



THE FINISH LINE

PACIFIC

PACIFIC

Federated States of Micronesia

ISLES OF THE SEA CLUSTER PROJECT — *Nukuoro language*; Federated States of Micronesia (900)

Nukuoro is one of two Polynesian languages in Micronesia. Praise God that last year the Old Testament and a revised New Testament were typeset in the Netherlands. Two team members on Guam proofread it individually, and then it was sent for printing!

Prayer points:

- » Eager expectation by the people for the Nukuoro Bible and generosity in donating toward the printing cost. God's direction for the date, venue and program for the Bible dedication.
- » The Word to fall on fruitful soil among the 900 Nukuoro, transforming their lives and giving them eternal hope.

SEED COMPANY; SIL — [ISLES-OF-THE-SEA.ORG](https://www.isles-of-the-sea.org)

ISLES OF THE SEA CLUSTER PROJECT — *Satawal language*; Federated States of Micronesia (800)

Satawal is a Micronesian language influenced by neighboring languages but is strong, no less. The Satawalese are famous for their exceptional navigation skills. The team has published a small trial edition of the New Testament to get feedback from the community. They are also working remotely with a consultant due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.

Prayer points:

- » Good collaboration and stable internet connections between the team and the consultant.
- » The translators to find the necessary time to work on the translation; each has a busy schedule.
- » The island of Yap to remain free of COVID-19.

SEED COMPANY; SIL — [ISLES-OF-THE-SEA.ORG](https://www.isles-of-the-sea.org)

French Polynesia

ISLES OF THE SEA CLUSTER PROJECT — *Pa'umotu language*; French Polynesia (15,600)

The Pa'umotu language is spoken in the Tuamotu islands, an archipelago of about 80 atolls in the center of French Polynesia, northeast of Tahiti. The language is closely related to Tahitian. The translation team hit some major obstacles last year in addition to COVID-19.

Prayer points:

- » The Holy Spirit to conquer obstacles and enable the team to move forward on the translation. The Gospels are ready for typesetting and printing when the obstacles have been removed. "And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness" (Romans 8:26, NLT).
- » Solutions to COVID-19 so normal life and work can resume.
- » For the Pa'umotu people to anticipate and long for the Scripture in their language. "I pant with expectation, longing for your commands" (Psalm 119:131, NLT).

SEED COMPANY; SIL — [ISLES-OF-THE-SEA.ORG](https://www.isles-of-the-sea.org)

Kingdom of Tonga

ISLES OF THE SEA CLUSTER PROJECT — *Niufo'ou language*; Kingdom of Tonga (1,500)

The Kingdom of Tonga is an archipelago in the South Pacific Ocean made up of 169 islands, 36 of which are inhabited. The islands are scattered over 270,000 square miles. Niufo'ou is the only minority language in the Kingdom of Tonga, and a translation team is pressing forward to finish the New Testament for their people! Review copies of a trial edition of the Gospels were sent last year to reviewers who live on different islands and in different countries.

Prayer points:

- » Good and useful feedback from the trial edition of the Gospels.

- » Wisdom and good communication between the project coordinator, team and consultant as they review the New Testament epistles.
- » Insight and good judgment for the team as they work to produce a translation that is clear and accurate.
- » Spiritual fruit among the Niufo'ou people as they read the available Scriptures in their language.

SEED COMPANY; SIL — ISLES-OF-THE-SEA.ORG

Northern Mariana Islands

ISLES OF THE SEA CLUSTER PROJECT — Carolinian language; Northern Mariana Islands (3,100)

The Isles of the Sea Cluster Project has seven active Bible translation programs in Micronesia and nine in Polynesia. Of these 16 programs, eight are close to completion! The Carolinian translation team has been greatly reduced in size due to health issues, deaths and people moving away.

