

# ETEN INSIDER

EXTRAORDINARY CONNECTIONS



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**EVERY TRIBE  
EVERY NATION**

Eradicating Bible Poverty

ETEN colleagues, let your mind go back 10 years to February 2014. Where were you then? I'm remembering the mountains of New Mexico, where I lived at that time.

As we look back together, we praise God for the amazing progress of Bible translation since then. We have witnessed far more than we could ask or imagine (Eph. 3:20). Now, as we look ahead and press on toward the AAGs, the mountain peak of 2033 is coming closer into view. It is less than a decade away.

From here onward, the trail gets steeper. The headwinds against us are stronger. We face the most difficult terrain — logistically, culturally, socially and technologically. Reaching the summit on time will demand a harder climb at a faster pace.

To accelerate under these conditions, we continue to scale our methods and technologies. We bring our best energy and strategy to established and emerging methods. We embrace tried-and-true models while also pursuing innovation.

Let's lift our eyes to the mountain and keep on climbing. With every step and every breath, God gives us strength. As Psalm 121:2 says, our "help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."

**Chantel Pagan**  
*President and CEO - Deaf Bible Society*

## PRAYER CORNER

*Requests supplied by the  
ETEN Prayer Working Group*

*Experience extraordinary connections with God and each other through prayer!*

*Curious about praying for specific needs across ETEN? Join us in bringing these prayer concerns to God and together, let's discover the power of united prayer. And as always, you're invited to share your prayer requests and pray for one another on the [ETEN Community Hub prayer requests portal](#).*

Here are some specific ways to pray for ETEN agencies in 2024:

### AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

- » Pray for Dr. Jennifer Holloran as she becomes President & CEO on March 1st.
- » Pray for the Digital Bible Lab team as they improve digital Bible access through the Digital Bible Library, API.Bible, express licensing innovations, and audio-visual translation tools.
- » Pray for God's provision as ABS supports vital Bible translation projects globally through the UBS Fellowship.

### BIBLICA

- » Pray for guidance in finding skilled, trustworthy Bible translation field team members in high-security regions and allow the teams to build trust effectively.
- » Pray for wisdom and favor in finding native speakers in these same regions with low-resource languages, as they will be needed to build language models through AI Bible translation.

### DEAF BIBLE SOCIETY

- » Pray for mutual commitment to good communication and building trust in the sign language translation space.
- » Pray for Deaf laborers to join local ministry and translation initiatives within their communities.
- » Pray for innovative visual tools to increase Deaf participation in Bible translation.
- » Pray for growing urgency in the heart of the Church to see all sign languages gain access to the message of God's love.
- » Praise God for the 79 Deaf communities that are energized and engaged in Deaf Bible translation projects!

*See [page 6](#) to learn from Laura Gish about "Unlocking the Power of Prayer."*

## LUTHERAN BIBLE TRANSLATORS

- » Pray for good relationships with partners, open doors to new communities, and wisdom to engage and expand from 135 to 144 language groups.
- » Pray for the training of 77 translation advisors, 30 consultants and 6 doctoral students as they embark on the crucial task of expanding into new communities and striving for quality translations.
- » Pray for guidance in discerning where and with whom to start future work so that the relationships may be God-pleasing and His church will grow.
- » Pray for the open hearts and minds of all participants during the 6 (or more) regional planning exercises.
- » Pray that plans may emerge to ensure everyone hears God's Word in their best-understood language.

## PIONEER BIBLE TRANSLATORS

- » Pray that praise will become part of the organization's lifestyle, both corporately and individually; pray that the staff will be praising God for victories before they happen.

## SEED COMPANY

- » Pray for wisdom, protection and guidance for incoming CEO Davis Powell.
- » Pray for fruitful meetings between current and incoming CEO in preparation for this new chapter.
- » Pray for abundant blessings on Larry and Linda Jones for their faithful service and their new season of life and ministry.
- » Pray for continued kingdom acceleration and unity at Seed Company.

## SIL INTERNATIONAL

- » Pray for a thriving multicultural community of grace among global staff.
- » Pray for unity, protection and guidance as teams work on relationship-building initiatives inspired by Christ's example.
- » Pray for new staff needed and for close teamwork with partners.
- » Pray for openness and obedience to God's plans for this year, all for His glory and praise.

