

# One size does not fit all!

A case study of the development and publishing of local, multi-lingual stories for adult literacy learners in the South African context.



# **WOZA FRIDAY**

written by Wendy Annecke

illustrated by Savyra Scott



On Monday  
when I wake up



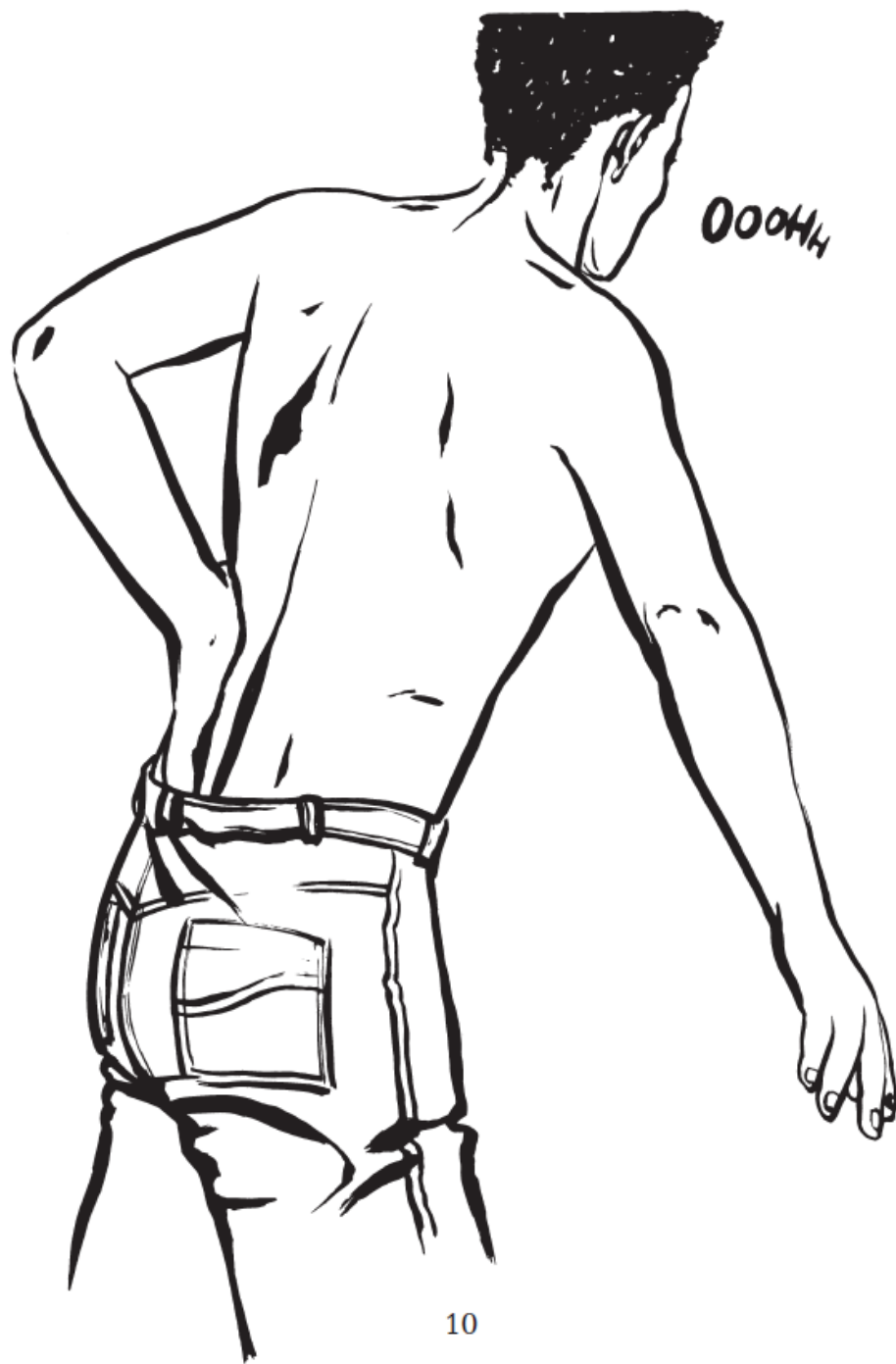
my head is sore



my tongue is thick



my arms are heavy



my back hurts



12

my legs are slow

13





I can hardly move.



