



Start A Library Trust  
A Library In Every School!



# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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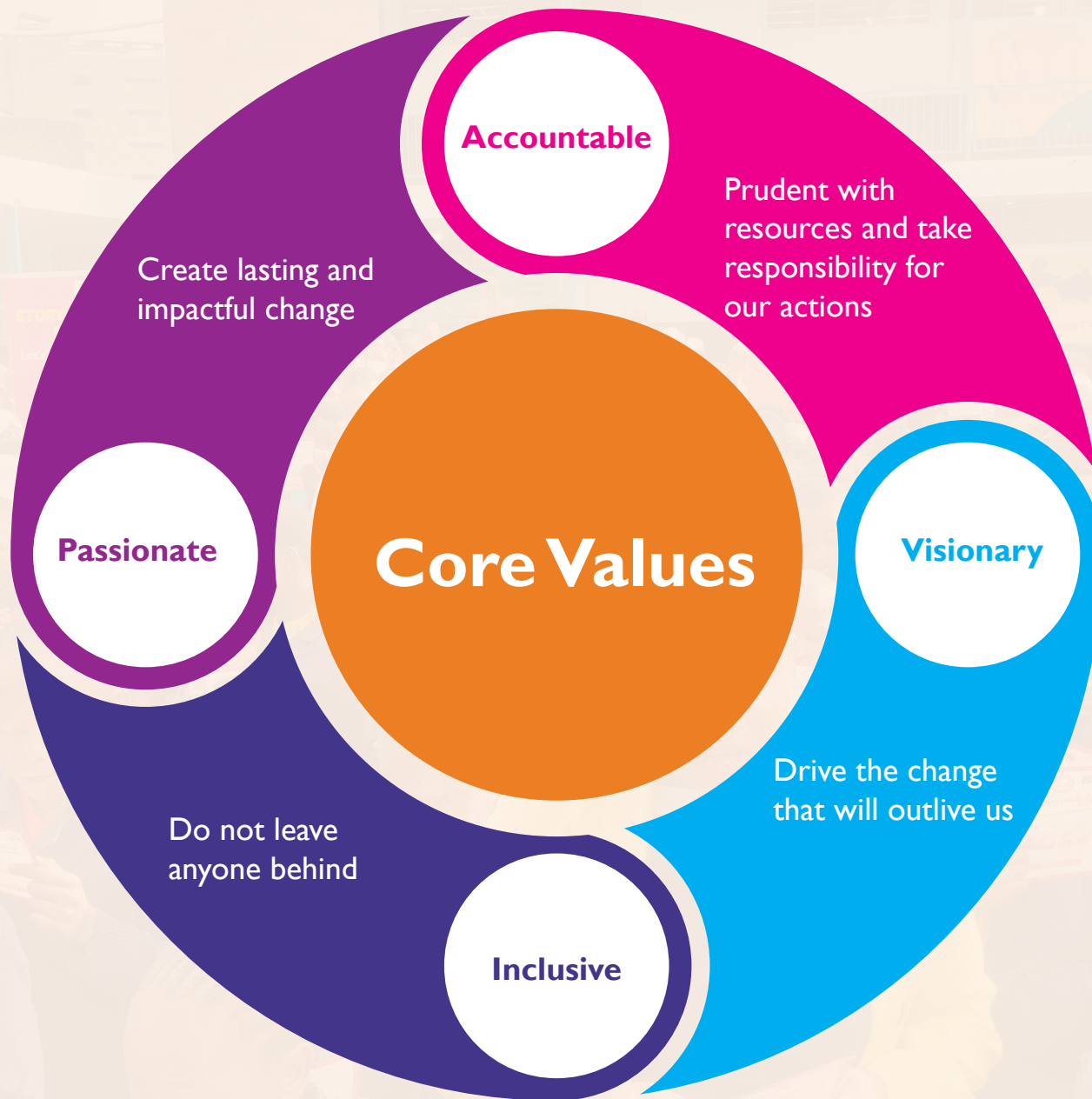
# Mission

To champion literacy in Africa by creating thriving school communities through establishing vibrant Model School Libraries, Capacity building for sustainable development and robust advocacy.

# Vision

One day, every learner will have the literacy and life skills required to transform Africa.





## Dear Stakeholders,

I am delighted to present our Annual Impact Report for the year 2023. This past year has been a testament to the collective efforts and unwavering commitment of our dedicated team, invaluable partners, and steadfast supporters. Together, we have achieved significant milestones in our mission to enhance literacy and life skills among children aged 4-14 in public primary schools.

