



# Sources of Donated Books

*for Schools and Libraries*

## 2014

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# **Overseas Programming and Training Support**

The Peace Corps Office of Overseas Programming and Training Support (OPATS)

develops technical resources to benefit Volunteers, their co-workers, and the larger development community.

This publication was produced by OPATS and is made available through its

Knowledge & Learning unit (KLU), formerly known as Information Collection and Exchange (ICE). Volunteers are encouraged to submit original material to [KLU@peacecorps.gov](mailto:KLU@peacecorps.gov). Such material may be utilized in future training material, becoming part of the Peace Corps' larger contribution to development.

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*for Schools and Libraries*

**2014**



Peace Corps  
Publication No. RE003

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# Introduction

***Sources of Donated Books for Schools and Libraries*** (No. RE003) is intended to help Peace Corps Volunteers and their counterparts identify organizations that might provide books and other educational materials for schools and libraries in their communities.

The Peace Corps Knowledge & Learning Unit (KLU) of the Office of Overseas Programming and Training Support (OPATS) produces this publication with input from the Office of Gifts and Grants Management (GGM) concerning donations to the Peace Corps. OPATS-KLU updates the entries in this publication with information provided by the organizations listed.

Earlier versions of this publication are now obsolete and may contain misleading or false information. Please discard and recycle them.

**NOTE:** Inclusion of organizations, web addresses, or links to websites in this publication does not indicate endorsement of content or programs.

# **Peace Corps Volunteers and Library/ Resource Center Development**

Many Peace Corps Volunteers are involved, either as a primary project or secondary activity, with local library or resource center development. Volunteers in all projects from agriculture to environmental education to youth development might consider assisting with a library project. If you are a Volunteer in an education project, you might ask or be asked to assist with a school library. Other Volunteers may recognize a possibility to start or improve a library or resource center within their communities. You might be involved in an information communication technology project and assist with development of a digital library. In some instances, members of a community may identify library development as a priority and approach you for assistance.

Regardless of the impetus for the project, it is important that you work closely, through all stages of the library development process, with a counterpart or counterparts. For a library to continue successfully after your departure, the community members must be stakeholders and have true ownership of the library. Sustainability depends on community involvement.

There are a number of steps to follow and questions to ask before embarking on a library project. Make sure to involve your counterpart and other community members in the discussion of these and many other questions:

## **Step 1: Forming a Library Committee**

- Is a resource center/library needed or wanted by the community? How do you know?
- How can the community be involved to support the library?
- How will a library committee be formed? Who will serve on it?

## **Step 2: Developing a Plan**

- What assets does the community have that will support developing a library?
- What other information centers are there in the community? Will this project complement them? What are the possibilities for collaboration?



- Who are the stakeholders in the community for a library development project?
- What is the purpose of the library? Who will it serve?

### **Step 3: Securing a Location**

- Where will the library be located?
- Who will physically set up the resource center/library? (Volunteers, students, community members?)

### **Step 4: Obtaining Books and Resources**

- Where will the books, periodicals, and audiovisuals come from initially? In the future?
- Are there local publishers from which to purchase materials?
- Will students and/or adults be willing to write or gather stories to place in the library?
- Are there donors or charitable organizations in-country that could assist?
- What will be the focus of the collection? What formats will be included (books, videos, CD-ROMs)? In what language(s) will materials be collected?

### **Step 5: Organizing and Classifying Books**

- How will the collection be organized? (Dewey Decimal Classification? General subject order? LLC?)
- Will books be cataloged electronically or in a print index?
- Are supplies (e.g., automation supplies, book pockets, catalog cards, etc.) available locally or could they be made from locally available items?

### **Step 6: Establishing Services**

- Will the books be available to borrow (check out) or will they remain in the library?
- Will Internet access be possible?

- Will the library support multiple uses? Internet center? Adult education classroom? Radio station? After-school study center? Women's group meeting center?
- Will the services be free or will fees be charged?

## **Step 7: Managing the Library**

- Who will be responsible for the day-to-day operations?
- What about a budget and source of funding?
- What opportunities will there be for skills transfer and capacity building?
- Will the library be sustainable? If so, how?

For further guidance on sustainability in a library context, consult the ***Sustainable Library Development Training Package*** (available through OPATS-KLU.) If, after thoughtful consideration, you decide to proceed with a library development activity, contact the Information Resource Center (IRC) at the Peace Corps office in your country. The IRC manager will have some materials and suggestions to help you.

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## Additional Peace Corps Resources

In addition to *Sources of Donated Books for Schools and Libraries* (No. RE003), OPATS-KLU offers training resources and additional publications to assist you with library development:

### ***Sustainable Library Development Training Package***

The purpose of the Sustainable Library Development Training Package is to support and provide guidance to Peace Corps Volunteers engaged in library projects as both primary work assignments and secondary project activities. Training packages are used to train and prepare Volunteers for their work in the field. This training package can also be used by Volunteers to facilitate workshops on library development in their communities. Each session plan is stand-alone and includes all relevant handouts; some handouts are repeated from session to session.

[http://files.peacecorps.gov/library/Sustainable\\_Library\\_Development\\_Training\\_Package.pdf](http://files.peacecorps.gov/library/Sustainable_Library_Development_Training_Package.pdf)

### ***Peace Corps Resources for Library Projects and Introduction to Sustainable Library Development; Trainer Material 1: PowerPoint Library Photos***

[http://files.peacecorps.gov/library/TP\\_ED\\_Libraries\\_PC\\_Resources\\_for\\_Libraries\\_M1\\_2012-10.ppt](http://files.peacecorps.gov/library/TP_ED_Libraries_PC_Resources_for_Libraries_M1_2012-10.ppt)

### ***Library Supplementary Services; Trainer Material 1: PowerPoint-Library Scene Cartoons A and B***

[http://files.peacecorps.gov/library/TP\\_ED\\_Libraries\\_Supplementary\\_Services\\_M1\\_2012-10.ppt](http://files.peacecorps.gov/library/TP_ED_Libraries_Supplementary_Services_M1_2012-10.ppt)

### ***Libraries for All!*** (No. RE035)

<http://files.peacecorps.gov/library/RE035.pdf>

### ***French- Des Bibliothèques pour Tous!***

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0011/001171/117165fo.pdf>

### ***Spanish- Bibliotecas para Todos!***

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0011/001171/117165so.pdf>

### ***Setting Up and Running a School Library*** (No. ED204)

<http://files.peacecorps.gov/library/ED204.pdf>

***Sources of Donated Books for Schools and Libraries*** (No. RE003)

<http://files.peacecorps.gov/library/RE003.pdf>

***PACA Using Participatory Analysis for Community Action: Idea Book***

(No. M0086)

<http://files.peacecorps.gov/library/M0086.pdf>

***New Project Design and Management Workshop Training Manual***

(No. T0107)

<http://files.peacecorps.gov/library/T0107.pdf> (file size: 3.7 MB)

Check the IRC in the Peace Corps office for copies of these publications. If copies are not available in the IRC, ask the IRC manager to request copies from OPATS-KLU, or contact OPATS-KLU directly at [KLU@peacecorps.gov](mailto:KLU@peacecorps.gov). Briefly describe your library project and request the above titles.

