



ISIXHOSA ISIZULU ISINDEBELE SISWATI SESOTHO SETSWANA TSHIVENDA XITSONGA AFRIKAAN
ENGLISH ISIXHOSA ISIZULU ISINDEBELE SISWATI SESOTHO SETSWANA TSHIVENDA XITSONGA AF
RIKAANS ENGLISH ISIXHOSA ISIZULU ISINDEBELE SISWATI SESOTHO SETSWANA TSHIVENDA XI
SONGA AFRIKAANS ENGLISH ISIXHOSA ISIZULU ISINDEBELE SISWATI SESOTHO SETSWANA TSHIVEN

BIBLIONEF SOUTH AFRICA

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

XITSONGA AFRIKAANS ENGLISH ISIXHOSA ISIZULU ISINDEBELE SISWATI SESOTHO SETSWAN
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*Embracing SA languages
one storybook at a time.*

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MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

Looking back on 2016, Biblioneef has come a long way. Continuing our strategic reflection, we have repositioned the organisation and ensured its relevance in South Africa.

Biblioneef's main function is to provide books to under-resourced children's organisations. The main focus is on rural areas, farm schools and resettlement areas where children have no access to libraries. Biblioneef offers books in any of the 11 languages with the aim to create an awareness of the richness of South Africa's linguistic and cultural diversity.

Biblioneef identified suitable titles to be translated and reprinted in all 11 languages. These books and cultural treasures were salvaged from being lost to the current generation if not rediscovered, promoted and distributed by Biblioneef. With support from the authors, more than 30 South African folktales can now be read and enjoyed by children and adults alike, thus bringing into our midst the wisdom and universal truths as told around camp fires by the elders of yester year.

In celebration of International Mother Tongue day, Biblioneef hosted authors, storytellers, representatives of at least nine different language and cultural groups, proudly showcasing some of their traditions, stories and artefacts. Biblioneef strongly supports mother tongue education and reading, but with great respect for our rich cultural diversity. We recognise that there are clear advantages for any child to be able to use more than one language in the process of learning, not detracting from pride in their own.

In terms of our core objective, putting books into the hands of eager readers, Biblioneef experienced a record year. A total of 149 159 books was donated to 854 organisations working with children.

Longstanding and new partnerships with other literacy organisations enabled Biblioneef to reach many more children. Great appreciation is due to each and every partner supporting the vision and aims that Biblioneef pursues.

This report provides a short review of the Biblioneef events and activities in 2016. It reflects 12 months of hard work and resilience of the staff. Allow me to thank the Biblioneef Board of Directors, our staff and our many friends and partners for making 2016 the good year it has been. It is only through dedication, hard work and commitment from all involved that Biblioneef was able to reach its goals.

Herman Bailey



ABOUT BIBLIONEF

WE BELIEVE THAT ALL CHILDREN SHOULD BE ABLE TO READ FOR PLEASURE AND HAVE ACCESS TO QUALITY STORYBOOKS IN THEIR MOTHER TONGUE

In many parts of our country reading is seen as an impossible luxury because of a lack of books. To combat this, Biblionef South Africa donates new storybooks to schools and literacy programmes in disadvantaged areas throughout South Africa with the main focus of getting the right book to the right programme and child. To this end, we donate new children's books in all 11 of South Africa's official languages so children can enjoy books in their mother tongue.

The name Biblionef combines the Greek and Latin words for book - biblio (a source of knowledge, development and discovery) and ship- nef (a customary link between people and cultures).

We source books for our donation programme from local publishers and look for stories that depict African culture and contain stories that South African children can relate to. Commissioning the translation, publishing and reprinting of exciting stories into local languages helps broaden the base of stories available to children in the country. Braille and large print books are also made available for blind and visually impaired children.

Our vision is to create lifelong readers who are good citizens, can read and think for themselves, resulting in a society where everyone is literate, has access to education and read both for pleasure and necessity.

