



## PROJECT PROFILE

# Nigerian Pidgin NT\*

### PROJECT SUMMARY:

Today in Nigeria, one of the most language-rich countries in the world, more than 200 languages are still without the Bible. One of those languages is Pidgin, a common language developed for trade among the different people groups. Pastors and evangelists use Pidgin for outreach among these diverse groups.

The need for a clearly understood message of God's truth is evident. Teachers take advantage of the many groups without the Scriptures in their language, and many hybrid beliefs that borrow from other faiths have sprung up. God's Word in a shared, familiar language is necessary to help address urban social ills and regional ethnic conflicts.

The translation team for this project will equip the many speakers of Nigerian Pidgin to study God's Word by producing reliable audio recordings of the New Testament and the Psalms.



- **Location:** Nigeria
- **Number of Speakers:** 1,000,000 second-language speakers
- **Project Goal:** New Testament and Psalms in audio format, print-outs for pastors
- **Year Project Began:** 2008
- **Expected Completion Date:** 2012

### THE PEOPLE

When people of different languages come together, Pidgin is often the language of choice. It is a meshing of vocabulary from English — and a smattering of other major languages — with a grammar that is heavily influenced by the structure of Nigerian language families. And it has become a well-developed language in its own right.

In urban areas where diverse groups meet, Pidgin is becoming the main language for some people. It is the primary language for immigrant workers from other countries. Pidgin speakers are often the ones directly involved in or affected by the urban social ills and the ethnic conflicts within the nation.

### THE NEED

In places where there are congregations of mixed ethnic groups, pastors and evangelists use Pidgin because everyone in their congregations, no matter their origin, can understand it on some level. In many cases, these groups also lack the Scriptures. This has made room for many false teachers who operate largely unchallenged as few can study the Scriptures.



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### THE PLAN

Three Nigerian translators have already been working on this project. All three are well-educated: two have degrees in English and one in engineering. One is a pastor who has been preaching in Pidgin for many years. Each grew up speaking Pidgin.

The full-time national translation consultant served on the team for the Itsekiri translation, his mother tongue, and has supervised translations of more than 15 East African languages. He is currently consulting with translation teams in four other Nigerian projects.

The Seed Company will help the team connect with resources to provide high-quality checking of the draft translations already available. Seed Company partners will also provide crucial financial help for the team's trips to various testing locations.

Broad distribution of the Pidgin Scriptures to the community will be accomplished through a variety of audio formats. Churches and interested individuals will provide listening facilities for people who cannot afford this equipment.

### THE IMPACT

The team expects wide usage of the Nigerian Pidgin materials. While dedicated translation teams work to bring the Scriptures to every language, evangelists and other missionary workers will be able to use the Pidgin translation with their contacts who speak different mother tongues.

In addition, this translation could potentially become a source text for adaptation into Pidgin languages in Togo, Ghana, Cameroon and other neighboring countries.

### JOIN THE TEAM

The Nigerian Pidgin translators cannot complete their goals without your financial investment and prayer.

Your investment makes translation possible, providing training, adequate computer equipment, translation supplies and living expenses for the translators' families. Your prayer helps translators and their families face problems such as sickness, conflict and spiritual opposition that can threaten their work.

Call The Seed Company toll free at 1-877-593-7333, or visit [theseedcompany.org/projects](http://theseedcompany.org/projects) to commit to invest and pray for the Nigerian Pidgin team.

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