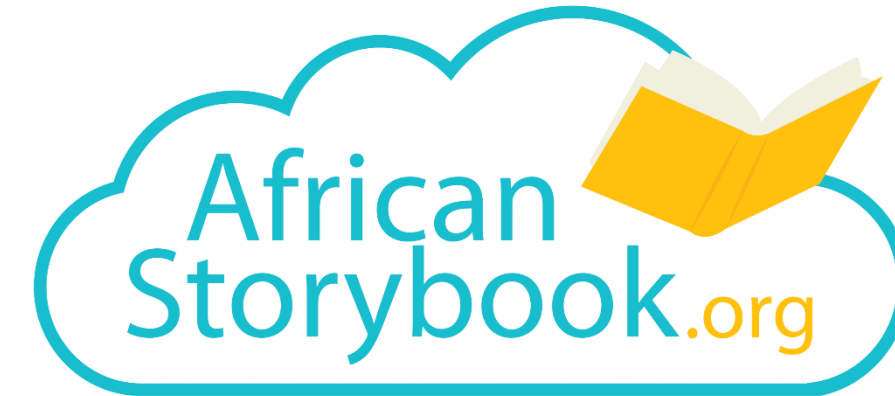




Tuesdays in the Trenches

A NASCEE Literacy Presentation Series
July 23rd 2024



255 LANGUAGES 4761 STORYBOOKS 8359 TRANSLATIONS



Vision

Open access to picture storybooks in the languages of Africa.
For children's literacy, enjoyment and imagination.

