You can help them taste the fruits of Bible translation

Zande Bible translators in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) do their translation work in Isiro, the capital city of Pazande province. They face a daunting challenge when they need to travel to Zande villages to check their translations—expensive, unreliable, tiring trips.

The infrastructure in the Pazande region has degraded significantly in the past 60 years, making it difficult to travel from one city to the next. What once would have taken two hours now takes nine hours!

Public transportation is an option, but it’s expensive and schedules are unreliable.

The translators currently hire a motorcycle for their trips from Isiro out to their villages. They must pay for gas and travel expenses. They must cram the driver, translator, and all their materials onto the motorcycle and travel like that for hours. The time and expense of these trips limits the team to only one to two visits a year.

The translation team has recently asked JAARS for help to purchase two motorcycles. They will give translators more control over their transportation. They will be able to travel on their own schedule rather than the bus schedule and reduce the cost of reaching the villages.

As the team translates, they experience the fruit of God’s transformative Word. After reading the the Pazande translation of Genesis 37–50, Christine, an editor, decided to forgive her older brother who had pilfered the costs of a surgery she was to undergo.

Many more are waiting to taste this same life-transforming food. One translation team member said, “[People] are waiting for the fruits of translation to come out. Some have been asking over and over again, ‘Will we see the finished fruit of this work that has just begun? Perhaps it will be only for the generations to come.’”

Praying through the Coronavirus Crisis

By Woody McLendon, President of JAARS

Together we are watching a global pandemic of the novel coronavirus COVID-19 impact our world at an increasingly rapid rate. For many the response is fear. As Christ-followers our call is to faith, hope, and love. Please keep the ministry of JAARS and the people of JAARS in your prayers as we continue serving our Bible translation partners overseas while observing safety precautions. If you have a particular question, concern, or prayer need, please email us at info@jaars.org or call 1.888.773.1178.
You enable people to experience God’s transforming power!

Mountains concealed with green carpets and waterfalls shedding jeweled water drops: a beautiful tableau of Papua, Indonesia. But even more beautiful than God’s physical wonders are the people spread across the mountains.

Jonathan Schultz and Molly, his wife, serve remote language groups in Papua. Jonathan, a JAARS-trained pilot-mechanic, flies with YAJASI, our Indonesian aviation partner. While on furlough in the States, he did some recurrent training. With where you land so you touch down there every time.

When Jonathan is serving in Indonesia, he enjoys flying with YAJASI’s more experienced pilots into some of the mountain-top airstrips. Besides the spectacular views, he enjoys the people. In the Ketengban area, where the people now have God’s Word in their language, “There are so many people who have hearts of gold,” Jonathan declares. “You can tell where the gospel has made an impact in their lives, because there’s been so much change in them.”

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The people began to trust him in his power over and above that of the spirits. Jonathan’s recurrent training enables him to better serve these people by bringing them Scripture, teachers, building materials, and food. Jonathan and Molly hope to return to Papua after the birth of their baby so they can continue serving these people with hearts of gold and watch God continue to transform them through his life-transforming Word.

You can prepare a plane to serve

While taxiing out to check the engine of ‘Tango Mike’—an aging Cessna 206—after an adjustment, our partners in Cameroon heard some squeaking.

After investigating, mechanics discovered wear on the landing gear. They decided to send the gear to the U.S. for repair, and thankfully, somebody was willing to check 67 pounds of landing gear to the U.S. for repair, and thankfully, somebody was willing to check 67 pounds of landing gear to the U.S. for repair.

The stabilizer, which corrects incoming voltage to provide a stable and secure power supply to equipment, had failed. So the battery system wasn’t receiving electricity from the city, which means translation teams couldn’t work on their translations or print drafts for review during power outages.

The solution? Replace the stabilizer. “That’s when we wrote JAARS and asked for help,” Thaliane, an IT specialist, said.

Your generosity keeps them connected

When a translation team recently connected their projector to the battery system during a consultant check in the Congo meeting room in Brazzaville, the projector wouldn’t work. But the real problem was the stabilizer.

The stabilizer, which corrects incoming voltage to provide a stable and secure power supply to equipment, had failed. So the battery system wasn’t receiving electricity from the city, which means translation teams couldn’t work on their translations or print drafts for review during power outages.

The solution? Replace the stabilizer. “That’s when we wrote JAARS and asked for help,” Thaliane, an IT specialist, said.

With JAARS help, they bought a new stabilizer. Now the battery system is working well. “We are so grateful for [this] funding because our finances could not cover this expense,” Thaliane says.

Now the translation teams can stay connected even during a power outage.

Your generosity to Technology Solutions enables translation teams to finish their Bible translations!

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You help keep their power flowing

What do a church in the Czech Republic, JAARS, and Tanzania, have in common?

They all want to keep teams drafting Scripture at the translation offices in Tanzania.

Steve Pence, IT manager in Tanzania, recently experienced some mysterious Ethernet cabling issues. Cables failed, causing printers to stop working. Translators couldn’t print translation drafts for checking. The entire network could fail unless all cables were replaced. Steve got in touch with Marcel, a Czech IT technician. Marcel and his brother Samuel—with help from their church, Marcel’s company, and JAARS—traveled to Tanzania and replaced 500 yards of cable. “They brought special tools and lots of experience,” Steve explains. “Now our network infrastructure should last many years and see us through [finishing the] the remaining Mbeya languages that are still waiting for God’s Word.”

The entire network could fail unless all cables were replaced.

How can YOU help?

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVING:

• 4WD and Motorcycle Instructor/Mechanic: conduct the motorcycle and 4WD training courses and possibly assist branch mechanics with vehicle or motorcycle repairs.

• Aviation Vision Trip Coordinator: plan, coordinate, and/or accompany students on mission aviation vision trips, both overseas and to the JAARS campus.

• Assistant Museum Manager: share with museum guests about JAARS history, mission, and work; guide museum tours and monitor the tour schedule.

For a more complete list of service opportunities, please visit jaars.org/serve or contact us at outreach@jaars.org or 877.313.0139.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING:

We invite you to pray and to give as follows:

• Give online at jaars.org/give.
• Mail the enclosed response card to the address below.
• Call the number below for credit card or non-cash giving, or to include JAARS in your estate plans.
• Support Bible translation while you shop amazon smile! Go to smile.amazon.com and select JAARS as the charity you’d like to support. Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to us—with no fees or extra cost to you. Look for products marked “Eligible for AmazonSmile donation” on their product detail pages.

All gifts made to Solutions will fund opportunities like those highlighted in this publication and at jaars.org.

jaars.org | 888.773.1178 | online@jaars.org | facebook.com/jaarsinc | JAARS Inc., PO Box 248, Waxhaw NC 28173