



**Bibliothèques
Sans Frontières**
Libraries Without Borders

2024 RE- PORT

Sharing Knowledge

Opening All Possibilities

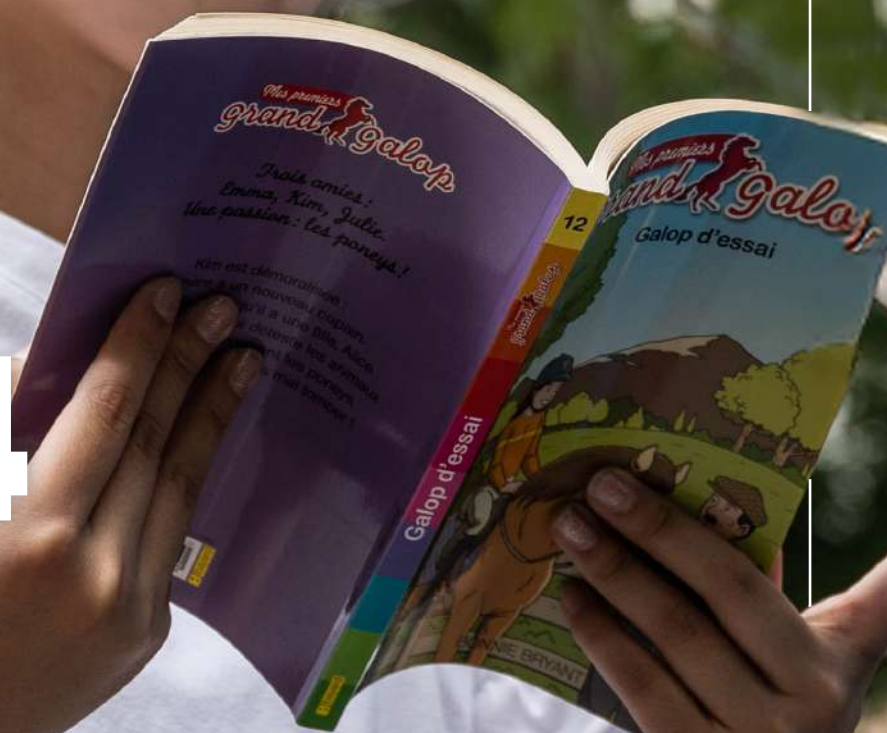


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At BSF, researching and designing innovative tools is a daily priority. ”



President's Foreword

→ **Patrick Weil,**
Founder and President of Libraries Without Borders

Dear friends,

The year 2024 was marked by a significant milestone for Libraries Without Borders:

We celebrated the tenth anniversary of the Ideas Box, our innovative mobile media library that allows us to facilitate access to knowledge anywhere, for any audience.

It's been quite a journey since the creation of this "magic box," designed by Philippe Starck at BSF's request after the devastating earthquake in Haiti in 2010.

The very first Ideas Box was deployed in a refugee camp in Burundi four years later.

Today, there are 191 in 25 countries worldwide, including 46 in France. These numbers illustrate the major scaling-up BSF has undergone over the past decade.

191

Today,
there are **191**
in 25 countries

An in-depth evaluation conducted with our operational partners in the field—including NGOs, associations, community centers and local authorities—has allowed us to **confirm the social impact of our projects**. 80% of surveyed organizations reported that the Ideas Box **has allowed them to reach**

new audiences, and for 73% it has **improved access to education**. Many have also observed positive effects on **social cohesion** through our open, colorful, and inviting media libraries, as well as on **networking among local stakeholders**.

As a result of this strong momentum, we were able to launch several large-scale projects in 2024.

The first, in partnership with the Prada Group's SEA BEYOND project and UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, transformed some twenty Ideas Box in Italy, Burundi, France, and Côte d'Ivoire into **ocean education spaces for children**. In Côte d'Ivoire, an ambitious initiative for professional integration was also launched by the Ministry of Youth using **14 Ideas Box installed in its regional civic service centers**.

Our development in West Africa saw the **opening of offices in Burkina Faso** for a youth employability project, as well as in Nigeria for a program aimed at improving **access to justice and healthcare for survivors of sexual violence in conflict**.

Our partnership with the UN Special Representative's Office to combat this terrible scourge was also the subject of an **international conference co-organized with the Université Côte d'Azur** in Nice in January 2024.

At BSF, researching and designing innovative tools is a daily priority.

In Senegal, support from the Development Innovation Fund enabled us to **equip 70 rural schools with our Ideas Cube**—small servers providing thousands of educational resources for students and training materials for teachers, even those without internet access.

We also launched **Ideas AI**, a program that makes **the power of artificial intelligence available to all** by advocating, training, and working to create tools that are representative of linguistic and cultural diversity, affordable, and based in open science based, in order to overcome the lack of infrastructure in certain parts of the world.

“ We are confident that the many challenges facing our society and democracies can be overcome by providing access to culture, education, and information for all. ”

Karibu means “welcome” in Shimaore and Swahili, and it’s also the name of our **free app for learning practical, professional French**. It is currently **available in Arabic, Pashto, English, and Ukrainian**, and regularly offers **new modules specifically designed for professional integration** in sectors that are recruiting.

In line with our commitment to meeting audiences where they are, the BSF team in France set up **a program on media literacy and original media** that takes place in soccer clubs in the greater Paris region to foster critical thinking among young “Athlètes de l’Info.”

Access to books and literacy for all remains at the heart of our actions, not only through the specific support of **some fifteen young Microbibli carriers**, but also through the opening of **new permanent book collection points in the greater Paris region** that works to supply them.

In community news, we reinforced our volunteer

activities in 2024 and welcomed a new association to our network: **¡Bienvenido, BSF España!**

2024 has seen its share of turbulence—climatic, notably with Cyclone Chido hitting Mayotte at the end of the year—but above all geopolitical, with the election of Donald Trump in the United States, whose decisions have had a direct impact on our activities, including dismantling the USAID international development agency and federal aid to public libraries, and global stability overall.

We are confident that the many challenges facing our society and democracies can be overcome by providing access to culture, education, and information for all.

These challenges only serve to strengthen the energy and determination of the teams at Bibliothèques Sans Frontières—whom I warmly thank—to **make the fundamental right of access to knowledge a reality for every citizen of the world.**

“ In line with our commitment to meeting audiences where they are. ”





Part I

PRESENTATION

1.
Who We Are

2.
The BSF
Network

3.
Our Actions

4.
Our Impact

Who we are

Since 2007, Libraries Without Borders (BSF) has worked to make knowledge accessible to everyone.

Through our solidarity-based and innovative projects in some thirty countries, we use culture, education, and information as tools for resistance, resilience, and empowerment.

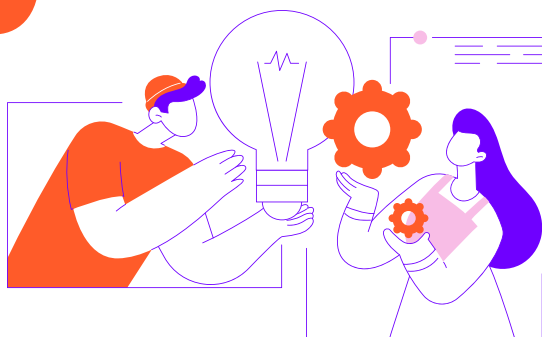
We apply this expertise to a variety of topics, such as:



Through our actions, we contribute to the achievement of eight of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

Our expertise

1

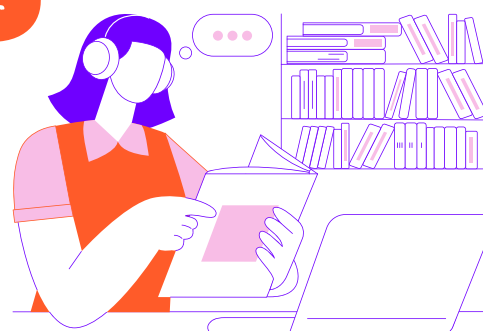


INNOVATIVE TOOLS

We design innovative tools to reach populations in the most challenging environments.

We use this innovation to increase our social impact by choosing affordable, inclusive, and open-source technology and designs to build a welcoming and inclusive knowledge-powered society.

2

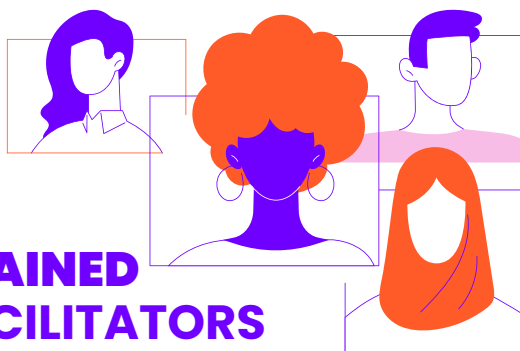


CUSTOMIZED CONTENT

We produce and select content adapted to the needs of our beneficiaries and partners.

Our iterative, co-constructed approach—from the initial needs assessment to defining the documentary policy and continuing throughout the project—ensures that audiences will receive the best-suited resources from a collection of 60 000 physical and digital items in 27 languages.

3



TRAINED FACILITATORS

We train mediators so that our tools and content remain accessible over time.

We support librarians, teachers, and educators involved in each project to guarantee accessibility, ownership, and sustainability.

our history

2007

Creation of Libraries Without Borders.

