United Bible Societies



Equip a Literacy Advisor

PROJECT NO: 102175



Overview

This capacity building project for Bible Society literacy workers will impact about 30 literacy staff of Bible Societies in the Asia Pacific, thereby benefiting their literacy projects and thousands of learners in the coming years.

The Need

Many Bible Societies in the Asia Pacific region are running literacy projects in their respective countries, seeking to meet the need for literacy in their countries and empower people with reading and writing skills.

There is a need to build the capacity of the literacy staff in these Bible Societies. A competency survey (scheduled for 2023) will demonstrate the specific needs of all the Bible Society staff conducting literacy work in their Bible Societies.

<u>non-literate adults</u> in Pakistan.

non-literates in Bangladesh.

non-literate adults in Laos.

Bible Societies work in 52 countries in the Asia Pacific Region.

Goals

In 2023, this project (informed by the competency survey results) will conduct appropriate training events to build the capacity of literacy staff in the region. One such training event which has been recommended for 2023 is a virtual workshop series or webinar on Literacy Principles, after which, a series of themed-based workshops like Literacy Materials Production, Bloom software application, Writing Workshop, will be identified accordingly.

The specific goals of this project are to conduct two training events in 2023 for the literacy staff of Bible Societies in the Asia Pacific Region. The over-arching aim of these two training events will be to strengthen the capacity-building efforts of Bible Society literacy staff in the Asia Pacific region. One training will be virtual, using the Zoom platform and the other will be an in-person training in 2023.

Impact

In 2022, the impact of this project was felt by 4 literacy staff from Ceylon Bible Society, who were further equipped to develop, design, and implement their current literacy project. They are currently applying what they have learned in the online platform into their field practice. In the same way, the 3 literacy and admin staff from Laos Bible Society have learned the basic principles of literacy and literacy project implementation. They are currently reviewing the materials they are using to fit with the current audience of their project. The Bible Society Literacy Staff who attended the literacy materials development and software training in previous years have been equipped in developing age-appropriate materials for their learners.

This project will primarily impact Bible Society literacy staff, especially those involved in the delivery of literacy programs. When trained in different aspects of literacy programs (planning, implementation, evaluation) they will be able to use it in the context of their literacy projects. It is hoped that these staff will be able to strengthen their program implementation and develop several Bible engagement products for non-literate audiences.

Testimonies

"Please pray for the literacy projects, that we will have adequate specialists. There was a time we did not have specialists in literacy, but now there are literacy specialists. They're able to make an impact. We need to not simply do the work of literacy education, but do the work in the right way. And that is where the specialists come in."

Julian Sundersingh, the head of UBS Global Literacy Coordination.

Prayer Needs

- Pray that the competency assessment survey will bring out the capacity needs of literacy staff in the Asia Pacific, and that these needs would be addressed by the project.
- Pray that all the participating Bible Societies will be able to understand
 the principles behind literacy practices, materials production,
 implementation, and the Bloom technology and use it effectively for the
 development of their literacy projects in the years to come.
- Pray that the COVID-19 pandemic will totally end and restrictions on international travel will completely end in 2023.

