



# Let's Read

connect • create • read • thrive

On a continent where internet and mobile phone penetration is rapidly increasing, Let's Read brings together the talent of communities and the power of technology to address a critical problem: children lack books that inspire them to read and learn.

Children need books with characters, themes, and settings that reflect and affirm their lives and provide opportunities to explore the world. Let's Read draws on the Asia Foundation's 18 offices in the region and deep ties in local communities to build an unprecedented library of local language children's books while cultivating sustainable networks of book creators, translators, and reading ambassadors who create meaningful reading opportunities for children.

Through Let's Read, communities can empower children to learn about their world, care about others, succeed in school, and achieve a more promising future.

[letsreadasia.org](http://letsreadasia.org)



 **The Asia Foundation**

**2,500**

children's books

**25**

languages

**2,500**

reading ambassadors

**350,000**

books printed

...and growing!



## CONNECT

**Building Sustainable Book Ecosystems:** Let's Read brings together diverse networks of book creators, publishers, and readers to build thriving reading communities. We build relationships with local and international publishers to share content and promote Let's Read books. We collaborate with children's organizations, educators, and families to use the Let's Read digital library to nurture reading habits that support children throughout their lives.

## CREATE

**Overcoming Book Scarcity:** Let's Read creates and translates beautiful children's books. Our two-day skill building BookLabs bring together local authors, illustrators, and editors to draft relatable storybooks in underserved languages that become high-quality books within six months. To further expand local language libraries, community volunteers across Asia use Let's Read's collaborative, built-in translation tool to quickly adapt titles into their own languages with the support of language experts.

## READ

**Cultivating Meaningful Reading Opportunities:** Children need reading role models and local language books that reflect their lives and fit their reading level. Let's Read's stories act as mirrors that affirm cultures and windows that introduce children to the world. They explore important topics such as equality, diversity, environment, and STEAM. Let's Read trains community reading ambassadors who bring meaningful reading opportunities into children's lives.

## THRIVE

**The Book Effect:** Books have immense potential to help children, families, and communities thrive. Children who love reading are more likely to enjoy learning, succeed in school, and reach developmental milestones on time. Families who read together create rituals and a shared sense of belonging that supports positive behavior. Further, reading children become reading adults who are better able to care for themselves and their families and better able to contribute to thriving societies.



## Contact us to collaborate or invest in Let's Read

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*The Asia Foundation is a nonprofit international development organization committed to improving lives across a dynamic and developing Asia. Headquartered in San Francisco, the Asia Foundation works through a network of offices in 18 Asian Countries and in Washington, DC. The foundation receives funding from a diverse group of bilateral and multilateral development agencies, foundations, corporations, and individuals.*