New Storybooks

Storybooks approved by ASb 

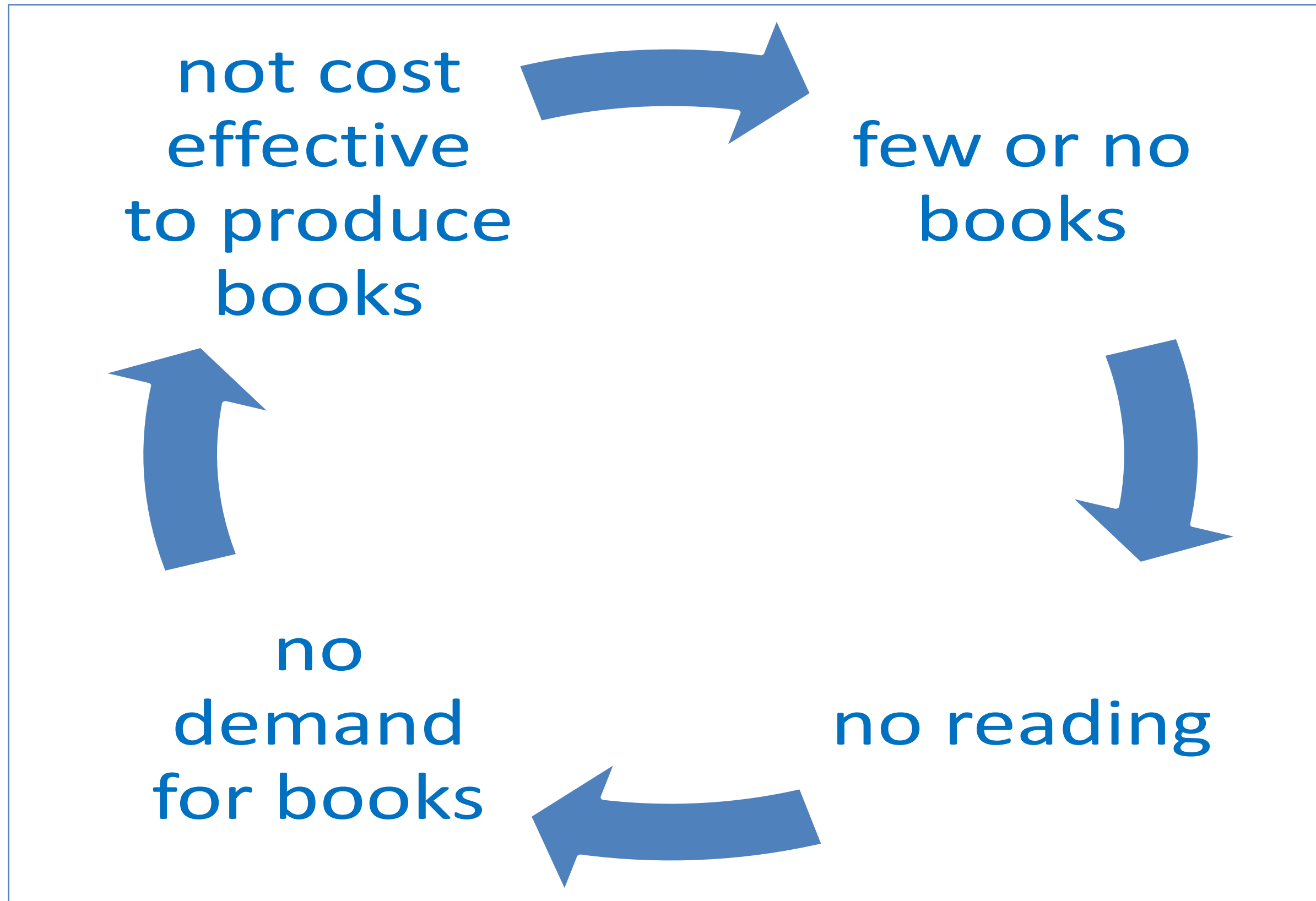


African Storybook (ASb)





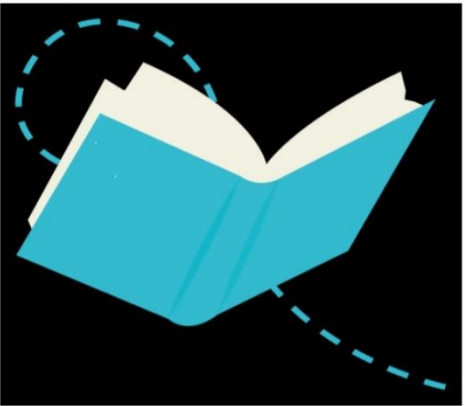
	Description	Detail
1.	Process overview:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research findings point to poor literacy levels of African children after the first three years of schooling. • Among obstacles: quantity and appropriate language of children’s storybooks
2.	Aim / Objectives / Goals:	<p>Access to a plentiful supply of African storybooks for supporting young readers to use to practice reading and develop a love of reading in a familiar language so that they are reading fluently, can enjoy reading and grow in imagination.</p>
3.	Target audience / Beneficiaries: (Learners / teachers / school managers / district and provincial officials)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African educators, librarians, parents and the children for whom they are responsible; • African literacy development organisations; • People from outside of Africa working with African educators or literacy development organisations; • People responsible for literacy improvement in systemic programmes in schooling and libraries in African countries. • Children are indirect beneficiaries, but they can be involved in story creation, translation or adaptation.
4.	Dosage: (see slide 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative story development with partners as well as commissioned projects • Agency of local language communities to use ASb tools • Encouraging USE in varying contexts and for varying literacy needs
5.	Footprint / Where do you work? (Provinces/Districts/Schools) INDIRECTLY	<p>Africa: Burundi, Cameroon, DRC, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe</p> <p>Globally: through larger initiatives such as Worldreader, Pratham Book, Global Digital Library, Learning Equality</p>