Prayer points:

- » Stamina, alert eyes and encouragement as the team proofreads the New Testament. It is a detailed task, and the few remaining members of the team want to do it well.
- » God's provision of the right people with time in their schedules and his wisdom in arranging the typesetting and printing of the New Testament.
- » Use Paul's prayer for the Ephesians with the Carolinian team: "I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he [God] will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit" (Ephesians 3:16, NLT).

SEED COMPANY; SIL — ISLES-OF-THE-SEA.ORG

Papua New Guinea

ARUAMU; Papua New Guinea (12,000)

The Aruamu received their New Testament in 2004. Soon they will hold the complete Bible in their hands! Final read-throughs of all 66 books of the Aruamu Bible with typesetting from three different locations due to COVID-19 travel restrictions were completed last year.

Prayer points:

- » An excellent printing process that produces Bibles with strong binding and clear print.
- » Safe shipment of the Bibles from the printing firm to Papua New Guinea and then to the language area.
- » Successful development of additional Scripture engagement and discipleship materials by the translation team.
- » The Holy Spirit's direction for the Aruamu leaders to the best time to hold a dedication.
- » Eager hearts among the Aruamu to receive God's full proclamation from Genesis through Revelation.

PIONEER BIBLE TRANSLATORS PAPUA NEW GUINEA

BIEM; Papua New Guinea (2,800)

The Biem people live on several islands off the northeast coast of Papua New Guinea. Give thanks that the younger generation of believers continues to mature and grow and that their hunger for God and his teaching remains strong.

Prayer points:

- » Timely completion of the New Testament translation and God's guiding hand on the printing process so the New Testament can soon be read by the Biem church and shared with others. They would like to hold a dedication this summer.
- » Continued growth and maturity of the Biem church, and God's grace among people as they live close to one another on the island, which can be stressful.
- » God to protect and mature the church elders who bear the weight of being the initial generation of church leaders.
- » The Biem church to see God's power manifest in a church plant they are endeavoring to begin on a neighboring island within their language group.

ETHNOS360

BUSH MENGEN; Papua New Guinea (8,400)

Translation is a team effort from start to finish. The Bush Megen team had multiple members through the years, including linguists, consultants, translators and support staff. Praise God that an initial printing of the New Testament was made last year and distributed to a church in one village. Based on feedback, the text will be revised and a full printing will happen in the future.

Prayer points:

- » People to use the New Testament in their homes and churches.
- » Transformed lives as people learn more about Jesus and walk in his ways.
- » Wisdom and strength for the translation team as they translate some Old Testament books.

ETHNOS360

BWAIDOKA; Papua New Guinea (6,500)

Prior to COVID-19's global impact last year, the translation team prepared its final two books for consultant checks, 2 Peter and Revelation.

Prayer points:

- » Completion of the final consultant checks on 2 Peter and Revelation, followed by thorough checks and revisions of all 27 New Testament books.
- » Alertness and wisdom for the typesetter and proofreaders as they prepare the New Testament for printing.

» Unification of the Bwaidoka people in their desire to have and read the Scriptures the Bwaidoka translation team has translated. Two men are trying to persuade people that the best translation would be in an old version of Bwaidoka that is seldom used and not understood.

» For three trainees for an Old Testament project — Setua, Bartho and Bani — to finish their training by attending a translators training course.

BWAIDOKA TRANSLATION COMMITTEE; SEED COMPANY; SIL; UNITED CHURCH

ENGA; Papua New Guinea (300,000)

The Enga live in the western highlands of Papua New Guinea and are the largest ethnic group in the country. Because the New Testament will be released in the next few years in both print and audio formats, the Enga people will have great access to God's Word in their language! Two members of the translation team were delayed from returning to the language area from the U.S. last year due to COVID-19, but translation work continued remotely.

Prayer points:

- » For the team members in the U.S. to be able to return to Papua New Guinea.
- » Safety and health for the Enga translation team and their families.
- » Endurance and alert minds for the team as they check the myriad of details needed before the manuscript is finalized.

