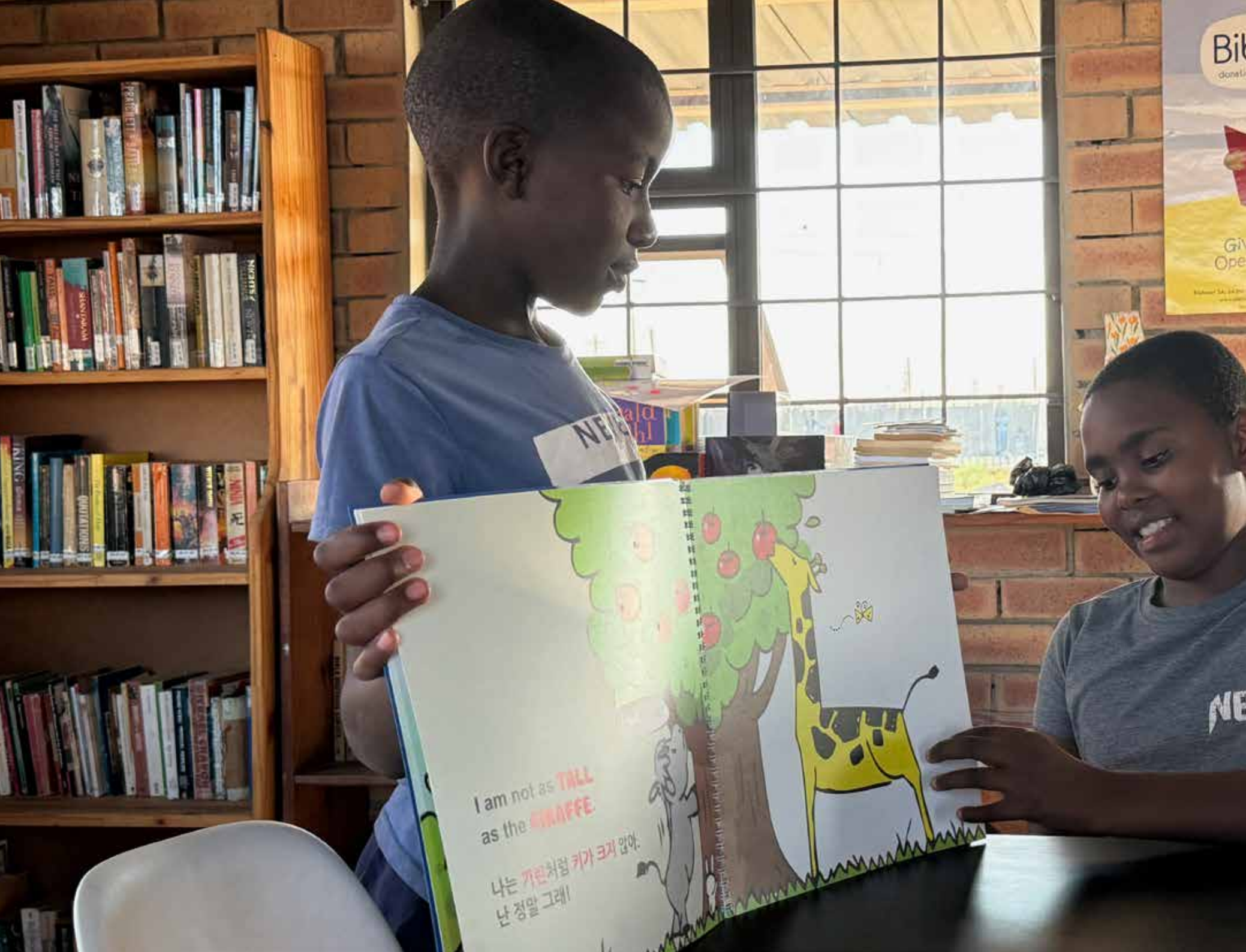


BEYOND THE BOOK

OPENING MINDS.
BUILDING READERS.
CREATING LASTING IMPACT.

BIBLIONEF SOUTH AFRICA
ANNUAL REPORT 2025



I am not as **TALL**
as the **GIRAFFE**.

나는 **가린**처럼 키가 **크기** 않아.
난 정말 **그래**





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Message from The Outgoing Chairman

TIME TO SAY GOODBYE

Life is full of comings and goings, new things and old, beginnings and endings, hellos and goodbyes.

After a very longstanding relationship, almost like a lifelong love affair, there had to come an end to my Biblionef board membership. A time to say 'goodbye' after a very long ago 'hello.'

When I was approached by Jonckheer Maximilien Vegelin van Claerbergen to join the board of Biblionef SA to assist in realizing his dream of placing a book in the hand of each and every child in need of it, to give him or her the opportunity to read, to enjoy reading and to make it a lifetime pleasure, with books, new, colourful, appropriate and in his or her own language, I had no idea what I was letting myself in for.

What a delightful and rewarding journey it became! One to treasure and remember. Never did I for one moment think that more than 25 years later, I would have had the pleasure of witnessing the distribution of more than two million books to children of our country, and sharing the rewarding responsibility for the work with dedicated board members and staff, proudly adapting to changed needs and new challenges we met along the way.

The success that Biblionef enjoyed lies not merely in the number of books distributed, but in the result and the pleasure many children derived from the books. Each and every child reached through the books in his or her hands, who became a reader, is a success story in its own right. Every child whose heart was touched or whose mind was stimulated by a good book, is a success story. The teachers who benefited from the accompanying advice on the ultimate use of the books and storytelling, gained something to take forward and reach the hearts and minds of many more children. These success stories give meaning to the excellent work done by Biblionef and made my board membership a huge reward and provides a most valid reason for Biblionef's existence.

But the time has come for me to leave the Biblionef board in the hands of a new generation of leaders to take it forward and to continue its good work.

My sincere thank you and deepest appreciation go to the board members I have worked with and shared the responsibility with over the years. They helped, guided, questioned, planned, decided, monitored, shared visions and dreams and responsibilities and throughout stayed loyal to Biblionef, the board, the staff and the work at hand.

