



# Sena New Testament

## A New Ride to the Districts

Getting translated materials to the Sena people in the districts is key to developing a relationship that leads to a quality translation of the Scriptures. The community and its churches read through the materials to offer feedback and correct errors. In return, the translation team draws on the community's wisdom as they work through linguistic issues. Both draw on their shared strength to continue the translation process.

Traveling to the districts, however, has always been a struggle because the team had to use public transportation. Praise God that the team has been able to rent a minibus to use for their trips into the districts. Now, the team can continue distribution by taking booklets of Mark, Luke, and 1, 2 and 3 John to the people in the districts.

- Praise God for providing a reliable means of transportation for the team as they continue the vital step of distributing the materials to the Sena believers in the districts.
- Pray that local believers continue to come alongside the team as they work to create the best possible translation of the Scriptures into the Sena's heart language.

## Continuing Education

Continuing education has long been an important component of building the translation team. João and Alberte have been studying at Hefsiba, an accredited institute for Christian higher education, with the goal of improving their translation skills in order to provide a better quality translation for the Sena people.

Now, João has moved to Beira to continue his studies. Alberto is taking a break from his studies to work as an intern with the translators.

## Aiming at Perfection

Many of the books of the New Testament have been checked by the consultant and revisions have been made with the help of Paratext, a software program that helps translators keyboard their Bible drafts in a standard format so that the format and layout will be consistent. Now, it is time for the team to start reading through the books to look for typing errors and other linguistic issues in the text in order to improve the quality of the text. They will be reading through Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, 1 Corinthians, Ephesians, Hebrews, James, 1, 2, and 3 John and Revelation.

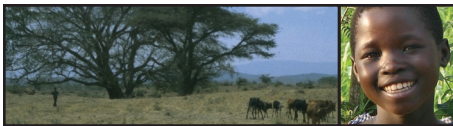


- Location: Mozambique, Africa
- Number of Speakers: 1,900,000
- Year Project Began: 2005
- Expected Completion Date: 2011

- Pray that these men will be diligent in their studies so that the translation of the Sena Scriptures will be top quality.

- Pray for translator Pastor Nhazeze and the rest of the team as they do their work.
- Pray for availability of consultants to check the remaining New Testament books.





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### Growing in Spirit and in Truth

Twenty-five people from different denominations joined the team for distribution and testing in the Nhamatanda district. The people proved their interest in the translation by enthusiastically interacting with the team during the testing process.

A missionary among those at the gathering reported that many Christians are using the translations of Mark, Luke and 1, 2 and 3 John. These books have contributed to the ability of the believers to understand the messages presented by their pastors as they hear the words of the Scriptures in their heart language. This understanding is leading to significant spiritual growth among the believers.

### Health Needs

In previous updates, the team asked for prayer for Pastor Silva with his battle against diabetes and for Pastor Luis as he recovered from prostate cancer surgery. They now report that both men are showing improvements in their health.

- **Praise God for the improving health conditions of Pastor Silva and Pastor Luis. Continue to pray for both men as they face these health concerns. Pray, too, for the health and safety of all the team members as they work diligently on Scripture translation.**

- **Praise God for the spiritual growth witnessed among the Sena people as they begin to hear the word of God in their heart language. Pray that the continued cooperation between missionaries, pastors, the community and the team will lead to even greater spiritual growth.**

#### 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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