



"Pour un monde à livre ouvert"

# BIBLIONEF

POUR UN MONDE À LIVRE OUVERT



**1 Idea**

**2 Humanist Founders**

**5 Continents**

**+ than 25 Years**

**+ than 100 Countries**

**+ than 1000 Projects**

**+ than 3000 Libraries**

**+ than 3,5 million New Books**

**+ than 100 million Happy Children**

**How many more children tomorrow, thanks to all of us?**

## A word from the General Director

In the last 25 years, we have been convinced that a new, beautiful and useful book can have a life-changing effect on disadvantaged and vulnerable children and offer them the keys to their future. We allow millions of them, everywhere in the world, to get access to reading materials in the French language. We open them the doors of imagination and dreams.

We improve their learning conditions in order to give them a chance to escape illiteracy by helping them build a basis of a knowledge, a right to which each human being is entitled.

Enjoying an unwavering support of well-known French youth publishers, we have a renewed collection of 280,000 books and some 2,000 references thanks to which we can carry out every year many focused and targeted projects that will support hundreds of school and public libraries internationally as well as in France.

It is an action of general interest and concrete advocacy but also a struggle that we lead daily with determination.

Our action celebrates books that occupy a central place in spreading of the French language and culture.

Nowadays we have a new challenge before us: to write the 25 years to come. In order to address them serenely in the certainty that we will be able to sustain our actions, we need to expand the circle of sponsors that support us and that we need so much to make a bet on the youth and thus on the future together with us.



## WHO ARE WE?

**BIBLIONEF** is an international NGO co-founded by Dominique Pace and Maximilien Vegelin Van Claerbergen, Ambassador of the Netherlands (†).

The association is recognized by UNICEF and the Council of Europe and placed under the patronage of the French National Commission for UNESCO.

**BIBLIONEF** is a founding member of the Book Donation Charter that acts as a code of ethics between donors and beneficiaries and defines the donation of books as one of the policies of partnership for development.

**BIBLIONEF** is a member of the Education Coalition in France.

**BIBLIONEF** also exists in the Netherlands, South Africa, where independent legal entities have been established.

*« The idea of Biblioneef came from an encounter with children that live in substandard housing areas or are isolated in camps in the jungle. These children want to live, they want to learn. They lack everything... They lack books. Thus, out of this encounter a dream was born: sailing ship at sea that would do a world tour, carrying cargos of new books in its flanks that these children need so much. The sailing ship has remained a dream whereas books shipments have become a reality. The organization that is in charge of them has received the name Biblioneef. »*



## OBSERVATION



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According to the UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 750 million people around the world are illiterate, that is 14 % of the world population. What is more, 617 million children and adolescents are not achieving minimum proficiency levels in reading and mathematics. There is evidence that in areas with literacy rates below 50% no development can be sustainable. That is unfortunately the reality for many countries. Their populations face a severe book shortage that must be remedied.



The COVID-19 pandemic which happened in 2020 increased inequalities in terms of access to education. In Sub-Saharan Africa, 89 % of students do not have access to a computer at home, 82 % do not have an Internet connection and around 28 million live in places unserved by mobile networks.

Educational support for adults and children from the poorest countries has been caught in a downward spiral since 2010.

Africa is expecting its population to double by 2050. In such a context, what does the future have to bring to its youth? There is a great challenge for the development of the continent.

**Thus, BIBLIONEF have been mobilized so that thousands of children can every year grow up with a new book between their hands...**

***« Why do we offer only new books? Because a new book has a value of a gift that encourages to discover further readings. It also shows respect towards its recipient. Way too often, resorting to massive collections of used and unsuitable books for recipients ruins the good intention behind these initiatives.***

Dominique Pace, General Director of BIBLIONEF

# OUR OBJECTIVES

**BIBLIONEF** facilitates access to books and readings in the French language for disadvantaged and vulnerable children and adolescents on all continents, helps them build bases for a knowledge and education that each human being has the right to acquire and offers them the keys to their future.