## **Donated Books: *First, Do No Harm***

Look first to the local community and your country of service to obtain the publications, audiovisuals, and other materials needed for the library. With your counterpart, contact local publishers, charitable organizations, and the community members for books, funds, or in-kind contributions. If culturally appropriate, coordinate with a school or adult education center to encourage students and other community members to write or record stories for inclusion in the library.

Obtaining books from non-local donors does not directly promote sustainability. Book donations can, however, be helpful to support a new library, and to build library collections with materials appropriate to the library users that are unavailable locally. In the spirit of doing no harm, assess the local availability of publications, publishers, and the potential for local publishing. Be sure that an influx of donated books from outside the country or community would not adversely affect publication and distribution of local publications. With your counterparts, focus on establishing the necessary local connections that will sustain the library in the future.

## Establishing a Donation Plan

A library collection development policy specifies the types of materials that would be most useful to your community's library. Begin by compiling a wish list of titles and categories of books and other materials needed to build the collection. It is important that you, your counterparts, and any donor organizations are very clear about the specific materials that would contribute to developing the library in your community.

If the library has been in existence for some time, remove outdated, unused, and worn-out books and periodicals. It is better to have 100 books that are useful to the community than 1,000 books that fill the shelves, but are not used. As with all steps in the library development process, be sure this is a community effort in which your counterparts participate.

Look locally first. In addition to the organizations listed in this booklet, other possible sources of donations and assistance within your country of service include:

- Local offices of the United Nations, technical assistance organizations, embassies, local governments, foreign and local companies, and libraries (many libraries have duplicates of some materials)
- Professional organizations
- Schools, universities, and community organizations (civic groups, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Rotary clubs, Chambers of Commerce, etc.)

Before contacting book donors, prepare a list of guidelines that will help you and the donors identify only the books or other materials that will be most useful. State the subject matter, reading level, and language of the publications desired (e.g., "secondary school level fiction in Spanish"). If certain types of books are definitely not useful, state that clearly (e.g., "American social studies texts not wanted"). Decide what publication dates are too old for your needs (e.g., "nothing published earlier than 2000"). Request that all materials be sorted and culled per your guidelines. Books in poor physical condition or with yellowed pages are not worth the money it would cost to transport them, nor are they likely to be used.

Inform your Peace Corps country director that you are embarking on a library development activity and that you would like your community to receive books from donor organizations.

For additional information about book donations, consult the UNESCO publication, *Book Donations for Development*, 2005. <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0013/001394/139429e.pdf>.

If you have other questions about sustainable library development, consult the Sustainable Library Development Training Package. In particular, see the handout, "Additional Information Resources for Library Projects."

For additional print copies of *Sources of Donated Books for Schools and Libraries* (No. RE003) or other publications, contact your IRC manager in the Peace Corps office in-country, or write to OPATS-KLU at:

**Peace Corps**  
Knowledge and Learning Unit (KLU)  
Overseas Programming and Training Support  
1111 20th Street NW, Sixth Floor  
Washington, DC 20526  
USA  
[KLU@peacecorps.gov](mailto:KLU@peacecorps.gov)

## Tips for Using This Directory

The organizations listed here generously support local communities with donations of books and a variety of educational materials for libraries, schools, and education centers. Please look through the entire list and then contact those groups that can best support the local community and goals of the project with which you are associated.

Many of the organizations listed are voluntary groups with limited staff and resources. They may require special procedures, or payment for shipping or other expenses in order to provide service. Consider the following information when formulating requests:

- Carefully read the description of what services each organization can provide. In most cases, groups cannot provide additional services that are not described.
- It may not always be possible to receive exactly the type or quantity of materials desired. State your preferences clearly and well.
- Some sources collect, screen, and ship only high-quality, secondhand materials. Do not expect new books.
- Though some sources can distribute large quantities of free books and periodicals, most have limited financial resources and their supplies are limited.
- Some sources act as clearinghouses and connect requests to a donor group that is most likely to match the particular need. Hence, there may be a longer time lapse than expected between requesting and receiving materials.
- Some sources charge a fee, either for the books themselves, or for postage and handling, or for shipping. The requestor may be responsible for paying these charges. If you have any doubt about what the charges will be, contact the source before you place an order.
- Most of the listed donor groups are run by volunteers who like to think their efforts are making a difference. Sound familiar? It pays to put your best foot forward in requesting their help and to show your appreciation when they provide assistance.



- Involve the people to whom you or your counterpart writes. Tell them about the project, describe the school or community, explain what your role is, and emphasize the difference the books will make. Consider sending along photos.
- Before you mail your letter or send an e-mail, re-read it. Is it phrased as a request to a small, friendly group, or an order to a big business? The tone may make a difference in how the request is met.
- Include the names of at least two people (e.g., co-worker, headmistress) who could receive the packages if one person is not available when the shipment arrives. Some organizations have sent books only to have the packages returned months later with return postage due because the addressee was not there on the day of arrival.
- When the order arrives, acknowledge it with thanks. This will help ensure future success if you, other Volunteers, your counterpart, or other community members order again.
- Although every precaution has been taken to ensure the accuracy of information in this publication, please remember that the offers may be withdrawn or changed by the organization(s) at any time.

## **Book Donations and the Peace Corps**

Book donor organizations listed in this publication should be contacted by Peace Corps counterparts, not Volunteers, to request book donations directly to the community. Counterparts may contact these organizations on behalf of the local school, community, or library. Shipments should be sent directly to the counterparts or other designated host country nationals.

If an organization wishes to make a donation to the Peace Corps, rather than directly to the community, Volunteers should contact their Country Director (CD) before proceeding. Book donations to the Peace Corps must be handled via the Office of Gifts and Grants Management (GGM), which will facilitate an In-Kind Donation Agreement. Whether the donation will be made directly to the community or to the Peace Corps; Peace Corps/headquarters, the Volunteer, or Peace Corps posts cannot incur costs for receiving in-kind donations. The donor organization is responsible for arranging and paying for all shipping and customs fees; in-kind donations may never be mailed through pouch services or any other Embassy shipping method.

