

# Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) BOOK CLUB AFRICAN CHAPTER INAUGURAL BOOK PICKS

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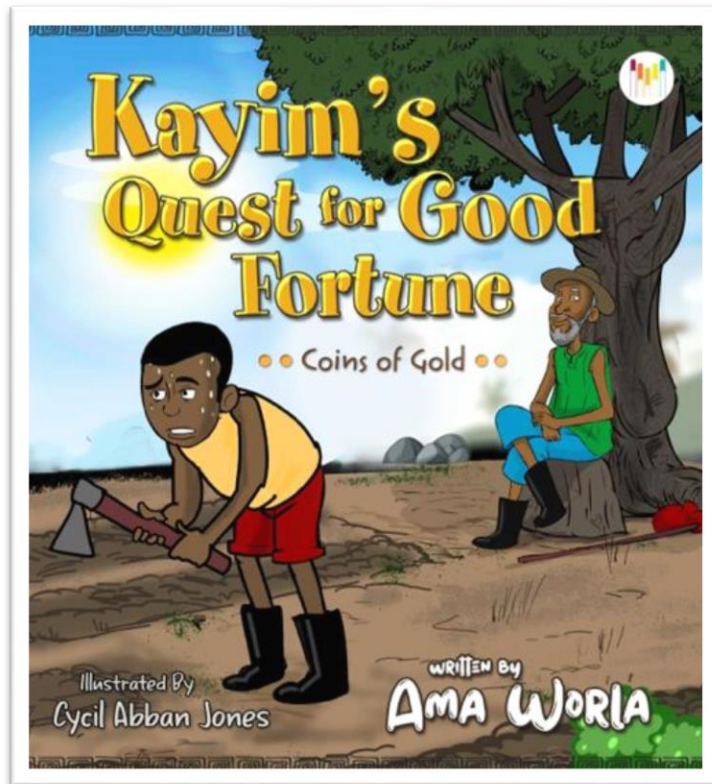
## 1 NO POVERTY



## Goal 1: No poverty

Eradicating poverty in all its forms remains one of the greatest challenges facing humanity. While the number of people living in extreme poverty dropped by more than half between 1990 and 2015, too many are still struggling for the most basic human needs.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE

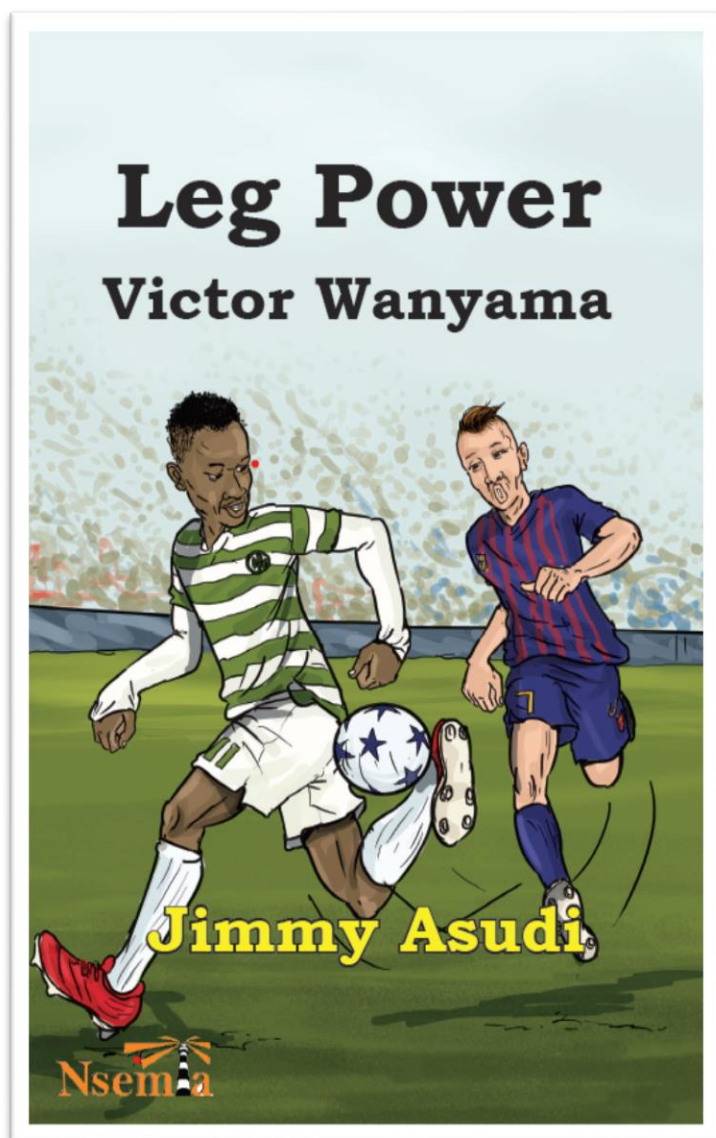


**Title:** Kayim's Quest for Good Fortune | **Author:** Djan Amaniampong

**Illustrator:** Ama Worla | **Publisher:** Mountype Publishers (GHANA)

**Website:** <https://www.mountype.com/> | **ISBN:** 978- 9988-30-737-0

In this delightful story, a little boy dreams of a great fortune but does not like to wake up early. His grandfather who lives in the countryside teaches him the importance of a work ethic and he learns to equate work with wealth in such fun ways. The book is entertaining, full of life lessons in an African context with values and virtues clearly articulated. An added bonus at the end of the book, are: a glossary, word puzzles to grow a young reader's vocabulary, discussion prompts and a quiz to promote critical thinking.



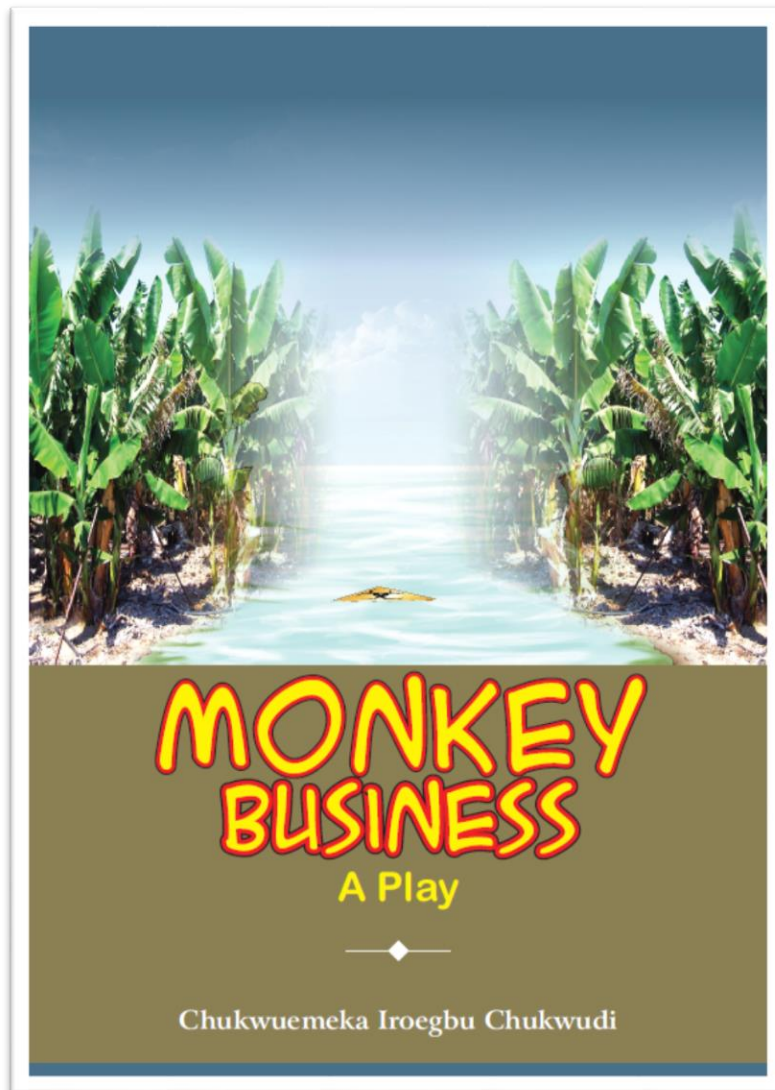
**Title:** Leg Power – Victor Wanyama | **Author:** Jimmy Asudi