Shawn Cupido, Anzil Kulsen, Mary Nassimbeni, Robert Pearce, Susan van der Schijff and Sally Witbooi, trusted colleagues, stalwarts, confidantes and supporters – THANK YOU. You were stars, and your wisdom, insights, views, questions, guidance, knowledge and experience from different fields and your ever willingness-provided what was needed to enable us to make the right choices and take the right decisions. Thank you to all.

The staff of Biblionef, one and all, have been, over all the years of my involvement, most helpful, supportive and loyal, to me personally as well as in my capacity as Board member. Thank you!

I leave the Biblionef board with sadness and a sense of loss, but also with pride and full confidence in the staff carrying the baton further: Sunitha Amod, Brian Brady, Cindy de Wet, Darcell Kopman, Siphokuhle Makaluza, Nokuthula Mbeyane, and Sibongile Totose. Thank you colleagues for your dedication and the pride you take in your work, making it a calling rather than “just a job.” I know that the work of Biblionef is in good hands, safe and secure.

I salute you, Biblionef, board and staff, and wish you well for making many millions more books available to children, to read, learn and enjoy. I will always remain interested in the heartwarming and delightful feedback from the schools and recipients and look forward to hear about future successes.

JOAN DE BEER

Outgoing Chairman March 2025



Message from The Chairman

STEPPING FORWARD

It is a privilege to write this message as I step into the role of Chair, following Joan de Beer, whose more than 25 years of dedication helped build Biblionef South Africa into what it is today. I do so with deep respect for what she leaves behind, and with a clear sense of what it means to carry this work forward.

In 2015, I was approached by my late colleague, Bjorn Manual, who believed that Biblionef's mission and my personal values would be a natural fit. After learning more about the organisation and its work, I joined the Board in January 2016. It has been a rewarding journey, knowing that Biblionef helps children discover the opportunities that reading and education can provide. I have always believed that education is one of the most powerful ways to build a better future, and it remains a privilege to contribute to that vision.

I spent most of my school years in the small community of Macassar in the Western Cape, where I was fortunate to have access to books and learning materials. As an adult, I have come to appreciate that many children and families do not have the same opportunities. Not every school has the resources needed to nurture a love of reading and learning. That reality makes Biblionef's work all the more important, and I remain grateful for the opportunities I had growing up.

2025 has been a year of real progress. The milestone of 2 million books distributed since 1998 is a moment of genuine collective pride. But the progress we are most encouraged by is the quality and depth of what we are seeing on the ground. Teachers in Mpumalanga are leading their own classroom demonstrations. ECD practitioners in the Western Cape are transforming small rooms into reading spaces within days of receiving their first books. Schools in the Northern Cape, two hours from the nearest town, have functioning libraries and children choosing their own stories. These are not small things.

South Africa's literacy crisis is not abstract. It shapes what is possible for children every day, and it is the reason Biblionef's work remains both necessary and urgent. What we have learned, and what 2025 confirmed, is that access to books matters most when it comes with the human support to use them. That combination is what we continue to build.



Looking ahead, we remain committed to honest reflection on our impact. We welcome the forthcoming independent evaluation of our KwaZulu-Natal project as an opportunity to learn, improve, and strengthen our accountability to the communities we serve.

My sincere thanks go to our donors, partners, board members, and the Biblionef team. This work is possible because of you.

We step into 2026 with clear purpose and confidence, knowing what we are here to do.

SHAWN CUPIDO

Chairman, Biblionef South Africa





About Biblionef South Africa

OUR VISION, MISSION, APPROACH, AND VALUES

We are a national non-profit organisation based in Cape Town, working across book access, teacher development, early childhood education and school libraries. We ensure that South African children not only have books in their hands, but also the skills and confidence to use them.

We distribute books in 11 official South African languages to children aged 3 to 13 across schools, ECD centres, and community organisations in some of the country's most under-resourced communities.

By the end of 2025, we had distributed over **2 million newstorybooks**, reached more than 5.6 million children, supported 14 127 organisations, and commissioned or translated 99 titles in South African languages.

OUR VISION

A South Africa where every child has access to books in their home language, reads for enjoyment, and carries that love of reading into a lifetime of learning.

OUR MISSION

To distribute and support the effective use of quality children's books in the 11 South African languages, and to equip the educators and caregivers to bring those books to life.

OUR APPROACH

We believe book access alone is not enough. A book placed in a classroom without a skilled teacher to make it alive is a missed opportunity. That is why Biblionef works on both sides of the equation: getting the right books into the right hands and building the capacity of the adults who open them up to the children.

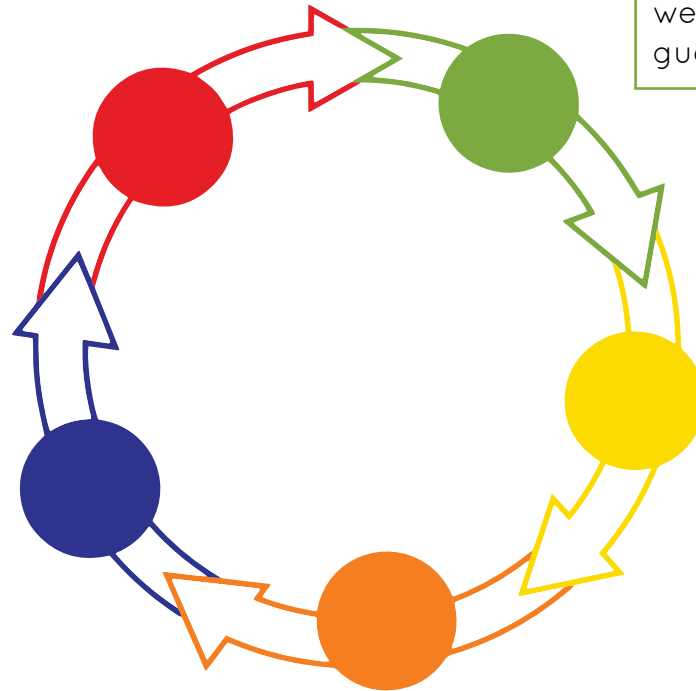
OUR WORK SPANS FIVE INTERCONNECTED PROGRAMME AREAS

Publishing

We commission the translation, publication and reprints of South African children's stories in 11 local languages, ensuring that children across the country can see themselves reflected in the books they read. Every title we publish is available for distribution through our programmes.

