

# Education: Promise of a Bright Future

**BOOKS FOR AFRICA 2011 ANNUAL REPORT** 









#### Dear Friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, our donors and supporters of Books For Africa, for another outstanding year. In 2011, we shipped 1.9 million books to 21 African countries. Thank you everyone for your help in sending more books to people who want to learn and improve their lives! Books For Africa is proud to report that in 2011 the following was achieved:

- Books For Africa retained its position as the largest shipper of donated text and library books to the African
  continent, shipping over 26 million books to 46 African countries, and Charity Navigator gave us its top rating
  for the fifth consecutive year;
- In March, a special reception was hosted by Ghanaian Ambassador, His Excellency Daniel Ohene Agyekum, in Washington, D.C., honoring BFA's Summit Society donors;
- In April, Books For Africa welcomed Ethiopian Ambassador, His Excellency Girma Birru Geda, and Rwandan Ambassador, His Excellency James Kimonyo, as keynote speakers for our annual fundraiser;
- In May, Books For Africa celebrated the two-year anniversary of opening our Atlanta, Georgia warehouse with an event honoring our strategic partner, Better World Books. In December, we doubled this warehouse capacity;
- In September, Books For Africa celebrated shipping 25 million books to 46 African countries on Literacy Day with a special open house at our warehouse in St. Paul, Minnesota;
- In October, Books For Africa signed a \$400,000 Memorandum of Understanding with the Sir Emeka Offor Foundation to ship 32 containers of books to Nigeria;
- In November, Books For Africa presented research findings at the African Studies Association Conference in Washington, D.C. comparing returns on investment for donated books with those of other educational models;
- In December, Books For Africa hosted a forum with the Corporate Council on Africa on "Doing Business in Africa: Education and Workforce Development" at the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management, sponsored by Thomson Reuters, Missionary Expediters, Medtronic, Merck, Cargill, the Minnesota Trade Office, the Minnesota International Center, Bremer Bank, Borton Overseas, the African Development Center, Mshale, the Minnesota High Technology Council, and MINN.

It has truly been a great year, with so much achieved for the children of Africa. Thank you to all of you, our faithful donors, for your support which has allowed these successes to be achieved. We welcome your continuing financial support throughout the next year and years to come.

Sincerely,

Tom Gitaa President Patrick Plonski, P.h.D Executive Director



# How To Help Support Books For Africa

\$75 provides a new atlas or 200 student dictionaries \$200 purchases and sends a new encyclopedia set to a school or library \$2,575 provides enough books for five rural schools \$10,300 supplies a full sea container of 22,000 books-enough for 20 schools



#### **Cash Gifts**

Your cash, check or credit card gift to Books For Africa can be designated for a specific program or directed to where the need is greatest. All gifts are tax deductible, as specified by law. For your convenience, gifts by credit card can be made directly online at www.booksforafrica.org.

# **Matching Gifts**

Check with your employer about matching gifts. Many companies match employee donations dollar for dollar to the charity of the employee's choice

#### Wills and Other Planned Gifts

Books For Africa can be named a beneficiary in your will and receive other deferred gifts such as life insurance. These gifts are not subject to estate taxes.

# Gifts of Appreciated Stock

Books For Africa and you can benefit from gifts of stock (provided you have held the stock for 18 months or longer). You can eliminate capital gains taxes, avoid income tax on the gifted stock, and receive tax deductions for the full value of the stock.

#### Speakers Bureau

If your employer, club, or group would like to learn more about Books For Africa's mission and work, please call 651-602-9844 or email bfa@booksforafrica.org.

# **Volunteer Opportunities**

Books For Africa relies on volunteers to help sort and pack books, plan special events, produce publications, raise funds, and speak to groups. Put your special skills to work!

# **Books For Africa Financial Information**

Statement of Financial Position	2010	2011
ASSETS		
Current Assets	1,053,551	1,223,717
Book Inventory	3,333,038	3,359,648
Net Property and Equipment	54,396	40,421
TOTAL ASSETS	4,440,985	4,623,786
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities	23,377	31,293
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	555,784	589,107
Temporarily Restricted	3,861,824	4,003,386
TOTAL NET ASSETS	4,417,608	4,592,493
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	4,440,985	4,623,786
Statement of Activity	2010	2011
SUPPORT AND REVENUES		
Contributions	1,746,782	1,762,199
Interest Earned	38,055	41,788
Books Contributed	17,248,000	22,165,308
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES	19,032,837	23,969,295
EXPENDITURES		
Program Operating Expenses – Overseas	18,467,270	23,571,390
General and Administrative Expenses	69,082	76,106
Fundraising Expenses	137,898	146,913
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	18,674,250	23,794,410
CHANGE IN NET MONETARY ASSETS	82,705	33,323
CHANGE IN BOOK INVENTORY	275,882	141,562





# 2011 CONTRIBUTORS July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011

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Due to limits on space in this report, we were unable to list all donors. BFA wants to thank the \$5-\$249 and 712 individuals who donated books in fiscal year 2011.

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