In 2023, our organization successfully established numerous book libraries, empowered school communities, and advocated for crucial literacy-friendly policies. Your steadfast support and collaboration have played an integral role in realizing these accomplishments. We extend our deepest gratitude to all our stakeholders for their contributions, whether through financial support, active participation, or advocacy. As we reflect on the impactful year behind us, we eagerly anticipate your continued support in 2024 and beyond. Together, we can build on our achievements, foster positive change, and create a lasting impact on the lives of the children we serve. Thank you for your unwavering dedication to the cause of literacy and education.

Sincerley,

George Ooko

**Chairperson, Board of Trustees**

# Reflecting on an Impactful Year



# Message from Executive Director



I am glad to report that we have expanded our reach impacting 302,222 learners and over 4000 teacher librarians in 290 schools across 22 counties of Kenya.

With your continued support in 2023, we were able to establish 9 book libraries serving 6,183 learners, capacity-built 49 teacher librarians and formulated 22 after-school lifeskills-centred book clubs. We continue to engage different stakeholders towards developing policies and guidelines that promote literacy and life skills in schools for life long learning.

As we reflect on the success of 2023, we have set ambitious goals for 2024.



There are various ways to plug in, from sponsoring specific projects to participating in fundraising events. Together, we can ensure that every child has the opportunity to access the transformative power of storybooks. Thank you for your unwavering commitment, and we eagerly anticipate another year of success.

Regards,  
**Evelyne Mwandia**

# PILLARS OF SUCCESS

## I. Establishment of Model School Libraries

A standout achievement this year has been the establishment of **nine** Model School Libraries across **four** counties. Each library represented a beacon of knowledge and a gateway to make learners global citizens. We observed a notable rise in book borrowing rates and adherence to library/maktaba lessons through the established libraries. There was also a 15.63 per cent increase in literacy and life skills acquisition compared to 2022.

### KEY

#### Laikipia

1. Chuma Primary School Library
2. Bingwa Secondary School Library

#### Nairobi

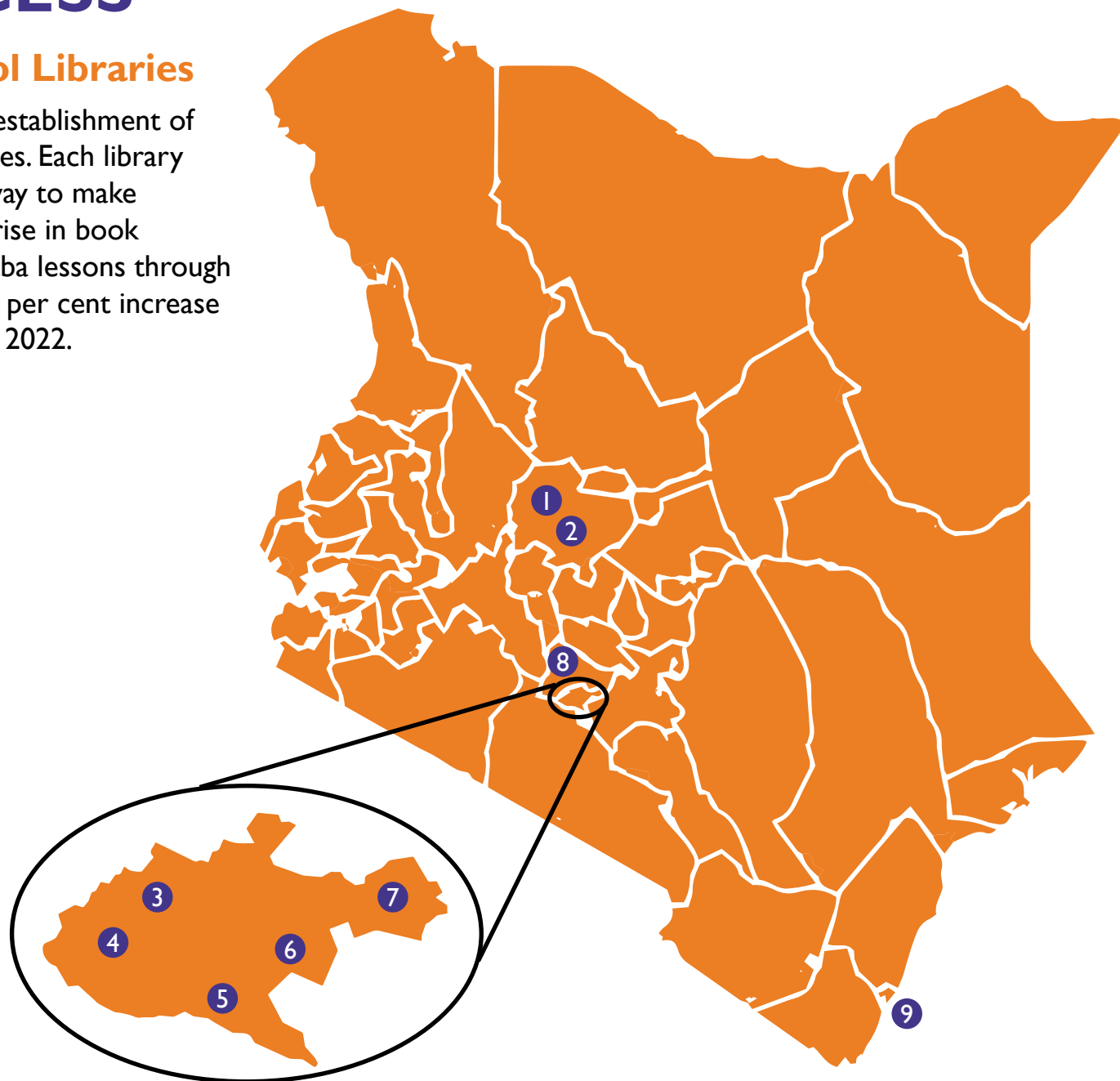
3. Our Lady of Mercy Primary School Library
4. Kilimani Primary School Library
5. Baraka Primary School Library
6. Thawabu Primary School Library
7. Cherish Watoto Learning Centre

