



PROJECT PROFILE

Kru New Testament Cluster*

PROJECT SUMMARY:

Church leaders in Côte d'Ivoire pray for healing of their divided nation. This innovative project will translate Scripture into the heart languages of more than 600,000 people, in five language groups.

Translations for speakers of related Kru language groups comprise the first cluster project for this nation. The team will produce New Testaments in four languages and Scripture portions in a fifth. Believers will mature as they read and hear God's Word in their mother tongue. They will also begin building a foundation for reconciliation and lasting peace. This is crucial to recover from a decade of civil war and inter-ethnic violence.



THE PEOPLE

Though commonly called "Ivory Coast" in English, the government discourages that usage, in favor of the French name Côte d'Ivoire, named as a former colony on Africa's west coast.

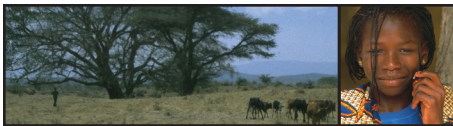
Once noted for more than 30 years of prosperity and stability, a 1999 coup ushered in a period of political division and ethnic violence. The people have suffered greatly; civil war has divided the nation north and south and created a no-man's land of lawlessness in the west.

In addition to working in the mining and oil and gas industries, these people farm the rich land. They're known worldwide for exports including cocoa, palm oil, coffee, bananas, pineapples and timber. But civil unrest and foreign aid pullbacks have pushed joblessness to nearly 50 percent.

THE NEED

While French is the country's official language, it remains a foreign language to most of the people, who communicate best in one of the more than 60 native languages spoken here. Mother-tongue Scriptures are greatly needed. Many people worship as Christians or with another major world religion. But the lack of a clear understanding of the Gospel has led to a great deal of syncretism, and many still practice indigenous traditional beliefs that center on ancestral worship, fortune telling, and use of magic and charms to keep evil spirits away.

- **Location:** Côte d'Ivoire, Africa
- **Number of Speakers:** 608,200 in five language groups
- **Project Goal:** Complete New Testament and Scripture portions
- **Year Project Began:** 2011
- **Expected Completion Date:** 2018



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BACKGROUND AND LOCAL INTEREST

This project showcases innovative approaches to translation in this nation. It is the first cluster project and will pioneer the first adaptation between related languages here. And it operates under the auspices of the first church-based translation department in their history.

Many churches united from across the denominational spectrum for this project. Team members from the Catholic Church, UEESO (an evangelical denomination) and The Assemblies of God will provide translators for the five languages. They'll also promote the translated Scriptures and evangelistic and linguistic tools produced. The UEESO church will also provide office space and administrative oversight.

Through this project, translators and pastors are learning to do better exegesis. This allows them to better understand God's Word and help their congregations apply it to their lives.

THE PLAN

Goals are to translate the New Testament in four related Kru language groups. These include Godie, Guibéroua Bété, Gagnoa Bété and the southern dialect of Wè. Selected Scripture portions will be adapted for Neyo speakers, and the project will include Scripture recordings and Scripture-based music, to meet more needs of these largely oral cultures .

This project's impact will come both from what is produced and from the relationships and institutions that are created and strengthened in the process

JOIN THE TEAM

The Kru New Testament team cannot complete their goals without your financial investment and prayer. Your financial investment makes translation possible, providing training, adequate computer equipment, transportation supplies and living expenses for the translator's families.

Your prayer helps translators and their families face problems like sickness, conflict and spiritual opposition that can threaten their work.

Call The Seed Company toll-free at 1-877-593-7333, to commit to invest and pray for the Kru team, or visit www.theseedcompany.org/projects.

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