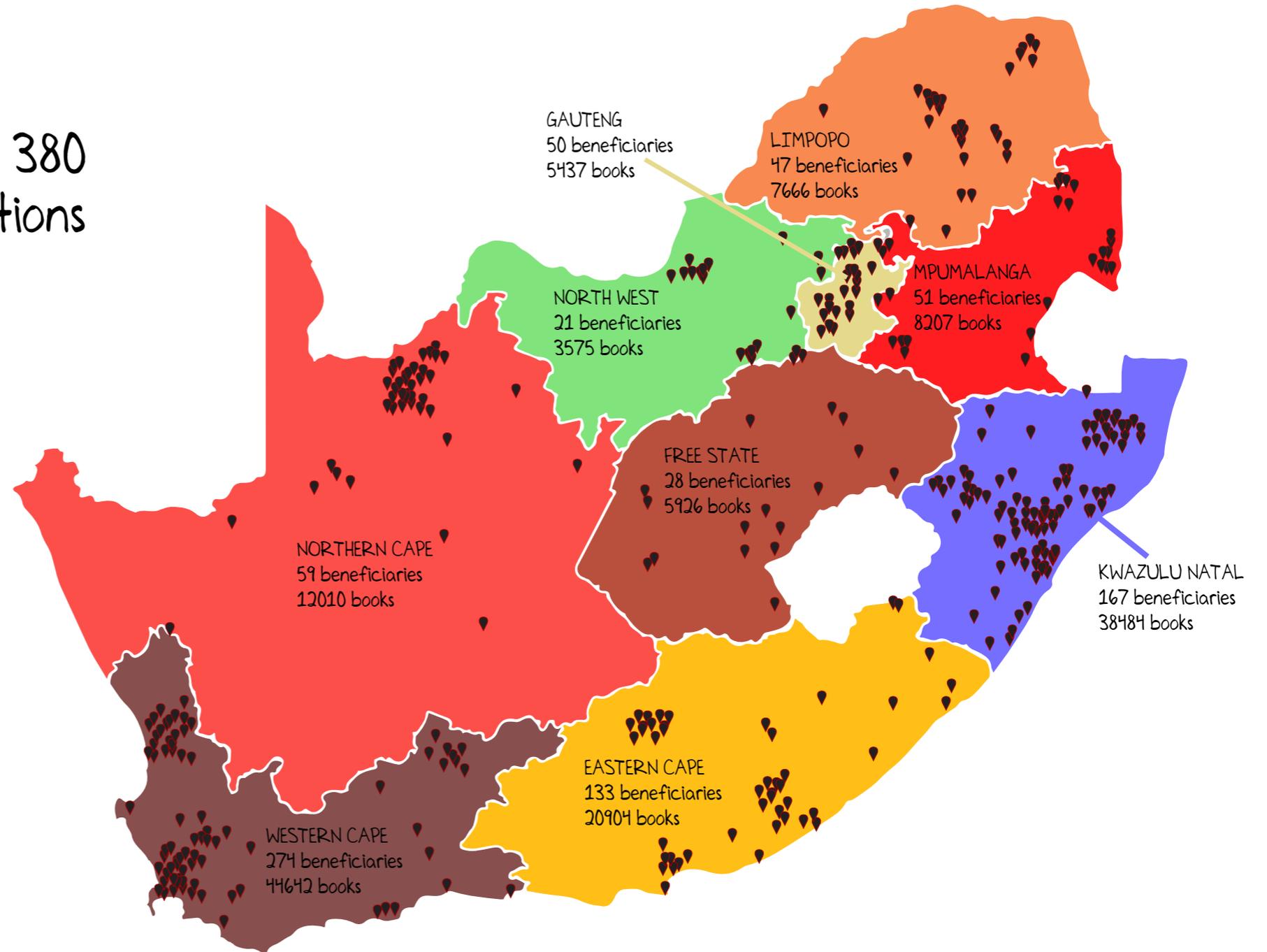
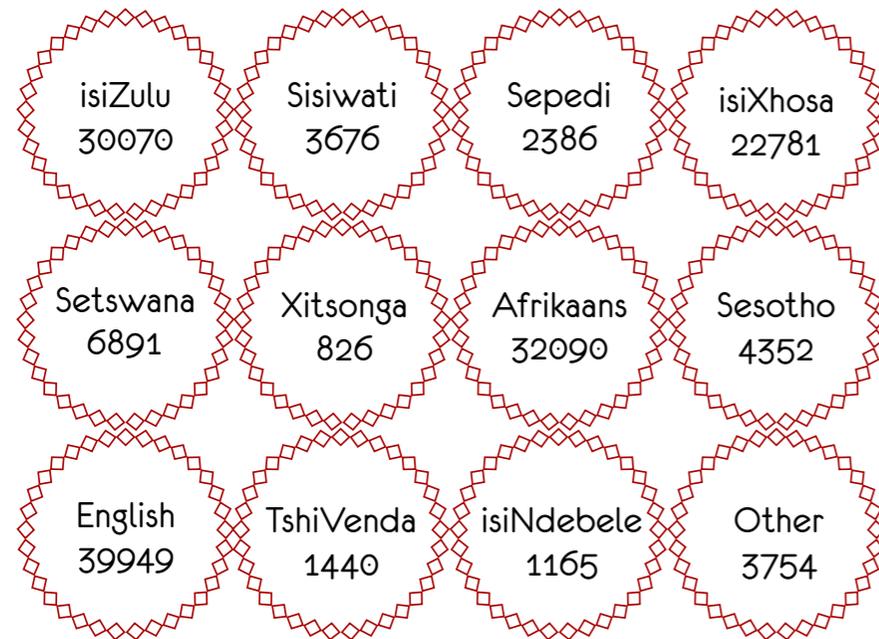
Our mission is to make books available for children (ages 3 to 18) in all official languages, for reading pleasure and education and thereby lay the foundation for children to make good decisions through critical thinking, and live balanced and productive lives.