#### Kiambu

8. Dagoretti Girls Rehabilitation Centre Library

#### Mombasa

9. Celebration High School Library



## 2. Capacity Development

For sustainability Various Capacity Development initiatives were conducted to empower different stakeholders. These included

- a) **Training of Teacher Librarians:** 49 teachers from 47 schools were trained on Library management, Resource Mobilization, Bringing Books to Life, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Leadership. This has enhanced the ability to manage the libraries.
- b) **Reading Ambassadors:** 22 Reading Ambassadors were trained and onboarded as mentors to support learners during the after-school book clubs.
- c) **Junior Reading Champions (JRC):** 40 JRCs were trained on library management to support the teacher librarians in running the libraries.
- d) **Staff:** Our staff engaged in various training sessions, including:
  - The KCDF Mobilising Support, a 6-month training, which gave them valuable knowledge and insights on carrying impactful advocacy campaigns.
  - The Gratitude Fellowship Program- a one-year fellowship to hone their leadership and management skills.



Teacher training



KCDF mobilising support training



### 3. Advocacy

Throughout the year, we engaged our beneficiaries in various advocacy programs to amplify the importance of libraries. These included:

1. Weekly reading programmes: Storytelling, Anagram Challenge, Read Aloud and Spelling Bee
2. Learners participated in monthly book clubs that led to improved acquisition of life skills, such as confidence, communication, and creativity.
3. International Literacy Day Celebrations on 8th of September; 2,051 learners participated in various activities in their schools.



# IMPACT



**9**  
Libraries  
Established



**8178**  
Books  
Distributed



**6183**  
Learners  
Impacted



**22**  
Bookclubs  
Launched



**49**  
Teachers  
Trained



**40**  
Junior Reading  
Champions  
(JRCs) Trained



**22**  
Reading  
Ambassadors  
Onboarded



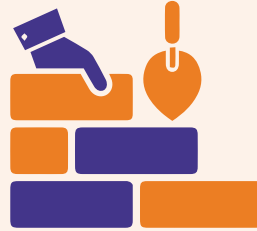
**1**  
Advocacy  
Event  
Conducted



# 2023 Financials



CORPORATE DONATIONS  
**\$10,923.74**



FOUNDATIONS  
**\$55,468.38**



INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS  
**\$1,128.34**



*Money In*

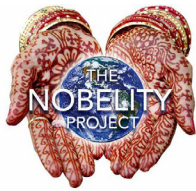


EXPENSES  
**\$54,406.45**



*Money Out*

# Partners and Donors



And individual donors

# Get involved

Adopt a Model School  
Library  
@ KES 1,500,000

Adopt a book box with  
1000 storybooks  
@ KES 499,000

Donate a book  
@ KES499

## MPESA

**LIPA NA M-PESA**

PAYBILL NUMBER


**4 0 9 8 4 5 1**

ACCOUNT NUMBER

Your name

Paypal Acc: Start A Library Trust


## PAYPAL

  
Start A Library Trust  
A Library In Every School!

Donate to  
Start A Library Trust

\$0 USD

Add \$0.00 to help cover the fees.

 Donate with PayPal

Donate with Debit or Credit Card

## BANK TRANSFER

<b>Bank:</b>	NCBA
<b>Branch:</b>	The Mall
<b>Account Name:</b>	Start a library Trust
<b>Account Number:</b>	5776710011
<b>Bank code:</b>	07
<b>Swift code:</b>	CBAFKENX
<b>Paybill Number:</b>	880100

Nominate a school

Become a friend of SAL

# Find us



info@startalibrary.org



@startalibrary



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