But on Friday  
when I wake up



my eyes are bright



my heart is light



my hands clap



my fingers snap



my feet tap



I am ready for the weekend.



# New Readers Publishers - Who we are

- The context of our work
- What we believe
- What we do and how we do it
  - Development and Publishing
  - Workshops
  - Promotion and Advocacy



# The issues and challenges facing New Readers Publishers

- Lack of political will
- Decline in ABET provision
- Dominance of majority languages
- Attitudes to stories and fiction



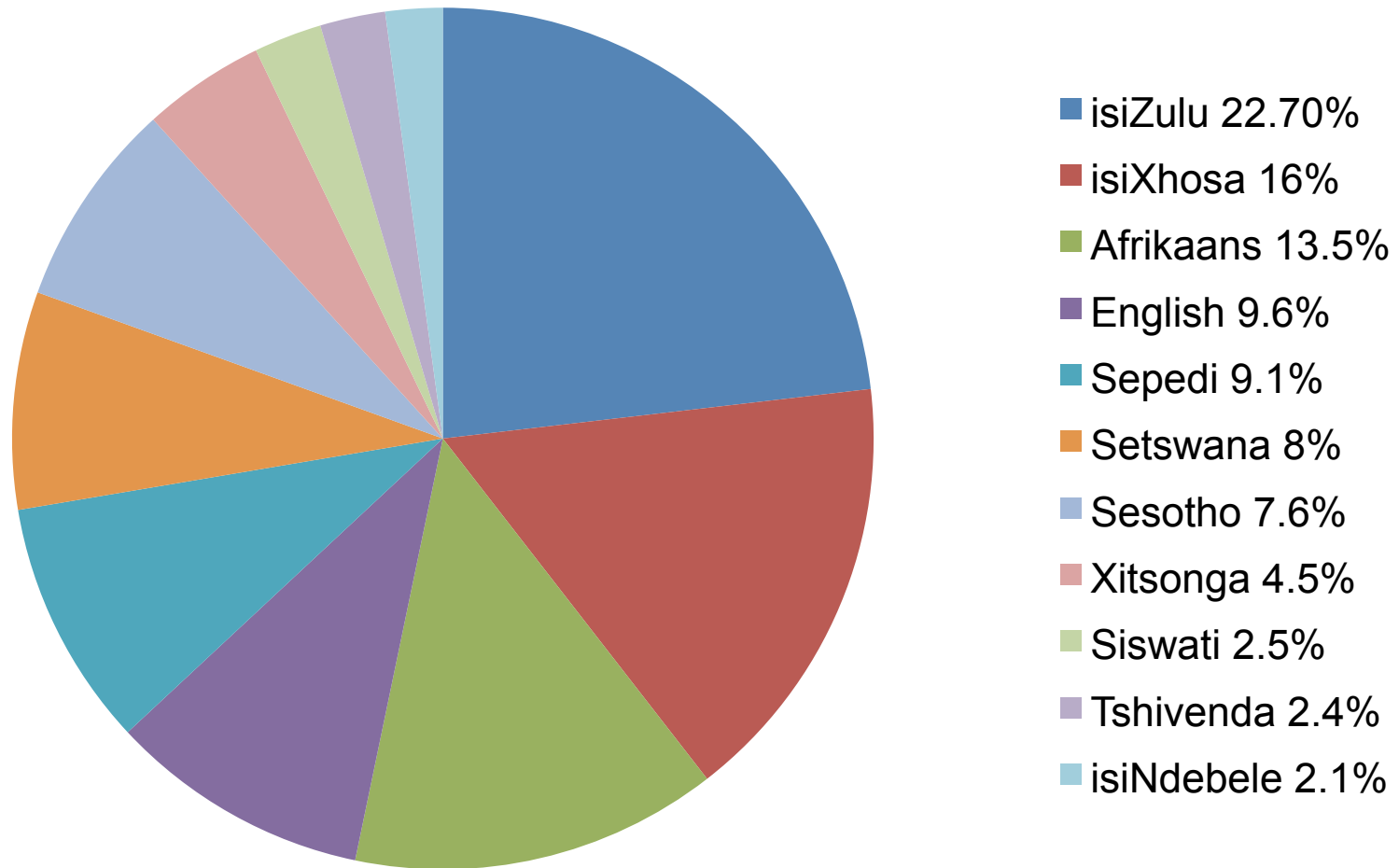
# Who we are

- Donor-funded
- 30 readers in English and isiZulu
- Main aims
- Non-profit publishing project

# The context of our work

- Adult literacy and materials available
- Languages and literacy statistics
- Economy and fall out from global economic crisis

# Percentage of people that speak each official language (Stats SA 2011)





Fort Warwick Farm School  
Eastern Cape  
South Africa  
visited on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2013



# What we believe

- you become a fluent reader by reading
- learners need to read a variety of books
- reading has to be meaningful from the beginning
- the teacher/facilitator/librarian is the best role model for fluent and varied reading

# What we believe continued

- learners do not have to be word perfect before they can move on to the next book or level
- learners should not be corrected all the time
- reading is fun
- the more fluently you read, the more you enjoy it!

