

Literacy for Life



Project: Non-UBS
Tax-Deductible

Mozambique

Overview

Bible Society Australia is supporting Mission Educate to deliver *Literacy for Life*, a Bible-based literacy program that equips disadvantaged adults and vulnerable youth in Mozambique with essential reading, writing, numeracy and life skills. Operating across Sofala, Inhambane and Nampula provinces, the program provides accessible learning through community-run groups for those living in impoverished city areas and rural communities who have little access to education. Mission Educate works in partnership with churches who have very few literate people among their communities.



The Need

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

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. The religious landscape is diverse, predominantly Christian, yet literacy challenges hinder easy understanding of the Bible.

- **36.6 million people** live in Mozambique
- **65%** of the population of Mozambique are at the national poverty line; 81% of people live at US\$3.00 a day.
- **38%** of adults in Mozambique are non-literate

Goals

This project reaches non-literate adults and vulnerable youth, aiming to empower them with literacy and practical skills. In 2026, the *Literacy for Life* Project aims to strengthen literacy, practical life skills, and long-term community resilience across Sofala, Inhambane and Nampula. The program will support 1,050 participants through 22 literacy groups, combining eight literacy modules with short courses in nutrition, baking, horticulture and basic vocational skills. Trained facilitators and provincial education officials will provide ongoing supervision to improve teaching quality and exam success. Two new groups will be established in underserved rural areas, ensuring broader access beyond the city of Beira. The project seeks measurable improvements in reading, numeracy, confidence, and spiritual growth, enabling participants to pass Grade 6 equivalency exams and more fully engage in church and community life.

Impact

The *Literacy for Life* Project continues to strengthen long-term transformation for families and churches across Sofala, Inhambane and Nampula. Participants consistently demonstrate increased confidence in daily tasks, stronger engagement in church life, and a clearer understanding of Scripture as they grow in their reading and numeracy skills. Testimonies from 2025 highlight meaningful shifts in dignity, agency, and household wellbeing — especially among women who now contribute to family income through horticulture, poultry training and other practical skills learned in the

program. Churches also report improved group participation, deeper Bible discussions, and stronger community relationships.

In 2026, the program expands into new rural locations, ensuring those with the least access to education can benefit from improved literacy, spiritual formation and practical skills that promote resilience and long-term stability.

Impact in Numbers

594

learners completed the first literacy module in 2025, gaining foundational reading and writing skills.

96%

of graduates reported reading the Bible more than once per week, and 78% were actively involved in their church community.

Testimony

"Before knowing this project, my life was full of difficulties. I did not know how to read, write, or do maths. Many times I felt ashamed and dependent on others, even for simple daily tasks. When I joined the Literacy for Life Project, I started slowly, step by step. Today, with joy, I can say that I can read, write, and do calculations with confidence, and I have recovered my dignity." — Sónia*, 37-year-old single mother of three

*Name changed to protect privacy.

How Your Support Helps

\$35

will help cover basic literacy materials for a participant, including workbooks and life-skills resources.

\$1,300

will help fund a government-led professional development session to upskill one facilitator.

\$8,000

will help establish a new rural literacy group, including facilitator stipend, church venue support, and start-up materials.

'In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,'

— **Ephesians 3:4, NIV**