2008

Opening of the BSF warehouse in Epône, France, establishment of a book drive in the Paris region, and the first international shipments of books to Georgia.

2010

Launch of emergency libraries in Haiti following the earthquake.

2009

Creation of *Libraries Without Borders* in the United States. 

2012

International advocacy campaign "L'Urgence de lire" to raise awareness of intellectual fulfillment as a priority for emergency aid for people in danger zones.

2013

BSF adapts the American education platform Khan Academy into French.

2015

- Creation of the Ideas Cube, BSF's offline digital library.
- Ideas Box winning the *Google Impact Challenge*.

2014

- Creation of the Ideas Box, designed by Philippe Starck, with first deployments in Burundi refugee camps.
- Launch of the "Ouvrons + les bibliothèques" campaign in France to allow libraries to remain open at night, on Sundays, and during school vacations.

2016

- BSF responds to the “migration crisis” triggered by the war in Syria by establishing a presence along immigration routes in Europe.
- Creation of the web series “Q&A on secularism” following the 2015 terrorist attacks in France.

2017

- Deployment of twenty Ideas Box in Colombia as part of the peace process between the Colombian government and the FARC.
- Creation of Bibliothèques Sans Frontières in Belgium. 

2020

Covid 19 : awareness-raising actions, school tutoring, hosting live events on social networks.

2019

Creation of Kajou, BSF’s social enterprise.

2018

- Journalist Augustin Trapenard becomes a BSF sponsor.
- BSF establishes a presence in Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh.

2021

Creation of *Biblioteca Senza Frontiere* in Italy. 

2022

- War in Ukraine: Emergency mobilization of BSF in Europe.
- Launch of the free Karibu app to help Ukrainian refugees learn French and integrate in France.

2024

Creation of Bibliothèques Sans Frontières in Spain. 

2023

Creation of Bibliothèques Sans Frontières in Switzerland. 
Ideas Box exhibition dedicated to combating sexual violence in conflict at the UN headquarters in New York City.

The BSF network

BSF's mission is also carried out by "sister" associations that implement activities customized to specific national contexts, with the common goal of promoting access to knowledge for all.

BSF Belgium



In Belgium, BSF works to reduce social inequalities by providing citizens and field professionals with innovative educational resources. In 2024, their actions focused on three main pillars:

- **Reading and Language Skills** – Through a lively and inclusive approach to reading, BSF develops projects in schools, cultural centers, and youth clubs. Special attention is given to audiences with little or no access to books, making reading an accessible, rewarding, and unifying activity.
- **Digital Citizenship and Inclusion** – BSF strengthens basic digital skills for vulnerable populations, raises young people's awareness of digital citizenship, and trains frontline professionals to support digital literacy. These actions directly promote inclusive digital education to reduce the digital divide..
- **Equity and Strengthening the School System** – BSF supports those working in the school and extracurricular sectors to improve their teaching practices, and promotes access to free educational resources such as the Khan Academy platform, translated and adapted to Belgium's specific needs.

www.bibliosansfrontieres.be

BSF Italy

Since 2021, BSF Italy has been committed to the education and inclusion of the most populations most at risk by developing tools and resources for lifelong learning. Notable projects include:

- **Sea Beyond** – An Ideas Box in Naples to raise awareness among young people from disadvantaged neighborhoods about ocean protection.
- **Nino** – A digital inclusion program for people aged 50+, aiming to prevent misinformation, online fraud, and strengthen digital autonomy.
- **Space Up** – Book therapy for migrant youth aged 5 to 17 to combat social, cultural, and digital isolation.
- **Check It Out** – A program to help students fight misinformation in school libraries across four regions of the country.

www.bibliotechesenzafrontiere.it

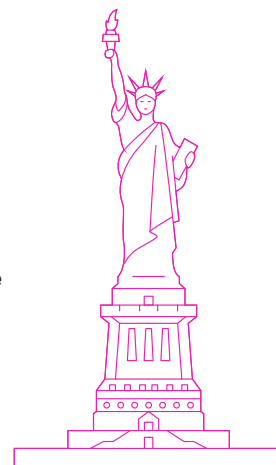


LWB US

Since 2014, Libraries Without Borders US has worked across the country to provide underserved communities with access to information and essential resources. In 2024, the organization focused on building partnerships with libraries to identify and remove barriers to access through multiple innovative actions:

- A study on effective mobile library strategies across the country to improve resource access in a rural Virginia community.
- Launch of the first-ever digital library directory in Puerto Rico to increase awareness of locally available services.
- Development of national partnerships between libraries and schools to expand student, family, and teacher access to library resources.

www.librarieswithoutborders.us

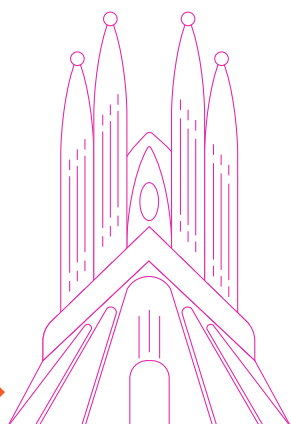


BSF Spain

Since 2024, BSF Spain has been adapting the organization's tools and expertise to local contexts, supporting the development and rebuilding of educational and cultural infrastructure affected by natural disasters and specific socio-demographic challenges.

- Following the DANA disaster that struck the Valencia region, we worked to deploy Ideas Box to restore access to culture and education in affected towns.
- Ideas Box will also be set up in several rural villages to provide access to culture and digital resources, and to strengthen social cohesion, especially during local festivals.
- We are also developing "Karibu Spain," a free mobile app designed to help migrants learn Spanish and facilitate their linguistic and social integration.

www.bibliosansfrontieres.org/espagne



BSF Switzerland

In 2024, newly created BSF Switzerland conducted a needs analysis regarding access to information across Switzerland. In partnership with Fnac, a major book drive was organized to support our work. Thanks to a dynamic board of directors, the first projects are expected to launch in 2025.

www.bibliosansfrontieres.org/bsf-suisse-fr



Our Actions

Libraries Without Borders creates tools, applications, and digital platforms to deliver knowledge directly to those who are furthest from it.

THE IDEAS BOX

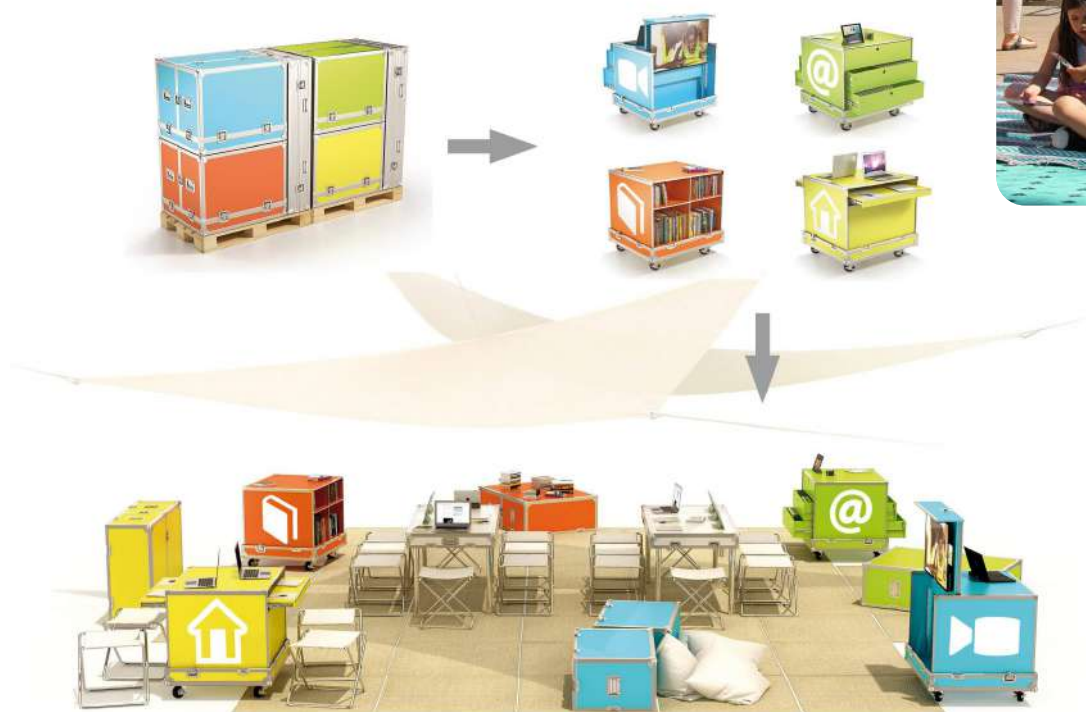
Designed by Philippe Starck for BSF in 2014, the Ideas Box is **an innovative mobile media library** that can be set up in twenty minutes to create a colorful, welcoming, and safe 100 m² space.

Inside, users find books, games, computers, and tablets, as well as creative and multimedia materials and a small area for movie screening.

The content of **each Ideas Box is unique**, carefully tailored to the needs of its intended audience—age, language, disabilities, etc.—as well as to the goals of local partners in the field.

“When you have lost everything, when you have nothing left, the only thing no one can take away from you is your dream.”

Philippe Starck,
Ideas Box designer



TEN YEARS OF IMPACT !

Ten years after the first Ideas Box deployment in Burundi, we conducted a major impact study with around fifty partners worldwide to **evaluate the relevance** of our projects and **their effects on beneficiary communities**.