OUR WORK AND IT'S IMPACT

During 2016, Biblionef donated 149 380 new books to 845 children's organisations throughout South Africa.

Total number of books donated per language



Donating the RIGHT Books

We continue to see to the literacy needs of children primarily in rural communities, farm schools and resettlement areas with no access to libraries, by providing books in our 11 official languages all across the country.

We take great care in making sure that the books meet our criteria of:

AFRICAN CONTENT: books must have settings and characters that will excite and intrigue young African children, they must be relatable so as to get the children interested in wanting more stories thus creating a love of reading.

INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES: extensive research continues to show that children who learn basic reading and writing skills in their mother tongue perform better at school. They are then more likely to be interested in reading if the books they are exposed to are in their home language.

NEW BOOKS: donated books are always new. Children deserve to have new books that feel, smell and look good so that they can learn to look after and appreciate the books more.

Book Donation Process





DONATIONS PROGRAMME

Donations to primary schools

Biblioneef's largest group of beneficiary organisations is Primary Schools. A great majority of South African schools do not have sufficient home language storybooks with which they can learn to enjoy reading. Biblioneef, together with donors, recognize that we can improve this situation by making books available to organisations that need them.

Supporting 22 Primary Schools in Mpumalanga

For **Mandela Day 2016**, Biblioneef donated a total of 3 983 new storybooks valued at R 238 980.00 to 22 Primary Schools in Kanyamazane, Mpumalanga. 66% of the donated storybooks were in the children's home language of Siswati, which is one of South Africa's minority languages. The sad truth is that it is difficult to find a good range of storybooks in the Siswati language and many of the teachers and children had never seen storybooks in their home language before. Biblioneef felt that it was extremely important to provide these 22 schools with a crucial injection of home language storybooks for the benefit of their learners. A total of 17, 881 children now have access to quality storybooks that previously was not available.

With support from the Oppenheimer Memorial Trust, Biblioneef's staff had the opportunity to hand-deliver this donation of books to the schools on the 18th July 2016. The children and teachers' reactions to seeing storybooks in their mother tongue were priceless! For some, it was the first time they had seen storybooks in their mother tongue.

Solstice Foundation supports two Primary Schools

The Solstice Foundation granted Biblionef funding to provide much-needed library support to two Primary Schools in the Western Cape, namely; Rondeheuwel Primary School and Silverstream Primary School. Both schools had received a newly built library; however, it lacked the proper resources that would allow it to be fully functional.

Biblionef donated high quality storybooks for Rondeheuwel Primary School's library and also provided them with shelving for their books. For Silverstream Primary School, Biblionef donated a selection of reference materials as well as a projector for their library.