SIL

GIZRRA; Papua New Guinea (1,350)

Praise God, the Gizrra New Testament was printed last year in South Korea, shipped to Papua New Guinea and dedicated Dec. 6!

Prayer points:

- » Good sales and distribution of the printed and audio New Testament and SD cards.
- » The Holy Spirit to transform lives as the Gizrra feed on God's Word. May they say with the psalmist, "How sweet your words taste to me; they are sweeter than honey" (Psalm 119:103, NLT).
- » A successful course teaching people how to use the Scriptures and apply them to their lives in early 2021.
- » A good final year for the daughter of two team members from the Netherlands as she completes high school and transitions midyear to studying in the Netherlands.

SIL

HEWA; Papua New Guinea (1,000)

The Hewa people live scattered across about 60 miles of rainforest-covered rugged terrain on the central range of Papua New Guinea. Their communities are peppered through three provinces. Praise God, the translation team has received consultant approval of 75% of the New Testament! Believers are excited as books are completed and they can use Scripture-based lessons in their homes and churches. Church attendance is high.

Prayer points:

- » God's timing and safety as a team member on furlough in the U.S. plans to make a short visit to Papua New Guinea early in 2021 to meet with a consultant and review recent translation work. COVID-19 has introduced complexities to international travel.
- » Continued good health for the Hewa people.
- » Church growth and missionary zeal among Hewa believers as they use the Scriptures already available.

ETHNOS360

ISLES OF THE SEA CLUSTER PROJECT — Nukeria language; Papua New Guinea (500)

Nukeria is a Polynesian language spoken on Fead Island, one of 18 small islands east of Papua New Guinea. Thank the Lord for only minimal damage to Tom Puaria's eyes when a battery exploded in his face last year; he is an adviser to the translation team. Give praise that a remote consultant checked the remaining books of the New Testament!

Prayer points:

- » Stable satellite communication between Tom on the island and the other members of the team.
- » Alertness and strength for the typesetting team as they make numerous decisions about the format of the New Testament.
- » Keen eyes for the proofreaders.
- » Quality printing of the New Testament with binding that endures well in tropical weather.
- » Continued protection over Papua New Guinea from COVID-19.

SEED COMPANY; SIL — ISLES-OF-THE-SEA.ORG

KALULI; Papua New Guinea (4,000)

Give praise that representatives from all Kaluli language communities came together to decide on key terms, spelling and some pronunciation differences in the New Testament early last year. Rejoice that the health of the Kaluli language community was not affected by COVID-19, even though they felt social impacts; the translators and pastors there were able to continue many tasks in their isolated locations.

Prayer points:

- » Translation team members in the communities and mission center to be able to work together and resume work to complete the New Testament.
- » God's provision and timing for a translation consultant in the U.S. to be able to travel to Papua New Guinea to complete the remaining checks of the New Testament and Genesis.
- » Spiritual wisdom and maturity for Kaluli church leaders as they shepherd local believers through the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

SIL

MANAMBU; Papua New Guinea (2,100)

Manambu is a language spoken in the Sepik River region of northern Papua New Guinea. Ken and Rosa, the local translators, are working hard to complete a new translation of the New Testament. They planned to check several books last year with a consultant, but a government-declared state of emergency due to COVID-19 delayed progress.

Prayer points:

- » Completion of consultant checks of the whole New Testament.
- » Strength and stamina for Ken and Rosa as they read through the New Testament to ensure that key terms, spellings and punctuation are consistent throughout the text.
- » Good preparation for typesetting as they make decisions about format and select pictures to include.
- » Wisdom and alert minds for the typesetting process; they hope to begin in August.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA BIBLE TRANSLATION ASSOCIATION

MINAVEHA; Papua New Guinea (3,000)

In 2019, the main national translator on the Minaveha translation team died. Two other team members worked diligently last year in Arizona, since restrictions related to COVID-19 prevented their return to Papua New Guinea. They used computer software to check the consistency of spelling of Hebrew proper names in the Minaveha Bible and began a final read-through to ensure the manuscript will be complete and ready for typesetting as soon as possible.