## THE WORD FOR THE WORLD

- » Pray for capacity to handle sustained growth globally, building upon the strong foundation laid last year.
- » Pray for the VP council as they weigh many decisions for the year ahead.

## UNFOLDINGWORD

- » Pray for fruitful interactions and partnerships to advance God's kingdom through unfoldingWord's Whole Bible Whole Nation™ initiative. May the project connect new church networks with their communities, allowing them to share the transformative power of God's Word.
- » Pray for the collaboration with Mark Lowry, that 16 upcoming concert events would encourage generous prayer and financial partners to join as they hear the clear message of church-centric Bible translation.

## UNITED BIBLE SOCIETIES

- » Pray for the UBS Fellowship, who was inspired at the prayer-filled World Assembly in October 2023 to recommit to its core mission of making the Bible accessible to all people in their heart language.
- » Pray for all the Bible Societies as they implement goals and plans set at the World Assembly.
- » Pray that the new strategic plan being developed will be an encouragement for all UBS to work together for God's kingdom.
- » Pray that UBS colleagues are empowered by the Holy Spirit to stand boldly with persecuted Christians and to be witnesses for Jesus in diverse contexts.

## WYCLIFFE USA

- » Praise God for Dr. Jennifer Holloran's impact as COO at Wycliffe USA and for her successful transition to American Bible Society. She will be greatly missed!
- » Pray for wisdom and collaboration as Wycliffe USA's leadership team plans for the future.



55 TABLE

## 7 Compelling Reasons Not to Miss the “Partnering Well in Deaf Spaces” Training

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In January 2024, the 55 Table’s initiative “Partnering Well in Deaf Spaces” training empowered a group of ETEN colleagues. By showing them how to bridge the communication gap, they were given the tools to build effective partnerships with Deaf communities. The program offered two different tracks: a concise 3-hour essentials course for foundational knowledge and a more in-depth, 3-day immersive experience for greater understanding.

Participants gained invaluable insights into Deaf culture, communication methods and lived experiences. This equipped them to navigate cultural differences with sensitivity and foster impactful collaborations, particularly in the context of Bible translation within Deaf communities.

Missed the training in January? No worries! In April, both tracks will be offered again, giving you a second chance to invest in your personal and professional growth.

Here are 7 compelling reasons to not miss out on this opportunity:

**1. It fills a crucial need:** With over 350 sign languages and only one complete Bible translation, amplified efforts are needed to ensure that Deaf people

have access to Scripture in their heart language. This training equips you to become a culturally-competent contributor, accelerates progress and helps to ensure that no Deaf community is left behind.

- 2. ETEN Prioritizes Partnership:** Recognizing the immense need for partnerships in Deaf Bible translation, ETEN established the 55 Table in 2021, an affinity table that now has 16 participating organizations. This commitment, along with ongoing investments, demonstrates that partnering in Deaf spaces is essential.
- 3. Embrace Experiences, Build Belonging:** Immerse yourself in the “Cycles of Deaf Experience” to understand how shared history, unique perspectives and communication methods shape Deaf communities. This knowledge helps you to work side-by-side with Deaf colleagues and build a true sense of belonging.
- 4. Bridge the Gap, Build Enduring Trust:** Understanding the unique values that shape Deaf communities (often diverging from hearing expectations) is the cornerstone of building lasting genuine trust. Trust, as explained by Dr. Henry Cloud at the Summit, thrives on five pillars: genuine understanding, aligned motives, proven competence, strong

character and a positive track record. The development of these principles and embodiment of their values will result in culturally-appropriate approaches and consequential connections. By filling this gap of understanding, you and your organization can build bridges of trust with Deaf communities, accelerate translation efforts and enable them to thrive.

- 5. Master Cross-Cultural Communication with Ease:** Gain practical tools to navigate cross-cultural interactions with confidence and break down communication barriers. Learn basic guidelines for culturally-sensitive conversations, interpreter roles and meeting formats. Discover how to collaborate effectively within Deaf communities and build genuine relationships.
- 6. Unleash the Language Nerd Within:** Discover the fascinating complexities of sign languages by gaining an appreciation for their unique features and linguistic challenges. This understanding helps create accessible and relevant translation tools and resources, leading to a better return on investment.
- 7. Create a Lasting Impact:** The expertise and skills from this training can equip you and your organization to become agents of lasting change, leaving behind a transformative legacy for generations to come. By embracing sustainable and meaningful approaches, you'll become true partners in Deaf spaces, leaving ripples of positive impact.

