

Community libraries receive books worth sh25m

By Ritah Mukasa

Added 9th January 2018 11:31 AM

The materials included thematic curriculum books, charts, work cards and various books for pupils.



PIC: Kimani (second-right), displaying one of the charts. (Credit: Ritah Mukasa)

EDUCATION

The Uganda Community Library Association has received a book consignment worth sh25.9m to help pupils in rural areas and those living in informal settlements boost their reading culture.

This was a donation from Moran Uganda Publishers Ltd (former Macmillan Publishers), through Book Aid International.

Ronald Kazibwe, the business development manager with Moran Publishers said the donation was in line with their corporate social

responsibility. He made the remarks while handing over 2,000 books at the National Library of Uganda in Kampala.

The materials included thematic curriculum books, charts, work cards and various books for primary pupils.

“These supplementary books will help the pupils revise on their own,” Kazibwe said.

While receiving the books, Justin N. Kiyimba, the chairperson of the Uganda Community Library Association, appreciated Moran Publishers and Book Aid International’s effort in availing learners with essential books that will help them better their academics.

Kiyimba said community libraries have played a key role in fighting illiteracy, ignorance, poverty and disease through education, training and provision of reading and research materials.

“We have over 100 community libraries across the country that receive books from our partners such as Book Aid International and National Library of Uganda,” he said.

Meanwhile, James Kimani, Africa’s representative for Book Aid International, said as the largest charity in the UK, the organisation has over the years partnered with public and community libraries in Africa to reach out to children in need.

He said the organisation has so far set up 27 well-stocked libraries in various communities in Kabale, Masaka, Jinja, Mbale, Soroti, Paidha and Moroto districts.

On the other hand, Book Aid International has also donated over 200 electronic books to rural schools.

Additionally, the librarians are trained to inspire teachers in those communities to make use of the library facilities.