Prayer points:

- » Keen eyes, alert minds and wisdom as the team continues the precise work of checking the complete Bible for accuracy, consistent spelling, punctuation, use of key terms and other details.
- » God's clear guidance regarding a potential venue for typesetting the Bible, whether in Arizona or in Papua New Guinea. COVID-19 introduced complications related to travel and visas.

- » Faith for the team, with disrupted plans, as they claim Romans 8:28: "And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them" (NLT).

SIL

NEW IRELAND CLUSTER PROJECT, Part 1 — Fanamaket, Feni and Label languages; Papua New Guinea (6,270)

The Fanamaket community was excited as they anticipated receiving and dedicating their New Testament and the "JESUS" film in May 2020. The books arrived in the country from the printer in South Korea, but the celebration had to be postponed due to COVID-19 travel limitations. Rejoice, a dedication will be held May 12, 2021! Several other languages in the cluster project are close to completion, but they are delayed because of COVID-19 impacts.

Prayer points:

- » Abundant fruit in Fanamaket lives as they feed on God's Word and hear the words of Jesus in the "JESUS" film. May they say with the psalmist, "How sweet your words taste to me; they are sweeter than honey" (Psalm 119:103, NLT).
- » The Feni team to complete the final consultant check of the remaining books of the New Testament in June and July, which was postponed last year due to COVID-19. Their goal is to send the New Testament for typesetting in October.
- » The Label team to finish all editing and consistency checks on the New Testament and send it for typesetting in late 2021.

BIBLE SOCIETY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA; SEED COMPANY; SIL

NEW IRELAND CLUSTER PROJECT, Part 2 — Nalik, Notsi and Sokirik languages; Papua New Guinea (10,200)

Team members in the New Ireland Cluster Project experienced Proverbs 19:21 last year: "You can make many plans, but the Lord's purpose will prevail" (NLT). Checking sessions with consultants and workshops were two key activities that had to be postponed due to travel restrictions caused by COVID-19. Praise God that two consultants who had to cancel trips last year will be able to come to a checking workshop this summer.

Prayer points:

- » The Nalik team to successfully connect online with their adviser in the U.S. and make progress on the final editing of the New Testament this year prior to typesetting in 2022.
- » The Notsi team to complete the final consultant check of several books of the New Testament in June and July, finish editing 1-2 Peter and Hebrews and make substantial progress on editing Romans, their last book.

» Perseverance and good health for Moab, the Sokirik translator, as he presses on through the final stages of the Sokirik New Testament. Emotional strength for the consultant as he returns to Papua New Guinea after his wife went to be with the Lord last year. Moab and the consultant have been working together remotely in recent years.

BIBLE SOCIETY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA; SEED COMPANY; SIL

NOBONOB; Papua New Guinea (2,400)

The Nobonob New Testament was published in 1990. Praise God, a translation team is pressing forward to complete the Old Testament and a revised New Testament! The schedule for 2020, before the impact of COVID, included making final corrections in the manuscript and typesetting the complete Bible.

Prayer points:

- » Completion of the typesetting process of all 66 books of the Bible, a very detailed and strenuous task.
- » A seamless printing process and safe shipment of the Bibles to Papua New Guinea and to the Nobonob area.
- » God's guidance in selecting a date for the dedication when many can attend and for smooth logistics. A big celebration is planned; this will be the first complete Bible produced by Papua New Guinea Bible Translation Association.
- » The Holy Spirit to create a hunger and thirst for God's Word as people await the dedication.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA BIBLE TRANSLATION ASSOCIATION

NUMANGGANG; Papua New Guinea (2,300)

The Numanggang translation team has been diligently pressing forward in translating the Old Testament and revising the New Testament. They were slowed down last year, however, due to the realities of COVID-19. The consultant in the U.S. was unable to make trips to Papua New Guinea to check translation drafts. Praise the Lord for team members in the community who continued on their own to revise the New Testament for recording. Praise him also that team members in the U.S. had handwritten copies of drafts of the final three books which they were able to type up.