## SHARED EXPERIENCE

In the framework of each project that is carried out, Biblioneef works with competent and reliable partners. Using detailed questionnaires, it helps them clearly identify their needs and define their objectives, accompanies them in the elaboration of their projects, carries out monitoring and evaluation. It also provides them with advices on how to establish reasonable documentary collections and in library management/animation.

Within the French cultural network, Biblioneef helps its partners maintain the presence of French books, language and culture all around the world. Undeniably, its projects have structuring effects and contribute to entertaining a highly positive image of France and its cooperative actions in the fields of reading and dissemination of the French language.

As for the network of associations, Biblioneef gives to civil society organizations essential resources for their learning projects that they would be otherwise unable to acquire. It thus strengthens their operational capacities and encourages them to be more ambitious in their actions.

We regularly share our best practices and expertise during colloques and conferences, in France and abroad.



**BIBLIONEF**

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# OUR ACTIONS

Biblioneuf has been mobilized for more than 25 years in order to bring every year to dozens of thousands of children and adolescents books that will enrich their youth, facilitate their literacy, make them want to go to school and reduce drop-out rates. By cultivating a desire to learn, we make culture the foundation of social integration.

## HOW DO WE WORK?

Through focused and targeted projects that were elaborated with our field partners we equip school, public and associative libraries with thoroughly selected recent new books coming from excess stocks of our partner publishers. We count among our field partners the French cultural network, associations, international NGOs...

More than 100,000 high quality books on the literary and esthetical level answer to the clearly defined and expressed needs of our beneficiaries. The impact of our endowments is examined during monitoring and evaluation procedures.

Biblioneuf contributes to promotion of the French language by offering its readers worldwide a possibility to read and dream in French.



- **Logistics**

Our partner Micro Lynx– <http://micro-lynx.fr/> is in charge of our warehouse located in Rennes. It ensures storage and books preparation for each project before transmitting the pallets to freight forwarders responsible for shipments to final destinations.

- **Monitoring and evaluation of projects**

We conduct monitoring and evaluation for each project thanks to regular reports from our beneficiaries for each project. This process is strictly controlled by Biblioneuf that can decide to set up its own monitoring missions in the field.

*« All of the books are in French... Some of them are more difficult than others but the choice of your readings is up to you. Keep in mind that the language is not a barrier but a chance, a bridge, a road, a shortcut, a path, a station towards a new destination, something mysterious and exciting, something precious : a new culture. »*

Elisabeth Barbier, French Ambassador in South Africa, to pupils of Mondeor High School in Johannesburg during inauguration of a francophone library created by Biblioneuf.

## SOME ILLUSTRATIONS

Since 1992, **BIBLIONEUF** has created and equipped youth libraries in more than 100 countries. Some examples of recent projects show our work in the field...

### • Morocco

Since 2017, **BIBLIONEUF** has been accompanying the Foundation Zakoura in its program on extension of preschool education in Morocco. Its development is a crucial challenge in this country with an unequal educational system, mainly in rural areas and disadvantaged neighborhoods the Foundation focuses on.

Aware of the importance of creating an appropriate environment for learning to read, the Foundation Zakoura, thanks to Biblioneuf's support, provides each of its schools with a rich and diverse collection of books in their library.

Thus, in 2017, 70 schools of the Foundation Zakoura enjoyed a donation of 7,000 books that benefitted more than 3,200 children.

A new endowment of 7,000 books arrived in Casablanca at the end of 2019. They were distributed in 120 new school mostly in Marrakech Safi and Souss Massa region in the south of Morocco.



*« A big thank you to our partner Biblioneuf for its trust and generosity. Encouraging our children to read from their early age is giving them access to pleasure, cultural awakening and creativity! »*



- **Lybia**

In Lybia, **BIBLIONEF** collaborates with the French Embassy in order to answer to the needs of French-speaking community establishments. These schools that provide education to more than 2,500 children from Sub-Saharan and North African diaspora face significant financial problems.

