
WHO IS THE INNOVATION LAB?

APRIL 2025

PREPARED BY:
ETEN INNOVATION LAB

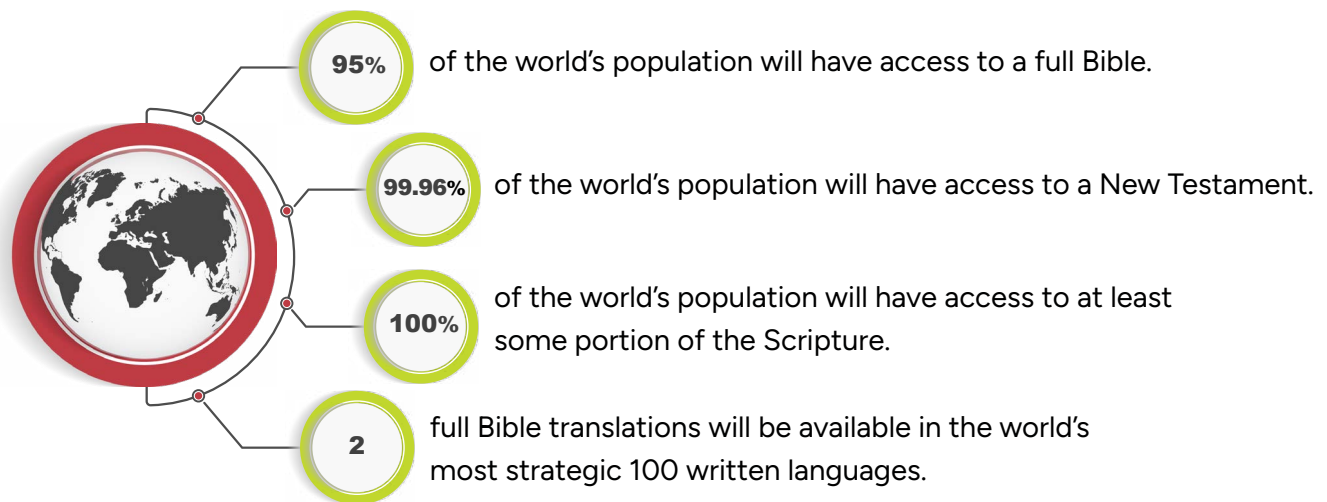
WHO IS THE INNOVATION LAB?

Realities: ETEN and Bible Translation

Every Tribe Every Nation (ETEN) is a collective impact alliance of Bible translation partners and resource partners working together to see all people gain access to God's Word in a language they clearly understand by 2033.

Established methods of Bible Translation are not on pace to accomplish the 2033 ETEN All Access Goals and emerging methods are not yet optimized or adequately resourced to sufficiently change the trajectory.

ETEN All Access Goals



The trajectory to accomplish the ETEN All Access Goals by 2033 requires a significant acceleration of pace and volume of translation progress. This requires BOTH the acceleration of established methods, participants and tools AND discovery, testing, scaling of emerging methods, participants and tools. ***The Innovation Lab exists to take the necessary risks by testing the untested, proving the unproven, equipping the unequipped and advancing what cannot move forward without special intentionality.***

Response: The ETEN Innovation Lab

In 2021, ETEN launched an “Innovation Lab”; a thought space tasked to find new ways of accelerating progress toward the All Access Goals. The Innovation Lab aligns with the influence and advocacy from an Acceleration Subcommittee of the ETEN Steering Committee.

In 2021, the Innovation Lab focused on **ideation**.

In 2022, the Innovation Lab focused on **formation**.

In 2023, the Innovation Lab focused on **activation**.

In 2024, the Innovation Lab focused on **demonstration**.

In 2025, the Innovation Lab is focused on **utilization**.

LAB GROWTH AND COMPOSITION ARE PROGRESSIVELY RIGHTSIZED TO DELIVER RESULTS:



The Innovation Lab **Nucleus** team is fully seconded to, contracted by or hired for the Lab.



A range of **Critical Others** work with the Lab as ideators, liaisons and project capacity partners.



Project Capacity is developed through service providers, vendors and implementation partners selected by the Lab based on qualification, alignment and availability.

HOW DOES THE ETEN INNOVATION LAB WORK?

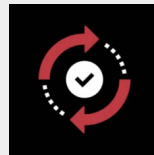
Priorities

The ETEN Innovation Lab is initially focused on three strategic priorities:



Translation Resource Ecosystem (TRE)

Equipping and deployment of a Translation Resource Ecosystem for the church;
Acquisition / Development of (where necessary) open access tools, texts, helps and data to equip church-based translation



Quality Assurance (QA)

Development and scalability of flexible Q/A methods to suit emerging translation methodologies



Assisted Translation Technologies (ATT)