Prayer points:

- » The Lord to provide a strategy for finishing the translation and enable better and reliable communication options between the team members in the community and those in the U.S.
- » Protection for the Numanggang people from COVID-19; medical facilities are not available to them.
- » Completion of the audio version of the New Testament so it can be included with the electronic version available for smartphones and MP3 players. This will make God's Word available to more Numanggang.

» Perseverance and faith for each team member as they press forward amidst multiple challenges. "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" (Genesis 18:14, NLT).

SIL

SALIBA; Papua New Guinea (2,500)

"My times are in your hands ..." (Psalm 31:15a, NIV) is a reassuring verse for translation teams who passionately desire to deliver God's Word to a people group but are delayed by unexpected circumstances like COVID-19. The Saliba translation team was experiencing a productive season last year working on Luke and Romans and had a consultant lined up to check six New Testament books. However, two members of the team had to return to Austria in March because of COVID-19 regulations.

Prayer points:

- » Good health and spiritual protection over the team members in the community so they can finish Romans.
- » International travel to open up so that Rainer, one of the members in Austria, can travel to Papua New Guinea to participate in consultant checking sessions and help finish the translation.
- » God to use the delay to create greater hunger for his Word among the Saliba people.

SIL

SIMBARI; Papua New Guinea (4,000)

Give thanks that the final consultant check of the Simbari New Testament was completed in February 2020. Team members in the U.S. then completed a thorough proofreading of the manuscript, calling the team in the Simbari community weekly by phone to talk through needed adjustments. Praise God this could continue in the midst of COVID-19 travel restrictions. Thank the Lord also for generous financial gifts received to print the New Testament.

Prayer points:

- » Strength, wisdom and alert minds for the typesetting team as they make formatting decisions about columns, pictures, maps and the font to use. Keen eyes for those who proofread the manuscript multiple times.
- » Quality printing and binding and safe delivery of the books to Papua New Guinea and the language area.
- » God's blessing and timing of a dedication when many can attend.
- » The Simbari to proclaim with the psalmist, "The commandments of the Lord are right, bringing joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are clear, giving insight for living" (Psalm 19:8, NLT).

ETHNOS360

TIGAK; Papua New Guinea (15,000)

Goals set for 2020 for the Tigak translation project had to be adjusted in light of COVID-19 travel restrictions. A team member in the U.S. could not return to Papua New Guinea to finalize details of the New Testament and some Old Testament books with the team in the community. Praise God that he could continue to proofread and format the manuscript remotely.

Prayer points:

- » Travel restrictions to Papua New Guinea be lifted so final checks of the manuscript can be completed and typesetting can take place.
- » Provision of a skilled typesetter and strength and alertness for that person and those who proofread the manuscript multiple times.
- » God's timing on each step remaining before the Tigak receive the Scriptures in their hands.
- » The Holy Spirit to prepare Tigak hearts so they anticipate and long for God's Word in their language. "I pant with expectation, longing for your commands" (Psalm 119:131, NLT).

ETHNOS360

URA; Papua New Guinea (5,000)

Praise God, the Ura New Testaments were printed in South Korea last year and safely arrived in Papua New Guinea in July. The dedication scheduled for July 26 was postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions. But joyfully, the dedication took place on Sept. 30!

Prayer points:

- » Good distribution of the New Testament.
- » That the hardships experienced from the COVID-19 pandemic draw the Ura people into a greater need and love for God and his Word.
- » God to provide people and adequate locations to finish the remaining 30% of a multi-voice audio recording of the New Testament. The work started in late 2019 but was put on hold in March 2020 as a result of COVID-19.
- » God's promise in Isaiah 55:11 to come true for these audio and print versions of the Ura New Testament: "I send it [my Word] out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to and it will prosper everywhere I send it" (NLT).