The results portray a decade of collective mobilization, demonstrating that wherever it is deployed, **the Ideas Box acts as a catalyst for knowledge and social connection**. It is not just a tool—it is a true space for transformation.

*"The Ideas Box is an oasis.
A place of refuge, dreams, and resilience."*

Wenceslas Nyabenda,
Facilitator, Giriyuja Association – Burundi

191

*Ideas Box
deployed
worldwide*

2,7 M

visits since 2014

73%

*of partners say
the Ideas Box has
had a positive
impact on access
to education for
their beneficiaries*

4/5

*partners reached
new audiences
thanks to the
Ideas Box*

82%

*of partners
reported progress
in the quality of
services they
offer*

A CELEBRATION AT THE GUIMET MUSEUM IN PARIS

To mark this anniversary, we brought together our partners and supporters at the Guimet Museum for the **"Ideas Box Experience," a journey through 10 years of stories**—from the devastating earthquake in Haiti to the war in Ukraine, as well as Colombia, Bangladesh, Côte d'Ivoire, Afghanistan, and France.

Alongside President François Hollande, UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict Pramila Patten, and writer Atiq Rahimi and actress Alice Rahimi, the event looked back at our flagship projects and highlighted BSF teams' and partners' commitment to making Ideas Box spaces for:

- **Refuge** – Safe places to reconnect with oneself and others, and gain access to knowledge during crises.
- **Resistance** – Free spaces where learning becomes an act of defiance against oppression.
- **Peacemaking** – Libraries where culture and dialogue ease tensions and bring communities together.
- **Empowerment** – Inclusive environments where people can guide themselves, be creative, and build their future.

L'EXPÉRIENCE
IDEASBOX
10 YEARS

THE IDEAS CUBE

The Ideas Cube is a small server equipped with a digital library. It gives access to thousands of resources and training materials from BSF's catalog, without the need for an internet connection.

209

Ideas Cube deployed worldwide in 2024



THE KAJOU CARD

Created by BSF's social enterprise Kajou, Kajou Cards are microSD cards preloaded with educational content. When inserted into a mobile phone, they work like a themed library, accessible offline and without using mobile data.

170 k

Kajou users since 2020

78 k

Kajou Cards in circulation



KARIBU APP

Created by BSF in 2022, Karibu is a free app enabling non-French speakers to learn French quickly and independently from Arabic, Pashto, Ukrainian, or English.

Developed with teachers, Karibu offers numerous resources for oral communication in everyday situations (such as administrative procedures, transportation, and learning about French culture) and professional modules to support integration in recruiting sectors, such as hospitality and catering, manufacturing, and factory health and safety.

With its unique pedagogical approach based on the learner's native language, Karibu is a simple, accessible tool that complements French as a Foreign Language courses.



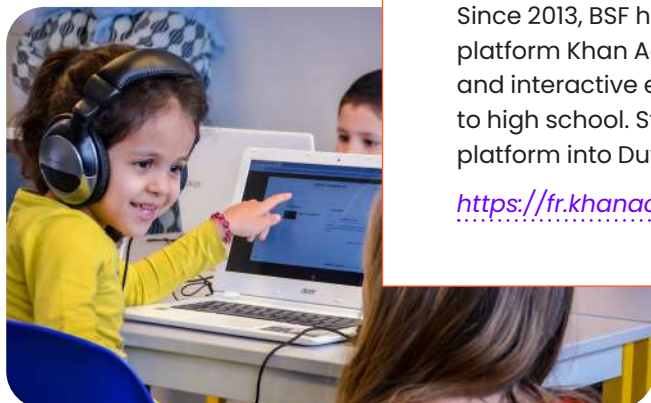
Scan to download
< from the Google Play Store
from the Apple Store >



+20k

users on Karibu

KHAN ACADEMY (FRENCH VERSION)



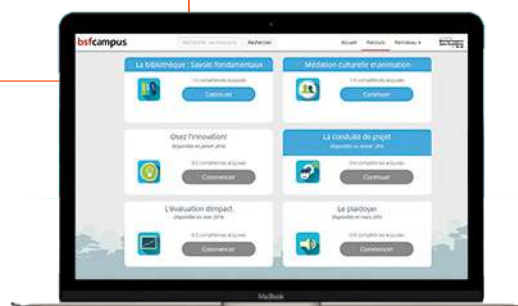
Since 2013, BSF has adapted and translated the American educational platform Khan Academy into French, offering thousands of free videos and interactive exercises in math and science ranging from elementary to high school. Starting in 2023, BSF Belgium has also adapted the platform into Dutch.

<https://fr.khanacademy.org>

BSF CAMPUS

BSF Campus offers French-speaking librarians and cultural entrepreneurs online courses on a variety of topics: welcoming migrant audiences, cultural mediation, project management, and more.

www.bsfcampus.org





Q&A ON SECULARISM

Alongside lawyers, teachers, and historians, BSF has created a web series, a book, and an educational kit to help educators better understand, explain, and protect the principles of secularism in France.

questions-reponses-laicite.fr

LES VOYAGEURS DU NUMÉRIQUE

The Voyageurs du Numérique (“Digital Travelers”) platform offers hundreds of activity sheets for associations, clubs, and libraries to help their audiences master everyday digital tools and gain a better understanding of media literacy.

www.voyageursdunumerique.org



BSF THEMA

BSF Thema compiles all of the activity sheets designed by BSF, available free of charge and in multiple languages, allowing librarians, teachers, and facilitators to lead workshops on various topics: literacy, media education, radio, and more.

www.bsfthema.org

1190

activity sheets
available in French,
English, Bengali, and
Arabic



FOCUS ON

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, AN OPPORTUNITY FOR INCREASING ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE

The rise in artificial intelligence, and in particular generative AI, opens up new opportunities to promote access to knowledge for all.

However, for populations in regions with limited infrastructure and connectivity, **large language models (LLMs) often remain inaccessible and unrepresentative of global linguistic and cultural diversity**, risking becoming a luxury and further widening the global educational and digital divide.

In response to this divide, BSF, Kajou, and the Pleias laboratory launched the **Ideas AI initiative** in an op-ed published in Le Monde at the end of 2024.

Our areas of advocacy

- Adapt models to local contexts to reflect and promote linguistic and cultural diversity
- Rely on open science models capable of functioning in resource-constrained environments
- Offer large-scale training to promote autonomy and understanding of these technologies

learn more...



Impactful initiatives



Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal

The social enterprise Kajou, created by BSF, provides offline access to a medical knowledge base and a chatbot for personalized patient care by community health workers.



Nigeria

We are collaborating with the Mukwege Foundation to make the "Red Line" guide more accessible and navigable, with the aim of raising awareness and enforcing international law in order to improve support for survivors of sexual violence in conflict.



Senegal

We are creating an LLM with a customized interface and content to help teachers improve their French language skills, thereby supporting their students' success.

FOCUS ON

THE "MISSION LIVRES,"
BSF'S HISTORIC BOOK INITIATIVE

Every year, BSF collects over 800 000 from cultural institutions, literary professionals, businesses, and individuals in France. These books are then sorted by volunteers and the team at Solibri, BSF's social enterprise, at our collection center near Paris.

→ Since
2007

569 954

books sent to 38 countries

651

beneficiary organizations
in the world

→ In 2024

22

regular volunteers working
to sort books

215

employees from 11 companies took part in
collecting and sorting books during our "Days of
Solidarity in Action"What happens to the books
donated to BSF?

THE COLLECTED BOOKS ARE
SORTED AND REFERENCED
BY OUR TEAMS AT THE BSF
COLLECTION CENTER

BOOKS THAT MEET THE
NEEDS OF BSF BENEFICIARIES
ARE USED IN BSF PROJECTS

WHEN THEY DO NOT MEET BSF'S
NEEDS, THE BOOKS ARE RESOLD
ON THE SECOND-HAND MARKET.



OTHERS ARE DONATED
TO LIBRARIES, SCHOOLS,
AND PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS
AROUND THE WORLD



THE PROCEEDS FUND BSF
PROJECTS AND THE PURCHASE
OF BOOKS FROM LOCAL
PUBLISHERS.

Books that are in too poor condition to be given a new home are recycled.

Find a collection point



Every year since 2013, BSF and Fnac have organized a large-scale book drive in all stores in France (and Switzerland) to collect books from the general public to stock our solidarity libraries around the world. In the Greater Paris region, partner locations collect books for BSF throughout the year.

Our impact

With a presence across five continents thanks to teams working alongside local partners, BSF is expanding its activities to reach the largest possible number of beneficiaries and achieve systemic impact.

