



Languages: eSaka
People Group: aSaka
People Group Size: 432,000
Location: Mozambique
Lifestyle: Subsistence farming
Translation Phase: In transition (Phase 2 to 3)
Translation Time-frame: March 2026 - December 2028
Translation Goals: Translation of the whole New Testament
Completed in Phases 1&2: Genesis, Luke, Acts, and 65 narratives from the Old and New Testament
Source Languages: Central Makhuwa and Portuguese
Managing Partners: Wycliffe SA / Nampula Roman Catholic Church

IMPACT

Two young women, Alleluia Pedro and Genita Vasco, are eSaka speakers who say that hearing God's Word in their own language deeply stirs their hearts. Alleluia bought a radio device that the family listens to together, whether in the fields or at the hairdresser. Listening in eSaka helps them understand Scripture more clearly and silently reflect, letting God speak in their hearts. They emphasise that words they didn't understand when they read the Bible in Central Emakhuwa, they now understand it in eSaka.



The eMakhuwa language group is spread across the northern provinces of Mozambique and represents the country's largest Bantu language, spoken by about one third of the population. eMakhuwa consists of eleven variants, including eSaka. This translation project is based in Alua Village in Nampula District, where the language is spoken across four main districts. Communities rely mainly on agriculture and fishing for subsistence. Around 25% of eSaka speakers identify as Christian, alongside the practice of Islam and traditional religion. The need for Bible translation became clear through outreach efforts by the Catholic Church and Evangelical churches, who recognised that meaningful life transformation and effective participation in God's mission require Scripture in people's own languages.



GET INVOLVED

Pray



Join the prayer mailing list to intercede for the eSaka community, the translation team, and the programme.

www.wycliffe.org.za/signup-makhuwa

Give



Become a partner and invest in God's transformative hope, planting seeds that will impact millions across Southern Africa.

www.wycliffe.org.za/give-now

Adopt



Journey with the eSaka by building relationships, encouraging, and supporting them in practical ways as they work.

www.wycliffe.org.za/contact/adopt-a-language

Visit



Get to know the eSaka people by visiting them and taking time to talk, pray, eat, and serve with them.

www.wycliffe.org.za/contact/visit-a-language