Don't wait! Spring is the perfect time to embark on this journey of understanding, inclusivity and impactful collaboration.

#### Choose your path:

**April 22nd in Orlando, Florida:** This 3-hour Essentials Training provides a concise yet valuable overview.

**April 17th-19th in Dallas, Texas:** This 3-day In-Depth Training offers a comprehensive immersion into Deaf culture and collaboration.

Don't miss out on this transformative opportunity! Register for the "Partnering Well in Deaf Spaces" program today!

#### **[REGISTER HERE](#)**

Contact Kyle Oliver at [kyle@missionmutual.org](mailto:kyle@missionmutual.org) with any questions.



**“I am the  
vine; you are  
the branches.  
If you remain  
in me and I in  
you, you will  
bear much  
fruit; apart  
from me  
you can do  
nothing.”**

# Unlock the Power of Prayer

DISCOVER 5 WAYS TO USE THE ETEN PRAYER MANUAL - *By Laura Gish*

Dear ETEN Colleagues,

As we enter 2024, I am thrilled to share a resource with you that has equipped our community for strategic prayer—the ETEN Prayer Manual, crafted by the dedicated members of the ETEN Prayer Working Group. This manual is not just a guide, but a toolkit designed to empower us as individuals and as an alliance to grow in united prayer. The Prayer Manual is built to be a resource for your role, whether you serve as an executive leader, prayer coordinator, communication specialist, fundraiser or full-time intercessor. Let me take you through five opportunities for growth that the ETEN Prayer Manual offers:

- 1. Discover a Biblical Framework for Prayer:** Have you wondered why ETEN suggests that ‘prayer is the strategy?’ Dive into the rich Scriptural context that informs ETEN’s commitment to pray for Bible translation and reflect on the vital role prayer plays in this mission. Learn the four compelling reasons God’s Word calls us to fervently pray for Bible translation.
- 2. Grow in Faith through Inspiring Testimonials:** Trace the historical journey of the Bible translation prayer movement, unfolding from 1727 to awe-inspiring testimonials of recent times. Celebrate the good stuff—the exciting moments, uplifting stories, and clear answers to prayer that reveal how God is doing amazing things through our prayers for Bible translation. Let your faith grow as you see the powerful impact of bold prayers from individuals, groups and networks that have brought us to this crucial moment.
- 3. Equip Your Organization in Prayer:** Are you looking to launch or expand your organization’s prayer efforts? This manual offers best practices on how to develop a thriving prayer ministry based on decades of prayer ministry experience. Figure out how to tailor prayer strategies specifically for your staff and partners, from hosting prayer meetings to mobilizing prayer networks to crafting

impactful prayer communications that breathe life into every aspect of our work.

- 4. Benefit from New Prayer Resources:** You’re invited to use a new suite of scripted prayers that could seamlessly integrate into your organization’s context. These prayers won’t just get your community involved, but they’ll also help build unity among ETEN agencies by letting you know their prayer needs and offering use of their digital resources. You’ll find prayers covering everything from Bible translation to specific needs like the Deaf, the global church, rising generations and donor events.
- 5. Deepen Your Prayer Life:** Exploring new resources to build your prayer life in 2024? Check out the list of top-recommended books and apps to strengthen you in prayer. From spiritual warfare to perseverance, these resources feature a variety of topics and formats to change up your routine and inspire you to begin praying in new ways.

We believe this manual will serve the ETEN Community by knitting us together in prayer for and around Bible translation. That is our prayer at least—for this resource to serve you, your organization and the broader ETEN movement. Don’t miss out on this resource to discover new levels of extraordinary prayer this year!

The call to prayer has never been more urgent! Let’s answer it together. Get started [here](#).

For His glory among the nations,  
Laura Gish

*Laura is the Managing Director of Prayer at Mission Mutual and leads the ETEN Prayer Working Group.*

# Bridging the Gap

THE BIBLE AQUIFER AND THE FUTURE OF BIBLE TRANSLATION

## Mission: Bible Translation Accessible to Everyone

ETEN's Innovation Lab seeks to accelerate progress toward the All Access Goals, ensuring everyone has access to the Bible in their own language. Their key strategies include empowering the global church to do translation by accelerating and expanding access to robust biblical and translational resources.

