



**Books2Africa**



**Case For Support**

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Published by  
BOOKS TO AFRICA INTERNATIONAL

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[www.books2africa.org](http://www.books2africa.org)

*To those who  
read, learn, and pass on knowledge.*

*To our donors, beneficiaries, team members, sponsors, and partners,  
this work would be impossible without your support.*

*And to you, for taking an interest in our work,  
we hope you make it yours too.*

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# Organisation Profile

<b>Charity Registered Name</b>	Books To Africa International.
<b>Registered Trademark</b>	Books2Africa.
<b>Founded</b>	January 2012.
<b>UK Charity Registration No</b>	1152599.
<b>UK Company Registration No</b>	08528635.
<b>Principal and Registered Office</b>	Unit 2, Barton Business Park, New Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3AA.
<b>Charity Contact Details</b>	info@books2africa.org +441227392239.
<b>Bankers</b>	Barclays Bank, 9, St George's St, Canterbury, CT1 2JX.
<b>Accountant and Independent Examiner</b>	Tracey Percy FCCA, Levicks Accountants, 12 Dover Street, Canterbury, CT1 3HD.
<b>Insurance</b>	Public Liability, Employers Liability, Products Liability and Building Insurance.
<b>Trustees</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Dr T Sango – Founding Trustee.</li><li>2. Dr P Sango – Founding Trustee.</li><li>3. Mr C Sango – Founding Trustee.</li><li>4. Mr G Sango – Founding Trustee.</li><li>5. Ms A Kieffer – Honorary Trustee.</li><li>6. Ms A Nandan – Honorary Trustee.</li><li>7. Mr P Ikeru – Honorary Trustee.</li><li>8. Ms L Mpofu – Honorary Trustee.</li><li>9. Ms S Bell – Honorary Trustee.</li></ol>
<b>Team Members</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• More than 70 team members including paid staff and volunteers.</li></ul>
<b>Global Network</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 90,000 plus total social media followers and newsletter subscribers.</li></ul>
<b>Registration with Government Agencies and Professional Bodies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• HMRC.</li><li>• The Charity Commission.</li><li>• Companies House.</li><li>• Fundraising Regulator.</li><li>• Pensions Regulator.</li><li>• Information Commissioner's Office.</li><li>• UN ECOSOC Consultative Status.</li></ul>
<b>Website</b>	www.books2africa.org

# Our Mission



## **Educating people, protecting the environment.**

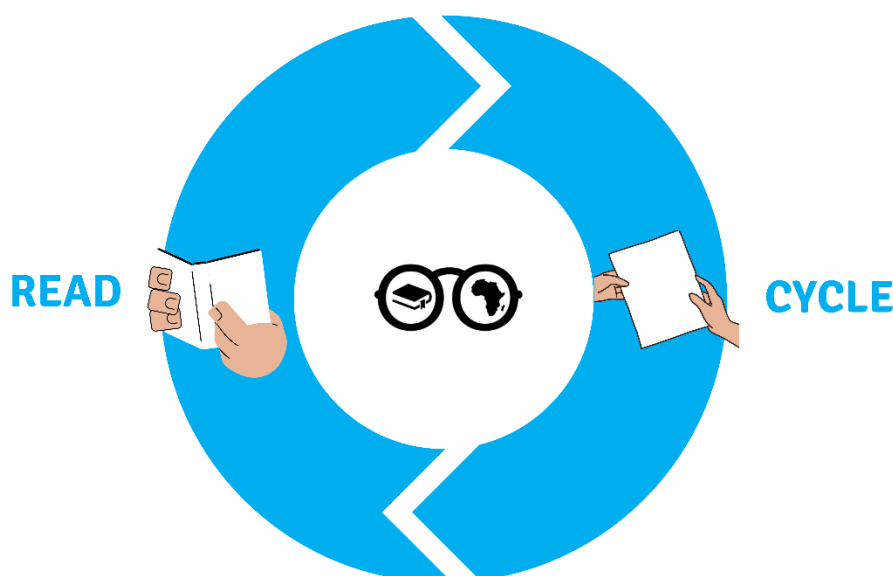
Our mission is to promote a culture of 'readcycling' and improve the quality of education in Africa, through the collection, processing, shipping and distribution of quality books, computers and educational materials that equip individuals, institutions, and communities to acquire knowledge and achieve their full potential in a globalised world.