School Libraries

We assist primary schools in establishing dedicated library spaces, pairing books with trained library assistants and active reading programmes. Libraries are essential infrastructure for a reading culture, not a luxury.



Book Distribution Programme

We source and distribute brand-new, high-quality books to schools and children's organisations with active reading programmes. 60% of the books we donate are in children's home languages; 40% are in English.

Foundation Phase Teacher Training

We train Foundation Phase teachers to incorporate storybooks into the CAPS curriculum using an evidence-based methodology grounded in Shared Writing and Reading, Higher Order Thinking, and the 3-Step Lesson Framework. We work with functional schools because sustainable literacy improvement requires a teaching culture already oriented toward change.

Early Childhood Development

We support ECD centres with storybooks, educational toys, and practical storage solutions, helping practitioners create language-rich environments from the earliest years.

WHY NEW BOOKS

For many of the children we serve, receiving one of our books is a first: the first time they have held a brand-new book, and often the first time they have seen a story written in their mother tongue. We believe every child deserves that moment. Not a hand-me-down. Not a worn copy. Something new, and entirely theirs.

Every book Biblionef donates is brand new. No exceptions.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT BOOK

Not every book is a Biblionef book. When we source titles for our programmes, we apply a clear set of criteria:

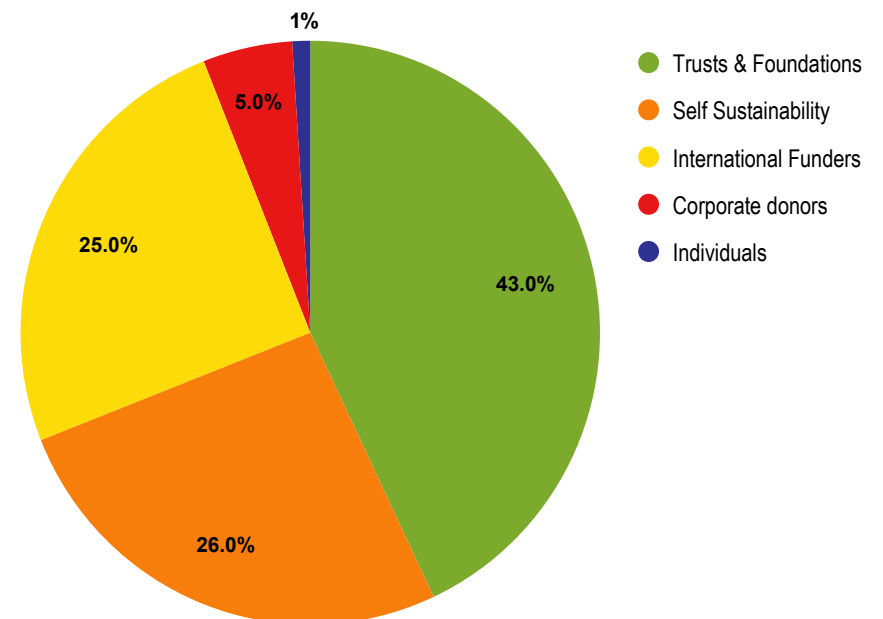
African content and illustrations: Settings, characters, and stories must reflect the lived reality of South African children, not an imported world they cannot see themselves in.

All 11 official languages: We advocate for children to be proud of their mother tongue, their heritage, and their culture. A child who sees their language in a book understands that their story belongs on the page too.

Brand new: Always.

OUR FUNDING BASE

Biblionef draws on a deliberately diversified income base. In 2025, 43% of our income came from trusts and foundations, 26% from self-sustainability activities (book sales and services to literacy organisations), 25% from international funders, 5% from corporate donors, and 1% from individuals. Donations to Biblionef qualify for Section 18A tax deduction. All proceeds from our social enterprise activities are reinvested directly into our mission.



Our 2025 Footprint

REACH ACROSS SOUTH AFRICA IN NUMBERS

In 2025, Biblionef's work reached communities across nine provinces and three African countries, through four programme streams, our social enterprise activities, and the continued support of our donors and partners.