Rondeheuwel Primary School's library officially opened its doors on the 31st October 2016 and the event was attended by Biblionef's Executive Director, Jean Williams, and Biblionef's Chairman, Herman Bailey as well as staff and learners from the school.



Supporting Early Childhood Education

Research shows that children who have rich learning experiences in the earliest years have a lifetime of benefits for learning and all-round development. That is why Biblionef donates books and educational material to ECD (Early Childhood Development) Centres. Biblionef works with ECD Training Centres to identify under-resourced ECD Centres and to support their FCM (Family and Community Motivator) Programmes. The FCM Programmes were initiated in response to the many pre-school children not attending an ECD Centre. The Motivators support and stimulate the child in their own environment and at the same time reaches the primary caregiver equipping them with parenting skills, growing their awareness and giving guidance according to their needs.



Supporting 15 ECD Centres with resources

With funding from a donor in the Netherlands, Biblionef was able to support 15 ECD Centres affiliated to Zisize Education Trust (ZET). The 15 Centres are from very rural areas in Ingwavuma, KwaZulu Natal and the Practitioners did not have sufficient book and toy resources to efficiently do their work. The donation of storybooks and educational resources were vital as it equipped the Practitioners with the tools they needed to carry out their work of early childhood development.

Biblionef was able to provide the Centres with roller box containing 30 storybooks in the children's home language of isiXhosa and a few in English, and 9 educational toys, puzzles and posters. On the 2nd March 2016, Biblionef's staff had the privilege of handing over the resources to the 15 ECD Centres at the ZET hub in Ingwavuma.

Donating books in drawstring bags to student teachers from Rhodes University's Teacher Training Unit

Biblionef donated books to 28 student teachers that were completing their Foundation Phase course at Rhodes University. Each teacher received a drawstring bag containing 20 mother tongue books (in either isiXhosa or Afrikaans) and 10 English books with the focus being on language literacy, numeracy and life skills. The donation served a dual purpose; to be used as the teachers' training resources during the remainder of their course and also to be used in their classroom when teaching with their Grade R learners.



The Jim Joel Fund supports 100 ECD Centres

Thanks to our dedicated donor, the Jim Joel Fund, we were able to support 100 poorly resourced ECD Centres with a crucial injection of resources. The ECD Centres are linked to 10 ECD Training Centres affiliated to NECTA (Network of Early Childhood Training Agencies).

The Practitioners at the ECD Centres have already undergone training; however they did not have the necessary resources to implement what they have learnt. With this donation, the Practitioners are now easily able to carry out their daily activities with their learners.

The ECD Centres are situated throughout the Eastern Cape and each received a roller box containing 35 new home language (in either isiXhosa or Afrikaans) and English storybooks as well as 9 educational toys, puzzles and posters. A total of 3,791 children between the ages of 0 to 6 years have benefited from this project.

Each Training Centre handed over the donation to their respective Centres. The Training Centre's Facilitators used this opportunity to emphasise the importance of storytelling and the important role they play in making reading exciting for their learners. The Practitioners were also given important tips on how to incorporate the donated resources into their current curriculum; they found this extremely useful.

"Masibumbane would like to thank NECTA, Biblionef and the Jim Joel Fund for the donation; these materials came at the perfect time for our Centres. All of them are under resourced with minimal resources that are age-appropriate for their children."

Partnering for Impact

SABINET's support to 17 Primary Schools

In Celebration of International Literacy Day, Biblionef partnered with CASME (The Centre for the Advancement of Science and Mathematics Education) to donate 3, 400 new storybooks to 17 Primary Schools. The 17 schools have undergone literacy training with CASME and the resources donated by Biblionef would be used to assist the teachers in implementing what they learned during their training.

This project was partly funded by SABINET and targeted schools in the Umlazi and Edenvale areas of KwaZulu-Natal. Our staff met up with the team from CASME to personally deliver the donation to the schools, and their reactions were priceless! A staggering 15, 189 children now have new storybooks in isiZulu and English.



From Schools: "The books are relevant for the CAPS curriculum and it can easily be incorporated into the teacher's lessons. Some of the books are integrated in the children's daily classwork activities because the books have themes that are suitable for the level and context of the learners."

