

## Local Language Teaching and Learning Materials

Local language teaching and learning materials comprise community generated reading materials, teaching and learning materials made from locally available resources, as well as professionally authored, illustrated, designed, and created teaching and learning aids. These materials provide a way for children and their families to access important information, provide a variety of platforms for learning and knowledge sharing, and spaces for community advocacy. These materials can be adapted in participatory and empowering processes that enable truly sustainable transformation which supports the improvement of learning outcomes through literacy, numeracy, and life skills development.

### Why local language materials?

Oral societies need educational resource materials in short, illustrated, narrative formats. Learning is enhanced by engaging with a variety of types of materials that appropriately target the age and reading level of the intended users.

#### Some benefits of local language materials are:

- Important resource material gets to those who need it most – and who usually cannot access it.
- The most vulnerable children – and their families and communities – are empowered to contribute to the exchange of knowledge as they create resource materials together.
- Local volunteers, teachers, and field staff have practical and effective tools to engage learners of all ages.
- Thousands of locally-adapted versions of best practice resources from World Vision and other INGO partners become globally available and quickly accessible, improving our ability to target specific Child Well-being Outcomes.

Local language materials can play a vital role in the enhancement of improved learning outcomes, process of building local capacity, facilitating the exchange of knowledge through community conversation and ensuring that children and their families can access resources relevant to their particular context.

### How does World Vision use local language materials?

World Vision uses local language materials in a variety of ways. These include simple story-based teaching and learning books, or other short, illustrated resources, adapted from relevant and reliable best practice materials to accommodate the diversity of the populations that local volunteers work alongside.

- Flip cards
- Games
- Booklets
- Big books
- Flash cards
- Stories

Through the use of simple desktop publishing software, and an efficient database management and cataloguing function, World Vision staff and local volunteers can access a host of relevant resources and adapt them together with the community to fit their particular context. These adapted resources can be printed locally on demand and uploaded into the resource library for others to access and adapt.

- Shellbooks trainings have included staff from Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Zambia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Mali, Niger, and Chad.
- Resources have been created in the following languages: Burundi (Kirundi), Ethiopia (Amharic, Afan Oromo), Kenya (Maasai), Malawi (Chichewa), Rwanda (Kinyarwanda), Tanzania (Kiswahili), Uganda (Jopadhola and Acholi), Zambia (Tonga), Senegal (French), Ghana (Twi), Mali (French and Bambara), and Niger (French and Hausa).
- Local language teaching and learning materials will expand into additional countries and regions in 2015.

For more information about local language teaching and learning materials, please email Education and Life Skills at World Vision International: [EdLS@wvi.org](mailto:EdLS@wvi.org)

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