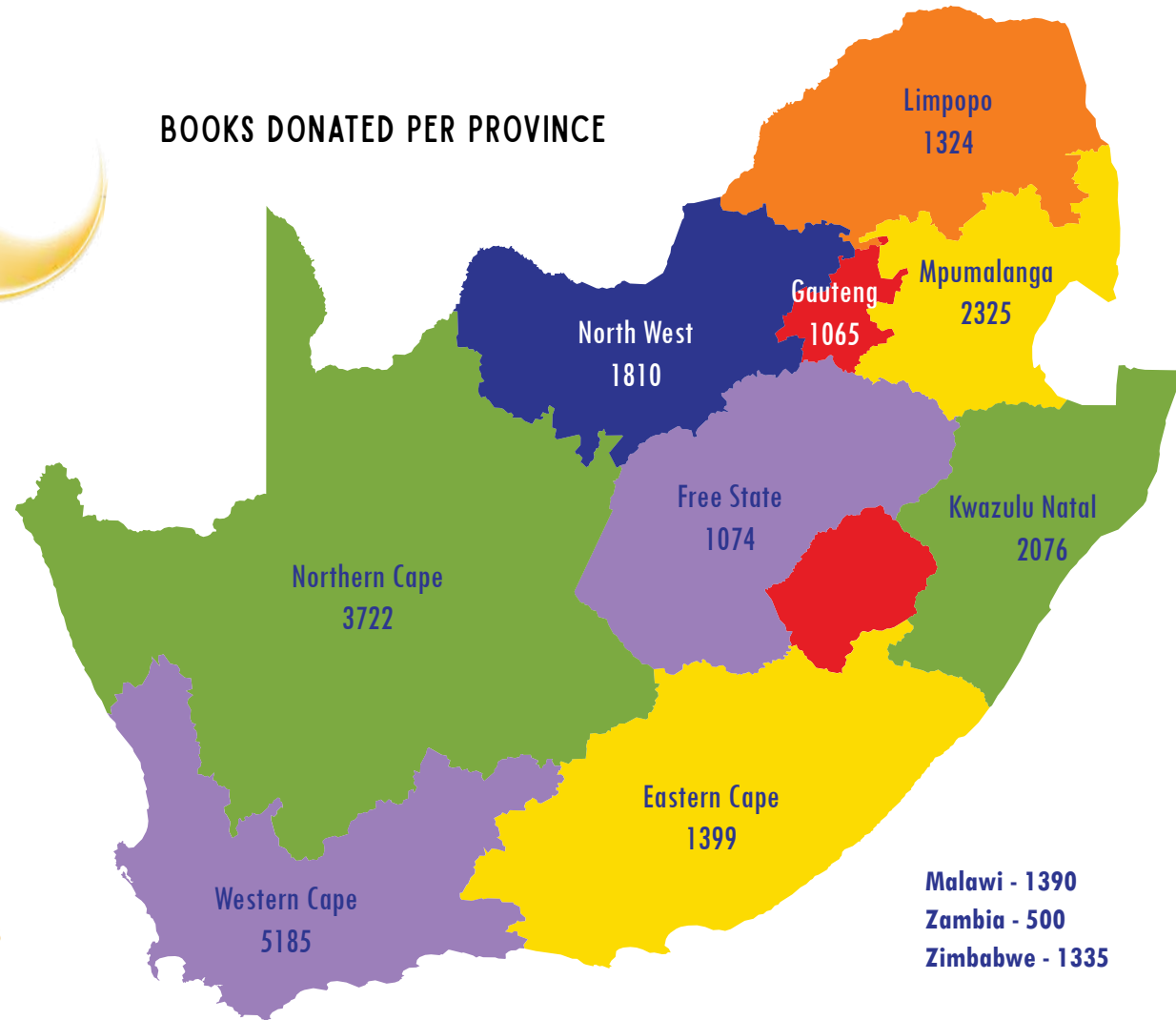
Book Distribution Programme

REACHING THE 2 MILLION MILESTONE

In 2025, Biblionef passed the milestone of 2 000 000 book distributions since our founding in 1998, a testament to the sustained support of our donors and the dedication of our team over 27 years.



BOOKS DONATED PER PROVINCE





Our work and its Impact

FOUNDATION PHASE TEACHER TRAINING

Building teacher capacity, one classroom at a time

BiblioneF's flagship programme equips Foundation Phase teachers with evidence-based methods for literacy instruction. In 2025, our training reached schools across Mpumalanga and KwaZulu-Natal through three active projects, supported by the DG Murray Trust, Komatsu, My School, and Sabinet.

Our training is grounded in a simple conviction: children are intelligent.

We encourage teachers to tell and read stories to learners in Grades 1 to 3, and to design post-story activities that create opportunities for children to think, talk, and write. Activities are designed to:

- Emphasise the importance of teaching young children in their mother tongue.
- Deepen children's understanding of each story they read or listen to.
- Nurture higher-order thinking. Children are asked to think, reason, explain, and identify details from the stories they read and those read to them.

3 Training Projects

41 Schools Supported

196 Teachers Trained

2 Provinces



Project Spotlight

DG Murray Trust: Mpumalanga Literacy Programme

Funder: DG Murray Trust (DGMT)

Province: Mpumalanga

Status: Ongoing, concludes December 2026

Now in its second year, this project is working with 51 Foundation Phase teachers across nine schools in Ermelo and Breyten, Mpumalanga. The project supports Grades 1 to 3 teachers in teaching reading for meaning through Shared Reading and Writing, Higher-Order Thinking, and the 3-Step Lesson Framework, all of which are aligned with the CAPS curriculum.

2025 marked a year of visible growth. Teachers who were hesitant in year one began leading their own classroom demonstrations and independently creating teaching aids, such as colourful cards and locally relevant story props. Translanguaging, using learners' full language repertoire across isiZulu and English, emerged as a breakthrough shift in practice, moving teachers from uncertainty about code-switching to confident, inclusive multilingual teaching.



"The workshops were an eye-opener for me. I realised there were many things I wasn't doing correctly, but now I know what to do, and my learners are excited to participate in shared reading and shared writing." - Grade 3 Teacher, Camden Combined School, Mpumalanga

School visits throughout the year revealed increasingly print-rich classrooms, with Biblionef books displayed in accessible, child-friendly book corners. A standout moment came from New Ermelo Primary School, where a teacher's innovative use of visual aids and sign language alphabets enabled a non-verbal learner to participate fully in reading and writing activities for the first time.

Perhaps the most telling measure of progress came from teachers themselves. Feedback sessions showed a clear journey from initial hesitation about a new methodology to genuine ownership and enthusiasm. Several teachers now describe Biblionef's approach as reducing their workload by providing a practical framework rather than adding to it.



The project runs until January 2027, with year three set to focus on deepening shared writing skills, extending workshop time in partnership with the Mpumalanga Department of Education, and building peer learning networks within schools to sustain the methodology beyond the project's lifespan.

Biblionef's parallel project in KwaZulu-Natal, which concluded its final year in 2025, is currently undergoing a summative independent evaluation by Dr Sandra Land. The report is expected in 2026, and findings will be shared in next year's annual report.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Supporting South Africa's youngest learners

Recognising the profound impact of early education, Biblionef has collaborated with donors for more than 25 years to provide essential resources to ECD centres. In South Africa, approximately 72% of children under six are enrolled in early learning programmes, yet quality, mother-tongue resources remain scarce. Our ECD programme addresses this gap directly.

In 2025, our ECD work extended across the Western Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, the North West, and Gauteng, supported by the HCI Foundation, Jim Joel Fund, and the MacFarlane Family Foundation. We reached 307 ECD sites, 107 more than the 200 originally planned for the year.

Each ECD centre receives approximately 25 books in the learners' mother tongue and English, complemented by educational toys, puzzles, and posters.

We also provide practical storage solutions, including roller boxes, steel trunks, and hanging libraries. These make it easier for practitioners to use books consistently, including during home visits.

307 ECD Sites Supported

+107 Over Target

6019 Books and Toys Distributed

18 933 Children reached



Project Spotlight

MacFarlane Family Foundation: ECD Literacy Initiative

Funder: MacFarlane Family Foundation

Provinces: Western Cape / KwaZulu-Natal

In 2025, thanks to the generosity of the MacFarlane Family Foundation, Biblionef supported 120 ECD centres across the Western Cape, exceeding the original target of 100.

