



101118 – Cameroon
Project Fact Sheet 2022

Cameroon: Literacy for a transformed life

Overview

This project will teach illiterate Podoka and Mafa people in Cameroon to read, write and engage with Scripture through Bible-based literacy classes. Through these classes, many will be spiritually fed and equipped to improve their family and community life.

The Need

Translations of the Bible for the Podoko and Mafa people in Cameroon are well underway. Yet most of the people cannot read or write. While literacy rates in Cameroon are estimated at 77% in the official languages, the literacy rate of the Podokos and Mafas is far lower, at 30.7%. This percentage is even lower in their native languages.

The proximity of the Podoko and Mafa communities to the Nigerian border exposes them to attacks by terrorist group Boko Haram.

Estimates suggest Boko Haram has victimized over 600,000 people in Cameroon, looting villages, abducting villagers or killing at random. Many have left their villages to find refuge in camps away from the borders.

The church in Cameroon wants to encourage the Podoko and Mafa people to stand firm in God despite these challenges and reach out to them with the word of God. Therefore, the church has identified improving literacy rates as an important step in helping the communities deepen their relationship with God.



Project Goals

This project aims to reach 11,000 people so they may better engage with the Bible and improve their living conditions.

In 2022, the plan is to run a cumulative total of 315 classes in the year. This goal will require two new training sessions for new teachers to better equip them with the skills to teach the classes effectively.

Impact

The impact of this project will be holistic. As well as imparting literacy skills, this project will teach general knowledge on topics such as respecting others, human rights, the harmful effects of violence, and health and sexuality information. This will help Podoko and Mafa communities improve their way of life.

This program makes a great contribution to participants, and not just by teaching them to read and giving them access to the Bible. Testimonies reveal significant benefits across personal, family, professional and social parts of life.

Testimonies

“I am already a source of blessing to others today. I could neither read nor write, nothing! Now I read, I calculate, I write. Every evening, we get together with my family and my neighbours. I read the Bible in Mafa, I explain it and we pray together. There is a big change in my life on all levels. Really, thank you.”
- Guimi Emade

Prayer Needs

- Pray for good implementation of the project and for the spiritual growth of the participants.
- Pray for the teachers, that they will teach effectively and passionately.
- Pray for a climate of security so the implementation of the program is not hindered.