## Our Readcycling Model

At Books2Africa, our 'readcycling' model is designed to extend the life of educational materials by preventing perfectly usable materials such as book and computers from going to recycling/landfill sites. This is achieved by ensuring that individuals and organisations have a convenient alternative by using Books2Africa to send their educational materials to be re-used by individuals and institutions across Africa who lack adequate access to such materials. This approach is environmentally sustainable, cost-effective and improves the quality of education in underprivileged communities. Our model complements the UK government's waste strategy of reducing how much waste ends up in recycling/landfill sites, as well as the UN's Sustainable Development Goals 4 (Quality Education) and 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production).



## Why is readcycling better than recycling?

According to the UK Government's Waste Strategy:

*"We use too much and are too ready to throw things away, and this waste causes damage if it is not managed properly. We can no longer ignore this" (p 15)*

*"Help our society move away from a 'take, make, use and throw' approach to resources and materials and instead waste less and reuse, recycle and repair more. We will leave behind our traditional linear economic model and create a more sustainable and efficient circular model from which the environment, the economy and society all benefit" (p 16).*



# Our Values

In an age where disinformation and fake news is prevalent, education is vital and Books2Africa's three core values reflect our commitment to the dissemination of knowledge that is factual, truthful, and representative of the diverse perspectives within the communities we serve in the UK and across the African continent. These values are reflected in our organisational culture and shared by our team members, sponsors, and partners.



## Universal Education

Books2Africa's definition of education is centred on a perspective of the world as a global community where different nations and civilisations can learn from one another to advance human development. Because every culture has something to teach us, sending Shakespeare's *Hamlet* to a reader in Africa, or promoting Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* to readers in the UK enables us to foster a more tolerant and informed global community where donors and beneficiaries are collaborators. As such, the books we provide are determined by the curiosity and requests of the communities we serve.

## Environmental and Financial Sustainability

Books2Africa accepts donations of both new and used books and educational resources from individuals and organisations, ensuring that readers have available options to readcycle instead of recycling or sending materials to landfill. With the consent of our donors, up to 20% of donated educational materials are sold via our UK Charity Shop, to fund the charity's overheads. This gives the charity a great degree of financial sustainability and ensures that 100% of donated funds from sponsors and partners are spent wholly on the processing and shipping costs of donated materials to those in need across Africa.

## International Collaboration

Books2Africa was founded in 2012 by four Nigerian students whose international experience, vision, and passion for Africa's development inspired them to start collecting books at their universities. Today, the charity's operational model and strategic priorities continue to be shaped by African perspectives within a framework that enables international collaboration and mutual respect. The founding members continue to play active roles within the Board of Trustees, together with Honorary Trustees who are appointed according to their experience with the charity.

# Our Strategic Objectives



## **Readcycle and distribute 1 million books and 1 thousand computers every year.**

Books2Africa's strategic objective is to readcycle 1 million books (500,000 kg) and 1,000 computers (3,000 kg) within the UK and distribute them to individuals, institutions, and communities across Africa's 54 countries. We have established a robust logistical operation that enables donated educational materials to be tracked as they travel from our donors to our Processing Centre to be processed, catalogued or refurbished, before being shipped to Africa and distributed directly to individuals via Distribution Centres or indirectly by equipping libraries within academic institutions, schools, colleges, universities and community libraries in hospitals, prisons and other public spaces.

### **Did you know?**

- At least 13 million books are thrown away and go to landfill in the UK every year according to conservative estimates by CODEP.
- According to UNESCO's and The World Bank's latest reports, 90% of children who attend school in Africa (202 million children) cannot read or write proficiently after finishing school in part because they lack books and educational resources.