Working through five ECD training partners (i.e. ELRU, Sikhula Sonke, Starting Chance, Early Years Service, and SAEP), we reached communities in Khayelitsha, Gugulethu, Nyanga, Mfuleni, Philippi, Valhalla, Atlantis, and beyond.

Together, we provided 2,000 storybooks, 520 educational toys, puzzles and posters, and 120 handmade hanging libraries made by locally based women. Each centre received books carefully selected in the children's home language: isiXhosa, Afrikaans, or English. For many children, these were the first storybooks they had ever encountered in their mother tongue. The hanging libraries, colourful



and portable, transformed even the smallest classrooms into reading spaces that are accessible, inviting, and guided by children's choices.

The response from practitioners and children was immediate. Centres that had never had a dedicated book corner created one within days of receiving their resources. Children began requesting specific books and independently choosing their own stories. This had not been possible before.

Practitioners reported clear improvements in vocabulary, listening skills, and imaginative play. In one centre, children's curiosity extended beyond the classroom, encouraging parents to create reading spaces at home.

For the children reached through this project, many of whom had little or no access to books before, these resources represent more than a donation. They are a first encounter with stories in their own language, in a space created for them.



*"The children now eagerly look forward to story time, often asking to choose books themselves."
- Practitioner, New Beginnings Educare Centre, Mfuleni*



SUPPORTING SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Creating spaces for reading to thrive



Approximately 74% of South Africa's 22 511 public schools still lack a library. For many of the children in these schools, a Biblionef library is the first dedicated reading space they have access to.

In 2025, we set out to establish one library and delivered three, extending our library work across the Northern Cape, Western Cape, and North West. The Northern Cape project was especially notable, reaching schools in remote locations under tight timelines.

We believe libraries are not a luxury. When paired with committed librarians and active reading programmes, they build enquiring minds and foster a lasting love for reading across entire school communities.

- 3** Libraries Established
- 2x** Target Exceeded by
- 3** Provinces

Project Spotlight

Kgolo Community Development Trust: Library Development

Partner: Kgolo Community Development Trust

Province: Northern Cape (new province for Biblionef in 2025)



Biblionef partnered with the Kgolo Community Development Trust to establish two fully equipped school libraries in the Joe Morolong Local Municipality in the Northern Cape, a region rarely reached by library development initiatives.

The schools, Simololang Primary and Rusfontein Primary, were identified and selected by Kgolo as part of their commitment to improving educational infrastructure in the John Taolo Gaetsewe District. This partnership reflects Biblionef's belief that lasting library impact depends on strong, community-rooted collaboration. It requires partners who understand local needs and can identify the schools where these resources will be used, sustained, and valued.

Each library received 1 500 books organised by phase, genre, and language (English and Setswana), a prefabricated 9m x 8m library structure, shelving, electrical fittings, and a laptop loaded with the LIBWIN library management system. Together, the two libraries now serve 660 learners and 26 teachers across both schools. Library staff were trained on-site in library management, cataloguing, and the concept of translanguaging, a new idea for many of the teachers present, and one that sparked genuine curiosity and discussion.

"We have a book club called the Shining Stars. They come together every Tuesday to talk about books they are busy with."

*– Ms M. T. Segonyana, Library Coordinator,
Simololang Primary School*





Getting there required navigating real logistical challenges. Both schools sit roughly two hours from the nearest base, in deep rural areas. Yet despite the distance and tight timelines, Biblionef completed the full setup within the project period, communicating with school principals and library committees throughout via Teams and WhatsApp, connectivity that, in such a remote setting, was itself a quiet achievement worth noting.

The response from both schools was immediate and enthusiastic. Teachers described the libraries as a resource they had long needed and expressed confidence that dedicated reading spaces would strengthen literacy development and a love of books across their school communities.

The libraries are now operational, with school staff actively updating the LIBWIN system and integrating the collections into classroom practice.

"Our library is thriving. Learners are reading regularly, sharing their thoughts on what they read, and preparing enthusiastically for reading and spelling competitions."

*- Oratile Moruti and Tshabo Gaethijwe, Learner Librarians,
Rusfontein Primary School*

"Kgolo Community Development Trust values its partnership with Biblionef SA as an exceptional implementing partner in the delivery of school library projects. Biblionef's expertise in selecting age-appropriate literature, establishing well-stocked libraries and training school librarians has ensured sustainable impact beyond book donations. Their project management and coordination with partners such as Breadline Africa enabled seamless implementation in the John Taolo Gaetsewe District, Northern Cape. Through this collaboration, two fully resourced school libraries were successfully established, significantly strengthening learning environments for our beneficiary schools".

- KCDT Community Representative Trustees

PUBLISHING INITIATIVES

New South African stories for South African children

We believe that every child deserves access to books that reflect their world, their culture, and their language. Through our publishing programme, Biblionef brings original South African stories to young readers in their home languages. These stories reflect their own cultural lenses.

In 2025, Biblionef commissioned five new multilingual children's titles, significantly exceeding the strategic target of one title per year. Together, these books represent an investment in South African stories, South African languages, and South African children's right to see themselves on the page.



MILANI'S GIFT BY LEBO MAZIBUKO

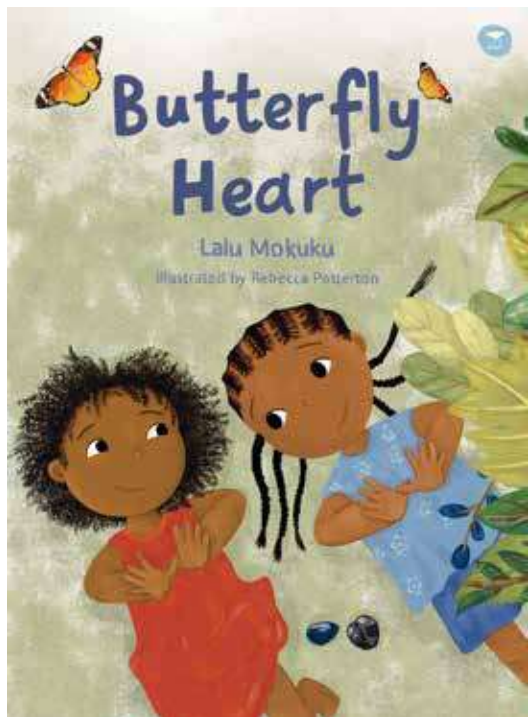
Donor: (DSAC-MGE)

Publisher: Jacana Media

Age group: 5-8 years

Languages: English, Afrikaans, isiZulu, isiXhosa, Setswana, Sepedi, Sesotho, Siswati, Xitsonga

A shy girl loves to sing only when no one is watching or listening. When her father asks her to perform at school, Milani freezes until her teacher helps her find the courage to share her voice with the world. A story about bravery, belonging, and the joy of being heard.



