



Scripture Union International



Stories and updates from Scripture Union around the world

Global News aims to keep you in touch with how our network of Scripture Union teams is having an impact on young lives each month.

SU campsite offers **lifeline** in midst of war



Scripture Union's campsite in Ukraine has been offering a lifeline to the most vulnerable during the past few months since the start of the invasion by Russia.

Known as Open Bible ministries in Ukraine, Scripture Union had been sharing God's Big Story with children and young people through activities at their campsite for many years. SU director, Grigori Stupak, explained how the campsite became a safe place for locals forced from their homes because of shelling and fires.

The centre has been feeding refugees from other parts of Ukraine as well as caring for vulnerable elderly people who have lost their homes. Some of them had suffered strokes or burns and were carried into the centre, where volunteers have been caring and cooking meals for them.

He said, *"During the invasion and then over the next few months, our campsite became a help centre for locals. Almost 40 people had a refuge here. Every day around 100 people could get drinking water, hot meals, a chance to charge their phones, change their clothes, take showers, and collect medicines and clothes."*

The SU team in Ukraine continues to care for those in need whilst the war carries on, but they are also praying for God's direction and provision on best using the centre after the war ends. You can find out more about this ministry at the SU centre in Vorzel [HERE](#)

[Donate here](#)

three-wheel ministry in Tanzania



Tuk Tuk tricycle vehicles are helping move Scripture Union ministry forward in Tanzania.

[SU Tanzania](#) bought four Tuk Tuks last year, with support from their mission partners. SU Uganda missionary, Beth Baleke said, *"As well as helping us with income generation, the Tuk Tuks help us with the delivery of Bibles and Christian literature to churches and schools across the country."*

Vehicles have also been playing a part in enabling SU Tanzania to support the training of young leaders. Beth explained, *"Jimmy' is a Suzuki vehicle bought for SU Tanzania to revive their Vocational Program at the SU centre in Arusha in the north of the country. The centre attracts young people from around the region who are equipped with mechanical and driving skills, along with learning about evangelism and making disciples."*

SU Tanzania has also been running values programs for 38 young leaders from across the country's six regions.

about Tanzania

Tanzania is the largest country in East Africa and includes the islands of Zanzibar, Pemba and Mafia. Situated just south of the equator, Tanzania is bordered by the Indian Ocean and eight other countries. It is home to Africa's highest mountain – Kilimanjaro and has some of the continent's biggest lakes. It is known for its vast wilderness areas which includes the plains of the Serengeti National Park, a safari mecca populated by the ...big five" game (elephant, lion, leopard, buffalo, rhino). Tanzania's population includes around 120 different African tribal groups with Swahili being the main

language. The independent nation of Tanzania was formed in 1964. Economically it is one of the world's poorest countries. Scripture Union is actively working with children and young people in schools and alongside churches to share God's Big Story and bring hope to young lives.

discovering **the value of friendships**



Two years after the global pandemic began, **SU Vietnam** recognises how their programs for children and young people have been adversely affected, but national director, Esther Phan says, *"we have not been struck down."*

"Children could not have their true summer, but the strength of faith and love between Christian brothers and sisters has brought us through."

She said the pandemic had taught them about friendship and this has become the theme for this year's Vacation Bible School. She explained, *"The program's workshops give kids useful guidelines for their friendships: problem solving, relationship principles and creative ways to share their faith with friends."* Using stories from the Bible the team help children look at friendships with people and friendship with God.

Eco camp success in Cameroon



Last month, a Scripture Union eco Camp for almost 50 young people from **Cameroon** and **Chad** combined spiritual themes with practical tree planting.

Exceeding their target of planting 2,500 trees, they managed to plant 3,033 trees of various species to help tackle desertification in the area.

The 'Going Green with Scripture Union' camp held in the north of Cameroon, helped campers look at how to stand against physical and spiritual desertification and develop practical strategies to overcome both.

One of SUI's Field Development Directors for Africa, Emmanuel Todjo said, "Camp is not an event, but a process that helps build long-lasting relationships. The 2022 eco camp was special in that it brought together two SU national movements exposed to desertification, helped them to take practical steps to protect the environment and taught children and young people how to reach out to others with God's Big Story."

'Going Green with Scripture Union' is a concept developed to help, envision, and equip people to explore God's intentions for Creation, mitigate against global warming and climate change, understand carbon offset compensation and planting trees to fight against desertification.

At the end of the camp, almost 20 participants committed themselves to care and water the new trees on a weekly basis.

Along with the environmental outcomes, young lives were also transformed. One family was delighted that their timid son, who spoke very little, had been able to lead sessions and dance and was much more confident after the camp.

The SU teams hope to increase the numbers at the camp next year as the young people encourage their friends to attend.

You can partner with us

If you would like to know more about how to partner with us or find out about Scripture Union in a particular country or area, you can discover more **HERE:**



Scripture Union: God's Big Story Transforming Young Lives
scriptureunion.global