# How We Work

## Collecting Donated Educational Materials

### Books we accept.

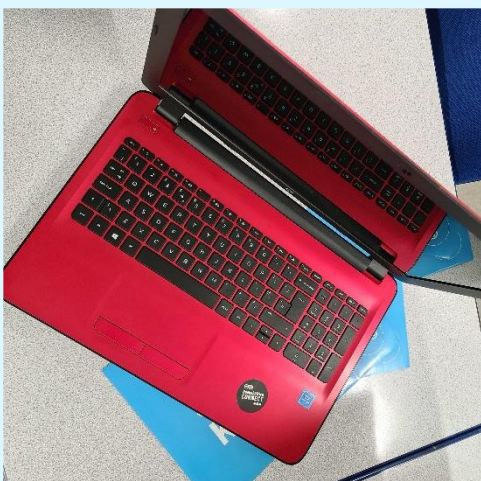
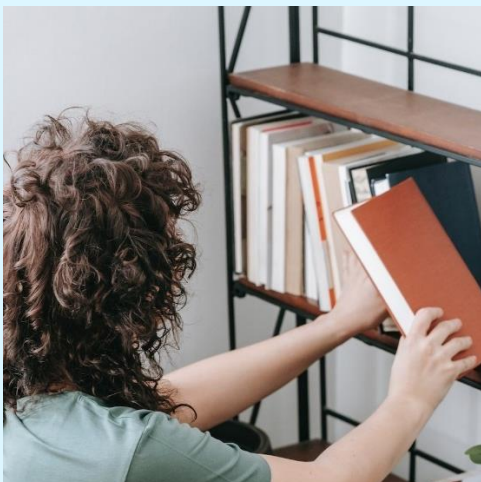
- New and used books.
- Written in English, French or any African language.
- Nursery, Primary, Secondary or University textbooks.
- Children's books and comics.
- Dictionaries, Encyclopaedias and Reference books.
- Novels, Hobbies and Leisure books.
- Bibles and Religious books.
- Unused notebooks and exercise books.
- Ex-library books, ex-charity shop books and remainders.

### Computers and Tech we accept.

- New and used computers.
- Laptops or Desktops.
- Windows, Mac, or Linux OS.
- Flat screen Monitors and Digital Projectors.
- Smartphones and Tablets (iOS, Android, E-readers).
- Game consoles and accessories.
- Cameras.

### How to donate educational materials.

- Items need to be packaged into cardboard boxes weighing no more than 20kg per box.
- Head to our website to arrange a collection or schedule a drop-off appointment at a Books2Africa drop-off point near you.
- Write your unique booking reference number on your boxes before collection or dropping off to enable us track and keep you informed on the destination and beneficiary of your items via your Impact Dashboard.
- Partners such as schools, colleges and universities can organise a Book Drive to collect educational materials and raise funds to support Books2Africa annually.



## Processing Donated Educational Materials

### UK Processing Centre.

- Located in Canterbury, Kent, where the charity was founded, with total storage capacity of 500,000 books.
- Team members process donated items on-site, with workspaces equipped with ergonomic chairs, monitor arms, barcode scanners, and other processing tools.
- Electric forklift, manual pallet trucks and trolleys available to minimise manual handling and facilitate loading.
- Charity Shop workspace equipped with tools and shelves for listing, storing, and fulfilling orders.

### How we process books.

- Each donated book is scanned and catalogued at our Processing Centre to create a record of all donated books using our proprietary software called Books2Africa Curiosity. 80% of donated books are allocated to one of several subject categories and palletised together with similar books from other donors ready for shipping to individuals, institutions, and communities in Africa. The remaining 20% consists of books that are sold via our Charity Shop to fund our overheads and a small minority of unusable and damaged books which are recycled responsibly via Biffa.

### How we process computers and tech.

- We are a Microsoft Third Party Refurbisher (TPR), and our Tech Team checks and refurbishes donated technology in line with Microsoft's standards, ensuring all data on devices are securely wiped. We wipe donors' personal data from donated devices using BitRaser – a secure drive wiping software tested and approved by the NIST which also generates 100% tamper-proof digitally signed certificates that ensure compliance with various national & international data protection regulations including GDPR. Each computer is then installed with a fresh copy of Windows 10 before they are ready to be shipped to beneficiaries across Africa.





