

Congo Basin

The Congo Basin includes the nations of Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, and Republic of Congo.

Pray for Obstacles to Bible Translation

INFRASTRUCTURE	POLITICAL INSTABILITY	REBEL ACTIVITY
Translators in the Congo Basin must allow ample time for travel because roads can be hazardous and even completely cave in.	Violence and corruption have led to protests and unrest, especially in Democratic Republic of Congo and Central African Republic.	Due to rebel activity in two of the region's four countries, translation teams and even whole language communities have been displaced.

Pray With Scripture

From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us.

— Acts 17:26-27

Many people in the Congo Basin have been through severe trauma, but God is not far from any of them. Pray for everyone in the Congo Basin to find Jesus, the hope of the nations, through his Word!

Regional Praise

Congolese Leadership Summit a Success

In the last Congo Basin prayer journal, [we prayed for a leadership summit in September for Congolese Bible translation leaders](#). The summit was a success! The Seed Company Congo Basin Regional Director reports, “There were many difficulties and struggles to get everyone to the summit. We celebrated 100% attendance in the second week of the workshop and believe this to be a victory.”

Watch video: [Leadership Summit Celebration](#)

Normally, since they’re located all over Democratic Republic of Congo, these leaders from nine different organizations would rarely meet face to face. However, the camaraderie between all participants was a joy to see! Each group also prepared a list of priorities for further education, training, or internships. This crucial information will help the Seed Company Congo Basin team more effectively support these partners.

PRAY

- For rest and recovery; after the summit, one team spent two weeks waiting for a flight back home.
- For these partners’ internet reliability to improve.
- For the Seed Company Congo Basin team as they follow up with these partners and seek to serve them well.

Monday

And then he told them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone."

—Mark 16:15 (NLT)

PRAY FOR BIBLELESS PEOPLE GROUPS **Oral Bible Stories for Nine Congolese Languages**

The city of Kananga in Democratic Republic of Congo has faced great unrest and instability. But Oral Bible Storytelling is bringing the hope of Scripture to people in this area who speak the Tshiluba, Nkutu, Songe, Lwalu, Cibindi, Salampasu, Bashilele, Ohendo, and Dengese languages. While about 85% of people in this area would say they are Christian, Scripture in their own languages will help bring deeper understanding and healing.

Each team has translated more than 30 redemptive Bible stories that teach empathy and compassion. Narrators are being encouraged to retell stories in their communities, prayerfully leading to new churches.

PRAY

For God's Word to heal hearts and transform not only individual lives but also this entire community as it goes forth, healing many from cycles of poverty and trauma.

Pray Now

For God's healing touch to reach out to multiple members of the Bashilele community who have been coming to listen to Bible stories and are currently dealing with health issues, as well as for unity and protection over this group.

Tuesday

God will do this, for he is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

—1 Corinthians 1:9 (NLT)

PRAY FOR PARTNERS

Congolese Association for Bible Translation and Literacy

Our brothers and sisters at The Congolese Association for Bible Translation and Literacy (ACOTBA-SUBO) help translate God's Word into indigenous languages. Currently, they're involved in Bible translation with eight people groups.

Though they've had many financial challenges over the years, they've persevered in God's calling, seeking his wisdom for how to run a healthy, effective organization. They've established financial accountability systems and strong partnerships with local churches. Today, they not only handle logistics and finances but also provide translation teams with solar-powered office space with internet and water!

PRAISE

Their unwavering dedication and relentless determination serve as a constant source of motivation to never give up, no matter the challenges.

PRAY

For God to protect ACOTBA-SUBO from hindrances caused by flight cancellations and unstable internet.

Pray Now

For God to bring healing to Rachel, the daughter of translator Faustin Bazangu in Democratic Republic of Congo. She has been in a coma since Wednesday, September 20th.

Wednesday

No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.

—Romans 8:37 NLT

Ka mu mambu momaana moosi, bisu laafulala mbiingili mu toni a nde wuuna wu atondo bisu.

—Romans 8:37 in Tsaangi, a language in Republic of Congo, Africa

But in all these matters, we have more victory by Him who loves us.

—Romans 8:37 back into English from Tsaangi

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT Tsaangi Community in Republic of Congo

In the [Tsaangi](#) region, people have been waiting for Tsaangi Scripture for a long time. Though most Tsaangi speakers identify as Christ followers, traditional religious practices have maintained a foothold.

In the 1990s, a group of men translated the New Testament and typed it on a typewriter! In the 2000s, another man improved on it. But none of their efforts ever reached the community. Today, local pastors are partnering with SIL Congo and Seed Company to finish the work. Scripture portions are now being used in church services and small groups!

PRAISE

Translators recently finished [consultant checking](#) Romans (a very difficult book to translate).

PRAY

For unity among partners that leads to translated Scripture reaching all corners of the Tsaangi community.

Thursday

Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.

—Ephesians 4:12 (NLT)

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

Training Congolese Translation Consultants

The [Congolese Bible Translation Association](#) has four certified translation consultants who can sign off on translated Scripture as clear, accurate, natural, and acceptable. In addition, they're training 10 others who hope to one day be certified. Their learning path includes many other skills besides translation principles, including:

- computer skills to help them use complex translation software
- sufficient fluency in a global trade language to read technical resources
- how to exegete or outline the meaning of a passage
- how to teach others about Biblical culture and geography
- at least one biblical language
- the ability to give feedback and correction in an acceptable way

PRAY

For these 10 consultants in training to learn well, acquire the needed skills, and be used by God in Democratic Republic of Congo!

PRAY FOR THE IPUNU PEOPLE IN GABON

In the area of Gabon where Ipunu speakers live, many believers are not grounded in Scripture and continue to follow traditional religious practices handed down by their ancestors. Sorcery and curses are common. While many believers strive to follow God's Word, they must know French to understand it.

Meanwhile, Islam is growing in influence in this area. In this environment, local translators are working to distribute recently translated New Testament books and record the "JESUS" film in Ipunu.

Pray Now

For complete healing healing from cancer for an Ipinu translator's wife named Madame Doukaga Mackobou Victorine.

Friday

Rise up, O Lord, in all your power. With music and singing we celebrate your mighty acts
—Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

IMPACT STORY

Stop the Presses! Zimba Bible App Now Being Tested on Smartphones Around the World

While most Zimba speakers identify as Christian, some mix their faith with traditional rituals and spells. But as Scripture is translated into their language, Zimba believers are internalizing it and understanding the true gospel.

PRAISE

Zimba speakers can now read Zimba New Testament portions on their phones! The translation team has begun with Luke's Gospel and 1–3 John. But the availability of Zimba Scripture will grow as more verses are translated.

PRAY

- For all the bugs to be debugged so the app can be available on Google Play soon.
- For wealthy community leaders and diaspora spread throughout the world to share the Scriptures with other Zimba speakers, as many may not have the money to buy a phone that can support the app.

Pray Now

For peace, justice, and stable phone and internet service in Gabon. The country is reeling from a military coup after disputed election results announced that the incumbent president had won.