

Every Language

OCT - NOV 2019



GLOBAL
RECORDINGS
NETWORK

2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) tells us that languages play a crucial role in our daily lives. They are not only our first medium for communication, education and social integration, but are also at the heart of each person's unique identity, cultural history and memory. The ongoing loss of indigenous languages is particularly devastating, as the complex knowledge and cultures they foster are increasingly being recognized as strategic resources for good governance, peacebuilding, reconciliation, and sustainable development. More importantly, such losses have huge negative impacts upon indigenous peoples' most basic human rights.

An International Year is an important mechanism dedicated to raising awareness of a topic of global interest and mobilizing different players for coordinated action around the world. 2019 is the International Year of Indigenous Languages (IYIL). There is concern

that 40 per cent of the world's estimated 6,700 languages are in danger of disappearing—the majority belonging to indigenous peoples.

The IYIL 2019 will strive to preserve, support and promote indigenous languages at national, regional and international levels.

Uganda



visited these camps distributing GRN materials in more than 20 languages.

Local contacts assembled the church leaders of each camp. They were trained in the use of GRN materials and each one received one or more sets of GRN flipcharts and Sabers (hand-wind mp3 players) depending on the size of their congregation.



Distribution and training in the use of the GRN materials

There are 30 churches serving more than 80,000 Sudanese and South Sudanese refugees in two camps near Kampala, Uganda. Yousif (GRN Australia) and Walter (GRN Kenya)

The church leaders were excited to receive both the training and materials. Please pray that they

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would be used well in both evangelism and teaching.



Yousif recording in Uganda

After the training Walter returned to Kenya. Yousif remained, where he completed new recordings in the Acholi and Zande languages.

Since returning home, Walter has received an order for an extra 30 sets of materials and been asked to train another group of church leaders in the use of the materials. Yousif has heard from several of the church leaders, excited about how useful the materials have been in their ministry.

Daniel wrote: "I am writing to brief you and thank you for how you have made God's word available to nations and tribes in their own local languages. From 27 to 29 June 2019, I facilitated a three day leadership training workshop in Bombo with over 30 participants most of whom were Kakwa, Fajulu, Bari, Moru to mention just a few. I linked them to the 5fish website and those with memory cards I gave them directly into their phones via Bluetooth, Xender, Shareit and on computer. I was able also to teach them the

visual Bible stories. They were very happy, for the target group were semi-literate. Most of them studied in Khartoum while others have never been to school. So using visual Bible stories, it was self explanatory and quick to understand."

Australia

With an increasing number of recordists our Australian studio seeks to complete two recording projects for indigenous communities in Australia each year. Please pray for us as we work towards developing new recordists to work both here in Australia and overseas, and for good opportunities to serve indigenous communities.



Australian indigenous recording

Noel Bachelor and Simon Johnston travelled to Darwin in August to participate in "Multiplying the Multitudes", a conference for those interested or involved in Christian language ministry in indigenous communities.

They also recorded a couple of books of the Plain English Version of the Bible using indigenous voices. This is a simple English translation that has been developed with indigenous Australians in mind.

A Long Tradition

Our recording work in Australian indigenous languages began in 1953, when GRN Australia first started. Over a couple of years, Don Richter travelled around the bush partnering with many different mission agencies, to record Gospel messages in many of the languages spoken at the time. From there, Don went on to record for some years in PNG and what was then 'Dutch New Guinea'.

Some of Don's recordings certainly gained more impact at the time, and are now seen as historically important because they were recorded with some notable indigenous people. Because they were among the earliest audio recordings in many of the languages, the GRN recordings of that time are often of interest both to researchers and speakers of the languages. At that time, many people still lived in the bush, and the languages were 'richer' and less affected by English and neighbouring languages in the communities where the people settled. Because GRN used the best available portable recording equipment of the day, they were often higher quality than recordings typically made by academics.

John Dekker continued the work in conjunction with Bible translators and missionaries, recording in several languages from Cape York in 1970, before he moved to South Africa where he worked for many more years.

Noel and Mary Bachelor began recording in the early 1980s, and recorded in many languages across Northern and Central Australia. Recordings came out of partnerships with many different mission agencies such as AIM, UAM, SIL, Bible Society, and Baptist, Uniting, Anglican and Lutheran missionaries; and of course the

indigenous Christians and church leaders.

Often, few of the people can actually read their own language, so Bible translators are usually keen to record some of the scriptures they have worked on, as well as assisting in preparation and recording of other teaching and evangelistic materials.

One of the initiatives that came out of the partnerships between various mission agencies was the 'Songwriter's Workshops'. These were held periodically in Darwin for some years, with a few more regional workshops held later. Groups of songwriters, musicians, and singers came from different communities for classes on writing and translating songs, and we recorded the materials they created. This produced good recordings of many songs in a range of languages which could be made into programs. Many of the songs developed and recorded at the workshops have become the standard 'classics' in their language. The recordings helped some of the songs to propagate widely across the country, with people translating them into other languages.

Some programs used outlines from Scripture Gift Mission (now

'LifeWords') publications of scripture portions applied to a particular topic or issue. Putting these together with appropriate songs proved to be very popular for personal ministry in many communities. It was encouraging to see the initiative for some recordings of this type coming from the indigenous church leaders, who would approach us directly with a proposal to record materials they had developed.



Though GRN does not now have a continuing presence in North Australia, the partnerships continue and we have recorded several more Australian indigenous language projects in recent years.

