

Asia Pacific



Literacy Capacity

Project: 102175
Tax Deductible



58.8m

non-literate adults in Pakistan

41.25m

non-literate adults in Bangladesh

25

Bible Society literacy staff in the Asia Pacific will participate in Literacy Training in 2025

Overview

Bible Society Australia is supporting United Bible Societies (UBS) in this capacity-building project, equipping around 25 Bible Society literacy workers in the Asia Pacific in 2025, thereby benefiting the Bible Society literacy projects they are part of and thousands of beneficiaries 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. United Bible Societies (UBS) is committed to developing effective and meaningful literacy activities for global Bible engagement. The achievement of this goal depends on several factors, including a knowledgeable and well-equipped staff, as well as a well-managed and efficiently implemented sustainable literacy program.

In 2023, a competency survey was conducted among Bible Society's literacy staff and a need was highlighted: training staff in how to develop literacy material, which is a component of the literacy lifecycle. As a result, the Asia Pacific Literacy Training was organised, covering literacy principles, common standards and the literacy lifecycle. In 2024, 21 staff from 12 Bible Societies across Asia Pacific and the Global Literacy Office attended the training, conducted by four certified trainers which include two specialists from SIL, one freelance specialist, and Cito, UBS Literacy Advisor for the Asia Pacific. Literacy training continues in 2025 covering various topics in literacy as needs among the literacy workers are identified.

Goals

The goal of this project is to conduct training events for the literacy staff of Bible Societies in the Asia Pacific Region in order to strengthen the capacity-building efforts of these Bible Societies in the region. These literacy trainings are part of the Literacy Officer-in-Training (LOiT) Mentoring Program launched in 2023, which aims to build the capacities of the literacy staff through a competency-based, intentional mentoring and training program over the next five years.

In 2025, the literacy trainings will include an in-person Writers' Workshop in Materials Development and Assessment Training. These events will be followed by virtual trainings and follow-up sessions via Zoom. By late 2025, an evaluation of the trainings will be held online among the literacy staff.

Impact

A total of 25 Bible Society literacy staff in the Asia Pacific will receive training in 2025, aiming to elevate their competencies and expertise in the literacy lifecycle thus helping their literacy projects achieve the desired outcomes. It is hoped that these staff will be able to strengthen their program implementation and develop several Bible engagement products for non-literate audiences that is relevant in their context, age and levels of literacy. In turn, this will impact thousands of beneficiaries in the years to come as Bible Society literacy programs are improved.

Testimony

"We have learned different themes about the literacy lifecycle components. This was very helpful in how we can go in (sic) this component ... make our literacy program more effective ... I'm praying that God will guide us and strengthen us, that we can apply all these things in our literacy work and to be more effective work for the people — those who are illiterate. And it's a joy for us to meet different participants from other Bible Societies!" — Rev. Azhar Mushtaq, General Secretary, Pakistan Bible Society Chair, Asia Pacific Literacy Working Group

Prayer Points

- Pray that all the Bible Societies who participated in the 2023 and 2024 Asia Pacific Literacy Training will be able to put into use what they learnt: the principles behind literacy practices, program planning, research, and implementation as they develop their literacy projects in the years to come.
- Pray that an appropriate, needs-based training will be identified and conducted for the benefit of the literacy staff in 2025.
- Pray that available trainers will be identified to help in the capacity-building efforts and training events to be lined up for 2025.