

Count on it

Living in the certainty of God's Word



Bible Ministry Worldwide - The Facts and Figures

There are an estimated 6,912 languages in the world today.

Bible Availability

- At least one book of the Bible has been translated into 2,479 languages – that's around 35% of all languages.
- There are now 451 languages with a complete Bible. Bible Societies are currently working on around 550 Bible translations
- Illiteracy and blindness mean that up to 2 billion people in the world today could not read a Bible, even if they had one. Bible Societies face a huge challenge as a complete Bible in Braille is still only available in 45 languages and it costs over €400 to produce a single copy. Audio formats are increasingly important.

Bible Society Structure

There are 145 Bible Societies working in over 200 countries. They work as a fellowship to form the United Bible Societies, ensuring a strategic approach to Bible translation, publication and distribution.

The fellowship worked to distribute over 380 million Scriptures in 2008. These included:

Bibles	28,416,220	Testaments	11,582,806
Portions	15,309,357	Selections	299,604,287

The National Bible Society of Ireland (NBSI)

NBSI is part of this worldwide Fellowship. As such we are supporting 25 Scripture projects abroad in 2009 (in addition to Bible projects at home). These international projects include translation, printing, relief ministry and distribution in various print and non-print formats. Projects have included Scripture distribution in the slums of Haiti, literacy classes in Pakistan and paper for Bible printing in China. So far, NBSI is supporting projects in the listed countries.

If your church is interested in Bible Society Ministry in any of these countries, we can provide you with relevant information for a suitable project. ***Or if you have another country interest, and would like to know about Bible Society ministry there, we would be pleased to research their current projects for you.*** We are happy to prepare a country resource pack that will help you to raise both awareness and funds in your church so that more people can enjoy the same access to God's Word as we have enjoyed for centuries.



2009: NBSI Support Projects in:

- Bangladesh
- Belarus
- Bulgaria
- Cambodia
- China
- Croatia
- Gabon
- Haiti
- Kazakhstan
- Mali
- Mexico
- Nicaragua
- Pakistan
- Palestine
- Swaziland
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- Venezuela
- Zimbabwe