Historically, Western Bible translators have relied on unfettered access to rich libraries of reference materials, both offline and online, to ensure accurate translations. The shift to Church-Based Bible Translation (CBBT), however, presents a stark contrast. Lacking access to those vital resources, non-English teams face an uphill battle. Offline and online libraries remain scarce, often further hindered by licensing restrictions, resulting in slower progress and concerns about translation quality.

In response to this challenge, the Innovation Lab envisioned the Bible Aquifer.

## Aquifer: Empowering Translation Teams

The Bible Aquifer serves as a repository of resources that empowers translation teams in three ways:

- » **Unlocks biblical content in familiar languages:** This makes it easier for teams to work with existing translation resources and adapt them for their specific needs.
- » **Promotes free use through open licensing:** This removes barriers to access and encourages collaboration among translation teams.
- » **Simplifies resource access through seamless integration:** Aquifer catalogues, structures, interlinks and publishes the most critical translation resources in one place, making it easier for teams to find what they need.

## Building a Collaborative Reservoir

To bring Aquifer to life, the Innovation Lab partnered with BiblioNexus and leveraged existing open-licensed content from organizations such as SRV, Tyndale, UBS, berean.bible, Biblica, unfoldingWord and more. This ongoing collaboration now includes contributions from Wycliffe Global Partnerships, SIL and other entities, all working together to support the All Access Goals.

Imagine the Bible Aquifer as an expansive, deep underground library brimming with knowledge. Instead of raindrops, a steady stream of translated Scriptures, insightful commentaries and other resources seeps through the soil. Gradually, they reach the bedrock, accumulating to form a concealed pool. This isn't just water, but living, breathing content — the original languages meticulously preserved, enriched by layers of study notes, lexicons and dictionaries.

## Accessible Knowledge, Powered by Technology

This knowledge isn't locked away but becomes accessible through drilled deep "wells" that tap into the reservoir. These wells are equipped with user-friendly interfaces, as well as APIs or "doorways" that allow developers to connect their own apps. The first such well is the Bible Well, which acts as a central reference. With multilingual support, it offers immediate access to the content and fast-tracks developers into developing their own versions of this app. It's a springboard for translation teams worldwide to draw from the depths of biblical knowledge and craft tools tailored to their specific needs.

## Balancing Speed and Trustworthiness

The Bible Aquifer faces the delicate balancing act of getting valuable resources to users quickly but

also ensuring their accuracy. It must deliver fresh translation resources for immediate use, empowering translators to study Scripture and create trustworthy versions in other languages. Yet, it must also make every effort to achieve the utmost reliability and trustworthiness for those relying on these resources. To address this, the Aquifer team is building a verification system slated for future implementation.

