

Asia Pacific



Literacy Advice in Asia Pacific

Project: 102039
Tax Deductible



750m

non-literate adults around the world

18

Bible Societies in 52 countries are supported by UBS

21

staff from 12 Bible Societies across Asia Pacific and the Global Literacy Office attended the 2024 Asia Pacific Literacy Training held in Thailand

Overview

This project aims to strengthen Bible Societies in the Asia Pacific for literacy work by funding United Bible Societies (UBS) Literacy Advisors. Advisors collaborate globally to establish a literacy framework, guide project prioritisation, ensure quality, and assist Bible Societies in planning and implementing literacy programs in their countries.

The Need

Without help from literacy experts, Bible Society literacy projects would lack quality in design and implementation. Literacy experts are required to ensure that projects are the very best in both of these areas.

Literacy work is central to Bible Society's mission around the world, educating the non-literate, and breaking down the barriers imposed by illiteracy. Equipping people with literacy enriches their lives in many ways, including enabling them to read God's word for themselves.

The United Bible Societies are committed to giving the 750 million non-literate adults around the world access to God's word.

Goals

This project aims to fund literacy specialists for the Asia Pacific region, benefiting Bible Societies by enhancing literacy project standards and providing direct support. Literacy Advisors work on a global strategy, strengthen links between Bible translation and literacy, guide program initiation, assess literacy needs, foster partnerships with other agencies, and assist in planning, implementing, and evaluating UBS literacy projects.

In 2025, the project aims to continue the services of the literacy specialist for Asia, aiming to elevate literacy projects by Bible Societies in this region.

Activities in 2025 will include establishing literacy projects in Papua New Guinea and Nepal, while helping enhance new literacy programs in the South Pacific, Mongolia and The Gulf. The literacy advisor will also be providing follow-up support in various ongoing literacy programs across Asia, assisting Bible Societies with needs assessments and project implementation and other key initiatives.

Impact

Bible Society literacy projects have faced challenges in design and implementation quality. However, with support from literacy specialists, significant improvements are expected in the skills of literacy staff and the overall quality of their literacy projects. Since the appointment of a Literacy Advisor for the Asia Pacific in 2019, noticeable progress has already been achieved.

This initiative is projected to benefit approximately 100,000 individuals. Direct beneficiaries include Bible Society staff engaged in literacy work across the Asia Pacific, who will receive expert guidance, training in literacy principles, standardised practices, and knowledge of the literacy lifecycle. Indirect beneficiaries include literacy graduates, their families, and their communities, who will gain from the transformative impact of these enhanced literacy projects.

Testimony

“Establishing a global framework for literacy is like a guide for the Bible Society staff doing literacy projects and programs around the world... So, it's like a step-by-step guide for them how to do a project. So, [it gives] the principles behind why they do what they do. The principles behind literacy, reading and writing and of course, project management materials development training at the church.” — Mansueto (Cito) Casquite, UBS Literacy Advisor (Asia-Pacific)

Prayer Points

- Praise God for the successful Asia Pacific Literacy Training in Thailand and the Online Mini-Writer's Workshop for staff and partners in Mongolia and Sri Lanka in 2024.
- Pray that participants of the literacy training and workshops effectively apply the principles and skills learned to enhance their literacy projects in 2025.
- Pray for improved literacy practices and impactful outcomes through the Literacy Advisor's continued support and guidance across the region.