Breaking the Vicious Cycle



Saide's Intervention



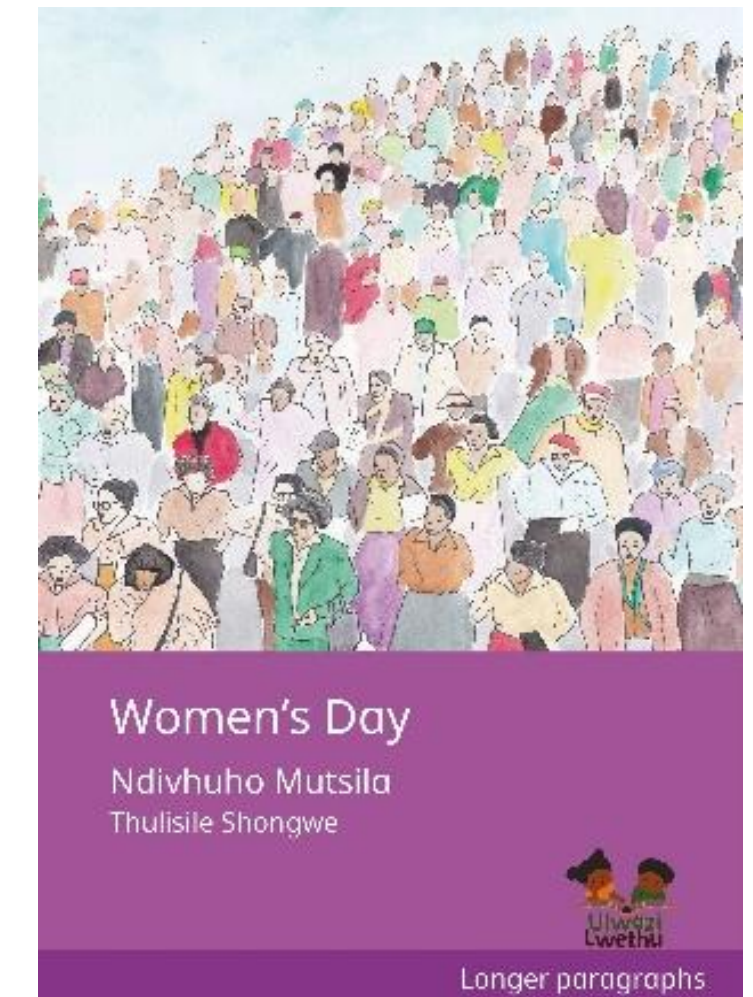
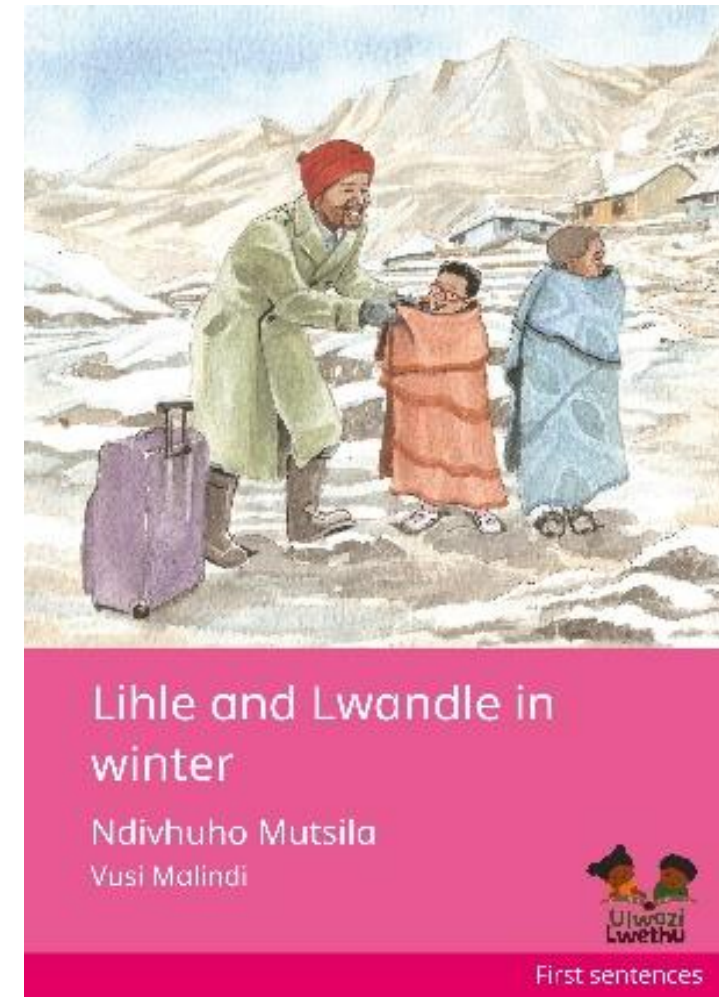
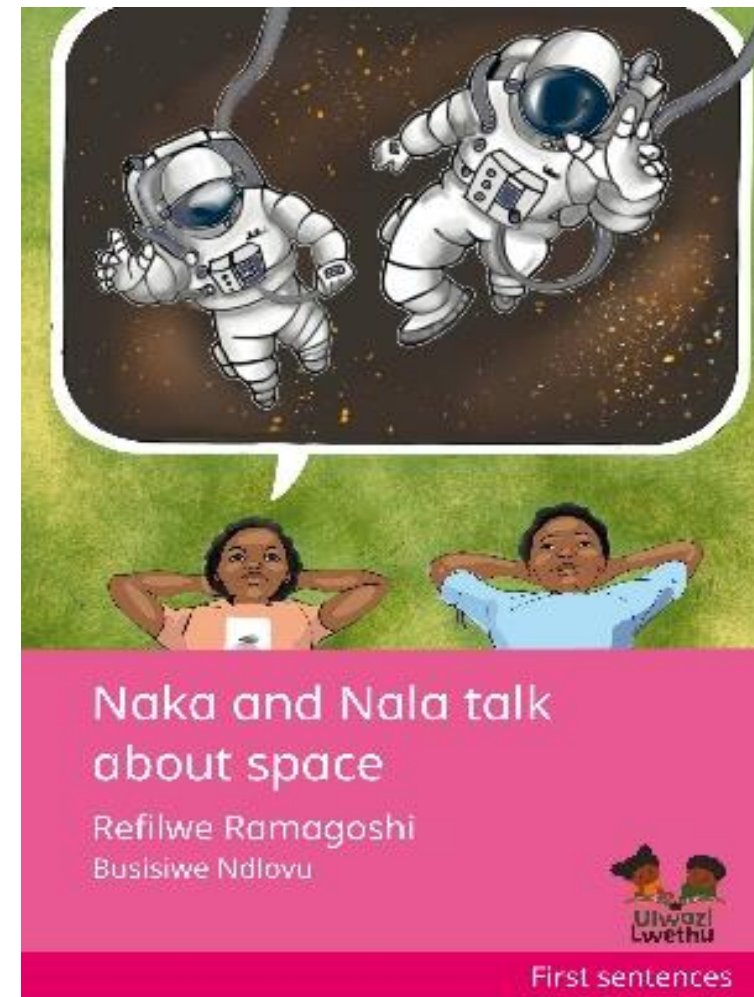
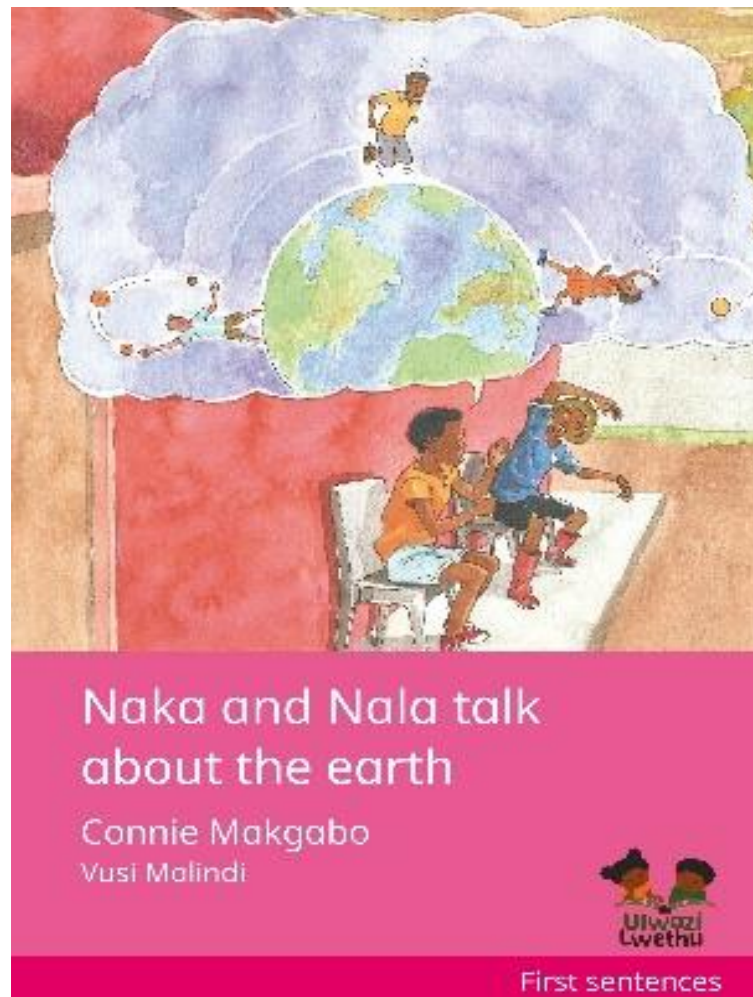
Description	Detail
  <p>Reader App</p>  <p>Maker App</p>	<p>A comprehensive solution to the lack of affordable access to sufficient storybooks for early readers in familiar languages, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Implementing an alternative open licence publishing model through African Storybook (ASb): www.africanstorybook.org;✓ Enabling local agency through use of the website for translation, adaptation and creation of picture storybooks;✓ Supporting use of the storybooks in a variety of formats and methods of delivery by individuals, communities, libraries, schools, teacher education institutions, and government departments;✓ Creating ASb Reader and Maker Apps for offline story reading and creation, respectively.