**Illustrator:** Abel Murumba | **Publisher:** Nsemia Inc. Publishers (KENYA)

**Website:** <https://www.nsemia.com> | **ISBN:** 978-1-926906-84-3

From a poor, football-loving family based in Kenya, Victor Wanyama and his brother, Macdonald Mariga Wanyama, have found international success as footballers

The book throws open a window onto aspects of football history and emphasizes the importance of family support and inspiring role models. Ultimately, the book demonstrates that it is possible to climb out of poverty and into wealth by doing what you love – particularly football – with great proficiency and dedication. An inspiring football book for boys and girls.

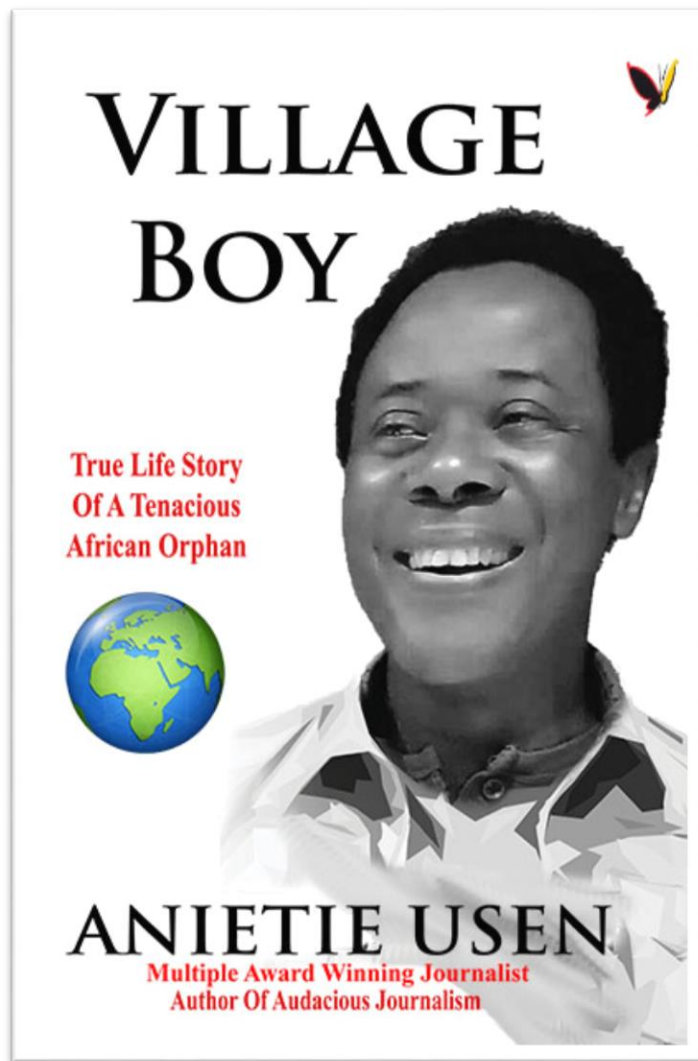


**Title:** Monkey Business | **Author:** Chukwuemeka Iroegbu Chukwudi

**Publisher:** University Press Plc (NIGERIA) | **Website:** <https://universitypressplc.com>

**ISBN:** 978-978-940-2090

A badly paid driver with a university degree can barely feed his family and is desperate to become rich. He strikes an outrageous deal with his scheming and heartless employer. This is a full length stage play, comical, colourful and alive with caricatures – situations and characters - from Nigeria’s socio-economic landscape.