If the Volunteer has an interest in purchasing books in country, or is in touch with a donor who is interested in giving but unable to pay for shipping and customs costs, the Volunteer may consider completing a Peace Corps Partnership Program (PCPP) application. The application is subject to all rules and requirements under the Peace Corps Small Grants Program ([www.peacecorps.gov/smallgrants](http://www.peacecorps.gov/smallgrants)), and can cover the costs associated with shipping a book donation.

For further information on in-kind donations and the Peace Corps Partnership Program contact the Office of Gifts and Grants Management (GGM) at Peace Corps/headquarters [donate@peacecorps.gov](mailto:donate@peacecorps.gov) or 202-692-2170.

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# List of Sources

## AFRICAN CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES

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### *Geographic Areas of Operation*

West Africa: predominantly Liberia and Nigeria

### *Publications Available*

Elementary to college level, new and lightly used library and textbooks. English language only.

### *Program Description/Services Available*

African Children's Libraries gathers, sorts, boxes, and sends books to their teams in West Africa. Books are sent in 20-foot containers of approximately 15,000 books. African Children's Libraries works with other international organizations for book donations. The international team chooses communities that will provide a suitable room and a library assistant for a school library. African Children's Libraries then provides books and basic instruction for the library personnel.

### *Comments/Special Considerations*

African Children's Libraries is not actively searching for additional schools. They collaborate with other organizations. African Children's Libraries has personnel in Liberia who can organize port formalities, training, and distribution. They can assist with contacts, but do not fund other programs.

**Contact:** Ann Easterly, Executive Director

### **Address:**

African Children's Libraries  
2221 NW 12th Street  
Corvallis, OR 97330  
USA

### **Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 541.757.2467

**E-mail:** anotter25@yahoo.com

## **AFRICAN LIBRARY PROJECT**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Botswana, Ghana, Lesotho, Malawi, Sierra Leone, and Swaziland

### ***Publications Available***

African Library Project provides English language books, which are collected through book drives. Books are at U.S. preschool to 8th grade reading levels. Available resources include baby board books, children's picture books, fiction, nonfiction, juvenile literature, children's encyclopedias, children's and adult dictionaries, recent atlases (after 1990), and textbooks in English, science, math, and geography.

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

African Library Project is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that coordinates book drives in the U.S. to provide support to African school and community library projects. In Africa, African Library Project works with a lead partner in each country that has the infrastructure to start or improve 30 to 60 small libraries per year. Local schools and communities apply for assistance in developing a library through our lead partners who vet all local library projects, bring in the containers with the books, provide librarian training, and help implement a measurement and evaluation system to track the progress of each library. Peace Corps Volunteers working in countries served by African Library Project are encouraged to assist their local community to apply to a lead partner for up to 1,000 books. Library projects must meet the following requirements:

- Local sponsorship- A mix of students, teachers and/or community leaders who are committed to actively sponsoring a community library.
- Facilities- There is a clean, dry, secure area with adequate shelving to display the books and with easy access to borrowers.
- Leadership- One or more people can be counted on to organize the books into a library and to train others to maintain and operate the library.

- Borrowers- There is a community of beginning, intermediate and/or advanced English language readers who will actually use the library.

African Library Project is committed to creating sustainable libraries, not just being a source of books. If you meet the above criteria, lead partners will welcome your efforts to establish or improve a small library. African Library Project staff members have been through what you are going through now and understand your challenges. A technical manual about how to set up and run a simple library is included with your books.

E-mail African Library Project at [info@africanlibraryproject.org](mailto:info@africanlibraryproject.org) to receive the contact information for the lead partner in your country. The lead partner will send you the application packet.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

Each U.S. book drive collects 1,000 gently-used children's books and raises about \$500 to ship the books. African Library Project has created a system to make it easy for Americans to help start a library in Africa by setting up an inexpensive shipping system and creating detailed instructions on the Project's website. If you have a friend, family member or colleague who might be willing to organize a book drive to stock the library you are assisting, it makes it more likely that African Library Project will be able to help. African Library Project can only start as many libraries as it has book drive organizers.

**Contact:** Chris Bradshaw

**Address:**

African Library Project  
5 Thistle Street  
Portola Valley, CA 94028  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 650.851.3640 Pacific Standard Time

**E-mail:** [info@africanlibraryproject.org](mailto:info@africanlibraryproject.org)

**Website:** <http://www.africanlibraryproject.org>

## **ASIA FOUNDATION'S BOOKS FOR ASIA**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam

### ***Publications Available***

New and lightly used books in all educational subjects. Books must have a publication date within the last five years (not more than one edition old). This is especially important in the fields of engineering, medicine, science, and social sciences. Classics of literature or social science may be accepted from this date range. Certain materials and subjects are NOT accepted by Books for Asia. These include religious books that advocate a particular religious belief; all books printed in any language other than English, unless approved by Books for Asia; fiction such as "dime-store" novels, mysteries, romance novels, journals, magazines, photocopied compilations, abstracts, and supplementary materials without accompanying texts, such as lab manuals, study guides, teacher's editions, and workbooks. (Books for Asia only accepts these if they come with the text.)

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

Since 1954, Books for Asia has distributed nearly 48 million books, digital resources and other educational materials to tens of thousands of institutions throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

Books are requested from donors and allocated for shipment based on annual needs assessments completed by Asia Foundation's overseas offices in consultation with prospective recipients. The foundation's field office staff then works directly with local educators, librarians, and research professionals to identify and select materials from the book shipments for their institutions.

Books for Asia has a computerized inventory database that tracks every new book by title and quantity for each container shipment to Books for Asia offices in the countries where it works. Each donated book is stamped "Gift of The Asia Foundation: Not for Resale," and recipient

libraries officially acknowledge receipt of each volume. Local Asia Foundation offices follow up regularly to monitor recipient institutions to ensure donated materials address local needs, are well-maintained and are made widely available.

**NOTE:** The Asia Foundation recommends that Peace Corps Volunteers and counterparts contact the local Asia Foundation office within the country where they work. Contact information can be found at [www.asiafoundation.org](http://www.asiafoundation.org). If they are not able to do so, e-mail the United States office at [booksforasia@asiafound.org](mailto:booksforasia@asiafound.org) and your message will be forwarded to the relevant country office.

