

2023 Annual Report



INTRODUCTION

It is with a deep sense of gratitude and determination that we present our annual report. "Bless the Lord, O my soul, bless his most holy name, my whole being! Bless the Lord, O my soul; forget none of his benefits!" (Psalm 102; 1-2)

Over the past year, Literacy Benin has continued its unwavering commitment to eradicating illiteracy and spreading the message of Christ to the most vulnerable populations. Although the challenges are many, we are inspired by the words: "Be strong, therefore, and do not let your hands grow weak" (2 Chronicles 15:7). We express our gratitude to the Lord for his strength that sustains us, for "The Lord is my strength and my shield" (Psalms 28:7).

We are also grateful to you, our partners, for your continued support and commitment to our mission. Thanks to your support and prayers, much progress has been made in the fight against illiteracy, and more specifically in the success of our evangelization programs, leading to significant transformations in the lives of our target communities.

The task is immense, and our prayer is to strengthen our impact in the face of persistent challenges, notably illiteracy among young people, especially those from rural areas and marginalized populations. Challenges linked to disparities between genders, geographical areas and social classes are also battles that have begun and that we wish to pursue.

Together, we will continue to work for Christ to share his message of hope and love.

THE MINISTRY AMONG THE LOKPA

As part of our commitment to the education of children and young adults, we have put in place targeted actions to strengthen their literacy skills. One of the strategies adopted is the intensification of literacy classes in villages during the school vacations, offering an additional learning opportunity outside the traditional school setting. In addition, a Pastors Conference organized with the Lokpa Union des Églises Évangélique du Bénin in December 2023 presented a valuable opportunity to share experiences and knowledge. We were honored to benefit from the inspiring presence of Pastor Michael Lee of Encounter Church and Dr. Jennifer Lynne Edic, whose contributions enriched our exchanges and strengthened our commitment to Christ-centered education and community service. These initiatives demonstrate our ongoing commitment to investing in youth and collaborating with key partners to promote the holistic development of individuals and communities.



Literacy classes for children during the school vacations

MINISTRY AMONG THE YOMS

The Yom churches persisted in their commitment to intensify the opening of literacy classes in the Yom language. Again this year, the demand for Yom Primers was significant, as some NGOs used our Primers to establish their own literacy programs. We are grateful to the Lord for this encouraging progress and for the opportunity to contribute to the education and empowerment of Yom communities.

MINISTRY AMONG THE FULANI

Literacy classes in the Fulani language have continued in the 13 villages of the Donga and Atacora departments. Despite difficulties linked to insecurity in some villages and the defective state of our vehicle, the follow-up and evaluation of the classes were effective in certain localities. We thank the Lord for his protection.



Distribution of New Testaments in the Fulani language at Soumon

MINISTRY AMONG THE SOLA

The Primers developed in 2022 went into print production, while a mobile application dedicated to Book 1 was also successfully developed. This joint deployment is a major achievement for our program. Both face-to-face and online courses continue uninterrupted. We are deeply grateful for your continued support through your prayers, which bring comfort and strength to learners and teachers alike.



Launch of the primers and its mobile application in the Sola language

LEI MEMBER NATIONS CONFERENCE IN BELLO HORIZONTE, BRAZIL

We were honored to send our Executive Director, Daniel, to represent us with distinction at the LEI Member Nations Gathering in Bello Horizonte, Brazil. His active participation was invaluable, enabling fruitful exchanges on the future prospects of literacy in Benin and Africa. The discussions also contributed to strengthening international ties and sharing ideas for improving our common mission. Daniel's presence thus played a crucial role in this meeting, testifying to our commitment to the development of literacy and our willingness to collaborate on a global scale to achieve our goals.



REGISTERING LITERACY BENIN AS AN NGO

We are pleased to announce that the final documents for the official registration of Literacy Benin as a non-governmental organization (NGO) are now available. This crucial step testifies to our ongoing commitment to transparency, legality and sustainability. With this registration, we strengthen our credibility and our ability to mobilize resources and partnerships in support of our mission to eradicate illiteracy, promote education and share the Gospel in Benin. We are grateful to all the stakeholders who have contributed to the achievement of this important milestone, and we look forward to continuing our work with an official status that will enable us to have an even more significant impact in the communities we serve.

TABLE 1. THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN LITERACY COURSES

| | Number of literacy centers or villages | Number of learners |
|--------|--|--------------------|
| Lokpa | 44 | 1115 |
| Yom | 12 | 295 |
| Fulani | 13 | 325 |
| Sola | 9 | 228 |
| Total | 78 | 1963 |

TABLE 2. NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN REFRESHER COURSES AND TEACHER TRAINING

| Lokpa | Lokpa | Yom | Fulani | Sola | Total |
|---|-------|-----|--------|------|-------|
| Number of teachers and supervisors trained | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 12 |
| Number of teachers and supervisors retrained | 44 | 12 | 13 | 0 | 69 |
| Total | 44 | 12 | 13 | 12 | 81 |

| Amount | Source of funds | Purpose of the funding | Observations |
|-----------|--|---|---|
| \$9188,66 | Partner support for Daniel and Leocadie's ministry. | Ministry of Literacy Benin. Monitoring and evaluation of literacy centers. | 2/3 of the funds received in Daniel & Leocadie's ministry account at LEI. |
| \$2264,50 | ALICE Foundation | Daniel's participation in the LEI Member Nations Conference in Bello Horizonte, Brazil. | - |
| \$430 | Primers sales | Literacy Benin's administrative operating costs. | - |

CONCLUSION

The past year has been marked by significant achievements and progress for Literacy Benin. We are deeply grateful to God, our partners, and all those who have contributed to our mission. We have strengthened our commitment to literacy and to sharing Christ's message, working with determination to achieve our goals despite persistent challenges.

As we turn the page on this past year, we look optimistically to the future, knowing that we are determined to continue our work and make a lasting difference in the communities we serve. Thank you to all those who have been with us on this journey and who continue to support us in our mission. God bless you all!