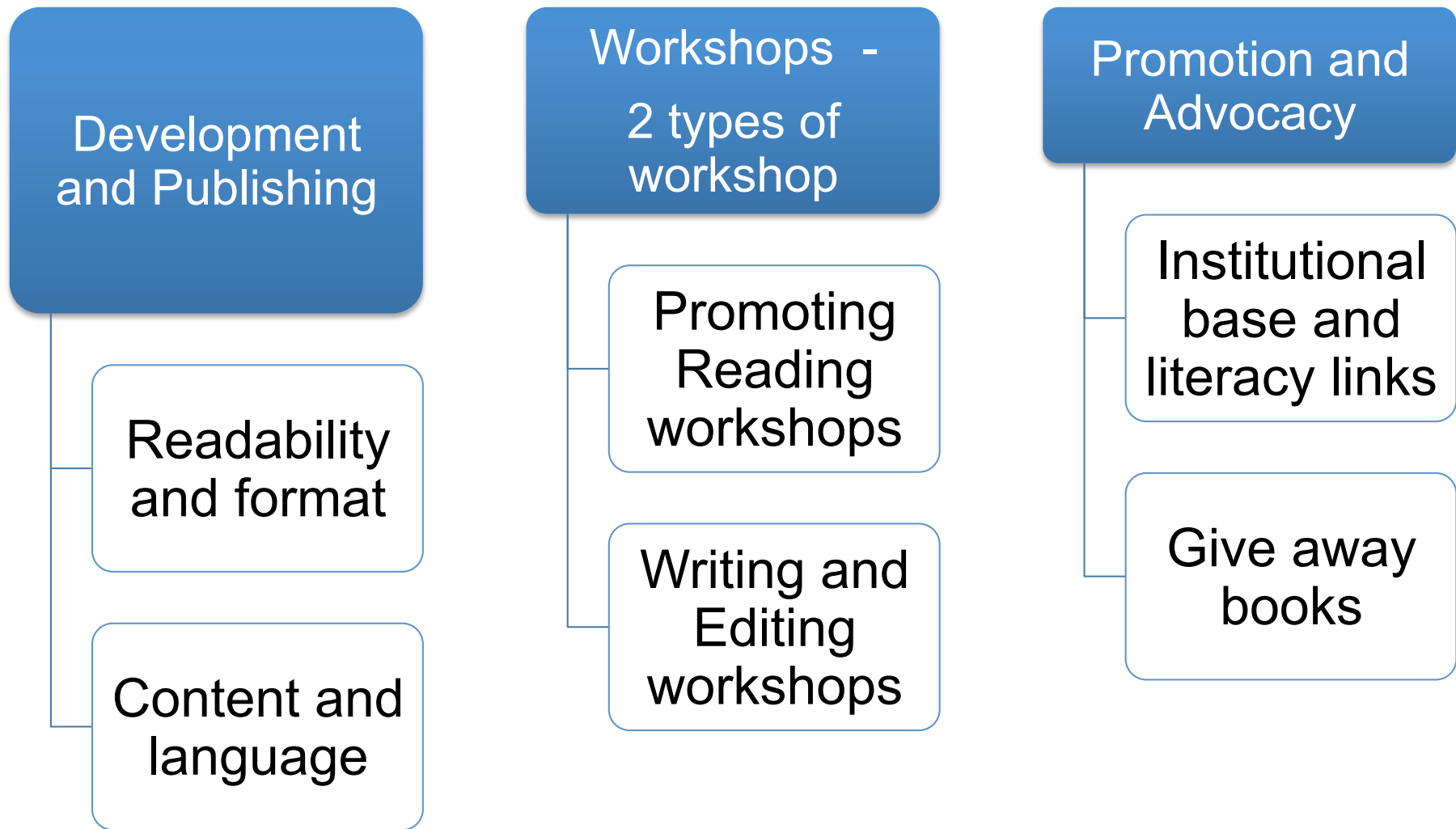




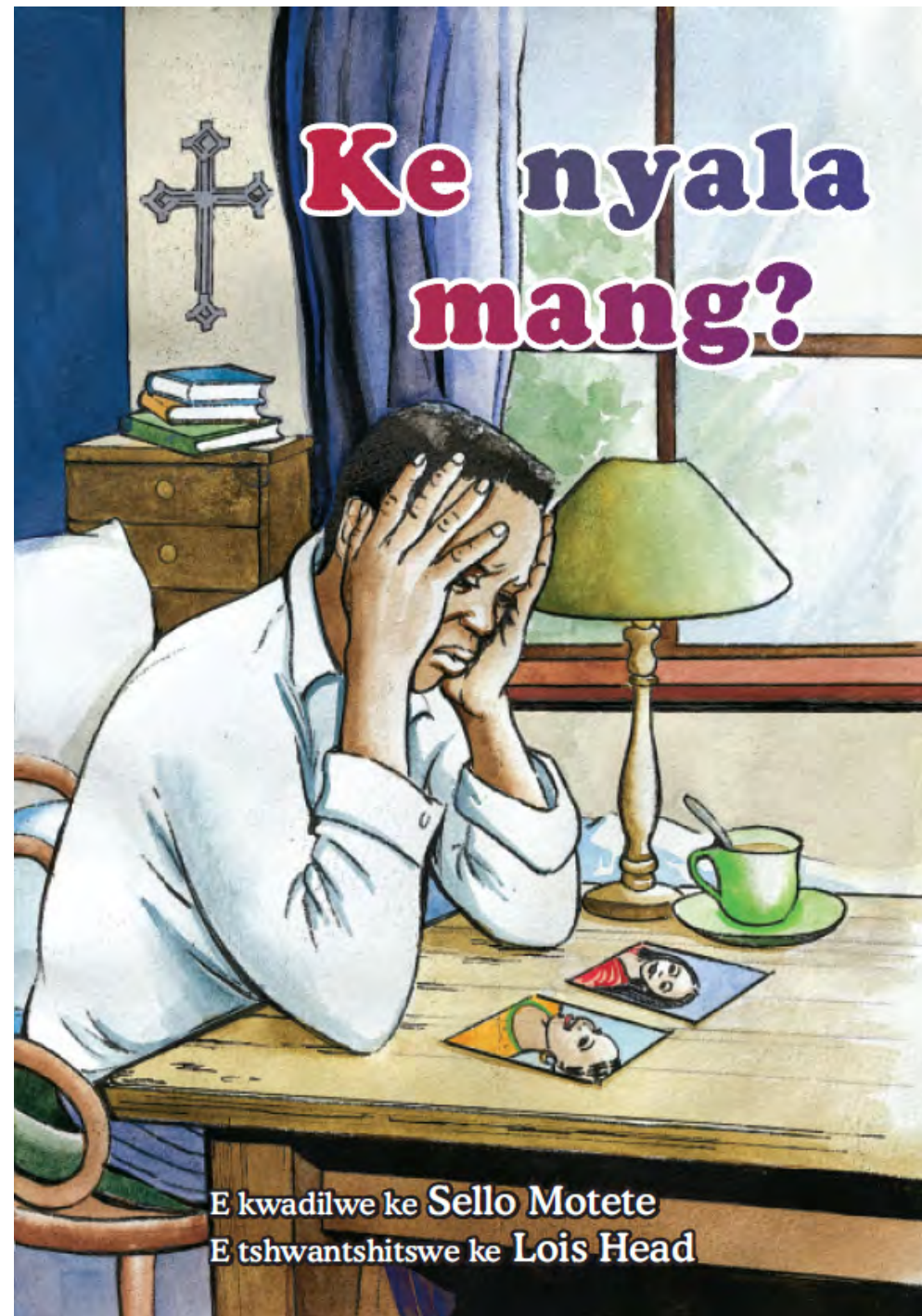
Creighton  
Rural KwaZulu-Natal  
South Africa



