

Lubuto's vision is a world where all children and youth realize their rights and are empowered to reach their full potential



Libraries transforming Africa's next generation

lu·bu·to

n. enlightenment, knowledge and light

in the Bemba language

Through advocacy and direct work with young Lubuto has people, successfully pioneered public the use of libraries as a platform for cross-sectoral impact and challenged perceptions narrow about what a library can be and do. We are guiding African libraries connecting in children and youth with resources, services, and that programs empower them to realize their rights and transform their societies for the better.

Lubuto Library Partners sustainably creates opportunities for equitable education and poverty reduction in Africa. Its mission is to enlighten and enrich the lives of young people—especially those not in school and highly vulnerable—through responsive library services. Lubuto constructs a growing network of welcoming public libraries inspired by indigenous architecture, developing a model in Zambia poised to scale regionally. The libraries are owned and operated by committed local organizations. Lubuto maintains a continuous learning process, introducing children and youth services adapted to community needs.



Lubuto libraries have served more than 150,000 children and youth in over 1.5 million visits

Lubuto Model Library in Lusaka receives an average of 2,200 visits per week

How do libraries transform young lives?

Lubuto libraries provide knowledgeably curated, highest quality print collections and digital resources.

The libraries offer dynamic **programs** for education, psychosocial support, and self-expression through reading, music, art, drama, computers, mentoring, makerspaces and other activities. Vulnerable youth are supported by local language and English literacy programs, sign-language storytimes, childcare for young mothers, coding camps—adaptable offerings for all ages and abilities.

Social service, health and legal **referrals** are available through the libraries, with active, regular outreach ensuring the libraries reach all young people with lifechanging services.

partners with Lubuto local and international organizations to advocate for universal rights of children and youth and gender equity.

Lubuto innovated solutions—supported by PEPFAR and ViiV Healthcare— demonstrating that dynamic public libraries are a uniquely accessible and caring environment for linking high-risk girls to programs and resources that empower them to prevent HIV infections, avoid early marriages and stay in school.





"...children who have lived their lives in the margins finally find themselves at the centre—and learn that they deserve to be there."

-Stacy Langner, Board Member





Monthly donations are essential to Lubuto's operations. With even a \$5 donation every month, you can make a huge difference!

We welcome all to visit the libraries! Visit the "Contact Us" page of our website for locations

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