**Title:** Village Boy | **Author:** Anietie Usen

**Illustrator:** Mike Asukwo | **Publisher:** Origami - imprint of Parresia Publishers (NIGERIA)

**Website:** <https://www.parresia.com.ng> | **ISBN:** 978-978-983-107-4

This vivid coming-of-age book revisits the life of the author – an orphan - who grew up in a typical Nigerian village community in the 1960s – 1970s. Humorous and loving recollections are a gift of nostalgia to readers of the author’s generation who also started their journeys of life in African settings new to modernity.

Curious and colourful headings introduce curious and colourful vignettes about for example, the season for flying termites. They are a gift to children raised in 21st century urban settings defined by western values, nuclear families, materialism, constantly innovating western technology and the fast-paced life. Excellent and humorous illustrations of the rustic life adorn stories that beg the questions: What is wealth? What is poverty?



## **HONORARY INDIGENOUS AFRICAN LANGUAGE BOOKS**

### **SDG 1 - NO POVERTY**



**Title:** Kweku Anansi and His New Wife | **Author:** Farida Salifu

**E-Library:** World Stories | **E-Library Website:** [www.worldstories.org.uk](http://www.worldstories.org.uk)

**Free Access** | **Language:** Akan

Anansi, because of his greed asked God to give him a wife without a mouth on her face. Unknown to him, God gave him a wife whose mouth was hidden in her armpit.

When he discovered, Anansi felt betrayed and humiliated but God had no sympathy for the greedy man. God said to him, “You had a devoted and loving wife, Anansi. But because of your greed and selfishness you thought you would be clever and demand a new wife from me.”

Anansi felt ashamed of his greed and begged God to return his old wife to him because he had indeed learned a valuable lesson. Perhaps he would even try to be more generous with his food.


#### **Facts about the Akan Language**

Akan is a Central Tano language and the principal native language of the Akan people of Ghana, spoken over much of the southern half of Ghana. About 80% of Ghana's population

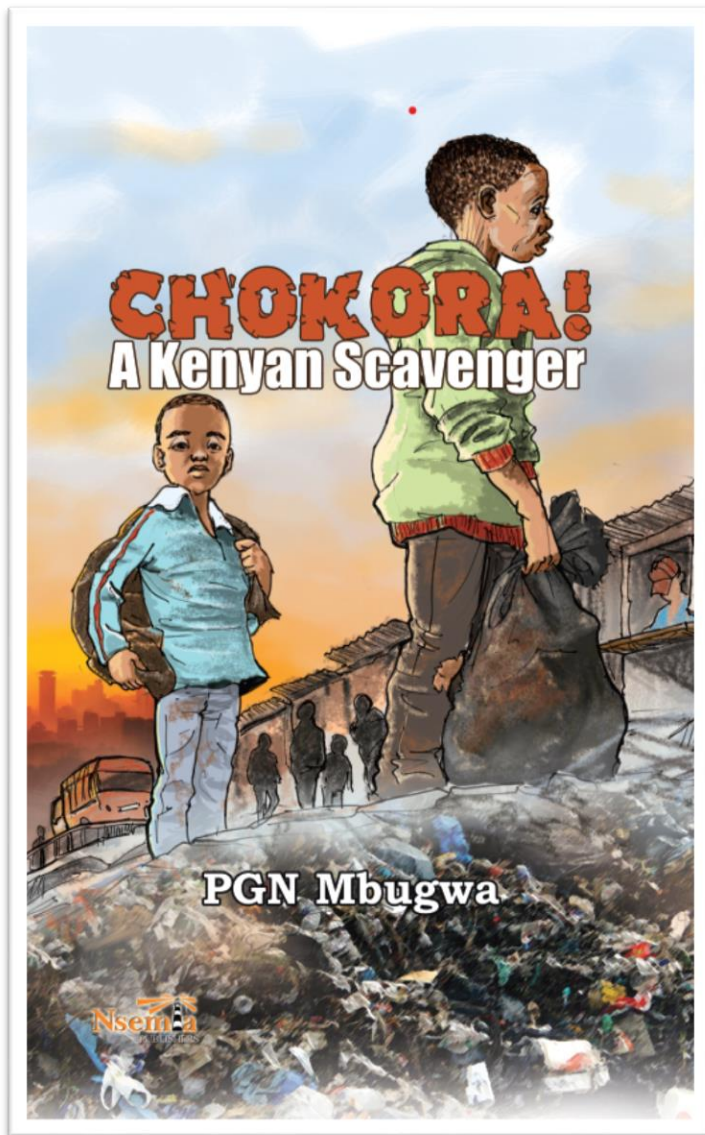
can speak Akan, and about 44% of Ghanaians are native speakers. It is also spoken in parts of Côte d'Ivoire.

