



# Books For Africa has shipped more than 37 million books to 49 African countries in the past 28 years.



## Back To Where It All Began

In 1988, BFA founder Tom Warth visited the town library in Jinja, Uganda. He was dismayed to see the nearly empty shelves and the few scattered, tattered books that were all at least 25 years old. Upon his return to the U.S., Tom met with a group of publishers, booksellers, and librarians in Minnesota, and a handful of people from this group of book lovers formed what would become Books For Africa. In January 2016, Tom returned to the Jinja Library with Executive Director Pat Plonski to celebrate the creation of BFA there 28 years ago! In honor of this return visit, BFA worked with long-time Uganda partner Agnes Igoye to send more BFA books to the Jinja Library, ensuring that the library stock remains plentiful and relevant for students in Jinja for years to come.



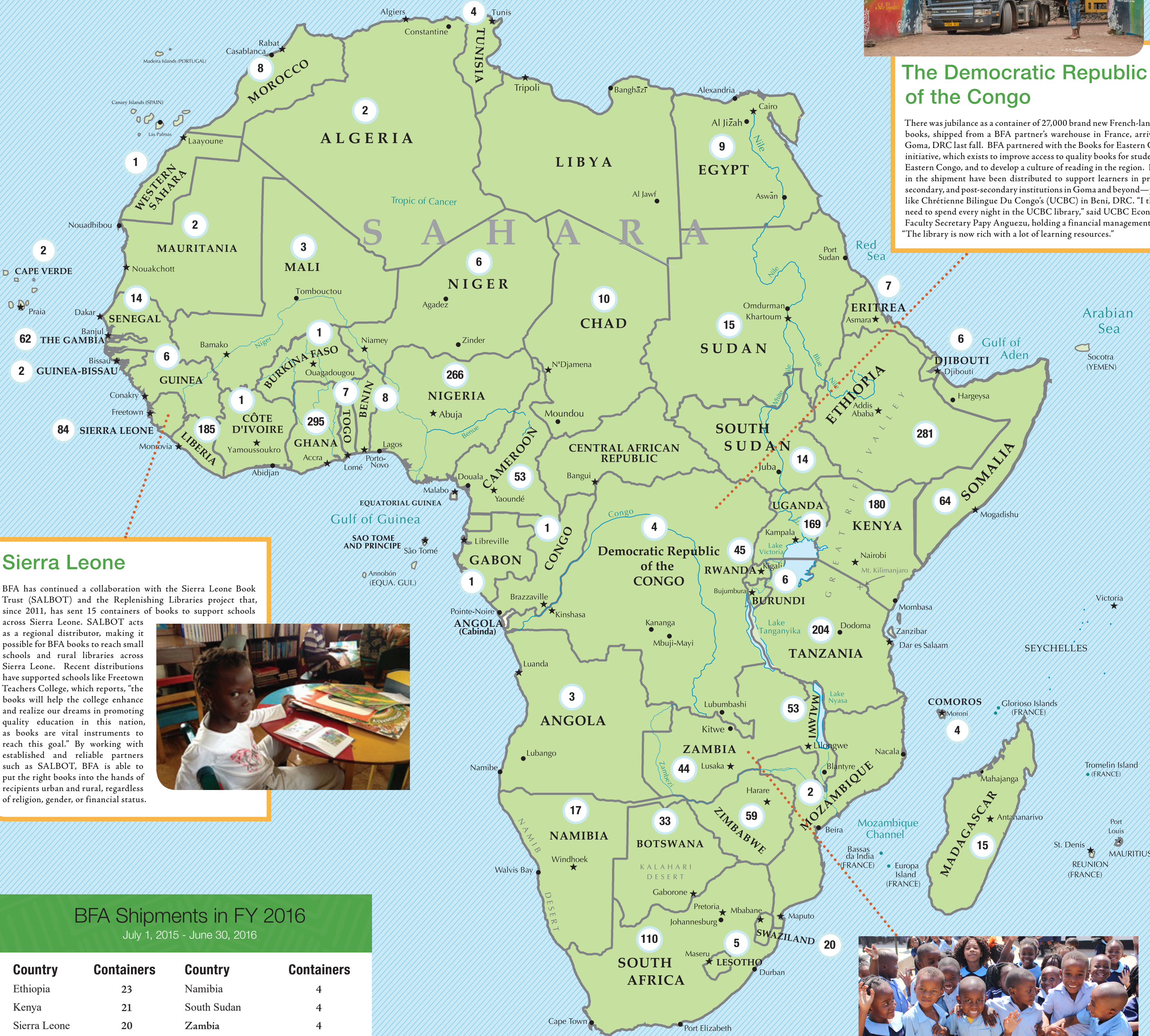
## Partnership With David Robinson, Son Of Baseball Legend Jackie Robinson

