

# WESTERN BANTU CLUSTER

(BAHN-too)

## AFRICA — CAMEROON

**GOALS:** NEW TESTAMENT PORTIONS, ORAL BIBLE STORIES

**DATES:** 2021-2024



### LANGUAGES

BEBIL, BIKELE, BYEP,  
GBAYA MBODOMO, POL



### SPEAKERS

74,200



### RELIGION

TRADITIONAL RELIGION,  
CHRISTIAN



## A Bright Future

Imagine what it would be like to have no Scripture in your language.

For the five people groups of the Western Bantu Cluster — the Bebil, Bikele, Byep, Gbaya Mbodomo and Pol — this is reality.

Lacking access to God's Word in their mother tongues, church leaders often face an uphill climb as they try to teach scriptural truths to their congregants. Pastors typically preach in their own language during worship services. Yet when it's time to read from God's Word, they must translate the Scripture on the fly so that their listeners can understand.

But now hope is rising. People in the Western Bantu Cluster region have rallied around a vision for Bible translation. As translation teams form, church leaders see a bright future ahead.

“With the availability of the Word of God in our mother tongue,” a Pol leader said, “I firmly believe that the churches will fill with members because they can hear God speak their language.”

**Will you partner** with these communities as the work begins?

*Image does not represent the actual people group*

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### The Plan

**You can help** five local teams translate the first portions of God's Word into their languages!

In this three-year project, staff members will:

- **Translate and publish** the Gospel of Luke in print and audio formats.
- **Draft** the Gospel of Matthew.
- **Produce** 24 oral Bible stories over the course of six workshops.



### Scripture Engagement

**Oral Bible storytelling** — Early in this project, community members will be trained to craft and tell oral Bible stories. Then, they'll travel from town to town, sharing the narratives. This strategy has proven to be highly effective among neighboring people groups.

**Literacy efforts** — Team members will train local instructors to teach literacy classes in their communities. As people learn to read and write in their language, they'll gain a deeper appreciation for their cultural identity and be better equipped to experience the riches of God's Word.

**"Gospel and Culture" workshop** — Participants will analyze their cultural practices in light of the truths of the gospel message.

**Listening groups** — Team members will establish listening groups in various communities, allowing people to listen to and discuss Scripture.

*"I am happy to see the future birth of the Bible in my mother tongue because it has been a need for a long time."*

— A Bebil man

*Your prayers and gifts will help the people of the Western Bantu Cluster encounter the life-transforming power of Scripture in their language!*