



## 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.

## Young people “full of hope” in Burundi



Young people in Burundi have responded to what the Bible says about work and entrepreneurship by using their local resources and setting up businesses in their communities with the support of Scripture Union.

Following a pilot training program on 'Work and Entrepreneurship', run by **Scripture Union Burundi**, young people looked at what the Bible had to say about using their talents and skills to find help and hope. As they responded to what they heard, they began to put God's Word into practice through the creation of small businesses, helping bring young people together to move themselves out of poverty and create employment.

One group, who continue to run Bible studies in their communities, has set up a pig breeding scheme and their aim is to use the funds raised to set up a restaurant.

Group leader, Nitinga Noel said, *"I made the decision to end poverty in my life without begging anyone and [have a life] full of hope. After the training I shared with other young people what they taught us and we formed a group of seven people and we*

started farming, we have two pigs, they are still small, but when they multiply we will sell them and start our VIP restaurant in our community.”

Building on the pilot program, Scripture Union International is supporting Scripture Union Burundi to help launch a young entrepreneurs project, with the aim of rolling it into other parts of Africa. The aim is to help young people see the opportunities and natural resources on their doorstep, and use these to unlock sources of livelihoods, bringing fresh hope, and so helping to stem the movement of young people from sub-Saharan Africa to Europe, in search of a brighter future.

Project Management Trainer for SUI, Nancy Kahuthia, said: “The program is grounded on biblical principles, operating holistically with the aim of empowering young people and reversing the trend of unemployment by providing them with the necessary knowledge, attitudes and skills to realise their life and career goals and, in the process, provide hope and support to themselves, their families and their communities.”

[Watch the video](#)

## about **Burundi**

Located in East-central Africa, Burundi is bordered by Rwanda, Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It remains one of the poorest countries in the world, following years of civil war between two ethnic groups over a decade. The country has had a period of relative stability following the terrors of the 1990s – when the ethnic and political violence saw 300,000 killed. An elected government now includes both major ethnic groups (Hutu and Tutsi). Pray for genuine respect and cooperation as these two peoples build Burundi’s future together. Decades of violence and the scars of past atrocities are not overcome easily and building peace is a painstaking process.

The majority of Burundi's population is below 18 and it was the young people and children who suffered the brunt of the violence, upheaval and poverty of the last decades. Around 560,000 children have lost at least one parent, while 45 per cent of children under five are undernourished and many thousands suffer from malaria and AIDS. Violence against children is common. Only half of children attend school; but debt relief has allowed the government to offer free primary education to all children.

Scripture Union continues to have an effective ministry as they work with children and young people, sharing God’s hope and message of good news. Prayer is needed for lasting peace and reconciliation and for the young people of Burundi to discover God’s love for themselves.



## Thailand camp **teaches children Godly principles**

Children and young people attending a [Scripture Union Thailand](#) camp say they have made new friendships and found new direction through the talks and activities.

SU Thailand ran the camp with support from SU Singapore, helping them reach out in new ways to a group of young people.





One young camper, Jessie, explained why she loved being at the camp:

*"I like this camp because it teaches about Godly principles," she said. "It has morning devotions so that you can know more about God. They give you snacks on snack break and there are a lot of activities, and you get new friends. That is the best part, because without God and friends in your life, it's nothing. The camp teaches about how you can improve and everything you need to know to live a good life and it teaches about Godly principles, and that's the most important thing."*





# Empowering leaders in Peru



Scripture Union leaders came together in Lima, Peru, for a dynamic Workshop to equip them with the tools to strengthen their ministries with children, young people and families.

The training event, "Recursos para la Fe: Desarrollando Programas y Materiales" (Resources for Faith: Developing Programs and Resources) provided a platform for ministry leaders and volunteers to hone their skills as they worked together to create and prepare new resources.

The program, led by SUI's Children's Ministry Consultant, Terry Williams, focused on both strategic planning and biblical principles. Participants explored the best ways to identify community needs and design programs and resources with impact, which were also aligned with scriptural foundations.

Twenty-six attendees from nine countries in Latin America and Caribbean shared experiences and worked together on solutions to common challenges. Yulissa Castro Diaz, from SU Colombia said, *"This workshop provided valuable tools and a renewed sense of purpose. I'm excited to implement these strategies and watch our ministry reaching new heights by using locally created programs and resources."*

[Scripture Union International](#) Director Monika Kuschmierz, was also part of the workshop, encouraging participants in the creation of locally developed programs and resources which are key to empowering national Scripture Union movements.

SUI Field Development Director for Latin America, Davi Krukliis, said: *"The workshop culminated in a spirit of unity and action. Everyone who took part left with concrete plans and the knowledge that together they can achieve more."*

## 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  
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