24*

countries where we were present in 2024

462 503

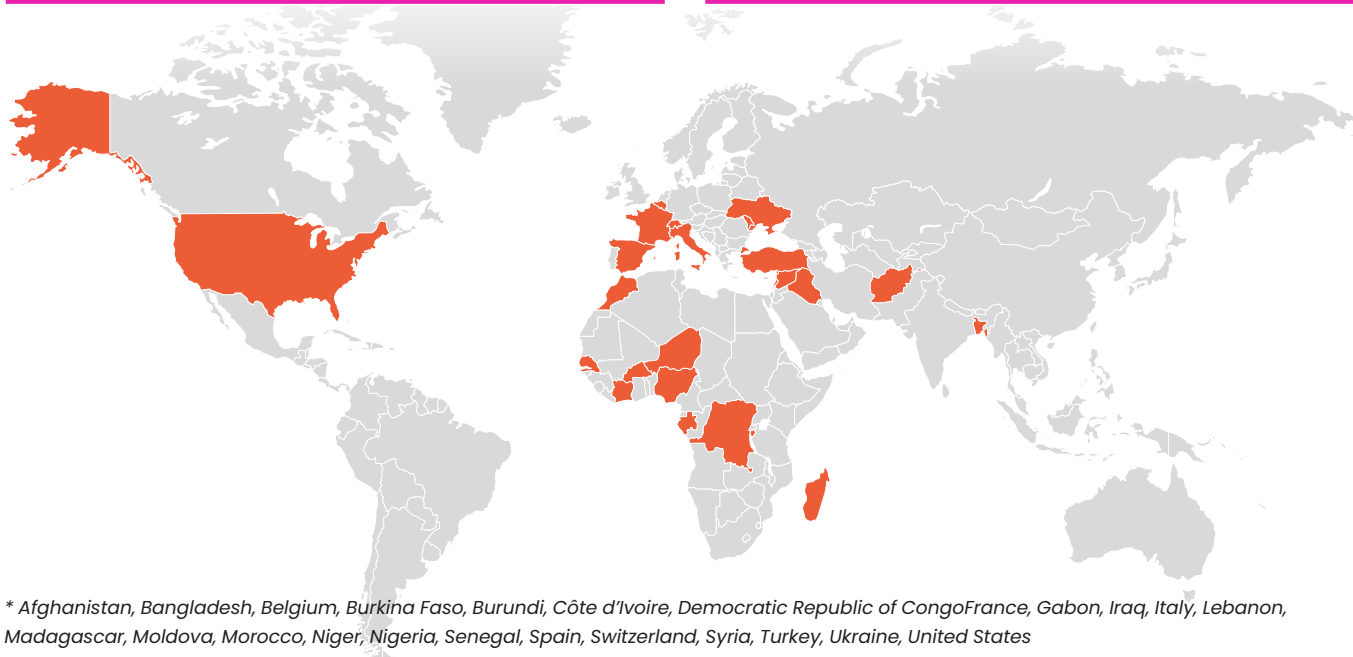
beneficiaries in 2024

204

employees in 15 countries in 2024
+ 23 **Kajou** employees + 12 **Solibri** employees

17 464

librarians, mediators, and teachers trained
in 2024



* Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, France, Gabon, Iraq, Italy, Lebanon, Madagascar, Moldova, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Spain, Switzerland, Syria, Turkey, Ukraine, United States

BSF International offices Headquarters in France (Montreuil)

- Bangladesh (Cox's Bazar)
- Burkina Faso (Ouagadougou)
- Burundi (Bujumbura)
- Côte d'Ivoire (Abidjan)
- Jordan (Amman)
- Moldova (Chişinău)
- Nigeria (Maiduguri)
- Democratic Republic of Congo (Kinshasa)
- Senegal (Dakar)
- Ukraine (Lviv)

10 operational offices
under BSF International

5 national associations

Members of the
BSF Network

- BSF Belgium
- BSF Spain
- BSF Italy
- BSF Switzerland
- LWB United States

Highlights of 2024



January

- BSF and the Université of Côte d'Azur co-organize an international symposium on sexual violence in conflict, in the presence of the UN
- BSF partners with Strasbourg, UNESCO's "World Book Capital"



February

- The French learning app "Bonjour France" becomes "Karibu" and expands to include Arabic, Pashto, and professional modules

March

- Third edition of *Au Bonheur des Lettres*, the literary performance supporting BSF's work for girls and women
- Inauguration of 14 Ideas Box with the Ivorian Minister of Youth

September

- Major solidarity book drive with Fnac: 180 000 books collected for BSF
- The Ideas Box is showcased at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs during the European Heritage Days

August

- BSF partners with the hit film *The Count of Monte Cristo*



June

- Inauguration of the SEA BEYOND Ideas Box during UNESCO's World Conference on Ocean Education in Venice



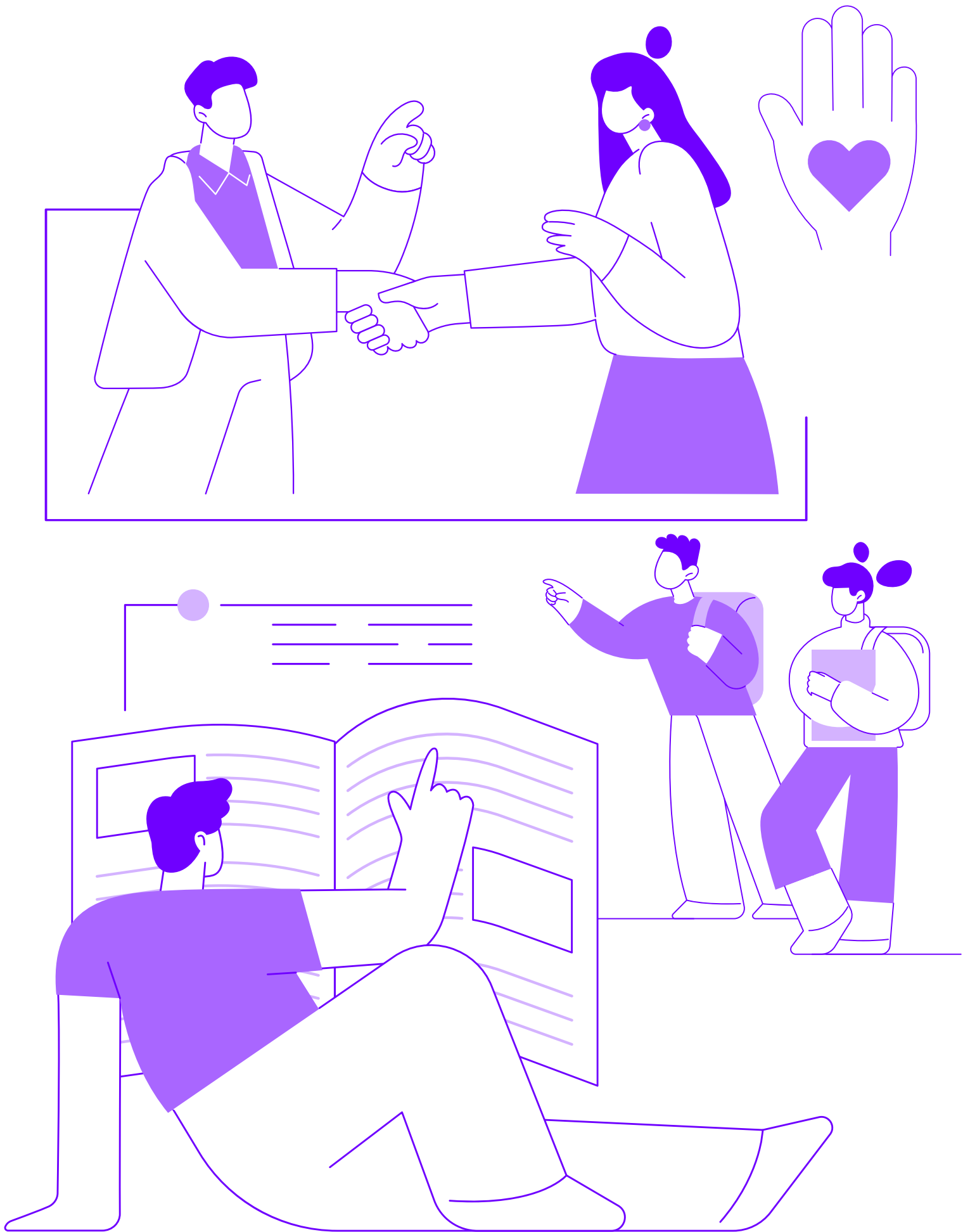
October

- BSF participates in the Francophonie Summit in Villers-Cotterêts
- BSF organizes a series of webinars on the use of AI in education

November

- Celebration of the Ideas Box's 10th anniversary at the Musée Guimet in Paris
- Fourth solidarity Design Jam at the Learning Planet Institute





Part II

WHERE WE ACT

1.
In Emergency
Situations

2.
Supporting
Development

3.
Promoting Equal
Opportunities

That's why **we create safe and welcoming spaces** where children and adults can come together, express themselves, and envision a better future.

AFGHANISTAN



1,4million

A group of young girls, likely students, are seated in rows. They are wearing white headscarves and dark clothing. The girls have serious or concerned expressions on their faces, looking directly at the camera. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the same group of girls.

BANGLADESH

SUPPORTING THE EDUCATION OF ROHINGYA REFUGEES



French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (CDCS)



Acted, Prantic



1 Ideas Box, 3 Ideas Cube & 6 micro-libraries

In the Kutupalong camp, we provide girls and women with the resources to continue learning and rebuild self-confidence in safe and inclusive learning spaces.



MIDDLE EAST

AN EDUCATIONAL RESPONSE TO HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES

In November 2024, following bombings by the Israeli army in southern Lebanon, the Crisis and Support Center of the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs delivered 32 tons of humanitarian aid—including **two BSF Ideas Box**.

They were delivered to our local partner, the NGO Amel, with whom we have been working since 2021 to strengthen access to education and foster social cohesion between refugees and host communities.

With support from the French Development Agency, our mission will continue in Lebanon, as well as in Iraq and Palestine in 2025.