SIL

VITU; Papua New Guinea (8,800)

This New Testament project has faced unusual challenges. A couple in the Netherlands who are translators worked remotely with Vitu speakers in Papua New Guinea to complete the final stages of the New Testament. Although the wife is battling cancer, God has demonstrated his power through human weakness — the New Testament was printed last year and shipped to Papua New Guinea!

Prayer points:

- » Wide distribution and use of the New Testament among Vitu speakers in West New Britain province.
- » The Holy Spirit to powerfully use God's Word so the Vitu say with the prophet Jeremiah, "When I discovered your words, I devoured them. They are my joy and my heart's delight ..." (Jeremiah 15:16, NLT).
- » Personnel to continue translating the Old Testament and a plan for people in the community and outside consultants to work together as a new team. The couple in the Netherlands retire February 2021.
- » Consistent and stable means of communication between the community and team members in other locations.

SIL

VULA'A; Papua New Guinea (4,600)

Last year people using The Finish Line prayed for the recovery of Dr. Jeremiah Tamate, the coordinator and chairman of the Vula'a translation project; he had been ill for a number of months. Rejoice that God answered and Dr. Tamate again leads the team with energy and focus! COVID-19 delayed progress, however, on preparing the Old Testament with a revised New Testament for publication because international consultants were unable to visit.

Prayer points:

- » For international consultants to be able to travel and complete the remaining consultant checks of the Vula'a Bible.
- » Concentration and wisdom for the translation team as they check details like consistent formatting, spelling, punctuation, use of key terms and select pictures and other helps for both the Old and New Testament.
- » Good health for Jerry Tamate, Alice Ralai and all the team members.

BIBLE SOCIETY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Polynesia

PUKAPUKA; Cook Islands/New Zealand/Australia (7,000)

Pukapuka is a coral atoll in the remote Northern Group of the Cook Islands. Its culture and language are ancient, with a current population of 500. The remaining 6,500 speakers of Pukapuka live in communities in Rarotonga, the most populous of the Cook Islands, and New Zealand and Australia. Give thanks that Mai, the main translator of the New Testament, was able to leave the atoll last year for his daughter's wedding in New Zealand and have eye surgery.

Prayer points:

- » Strength and perseverance for Mai and his family as they promote the Word of God among Pukapuka speakers.

- » Alert eyes for Mai as he makes final corrections to the New Testament by the end of March, and wisdom for the team members in New Zealand as they finalize an index, concordance and illustrations.
- » God's hand on the typesetting process, scheduled to begin in April in Holland.
- » God's timing in the project: the team would like to send the final digital file to Sri Lanka this year for printing, and the chiefs and leaders on Pukapuka and Rarotonga need wisdom as they plan for a dedication.
- » The Holy Spirit to bring great fruit from the daily Scripture readings posted on Facebook, sent via email and posted on pukapuka.world.

WYCLIFFE NEW ZEALAND

Solomon Islands

CHEKE HOLO; Solomon Islands (10,800)

The Cheke Holo New Testament was published in 1993, but the people were not satisfied; they wanted the complete Bible in their language! Give thanks for the continued health of the senior translator Mama Andrew and his dedication to completing the Old Testament in 2022.

Prayer points:

- » Strength and resilience for Mama Andrew and additional helpers for the final drive to complete the Old Testament.
- » Windows of opportunity and finances to facilitate periodic visits to Santa Isabel Island by the consultant who lives in the U.S.
- » Helpful feedback from community members who are reviewing Bible portions. The team wants the translation to be accurate, clear and sound natural to Cheke Holo speakers.
- » God's continued protection over the Cheke Holo from COVID-19's impact.

BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY PARTNERSHIP; SIL

GAO; Solomon Islands (1,220)

The Gao people live on the southeast end of Santa Isabel Island, one of the major islands in the Solomon Islands. A team is working on translating the New Testament into Gao, but due to problems that arose last year, the project was temporarily suspended.

