

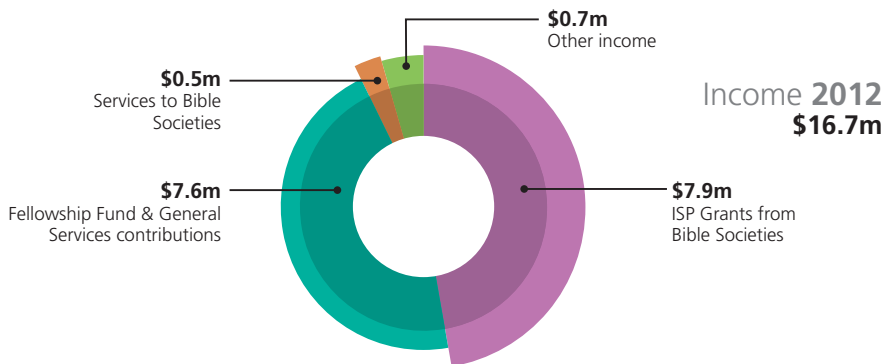
**UBS Global Mission**  
Annual Review **2012**

UNITED  
**BIBLE**  
SOCIETIES



a remarkable  
fellowship

# Financial Highlights



**\$0.8m** Pension Contribution  
**\$2.0m** Special Projects  
**\$2.7m** Transition  
**\$10.3m** Ongoing services to UBS

**Spending 2012**  
**\$15.8m**

**Ongoing services to UBS** – includes Bible translation support activities; training, workshops, project registration and coordination; consultancy; financial and operational management; communications and governance costs.

**Transition** – The first phase investment towards implementing RENEW and GRG proposals, including new (IT) systems and redundancy payments.

**Special Projects** - Includes specific funds for the Digital Bible Library™, China Partnership, Good Samaritan HIV/AIDS Program and Production Procurement Services.

**Pension contribution** – The ongoing contribution from the operational 2012 budget, plus an extraordinary payment to help reduce the long-term gap in the Pension Funds.



Dear friends and colleagues,



This report reflects the work of the emerging Global Mission Team whose mandate is to: increase our global profile and partnerships; mobilise Bible Societies to achieve our mission priorities; and provide membership support and development.

2012 saw the emergence of a new United Bible Societies. We are changing to ensure we can meet the challenges of the 21st Century. Our mandate to make the Bible available, accessible and affordable to everyone remains central. However, as we rediscover a renewed fellowship, my hope is that Bible Societies will be able to release more time, talent and treasure to our common cause.

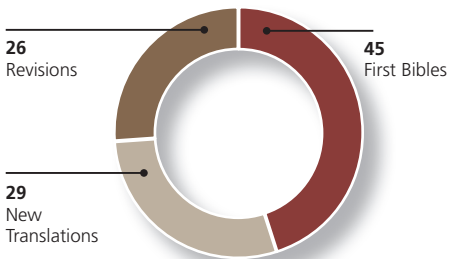
I want to thank my colleagues for remaining faithful to our task of making the Bible available for everyone. The Lord blessed our work and enabled us to make good progress in areas including the Digital Bible Library™ and the task of translating the Word.

“ May God our Father and the Lord Jesus  
Christ give you grace and peace. ” 1 Cor 1:3

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'm. perreau'.

**Michael Perreau**  
UBS General Secretary

## 100 Bible translations in 1000 days



Hundreds of millions of people still don't have access to a full Bible in their own language. And many people are waiting for new translations or revisions so they don't have to struggle to understand translations that are decades, even centuries, old. United Bible Societies is aiming to complete 100 full Bible translations by the end of 2015.

“ Each one, as a good manager of God’s different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God. ” 1 Peter 4:10



In 2012, we started one of the most thorough transformations in the history of the UBS Fellowship – both in relation to the administrative way of serving the worldwide family of Bible Societies, and also in relation to our governance.

In all of this, we have remained rooted in the motivation Peter so brilliantly refers to, namely, that we be good managers “of God’s different gifts.” These gifts are entrusted to Bible Societies and all those involved in the worldwide Bible Cause, amongst whom the Global Mission Team plays a key serving role – and for this we can only thank and applaud.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rudi Zimmer". The signature is stylized with a large, flowing 'Z' and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**Revd Dr Rudi Zimmer**

General Secretary of the Bible Society of Brazil  
and Chairman of the Global Board

## **The World’s largest online library for Bible texts – Digital Bible Library™ – Doubles in size in one year**

Our Digital Bible Library is rapidly becoming the largest online repository of Bible texts. We invite Bible Societies and partner organisations to use the Digital Bible Library to store as many Bible texts as possible, creating a single point where people can access the Bible quickly and simply for print and electronic use.



“ This is the LORD’S doing;  
it is marvellous in our eyes.” **Ps 118:23**



These words of the Psalmist, I believe, reflect exactly what we, in the UBS, went through this past year. All of us, I remember, entered 2012 with fear and trembling, wondering where God will take us in the midst of all the changes that have been proposed. Never before, have we as the UBS family, spent more time in prayer to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We rejoice that in the midst of all this, God allowed the Mission Team to accomplish gloriously the spreading of God’s Word. We saw the benediction of Paul fulfilled.

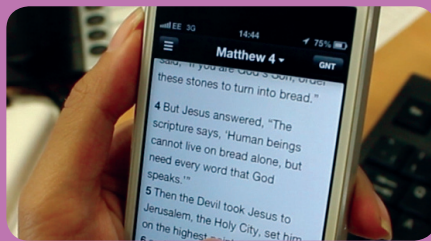
**God bless you – Robert**

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'R. Cunville'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

**Revd Dr Robert Cunville**  
President of United Bible Societies

“ Now unto him that is able to do  
exceeding abundantly above all that we  
ask or think, according to the power  
that worketh in us.” **Ephesians 3:20**

During 2012 Bible Societies and partner organisations deposited an additional 213 Bible translations. Consequently, we now have the potential to reach over 4 billion people with the Bibles stored in our Digital Bible Library.