African Storybook's Theory of Change



- A **sufficient supply** of lively and relevant storybooks in **familiar languages** as well as encouragement of their **imaginative use with children** is vital for the development of the habit of reading.
- Together with **formal reading instruction** in schools, can break the cycle of illiteracy leading to improved levels of literacy necessary for African children in the 21st century.
- Collaboration with a range of other literacy players in the field that **uphold open learning principles including OERs**, such as:
 - ✓ **National or provincial** education ministries/departments for systemic uptake;
 - ✓ **Local and national literacy initiatives**, particularly, those with **technology platforms** and/or who supply devices;
 - ✓ **International literacy partners** to encourage use of ASb storybooks globally;
 - ✓ Individual **Champions** who are supported to work closely with their communities and children.

- The **Ulwazi Lwethu** (2020 – 2023) collection is the largest publishing project undertaken by African Storybook
- It allowed a wide range of storybooks to be originated in the 9 official African languages of South Africa leading to **736 picture storybooks**



Your partnerships

Who are the project donors? Are you working with other NGOs?
What level of government (if any) are you partnering with?



	Programme	Donors	Government	NGOs
	The Champion Strategy	The Lenovo Foundation The mc2h Foundation		
	Nuer Literacy Initiative	In collaboration with the Universities of Surrey and Edinburgh		
	Ulwazi Lwethu	Zenex Foundation		
	Storymaking West Africa and South Africa	British Council		
	Reader and Maker Apps	Google.org		
	African Storybook core work	Cameron Schrier Foundation		
	African Storybook Pilot Phase	Comic Relief		
	Storybook packs to NW primary schools; Classroom Libraries Gauteng; Library Boxes to ECD early learning programmes and play groups	USAID, Zenex, SASOL		

Indicators that we monitor



Programme	Core activities	Impact indicators	Other measures
Storybook collection growth and diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Story development: creation, translation, quality assurance and publishing • Identification of under-resourced languages • Partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of unique storybooks created • Number of new translations accomplished • Number of additional storybooks quality assured and approved • New languages • Improved quality of storybooks created independently of us 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New opportunities for story development • Independent use of ASb website and Maker App
Use of ASb storybooks, website and apps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and support partners • Active communication • Sharing updates • Active advocacy • Developing guides, including how to use storybooks with children to support literacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered Users (new) • Sessions from Africa • Total visitors (new and returning) • Number of website and app downloads • Partners: number of teachers, librarians, literacy activists and organisations using ASb and children reached 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of how ASb storybooks and apps are used (Stories of Use) • Independent discovery of ASb • More recently how champions work with children and how children respond to the storybooks?
Create, adapt, translate, illustrate storybooks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Story development and translation processes • Capacity building for under-resourced language communities to create, translate, adapt, illustrate • Identifying local Champions to translate/create and promote storybooks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased pool of communities, teachers, young people, professionals who can write, translate, illustrate • More local Champions • The number of translators who accomplish translations online independently of us 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New language community initiatives reaching out to us • New languages added on the website independently
Open Licence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively advocating for OER and its role in achieving sustainable literacy among communities • Encouraging others to publish storybooks on the website under the CC-BY Licence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing recognition of the usefulness of open digital publishing • Number of initiatives, individuals who discover and use ASb 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiatives that use ASb in formats that are accessible by learners with special needs

Children reading ASb storybooks at Mara Primary School, Soweto (iSchool Africa)