## Shipping and Distributing Donated Educational Materials

### Who can receive donated books and computers.

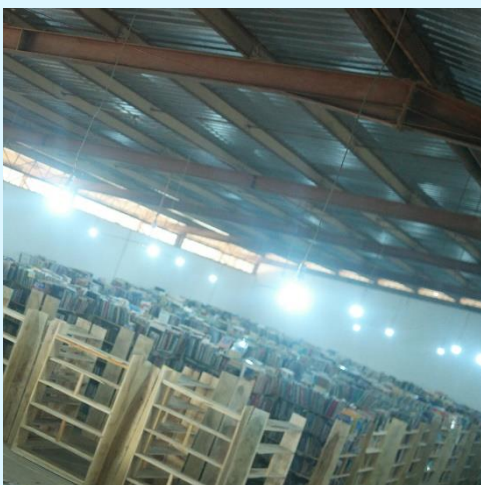
- Individuals, institutions, and communities who require books and computers for educational purposes can apply on our website to request for a shipment from our UK Processing Centre or via one of our Africa Distribution Centres.
- Beneficiaries must be based in an African country and must make educational resources accessible to beneficiaries and not sell them. All applications are checked and verified by our Education Team and approved beneficiaries are required to raise funds towards the cost of shipping, clearing, and distributing their educational materials.

### Types of shipments.

- **Digital Study Kit:** A parcel box containing a refurbished computer, a solar reading light and online access to digital books via Perlego.
- **Pallet:** A giant box measuring 100 x 120 x 120cm and weighing 500kg, containing an average of 1,000 books.
- **20ft Container:** A shipping container measuring 20ft x 8ft and weighing 10,000kg, containing an average of 20,000 books.
- **40ft Container:** A shipping container measuring 40ft x 8ft and weighing 20,000kg, containing an average of 40,000 books.

### Modes of distribution.

- **Equipping Institutions and Community Libraries:** Projects who receive educational materials from our UK or Africa Centres need to house them in a library where they can be accessed by beneficiaries on an ongoing basis.
- **Equipping Individuals via Distribution Centres:** Individuals who only need a handful of books can read books free of charge at our Africa Distribution Centres or contribute a distribution fee of up to £1 to take any donated book in stock.



## Impact of Donated Educational Materials

## Impact Dashboard.

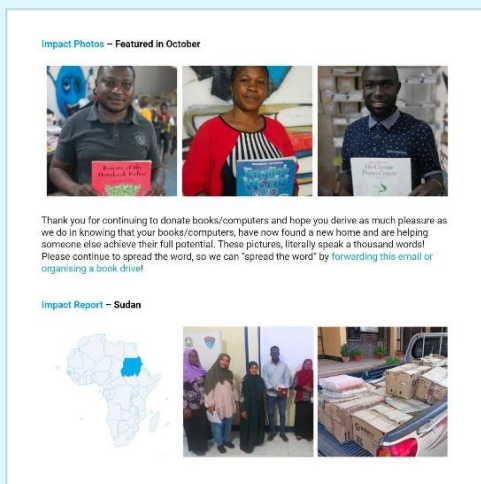
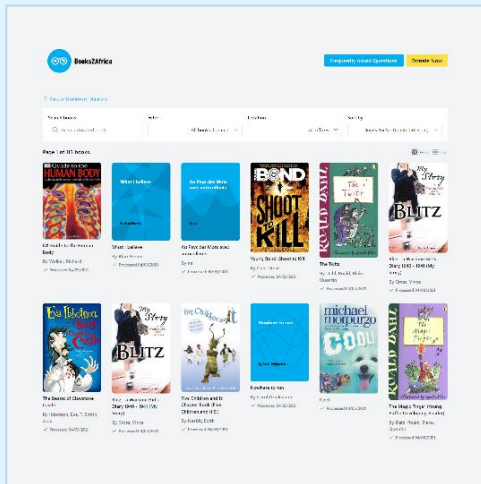
- Book donors have access to our Impact Dashboard where they can track the journey and final destination of their donated books in real-time. Thanks to our proprietary software called Books2Africa Curiosity, donors can view a detailed record of all the books they've donated, their status and location, the beneficiaries of each book and any impact photos uploaded by the recipient of the book.

## Impact Photos, Videos, Case-Studies, and Reports.

- Beneficiaries who receive books and computers from Books2Africa are required to send us impact photos or videos to be shared with our donors and supporters. Selected beneficiaries are also interviewed, and their stories published as case-studies on our blog. Furthermore, institutional and community libraries are also required to submit an impact report after 1 month of receiving and using their donated educational resources which consist of a detailed survey about usage and relevance of materials received. These impact reports are published on our website.