Prayer points:

- » The Holy Spirit to minister to and heal those impacted by the situation.
- » Wisdom for the translation adviser and translators about how to restart the translation.
- » Support from churches and local translation organizations for the translation work.
- » God's victory for the Gao translation project, and that each person will "Put on all of God's armor so that [they] will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil" (Ephesians 6:11, NLT).

BIBLE TRANSLATION AND LITERACY PARTNERSHIP; SIL

ISLES OF THE SEA CLUSTER PROJECT — Rennell-Bellona language; Solomon Islands (4,500)

Rennell-Bellona is a Polynesian language in the Solomon Islands. Unlike most island dwellers in the Solomon Islands, the people of Rennell and Bellona live in the center of their islands rather than along the coasts, which are very rocky. An initial New Testament in Rennell-Bellona was published in 1994. Praise God that 17 years later, an Old Testament project led by local people began.

Prayer points:

- » That the Solomon Islands will remain COVID-19 free.
- » Stable and consistent communications between the translation consultant in Australia and the project coordinator on Rennell Island.
- » An increase in the number of people willing to participate in the translation and review processes.
- » That, through the Scriptures, many islanders will "... grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18, NLT).

SEED COMPANY; SIL — ISLES-OF-THE-SEA.ORG

ISLES OF THE SEA CLUSTER PROJECT — Tikopia language; Solomon Islands (3,500)

Tikopia is a small island of volcanic origin in the Pacific. It is part of the Solomon Islands of Melanesia, but its culture is Polynesian. Tikopians have also settled in colonies on other islands in the Solomons. The translation committee is pressing to complete the New Testament. Praise God that the consultant could meet with the team just before the country shut its borders last year to keep COVID-19 out. Later he mailed additional notes from Australia to the island. Thank the Lord for a team of unpaid reviewers who work two full days each week to keep up with the consultant.

Prayer points:

- » Alert eyes and strength for the team as they complete a thorough proofreading of the New Testament and make final corrections.
- » God to provide a typesetter for the New Testament and arrange the logistics for this phase.
- » An excellent print job that results in books with clear print and good binding.
- » Open and eager hearts among the Tikopians for God's Word in their language; that the books will be used in people's homes, churches and communities.

SEED COMPANY; SIL — ISLES-OF-THE-SEA.ORG

Vanuatu

LAMEN; Vanuatu (850)

The Lamén people are located on Epi Island, which is among the 80 islands comprising Vanuatu in the South Pacific Ocean. Praise God that the translation team made progress on the final edits of the New Testament manuscript last year. The COVID-19 lockdown in the country created time for them to be able to work! They were blessed to have no COVID-19 cases in Vanuatu.

Prayer points:

- » Perseverance and time for the team to complete final edits, proofreading, typesetting and send the New Testament for printing this year.
- » Continued health and strength for the translators and their families.
- » Receptive hearts among the Lamén for the New Testament. May they testify with the prophet Jeremiah: “When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart’s delight” (Jeremiah 15:16a, NIV).

MEREI; Vanuatu (600)

The Merei people live on the remote Espiritu Santo island, part of Vanuatu in the South Pacific Ocean, which experienced extensive destruction from a cyclone in April 2020. The translation team’s office and translators’ homes and gardens sustained damage. The cyclone also impacted communications, and the project adviser could not return from Australia for planned visits because of the COVID-19 lockdown.

Prayer points:

- » Dependable satellite communication to be established between the adviser in Australia and the translation team in Vanuatu, despite the complexity of the setup and maintenance. Because the village is very remote, normal mobile phone communications are insufficient.
- » Wisdom for the government about the timing of reopening their borders in order to avoid a COVID-19 outbreak.
- » God’s power to be manifest so that the distance between the adviser and the local translation team would not prevent them from making good progress on translating the New Testament. “Is anything too hard for the Lord?” (Genesis 18:14, NLT).

