

Literacy through mobile applications project



LITERACY
& EVANGELISM
BENIN

literacybenin.org

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The project consists of the creation of four (4) mobile applications, three (3) of which are based on the content of volumes 1, 2 and 3 of the French primer, and the development of a mobile reading training application. The objectives of the first three (3) applications are to make the contents of these three volumes easily accessible, without cost and without delay via mobile applications. The training application will allow learners to practice on their own, without the involvement of a teacher, at any time or place. The reading practice application will offer exercises in syllabic assembly, listening and transcription, word or phrase recognition, simple arithmetic and comprehension exercises based on the lessons on health/hygiene, agriculture and the biblical stories contained in volumes 1, 2 and 3 of the French primer. This application reinforces the knowledge and reading skills of the learners and its use assumes that the learner has attended classical literacy classes or has at least some reading level.

Africa, with its 700 million mobile subscribers, is now the second largest mobile market in the world. In 2016, 336 million Africans had a smartphone and according to Deloitte, the continent will have 660 million people with a "smartphone" in 2020, double the number in 2016. However, other sectors such as literacy are not following this evolving trend. Indeed, 9 of the 10 countries with the highest illiteracy rate in the world are in Africa and 5 of them are in Francophone Africa.

This project focuses on the peoples of Francophone Africa, estimated at nearly 95 million people in 2016. Despite the importance of French in Francophone African countries, more than 75% of the population of these countries can neither read nor write in this language. Yet French is used as an administrative language and for church services because of the multiplicity of local languages.

Literacy & Evangelism Benin (LEB) and Literacy & Evangelism International (LEI) saw this critical issue as an opportunity for churches to share the gospel through the gift of literacy with digital solutions. The project will be implemented by Literacy & Evangelism Benin, LEI's Francophone partner in West Africa and in partnership with LEI. Literacy & Evangelism Benin, with the support of LEI, has been involved in literacy in West Africa and evangelism since 2005 by creating Bible-based reading materials in more than 8 languages.

The implementation of this project will reduce illiteracy and double the number of people able to read the French language Bible and other books with biblical content. Your partnership will help us reach our goal of launching digital solutions.

INTRODUCTION

This project is an initiative of Literacy & Evangelism Benin (LEB) and Literacy & Evangelism International (LEI).

LEB is LEI's partner in Benin. The mission of LEB is to equip churches as well as ecclesiastical and para-ecclesiastical organizations with teaching materials, in particular textbooks with biblical content in African languages and books for learning foreign languages such as French and English.

Since 2005, LEB through the ministry of its director, Daniel Awolou, then a missionary at LEI, has been working for the eradication of adult and youth illiteracy in rural West Africa and evangelism by creating, with the support of LEI, Bible-based reading materials in more than 8 languages, including the exercise book in French.

LEI is a non-profit organization that equips the church to share the message of Jesus Christ through the gift of reading. Since 1967, LEI has worked in countries around the world, developing Bible-based reading materials in more than 230 languages.

The mission of LEI is to share the message of Jesus Christ by sharing the gift of reading. LEI accomplishes this mission by using biblical content materials in local languages to teach basic reading. In addition, LEI trains leaders and missionaries to use materials provided by LEI for ministry.

THE GOAL OF THE PROJECT

By the end of May 2021, Literacy & Evangelism Benin in partnership with LEI will have:

- 1. Made available the content of the French primer in the form of three mobile applications representing volumes 1, 2 and 3 of the French primer;**
- 2. Designed a mobile French training application in order to reinforce the knowledge and reading skills of the learners.**

Literacy & Evangelism Benin and LEI will promote and launch the project in June 2021.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project consists of transforming volumes 1, 2 and 3 of the French primer into mobile applications and developing a mobile French training application based on the French primer exercise book. The objective of the application trilogy representing volumes 1, 2 and 3 of the French primer is to make the content of these three volumes easily accessible, without cost and without delay via a mobile application. The training application will allow learners to practice alone, without the involvement of a teacher, at any time or place. This application enhances the knowledge and reading skills of the learners and its use assumes that the learner has attended conventional literacy classes or has at least a certain level of reading ability.