## **ENGLISH**

### **SDG 2 – ZERO HUNGER**

	<h2>Goal 2: Zero hunger</h2> <p>The number of undernourished people has dropped by almost half in the past two decades because of rapid economic growth and increased agricultural productivity. Many developing countries that used to suffer from famine and hunger can now meet their nutritional needs.</p>
<p>Unfortunately, extreme hunger and malnutrition remain a huge barrier to development in many countries. There are 821 million people estimated to be chronically undernourished as of 2017, often as a direct consequence of environmental degradation, drought and biodiversity loss. Over 90 million children under five are dangerously underweight. Undernourishment and severe food insecurity appear to be increasing in almost all regions of Africa, as well as in South America.</p> <p>The SDGs aim to end all forms of hunger and malnutrition by 2030, making sure all people—especially children—have sufficient and nutritious food all year. This involves promoting sustainable agricultural, supporting small-scale farmers and equal access to land, technology and markets. It also requires international cooperation to ensure investment in infrastructure and technology to improve agricultural productivity.</p>	





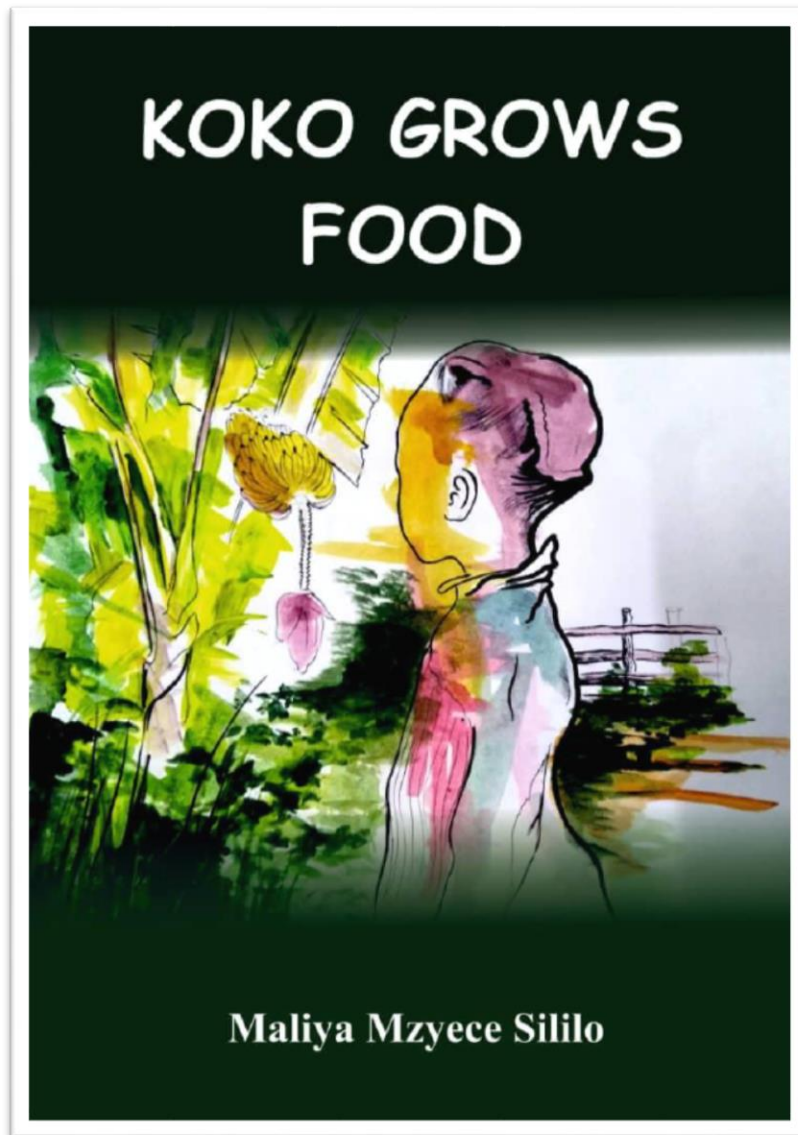
**Title:** Chokora: A Kenyan Scavenger | **Author:** PGN Mbugwa | **Illustrator:** Robert Maina