David Robinson, the son of baseball legend Jackie Robinson, traveled from his home on a coffee cooperative in Tanzania to Minnesota in September to talk about his work with BFA. Robinson, who has lived in Tanzania for over 30 years, also joined Tom Warth on his walk across Zanzibar in January. During his visit he threw out the first pitch at a Minnesota Twins game on “Books For Africa” night at Target Field, met with officials from Thomson Reuters (including Tom Pfeifer, pictured here at left), and attended a fundraising reception at the home of former U.S. Ambassador to Morocco Sam Kaplan and his wife, Sylvia. He also served as the Grand Marshal at BFA’s Children’s Book Walk and Warehouse Party. David’s visit generated enough funding to send over 66,000 books to schools and communities across Tanzania!



## The Democratic Republic of the Congo

There was jubilation as a container of 27,000 brand new French-language books, shipped from a BFA partner’s warehouse in France, arrived in Goma, DRC last fall. BFA partnered with the Books for Eastern Congo initiative, which exists to improve access to quality books for students in Eastern Congo, and to develop a culture of reading in the region. Books in the shipment have been distributed to support learners in primary, secondary, and post-secondary institutions in Goma and beyond—places like Chrétienne Bilingue Du Congo’s (UCBC) in Beni, DRC. “I think I need to spend every night in the UCBC library,” said UCBC Economics Faculty Secretary Papy Anguezou, holding a financial management book. “The library is now rich with a lot of learning resources.”



## Sierra Leone

BFA has continued a collaboration with the Sierra Leone Book Trust (SALBOT) and the Replenishing Libraries project that, since 2011, has sent 15 containers of books to support schools across Sierra Leone. SALBOT acts as a regional distributor, making it possible for BFA books to reach small schools and rural libraries across Sierra Leone. Recent distributions have supported schools like Freetown Teachers College, which reports, “the books will help the college enhance and realize our dreams in promoting quality education in this nation, as books are vital instruments to reach this goal.” By working with established and reliable partners such as SALBOT, BFA is able to put the right books into the hands of recipients urban and rural, regardless of religion, gender, or financial status.



## BFA Shipments in FY 2016

July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

Country	Containers	Country	Containers
Ethiopia	23	Namibia	4
Kenya	21	South Sudan	4
Sierra Leone	20	Zambia	4
Ghana	18	Benin	2
Tanzania	16	Botswana	2
Cameroon	12	Burundi	2
Uganda	12	Madagascar	2
Liberia	11	Somalia	2
Zimbabwe	11	South Africa	1
Malawi	10	Swaziland	2
Nigeria	10	Guinea	1
The Gambia	8	Togo	1
Rwanda	5		

TOTALS: 205 container units, 154 computers, 62 E-Readers, 7 WestCore law libraries, 3 agricultural libraries, 2.4 million hard copy books and 467,000 digital books to 25 countries

TOTAL VALUE: \$32 million

Number of container shipments sent since 1988



## Zambia

A container of books arrived in Zambia this year to support the library programs of African Vision of Hope, based in Lusaka, as well as schools sponsored by Dream Livingstone Zambia. “We were amazed when we received the books,” said Dream Livingstone Zambia Director Rabecah Mukumbo. “Your process of delivery is excellent. Our distribution of the books has brought happiness in the schools we partner with. They received the books with happiness. This is a good thing that has happened in our community.” Sent with the financial support of African Vision of Hope, Roxana Schools Foundation, Our of Print, and Merck & Co., this project provided access to quality books to thousands of primary and secondary students in Zambia.

Our mission is to end the book famine in Africa. [www.BooksForAfrica.org](http://www.BooksForAfrica.org)