

UNITED BIBLE SOCIETIES

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COMPONENTS OF TRAINING

REQUIRED OF TRANSLATION OFFICERS

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A Guide for Supervising Consultants

1. ORIENTATION

Orientation to UBS – Fellowship
History
Identity and Ethos
Orientation to the Global Bible Translation Unit: TSF;
ICAP; COMMUNICATIONS AND FUNDRAISING,
FINANCES

Orientation to National Bible Societies

Orientation to UBS relationships with sister and partner organisations – e.g.
SIL, TSC, FCBH, etc.

Orientation to UBS church relationships

Familiarity with the special features of the characteristics of the Region

2. PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

For Linguists:

Biblical Training, especially courses in Exegesis
Biblical Languages – Hebrew and Greek
(The requirement is 2 years formal academic study at an
accredited theological institution)

For Biblical Scholars:

General linguistics with emphasis on socio-linguistics and
discourse analysis
(The requirement is for 1 year of formal study at a recognised
institution)

For all:
Understanding of translation theory and practice
Commitment to UBS Principles of Translation
Demonstrated ability to acquire a regional language

3. PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- Teaching: Preparation of materials for use in training translators
Communication skills in conducting training workshops
Pedagogical skills for workshops and consulting
- Coaching: Ability to get alongside translators to coach and train them in translation techniques and skills
- Consulting: Developing skills to serve as a consultant to projects
Developing a Translation Brief
Quality Control of a Project
Conducting checking sessions – what to aim for
Develop skill in “spot-checking”
Using back-translations – how to spot problems
Using the interlinearizer
Report writing and following up checking sessions
Organisation of a project
Implementing TNA 3.0
- Interpersonal Skills: The TO and NBS General Secretary and the other officers
The TO and other professional colleagues in UBS
The TO and the translators/reviewers
The TO and the churches
The TO as a “salesperson” for Translation

4. ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Computer Use: Ability to use necessary software for word processing and reporting
Thorough competence with ParaText
Familiarity with Bible Software
- Administrative: General management skills
UBS forms and reporting
Budgeting for projects within the NBS budget, monitoring of expenditure
- Media: Workshop exposure to audio, video as well as print media

5. EXPERIENCE

- A period (minimum 2 years) “in training” working with a supervising consultant
- In-depth experience of UBS Translation workshops AND projects
- Supervised responsibility for limited number of projects after 1 year

6. RECOMENDED READING

Each GTA can supplement this list according the needs observed

Barnwell, K. 1986. *Bible Translation: An Introductory Course into Translation Principles 3rd Edition*, Dallas, Summer Institute of Linguistics.

De Waard, J & E Nida. 1986. *From One Language To Another*, Nashville, Thomas Nelson Publishers.

Gutt, E. 2000. *Translation as Relevance: Cognition and Context*, Manchester, Saint Jerome Publishing.

Hodgson, R & Paul Soukup (Eds). 1997. *From One Medium to Another: Basic Issues for Communicating the Scriptures in New Media*, Sheed & Ward and Franklin, Wisconsin and ABS New York.

Larson, M. 1984. *Meaning-based Translation: A Guide to Cross-language Equivalence*, Lanham MD, University Press of America.

Maxey, James & Wendland, E, (Eds.). *Translating Scripture for Sound Performance*, Eugene Oregon, Cascade Books.

Nida, E & C Taber. 1982. *The Theory and Practice of Translation*, The Netherlands, United Bible Societies.

Nida, E. 1964. *Toward a Science of Translating*, Leiden, E. J. Brill Publishing.

Omanson, R (Ed). 2001. *Discover the Bible: A Manual for Biblical Studies*, Colombia, United Bible Societies.

Pym, Anthony. 2010. *Exploring Translation Theories*, London and New York, Routledge.

Smalley, W. 1991. *Translation as Mission*, Macon GA, Mercer University Press.

Søgaard, V (Ed). 2003. *Communicating the Scriptures: The Bible in Audio and Video Format*, United Bible Societies.

Soukup, P & R. Hodgson (Eds). 1999. *Fidelity and Translation: Communicating the Bible in New Media*, Sheed & Ward and Franklin, Wisconsin and ABS New York.

Sundersingh, J. 2001. *Audio-based Translation: Communicating Biblical Scriptures to Non-Literate People*, Saiacs Press, Dome Series, United Bible Societies

Venuti, L. 2013. *Translation Changes Everything*, New York and London, Routledge.

Venuti, L. (Ed.). 2004. *The Translation Studies Reader*, Second Edition, New York and London, Routledge.

Wilt, T (Ed). 2003. *Bible Translation: Frames of Reference*, Manchester UK, Saint Jerome Publishing.