**Contact:** Melody Zavala, Director, Books for Asia

**Address:**

The Asia Foundation  
Books for Asia Program  
2490 Verna Court  
San Leandro, CA 94577  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 510.667.6475

**Fax:** 510.351.2602

**E-mail:** [booksforasia@asiafound.org](mailto:booksforasia@asiafound.org)

**Website:** <http://www.booksforasia.org>

## BOOK AID INTERNATIONAL

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### *Geographic Areas of Operation*

Sub-Saharan Africa

### *Publications Available*

New and nearly new books of universal relevance (i.e., books that are not too UK or European specific) in all subject areas and for all ages. Book Aid International provides fiction and nonfiction books for children and adults as well as educational and professional books in a wide range of subjects and levels.

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

Book Aid International targets those in greatest need and each year provides more than half a million books to support literacy, education, training, and publishing in the poorest countries in the world.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

Book Aid International is only able to send a certain number of books a year. The following subject areas are in high demand so may be in short supply: children's books, secondary level textbooks, vocational material, reference books, basic healthcare, human rights, and law student textbooks.

**Contact:** Alison Hubert, Director

**Address:**

Book Aid International  
39–41 Coldharbour Lane  
Camberwell  
London SE5 9NR  
United Kingdom

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 44.0.20.7733.3577

**Fax:** 44.0.20.7978.8006

**E-mail:** [info@bookaid.org](mailto:info@bookaid.org)

**Website:** <http://www.bookaid.org/>

## **BOOKS ABROAD**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Developing countries worldwide (currently 90 countries)

### ***Publications Available***

New and lightly used textbooks in all subjects, library books, atlases, dictionaries, and health books.

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

Books are mainly donated by local schools and North East of Scotland Library Service Libraries. Most of the work is carried out by volunteers.



Books Abroad sends carefully selected parcels weighing approximately 18 pounds each (approximately 50 books) directly to educational establishments outside of the United Kingdom. Emphasis is placed on quality, good-condition books and of appropriate content for the institution involved, rather than quantity. Parcels are small enough to be carried to even the most remote sites without roads. Great efforts are made to respond to requests made by schools and other institutions. When no appropriate books are available from Books Abroad's secondhand stock, new ones are purchased as funds permit. The parcels are wrapped in clear polythene, which helps to speed passage through customs.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

Books Abroad sends educational, library, and resource books for all ages to places of greatest need. Books Abroad's service is free. To ensure continuity of service, Books Abroad prefers to communicate with a person in authority in the requesting organization, after the initial contact has been made by a teacher or other staff person. This ensures a permanent link for feedback on service and of the arrival, condition, and suitability of the books received.

Books Abroad usually includes a pack of books suitable as teachers' resources. A custom's document is attached to each package to aid entry into the recipient country. Book Aid tries to send books to each country on a three year cycle depending on funding.

**Contact:** Hazel Stephen, Administrator

**Address:**

Books Abroad  
Unit 1  
Richmond Avenue Industrial Estate  
Rhynie  
Huntly  
Aberdeenshire  
Scotland AB54 4HJ  
United Kingdom

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 44.0.1464.861446

**Fax:** 44.0.1464.861446

**E-mail:** [info@booksabroad.org.uk](mailto:info@booksabroad.org.uk)

**Website:** <http://www.booksabroad.org.uk>

## BOOKS FOR AFRICA (BFA)

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### *Geographic Areas of Operation*

Continent of Africa

### *Publications Available*

New and used textbooks and library books for primary, secondary, and university libraries. The vast majority of books are in English, with a very limited selection of French language material.

### *Program Description/Services Available*

Books For Africa (BFA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in St. Paul, Minnesota, with a mission of helping end the book famine in Africa. Since its founding in 1988, Books For Africa has distributed over 28 million books to children in 48 African nations.

BFA partners with indigenous nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to receive and distribute books to schools and libraries in their regions where the need is greatest. The books are packed into 40-foot sea containers, carrying approximately 22,000 books, and are shipped to partners in Africa for distribution to local schools, universities, libraries, orphanages, and adult literacy programs. Shipping and concurrent port clearance costs are paid by container recipients.

### *Comments/Special Considerations*

Book contributors should first review donation guidelines (available at [www. booksforafrica.org](http://www.booksforafrica.org)) as they must receive prior approval before any books are accepted by BFA for consideration for shipping to Africa.

**Note:** Books for Africa cannot honor individual requests from schools or libraries for books from Peace Corps Volunteers. Books are shipped in 40- foot sea containers; therefore, consideration can only be given if Peace Corps Volunteers can collaborate with counterparts as to collectively raise funds for the shipping costs and share the books. In some cases where financial need can be demonstrated, BFA will provide matching funds to cover up to half the shipping costs.

**Contact:** Patrick Plonski, Executive Director

**Address:**

Books for Africa  
253 East 4th Street  
Suite 200  
Saint Paul, MN 55101  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 651.602.9844

**Fax:** 651.602.9848

**E-mail:** [bfa@booksforafrica.org](mailto:bfa@booksforafrica.org)

**Website:** <http://www.booksforafrica.org/index.html>

## **BOOKS FOR INTERNATIONAL GOODWILL (B.I.G)**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Native American reservations, various U.S. domestic community centers, Africa, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and other areas of the world

### ***Publications Available***

New and used primary, secondary, and college-level textbooks; and general reading materials for libraries. Books are in the English language only.

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

Books for International Goodwill is always looking for recipients who can effectively handle a shipment of 20,000 books in a container. B.I.G. encourages recipients to develop distribution procedures for the books they cannot use.

While B.I.G. prefers to ship directly to a Rotary Club for distribution, it will work with an established school, library, or social welfare agency. B.I.G. asks the recipient to contact B.I.G. via e-mail to get an application form which includes:

- Outlining the needs (type of books most needed).
- Developing a distribution plan.

- Assuring B.I.G. of the ability to clear a container through customs and handle in-country transport.

A typical shipment will cost B.I.G. about \$3,500 in shipping costs and \$500 in supplies. Priority is given to recipients able to help defray shipping costs. Recipients are expected to take care of any in-country costs (customs clearance, storage, distribution).

At times, B.I.G. will send small shipments of 3-5 boxes of targeted books. It costs approximately \$50 for a box of 25 to 30 books. Small shipment recipients who can help pay shipping costs are given priority. The lead time for a large shipment is usually about six months; small shipments can be sent out within a month.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

B.I.G. tries to make sure all college texts are less than 10 years old and high school and elementary texts less than 15 years old. On the high school and elementary level, B.I.G. does not send purely American-oriented subjects (U.S. history, social studies, etc.) unless requested.