## Impact Update Newsletter.

- Our impact update newsletter is sent electronically to supporters every month with an update on the progress of the charity including featured impact photos, videos, stories, and reports, as well as any news from the team. Furthermore, every three months the newsletter features a Quarterly Report on our Key Performance Indicators with charts and graphs showing the charity's performance. This is made possible due to Books2Africa's KPI Dashboard that tracks departmental performance in real-time and provides the charity's management team with vital data for decision making.



## How Our Work is Funded

### Funding the collection of donated materials.

- The cost of transporting donated educational materials from the addresses of donors across the UK to our UK processing centre is funded by a minimum financial donation by book donors when booking a collection or drop-off appointment. The collection or drop-off minimum donation covers the cost of sending a courier to collect boxes of donated items from donors' addresses or from drop-off points and delivering them to our UK processing centre.

### Funding the charity's overhead costs.

- The overhead costs of the charity (e.g., rent, business rates, utility bills, insurance, equipment costs and marketing) are funded by selling up to 20% of donated items via our charity shop with the consent of donors. Our proprietary software enables us identify items which can be listed for sale on our charity shop on eBay and Amazon, and others are sold to wholesale book buyers who purchase items in bulk at a reduced price. Through a free bookmark included with every purchase, all buyers are encouraged to donate their books back to the charity after use.

### Funding international shipping costs.

- Individuals, institutions, and communities who are approved to receive educational materials are required to raise funds to cover the processing and shipping costs of their materials, as well as any destination charges such as customs clearance and haulage. However, most of these approved beneficiaries are unable to raise funds to cover these costs and Books2Africa must rely on the support of generous sponsors. Individuals and organisations can become Books2Africa sponsors via a one-off or monthly financial donation to our 1 Million Books Fund.










Impact photo from the Africa Dream Skill Institute, Cameroon.  
<https://books2africa.org/africa-dream-skill-institute/>

# Impact Summary

2012 – 2022

		
Books collected, readcycled in the UK and delivered to individuals, institutions, and communities in Africa.	Computers readcycled in the UK and delivered to individuals, institutions, and communities in Africa.	Tonnage of educational materials readcycled and prevented from going to recycling and landfill sites in the UK.
2,740,139	155	1,370,845 kg

## Notes:

Our computer refurbishing programme was launched in October 2020.  
An average weight of 500kg per 1,000 books and 5kg per computer is used to work out the tonnage of readcycled materials.