THE BUTTERFLY HEART BY LALU MOKUKU

Donor: Department of Sport, Arts and Culture – Mzansi Golden Economy (DSAC-MGE)

Publisher: Jacana Media

Age group: 5-8 years

Languages: English, Afrikaans, isiZulu, isiXhosa, Setswana, Sepedi, Sesotho, Xitsonga
Delivery scheduled for March 2026

Two best friends share heart-shaped stones as a symbol of their bond. When one falls ill, the other must face one of childhood's hardest lessons. A tender, honest story that opens space for children and adults to talk about grief and love together.

WHAT TO DO! BY CAROLE BLOCH

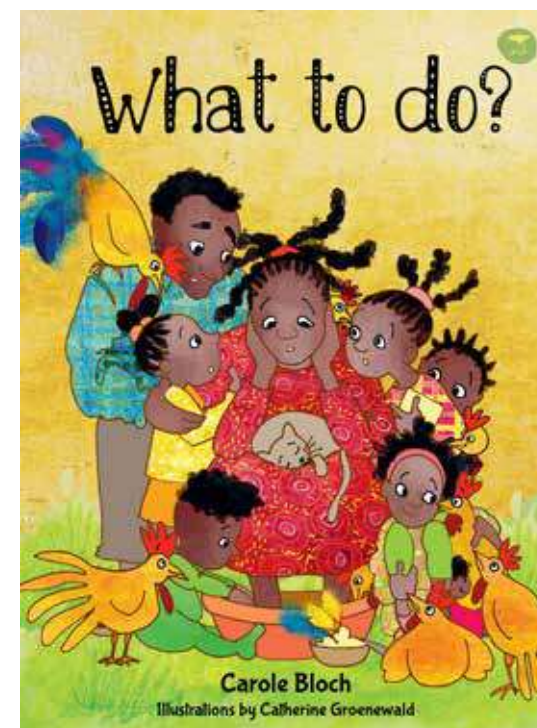
Donor: (DSAC-MGE)

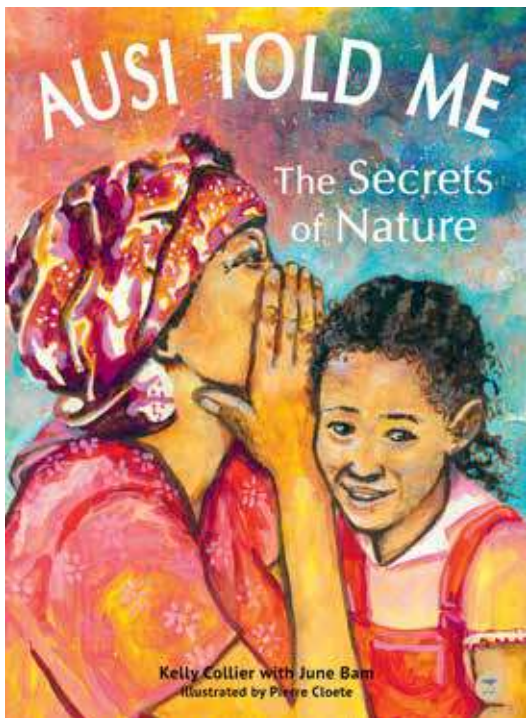
Publisher: Jacana Media

Age group: 5-8 years

Languages: English, Afrikaans, isiZulu, isiXhosa, Setswana, Sepedi, Sesotho, Siswati, Xitsonga

Papa and Mama live with their five children in a crowded little house, and then Gogo and Mkhulu come to stay. A funny, warm retelling of a beloved folktale about family, patience, and learning to appreciate what you already have.





AUSI TOLD ME: SECRETS OF NATURE BY KELLY COLLIER WITH JUNE BAM

Donor: NAC

Publisher: Jacana Media

Age group: 5-8 years

Languages: English, Afrikaans, isiXhosa, isiZulu, Sepedi, Khoekhoegowab

Delivery scheduled for March 2026

A picture book rooted in indigenous environmental knowledge and ancestral storytelling, adapted from a South African National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences award-winning title.

The story honours knowledge passed down through generations of indigenous women, centring on Khoi-San wisdom in a format accessible to young readers. This book marks a first for Biblionef: our first children's title published in Khoekhoegowab, a marginalised indigenous language spoken across South Africa, Namibia, and Botswana.

In a landscape where children's publishing in Khoekhoegowab is almost entirely absent, placing this language on the page in a book that will reach children in under-resourced communities free of charge is both an act of preservation and a commitment to literacy.

ROSINA'S DREAM BY LORATO TROK

Donor: National Arts Council (NAC)