[www.unitedbiblesocieties.org](http://www.unitedbiblesocieties.org)



An **all-important** service

SERVING ALL CHURCHES  
TRANSFORMING  
LITERACY



Global Bible Publishing

Providing guidance on the implications of copyright for income generation options, actively seeking out innovative practices and thought leaders to enrich the collaborations of the Fellowship, GBP have been at the forefront of ensuring that the United Bible Societies Fellowship is best positioned to thrive in the new digital publishing environment and beyond.



Global Partnerships & Communications

We developed communications with and between Bible Societies, using multiple channels including Facebook groups, UBS intranet and email newsletters. Our multimedia database is used by 500 Bible Society staff, who downloaded 10,667 photos in 2012. We provided social media training to 15 Bible Societies at a conference hosted by the Canadian Bible Society. 24 Bible Societies from four continents attended the first Global UBS Fundraisers Workshop in January 2012 to share best practice and future plans.

“The Communications team has played a really big part in the Global Mission Team transition process and will continue doing so. Thanks for your leadership. The work the Communications team do is much appreciated.”

André Minaar, Ministry Resource Facilitator, United Bible Societies

“Congratulations on the cool translation brochure which we have received. It looks fantastic.”

Stephen Opie, Bible Engagement Advocate, Bible Society New Zealand



COMMUNICATING

BUILDING CAPACITY

DIGITAL

At the heart of all activities is our goal that for **everyone in the world** Scriptures are available and accessible in **a translation** that **speaks to local** hearts, in a format and at a price that are **within everyone's reach**

CHALLENGING

INNOVATING

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS



MULTIMEDIA

HIV/AIDS

DISTRIBUTING

Global Ministry Exchange

We organised the annual “Roundtable” in July 2012 in Nairobi where around 160 participants from over 70 countries met to review one another's program, form funding partnerships and attend workshops. The Global Ministry Exchange also organised the first workshop for the cluster project “Stop Domestic Violence in the Caribbean.” Sponsored by the American and Canadian Bible Societies, Haiti, Netherlands Antilles, Suriname and West Indies Bible Societies participated. They shared evaluations and plans for the next two years. The benefits included working together, inspiring each other, generating new ideas and sharing publications.



Social media training to 15 Bible Societies

10,667 photos downloaded from the multimedia database in 2012

First Global UBS Fundraisers Workshop



Global Bible Translation

In 2012, Global Bible Translations (GBT) trained 187 participants from 75 Bible Societies in the work of Bible Translation, in order to pursue this central task of our global mission with strength and sustainability. The year also saw the launch of 4 first full Bibles with a potential reach of 33 million people, as well as other New Testaments, Revisions and Portions with a potential reach of 276 million people worldwide.

“It's vital, it's crucial to church growth that the Scriptures are available to people in the language which drives them; in their ambitions and their dreams and their thoughts and decisions.”

Stephen Pattemore, Translation Services Director, Bible Society New Zealand

CHANGING LIVES

4 billion people

The Digital Bible Library™ holds Scriptures in the languages of over



Global Financial & Operational Services

A new accounting system was selected and will be implemented in the course of 2013. The provision of the current account and international banking services was maintained and our reports on the status of member Societies' current accounts have acquired increased importance following the move from central to devolved Bible production and other functions.

“The Bible Society of Malawi would like to compliment the UBS IT global services, for the excellent service they have been providing us over the years. We have always been pleased with the prompt response to our problems, be it the website or email hosting. Their professionalism and ability to get to the bottom of any situation quickly exceeds our expectations. Such a commitment to great service delivery is to be commended.”

Clapperton Mayuni, Executive Director, Bible Society of Malawi

“For many years, the UBS Global IT Services have been an excellent partner of the Philippine Bible Society (PBS) in assuring that our online requirements, website and online store, are running optimally. Their support to PBS, anytime we need it, is outstanding. We are very satisfied in how they supported us through the years, and we feel confident because we know that we have their team on our side. Many blessings.”

Michael Barrion, IT Supervisor/Team Leader, Philippine Bible Society, Manila, Philippines



Global Secretariat

Michael Perreau, UBS General Secretary, visited over 30 Bible Societies and attended several Bible Society events; focusing on forging stronger relationships and encouraging colleagues across the Fellowship. In November, we hosted a Learning Event for the new Global Mission Team. Together with some colleagues from Bible Societies, the Global Mission Team spent time learning, planning and team building. Our thanks to American Bible Society for sponsoring the event.

“It was a pleasure to have met and shared in Oxford, I learned many important things in my life and work of the Fellowship.”

Francisco Viguera, General Secretary, Chilean Bible Society



PUBLISHING

GOVERNANCE

Discover more:  
**[www.unitedbiblesocieties.org](http://www.unitedbiblesocieties.org)**



**Please get in touch. We'd love to hear from you:**

**Email: [comms@biblesocieties.org](mailto:comms@biblesocieties.org)**

Photo credits: We would like to thank the following people for use of their photographs throughout this publication: Laos Bible Society, Bible Society of Myanmar, Bible Society of Slovenia, Andrea Rhodes.



The fellowship is incorporated as United Bible Societies, a corporation registered in the state of Delaware, USA, in 1946. The affairs of the fellowship are administered on its behalf by the United Bible Societies Association (UBSA) from its registered office at UBS UK Hub, Stonehill Green, Westlea, Swindon SN5 7PJ, England. UBSA is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales no. 2264875.

Registered charity no. 800058.