### Countries in Africa with Books2Africa beneficiaries.

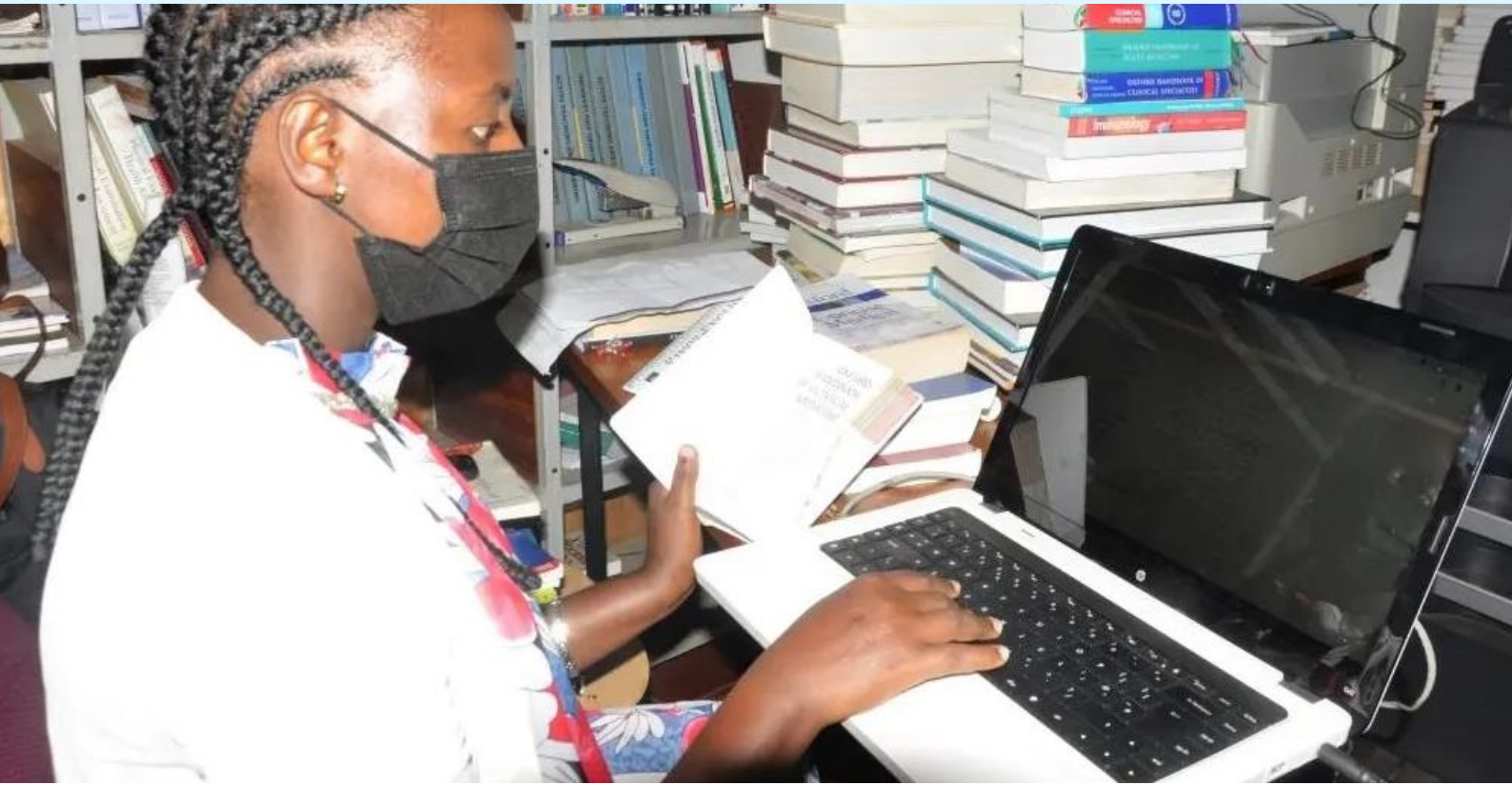
This KPI measures the number of countries in Africa with beneficiaries that have received books or computers from Books2Africa.

2022 Total	23	Overall Target	54
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# Featured Impact Report



## Health Tutors College, Mulago, Uganda

"We believe that the acquired books are going to improve on the quality of assignments and work by both the lecturers and tutored students. The acquired books will also save the college from the expenditure they would incur if they were to buy similar books for the library. The saved money can be used by the college in doing other developmental things."

Books Received	Computers Received	Student population	Staff Population	Community Impacted
13,735	30	310	62	Mulago

- Shipment sponsored by Health Tutors College, Mulago.
- Shipment delivered 02 September 2021.
- Impact report published 04 October 2021
- Full report at <https://books2africa.org/health-tutors-college-mulago-uganda/>

# How To Support Our Work



**Dr Precious Sango**

Co-founder, Director of Education

Thanks for taking the time to read our Case for Support, and I hope you now have enough information to understand why 'readcycling' matters and how joining hands with us will contribute to educating people and saving the planet.

As a co-founder of Books2Africa, myself and 3 others were all born in Nigeria, and our parents struggled financially to send us abroad to the UK to obtain a better education. In fact, a new survey on 'African brain drain' found that 90 percent of young people want to leave Africa, with 41% desiring to emigrate for educational reasons and 44% for economic reasons. Furthermore, no single African university makes it to the list of the Times top 100 universities in the world. Africans have an incredible appetite to learn, but the quality of educational resources available to them limits their potential.

My story is a testament that access to quality education increases the odds of defeating poverty, reducing unemployment and several other ills in society. I completed my Bachelors, Masters, and Doctorate Degrees at the University of Kent in Canterbury and today, I am employed at a UK University and continue to volunteer my time as a Founding Trustee at Books2Africa.

With your help, we can readcycle, ship and deliver 1 million books and 1,000 computers every year to people in Africa, saving 500,000kg from going to landfill/recycling sites, and equipping individuals, institutions, and communities with the educational materials they need to achieve their full potential in a globalised world.