**Contact:** Steve Frantzich, President

**Address:**

B.I.G.  
2000B Capital Drive  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 410.293.6865  
**E-mail:** frantzic@usna.edu  
**Website:** <http://www.big-books.org/>

## **BOOKS FOR PEACE (BFP)**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Countries which have Peace Corps English-language teaching programs and are served by a reliable shipping company which (a) delivers to recipient institutions, (b) has a facility in the Greater Los Angeles area, and (c) offers affordable "surface" (not air) rates for handling materials donated by charitable organizations. Anyone

who wants BFP to extend its service to another country where Peace Corps serves is asked to provide BFP with the contact information for a shipping company which meets these requirements.

### ***Publications Available***

Materials used by schools, libraries or college faculty for English as foreign language projects, to whatever extent they are provided to BFP by donors. (Institutions requesting items which require special equipment must have that equipment or be acquiring it from other sources.) Publications are English language only.

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

Books for Peace works via e-mail with Peace Corps Volunteers and their host country counterparts to design shipments tailored to the priorities of receiving institutions. An official letter of request must be provided by the receiving institution. BFP requires no donations or sharing of costs. However, tax-deductible donations to BFP can be earmarked for shipping to a specific project in which a Volunteer is currently involved, and documentation of that shipping will be provided to the donor. The limits to how much can be sent to any receiving institution are set by (1) the fit between BFP's ever-changing inventory and the institution's requests; (2) the calendar time required for shipments and follow-ups, including communication breakdowns and seasonal impediments to deliveries; and (3) competing demands on BFP's resources. For best results, Peace Corps Volunteers should work with their counterparts to contact BFP early in the Volunteer's service.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

BFP prepays all shipping costs; institutions receiving shipments should not be asked for any payment as a condition of delivery.

**Contact:** Dr. Betty Halliwell, Manager

**Address:**

Books for Peace  
13646 Hartland Street  
Van Nuys, CA 91405-4239  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 800.829.2821; or 818.781.9757

**Fax:** by appointment only

**E-mail:** bettyhalliwell@att.net

**Website:** <http://www.booksforpeace.org>

## **BOOKS FOR THE BARRIOS, INC.**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Philippines

### ***Publications Available***

Elementary textbooks, children's fiction and picture books, toys and games, athletic equipment and consumable school supplies.

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

Books for the Barrios is a volunteer organization that ships up to 15 tons of materials at a time to different areas of the Philippines.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

Due to the large size of shipments, individual requests cannot be honored except as part of an ongoing project to the requestor's particular locale. Individuals interested in acting as coordinators for large book shipments, however, should contact Books for the Barrios. Coordinators assist in identifying appropriate recipient schools, repacking books in smaller lots and organizing distribution. Coordinators can identify shipment sponsors among local government officials and civic leaders. The program is eligible for available "countrywide development fund" support.

**Contact:** Nancy Harrington

**Address:**

Books for the Barrios  
2350 Suite D Whitman  
Road Concord, CA 94518  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 925.687.7701

**Fax:** 925.687.8298

**E-mail:** [joinus@booksforthebarrios.org](mailto:joinus@booksforthebarrios.org)

**Website:** <http://www.booksforthebarrios.org>

## **BRIDGE TO ASIA**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

China, Southeast Asia (Cambodia, Vietnam)

### ***Publications Available***

New and lightly used books, journals, magazines, databases, children's books, school books, reference books, and other educational materials.

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

Bridge to Asia is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (EIN: 94-3055124) based in San Francisco, California. Bridge to Asia solicits and accepts donations from individuals and organizations and then ships materials to university libraries in China and Southeast Asia. To determine the need for materials, Bridge to Asia consults with ministries and institutions in the countries it serves. Most of the books accepted are university-level, though Bridge to Asia also ships various popular magazines.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

Bridge to Asia has only a limited ability to send materials to individuals and to organizations not part of the recipient universities' distribution system. Such requests often require personal attention and special shipping procedures. Bridge to Asia can still fulfill requests from individuals, but it may be several months before the books are sent out.

**Contact:** Newton X. Liu, Ph.D.

**Address:**

Bridge to Asia

665 Grant Avenue

San Francisco, CA 94108-2430

USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 415.678.2990

**Fax:** 415.678.2996

**E-mail:** [asianet@bridge.org](mailto:asianet@bridge.org)

**Website:** <http://www.bridge.org/>

## **BROTHER'S BROTHER FOUNDATION (BBF)**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Developing countries in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Central and South America, and Eastern Europe

### ***Publications Available***

New and lightly used primary, secondary, and college-level textbooks; professional medical books and journals and agricultural resources. Used books are pre-approved by BBF. For used books to be considered, they must be in excellent condition (i.e., not written in, no pages missing, back and front covers attached, and no broken spines), have copyright dates less than 10 years old, and be on subjects not obtained through donations from publishers. Books are primarily in English, but occasionally Spanish materials are available.

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

Shipments are handled in 20- to 40-foot containers of 10,000 or 20,000 textbooks, respectively. Recipients must provide the funding for the shipment of books and must also acquire duty-free entry from the appropriate government authority. All books must be stamped "NOT FOR RESALE," and must not be sold, bartered, or rented. All donated textbooks must be targeted for use by the ill, needy, and children. A specific letter stating the needs of the recipients is required.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

When requesting textbooks from BBF, send a specific letter detailing the grade levels and number of texts needed for each level. If known, include specific titles and/or courses. Also send a description of the distribution system indicating who the recipients of the donated books will be. After the texts are received, BBF requires a letter acknowledging receipt and a distribution report.



**Contact:** Carol Taylor

**Address:**

Brother's Brother Foundation  
1200 Galveston Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15233  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 412.321.3160

**Fax:** 412.321.3325

**E-mail:** [ctaylor@brothersbrother.org](mailto:ctaylor@brothersbrother.org)

**Website:** <http://www.brothersbrother.org/>

## **DARIEN BOOK AID PLAN**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Worldwide

### ***Publications Available***

Business, classics, grammar, fiction, literature, science, and textbooks in most subjects but not in class sets. Reader's Digest Condensed Books, National Geographic magazines, and children's and teen literature are usually available. Books in Spanish and French are sometimes available, but in fewer topics.

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

Darien Book Aid Plan is a community-supported organization staffed by volunteers who collect new and used books for shipment to libraries, teachers, and organizations both in the United States and in other countries. It sends carefully-screened and individually-selected books in boxes, via the least expensive method.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

You can send a request by either regular postal service mail or by e-mail. When requesting books from Darien Book Aid Plan, please write a letter in the body of your e-mail explaining why you are requesting books. Include the following information in your letter:

- That you are a Peace Corps Volunteer.
- The project in which the books will be used and the reading grade level of students (in U.S. grading system equivalents).
- Your close of service date.
- Your best mailing address for boxes.

Volunteers are notified by e-mail both when the request arrives and when the books leave Darien. It may take from two weeks to three months for the books to arrive. Notify others at your site about the upcoming delivery, so the books are not returned to Book Aid.

