CODE is a Canadian registered charitable organization that promotes literacy and education in Africa and the Caribbean.

Vision
To support a sustainable literate environment in the developing world.

Mission
Enabling people to learn by developing partnerships that provide resources for learning, promote awareness and understanding, and encourage self-reliance.

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Affiliates

CODE Incorporated
878 Boyd Avenue
Ottawa ON K2A 2E3
Phone: (613) 260-3457

CODE Inc., Canada’s foremost logistics and procurement agency, specializes in acquiring and delivering the items needed for voter registration and elections. Since 1989, the company has provided millions of dollars worth of voting material to emerging democracies worldwide. CODE Inc.’s dividends support literacy-related development programs undertaken by its parent organization, CODE.

CODE Foundation
321 Chapel St.
Ottawa ON K1N 7Z2
Phone: (613) 232-3569

The CODE Foundation, an endowment fund that manages and invests bequests and other planned gifts, donates the investment income annually to CODE.

International Book Bank
2201 Eagle St, Unit D
PO. Box 4460, Baltimore, MD 21223-4460
U.S.A.
Phone: (410) 362-0334

The International Book Bank is a non-profit membership distribution service for books and other educational materials donated by North American publishing companies and the education community. IBB distributes these materials to non-profit organizations in developing countries, including CODE’s partners. CODE is the sole member of IBB.
Message from the Chair and Executive Director

Sometimes donors will ask if CODE’s literacy programs really have an impact in developing countries. They want to know if their donations are actually helping children learn to read and write, and if literacy can really help people break out of poverty.

Yes, literacy can change lives. In 1995, El Hadji Momar Thiaw was a 13-year-old boy living in a low-income neighbourhood of Dakar, Senegal. He was a good student, eager to learn, but had no access to books. A competition organized by the local community library and one of CODE’s partners, Bibliothèque-Lecture-Développement (BLD), recognized his outstanding performance, and he won a free library membership.

His world suddenly changed. With access to CODE-supplied books in the library, he became an avid reader. He even helped the librarians shelve and arrange books. To recognize his enthusiasm, the volunteer librarians initiated him as “assistant librarian.” In addition, he spent a few hours each week at a newly opened media centre, using CD-ROMs and studying via the Internet.

With his love of reading and learning, El Hadji Momar Thiaw earned high marks in secondary school. In 2002, he was accepted into the science faculty at university. Today, he continues his university studies, and still finds time to volunteer in the community library that gave him such a good start in life.

For us, this story speaks volumes on many levels. It shows the value of CODE’s programs. It shows the importance of our African partners working with local groups. It shows the growing role of new technologies that complement learning. And it shows youth taking charge of their own lives, carving out successful futures, and then giving back to their communities.

Ultimately, as part of our mission to develop partnerships, CODE strengthens our partners so they can take greater “ownership” of their literacy programs. Increasingly, our partners are adopting advanced technologies related to such areas as book production and distribution, inventory and finances; they are building partnerships and alliances that allow them to broaden their reach; and they’re fine-tuning teacher training and other programs through regular monitoring and evaluation. What’s more, our partners are increasingly influencing policy in their countries in areas such as teacher training and libraries.

Our partners are the heart and soul of CODE’s programs, and we would like to acknowledge their dedication, innovation and commitment to literacy.

We would also like to thank all of our donors for their support over the past year. Yes, your dollars—and cents—do make a difference. Your donations help CODE and our partners touch the lives of thousands of children like El Hadji Momar Thiaw, who subsequently learn to help themselves and others around them.

Richard M. Evans
Chair, Board of Directors

Yvonne Appiah
Executive Director
**International Program**

CODE is committed to expanding children's literacy. Working with local partners in nine African and Caribbean countries, CODE provides books and other learning materials for children, and supports activities that promote a love of learning. We also support teacher training, provide opportunities for our partners to share their expertise, and strengthen literacy-based organizations and networks.