**Publisher:** Nsemia Inc. Publishers (KENYA)

**Website:** <https://www.nsemia.com> | **ISBN:** 978 -1 – 926906-42-3

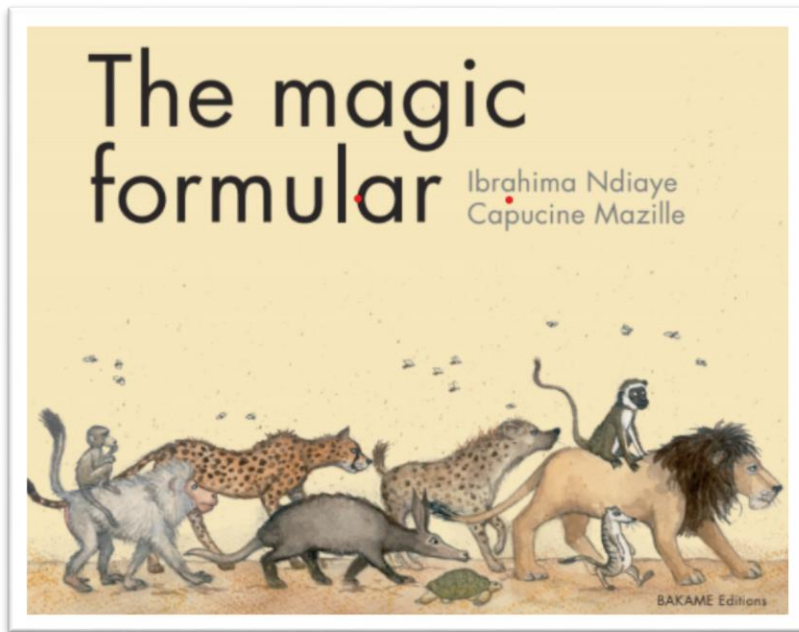
**Plot Synopsis:** Set in Nairobi, Kenya, an epilogue kick starts this sad but compelling story narrated vividly in the first person and peppered with dialogue and exclamations in Kiswahili and Sheng. A boy child of a single parent becomes an out- of- school scavenger and a thief as a result of the penury in which he and his mother live. He becomes a bad influence on another boy.

Their delinquent acts lead the 15-year-old and 17-year-old boys into prison where they experience the ordeals of the justice system. A glossary of Kiswahili/Sheng words used in the book complete this compelling book.



