



The WAM Report

From **Wendy And Mike Buchanan**
Serving with Wycliffe Bible Translators in computing and accounting
at Wycliffe's JAARS Center, Waxhaw, North Carolina

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What is Platform Services?



I (Michael) am part of a great team of individuals called the Platform Services Team. We are responsible for managing the “platforms” which enable our colleagues in SIL and Wycliffe to do their jobs more effectively (in other words, we strive to be “lifting them up!” The systems that I’m directly involved in are:

- A task tracking system called **JIRA**. JIRA is used by non-roman script developers, software developers and most recently by our international finance department to keep track of wire transfer requests. This past year, 500 users created **1,200** tracking tickets.
- A **collaborative** site (similar to Wikipedia) where people in different countries can work on documents together and present information to others in the organization. In January, **27,995** pages were viewed.
- A **video conferencing** service which is being used by many of our colleagues to meet together virtually in small groups as well as organization wide webinars. In January **598** meetings were held with **3,255** participants.
- The **Elearning** sites continue to provide training for those in remote locations in a variety of disciplines such as socio-linguistics, translation and literacy. This past week, I helped a teacher in England prepare her course for students in Cameroon. In the past year, **1,916** students have taken courses on the sites.

Our team also manages systems for storing and presenting help files, for backing up and protecting data and a helpdesk system which enables our colleagues to get the computer help and support they need.

Thank You for your partnership with us! Through your prayers and financial support, **YOU** are part of our team lifting up translators, administrators, teachers and many others so that they can do their part in bringing God’s Word to those still waiting.



The Platform Services Team!

Updates from Central African Republic

There has been major news from our partner, ACATBA. Unfortunately, it's the kind we don't like to hear about: a major fire that destroyed one of the apartments at its center. There were blessings even in the destruction.

No one was hurt (which is amazing just considering the sharp, hot things on the ground and how many people wear flip-flops!) Also, the fire could easily have spread to an adjoining home. But a nearby UN force lent a water truck, and those helping put out the fire were able to keep it isolated.



It was great to hear of the faith of the ACATBA staff. The day after, they gathered around the shell of the building to pray, thanking the Lord for His protection and trusting Him for the future. Unfortunately, the building wasn't insured – property insurance is still new in that country.

Prayer Request from ACATBA Director in Central African Republic

Please pray that God would call the right person to work with the Central African Republic's Bible translation organization, ACATBA, as a fund-raising specialist. Pray for an English-speaking volunteer who can help them develop sources of funding for the Bible translation movement in CAR, thus serving both ACATBA and the church in CAR. Pray that God would call the person of his choice with the necessary experience in fund-raising and project-writing for this exciting new role – and that they would respond to his call!

Wendy and Mike Buchanan



We praise God:

- The work in CAR and Congo is progressing.
- No one was injured in the fire at ACATBA.

Please pray:

- For God to put it on the hearts of additional people and churches to become part of our ministry team.
- For the continuing reconciliation and reconstruction process in Central African Republic.



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