**Partners**

- **Ethiopia**: CODE-Ethiopia
- **Ghana**: Ghana Book Trust (GBT)
- **Guyana**: Guyana Book Foundation (GBF)
- **Kenya**: Kenya Book Foundation (KBF)
- **Mali**: L’Association pour la lecture, l’éducation et le développement (ALED)
- **Malawi**: National Library Service (NLS), Paper Making Education Trust (PAMET)
- **Mozambique**: Associação PROGRESSO (Progresso), Centro de Informática de Universidade Eduardo Mondlane (CIEUM)
- **Senegal**: Bibliothèque-Lecture-Développement (BLD)
- **Tanzania**: Children’s Book Project (CBP), Tanzania Book Support Trust (TBST), Songea District Council Department of Education

*CODE partners during a visit to Ottawa.*
In CODE’s target areas, good books—books that are relevant and appropriate—are often hard to find. In primary schools, it’s not unusual to see six children crowded around a single textbook. In the home, where parents are often illiterate or do not read regularly, books are also scarce or non-existent. Without access to books and other learning material, children can’t improve their reading skills, and can lose interest in learning altogether.

In 2004-2005, CODE and our partners delivered 387,353 high-quality books donated by North American publishers. In addition, we published 152,065 books and magazines, and bought 123,152 books from local publishers. Finally, we helped over 1,650 libraries improve their services, and helped establish 70 new school and community libraries. In all these programs, CODE and our partners are paying more attention to school children with special needs.

**Highlights**

- With $5,000 from an individual donor in Canada, the Kenya Book Foundation bought 569 locally published books, provided hundreds of North American books as well as shelves and furniture for three schools of the deaf that will benefit 230 hearing-impaired children and 570 hearing children.

- The Children’s Book Project in Tanzania translated five books into Braille, distributing them to 25 primary schools catering to blind children.

- Progresso published four issues of Pangolin, a quarterly magazine that reaches remote communities in Mozambique with relevant news, as well as information about HIV/AIDS, environmental issues and gender equality.

- In response to demand for more locally published books, CODE and our partners continued to increase supply; in the past four years, the availability of locally published books in our programs has gone up 298%.

**What we’ve learned**

Both children and adults need access to reading materials that speak to their lives. Otherwise, they lose interest in reading. That’s why CODE enables partners in Africa and the Caribbean to select books that are relevant to their needs.

**CODE is committed to expanding children’s literacy.**
Training for teachers and librarians

Even in a library full of quality books, many children need encouragement to read. For that reason, CODE supports in-service training for teachers and librarians, giving them the tools to help children develop a love of reading. Those who receive training then pass on newly acquired teaching skills to their peers.

During the year, CODE trained more than 2,845 teachers, librarians and education officials in the teaching of reading. In addition, 160 teachers learned how to produce teaching/learning materials, and 368 teacher-librarians learned library management skills. CODE partners also organized 100 in-service training sessions for more than 3,213 teachers and librarians.

Highlights

- The Guyana Book Foundation (GBF) held two library-training workshops in remote locations over two weeks. In addition, GBF also trained 80 nursery-school teachers on ways to encourage children to read.

- Songea District Council Department of Education in Tanzania held several teacher-training sessions during the year, which included everything from teaching tips and library management to HIV/AIDS awareness.

- The Ghana Book Trust sent a team to assess how teachers who took part in training sessions were using their newly acquired skills. After watching a lesson in reading, the team met with the teacher to discuss strengths and weaknesses. Following assessments of teachers in two districts, the team recommended ways to improve teacher-training programs.

What we’ve learned

An evaluation of Red Thread, a group supported by the Guyana Book Foundation, showed that facilitators continued to improve their methods of training teachers. They provided structured classes, while remaining flexible to trainees’ needs.
Helping children learn to love reading

By making learning fun, communities can instill a love of reading in children that stays with them all their lives. CODE's partners organize reading fairs, exhibitions and reading and writing contests—anything that can motivate children and their parents to pick up a book.

Highlights

• CODE-Ethiopia introduced children's corners in reading rooms in four districts. By installing three small mobile shelves and two mats in a corner, the reading rooms enable children to pick books up more easily and read in a more relaxed environment.

• The Guyana Book Foundation supported four book exhibitions and one reading event, including an exhibition on teaching aids and books in English and Makushi for early childhood education. On Canada Day, the Canadian High Commission recognized the foundation's important role in promoting a culture of learning.