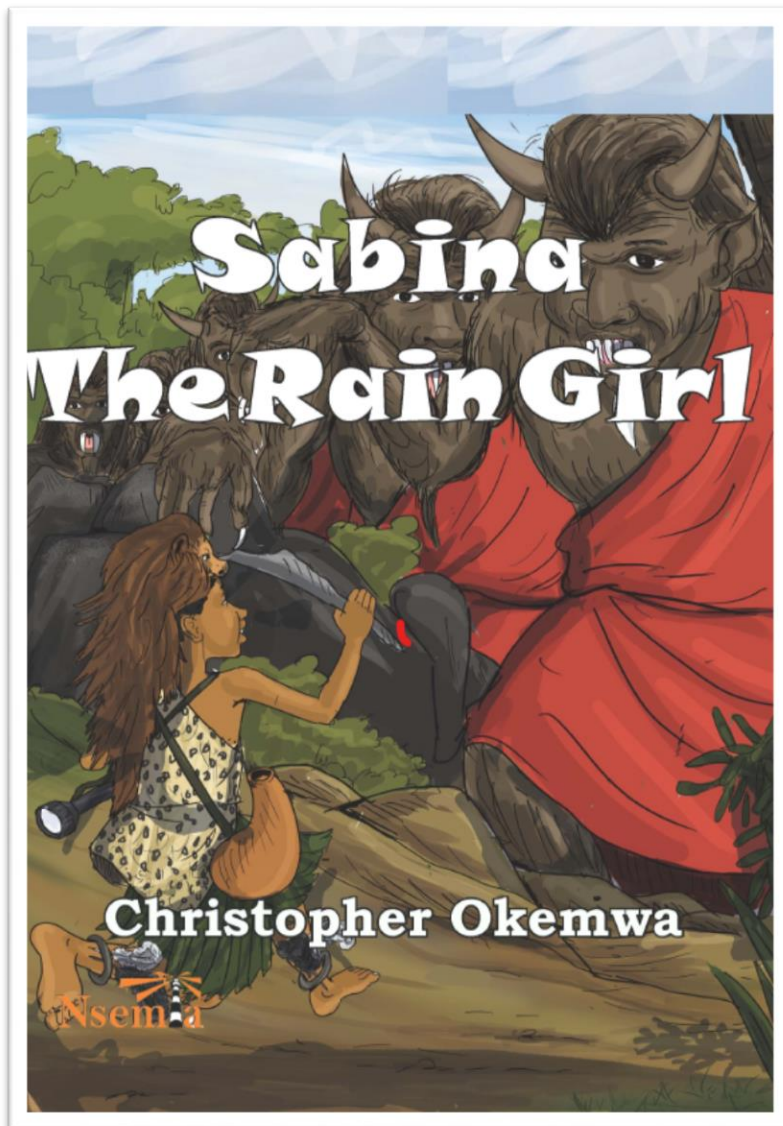
**Title:** Koko Grows Food | **Author:** Maliya Mzyece Sililo | **Illustrator:** Harrington Kanyanta  
**Publisher:** Sotrane Publishers (ZAMBIA) | **Website:** <http://www.sotranepublishers.org>  
**ISBN:** 978 -9982-18-445-8

**Plot Synopsis:** A short and sweet story about a hungry little girl which is supported by lovely water-colour sketches. Through Koko, little ones will learn about staple crops grown in Zambia and about the basic principles of horticulture and self-help. Ever so gently, the story introduces the principles of dignity, honesty and compassion.



**Title:** The Magic Formula | **Author:** Ibrahima Ndiaye | **Illustrator:** Capucine Mazille  
**Publisher:** Bakame Editions (RWANDA) | **Website:** <http://www.bakame.rw>  
**ISBN:** 978-3-9523643-5-2

**Plot Synopsis:** A terrible drought afflicts the land. The lion shows leadership as the animals go in search of food. A journey of adventures, pleasant and unpleasant, follows. They find a tree full of juicy fruit but will they discover the magic word? From this magical story illustrated with gorgeous paintings of the animal kingdom in unity, children will learn lessons about the power of unity, the value of sharing and the power of organizing around principles that improve life for all.