MOROCCO

REBUILDING AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE



French Development Agency & the Société Générale Group



Migration et Développement, SOS Villages d'Enfants, El Amane pour la Femme et l'Enfant, Mediterranean Women's Fund



2 Ideas Box & 12 micro-libraries

Following the 2023 earthquake, we help students continue their education and support the social and economic reintegration of impacted communities.

585

*schools and boarding facilities
damaged by the earthquake
(Moroccan Ministry of Education)*



MEDITERRANEAN SEA

BOOKS FOR A PEACEFUL VOYAGE



Crowdfunding



SOS Humanity



500 books, board games & art materials

On board a rescue vessel, we set up a library to offer those rescued at sea a moment of respite. The books are also used as a tool for psychosocial support in the challenging context of exile.

Visit our Youtube channel
to watch Augustin Trapenard's
report from on board.



NIGERIA

SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT

 French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (CDCS)
& L'Oréal Fund for Women

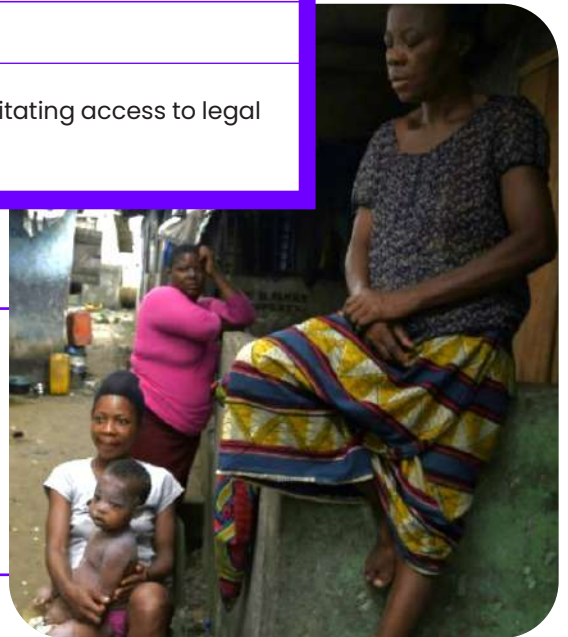
 We Are NOT Weapons of War

 BackUp app & 20 Ideas Cube

We support organizations working with survivors by facilitating access to legal and psychosocial services.

+7 000

women and girls were victims
of rape or other forms of sexual
violence in Nigerian conflicts
between 2009 and 2017 (UN)



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT

 L'Oréal Fund for Women

 Maison Dorcas – Panzi Foundation of Dr. Mukwege

 2 Ideas Cube & 1 micro-library

In South Kivu, we help women and children who are survivors of sexual violence in conflict rebuild and reintegrate using educational and cultural resources.



SYRIA

CONTINUING EDUCATION IN REFUGEE CAMPS

 French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (CDCS)

 Norwegian Refugee Council, Un Ponte Per, DOZ

 49 Ideas Cube

In refugee camps and community centers, we facilitate the continuity of children's education and strengthen cohesion among populations displaced by conflict.



TURKEY

CONTINUING EDUCATION AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE

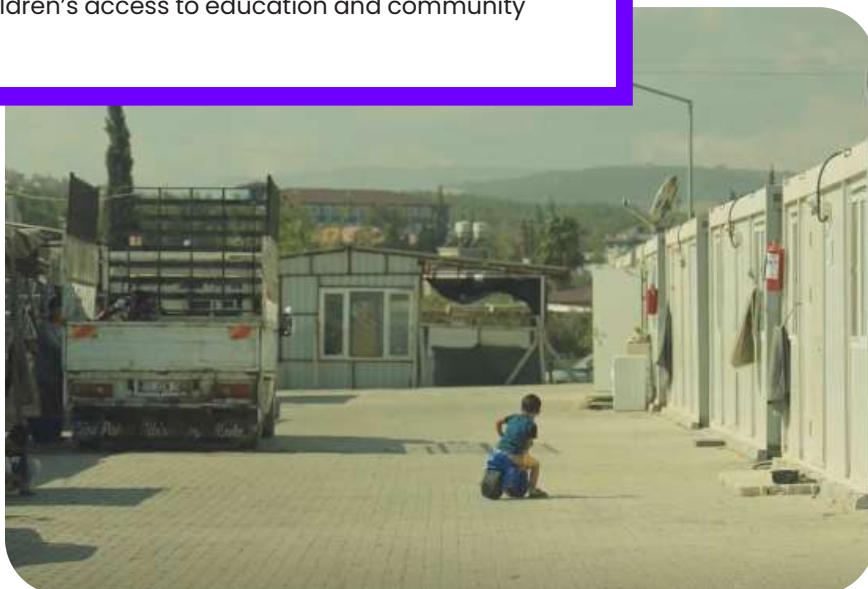
 Fondation de France

 International Blue Crescent

 1 Ideas Box

In the container city of Kirikhan, we support people displaced by the 2023 earthquake by preserving children's access to education and community cohesion.

Visit our YouTube channel
to watch Augustin Trapenard's report from the scene.



UKRAINE

REBUILDING DESPITE THE WAR

 French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (CDCS)

 Norwegian Refugee Council

 4 Ideas Box, 20 Ideas Cube & 360 Kajou cards

Faced with the destruction of schools and the challenge of maintaining access to education, we support teachers and provide psychosocial assistance to thousands of children in the Kharkiv and Donetsk regions in eastern Ukraine.

40%

of children in Ukraine study exclusively online or via hybrid learning (UNICEF)



Supporting Development

In many countries, poverty, lack of educational and cultural infrastructure, shortage of qualified teachers, and inequalities between rural and urban areas present major obstacles to access to knowledge.

To overcome them, BSF creates learning spaces and methods that are dynamic, inclusive, and adapted to local needs, working with partners, local communities, education authorities, and government offices.

BURKINA FASO

FIGHTING UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG YOUNG ADULTS



Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands



Tanager, AUXFIN, Wakat Lab



10 Ideas Box, 50 Ideas Cube & 9 000 Kajou cards

With the “Opportunity Hub” project, we guide young people aged 18 to 35 toward employment through digital resources and educational tools that foster learning, vocational training, and entrepreneurship.

BURUNDI

IMPROVING ACCESS TO JUSTICE



Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands



Cordaid & Auxfin



25 Ideas Cube & 3 000 Kajou cards

We digitize legal texts to provide citizens with faster and more independent access to the law in the provinces of Makamba and Bujumbura Mairie.



© Auxfin

BURUNDI

EMPOWERING YOUTH THROUGH LANGUAGE

Embassy of France in Burundi



Ministry of East African Community Affairs, Youth, Sports, and Culture



16 Ideas Cube, 2 000 Kajou cards & 3 000 books

With the Karibu app, we help young people learn French to strengthen their skills and facilitate their professional integration.



BURUNDI

EDUCATING TO PROTECT NATIONAL PARKS

UNDP, European Union, Belgium (Dukingire ibidukikije)



Burundian Office for Environmental Protection



1 Ideas Cube & 10 educational kits

In thirty schools near Kibira and Rusizi national parks, we raise student awareness about ecological issues, train their teachers and local collaborators, and promote biodiversity.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

GUIDING YOUNG ADULTS TOWARD THEIR FUTURE

-  Ivorian Ministry of Youth Promotion, Professional Integration, and Civic Service
-  Agence Emploi Jeunes
-  14 Ideas Box

We support young people with little or no access to education and employment by helping them build professional projects and develop their skills.



ITALY, BURUNDI, CÔTE D'IVOIRE & FRANCE

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT OCEAN PROTECTION

-  Prada Group, UNESCO-IOC
-  Fondazione Quartieri Spagnoli
-  1 Ideas Box & educational kits

As part of the SEA BEYOND ocean education program, we educate children from disadvantaged neighborhoods in Naples about ocean protection through activities on biodiversity, climate, and sustainable resource management within an Ideas Box specially designed with UNESCO-IOC experts. Thematic content has also been integrated into 18 Ideas Box in France, Burundi, and Côte d'Ivoire.



SENEGAL

PROMOTING YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

Mastercard Foundation, World Food Programme



Ministry of Agriculture of Senegal, ISRA, ANPEJ, RENPES, Sénégal Service



18 Ideas Cube & 20 000 Kajou cards

In rural areas, we help create employment opportunities for young people aged 18 to 35—70% of whom are women—by supporting initiatives in agriculture, entrepreneurship, and digital skills.