It's great to see how GRN materials are being used: At camp 'fellowship' meetings in the desert, it is common for people to get up to share something, using GRN's audio-visual flip-charts to illustrate their message. The same picture

books have been used by indigenous Christians to sit down and share the Gospel with older people in their camp.

Some of our indigenous partners have made it their personal ministry to copy and distribute the recordings in their communities. We have walked into a community store, to hear our recordings playing on the sound systems they have for sale, and they were also selling copies of the recordings.

And Christians are using GRN's 5fish apps to store and use the recordings in their language, and to share them with others.

The Bible Society is facilitating the recording of translated scriptures in indigenous languages, and these come to GRN to add to our archive, and to make them available via our websites and mobile apps.



Christine Platt
CEO



GRN CAMP 2020

Join us at our family camp where Ruth Stevens (retired WEC missionary) will lead us in a prayer retreat on the theme of 'Unity'.

Saturday 7th March 2020
9am – 9pm
Winmalee Christian Conference Centre,
59 Leslie St, Winmalee NSW 2777

Cost: \$60 per adult all inclusive
Children's rates apply.

RSVP: before 28th February 2020
(02) 9899 2211
au@globalrecordings.net

We look forward to seeing you!

Rev. David Cook's first talk on Acts from GRN's 2019 camp can be viewed at:
<https://youtu.be/6rB7w1Hz8VI>

Growing Partnership



MegaVoice solar powered audio player

GRN has been in partnership with MegaVoice for decades. Our recordings have been a vital component of MegaVoice's audio library that they load onto their players.



Tom Treseder from MegaVoice with Christine Platt

MegaVoice designs and produces solar powered audio players. These players are strong, durable, small and lightweight. They also supply the wildlife storyteller animals such as Tumi Tiger and some battery powered audio players.

Our partnership with MegaVoice has entered a new phase as GRN Australia is now an official distributor of MegaVoice players. As



A wildlife storyteller - Tumi Tiger

a MegaVoice Media Centre we will take orders for MegaVoice players here in Australia and hope to facilitate the provision of players to many of our centres and bases around the world.

Please pray for this partnership to continue to grow and develop and for it to result in many people around the world hearing God's word in their own language and coming to faith in Jesus Christ.



Testimony from Sierra Leone Kono language

"Absolutely wonderful I never thought I will ever find an interpretation/Translation of stories from the Holy Bible into my local Language Kono. I am impressed and I applaud you all for a job well done. May God bless you all. Please allow me to share it with my people. Thank you"

About Global Recordings Network

We exist to give everyone the opportunity to hear the story of Jesus in their own heart language.

Previous Names - Gospel Recordings and Language Recordings

Our Vision

That people might hear and understand God's Word in their heart language, especially those who are oral communicators and those who do not have Scriptures in a form they can access.

Our Mission

In partnership with the church, to effectively communicate the Good News of Jesus Christ by means of culturally appropriate audio and

audio-visual materials in every language.

Subscribe

'Every Language' (newsletter) and 'Rejoice' (monthly prayer letter) are free publications of GRN Australia. To subscribe - please call us or visit: www.globalrecordings.net/ausubscribe

Represent GRN in your church

Help your church connect with GRN by representing us in your church. To find out more - call us or visit: www.globalrecordings.net/aurep

Use our Resources

We want to serve you, by providing Bible teaching and evangelistic resources for you to use in your

ministry. Contact us for more information, or download them for free today www.globalrecordings.net www.5fish.mobi (mobile apps)

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Thanks to Wendy Bytheway for editing.

If you feel
led to give



New Computers

Our computer systems are vital to the ministry of GRN. The recording process requires computers, processing the new recordings and putting them into an accessible form requires computers, and distributing the finished product also requires computers.

GRN Australia has some aging computer equipment that needs replacing, including; storage servers, desktop and laptop computers, switches, monitors and network equipment.

To replace our computer equipment we still need another \$43,165. Please pray that God will provide the funds needed for GRN to replace its aging computer equipment.

A bequest
can change lives

Like many mission organisations, we can benefit greatly when friends make a final gift that continues to bless the ministries they have generously supported in life. Once you have made proper and primary provision for family and friends this can be a very effective way to go on making a difference to the church on earth when you have joined the church in glory! If you would like to consider this option in your Will please contact the GRN office on 02 9899 2211 or we have some information on our website: www.globalrecordings.net/au-bequests.

Donate online

www.globalrecordings.net/audonate
or by **Phone** on 02 9899 2211.

Direct Deposit

Global Recordings Network Australia,
BSB 032 388, Account Number 222 860

(Please include your name and where you would like your gift to go in the description box.)

Mail - fill out form below.

I would like my gift to go to

- Where most needed (GRN General Fund)
 Computer Project
 Other _____

I wish to give

- \$30 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$200
 \$500 Other \$ _____

I wish to pay

- A single donation Monthly Quarterly

I wish to pay by

- I enclose my cheque or money order**
Please make all cheques payable to "Global Recordings Network Australia".

- Credit card**

I/We request GRN to debit funds from my/our

- Visa Mastercard American Express

at the intervals I/We have specified

Name on card

Number on card

Expiry date

Signature

Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone:

I would like further information on

- GRN speaking at my Church
 Leaving a bequest to GRN in my will

No stamp required on envelope



Please return this form to:
Global Recordings Network
Reply Paid 87984
Seven Hills NSW 1730