From CASME: "From our observations, the donated books are of great benefit to learners and teachers. They are not only relevant to language teachers, but they also address themes for other subjects such as sexuality, managing bereavement and life skills."

IBBY SA and the Yamada Apiculture Centre support 14 Primary Schools

With significant funding from IBBY SA and the Yamada Apiculture Centre, Biblionef partnered with the Enqoleni Education Centre (EEC) to donate 4, 060 new storybooks to 14 Primary Schools from the Uthungulu District in KwaZulu-Natal.

The EEC is a non-profit organisation that focuses on identifying skills shortages among teachers and organises developmental workshops as way of improving the teachers' skills.

The teachers from the 14 Primary Schools selected for this project are all part of the workshops provided by EEC. Newly trained teachers now have the resources to put the skills learned into immediate action in the classroom, using the storybooks as tools to improve their teaching.



Biblioneef in Africa

Biblioneef South Africa is part of an independent group of sister organisations with offices in Belgium, the Netherlands, Ghana, France and Suriname. These offices donate books to countries around the world.

In Africa, the Biblioneef South Africa office mainly supplies books to organisations in South Africa and wherever needed in other SADC countries. Through its continuous partnership with the Beit Trust, we had the privilege of again preparing 2,505 books for High Schools in Malawi, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

"Books that have characters the children can relate to or scenes that are familiar to them are incredibly powerful. So many of these children have had so little exposure to picture and storybooks in the past and when they did, the books showed cultures and scenes that they could not relate to. African styled versions of traditional European fairy tales like Refilwe (Rapunzel) are also wonderful books to read to our children because some of them are familiar with the story but then to have it retold with African scenes and characters just brings the story to life. Reading stories to the foundation phase children that are culturally relevant is a great pleasure. They respond with open delight at seeing an elephant wearing a hat or traveling in a taxi like Mama Jumbo in 'Next Stop - Zanzibar Road!'" - Midlands Meander Education Project, KwaZulu-Natal



BENEFICIARIES PAYING IT FORWARD

Biblioneef's beneficiaries commit to taking on a community project to give back to their community in "payment" for having received the books for free. This helps to further improve the community, as well as create a sense of ownership and responsibility for the books.



Children from Siyanakekela Community Care Centre in KwaZulu-Natal participated in a World AIDS Day event. They planned their performances and assisted in a march to raise awareness about the disease.



Qima Junior Secondary School in Butterworth, Eastern Cape, embarked on a project called 'squeaky clean'. Parents, teachers and learners cleaned the community and children were educated about the dangers of pollution.



The readers from SCORE in the Western Cape were involved in a trash collection project in their community. The 'trash' collected were used to produce items that were either sold or used as decorations in the children's homes

NATIONAL LOTTERIES COMMISSION FUNDS THE REPRINTING OF K GALAGADI TALES

Funding granted by the NLC allowed Biblionef to commission the reprinting and publication of 2 older books previously titled Kgalagadi -San Tales 1 and Kgalagadi San Tales 2. The book was published 30 years ago in more than 18 languages but no longer had a print run. Jean Williams, executive director at Biblionef, felt the stories were worth sharing with more children today. Contact was made with the author, Hanneke du Preez to consult about the possibility of reprinting the stories. After a 'yes' from Hanneke, Biblionef was able to secure funding from National Lotteries Commission and Jacana Publishers came on board to do the reprints.

The "new book" which now comprises of ten selected stories was edited, translated and finally printed in all 11 South African languages. 5700 copies were delivered to Biblionef in May 2016. A first book launch took place on the 26th of May at the !Kwa ttu San Centre in Yzerfontein on the West Coast. The author flew down from Pretoria to celebrate this launch with Biblionef. Also present was one of the translators for this project, Nthuseng Tsoeu and Paramount Chief Hennie van Wyk. Pedro the Music Man entertained the guests with storytelling and song with musical instruments made from natural materials such as dried seaweed and even a dried pumpkin! A few stories from the book were shared in English, Afrikaans, isiXhosa, Sesotho and in one of the San Languages.