MOLDOVA

HELPING PEOPLE FACE NATURAL AND MAN-MADE DISASTERS

French Development Agency

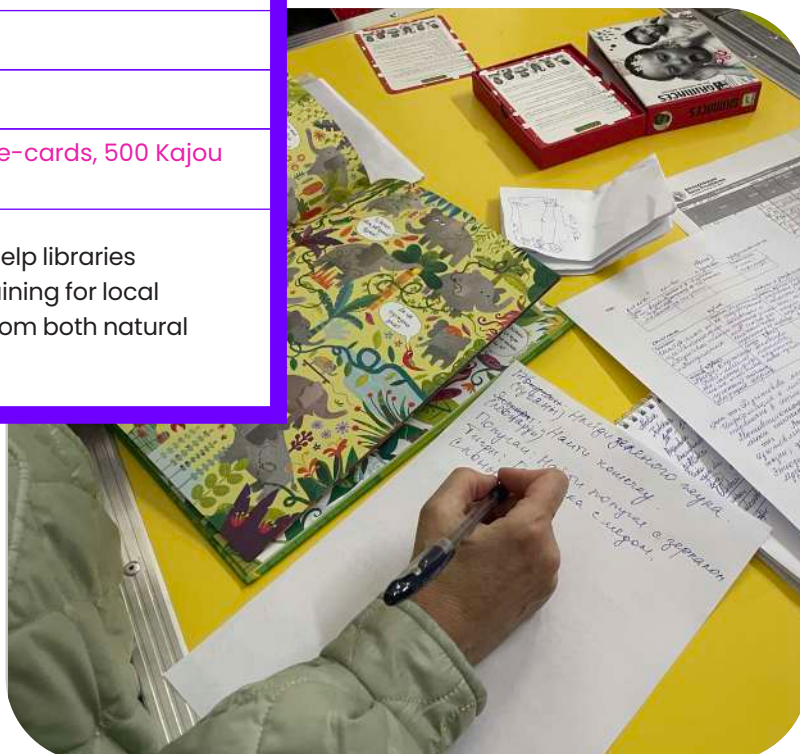


Acted & Reach



1 Ideas Box, 11 Ideas Cube, 8 250 e-cards, 500 Kajou cards, books & games

In the rural region of Anenii Noi, we help libraries become places of resilience and training for local communities facing growing risks from both natural and man-made disasters.



SENEGAL

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION
IN ISOLATED AREAS



Development Innovation Fund



Ministry of Education of Senegal



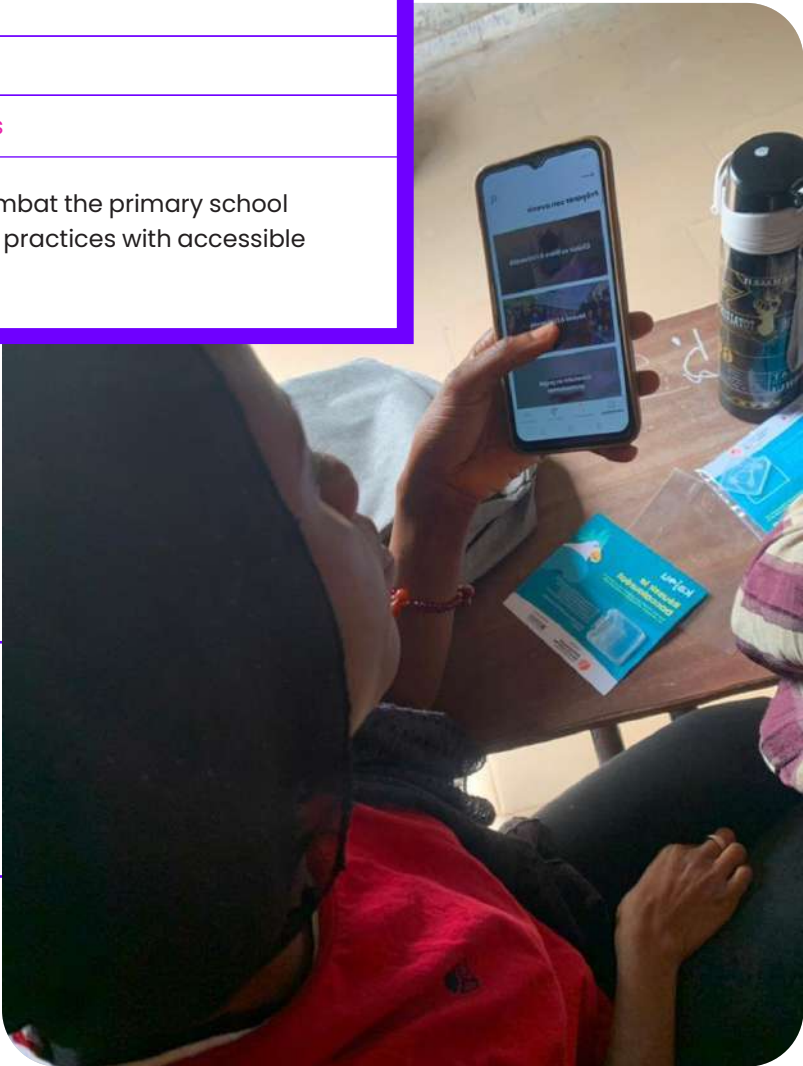
70 Ideas Cube & 700 Kajou cards

In the Kédougou region, we help combat the primary school dropout rate by enriching teachers' practices with accessible digital tools and resources.

Discover the video
on our YouTube channel

82%

of children in the Kédougou region
experience multidimensional poverty





Promoting Equal Opportunities

In France, ensuring access to knowledge for all is also a struggle. Despite an exceptional library network—places of discovery, sharing, and empowerment—many people remain excluded or drift away from them.

Alongside our partners, we work to make these spaces more accessible and to widely disseminate tools and educational resources that promote social, cultural, and civic inclusion.

FRANCE

MICROBIBLI: BRINGING CULTURE TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD



Fondation Cultura, Ministry of Culture, Fondation Pierre Bellon, Fondation Almayuda



29 705 books distributed

From metropolitan France to its overseas territories, we support associations, healthcare facilities, shop owners, and committed citizens in creating their own micro-libraries that connect people through reading. In 2024, among 30 awardees, 14 project leaders under the age of 25 received tailored support.

Learn more
on Microbibli



1/3

of rural residents live in a town
with no library (French
Ministry of Culture)



FRANCE

MY BOOKBAG: SHARING THE JOY OF READING AND WELCOMING OTHERS

Centre National du Livre, Fondation Valentin Ribet, Fondation du Crédit Mutuel pour la Lecture, Strasbourg World Book Capital



Académies of Paris, Amiens, Aix-Marseille & Créteil



16 150 books distributed

We offer thousands of newly-arrived students in France backpacks filled with books selected by their classmates, to support them in learning the local language and discovering their host country.



FRANCE

MY FIRST LIBRARY: READING TO REDUCE INEQUALITIES

Académie de Nantes, Grand-Orly Seine Bièvre intermunicipal authority, Fonds MAIF pour l'Éducation, Fondation Valentin Ribet



DSDEN Mayenne, École de la Vallée aux Renards (L'Haÿ-les-Roses)



10 143 books distributed

We support 1 000 children from disadvantaged backgrounds, from preschool to 6th grade, in discovering the joy of reading. Thanks to our program, each child builds their first personal library by receiving ten books of their choice.



2/3

of low-income families have no books at home (Golden Steps ABA)

FRANCE

PRO'PULSION: ACCELERATING YOUTH EMPLOYMENT



TotalEnergies Corporate Foundation, Regional Council of Bourgogne-Franche-Comté, Departmental Council of Haute-Garonne, Fédération Léo Lagrange, City of Mont-Saint-Martin, Forvia, Prefecture of Guyane, Info Jeunes Jura



7 Ideas Box

In rural areas, we meet with young people who are out of school and don't work in convivial, connected spaces to help them broaden their professional horizons and empower them to dream.

12%

of young people in France (ages 15-29) are not working, in school, or attending a training program (INSEE)



FRANCE

LES ATHLÈTES DE L'INFO: PROMOTING MEDIA LITERACY THROUGH SPORTS



UEFA Foundation for Children, Ministry of Culture



Red Star FC, CSM L'Île-Saint-Denis



1 educational kit

In Île-de-France, we support young soccer players by developing their critical thinking skills to navigate the dangers of the digital world and online information.

70%

of young people in France (ages 15-34) use social media as a source of news daily (Médiamétrie)

RADIO DES MOTS: FIGHTING ILLITERACY IN FRENCH GUIANA

INJEP (Youth Experimentation Fund), French Ministry of Culture, Fondation VINCI pour la Cité, Territorial Authority of Guyane



Making Waves, Atelier Canopé Guyane



1 educational kit and 1 Radio Box

We help combat illiteracy by training local educators to run radio workshops and create podcasts.

41%

of adults in Guyane aged 18-64 experience difficulties with reading and writing (INSEE)

**FRANCE, ITALY, POLAND, ROMANIA, AND LATVIA****LIBRI: INTEGRATING EXILED COMMUNITIES**

European Union – Asylum and Migration Fund



ANVITA, ACV, KISC, FRISI, EBILDA, BSF Italia



E-PANEMA platform and practical guides

At the head of an EU consortium, we support libraries in welcoming exiled populations by sharing best practices, resources, and networking opportunities.





Part III

OUR COMMIT- MENTS

1.
Building a
Sustainable Model

2.
Take action with
us

3.
Our Supporters

Building a Sustainable Model

In line with BSF's strategy plan Horizon 2030, establishing a **virtuous development model** lies at the heart of our commitment to achieve systemic and sustainable impact.

Environmental, social, and governance considerations therefore play an increasingly important role in our strategic thinking and in our day-to-day activities.

