



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 – around 35% of all languages.
- There are now 458 languages with a complete Bible. Bible Societies are currently working on close to 600 Bible translations
- Up to 2 billion people in the world today could not read a Bible, even if they had one. Illiteracy and blindness are big problems across the world. Bible Societies face a huge challenge as a complete Bible in Braille is still only available in 45 languages. 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.

This combined approach worked to distribute 430 million Scripture items in 2009. These included:

Bibles	29,391,276	Testaments	11,193,612
Portions	15,080,283	Selections	310,870,370

The Bible Society in Northern Ireland

BSNI is part of this worldwide Fellowship. As such we are supporting around 30 Scripture projects abroad in 2010 (in addition to Bible projects at home). These international projects cover a range of needs, including translation, printing, relief ministry and distribution in various print and non-print formats.

BSNI is supporting projects in the following countries:

Albania, Belarus, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Georgia, Greece, Haiti, Indonesia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Russia, Syria, Thailand, Turkey, West Indies

If your church is interested in Bible Society Ministry in any of these countries, we can provide you with relevant information. Or if you have another country interest because you have a missionary family from your church there, and would like to know about what is happening through the Bible Society ministry there, we would be pleased to research their current projects for you. That way, you can resource both your missionary family and the wider Bible needs of that country.

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.