# What we do and how we do it



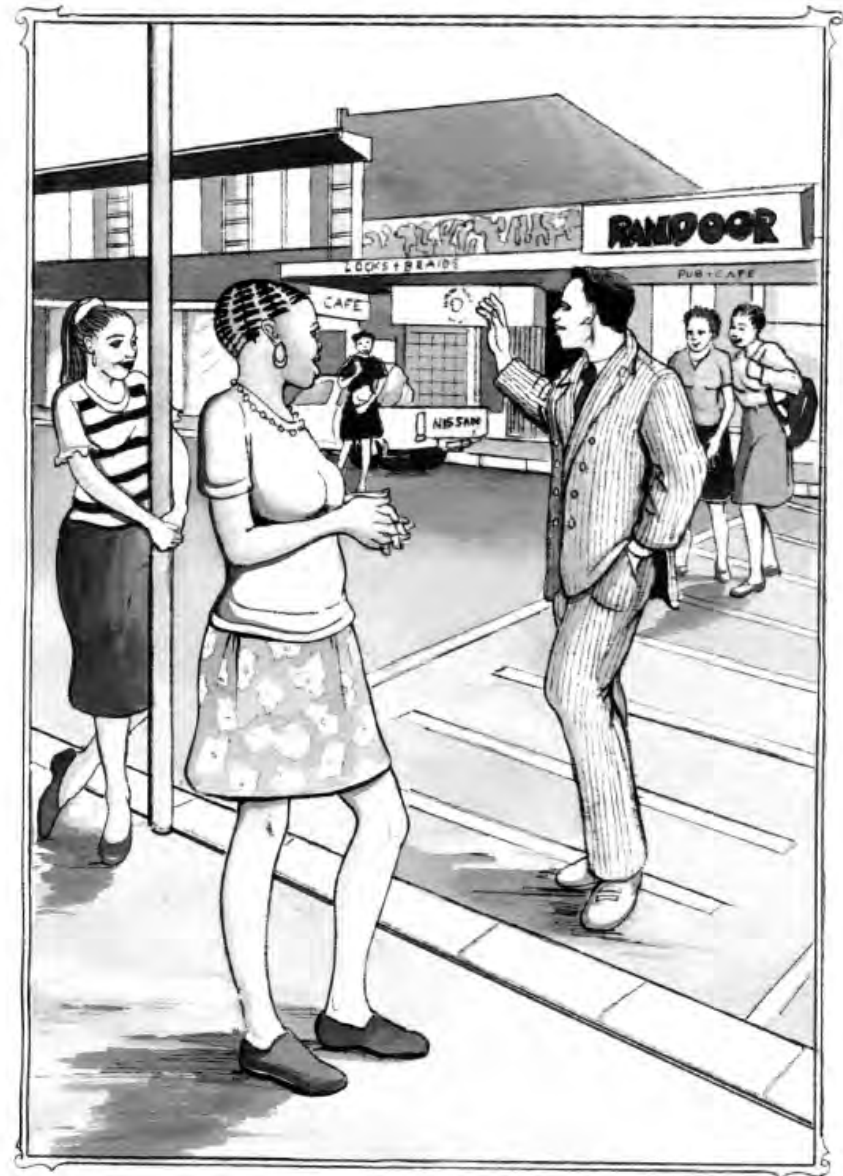




# Ke nyala mang?

E kwadilwe ke Sello Motete  
E tshwantshitswe ke Lois Head

Mmatli ke lekau le lentle, le le  
agegileng sentle mme o bonolo. Ke  
lekau le le rategang tota. Basetšana ba  
mo tsoma semmutla.



Mmatli ke morwa a le esi wa ga  
mohumi Rapoo. Rapoo e ne e le  
rramesese tota.



Mmatli a simolola go ratana le  
basetšana ba le babedi Seitatolo le  
Kemang. O rata basetsana ba ka go  
tshwana.





"Morwaa ke basetsana ba le babedi, ba ba rutegile e bile ba ratega, o nyala mang?" ga botsa mmaagwe. "Mme ruri ga ke itse," ga araba Mmatli ka khutsafalo.





Mmatli o ne a hutsafala, a tlhonama.  
A akanya, "Ke eng ke rata basetsana  
ba, ka go tshwana? Ke eng basetsana  
ba, ba nkgogela jaana? Ga ke rate go  
utlwisa ope wa bone botlhoko. Ke dire  
eng?"



Mmatli a ya go rraagwe go senka keletso. "Rre ga ke itse gore ke tlhope mang go nna molekane wa me fa gare ga basetsana ba babedi ba," ga ipega Mmatli.



"A ke itse basetsana bao, morwaake?"  
ga botsa rraagwe ka iketlo. "Seitatolo  
le Kemang rra," ga araba Mmatli  
ka nako e mmaagwe a tsenang ka  