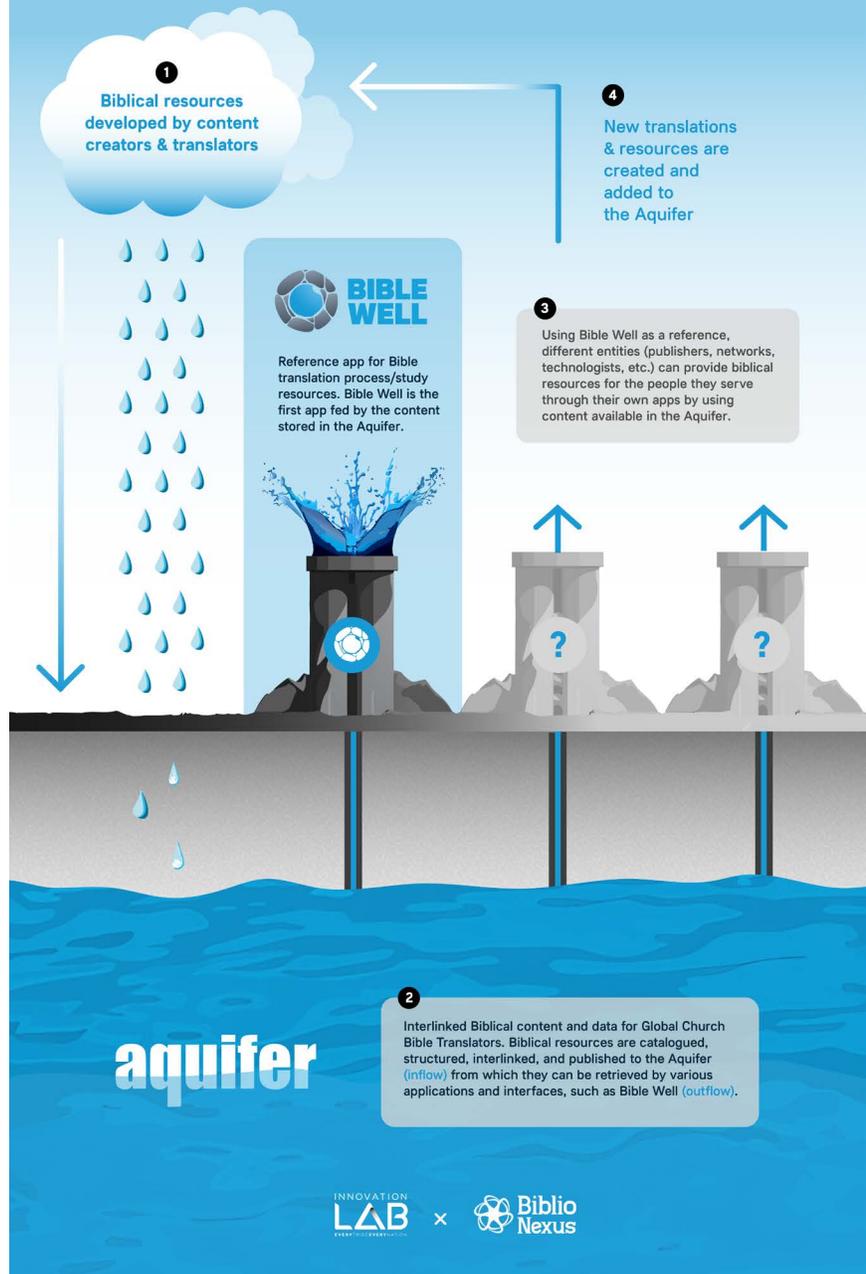
## A Vibrant Collaboration

In essence, the Bible Aquifer is a vibrant collaboration. Church leaders, translators, tech experts and publishers join hands to overcome barriers and make Bible translation accessible to all. It's a testament to the power of working together for the greater good.

## Get Involved

If you are interested in contributing to the Bible Aquifer project, here are some ways you can do so:

- » **Pray:** Pray for God's provision of resources and technology to complete the project.
- » **Provide Resources:** Copyright owners can greatly accelerate completion by releasing biblical content under open licenses (like CC BY-SA). Suitable resources will help build out the repository.
- » **Get Connected:** Contact the Lab at [lab@eten.bible](mailto:lab@eten.bible) with questions, comments, or ideas.
- » **Visit the Product Pages:** Explore [aquifer.bible](http://aquifer.bible) and [well.bible](http://well.bible) and share with your colleagues.



# Innovation Lab: Quality Assurance Recommendations

A CONDENSED SUMMARY OF THE OFFICIAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ETEN INNOVATION LAB, IN LIGHT OF ONGOING RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN BIBLE TRANSLATION.



## Recommendation 1: Multimodal Translation Processes Beginning with Orality and Visuality

Effective and impactful Bible translations must be trustworthy and trusted. Importantly, trustworthy and trusted translations begin with a trustworthy translation process. A translation will not be trusted if the translation process is unknown or unclear to the church and community; it is not sufficient to produce a “quality” final product. To produce a trustworthy and trusted translation, the church and community must be involved in the translation process.

For this reason, the Lab recognizes that quality translation processes are an important part of quality translation *products*. **The Lab recommends multimodal processes that include team-based familiarization, internalization and articulation that is spoken or signed.**

The Lab has observed that multimodal translation processes produce better first drafts, use more authentic and natural language and allow earlier and easier access to God’s Word by the church and community. For these reasons, **the Lab recommends multimodal translation processes be the preferred methodology for the remaining Bible translation need.**

**The Lab’s recommendation is for multimodal processes from the very beginning.** The Lab’s experience has shown that beginning translation with ‘oral and visual processes’ allows the church and community to contribute through all stages of translation. ‘Oral and visual translation processes’ incorporate sound through audio Scripture and commentary; sight through pictures, video and text; and touch through performance, storyboarding and modeling.

