

Mozambique



Literacy for Life

**Project: Non UBS
Tax Deductible**



32m

people live in Mozambique

67%

live as subsistence farmers

42%

are non-literate

Overview

Bible Society Australia is supporting Mission Educate* in running a Bible based literacy project designed to provide basic literacy, numeracy and life skills. It targets those living in impoverished city areas and rural communities who have little access to education and works with churches who have very few literate people among their communities.

The Need

Mozambique, one of the world's poorest nations, grapples with over 50% of its population living below the poverty line. A legacy of oppressive colonial rule has left the country with a national sense of inferiority.

The religious landscape is diverse, predominantly Christian, yet literacy challenges hinder easy understanding of the Bible. The lack of solid biblical teaching fosters unbiblical beliefs and practices.

The intertwining issues of illiteracy and poverty form a vicious cycle: poverty compels children to forgo education, perpetuating low incomes and trapping many in persistent poverty. This cycle fosters a deep sense of shame and worthlessness. Addressing these challenges requires urgent efforts to provide accessible literacy education for both adults and children.

*Mission Educate is a not-for-profit organisation, meaning any donations to this project are tax-deductible.

Goals

This project targets non-literate adults and vulnerable youth, aiming to empower them to read basic signs, documents, and the Bible. In 2025, the program aims to provide literacy training across three provinces.

Conducted in community settings, the classes focus on reading, numeracy, and essential life skills like nutrition, cooking and horticulture. Through four full-time staff and 19 facilitators, this project maintains 20 groups in three provinces, benefiting 650 participants. This positively influences families and communities, with an estimated 3,250 indirect beneficiaries.

Objectives include achieving a Grade 6 literacy standard, evidenced by exams and enhanced confidence. Graduates are expected to deepen their understanding of the Bible and their role in the Kingdom of God, demonstrated by regular Bible reading and church involvement. The ultimate aim is an improved overall quality of life, observable through the practical application of life skills in their daily routines.

Impact

In 2025, this project will directly impact 650 participants. Mozambicans who are given the opportunity to learn to read and write, experience a sense of self-worth and personal value. The ability to read the Bible and learn of God's love and grace and his redemptive plan for each individual is transformative.

The classes are run in local churches, whose pastors partner with Mission Educate, which promotes community transformation, as well as developing unity amongst pastors and local congregations.

The Literacy for Life Project will transform individuals, families and communities. Church congregations are expected to be transformed with an increase in literate members who can read the Bible and engage in meaningful Bible discussions, encouraging the formation of personal faith.

Testimony

"After my husband's death, I faced many difficulties in supporting my children ... I tried to do some business but was unsuccessful. Changes happened in my life when I started the Literacy for Life Project. I now read and write which has made it easier to start and run my own business. With the Project's training on chicken farming, I was able to acquire enough skills to open my own aviary." — Tania, 42-year-old widow*

**Name changed to protect privacy.*

Prayer Points

- Pray especially for women and girls whose male authority figure may discourage or even prevent their attendance.
- Pray for safety and health of the Literacy Facilitators, many of whom walk long distances to lead their groups.
- Pray for Pastor Jose who is the Literacy for Life Project Coordinator, that he will be strengthened and encouraged as he leads this Project.