After you receive the books, send a thank-you letter or an e-mail. The letters are often used for the fundraising that makes this service possible.

**Contact:** Peggy Minnis

**Address:**

Peace Corps Desk  
Darien Book Aid Plan  
1926 Post Road  
Darien, CT 06820  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 203.655.2777

**E-mail:** [bookaid@aol.com](mailto:bookaid@aol.com)

**Website:** <http://dba.darien.org/pc.htm>

## **ETHIOPIA READS**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Throughout Ethiopia

### ***Publications Available***

Children's books in English and local Ethiopian languages, including multilingual books in Amharic and English.

***Program Description/Services Available***

Ethiopia Reads' mission is to build a reading culture in Ethiopia by connecting children with books. This is done by creating libraries for children, publishing books in English as well as local Ethiopian languages, and training teachers and librarians to cultivate a love of reading among children.

**Contact:** Jennifer Martin, U.S. Public Relations Manager or Scott Wolf, U.S. Office Manager

**Address:**

Ethiopia Reads  
1700 Humboldt Street  
Denver, CO 80218  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 303.862.4138

**Fax:** 303.862.4877

**E-mail:** [info@ethiopiareads.org](mailto:info@ethiopiareads.org)

**Website:** <http://www.ethiopiareads.org/>

**GLOBAL BOOK EXCHANGE (GBX)**

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***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Worldwide

***Publications Available***

Grades K to 12 used textbooks, teacher's editions and readers.

***Program Description/Services Available***

Global Book Exchange collects surplus used books from local schools. The books are evaluated for condition and applicability. Books not deemed useful are recycled. For shipped books, GBX prefers to ship to a Rotary Club for distribution. The receiving club is responsible for customs clearance (when required) and distribution to clients. GBX gives high priority to recipients able to pay for port-to-port shipments. Shipping costs for a typical pallet shipment of 1000 books are approximately \$800. A typical container shipment of 15,000 books

costs approximately \$7,000. Recipients are expected to pay any in-country costs (customs clearance, storage, distribution). GBX has no funds for shipping costs. For international shipments, GBX sends as few as thirty boxes and as many as 40 boxes (a 20-foot container).

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

GBX is non-sectarian and supports all secular and religious recipients. However, religious texts are not available.

**Contact:** Marilyn Nemzer

**Address:**

Global Book Exchange  
664 Hilary Drive  
Tiburon, CA 94920  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 415.435.4574

**E-mail:** [mnemzer@gmail.com](mailto:mnemzer@gmail.com)

**Website:** <http://www.bookexchangemarin.org/>

## **HANDS ACROSS THE SEA**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

The English Speaking Caribbean

### ***Publications Available***

Children's reading books for school libraries, after school reading programs and public libraries. We purchase the books new from publishers.

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

Across the Sea's goal is to improve children's literacy by providing age and culturally appropriate children's reading books within the structure of a sustainable borrowing library. We like to work with dedicated, responsive school principals and remedial reading teachers, passionate community leaders and Peace Corps Volunteers who are committed to creating a long-term sustainable library program that endures after the PCV finishes their service. We work as a team with

the volunteer and their counterparts to create, develop, refurbish, and improve the school library, as well as support teachers in making the most of the library asset in their teaching.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

We work with the schools to raise the funds and select the books. We then purchase the books, have them shipped to our warehouse in East Bridgewater, MA, then repack specifically for each school. The books are shipped via ocean freight in the fall, received by the Ministries of Education and distributed to the schools. We expect ongoing communication between the schools, volunteers, and Hands Across the Sea in order to thank all donors, demonstrate how the resources are being used and show all stake holders what happens when children have access to great books.

**Contact:** Harriet Linskey, Executive Director

**Address:**

651 Orchard Street  
Suite 203  
New Bedford, MA 02744  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 617.320.3601

**E-mail:** [harriet@handsacrossthesea.net](mailto:harriet@handsacrossthesea.net)

**Website:** [www.handsacrossthesea.net](http://www.handsacrossthesea.net)

## **INTERNATIONAL BOOK BANK (IBB)**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Developing countries throughout the world

### ***Publications Available***

New textbooks (kindergarten through college), reference books, general interest books and other educational materials such as teacher kits.

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

The International Book Bank procures and ships donated books to qualified, nonprofit recipient organizations and agencies. Responsiveness to recipients' needs and requests is the basis of the program, with a computerized inventory system that allows recipients to select relevant and useful materials that meet their needs. Some Spanish and French materials are occasionally available.

Shipments usually consist of 25,000-40,000 books (depending on the weight of the titles chosen), which are packed and shipped in 20-foot or 40-foot sea containers from the Port of Baltimore. It typically takes six to eight weeks for a shipment to reach its destination.

Books received through the International Book Bank must be distributed free of charge to children, the ill, and the needy in developing countries outside the U.S. No cost-recovery fees or voluntary donations of any kind may be accepted in exchange for the donated books. The books and materials must be stamped with a "Donated Book" stamp that is provided by the International Book Bank.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

Recipients must secure funding to cover both shipping and the International Book Bank's costs involved with book procurement, processing, warehousing, packing, and shipping management. This funding may originate from grants, private donations or sponsoring organizations and agencies. Please inquire about current handling fees and shipping rates.

**Contact:** Brigid McDonnell, Program Director

**Address:**

International Book Bank  
4000 Buena Vista Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21211  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 410.685.BOOK (2665)

**Fax:** 410.362.0336

**E-mail:** [info@internationalbookbank.org](mailto:info@internationalbookbank.org)

**Website:** <http://www.internationalbookbank.org/>

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## INTERNATIONAL BOOK PROJECT (IBP)

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Africa, Asia, Caribbean, Central America, Eastern Europe, South America, the Pacific Islands, and the United States

### ***Publications Available***

New and used textbooks at the pre-primary through university level; also medical and nursing textbooks and journals. Books in Spanish are available, but resources are primarily in English. Encyclopedias, children's and adult nonfiction and fiction books are sent overseas as well.

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

The International Book Project sends books in shipments of approximately 35 pounds in small boxes through air mail, pallet shipments of 800–1,000 pounds, and sea containers of 35,000–40,000 pounds. IBP has special shipping arrangements for the countries of Ghana, the Philippines, and Panama – small shipments for these countries are larger than the normal 35 pound small shipments, but the cost is the same.

IBP has 400,000 books in stock on hundreds of subjects and dozens of levels. PCVs must provide specific guidance on which books are needed. When you request books, tell IBP:

- In what general subject areas you need books.
- At what English reading level is needed, in the U.S. system.
- How many copies you need of each title. (For example: Grade 8 Algebra—30 copies; Grades 1 through 6 picture storybooks—one copy of each title; College-level economics—five copies.)