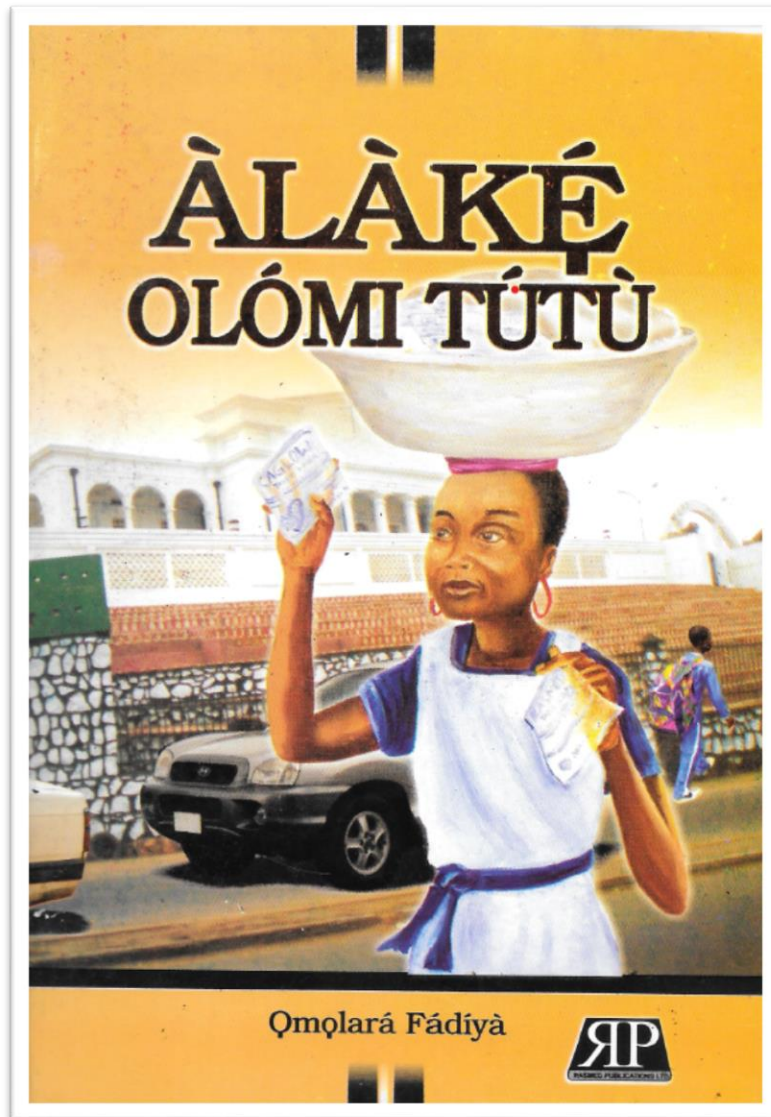
**Title:** Sabina the Rain Girl | **Author:** Christopher Okemwa | **Illustrator:** Abel Murumba  
**Publisher:** Nsemia Inc. Publishers (KENYA) | **Website:** <https://www.nsemia.com>  
**ISBN:** 978-9966-082-42-8

**Plot Synopsis:** A young girl with supernatural powers embarks on a journey of courage and determination to save a community facing imminent danger of hunger, malnutrition and death as a consequence of drought. She must travel to the land of ogres, cut off the tail of a monster and bring it home to appease the community's rain god.



## HONORARY INDIGENOUS AFRICAN LANGUAGE BOOKS

### SDG 2 – ZERO HUNGER



**Title:** Alake, The Cold Water Seller | **Author:** Omolara Fadiya | **Publisher:** Rasmed Publications (NIGERIA) | **Website:** <https://rasmedpublications.com> | **ISBN:** 978-8125-92-1  
**Language:** Yoruba

**Plot Synopsis:** Alake is the 7th child of the eight children of Morolagbe and Alao who live in Olodo Village, Oyo State in the South-West of Nigeria. The family are so poor they cannot afford the basics of life.

In order to feed the family and survive, Alake's parents force her to hawk 'pure water' (plastic sachets of cold water) in motor parks across Ibadan, the capital of Oyo State.

#### **Facts about Yoruba Language Speakers**

The Yoruba people are an ethnic group that mainly inhabit West African countries: Nigeria, Benin, Togo, Ghana, Ivory Coast and Sierra Leone. The Yoruba constitute around 30 million

people across Africa. The majority of the Yoruba population is found in Nigeria where they make up 13.9% of the country's population, making them one of the largest ethnic groups in Africa.

As a result of the transatlantic slave trade, there is a strong and colourful Yoruba presence in Cuba, particularly in Havana and also in Bahia in Brazil. In both these countries, you will find the full-blown worship of Yoruba orishas (deities) and the practice of Santeria, a mish-mash of traditional Yoruba religion, Roman Catholicism and spiritism. Mass migration from West Africa between the 1960s - 1980s has resulted in large populations of Yoruba people living in the United Kingdom and United States of America.