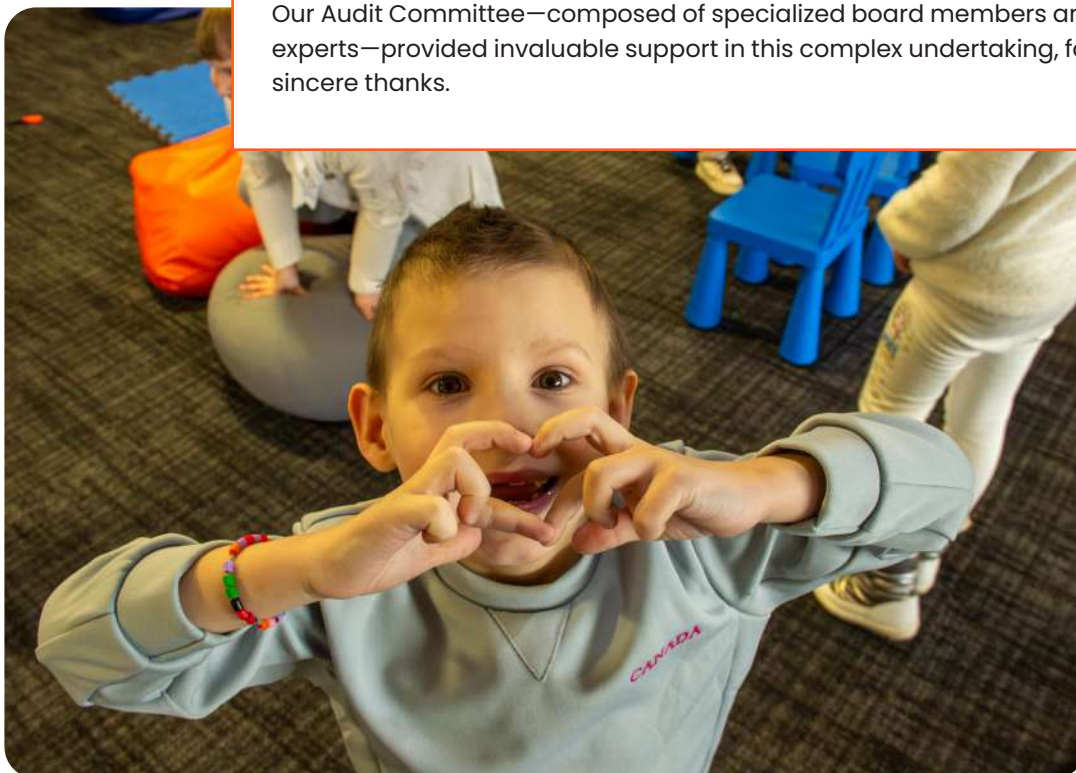


Edouard Delbende,
Deputy CEO

Strengthening governance in the face of increased challenges

In 2024, we continued strengthening our organization to make it more resilient in a sector facing increasing constraints, particularly in terms of fundraising. We carried out a complete overhaul of our financial and budgetary management tools and procedures.

Our Audit Committee—composed of specialized board members and qualified external experts—provided invaluable support in this complex undertaking, for which I extend my sincere thanks.





Alexandra Bourdekas,
HR Director

Strategic reinforcement to support organizational growth

Amid BSF's growth, the creation of a dedicated Human Resources Department marked the association's goal to structure and further improve this crucial service.

At headquarters, our priority was to improve the employee experience throughout the career cycle—from recruitment to onboarding, regular team support, and annual evaluations, including special attention to staff well-being.

Our teams in the field also benefited from enhanced monitoring and support, further empowering them and continuing to improve our actions.

Collaborating with the Social and Economic Committee enabled constructive dialogue, serving both staff well-being and our mission.

Abel Sollier,
Logistics Director



Sharing and decentralizing for greener logistics

Continuing efforts from previous years, we worked to reduce BSF's carbon footprint.

By pooling infrastructure, transport, procurement, storage, and even human resources with other organizations, we not only rationalized costs and optimized supply chains, but also reduced our carbon emissions.

Decentralizing the services we provide to other countries remains a major development strategy, which will significantly reduce shipping volumes in the future.

We have also continued our daily awareness campaigns among BSF staff on recycling and waste reduction.

Take action with us

Since 2007, BSF has worked to build strong, lasting relationships with partners and its community. **Whether you are a company or an individual, there are many ways to support us!**

Get your company involved!

→ Financial support, in-kind donations, or skills-based volunteering

Each year, several major partners provide ongoing financial support, allowing us to invest long term in amplifying our impact—particularly in **research and development** projects that enhance the precision and effectiveness of our work.

You can also support us by **rounding up** at the register, having a **portion of your paycheck** regularly donated, or by **selling goods that fund our actions**. In 2024, for example, Sézane renewed its commitment by selling a “Book Club” T-shirt whose full profits went to BSF. Hachette Livre also released three solidarity notebook designs to support our projects.

BSF can also receive in-kind donations (supplies, IT equipment, books, etc.) or **receive employees for skills-based volunteer projects** lasting from a few days to several years, and covering areas such as finance, law, IT development, or project management. .

→ Countless ways to involve your employees

Organize a book drive at your workplace, help us sort books at our collection center in the Paris region, or participate in our annual solidarity hackathon—the Design Jam—to dream up future projects with us.



DID YOU KNOW ?

All financial, in-kind, or skills-based donations to BSF qualify for a corporate tax deduction of 60% of the donation amount, within legal limits.

Get involved!

→ Support BSF financially

Loyal donors

BSF currently relies on **3 000 monthly donors**. And their ongoing commitment is crucial: It allows us to rapidly mobilize our own funds in emergencies, while also financing research and development to continuously improve our tools and content.



Individuals can also commit to becoming regular donors and benefit from a 66% tax deduction!



→ A trusted label

BSF holds the IDEAS label, certifying compliance with the highest standards in governance, financial management, and impact evaluation.



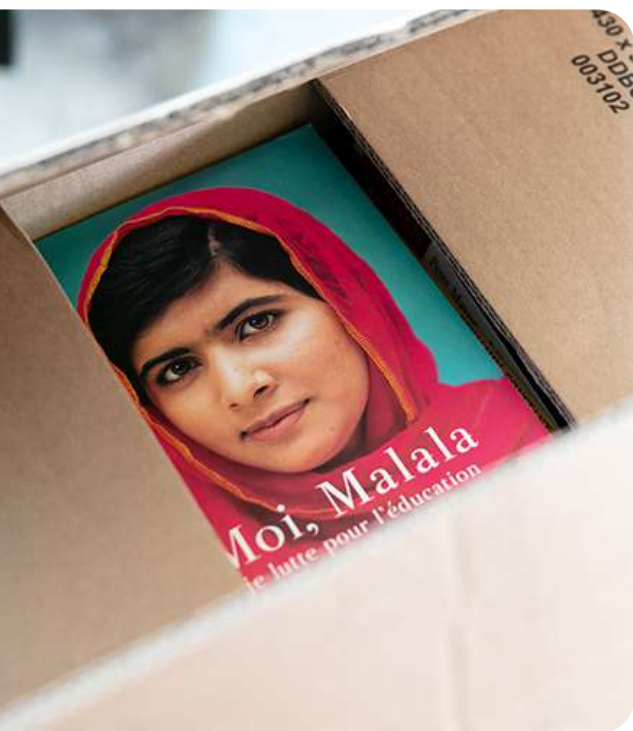
La Fondation pour le Partage de la Connaissance (The Knowledge Sharing Foundation)

Created by BSF President Patrick Weil, the foundation supports projects related to library creation and strengthening worldwide, particularly those led by BSF.

DID YOU KNOW ?

If you are subject to the IFI (French wealth tax), you can make a donation to the Foundation for Knowledge Sharing and benefit from a tax deduction of 75%, up to €50,000.

The Foundation is also authorized to receive bequests and endowments. Contact us to learn more!



The BSF Literary Circle

The Literary Circle, hosted by BSF patron Augustin Trapenard, brings together major donors and close supporters of BSF several times a year for literary evenings with authors.

In 2024, guests included Pénélope Bagieu, Agnès Martin-Lugand, Atiq Rahimi, and Feurat Alani. For the first time, a literary circle was held in Nice with writer Anne Berest.

→ Volunteering

Our teams regularly need **volunteers** to expand their reach in France by assisting with event support, graphic design, book sorting, and more.



INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED OR INVOLVING YOUR COMPANY ?

Contact us !



Our Supporters

We thank all our partners for their trust and support. Without them, the successes of 2024 would not have been possible.