The French training application will offer exercises in syllabic assembly, listening and transcription, word or expression recognition, simple arithmetic and comprehension exercises based on the lessons in health/hygiene, agriculture and the biblical stories contained in volumes 1, 2 and 3 of the French primer.

DEVELOPMENT

Literacy & Evangelism Benin is in charge of the implementation of the project. To do so, LEB will bring together a team consisting of three developers, a designer, 2 consultants and 2 resource persons. The recruitment of the three developers and a designer will facilitate the design of the mobile applications. The consultants will be in charge of the content. The LEI consultant will be in charge of the control of the standards for the development of the LEI learning materials while the consultant from LEB, who is very well equipped in French, will take care of the semantics and the relevance of the content. The resource persons will participate in the workshops to bring their skills to the design team. The development phase of the project will take place in two stages: first the development of the application trilogy representing the 3 volumes of the French primer and then the design and development of the French training application.

During these two phases, there will be respectively a workshop to harmonize the content and make decisions on the technical aspects of the mobile application trilogy and a workshop to edit the content of the French training application and make decisions on this application. Only then will the development team proceed with the actual development of the applications.

TESTING AND LAUNCH

Once the applications have been developed, the team will first proceed to the functional test phase. It is during this phase that the applications are tested on different mobile phones to observe their operation, detect possible errors and provide solutions. The team will then proceed to the user experience test phase. The user experience testing phase consists of testing the applications with a few users in order to get user feedback. During the month of June 2021, Literacy Benin will launch a beta version of these applications, train some teachers and learners in their use and collect feedback. This feedback will be used to improve the applications before their final launch.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

To assess the progress of the project, **LEI's Director for Africa Dr. James KIGAMWA** will receive monthly reports during the development of the project.

Once the applications are completed and launched, Literacy Benin will conduct a participatory evaluation of the project with local church leaders, organizations such as the **Bible Reading League** and **SIM**; and **Bible schools in Francophone Africa**.

Evaluation of training workshops, teachers and classes will allow for the measurement of long- term results. Church leaders in the field will measure progress by collecting data and reviewing documents. In order to assess the overall effectiveness of the Literacy & Evangelism Benin project, regular reports will be sent to the LEI office in Tulsa. These reports will include the number of churches involved, the number of teacher training workshops, the number of teachers trained, the number of students in the classrooms and, eventually, the number of graduates (new readers). The LEI Director for West Africa will follow up on the project reports with information gathered from a questionnaire on the use of the applications. Literacy & Evangelism Benin in partnership with LEI's office in Tulsa will monitor the funds spent at each stage of the project to ensure financial efficiency. They will evaluate these reports in order to find ways to improve the program and monitor it to ensure its continued success.

LAUNCH

During July/August 2021, Literacy & Evangelism Benin in partnership with LEI will launch the applications and trainings on their use. Teachers and church leaders will be trained in the use of the materials developed in the churches and will use them for opening classes, evangelism, discipleship and church planting.

Literacy & Evangelism Benin plans to train 40 teachers and 4 leaders/supervisors each year and to start with 20 French-language literacy classes each year, with 10 to 25 students per class.

TIMELINE

Process	Delivery
Planning, Research/Outreach	1-2 Weeks
Design, Consultation	4-6 Weeks
Development	8-12 Weeks
Testing, launch	2-3 Weeks

BUDGET

We want to receive the utmost value from your investment in a new mobile app. This budget breakdown is based on the project outline described above.

Name	Delivery	Qty	Subtotal
Planning, Research/Outreach	\$2,400	1	\$2,400
Design, Consultation	\$3,300	1	\$3,300
Development	\$12,400	1	\$12,400
Promotion, application launches	\$2,000	1	\$2,000

TOTAL: \$20,100

USEFUL WEB LINKS

▶ FUNDING THE PROJECT

Contact Literacy & Evangelism International

info@LiteracyInternational.net

Website : www.literacyevangelism.org

▶ SEE THE DEMO OF MOBILE FRENCH TRAINING APPLICATION

<https://youtu.be/2LSDkz5nQNE>

▶ CONTACT LITERACY & EVANGELISM BENIN

info@literacybenin.org

Website : www.literacybenin.org