

ABOUT AFRICAN BOOKS COLLECTIVE

Founded in 1989, African Books Collective is a major self-help initiative by a group of African publishers to promote their books in Europe, North America, and in Commonwealth countries outside Africa. It is collectively owned by its founder publishers, is registered as a UK company limited by guarantee, and is governed by a Council of Management which is constituted on a broad regional basis and comprising elected representatives from East, West and Central/Southern Africa. African Books Collective is donor organisation supported and non-profit making on its own behalf, and because of this, is in a position to offer its participating publishers more favourable terms than those normally available under conventional commercial distribution agreements. From an initial 17 founder publishers in 1989, participation has grown and ABC now provides a single source of supply for books from 54 African publishers, in 13 African countries: Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. A full list of ABC participating publishers is given inside.

English-language material is stocked, with an emphasis on scholarly and academic books, creative writing by African authors and critical works on African literature. Children's and general interest titles are also stocked together with selected children's titles in Swahili. Many books on the ABC stocklist are from Africa's top scholars and literary talents. The inventory covers 1400 new and recently published titles and a wide range of backlist.