Multimodal translation processes allow for deeper and more meaningful engagement in translation by the church and community and, thus, more thorough review and revision, as well as greater ownership and use. Even in highly literate communities, there are important advantages to a multi-modal translation process, including:

- » Multimodal processes lead to better first drafts.
- » Multimodal translation processes tend to use more authentic, natural language, which results in translations that are easier to understand and more appealing.
- » Multimodal translation processes allow communities earlier and easier access to God’s Word.

Importantly, this recommendation speaks only to the translation methodology, not the format of the resulting translation. *Churches in oral communities, for various reasons, frequently opt for both an oral and a textual format for their Bible translations.*

### Recommendation 2: Empower the Church for Quality Translation

The global church is empowered for quality Bible translation by processes that are rooted in their experience and expertise. “As the church is called to participate with God in His mission of making Himself known, Bible translation is primarily a ministry of the church. It is, therefore, expected that the church will give leadership to the planning and implementing of Bible translation programs.” (ETEN Innovation Lab Charter, 2020)

Empowering the church requires quality assurance processes that enable translation at a pace and scope that support church ministry goals.

#### The Lab recommends that the church is empowered for quality translation when...

- » The local church is at the center of decision-making, resourcing and quality assessment processes of Bible translation programs in locally relevant ways.
- » The church leads and is involved in every stage of translation, including authentication.
- » The local church knows the variety of expertise that is available through the global church and Bible translation agencies.
- » Tools and resources necessary for translation are freely and readily available.
- » Translated Scripture is in use early.

The global church is blessed to have trained and experienced experts to serve the local church in Bible translation. Examples of such experts include Translation Consultants, Translation Advisors, Linguistic Consultants, Ethnomusicologists and many others.

The church is best served when global church experts focus on growing the church’s capacity for

expertise in translation and its ongoing review and revision. When global church experts are invited by the church, their best service is as advisors, trainers, encouragers and mentors throughout translation rather than primarily as end-stage translation checkers.

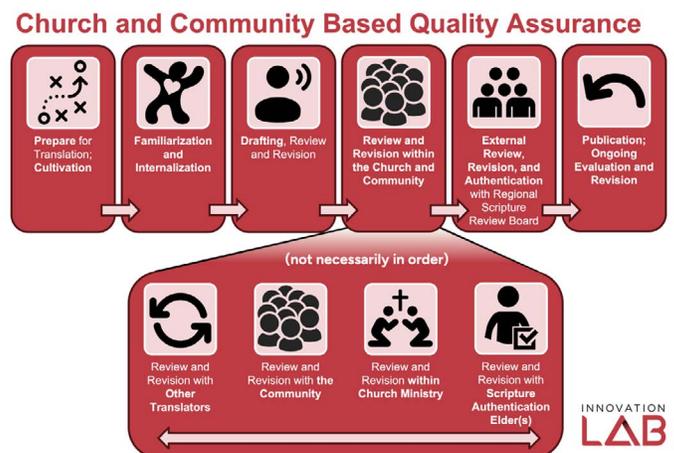
### Recommendation 3: Iterative Quality Assurance by the Church and Community

Bible translation has always been an iterative process. Each successive revision improves upon the quality of the former. It is not uncommon for English translations to offer updates every 20 years. In fact, at least one major English translation has the goal of regularly updating to ensure that it speaks to each new generation.

*Quality translation is only possible when the church and community have capacity to correct errors or adapt as the language changes.* For this reason, **the Lab recommends that church and community based iterative quality assurance methodologies and progressive publication be implemented in all remaining Bible translation projects.**

This will require additional focus on growing the church’s capacity for ongoing review, revision and affirmation of the trustworthiness of translated Scripture. As the church has grown and strengthened around the world, so has its ability to revise translations or undertake new work with less dependence on outsiders.

The illustration below describes one process for church and community based quality assurance. Notice that the final publication stage points back to ongoing evaluation and revision.



#### Recommendation 4: Meeting the All Access Goals in Church-Based Bible Translation

The [ETEN collective impact alliance](#), including each of its Bible translation and resource partners, are committed to seeing “all people gain access to God’s Word in a language they can clearly understand by 2033.” These “All Access Goals” (AAG) help to prioritize ETEN’s investments and energies on the least reached and least served.

ETEN measures progress toward the AAG on [ProgressBible](#). In the established models of Bible translation, a language’s All Access Goal is marked “Goal Met” when the appropriate portion of Scripture has been translated, checked and approved for publication.