• To mark its 10th anniversary, Bibliothèque-Lecture-Développement (BLD) expanded its annual youth book fair in Pikine, Senegal, from 3 to 15 days. Using the slogan “reading makes you feel better”, BLD targeted hospitalized children, pediatricians and abandoned children to show how reading can raise people’s spirits.

What we’ve learned

The Children's Book Project in Tanzania has noted that children are highly interested in HIV/AIDS materials. At the same time, many parents fear that people will believe their children have the disease if they are reading the brochures. CBP has worked with parents and students on a simple solution: many schools now insist that children read the materials at home rather than in public.
Building stronger ties within CODE’s family

Many of CODE’s partners have developed expertise that can help strengthen counterparts facing similar challenges. Through workshops and exchanges, CODE enables its partners to share their knowledge and experience with each other. They also benefit from other training opportunities.

Highlights

• CODE-Ethiopia met with Malawi’s National Library Service for four days, and both came away with new ideas. Based on its observations, CODE-Ethiopia gained insight into the distinction between “reading rooms” and “community libraries”. For its part, NLS learned new skills in cataloguing and distribution, and learned the benefits of creating children’s corners in school libraries.

• Wings of Words, a CODE-supported program in Guyana, adapted training modules designed by another local partner, Red Thread. In this way, Wings of Words developed a three-semester program to assess reading levels of 71 students aged 5 to 15.

• L’Association pour la lecture, l’éducation et le développement (ALED) in Mali presented a paper at the International Federation of Libraries Association Conference in Argentina, while staff from Bibliothèque-Lecture-Développement (BLD) enhanced their publishing skills in Benin.
CODE programs are working with writers and illustrators to help increase the gender equity of published materials.

Creating partnerships and networks

CODE works with many partners in specialized areas such as library development, publishing, literacy promotion, book distribution and rural development. To enable local communities to take charge of their literacy activities, CODE encourages its partners to network with other community-based groups, government agencies and institutes. During 2004-2005, CODE partners established eight new relationships to broaden their programs.

Highlights

- Children’s Book Project in Tanzania has started working with Katoke School Improvement Project in Kagera region. As a result, CBP has now developed relationships with different chapters of Rotary International, which buy CBP books to promote literacy in the region.

- Bibliotheque-Lecture-Développement has a new partner in “Itinéraires des livres,” an association in France run by Senegalese expatriates that sends French-language books to francophone Africa. In its first arrangement, the association shipped more than 3,000 books to Senegal, and BLD took care of transportation and customs charges.

- Paper Making Education Trust (PAMET) established a partnership with CARE-Malawi. Together with eight other partners, PAMET is strengthening school management committees and parent-teacher associations in six districts.

- CODE programs are working with writers and illustrators to help increase the gender equity of published materials. Several partners have specifically worked with female writers to develop manuscripts that appeal to girls, motivating them to read more books.
Canadian Program


Project Love

A global education program, Project Love has enabled primary and secondary students to support literacy in developing countries for 18 years. Each year, usually around Valentine's Day, Canadian students and their teachers assemble kits of school materials containing notebooks, rulers, erasers and pencils for their peers overseas. Many teachers use the opportunity to lead special class projects where students learn about the challenges and opportunities facing a developing country.

In 2004-2005, nearly 72,000 Canadians from across the country were involved in Project Love. They collected enough materials to make 61,255 kits and fill 1787 teacher boxes, which were transported to Mozambique in August 2004. CODE’s local partner, Progresso, coordinated distribution of supplies to target schools.

Superhuman effort at Ottawa school

L’Ecole élémentaire publique Francojeunesse, a multicultural school in Ottawa with 420 primary students, sought to raise $2,000 for Project Love. After teachers raised $517 through a bake sale, Principal Larouche promised to dress up as Superman if the students raised another $1,500. What’s more, for every $100 more up to $2,000, he would take on challenges set by Mr. Marc, the school’s gym teacher.

Through bake sales, helping around the house, shoveling snow, and other activities, students answered their principal’s challenge. By the end, the school had raised close to $3,000! On January 28, to the delight of students and teachers, Principal Larouche transformed into Superman and performed push-ups, sit-ups, somersaults and other feats of skill demanded by Mr. Marc.