Since 2019, more 10,000 books have enabled a creation and enrichment of documentary funds forging links among establishments teaching French in Tripoli, Sebha and Benghazi.



- **Ethiopia**



After their first partnership in 2016, Ethio-French Alliance in Addis Abeba once again solicited **BIBLIONEF** in 2019 in order to complete the funds of its newly renovated library.

A thousand books were carefully chosen to occupy this refurbished space.

This endowment allows a greater offer for the youth visiting the Alliance coupled with new activities for children.

- **Madagascar**



**BIBLIONEF** intervenes in Madagascar side by side with Réseau des Entrepreneurs Solidaires (RES) (Solidary Entrepreneurs Network) in order to support religious communities in their actions towards the most disadvantaged individuals in the society. In this poverty-stricken country

nuns strive for decent learning conditions for thousands of young people and are committed to animating libraries at their establishments. Collaborating with RES, **BIBLIONEF** provided them with 8 400 books in 2019 and 2020.

## Kosovo

There are currently 40 establishments teaching French language to 21000 students in this young country.

In this context, the Embassy of France regularly asks **BIBLIONEF** to boost the French language learning. In 2020, this contribution of more than a thousand books further reinforced this more than 10 years old partnership in favor of the French language and culture.



- **Metropolitan and Overseas France**

**BIBLIONEF** carries out reading development projects on the French territory in regions with high illiteracy rates. Since 2015, several dozens of thousands of books have supplied associative or school libraries in unprivileged neighborhoods or in disinherited rural zones of Nord-Pas-de-Calais, Maine-et-Loire, Haute-Normandie or Parisian region.



In Reunion, in the framework of a partnership convention 2015-2020, signed with the city of Tampon, **BIBLIONEF** contributes every year with 10 000 books to the ambitious project « Tampon, a city that reads ». Its aim is to develop primary school libraries in the city and to expand collections of the Public reading network so as to increase access to reading and create a reading culture for those who do not have a habit to read.

In Mayotte, where 42% of adults do not have basic writing skills in French, BiblioneF collaborates with the city hall of Mamoudzou to develop youth libraries inside of 6 youth and cultural centers. A 15,000 books endowment enriched their holdings in 2020.

In the framework of the particular sanitary context of 2020, **BIBLIONEF** together with the National Agency for Territorial Cohesion launched an operation entitled « 1000 books for educational cities » in order to make children from unprivileged neighborhoods benefit from 30,000 new and adapted books during lockdown. This project was carried out in a record time and allowed 30,000 children increase their reading habits.



## • Tunisie



In 2017, **BIBLIONEF** started a huge pluriannual project in Tunisia called « Library for all » in order to create libraries in the most disadvantaged governorates in the country.

To better develop and sustain its action, **BIBLIONEF** acquired a regional office in Tunis. Partnership conventions were signed with the Ministry of Education, National Library of Tunisia and the Direction of Book and Reading of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs.

Since 2019, **BIBLIONEF** has focused its action on the creation of regional media libraries located in pioneer schools and open to surrounding schools. Thus, each of the libraries benefits thousands of children. Qualified librarians and animators are in charge of cultural, artistic and educational animations. Regional media libraries have been set up in Beja, Siliana and Kasserine governorate in 2019 and a youth space was open in autumn of 2020 at the National Library of Tunisia for pupils of the nearby Tunis medina. Other regional media libraries will be created in Tozeur, Kairouan, Gafsa...

Ever since we launched the programme, more than 60 structures all around the country, out of which 48 school establishments, have received more than 60,000 books. Today around 30,000 pupils have benefited from « Library for all ».

## • Tajikistan

**BIBLIONEF** has been accompanying the French Embassy in Dushanbe in its action to defend and promote la Francophonie in Tajikistan for several years. Indeed, French books are as rare as they are appreciated in this particularly isolated country. Despite a real investment from political figures to reinforce the teaching of French, universities still greatly lack resources and only possess few publications in French.



