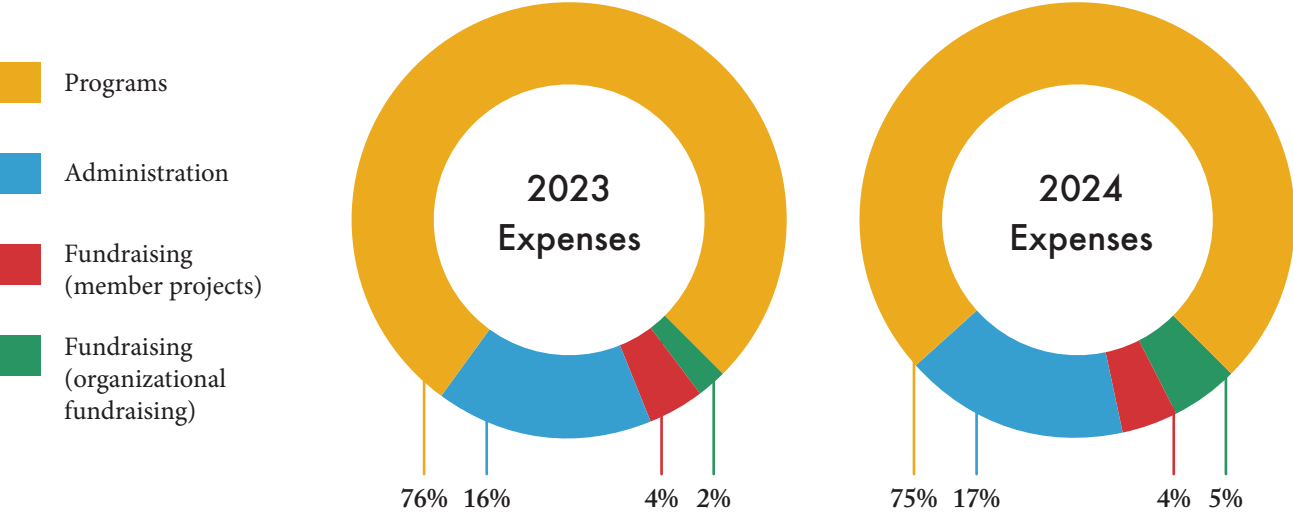
Total commitments to focus projects in fiscal year 2024



Financials

Statement of operations & changes in fund balances
(thousands of dollars) over 12 months:

Income	2023	2024	Difference
Contributions income	\$18,884	\$19,502	↑ 3.27%
Other income	\$430	\$725	↑ 68.6%
Expenses			
Wycliffe approved programs	\$14,279	\$14,398	↑ 0.83%
Administration	\$2,945	\$3,177	↑ 7.87%
Fundraising—member projects	\$738	\$737	↓ 0.14%
Fundraising—organizational fundraising	\$793	\$890	↑ 12.2%
Net excess (Deficiency) of operations	\$588	\$1,026	↑ 74.5%
Fund balances at beginning of year	\$4,459	\$5,017	↑ 12.5%
Fund balances at end of year	\$5,017	\$6,043	↑ 20.5%



People & Project numbers 2024

622 million
people potentially
impacted
by Wycliffe Canada projects
(from 422 million in 2023)

352 language groups
served by translation,
literacy or other
language-related work
(from 268 in 2023)

53 countries
served throughout Africa,
the Americas, Asia,
Europe and the Pacific
(from 43 in 2023)

415 Wycliffe Canada staff worldwide
including volunteers and interns
(from 407 in 2023)

A lush tropical landscape with a thatched hut and dense foliage. The scene is set in a clearing with a dirt path leading through dense greenery. On the left, a small hut with a thick thatched roof is partially visible. The background is filled with various tropical trees and plants, including palm trees and banana leaves. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

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Back cover image: Marc Erwell, Wycliffe Global Alliance.