Through its superhuman efforts, the school sent more than 1,100 Project Love school kits to Mozambique. As one student explained, “when we give a little something to someone, we get a smile. We are putting sunshine in their hearts and ours. It makes us feel good.”

“When we give a little something to someone, we get a smile.”
butterfly 208 takes off to Tanzania

Since 2002, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has conducted an art and writing contest for youth called “butterfly 208”. The name reflects the theory that a butterfly flapping its wings in one of the world’s 208 countries can trigger a storm on the other side of the globe a month later. In other words, our actions can change the world!

For the second year in a row, CODE and CIDA collaborated to celebrate the potential of global cooperation. During August 2004, led by a CODE and CIDA team, five prize-winners and two teachers visited Tanzania to learn how the country is taking charge of its own development with support from Canada and organizations like CODE.

Alongside youth counterparts from Tanzania, Canadian participants visited CODE partners such as the Children’s Book Project and the Tanzanian Book Support Trust, local groups such as the KIOTA Women’s Health and Development Organization (KIWOHEDE), and the field offices of Canadian development organizations, as well as tourist sites. As part of their program, Canadian youth delivered Project Love kits from their home communities to two schools.

What we’ve learned

Our evaluation showed that participants would have enjoyed more hands-on experience. Next year, CODE will reduce the number of project visits so that Canadian and Tanzanian youth can spend more time working together. Some possibilities include reading stories to primary school students, doing art and crafts with HIV/AIDS orphans and remodeling a library.
Making a Difference

You are helping to build the bridge of literacy!

Promoting literacy remains a huge challenge. More than 100 million children have no access to school, and 875 million adults around the world cannot read or write.

Yet your support is making a difference. Over the past five years, the number of illiterate people has fallen from 22.4% to 20.3% of the world’s population. That means nearly 80% of people aged 15 years or older are now literate, including more women than ever before. If trends continue, the rate should continue to drop, reaching 16.5% by 2010.

This is cause to celebrate, and CODE donors can take special pride in helping make it happen!

This year we learned of a man in Kenya whose high school received books from CODE in the 1970s. Today, he has a PhD, works in his country’s private sector, funds and volunteers in community schools. What a testament to the value of CODE’s support, and the ability of people in Africa to take charge of their own challenges!

Thanks to generous individuals like you, the Canadian government and our partners overseas, we were able to reach out to hundreds of thousands of people in Africa and the Caribbean last year.

In so doing, we gave children and adults the tools to create better lives for themselves.

Every cent counts

Support from the Canadian public is vital to our work. To qualify for the multi-million dollar grants received from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), CODE needs to raise money from Canadians—whether individuals, schools and community groups or businesses and private foundations.

Simply put, every cent counts. Your donations, large and small, mean that CODE can attract substantial funding from the federal and provincial governments.

On behalf of all the girls and boys, and women and men, in Africa and the Caribbean who benefit from our programs and activities, CODE thanks you for your ongoing support and trust.

Support for tsunami-affected communities

Like so many Canadians, CODE’s Board of Directors, staff and volunteers were deeply moved and saddened by the impact of the tsunami in December 2004, and the tremendous loss of life in Sri Lanka, Indonesia and other countries.
For the first time in its history, CODE decided to donate money raised from its own appeal to support relief efforts. Consequently, CODE provided $15,752 to Oxfam Canada—a charitable organization with extensive experience in relief and rehabilitation.

**Special thanks**

CODE would like to acknowledge our corporate and institutional donors, who must often go beyond their mandates to support literacy in developing countries.

In addition, we are indebted to our affiliates—CODE Inc., and the CODE Foundation—which continue to provide us with a stable funding base and to the International Book Bank (IBB), which continues to provide high quality books to our partners.

We are grateful to the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for its substantial financial support to our programs and its confidence in our work.

Thank you to the many television stations who helped promote awareness of international literacy by broadcasting the CODE public service announcements this year.

Finally, CODE would like to pay tribute to the many teachers and students in Canada, as well as youth and community groups, who took part in Project Love in the past year and the winners of the butterfly 208 contest for reminding us all of the power of youth to make a difference in the world. By supporting CODE's literacy programs, you are giving people tools to enrich their lives and break free of poverty.