The launch in Johannesburg took place on the 23rd August at Sandton Library. We were extremely thrilled to have Mr. Sershan Naidoo, Senior Specialist: Publicity and Media from the National Lotteries Commission, attend the event. One of the most profound presentations at this launch was that of Chief Elaine Appies; The Chief gave her perspective on each of the 12 stories in "Kgalagadi Tales" and shared the lessons that could be learned from each story.

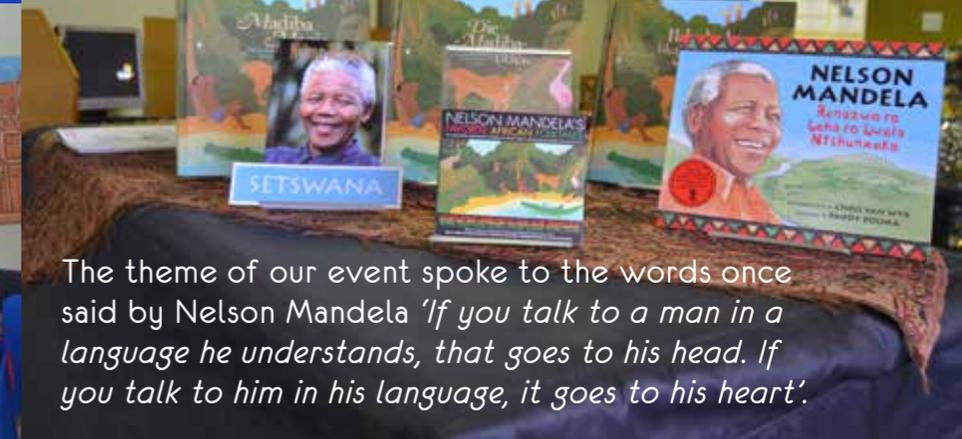
The spirit of both these launches was without a doubt a celebratory one; guests raved about the quality of the books as well its imagery and how its content was a true reflection of the lives and culture of the Bushmen in Botswana. Many of the attendees stated that it is extremely important for African stories and folklore to be captured for future generations and thanked the NLC for allowing Biblionef to make this possible. Having this book available in all 11 languages will undoubtedly be a huge benefit to the children of South Africa.

CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY

2016 saw Biblionef co-ordinate and host its first Mother Language day celebrations with a 3-day event attracting different people to various events.

The messages throughout the 3-day event were the importance of having pride in our mother tongue and embracing the differences of others. Prof Njabulo Ndebele opened the event and added to this central theme by encouraging South Africans to speak more than one language thus creating opportunities to connect with people in a way that one normally wouldn't be able to.

Other speakers included Ms. Bonnie Horbach (Consulate General of the Netherlands in Cape Town) and Ms. Gcina Mhlophe (acclaimed South African storyteller, Author and Singer). Day 2 celebrated language and culture by having various stalls representing different cultures from all around Southern Africa. There were various language stations, individuals came dressed in their traditional clothes, and there was poetry, some plays, storytelling and singing, all in different mother tongues. The final and 3rd day saw Gcina Mhlophe share her exceptional storytelling skills in English, isiXhosa and isiZulu. Biblionef received funds from the National Lotteries Commission and the National Arts Council to reprint Gcina's "Our Story Magic" and "Stories of Africa" in all South African languages. This was a great opportunity to share these stories.



DONORS

We are pleased to report that in 2016 we continued to get support from corporate and individual donors whose contribution's allow us to stay connected with young readers by providing them with books that will make them lifetime readers.



We also wish to thank the following donor's for their support in 2016: Hiemstra Trust, Henri Nouwen Stigting, SALLI Trust, Dordet Charitable Trust, and Fulton Trust

BEHIND THE SCENES

Thank you to the staff and Board at Biblionef for their tireless work in getting books to the children of South Africa.