Publisher: New Africa Books

Age group: 9-12 years

Languages: English, isiXhosa, Afrikaans, isiZulu, Setswana

Delivered in 2025

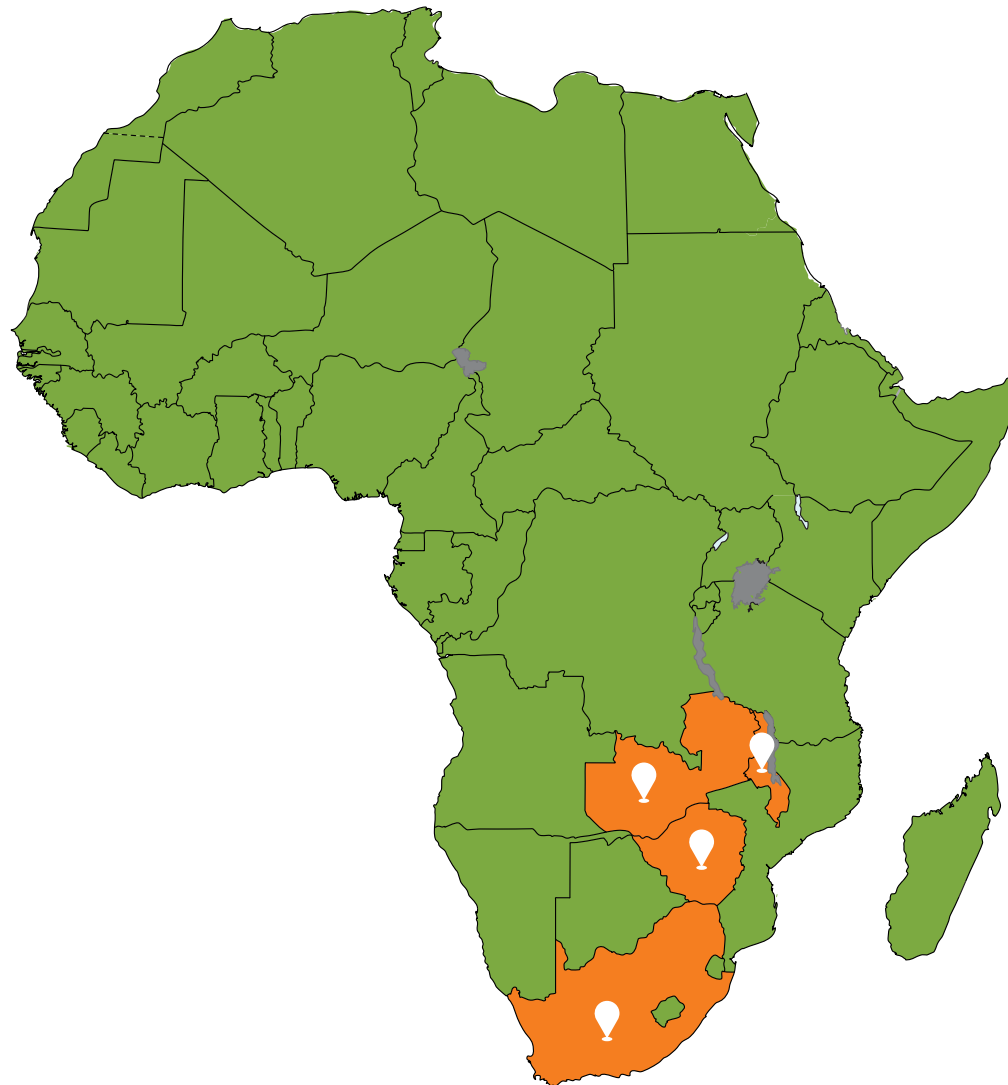
The true story of Rosina Sedibane Modiba, a pioneering Black female athlete from Atteridgeville who broke racial barriers during apartheid. In 1977, she became the first Black South African woman to win gold at a multiracial provincial athletics event. Overlooked for decades, her story is now available to the children who need it most.



BIBLIONEF IN AFRICA

BiblioneF South Africa is part of an independent group of sister organisations with offices in the Netherlands, France, Ghana, and Tunisia. These offices donate books to children across the world.

In 2025, through our partnership with the Beit Trust, BiblioneF SA donated 3225 books to 7 schools in Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Zambia, extending our reach beyond South Africa and bringing quality books to children across the region.



Behind the Scenes

THE PEOPLE, THE STRATEGY, AND THE SYSTEMS THAT MAKE OUR IMPACT POSSIBLE.

ORGANISATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

Biblioneef continued to strengthen its financial sustainability in 2025. Our social enterprise model, which includes selling books and related services to literacy organisations and civil society, contributed meaningfully to our income and strengthens our long-term sustainability. It reflects a deliberate strategy to reduce dependence on grant funding alone.

14 439 Books & Toys Sold

25 Partner Organisations

26% Sales as % of Turnover



The bulk of our sales were to 23 literacy and civil society organisations, demonstrating a growing market for quality children's books in the sector. Sales and related services accounted for 26% of Biblioneef's total annual turnover in 2025. Every rand generated is reinvested directly into our mission.

BOARD CHANGES

2025 brought meaningful change to Biblioneef's Board. Following a review and update of our Memorandum of Incorporation to reflect current NGO governance requirements, three longstanding Board members concluded their service: Mary Nassimbeni, Robert Pearce, and Anzil Kulsen. Their combined contribution to Biblioneef's governance spans decades, and their guidance has helped shape the organisation we are today. We are deeply grateful for their service and commitment.

Joan de Beer, who served as Chairman from 2017 and as a Board member for 19 years before that, passed the baton to Shawn Cupido, a Board member since 2016. Shawn brings continuity, deep institutional knowledge, and a shared commitment to Biblioneef's mission, providing a strong foundation for leading the organisation into its next chapter.

We are equally pleased to welcome the return of Dr Xolisa Guzula as our newest Board member. A Senior Lecturer in Applied Language and Literacy Studies at the University of Cape Town, Dr Guzula brings expertise in multilingual education, children's literature, and mother-tongue literacy, areas that lie at the heart of Biblionef's mission. Her appointment strengthens the Board at an important moment in the organisation's growth and development.

THE BOARD



STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

2025 was a high-output, high-impact year for the Biblionef team. Staff delivered strong results across all programme areas, often exceeding targets, while managing increased workload and expanding geographic reach.

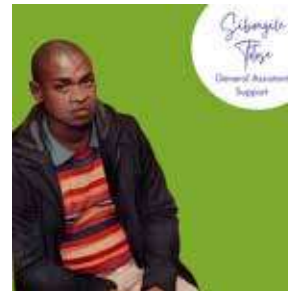
The year also included meaningful investment in staff development. Notably, two staff members were selected for the DG Murray Trust Innovation Fellowship, in recognition of their leadership and expertise. Both reported significant personal and professional growth, with their learning already shaping Biblionef's internal culture and team practices.

As part of this process, the Executive Director received two leadership coaching sessions, with a third planned for 2026. Team members also participated in the NASCEE Project Management Programme and received new equipment through the Education Training and Development Practices (ETDP) SETA support.

Beyond programme delivery, Biblionef staff contributed to the broader literacy sector. Our Senior Programme Manager participated in media interviews on Cape Town TV and Radio 702, strengthening Biblionef's public voice and advocacy role.

Our Facilitator also worked with BEd students at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, bringing Biblionef's literacy approach into teacher education. This extends our impact beyond our direct programmes and into future classrooms.

