

**Fast Facts:**

- Language: Seagull\*
- No. of speakers: 25,000
- Christians: <2%
- Location: Southeast Asia\*\*
- Project period: 2011–2026

**Goals:**

- Translate the NT and selected OT books into the Seagull language



Cracked wall  
from the  
earthquake

Seagull language speakers are found along the coastal areas of a Southeast Asian country. Formerly migrants from another country, their culture and religious beliefs have remained largely unchanged through the centuries.

Christians constitute 1.5% of the Seagull population, while the rest belong to a majority religion. The community has been historically wary of Christianity due to its colonial association. Although house churches have been established among the Seagull people since 2001, they are struggling to survive as there have been many attacks by the enemy, especially on the leaders.

## **Stories and testimonies** | Oct–Dec 2023

*From the project facilitator, P\*:*

There was a 6.8 magnitude earthquake in mid-November 2023. God's mercy was evident during this time. For various reasons, all six children of the mother tongue translators (MTTs) were at home when the earthquake came. The day before the earthquake, some relatives had been discharged from the hospital, freeing up beds to accommodate the injured from the earthquake. One MTT's plan to travel to a wedding fell through, resulting in him being at home with his family when the earthquake struck. The office compound where the MTTs live is about 50 years old and suffered many cracks after the

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earthquake, but did not collapse. The landlord has asked the MTTs to vacate their living quarters as they are unsafe and will need to be demolished, although they hope to continue to use the office portion. They have now moved back to their homes farther away from the office and the children's school.

## Project Progress | Oct–Dec 2023

- Consultant check of Mark, targeted to be completed by early February.
- Revising parallel passages in the synoptic Gospels for consistency.
- Reviewing and taking note of vocabulary in early translations of Luke, John and Acts that might not be understood by the younger generation.
- Translating Matthew, the final NT book.

## Mid-term Goals (next six months)

- Consultant approval of Mark (by February 2024)
- Sociolinguistics survey and orthography testing in four dialects (when the partners' son has recovered from surgery)
- Team check and community testing of Matthew
- Back translation of Matthew (by June 2024)
- Publish on scripture app: Mark.

## Prayer Items

### Project-related:

- Pray for the Spirit's guidance and wisdom in how to deal with a recently surfaced issue in the team.
- Pray for God's timing and favour for the orthography testing.
- Pray for provision, timing and wisdom regarding the recording of Scripture portions.

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**Team:**

- Pray for security issues and wisdom as the team plans to continue working in the office portion of the compound even though it suffered damage in the earthquake.
- Pray for daily provision and transportation for the MTTs and their families as they have had to move back to their homes, farther from the office and their children's schools.
- Pray for good health and God's protection for the team and their families.

**People group:**

- TT\* and his wife T\* are expecting their first child in February. They are very devout followers of their religion. Pray that they will experience Jesus and be passionate about sharing Him with their own people.
- Pray that God will prepare hearts that are hungry for God's Word, for more Seagull harvest workers and for God's transforming work in the Seagull communities.

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## Funding needs (FY2024)

**Total Project Costs: S\$25,900**

**Wycliffe Singapore's Commitment: S\$10,000**

(Note: The balance to be met by other donors and project reserves)

If you would like to support this project, go to

<https://wycliffe.sg/giving-to-a-project>

To find out more about this project and other ways you can be involved, please contact

**Simon Wan at R200\_Funding@wycliffe.sg or (65) 6225 7477.**

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