

Uganda



Holistic Literacy Skills

Project: 102192
Tax Deductible



70.2%

adult literacy rate in Uganda, though
this is lower in the sub-regions

70%

of Kupsapiiny speakers are Christian

92%

of the Ma'di people are Christians

Overview

This project aims at developing literacy skills among non-literate Kupsapiiny, Ma'di and Ng'akarajong speakers, empowering them with literacy skills so they can develop holistically and engage with the Bible.

The Need

The literacy levels in Uganda are about 70%, especially in urban centres. In sub-regions like Karamoja, Sebie and Ma'di, literacy levels have remained low despite the reported economic growth of the country.

Literacy skills are crucial to help these communities liberate themselves from poverty, as well as holistic training sessions, which are equally vital for their self-improvement.

The higher rate of illiteracy has also meant that some newly translated Bible portions in the Sabiiny, Ma'di and Karamoja sub-regions were not received as warmly as hoped, as the non-literate communities could not access God's word. If the Bible is to be read and engaged with meaningfully, then the people need to be literate. Translated Scriptures and Bible resources will be left futile if the community can't read.

Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. ‘Do you understand what you are reading?’ Philip asked. ‘How can I,’ he said, ‘unless someone explains it to me?’ So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. – Acts 8:30-31, NIV

Goals

The Bible Society of Uganda (BSU) is working with churches and Christian organisations to help people improve the literacy levels of Ugandans by running ‘Train the Trainers’ workshops to equip instructors in teaching adults Functional Adult Literacy, as well as training teachers in Primary Teacher’s Colleges to teach school children in their mother tongue.

This project will provide literacy materials for teaching and reading on their own. This project also aims at improving literacy levels among the people in Sebei, Ma’di and Karamoja sub regions.

In 2025, the goal is to help 3,000 children and adults in the Moyo and Ma’di sub regions gain literacy for the improvement of their lives, and so they can engage with God’s word easily. Another goal is to raise awareness of the project in the community, so that more students are encouraged to enrol. Materials will be developed to help communities learn to read and write and use God’s word in their mother tongue.

Impact

In 2023, a Bible-based Literacy Curriculum and materials were developed and Bible Based Literacy programs in the Kupsapiiny and Madi sub-regions began.

It is expected that 1,000 will graduate with numeracy and literacy skills from each sub region running the course. These will include primary school students as well as adult students. It can be expected that each graduate will influence or benefit 20 more people.

This literacy program will improve the self-esteem of the students in their communities and enable them to participate in leadership roles. The students will be literate in their mother tongues, as well as gain numeracy skills, which will help improve their economic status.

As the people are equipped with basic skills, they will also be able to read the Bible, take part in church activities, and share their experiences with others. If the people learn how to read and write, they will be able to meaningfully engage with the Bible in their mother tongue.

Testimony

“I will now compose and write my songs in the mother tongue ... I am grateful to God that this program has been actualised now and my prayers are with all those learners, teachers and sponsors involved in this work, may God bless them to achieve what they desire to see in the end.” — Dembe, a Kupsapiiny literacy program student and a gospel songwriter who shares he is now able to write church songs for Kupsapiiny speakers*

**Name changed to protect privacy.*

Prayer Points

- Pray for the participants, that this project might impact their lives as they get to know the word of God.
- Pray that God may appoint his servants to generously support this project for the people in Karamoja, Sebei and Ma’di Regions.
- Pray for God’s provision of resources to be able to reach those in remote areas, such as a car, where this project will be implemented. Thank God for his faithful provision.