The books are free. However, financial support is needed to help fund shipping expenses. There are 3 options for receiving funds to pay for shipping: 1. Peace Corps Small Grant, 2. IBP full or partial grant, 3. IBP will work with PCVs to contact and solicit donors. For options 2 and 3, the PCV may choose to allow a local community member to take lead of the project and assist them through its completion with IBP. Shipping via air mail to Peace Corps Volunteers is preferred and a minimum shipment is two boxes, or 40-70 pounds. Please contact IBP

for more information on fundraising, or for information on larger book requests such as pallet and sea container shipments. The formation of international friendships between IBP's American volunteers and international book recipients is integral to the success of IBP's program. IBP insists that Volunteers and/or other recipients thank the donors whose contributions made their book shipments possible.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

It is imperative to inform IBP as soon as possible of the name, title, and address of the Peace Corps country director, as well as the nature of their role in your request (e.g. will books be sent to their address or to that of your school).

**Contact:** Todd Johnson, Program Director

**Address:**

International Book Project  
Van Meter Building  
1440 Delaware Avenue  
Lexington, KY 40505  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 859.254.6771

**Fax:** 859.253.2293

**E-mail:** [admin@intlbookproject.org](mailto:admin@intlbookproject.org)

**Website:** <http://www.internationalbookproject.org>

## **OPERATION BOOKSHELF**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Worldwide

### ***Publications Available***

Used children's and adult books and some magazines.

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

Gently used children's English language, adult fiction, and non-fiction books are donated to us and then redistributed to non-profit



institutions in the United States and overseas. It is helpful to have a list of your needs in order to better service your request. No cash assistance is available.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

Operation Bookshelf suggests that requestors provide a list of needed publications so Operation Bookshelf can better service the request. Peace Corps Volunteers working with counterparts are requested to include their close of service date with the request.

**Contact:** Chair, Operation Bookshelf

**Address:**

Operation Bookshelf  
37 Drake Road  
Scarsdale, NY 10583  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**E-mail:** [swc1918@verizon.net](mailto:swc1918@verizon.net)

**Website:** <http://www.scarsdalewomansclub.org>

## **PROJECT HANDCLASP**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Worldwide

### ***Publications Available***

Educational, humanitarian, and other goodwill materials donated by individuals, service and religious organizations, and American industry.

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

Project Handclasp accepts and transports materials overseas on a space- available basis in U.S. Navy ships. Materials are distributed directly to needy recipients by U.S. service personnel stationed in overseas areas or embarked in U.S. Navy ships that visit these areas. Through the cooperation of numerous donors, Project Handclasp ships approximately one million pounds of charitable materials overseas annually.

Book shipments are dependent on the availability of cargo space on U.S. Navy ships and on favorable customs practices in ports in which the ships land. On normal voyages, pallets of textbooks will be off-loaded wherever there is someone in need to accept the shipment and when customs practices allow the import of such materials. Normally, the final destination of Project Handclasp books is indefinite until the books actually have been unloaded.

**NOTE:** Project Handclasp does not offer to donate books to specific individuals, but instead offers shipment for books donated from another party.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

Potential donors must contact the director of Project Handclasp for specific criteria regarding the availability of space and packaging requirements, for each donation. Materials approved for shipment must be delivered by the donor to the Project Handclasp warehouse in San Diego, California. The recipient must arrange for pickup of materials when advised by the Project Handclasp coordinator in the overseas port.

**Contact:** P.C. Brown, Director, Project Handclasp

**Address:**

Project Handclasp  
937 North Harbor Drive  
Room 104  
San Diego, CA 92132  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 619.532.1492

## **READ INTERNATIONAL**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

United Kingdom and Tanzania. Current locations in Tanzania: Kagera, Kigoma, Lindi, Mara, Mbeya, Morogoro, Mtwara, Rukwa, Ruvuma, Shinyanga, Singida, Tabora, Dar-es-Salaam, Pwani and Tanga,

***Publications Available***

Secondhand textbooks, mainly for secondary schools and sometimes primary schools, and fiction books for libraries

***Program Description/Services Available***

READ International provides a selection of books for schools and libraries. Send a description of the school or library and a plan for how the books will be used.

***Comments/Special Considerations***

READ International hand sorts the books to be sent to Tanzania according to the Tanzanian schools syllabus to ensure quality and relevance of the books distributed. Books are sent in one shipment per year that arrives in Tanzania in July. Books must be collected from our warehouse in Dar-es-Salaam.

**Contact:** Montse Pejuan, Tanzania Country Director, READ International

**Address:**

READ International  
Plot 288, Kumbukumbu, Kinondoni  
Dar es Salaam  
Tanzania

**Telecomunicaciones:**

**Telephone:** +255659367099

**E-mail:** [eastafrika@readinternational.org.uk](mailto:eastafrika@readinternational.org.uk)

**Website:** <http://www.readinternational.org.uk>

**ROOM TO READ**

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***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Laos, Nepal, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Vietnam, and Zambia.

***Publications Available***

Storybooks and early grade readers published in the following languages: Bangladesh: Bangla; Cambodia: Khmer; India: Hindi, Telugu; Laos: Lao; Nepal: Nepali, Tharu; South Africa: Sepedi, SiSwati; Sri Lanka:

Sinhala, Tamil; Tanzania: Kiswahili; Vietnam: Vietnamese; Zambia: Chinyanja, Chitonga.

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

Room to Read's Local Language Publishing Program sources and publishes new children's literature in an effort to increase the quantity and diversity of children's books in the countries where Room to Read is active. Room to Read is committed to providing children with materials that will inspire them to read, expand their minds, and develop a lifelong love of reading and learning. While the majority of the books published by Room to Read are used in libraries and schools, there are occasionally additional copies, which can be used for outside distribution.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

Since Room to Read has a limited number of books available for outside distribution, they ask that any requests for books be made to their global office for prior approval. State where the books will be used and how they will be used. Room to Read will then provide the appropriate paperwork to determine if sufficient inventory is available and to facilitate the request. After approval, books may be picked up at the respective country office.

**Contact:** Monica Griffith, Program Associate

**Address:**

Attn: Local Language Publishing  
Room to Read  
111 Sutter Street, 16th Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 415.561.3331

**Fax:** 415.591.0580

**E-mail:** [monica.griffith@roomtoread.org](mailto:monica.griffith@roomtoread.org)

**Website:** <http://www.roomtoread.org>

## ROTARY BOOKS FOR THE WORLD

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Argentina; Ecuador; India (Pune, Chennai); Nicaragua; Pakistan; Southern Africa (Lesotho, Malawi, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe); West Africa (Ghana). Planned for the future: Afghanistan, Guyana

### ***Publications Available***

New and used primary, secondary, and college-level textbooks; and general reading material for libraries. Occasional donations: used school furniture, new computers, medical supplies (wheelchairs, walkers, etc.)

