



Chocó Initial Goal Cluster*

Literacy – A Bridge to Scripture

Is pigeon or parrot, cooked over an open fire, a tempting treat for you? Probably not. But for the Mountain Chocó people, it's a tasty repast. Project advisor David enjoys devising exercises to help people learn to read and write their own language. In an exercise book he's working on, the letter combination *ch* is the focus. So the word for *cooked* (*chuuḁa*) is perfect for an exercise about food. On a trip that David took to the language area in October, he checked most of this book-in-the-making with translator Frank.

The exercise book is one step of many for promoting literacy among the Mountain Chocó, and it's also an opportunity to foster interaction with them. Since the indigenous teachers presently have access to materials mostly in Spanish, they're excited at the prospect of literature in their mother tongue.

- **Pray that Mountain Chocó literacy will be a bridge to the translated Scriptures.**
- **Pray for Frank as he works on 1 and 2 Corinthians and 1 Timothy in Mountain Chocó and for the consultant's check⁵ of Acts and Genesis.**

They Ran Out of Food!

A Headwater Chocó Bible conference recently took place. Although David and his wife Penelope were unable to be there, they heard that many Headwater Chocó speakers responded to the gospel message and that a significant number of those who'd been discouraged are now reconciled to the Lord. Translator Liam couldn't tell how many people actually participated in the event, but he did comment that they ran out of food!

Thankfully, none who took part in the conference experienced problems as a result of the presence of subversive forces in the area. Nonetheless, Headwater Chocó leaders find themselves between a rock and a hard place as they try to coexist in neutrality and autonomy with the political forces that surround them.

- **Pray that mature disciples of Jesus will be an encouragement to those who've become Christians. Pray that new believers will live faithfully to their high calling.**



For security reasons, pseudonyms have been used for the language name and names of individuals.

- **Location:** South America
- **Number of Speakers:** 56,000 in 5 language groups
- **Year Project Began:** 2004, Seed Company involvement in 2008
- **Expected Completion Date:** 2012
- **Pray that Headwater Chocó leaders will be wise as they consider the safety of their people in the midst of a dangerous political state of affairs.**
- **Pray for the Headwater Chocó team as they work on New Testament epistles that are in early stages to bring them to later steps alongside the Gospels and Acts.**
- **Pray for the Mid Chocó and Southern Chocó teams as they labor on the translation of God's Word in their languages to make it available to the people.**

Six Steps of Translation

- 1. First Draft:** translators analyze what a passage says and produce a first draft.
- 2. Team Check:** translators check each verse for accuracy and clarity.
- 3. Community Testing:** translators share drafted Scripture with community members to test how well it communicates.
- 4. Back Translation:** translators translate the draft "back" into a major language for a non-native consultant.
- 5. Consultant Check:** a consultant checks the translation with the team to make sure expected standards are met.
- 6. Proofread:** translators rigorously proofread the final draft for errors before publication.

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