phaposi.



Rraagwe Mmatli o ne a rwala matsogo mo tlhogong. A kgwa mowa mme a wela fa fatshe. Mmatli le mmaagwe ba akabala. "Rre molato ke eng? O ikutlwa jang?" ga botsa Mmatli ka letshogo.





Rraagwe a araba ka lentswe le le kwa tlase a re, "Seitatolo le Kemang ke dikgaitsadi tsa gago, morwaake. O ka se nyale ope wa bone."

"Nnyaya ga ke dumele!" Mmatli a goa. Mmatli a itatlhela ka mo mabogong a ga mmaagwe.



"Ehe! Ka tota. Go raya gore dipuo tse  
ke ntseng ke di utlwa ke nnete! Nte ke  
go bolelele "boy" yo, ngwana ga se wa  
gago!"



Mmaagwe a bua a gomotsana le morwawe a re, "O intshwarele ngwanake, ke ne ke sa itse gore nka go bolelela jang. Fela monna yo, ga se rraago."

## BOKHUTLO



## Promoting Reading Workshop held on 12<sup>th</sup> September, Durban, South Africa





# Promoting Reading workshops



Promoting Reading Workshop  
February 2011  
Port Elizabeth  
South Africa





Promoting Reading Workshop in October 2012 at the Jozi Book Fair  
Johannesburg, South Africa





# Writing and Editing workshops





IsiXhosa Writers' and Editors' Workshop held in 2011 in the  
Eastern Cape, South Africa