In 2016 and 2019, **BIBLIONEF** answered the Embassy's request with two endowments of 4000 books each. These books were distributed in more than 40 structures that are committed to dissemination of the French language all around the country: French language departments at universities in Dushanbe, primary schools, secondary establishments, public libraries and cultural centers.

*« Reading is the ultimate vector of individual development.*

*By saving new books from the pestle, and by organizing their dissemination among those who need them the most, Biblioneef gives to as many people as possible the possibility to get out of their daily routine and to access the knowledge of others and of the world around them. The Foundation of Groupe ADP that makes the fight against illiteracy its priority is particularly proud to support Biblioneef in order to develop remarkable projects aiming at improving learning conditions in geographical zones where our group is implanted, such as Morocco, Mauritius or Madagascar. »*

Augustin de Romanet, CEO of Groupe ADP

## LONGSTANDING PARTNERS...

### Many publishers contribute to BIBLIONEF's action with devotion.

They know that the endowments, such as practiced by the association, embed sustainable practices of reading in countries where there is no other possibility to get books. These endowments are undeniably structuring effects and part of a cultural cooperation policy.

*Akinomé, Bamboo, Casterman, Dargaud, Delcourt, Dupuis, Gallimard Jeunesse, Hachette Livre, Jungle, Kaléidoscope, Kana, Kanjil, Kaze, Larousse, La Joie de Lire, La Martinière Jeunesse, Le Lombard, Les 400 Coups, Les Incorruptibles, Les Musées de Strasbourg, Maison Eliza, MeMo, Minédition, Milan, Nathan, Pika, Revue Dada, Scrineo Jeunesse, Talents Hauts, Thierry Magnier, Vents d'ouest...*

### BIBLIONEF has received financial support from various institutions and foundations, which supported many projects in the field.

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Overseas Territories, Délégation Générale à la Langue Française et aux Langues de France, Assemblée nationale, Sénat, Ciel des jeunes, Le Projet Imagine, Fondation Groupe ADP, Fondation Air France, Fondation AnBer, Fondation D-Block, Fondation Atoz, Fondation Auchan pour la Jeunesse, Fondation David Hadida, Fondation Drosos, Fondation Legallais, Fondation Le Conservateur, Fondation AREVA, Fondation RATP, Fondation Addax & Oryx, Fondation Masalina, Fondation Tape à l'œil...*

### BIBLIONEF continues its mission for access to culture and promotion and dissemination of the French language on all the continents.

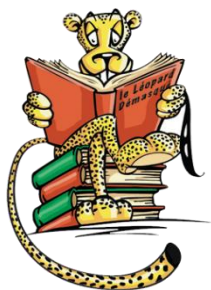
Our association needs to develop new partnerships in order to make its action more sustainable and to help children and youth in less privileged countries have access to reading which is highly necessary for their personal construction process.

*« I have a very vivid memory of the extraordinary diversity and quality of the books that we were lucky to receive in Azerbaijan. They contribute undeniably to entertain a highly rewarding image of France and its cooperation in the field of reading and language dissemination. »*

*« Thanks to people like you who fight like lions, people like me can find enough force to build actions that are much expected and appreciated in the field. »*

Luc Aubry, Cooperation attaché for the French language in Azerbaijan and later in Lithuania

## PUBLICATIONS



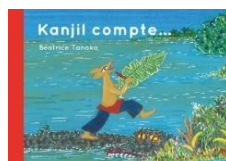
### • « Funny stories of the World of Words »

**BIBLIONEF** build a partnership with the writer Gordon Zola for co-printing of three first titles of his collection for children « Funny stories of the World of Words » (Editions du Léopard Masqué). 9,000 copies of this saga went on a trip to support **BIBLIONEF**'s projects.



### • Short stories of the world

Published in 2017 by the publisher Kanjil in partnership with **BIBLIONEF**, they represent wisdom lessons for children as well as for adults. They were created by Béatrice Tanaka, a highly gifted painter, illustrator and writer that left us in 2016.