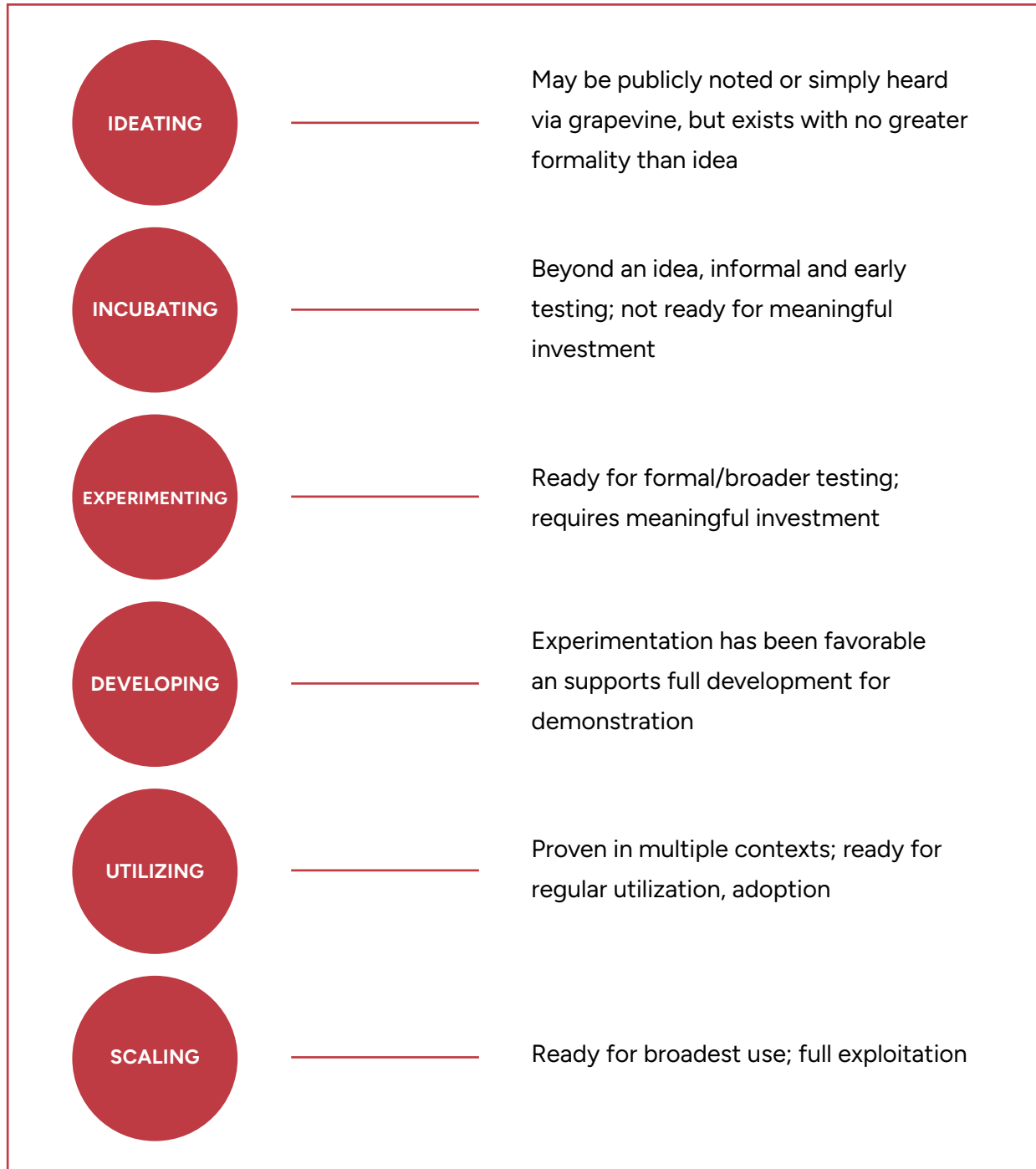
Scaling Artificial Intelligence, and Commercial Translation technologies



Stages of Exploration

A. Approaches to ways forward across all Lab priorities may fail or pause at any stage prior to utilization.

B. The Lab's Goal is to move approaches to utilization, then influence to see it scale.



Partnership

The Innovation Lab is exploring opportunities, developing resources, and connecting networks with an ethos of activation and demonstration, even if without consensus. Innovation Lab efforts will occur with and through the best positioned, most strategic organizations that are **qualified, available** and **aligned**.



QUALIFIED

is defined as having the necessary & proven expertise to contribute to the work in the areas needed.



AVAILABLE

is defined as having sufficient capacity and resources to execute the work at the pace for which the Lab is aiming.



ALIGNED

is defined as aligning with the Lab's commission to take risks, test the untested, prove the unproven, equip the unequipped, and advance the things that cannot advance without special attention and intentionality.

A current list of active partnerships can be found at lab.eten.bible.

Engage with the Innovation Lab

You are invited to engage with the Innovation Lab through the following avenues:



ETEN Community Hub

If you'd like to see highlights and general updates, we encourage you to join the Innovation Lab group on the ETEN Community Hub.

Visit community.eten.bible to log in or register for an account.



Innovation Lab Newsletter

Receive monthly insights and stories from the Lab, featuring new tools, field updates, and experimentation discoveries.

Subscribe at etenlab.substack.com.



Email

For a direct line of communication, please email comments and inquiries to lab@eten.bible.

NEEDS FOR ENGAGEMENT WITH THE INNOVATION LAB & DESCRIPTION

CONTENT CONTRIBUTOR: Your organization owns the rights to Bible translation resources and would like to contribute to the open resources available for the global Church to participate in Bible translation. [Have a look at our list of key resources needed under an open license here.](#)

EXPERIMENTATION / IMPLEMENTATION HOST:

Your organization has relationship and connection to global Church participants serving church planting, disciple-making and church growth movements around the world and you wish to see these relationships and connections engaged in emergent methods of Scripture translation in the languages most relevant to your ministry.

TECHNOLOGY PROVIDER: You are a technology developer in Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, Translation Service, Crowd Sourcing, Software Development and/or Software Product delivery and you wish to see your technology applied in exploration of solutions in Bible translation.

THOUGHT PARTNER: Your organization has experience, credibility and interest in Scripture translation, and you wish to offer these things in support of the Lab's priorities; most commonly applied to a specific priority, project, or experiment.

PRAYER PARTNER: You may or may not be a technology provider, experimentation host or thought partner, and your organization has dedicated prayer capacity it wishes to connect to the Lab's efforts.

INVESTOR: You may or may not be a technology provider, experimentation host, thought partner or prayer partner, and your organization wishes to participate in the cost-recovery of the Lab's operations, experimentation and proliferation of outcomes.