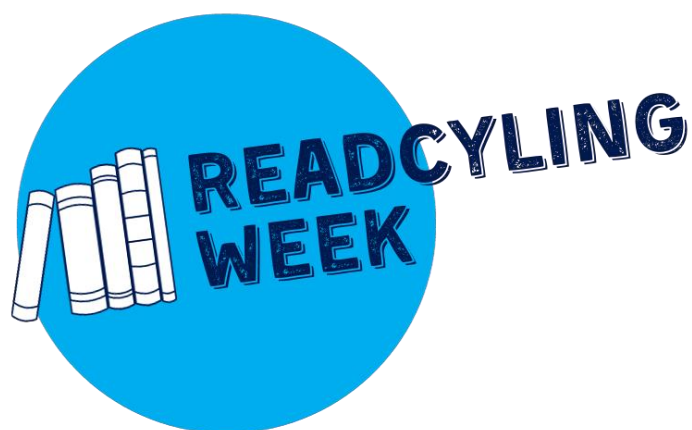
Wherever you live, joining hands with Books2Africa will make an impact towards helping the planet and creating a more equitable global society by passing on knowledge to the next generation.

In the next page, you'll find our two priority ways you can support Books2Africa and start making a difference – **organising a readcycling week at your organisation** or **sponsoring a shipment to equip a library in Africa**.

Thanks again for your time.

## Organise a Readcycling Week

Readcycling Week is Books2Africa's campaign for people to organise a collection of books at their organisation or community. The goal of the week is to raise awareness and get people to donate books and £1 per book to fund their journey to Africa, where they are distributed to readers of all ages.



### How it works.

- **Set the Dates:** Decide what dates you'll be having Readcycling Week.
- **Set the Drop-off Point:** Decide where your drop-off point will be for people to drop off their donated books during Readcycling Week. Choose somewhere indoors, where everyone can get to easily and where the books won't cause an obstruction.
- **Set the Fundraising Goal:** Set a fundraising target of £1 per book and either place a cash donation bucket at the drop-off point or create a [JustGiving](https://www.justgiving.com/) page for online donations.
- **Spread the Word:** Send out an email broadcast, mention it on social media and in your newsletter, [download](#) and print our posters to display and make some noise to let people know you're having a Readcycling Week.
- **Start readcycling week:** Complete our sign-up form online to get started at <https://books2africa.org/readcycling/>.



## Sponsor a Shipment

Your decision to support Books2Africa financially, helps educate people and protect the environment by preventing books and computers from going to landfill and sending them instead to improve the quality of education for individuals, institutions, and communities across Africa.

### Become a Books2Africa Monthly Sponsor.

- **£5 per month** ships 120 Books over a one-year period. Sign up at <https://books2africa.org/donate/>.
- **Monthly sponsors rewards:** Get to arrange collections or drop-off appointments for their donated materials without making any financial donation. They also get invites to exclusive quarterly sponsor events featuring online interviews with special guests and conversations with the trustees.

### Become a Books2Africa Container Sponsor.

- **£200 ships a Digital Study Kit:** A parcel box containing a refurbished computer, a solar reading light and online access to digital books via our partner Perlego.
- **£500 ships a Pallet:** A giant box measuring 100 x 120 x 120cm and weighing 500kg, containing an average of 1,000 books - enough to fill 3 shelves and equip a classroom library.
- **£5,000 ships a 20ft Container:** A shipping container measuring 20ft x 8ft and weighing 10,000kg, containing an average of 20,000 books – enough to fill 60 shelves and equip a school library.
- **£8,000 ships a 40ft Container:** A shipping container measuring 40ft x 8ft and weighing 20,000kg, containing an average of 40,000 books – enough to fill 120 shelves and equip a university library.
- **Container sponsors rewards:** receive our Sponsors PR Package which includes a [promotional impact video](#) and an [online impact report](#) of a project that received some of the books you sponsored published on our website and shared across our social media channels.

Contact us via [info@books2africa.org](mailto:info@books2africa.org) or visit <https://books2africa.org/sponsorship/> to sponsor a shipment.









For more information, contact us via:

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