Staff

- Jean Williams - Executive Director
- Sunitha Amod - Operations Manager
- Nastassja Benjamin - Project Assistant
- Nokuthula Mbenyane - Project Assistant
- Valerie Lenders - Bookkeeper
- Cindy de Wet - Administrative Assistant
- Darcell van Buuren - Fundraiser
- Brian Brady - Factotum
- Sibongile Totose - General Assistant

Board Members

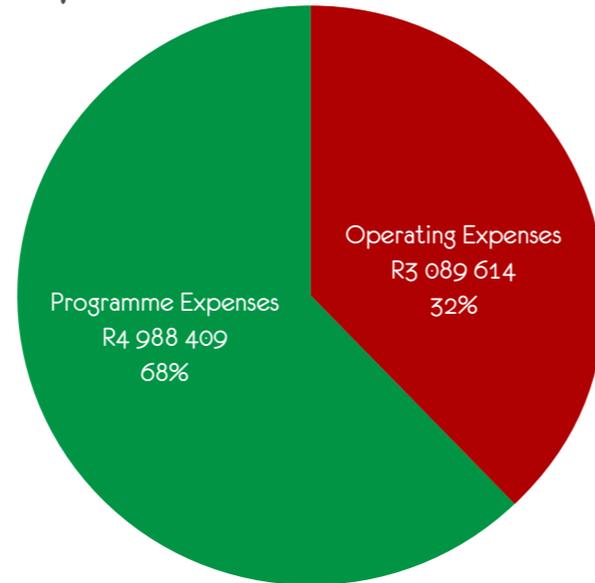
- Herman Bailey
- Jean Williams
- Robert Pearce
- Professor Thomas van der Walt
- Joan de Beer
- Mary Nassimbeni
- Mothepa Masina
- Susan van der Schiff
- Shaun Cupido
- Xolisa Guzula

FINANCIALS

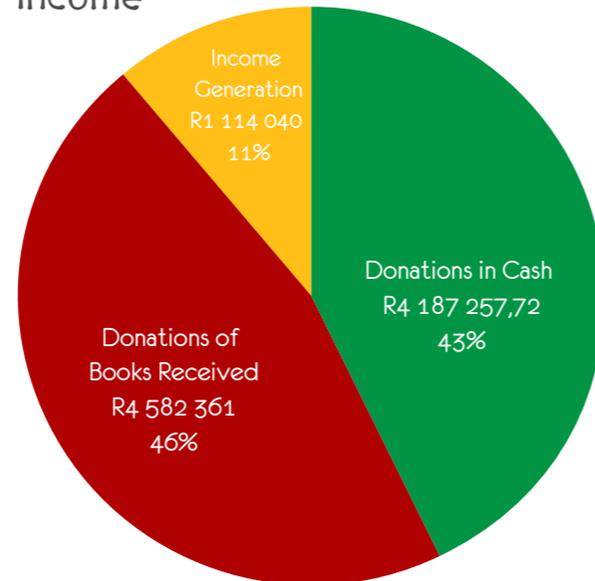
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2016

ASSETS	
Non-Current Assets	
Property, plant and equipment	170 485
Other financial assets	1 227 173
	<u>1 397 658</u>
CURRENT ASSETS	
Inventories	6 802 116
Trade and other receivables	35 744
Cash and cash equivalents	1 803 275
	<u>8 641 135</u>
Total Assets	<u>10 038 793</u>
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	
Equity	
Retained Income	9 542 185
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Trade and other payables	227 441
Deferred Income	269 167
Current tax payable	-
	<u>496 608</u>
Total Reserves and Liabilities	<u>10 038 793</u>

Expenditure



Income



HOW TO SUPPORT OUR WORK

Biblionef relies on the generous donations and support of corporate, institutional and individual donors to reach children in need with storybooks that they can relate to in local languages. Biblionef prides itself on its transparency and accountability, fully adhering to all donor reporting requirements.

Become part of our network of givers



R60
provides a story-book in a child's local language



R4 500
provides an ECD centre with a box of storybooks & educational toys



R20 000
provides a "Corner Classroom Library"



R135 000
provides a "Start-up Library" for a school



R350 000
provides a school with a fully-stocked library

To support our work, you can donate online, via bank transfer, with cash or cheque, or contact us to discuss how to support Biblionef in another way.

ONLINE: Visit www.biblionefsa.org.za and click the "donate" button to contribute via our secure platform.

BANK TRANSFER: To donate directly to Biblionef, you can make payment to:

Account Name: Biblionef South Africa
Bank: Nedbank
Branch: Pinelands
Branch code: 104709
Account Number: 1047029170

GET IN TOUCH

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