### ***Program Description/Services Available***

Rotary Books for the World works through partnerships with Rotary Clubs in developing countries. Once a partnership is established, Rotary Books for the World ships 40-foot containers loaded with 40,000 pounds of palletized used books and donates the books and the containers to the receiving Rotary Clubs to use for humanitarian service projects in local communities. Neither the books nor the containers may be sold. The books are donated to schools, medical facilities, pre-schools, elder care facilities, libraries, and various other organizations with a need for educational materials. Representatives of the recipient organizations visit distribution centers established by the local Rotary partners to select materials appropriate for their facilities. The partner groups are responsible for customs clearance, establishing and managing a distribution center, publicity, and verification that requesting organizations are legitimate and have a genuine need for the donated materials. The partner facilities keep records of distributions, noting the receiving facilities and the number of books received. The partners send periodic reports of their activities.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

Rotary Books for the World does not have the volunteer force to sort the books as they are received. At times, Rotary Books for the World receives donations of up to 100,000 pounds of books a week. Pallets of books are often received directly from school systems; hence the need to display the books for selection at the destination centers. General

reading materials can be separated from textbooks for partners who do not need textbooks.

**Contact:** Charlie Clemmons or Barbara Clemmons

**Address:**

Rotary Books for the World  
4601 Hamblen Court  
Seabrook, TX 77586  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 281.474.2260

**Fax:** 281.474.1492

**E-mail:** c.clemmons@att.net or b\_clemmons@att.net

**Website:** <http://www.rotarybooksfortheworld.org/>

## SKIPPING STONES

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### *Geographic Areas of Operation*

Worldwide

### *Publications Available*

For more than a decade, Skipping Stones has donated books and back issues of Skipping Stones magazines all over the world. All kinds of books are donated: fiction and nonfiction, picture books, chapter books, juvenile novels, reference books, nature, multicultural works and folk tales.

### *Program Description/Services Available*

Skipping Stones, an international, nonprofit, multicultural, and nature awareness magazine, is now in its 24th year. The magazine, published quarterly during the U.S. school year, includes original writing, art and photography by all ages, especially youth. This noncommercial, ad-free magazine welcomes your students' writing and art in English, as well as in all other languages. PCVs can receive a subscription for \$20 per year, including postage.

### ***Comments/Special Considerations***

While the books and back issues are free, Skipping Stones asks that those requesting donations arrange for shipping and handling costs. With increased international postage for overseas shipments, it is not possible for Skipping Stones to cover the postage. It costs \$80 to receive on large priority mail box of books and back issues, while it takes two to three weeks of transit time to receive the books. You can have friends and family send shipping and handling costs.

**Contact:** Arun N. Toké, Editor

**Address:**

Skipping Stones Magazine  
PO Box 3939  
Eugene, OR 97403  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 541.342.4956

**Email:** [editor@SkippingStones.org](mailto:editor@SkippingStones.org)

**Website:** [www.SkippingStones.org](http://www.SkippingStones.org)

## **THE WORLD BANK FAMILY NETWORK (WBFN) BOOK PROJECT**

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### ***Geographic Areas of Operation***

Developing countries worldwide

### ***Publications Available***

The World Bank Family Network Book Project distributes new and used books covering math, science, literature, language and geography. The majority of books are in English; however, books in Spanish and French are available on occasion. Books related to religion and politics are never included in donations, unless they are specifically requested. Most textbooks are for ages 5-18 (approximately). Books are sorted into primary, intermediate and senior levels before they are shipped and a range of subjects is included for each school. The books sent are aimed at the age range in the receiving school. University books in various subjects are available in very limited supply.

## ***Program Description/Services Available***

The Book Project receives, packs and distributes donated books to educational institutions in developing countries. This work is done by volunteers who are spouses/partners of staff members or retirees of the World Bank group and the International Monetary Fund.

The work of the Book Project would not be possible without the efforts of distributors in developing countries. The distributor takes care of a container when it arrives at the port and is responsible for the logistics of ensuring that the books reach their destination, as well as reporting back to the Book Project.

The Book Project ships books only when an institution/individual is able to guarantee, in writing, that the institution or individual will become a distributor and be responsible for handling the shipment when it arrives at the port and for any costs related to customs, temporary storage and inland transportation.

Distributors in the past have included ministries of education, Peace Corps Volunteers, nongovernmental organizations, World Bank staff and spouses posted to overseas country offices, as well as library boards and local book foundations. NOTE: The Book Project does not pay any handling fees, port charges or any charges related to the cost of overland transport in the recipient country. Those are the responsibility of the distributor.

Shipments consist of approximately 30,000 books that fill 500 boxes and fit into a single 40-foot container. The Book Project averages four shipments a year. The World Bank covers all costs entailed in packing and shipping the books to the nearest port of entry for the destination country. In addition to these large shipments, the Book Project sends out smaller ones. These shipments are usually about 6 to 20 boxes with each box holding up to 52 books each. Here, the Book Project depends on people traveling to the country who are willing to take the boxes as part of their luggage or sponsors who are willing to pay for the shipping of the boxes from the Book Project's office to the country.

On the day the shipment leaves the Book Project's facility, a letter is sent to all recipients, notifying them of the sailing time, the expected date of arrival at the port, and the name and contact information for the distributor.



**Contact:** Zena Soudah, president

**Address:**

The WBFN Book Project  
1818 H Street NW  
MSN JB3-101  
Washington, DC 20433  
USA

**Telecommunications:**

**Telephone:** 202.473.8960

**E-mail:** [bookprojectwbfm@worldbank.org](mailto:bookprojectwbfm@worldbank.org)

**Website:** <http://wbfm.org/>

## Share Your Story

Being part of a sustainable library development project can be extremely satisfying. You will have assisted with your community's literacy achievements and encouragement of a reading culture. In some cases, the library may gain access to information through the Internet or partnership with a library in another country. The resource center may be a business information center that assists users with information on markets for local products. It may provide story times for preschool children or a place to display the work of local artists. The library can be at the center of community activities.

As you and your community progress with developing the library or libraries, write to OPATS-KLU and share your experiences. Soon, you will also be able to collaborate with other Volunteers and staff on PCLive. Join the conversations at <https://pclive.peacecorps.gov>.

### Peace Corps

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