

Least-Reached People Groups



Main Language:
A dialect of
**Bahasa called
Bengkulu**
(pronounced 'bahng-koo-loo')

Population:
69,000

Largest Religion:
Islam
99.96%

Christian:
0.04%

Evangelical:
0.04%

PRAY GLOBAL

BENGKULU IN INDONESIA

PAOC has partners working among the Bengkulu in Indonesia, a least-reached people group (UPG) identified by Joshua Project. For general information on this UPG, go [here](#).

The information and prayer points below come directly from our partners.

1. What their lives are like

While higher education has grown in recent years, most Bengkulu people have minimal education. They are hardworking store clerks, fishermen, builders, trades workers, house help, and other basic jobs. Simple trades are learned by apprenticeship, typically within the family unit. Most live in villages where the cost of living is lower. They live in wooden houses raised on stilts, and their lives revolve around spiritism and ceremonial rituals.

Maintaining health is a constant challenge in village life due to poverty and annual flooding, which often causes death and illness.

- Pray for greater commitment to education for the Bengkulu.
- Pray for transformative employment opportunities for both men and women.
- Pray for improved infrastructure in housing and public spaces.

2. A “following Jesus” story

We have not personally met anyone who has come to faith in Jesus in this people group. This is a compelling reason to pray!

- Pray that people will seek the truth about Jesus.
- Pray for increased divine appointments to share Christ.
- Pray for relationships leading to discipleship.

3. The most critical need

Financial stability is desperately needed. Employment compensation can be sporadic and personal financial management is lacking. People consistently live from paycheck to paycheck, with insufficient funds to cover all expenses. This often leads to corruption in the workplace and government.

- Pray for discipline and wisdom in financial stewardship.
- Pray for employers to value Bengkulu workers and compensate them appropriately.

- Pray for more global workers to begin businesses and create employment for the Bengkulu.

4. Pray for labourers

Evangelical believers comprise less than one percent of the Bengkulu population, and another 20-30 global workers are needed to impact the population. Being committed to learning the language and living as a servant to the people provides access and favour among this people group.

- Pray the Lord to send more labourers to the Bengkulu people.
- Pray for creative business ideas that meet the needs of this people group.
- Pray for other national believer groups to send workers to the Bengkulu.

5. Creative opportunities

Business opportunities exist in many areas including farming, tourism, coffee, social media and more. The country and community value investment from outside of the country. The process can be arduous, but if you are willing to work through the bureaucracy and offer opportunities to local people, you are welcomed as family.

- Pray for an easing of the processes required for legal residency.
- Pray that obstacles to a missional business may be overcome and removed.
- Pray that Bengkulu people develop biblical stewardship skills with the resources they have.

6. A key prayer point

Pray *that the government will ease requirements that hinder internationals from launching new business opportunities from outside of the country. Little can happen without access.*

7. Why the Bengkulu matter to us

When we read in Revelation 7 that “a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes, and peoples and languages” is gathered in heaven, that includes the beautiful people of Bengkulu. Yet, spiritual need runs very deep. The grip of Islam mixed with generations of animistic belief must be broken for the Bengkulu to realize how deeply the Father desires that they come to know Him.

- Pray that we would be reminded daily to pray for the Bengkulu.
- Pray that Bengkulu people would become dissatisfied with Islam.
- Pray that Bengkulu families would experience a hunger for Jesus.

8. A Canadian connection

None are known at this time.

- Pray that God will give the few Bengkulu living in Canada visions of Jesus and lead them to Jesus-followers who can explain their dreams.



- Pray for Canadian believers to intentionally share their faith with any Bengkulu they meet.
- Pray that God would call Bengkulu in Canada to himself and then back to their people with the gospel.

9. Our partners' needs

- Pray for God's blessing to see our café and roastery business grow to financial independence.
- Pray that a disciple-making movement (DMM) will grow among other café owners and businesspeople.
- Pray that our English club and other community activities will shine Christ's love and hope.

PRAY THIS SCRIPTURE

May the Bengkulu worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness; tremble before him, all the earth. Say among the Bengkulu, "The LORD reigns" (Psalm 96:9).

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED USING THIS PRAYER RESOURCE WITH THE WHOLE CHURCH AS A REGULAR PART OF THE SUNDAY GATHERING OR A SPECIAL PRAYER MEETING?

What is God saying to you as you pray?