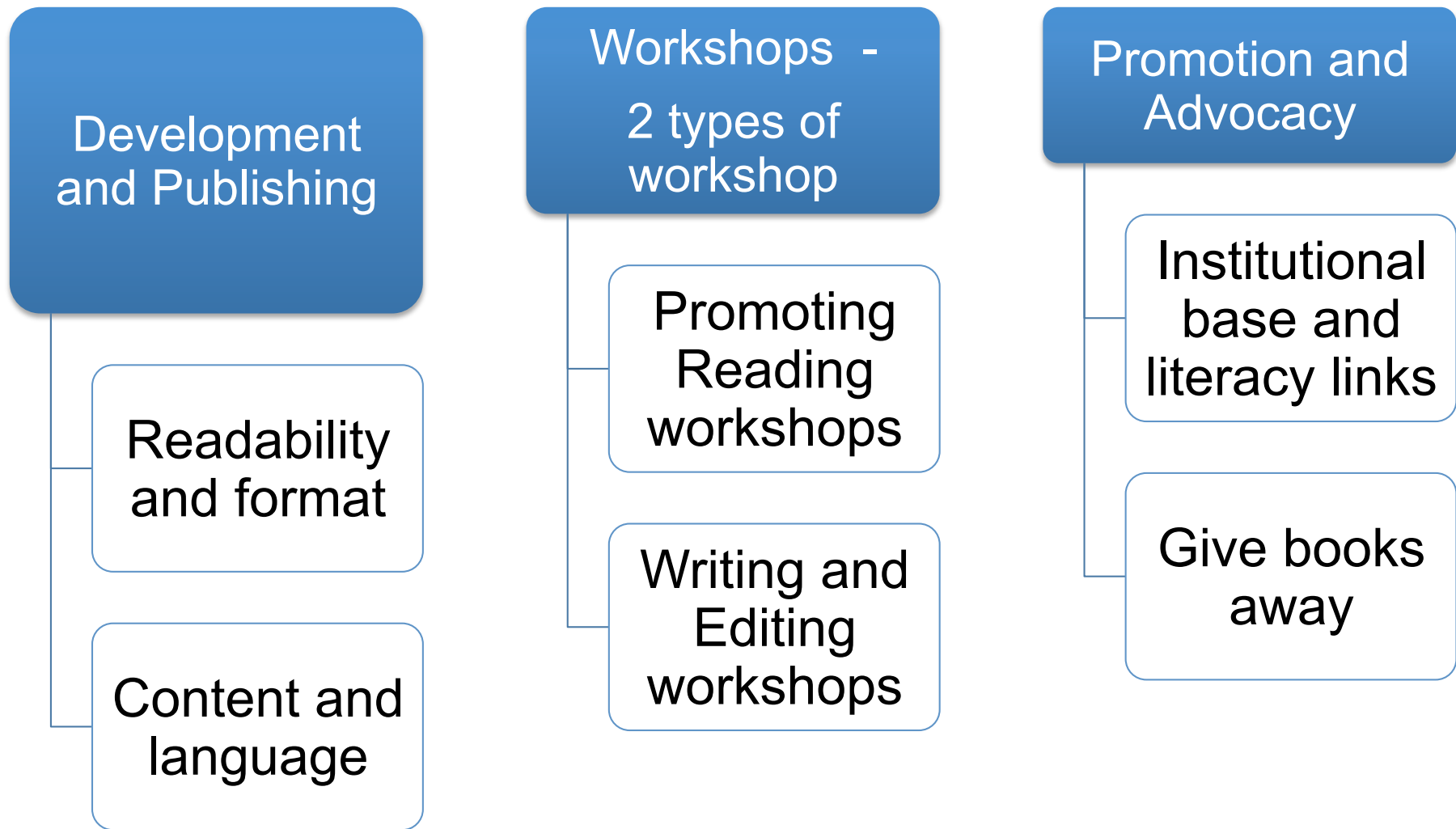






IsiXhosa Writers' and Editors' Workshop held in 2011 in the Eastern Cape, South Africa

