

28th January 2017

CATECHETICAL MATERIALS FOR THE DEAF

REPORT 2

Following the aim of the supported project for the Catholic Deaf community which is to produce and facilitate appropriate visual materials in order to provide enough resources of faith formation rendered in the language that is understood among the Deaf namely, Kenyan Sign Language (KSL).

Ephphatha: Guadalupe Ministry to the Deaf in collaboration with the Archdiocesan Chaplaincy to the Deaf in Nairobi laid out the process for the implementation of the Catholic Catechetical materials for the Deaf in a DVD form.

Based on the Work Plan submitted previously to the funding organization, we whereby report the stages that have been implemented so far with the indication of some suitable adjustments made during the process, as well as the listing of the remaining stages presented as way forward for the final achievement of the project.

DONATION

On April 13th 2016 Ephphatha:Guadalupe Ministry to the Deaf received the donation cheque of 300,000 KSH from the Communauté Catholique Francophone de Nairobi (CCFN) represented by Mr. Gaspard Bossou and Ms. Solange Modjiboya. The receiving signatories were Mr. Fredrick Otieno (General coordinator of Ephphatha) and Fr. Jose G. Martinez (Archdiocesan Chaplain to the Deaf in Nairobi).

1st STAGE:

LAYING OUT THE STRATEGIC PLAN AND LOGISTIC

Fredrick and Gabriel Sindani from Ephphatha Deaf Ministry and Fr. Jose held several meetings during the *months of May and June 2016* in order to organize the logistic and plan for the development of the project. The resolutions were as follow:

1. The topic and content of the first Deaf Catechetical material.

Topic: "The Catholic common prayers in KSL".

Content: 11 selected common prayers to be translated namely, The sign of the cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory, Apostles Creed, Angelus, Soul of Christ, Morning prayer, Night prayer, Grace before meals and Grace after meals.

2. The formation of the interdisciplinary team for translation. The team to participate

in the process of translation was formed by KSL interpreters, who will contribute in the technical accuracy of the language; a priest who will ensure the theological explanation of the content of faith and Deaf people including the Deaf catechist who will corroborate the legibility and proper understanding and translation. Once the team was formed and officially invited to the project, the members were summoned for a meeting to be given the script of the material for further preparation and familiarization of the content.

3. Logistic which consisted in making the strategic plan for organizing the realization of the further stages of the project as well as the preparation for the work material for the translation workshop.

4. Purchasing the equipment for video editing. It was planned to acquire the following equipment:

HP Workstation Z600

HP Pavilion 23XW LED Backlit 1Ps

HP 1950 monitor

Compás keyboard

Logie mouse

Nickson camera

2nd STAGE

TRANSLATION WORKSHOP

From 17th to 19th August 2016 the interdisciplinary team formed by 10 people participated in the translation workshop at the Regional House of Guadalupe Fathers. Specifically the people who participated were:

Fredrick Otieno (Deaf catechist)

Martin Ngombe (Deaf leader from Kitengela Catholic Deaf community)

Stephen Odima (Deaf member of Guadalupe Deaf community)

Paul Sangro (Deaf leader from Riruta Catholic Deaf community)

Margaret (Deaf member from Holy family basilica)

Peter Muli (interpreter from Guadalupe parish)

Sharon Wakoli (interpreter from Guadalupe parish)

Fr. Jose Martínez (chaplain)

Gabriel Sindani (member of Ephphatha Ministry who collaborated in organizing logistics)

Josephine Akoth (Deaf member of Guadalupe Deaf community who assisted in kitchen)

Programme of the Workshop

Day 1

9am Arrival and tea breakfast

9.30-10.00am Introduction of the members, introducing the objective of the project, explanation of work methodology and setting up the timetable.

10.00am-1.00pm Translation work (Sign of the cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory)

1.00-2.00pm Lunch time

2.30-5.00pm Translation work (Angelus and Body of Christ prayers)

5.00pm Tea time and departure

Day 2

9am Arrival and tea breakfast

9.30am-1.00pm Translation work (Apostles creed)

1.00-2.00pm Lunch time

2.30-5.00pm Translation work (Morning and night prayers)

5.00pm Tea time and departure.

Day 3

9am Arrival and tea breakfast

9.30am-1.00pm Translation work (Grace before and after meals prayers)

1.00-2.00pm Lunch

2.30-5.00pm General revision

5.00pm Tea time and departure.

It can be said that the workshop programme was very successful; we were able to translate all the proposed prayers into KSL. This activity is one of the most crucial moments of the project because it materializes concretely one of its main objectives. The final product of the translation is what will determine the usage of the prayers in KSL in the Catholic Deaf communities.

The participants of the workshop were very active and enthusiastic for the great contribution and positive impact they envisage for the Deaf in our Church.

The logistic was well organized and the work material was ready in time. It was urged to start using the newly translated versions of the prayers back in their respective communities so that through their feedback a further revision may be made.

3rd STAGE

VIDEO SHOOTING

As a first phase, on 28th and 29th November 2016 at the Regional House of Guadalupe Fathers, we could be able to record our video of the 11 translated prayers in KSL. In this first phase, we had the participation of three Deaf people and one interpreter, besides the videographer who was also a Deaf. It was a two day intensive video shooting session after memorizing by heart the newly translated prayers in KSL.

A second phase was done on January 5th 2017 for the video recording which consisted in signing the general introduction and the introduction for every prayer. This second phase was basically signed by Fr. Joseph (Chaplain to the Deaf).

The reason why we had to wait until that date was because on 14th December 2016 the whole script of the project was submitted for revision to the office of the cardinal in the Archdiocese of Nairobi in order to request for the *Imprimatur* of the project, which we believe through that official ecclesiastical recognition, the material can be spread to a national level reaching out to Deaf people and communities across the country. We give thanks to God for the *Imprimatur* has been finally granted!

4th STAGE

VIDEO EDITING

Currently we are at the stage of editing the video. This hectic work is being done by a Deaf person, member of our Deaf ministry, who dedicates part of his time to do the video editing. We can estimate that 70% of the editing work has been done so far.

CHALLENGES

We can say that still our main challenge is lateness of producing the final product due to the unexpected complexity of ensuring the advancement from one stage to another and also in the dependence of the availability of our members. The nature of the project as it was proposed at the very outset was to create catechetical materials by our own this implies a thorough methodological preparation, time and dedication in order to ensure a good quality of the final product so that the benefit may bring about a positive impact in the evangelization for the Deaf.

In spite of the challenge we can say that we are making significant leaps ahead which have made us to progress with the project. The fact that we have been granted the *imprimatur* has even made us reach beyond our expectations.

WAY FORWARD

According to the strategic plan of the project we are remaining with two major stages namely:

STAGE 5: burning the edited video to a CD

STAGE 6: LOUNGING AND DISTRIBUTION

However one stage is currently in the process (STAGE 4 VIDEO EDITING).

Now that we have been granted the *Imprimatur*, we have planned to include a video message from His Eminence John Cardinal Njue that will be placed as a foreword of the project. The appointment given for video recording his message will be on 15th February 2017.

Once we get the video editing done we will set up a day with the Cardinal for a lounging day after we have worked Stage 5.

We once again appreciate your significant support towards the evangelization of the Deaf in Kenya. May God bless your generosity!

Prepared by

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