**Major Individual Donors**

CODE is pleased to recognize the following individuals who showed leadership in giving last year. We also thank the forty-two donors who wished to remain anonymous.

**Literacy Builders**  
($500-$999)

E. Louise Arnott  
William Baker  
F. Elizabeth Bertram  
Bronwyn Best  
Hilderic J. Browne  
E.R.G. Burgess  
William Burt  
Patricia Cochrane  
Barbara Collishaw  
Dawn Crabtree  
Alceo De Anna  
Walter Dedio  
Gerald Fallon  
George Ferdinands  
Elaine Gold  
Beverly Goodwin  
Angela Goyeau  
Lucy Grossmann-Hensel  
Stephen Heckbert  
Mark Heule  
Audrey M. Kerr  
W. Graham MacDonald  
Colin H.H. McNairn  
Esther S. Ondrack  
Frederick Philpot  
Rick Sala  
Victor Smith  
Deirdre Stevenson  
Katherine M. Thompson  
Henry Venema & Mary Anne Schinkle  
Fay Wood  
Beth Young
Leaders in Literacy  
($1,000 - $10,000)

George Anderson  
Yvonne Appiah  
Cynthia Baxter  
Christopher Bredt & Jamie Cameron  
C. Garth Brooks  
James & Julie Chandler  
Gordon Creber  
Richard M. Evans  
Gwynneth Evans  
Mark Galler  
Ronald Hagler  
Margaret Hincks  
Peter & Susan Maclaren  
Robert MacLellan  
Laura B. Moore  
Laura Murray & Sergio Sismondo  
The late Rose Richardson  
Cedric & Barbara Ritchie  
Gordon Scheller  
Maurice & Gloria Walsh  
Eric & Farah Webber  
Steve Williamson  
Mathew Zaleski & Harriet Eastman

Legacy Leaders

Legacy leaders are donors who have left a lasting gift to CODE through a bequest, insurance gift or other methods.

Meiz Majdoub  
Jean Marsh  
Willfred McCutcheon, LL.D. Hon  
Estate of Katherine M. Cartwright  
Estate of Isobel Joyce Fletcher  
Estate of Jane-Clair Inkster

Book Donors

Amerely Treb Books  
American Literary Press  
Beach Holme Publishing  
Bernan Associates  
BMJ Books  
Bound To Stay Bound  
Canadian Scholars’ Press  
Cook’s Book Company  
Curriculum Services Canada  
Daedalus Books  
Enfield Publishing House  
Epoch Universal Publications Ltd.  
Gynergy Books  
Howard County Library  
Human Rights Watch  
Kids Can Press

Macmillan  
McGill & Stewart Inc.  
McFarland & Co.  
Mcfarlane, Walter & Ross  
McGraw-Hill  
NBC UNISCI-FI Marketing  
Our Lady of Good Voyage School  
Pearson Higher Education  
Portage & Main Press  
Roussan Publishers  
Templeton Press  
The Women’s Educational Press  
World Bank Publications  
World Book, Inc.  
York Press

Major Institutional Donors

$3,000,000 +  
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

$185,000 - $215,000  
CODE Foundation  
CODE Incorporated

$20,000 - $25,000  
Cygnus Foundation  
Fondation Internationale Roncalli

$10,000 - $19,999  
TD Insurance – Home and Auto

$5,000 - $9,999  
The Bank of Nova Scotia  
Fondation Marcelle et Jean Coutu  
The EJLB Foundation  
Alberta Teachers’ Association

$2,500 - $4,999  
The McLean Foundation  
Bradda Printing

$2,500 - $4,999  
N.A. Taylor Foundation
Summary Statement of Revenue and Expenses

Complete audited financial statements are available upon request.

### REVENUE

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### EXPENSES

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<td>Other</td>
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### EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES

- **Revenu**: $44,842  |  **Expense**: $12,318

### Revenue Components:
- 1. CIDA: 33%
- 2. In-kind Materials: 54.8%
- 3. Donations: 12.4%
- 4. Other: 0.3%

### Expenditure Components:
- 1. Program Expenses: 90.6%
- 2. Fundraising: 4.4%
- 3. Administration: 4.5%
- 4. Other: 0.5%