However, in Church Based Bible translation, marking a “Goal Met” is more complex:

- » Quality assurance is iterative and publishing is progressive.
- » The translation process includes use of the translation.
- » The clear milestone in the established models of a translation being consultant-checked and ready for publication cannot be assumed in Church-Based Bible Translation.

In light of this, **the Lab recommends that when all of the following five factors are true for any Church-Based Bible translation project, its All Access Goal may be marked “Goal Met”.** (A more full discussion is available here: [What does “finished” look like in CBBT?](#))

1. The translation produced by the lingual church (the element of the global church that speaks a given language) is “text complete” or “audio complete” or “video complete.”
2. The church is implementing an iterative process that provides for ongoing improvement and revision of their Bible translation.
3. The church is connected with other churches and leaders in a network (or family of churches) that speaks at least one shared Strategic

Language and can help provide support and ongoing training, as needed.

4. The translation is in active use within the lingual church for discipleship and Kingdom impact, together with any other translations understandable by the community.
5. The church is equipped with Biblical and translational resources in languages they understand (as per [ETEN’s Strategic Languages Initiative](#)) and Bible translation technology that is effective for them and that results in Kingdom impact.

*This article has been edited and trimmed to fit the printed version of the ETEN Insider. To read the full, original article [click here](#).*

#### ETEN MONTHLY PRAYER GATHERING

### JOIN US IN PRAYER

ALL ALLIANCE PARTNERS ARE INVITED

ETEN believes that prayer is THE strategy if we are to accomplish our 2033 All Access Goals.

To register, visit:

[community.eten.bible/monthly-prayer-gathering](https://community.eten.bible/monthly-prayer-gathering)

ETEN MONTHLY  
*Prayer*  
GATHERING

Extraordinary access calls for extraordinary prayer.



# INNOVATION LAB UPDATES



## DEVELOPING RESOURCES

Biblica Open Chinese Contemporary Bible (Simplified & Traditional), Mandarin Free Easy-to-read Bible, and several UBS translation resources are now open-licensed and readily available through the Bible Aquifer. SIL Open Translators' Notes are currently being prepared for open-licensing in the first half of 2024.

Familiarization, Internalization, and Articulation resources are actively being developed to support Church-Based Bible Translation (CBBT) and are freely available.

Existing OBTT technology tools, such as AVTT, Render, APM, and Scribe, are being adapted to serve current and ongoing CBBT needs.



## EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES

The Innovation Lab is actively working on 11 languages under Project Catapult to leverage Assisted Translation Technologies in partnership with 2 agencies (Biblica and SIL).

CBBT processes are continuing to be explored in new and difficult contexts, for challenges such as physical infrastructure, political and religious environments, education levels and lack of experience in translation.



## CONNECTING NETWORKS

The Innovation Lab attended the 2023 Global CBBT Forum, which included networks from 16 countries & 24:14 representation: ASSI (India), New Generations (Africa).

The new Assisted Translation Technology Interest Group is meeting monthly to share knowledge and foster community.

Registration is now open for the 2024 Global Missional AI Summit from April 9-11 at the Wycliffe USA HQ in Orlando, FL. Find out more at [missional.ai](https://missional.ai).

## STRATEGY

# Unveiling Hidden Depths

## CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES ON ETEN'S "LAKEBED"

Imagine looking out over an expansive lake, its shimmering surface concealing a hidden world. As the water begins to recede, the lakebed is revealed. Similarly, as ETEN continues to meet the All Access Goals (AAGs), previously hidden challenges are discovered. Unlike a static landscape, these obstacles shift and morph with time. These unearthed challenges not only present potential threats, but also transformative opportunities. While some, like project coordination and resource limitations, are readily addressed, others lie deeper, waiting to be unearthed. As the tide of unaddressed AAGs recedes, proactive exploration becomes crucial.

This image served as a powerful metaphor of the "Digging into the Data" breakout session during the 2023 ETEN Summit. As they pondered the unseen challenges lurking beneath the receding water of unmet AAGs, profound discussions shed light on crucial concerns that will require vigilance as progress continues. Here are the most pressing issues:

### 1. Shifting Priorities and the AAG Pool

Languages with unmet AAGs and no active translation work have continued to be in abundance. This has provided ample opportunity for organizations to choose work that benefits both their internal objectives and ETEN's collective goals. However, as the pool of languages eligible for ETEN funding dwindles, organizations will face a crucial choice: prioritizing their own agenda or adjusting to align with ETEN's evolving priorities. This potential clash could test our collective commitment, requiring an exceptional level of trust, wisdom, generosity and transparent communication to navigate through it.