- Enchanted barrel, Chinese short story

- Kanjil counts, Indonesian short story



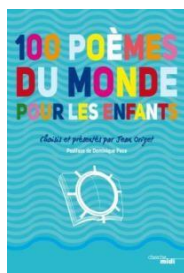
- Huge huge beet, Russian short story

- Lizard the hero, Zulu short story

- Since the cat is the judge, Japanese short story

### • « 100 poems of the world for children »

Published in September 2016 by the French publisher Cherche Midi, thanks to the support of Groupe ADP this anthology was created by Jean Orizet, **BIBLIONEF**'s chairman, at the request of Dominique Pace, General Director of the association. It presents poets that were born in most of the 100 countries where the association has created countless libraries since 1992. It is dedicated to all children and adolescents that benefit from **BIBLIONEF**'s actions all around the world.





## DIRECTION

Ever since its creation in 1992, **BIBLIONEF** has been directed by Mrs. Dominique Pace, Knight of the National Order of the Legion of Honor, Knight of the National Order of Merit, Knight of the Academic Palms' Order and Knight of the Order of the Arts and Letters. In 2015, she obtained Merit and European Prestige Diploma for **BIBLIONEF**'s action as a major international cause supported by the Committee of Europe.



## CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION

### PRESIDENT

**Mr. Jean Orizet**

Author and founder of the publisher Cherche Midi

### DIRECTION

**Mrs. Dominique Pace**

### ADMINISTRATORS

- **Mr. Philippe Faroy**  
Change management consultant,  
Graphic communication sector
- **Mr. Laurent de Gaulle**  
Author, Photographer, Honorary President  
of the association Culture Papier
- **Mr. Guillaume Juin**  
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- **Mr. Riad Tristan Hatik**  
Under-Secretary-General, Foundation Groupe ADP
- **Mr. Jocelyn Rigault**  
Secretary General at Solidarité Sida – Consultant in  
Development

[www.biblioneef.com](http://www.biblioneef.com)

## POUR EN SAVOIR PLUS...

**BIBLIONEF's website :**

[www.biblioneef.com](http://www.biblioneef.com)

**BIBLIONEF  
Netherlands**

[www.biblioneef.nl](http://www.biblioneef.nl)

**BIBLIONEF  
South Africa**

[www.biblioneefa.org.za](http://www.biblioneefa.org.za)

A quarterly newsletter is  
available on our website  
detailing our advancement  
as well as recent projects.

Find us on :



@Biblioneef

## CONTACT

**BIBLIONEF**

48 Boulevard Diderot,  
75012 PARIS

Tél : (+33) 01.43.40.76.10

[coordination@biblioneef.com](mailto:coordination@biblioneef.com)

**Dominique PACE,**  
General Director

[dominique.pace@biblioneef.com](mailto:dominique.pace@biblioneef.com)



**BIBLIONEF**

"Pour le monde à venir"

Djibouti  
Congo  
Maroc  
Ukraine  
Jordanie  
Slovaquie  
Sénégal  
Slovénie  
Malaisie  
Burkina Faso  
Angola  
Hongrie  
Kosovo  
Mauritanie  
Liban  
Macédoine  
Qatar  
Pologne  
Tadjikistan  
Cuba  
Cambodge  
Pakistan  
Moldavie  
Centrafrique  
Congo Brazzaville  
Kenya  
Mali  
Tchad  
Tunisie  
Haïti  
Azerbaïdjan  
République Démocratique du Congo  
Niger  
Sri Lanka  
Argentine  
Malawi  
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Chine  
Comores  
Togo  
Bénin  
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Tchéquie  
Algérie  
Honduras  
Liban  
Burundi  
Australie  
Géorgie  
Bulgarie  
Cameroun  
Arménie  
Rwanda  
Zimbabwe  
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**BIBLIONEF**

**WWW.BIBLIONEF.COM**

**48 Boulevard Diderot, 75 012 Paris**

**(+33) 01.43.40.76.10**

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l'UNESCO et le Conseil de l'Europe**