THE STAFF



STRATEGIC DIRECTION

In 2025, Biblionef continued to refine its strategic focus, concentrating programme delivery on children aged 3 to 13. These are the years when access to quality, home-language books has the most profound impact on reading development and long-term academic success. This focus sharpens our book sourcing, strengthens our teacher training, and ensures literacy support is deeply embedded in ECD centres and primary schools.

Our Donors

Biblionef's work in 2025 was made possible by the generous support of the following funders and partners.

TO EACH ONE, THANK YOU.



KGOLO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST
SERVING AND DEVELOPING OUR COMMUNITIES



JIM JOEL FUND
PART OF THE CHILDWICK TRUST



National Arts Council NAC
an Agency of the Department of Sport, Arts & Culture



MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet
MAKE EVERY SWIPE COUNT



Facilitating *access* to information

KOMATSU

WILDE GANZEN
FOUNDATION



We would also like to thank the following donors who supported us in 2025:

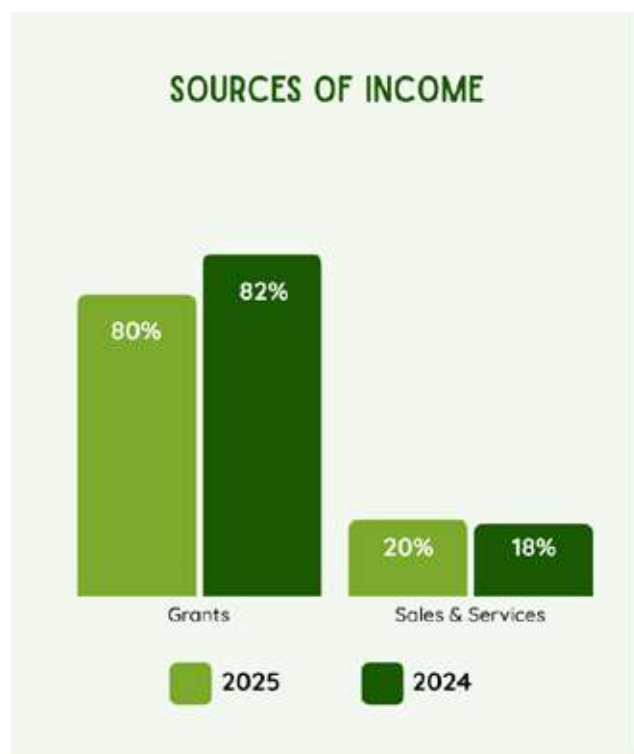
- Hiemstra Trust
- SALI Trust
- Fulton Trust
- Jagger Bequest

Financial Highlights

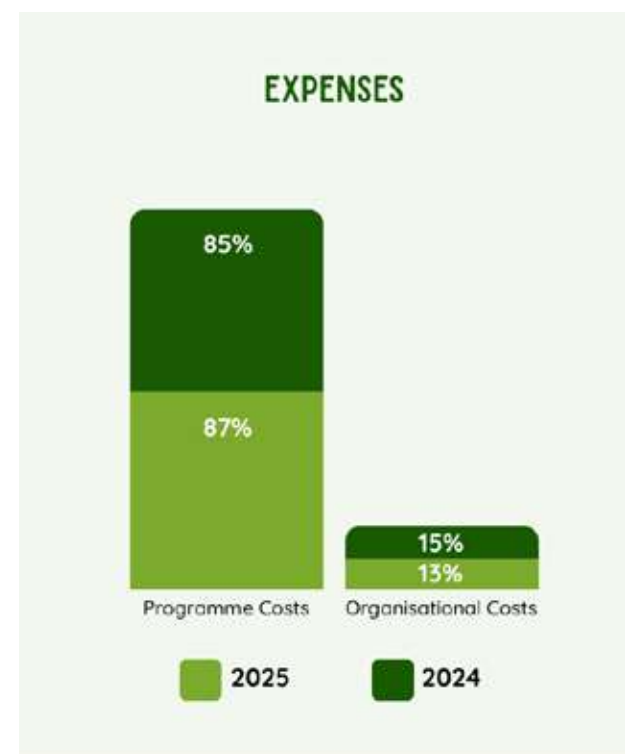
FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY AND STRONG GOVERNANCE

As of 31 December 2025, Biblionef's investment portfolio with Nedbank Private Wealth stood at R2 425 928.28. A reserve established in 2013 to support the organisation's long-term financial resilience. The portfolio has grown through the reinvestment of all interest and dividends since inception, and the organisation maintains a clean audit record.

OUR 2025 FINANCIALS STATEMENT RECEIVED AN UNQUALIFIED AUDIT OPINION.



	2025	2024
Grants	R 5,371,567.00	R 6,086,749.00
Self-Generated	R 1,363,539.00	R 1,296,185.00
	R 6,735,106.00	R 7,382,934.00



	2025	2024
Programme Costs	R 6,204,589.00	R 5,749,089.00
Organisational Costs	R 961,697.00	R 1,045,415.00
	R 7,166,286.00	R 6,794,504.00

How to Support Biblionef

BE PART OF THE STORY

Biblionef relies on the generous support of corporate, institutional, and individual donors to reach children with story-books in their mother tongue.

We pride ourselves on transparency and accountability, fully adhering to all donor reporting requirements.

Donations qualify for Section 18A tax deduction.



R 150

Provides 1 new storybook in a child's mother tongue



R 4 500

Provides an ECD Centre with storybooks & educational resources in a Hanging Library or Roller Box



R 20 000

Provides 1 "Corner Classroom Library"



R 135 000

Provides a "Start-up" library for a school



R 350 000

Provides a school with a fully-stocked library

WAYS TO GIVE

ONLINE Visit www.biblionefsa.org.za and click "Support Us" to donate via our secure platform

BANK TRANSFER Account name: Biblionef South Africa

Bank: Nedbank | Branch: Pinelands | Branch Code: 104709

Account No: 1047029170

WOOLWORTHS MYDIFFERENCE Add Biblionef as a beneficiary on the Woolworths App

OTHER Contact us to discuss other ways to support our work, including in-kind donations and partnerships

Get in touch

BIBLIONEF SOUTH AFRICA

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PINELANDS, CAPE TOWN,

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