### 2. Reaching Under-Served Languages

While Church or Community-Centric translation approaches have been instrumental in propelling AAG progress, their effectiveness may wane as we reach the final, under-served languages. These languages are likely to have little to no existing church or

community infrastructure, posing a unique challenge on the “lakebed.” Developing models and tools for such contexts will be essential for accelerated translation efforts. In reality, this significant challenge mirrors one already encountered within the sign-language space.

### 3. Balancing Local Needs and ETEN’s Goals

Striking a balance between ETEN’s overarching goals and the needs of the local church is vital. The ultimate aim of the Bible translation movement is complete Scripture translation, and communities seldom request only portions. How can resources be effectively allocated to fulfill both specific AAGs and the broader “Every Verse Current” milestone desired by the church? As the focus shifts to languages with “portion” goals, there’s a risk of perceiving community needs as misaligned with the AAGs, potentially de-prioritizing community needs. Navigating this tension and ensuring alignment will be key to the evolving “lakebed.”

These concepts emerged from a dynamic conversation at the Summit. As you and your organization adapt to change between now and 2033, what do you perceive on the lakebed? Post your answers [here](#).



## Ask ETEN

**illumiNations Global has grown to include illumiNations Europe, illumiNations Asia and LuminAfrica, with other regions in development as well. Is illumiNations the same in different regions of the world?**

Both yes and no. On a high level, there is a desire for consistency in messaging, as well as maintaining similarity in brand, look and feel so that everyone understands it is *illumiNations*, just in a local context. The *illumiNations* brand guide has been distributed to these efforts for reference and with an understanding that things will take a different look in context. In each of these spaces, there have been successful attempts at *illumiNations* looking the same but at the same time very different. Another similarity is the need of including both implementing agencies and resourcing partners. Without the essential foundation and operational support that ETEN represents to *illumiNations* USA, it becomes very challenging for these regional expressions to get started and achieve sustainability.

On the other hand, there *is* high value in *illumiNations* (as an outward expression of collective impact) being communicated in a way that is contextually relevant. For example, with major investor Gatherings, there are cultural differences in styles of worship, lengths of sessions and meals, food and granularity of information. In summation, the whole concept of *illumiNations* expanding globally has been less of a franchise type of expression than a movement type expression.

### GET CONNECTED

Did you know that the ETEN Community Hub is another great place to stay connected through prayer? **[Post a prayer request](#)** and experience the uplifting power of shared faith.

*Have a question you would like to ask about ETEN?*

*Submit your question to [announcements@eten.bible](mailto:announcements@eten.bible)*

# WILL YOU JOIN US IN THE COLLECTIVE HUNT FOR MISSING BIBLES?

*With 7,300 languages worldwide, the Museum of the Bible dreams of the day that every language is represented by some portion of God's Word In the illumiNations Gallery!*

ETEN is committed to this tireless search and invites you to help find the remaining missing Scriptures. If you have any portion of Scripture in a language that is yet to be represented in the Museum of the Bible, would you share it with the world?

## RECENTLY LOCATED!

*since the last publication of ETEN Insider*

*(Language Name, Ethnologue Code)*

Amdo Tibetan (ADX), Old & NT  
 Arabic, Moroccan (ARY), NT  
 Aringa (LUC), OT Portions  
 Armenian, Western (HYW), Bible  
 Athpariya (APH), NT  
 Awngi (AWN), NT  
 Baiso (BSW), NT  
 Carrier, Southern (CAF), NT  
 Dhatki (MKI), NT  
 Dolpo (DRE), NT  
 Dongxiang (SCE), NT  
 Durango Nahuatl, Eastern (AZD), Portions  
 Gayil (GYL), NT  
 Helambu Sherpa (SHE), NT  
 Hindko, Northern (HNO), NT  
 Hunsrik (HRX), NT  
 Ifugao, Batad (IFB), Bible  
 Isnag (ISD), Old & NT

Iten (ETX), NT  
 Konjo, Coastal (KJC), NT  
 Kosarek Yale (KKL), NT  
 Lohorong (LBR), NT  
 Malila (MGQ), NT  
 Marwari, Pakistan (MVE), NT  
 Matya Samo (STJ), NT  
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