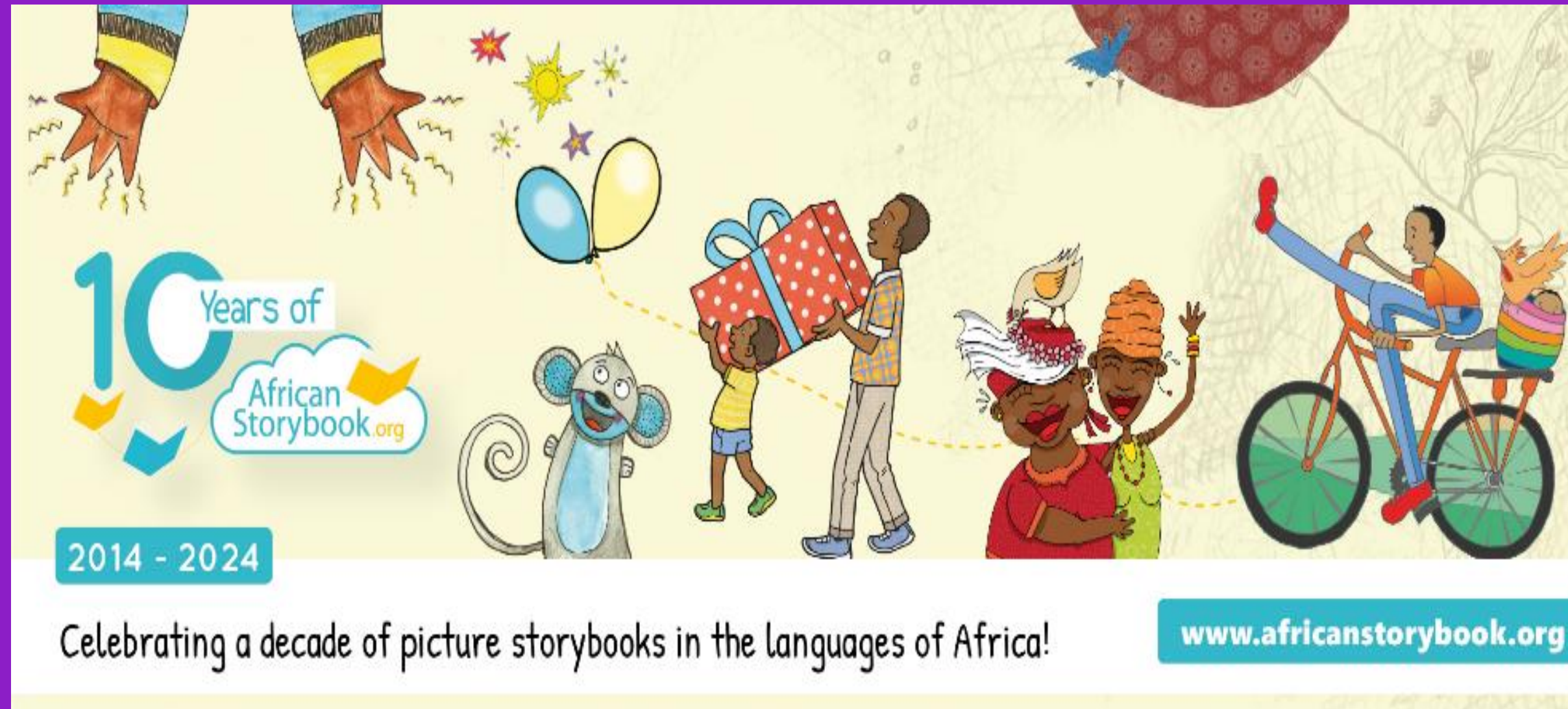


Evidence of Impact



Year	Website Storybook Downloads	Educators	Individuals capacitated as writers, translators, proofreaders, artists, champions	Children
2014-2017	192,045	31,720	570	940,227
2018	426,780	16,344	368	461,969
2019	162,973	17,925	329	567,115
2020	1,357,000	70,804	348	2,034,894
2021	2,529,412	87,616	367	3,821,589
2022	602,983	110,249	1,266	2,604,020
2023	1,049,812	87,009	142	2,843,009
Total	6,321,005	421,667	3,398	13,272,823

Thank you!



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 **NASCEE**

For more info, visit nascee.org.za.