Private partners



→ Investors



- Beaux Arts & Cie
- Be-Cloud
- Benevity
- Bredin Prat
- Candriam
- Capgemini
- Caritas Germany
- Cartier
- CBTW
- Corail Analytics
- Epson
- Fab Inc.
- Federation Studios
- Fondation Caritas France
- Fondation de France
- Fondation d'entreprise Hermès
- Fondation Francis Lefebvre
- Fondation La Poste
- Fonds de dotation Banijay Group
- Fonds Geoy
- Foundever
- French Touch Dreamin
- Gandi.net
- Goodeed
- Google
- HOMEBOX
- Humando
- IPAG
- Janssen
- Khaleej Digital Group
- Kiejman Marembert
- Kt consulting
- La Bande
- Lagardère Travel Retail France
- Le Bon Marché Rive Gauche
- Lefebvre Sarrut
- Librinova
- Lilo
- microDON
- NeoByteServices
- Onepoint
- OpenText
- Opinion Way
- Pathé Films
- Prada Group
- Promepar Asset Management
- Publicis
- RX Global
- Salesforce
- Secours Catholique – Caritas France
- SNCF Gares & Connexions
- Sopra Steria Group
- Startechup
- Tata Consultancy Services
- TLTl
- Vivendi
- Voce Verso
- Wemanity
- WeWard

→ Founding partners of Ideas Box

*Agir pour le
développement humain*
FONDATION PIERRE BELLON

**OPEN SOCIETY
FOUNDATIONS**

S+ARCK®

Our Supporters

Public partners



→ Our awards and distinctions



Operational partners

- ABRM (Réseau national des bibliothèques de la République de Moldavie)
- Académie d'Aix Marseille
- Académie d'Amiens
- Académie de Créteil
- Académie de Nantes
- **Académie de Paris**
- **Académie de Strasbourg**
- Acted
- A-HELP Ukraine
- Aid Gate Organization (AGO)
- Amel
- **Association des femmes juristes du Burundi (AFJB)**
- Atelier Canopé 973
- Aurore
- **Auxfin**
- Bookinou
- Care
- Caritas Allemagne
- Caritas Bangladesh
- Caritas Ukraine
- CASP
- CDDO Afghanistan
- Cecler
- Center for Public Activity of Western Donbass Pavlograd
- Charity Fund "Doctor Svidersky Hospital" Bilyi Kamin
- Coallia
- Communauté d'agglomération Sophia Antipolis
- **Community institution of general secondary education Balabyne**
- **Cordaid**
- **CSM Foot Ile Saint Denis**
- Délégation territoriale CRf de la Reunion
- Delegation territoriale CRf de Mayotte
- DOZ
- **Dr. Denis Mukwege Foundation**
- Each one
- Eval Lab
- Faya Pèkèn
- Fédération des ligues des droits des femmes Maroc (FLDF)
- Fisherman Club of Ukraine
- Fondation Panzi
- Fondation STAMM
- France Terre d'Asile
- Fundacja Kocham Debniki
- Fundacja Life Polska
- Fundacja Ocalenie
- Giriyuja
- la Marioupol
- IECD
- Industreet
- Info Jeunes Jura
- Institut français de Tunisie
- International Blue Crescent (IBC)
- Intersos
- Jimbere
- Kapytolivka Municipal Library
- Kobo Hub (RDC)
- Kvadrat Center Vinnytsia
- La Cimade
- La Croix Rouge Française
- Les Pas mêlés
- Ligue de l'enseignement
- Local Economic Development Agency of Prykarpattya Burshtyn
- Love for Livres
- Lviv Municipal Library (Biblioteka Multiplex)
- Lycée technique de Lviv
- Making Waves
- Medica Mondiale
- Migration & Développement
- Mriia (Dream) Zaporizhzhia
- Nadia's Initiative
- Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
- Office burundais de protection de l'environnement (OBPE)
- People in Need
- Pleias
- Première Urgence International
- Protection Judiciaire de la Jeunesse Guyane
- PUC Football
- Red Star FC
- Rescue Now
- Réseau National des Pairs Éducateurs du Sénégal (RENPEs)
- Réunion des musées nationaux
- Right To Play
- Sama for Development Organization
- Save the Children
- Social Action for Development Burundi (SAD)
- SOS Autism
- SOS Humanity
- SOS Villages d'Enfants
- SpivDiia
- Street Child
- Tamer Institute
- Tanager
- Terre Sans Frontières
- UA Libraries
- Un punte per (UPP)
- UNFPA
- Unitatem / Fundacja Poland Welcome
- Université de Ghent
- Uplift
- Village des Solutions AFPA Lille - Lomme
- Ville d'Amiens
- Ville d'Avignon
- Ville de Marseille
- Ville de Mont Saint Martin
- Ville de Narbonne
- Ville de Semur en Auxois
- Ville de Strasbourg
- Ville du Kremlin-Bicêtre
- Wakatlab Burkina Faso
- We are NOT Weapons of War (WWoW)
- We are brothers, we are Ukrainians
- We World
- Wild Chimpanzee Foundation



Part IV

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Treasurer's Statement

→ Julien Sérignac, Treasurer of BSF

“ This scaling continued in 2024, with a 15% growth in operating income, reaching a total of €14 million.”

The year 2024 marked the second full year of implementation of our Horizon 2030 strategy. Alongside the objectives “Do Better” and “Share Knowledge,” the “Do More” objective is achieved through our ambition to triple our impact between 2020 and 2030. **This scaling continued in 2024, with a 15% growth in operating income, reaching a total of €14 million.**

In an international context marked by uncertainty and increasing pressure on public funding, **this dynamic demonstrates the resilience and agility of our model.** The development of our private resources (+44%) offset the contraction of public subsidies (-9%), showcasing the importance of our financial diversification strategy in recent years.

However, this growth was accompanied by a significant increase in expenses (+22%) linked to higher direct project costs and the decision to strengthen our operational capacity both in the field and at headquarters.

In addition, significant accounting adjustments amounting to €360K were required as part of the reliability efforts undertaken with our new chartered accountant.

As a result, the net outcome stands at -€1.27M, a deficit higher than projected in our 2022 multi-annual business plan (-€413K). Cumulatively since 2022, however, **our results remain in line with the plan,** thanks to better-than-expected surpluses in 2022 and 2023. The goal for BSF is now to return to budget balance in 2025.

Despite this deficit, **our financial structure remains solid, with equity of €1.3M** and a financial debt-to-equity ratio under 20%.

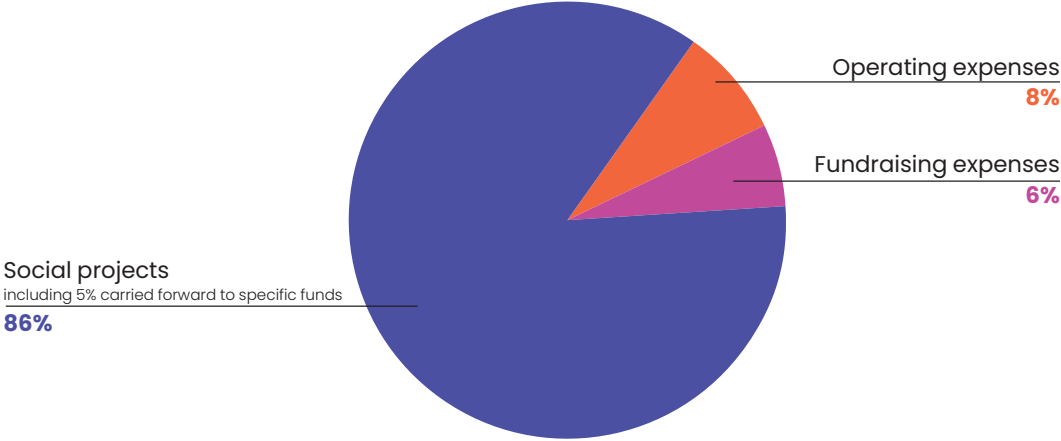
Our organization's social enterprises, Kajou and Solibri, continue to consolidate, with significant revenue growth and a goal of returning to a balanced budget also planned for 2025.

2025 will be a pivotal year: We will need to maintain this momentum while controlling our costs and ensuring the sustainability of our model.

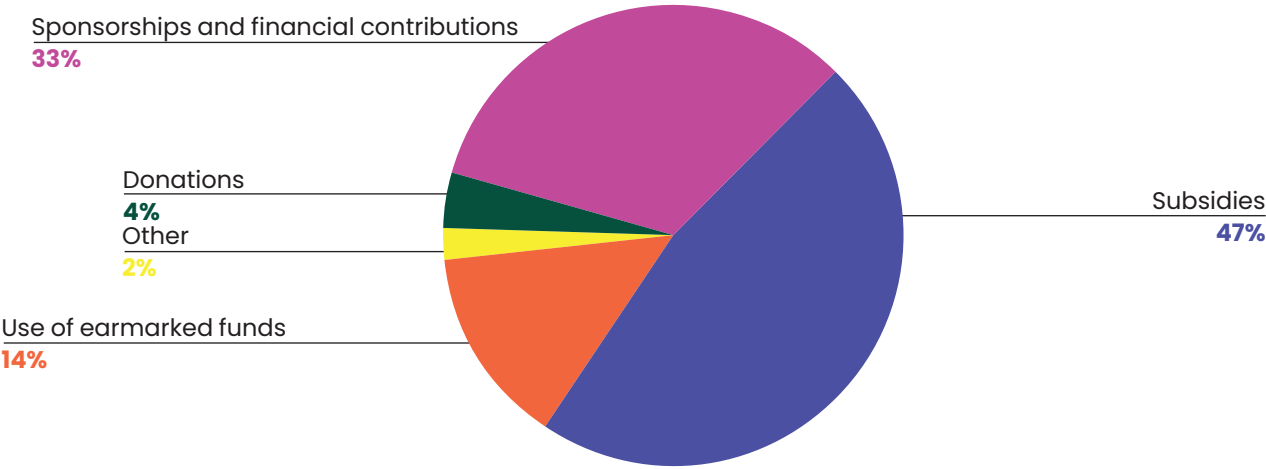
This will require increased care in managing our cash flow, covering our fixed costs, and continuing our fundraising efforts, particularly within the private sector.

More than ever, **our ambition remains unchanged: We aim for systemic impact, within a rigorous and sustainable budgetary framework,** in order to promote access to knowledge for all.

→ Use of funds



→ Source of funds



15%
increase in total resources
between 2023 and 2024

1,3M€
equity at the end of 2024

20,9M€
total resources in the BSF
system in 2024 (including
Kajou, Solibri, and the
national associations
BSF Belgium, BSF
Italy, and LWB US)



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