# What we do and how we do it

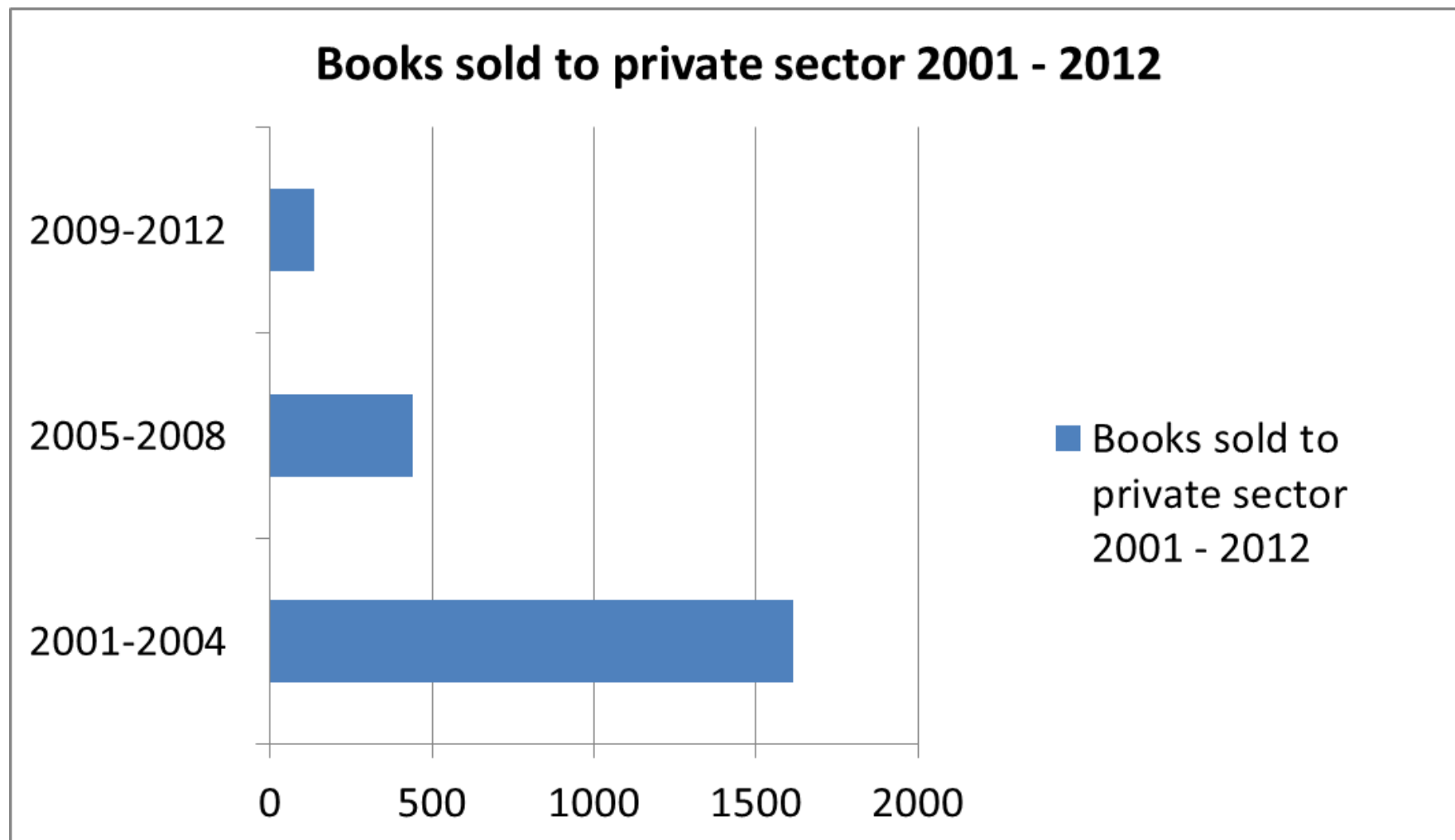


# The issues and challenges faced by New Reader Publishers

- Lack of political will – resource allocation
- Decline in ABET provision in the various sectors
- Dominance of majority languages
- Attitudes to stories and fiction



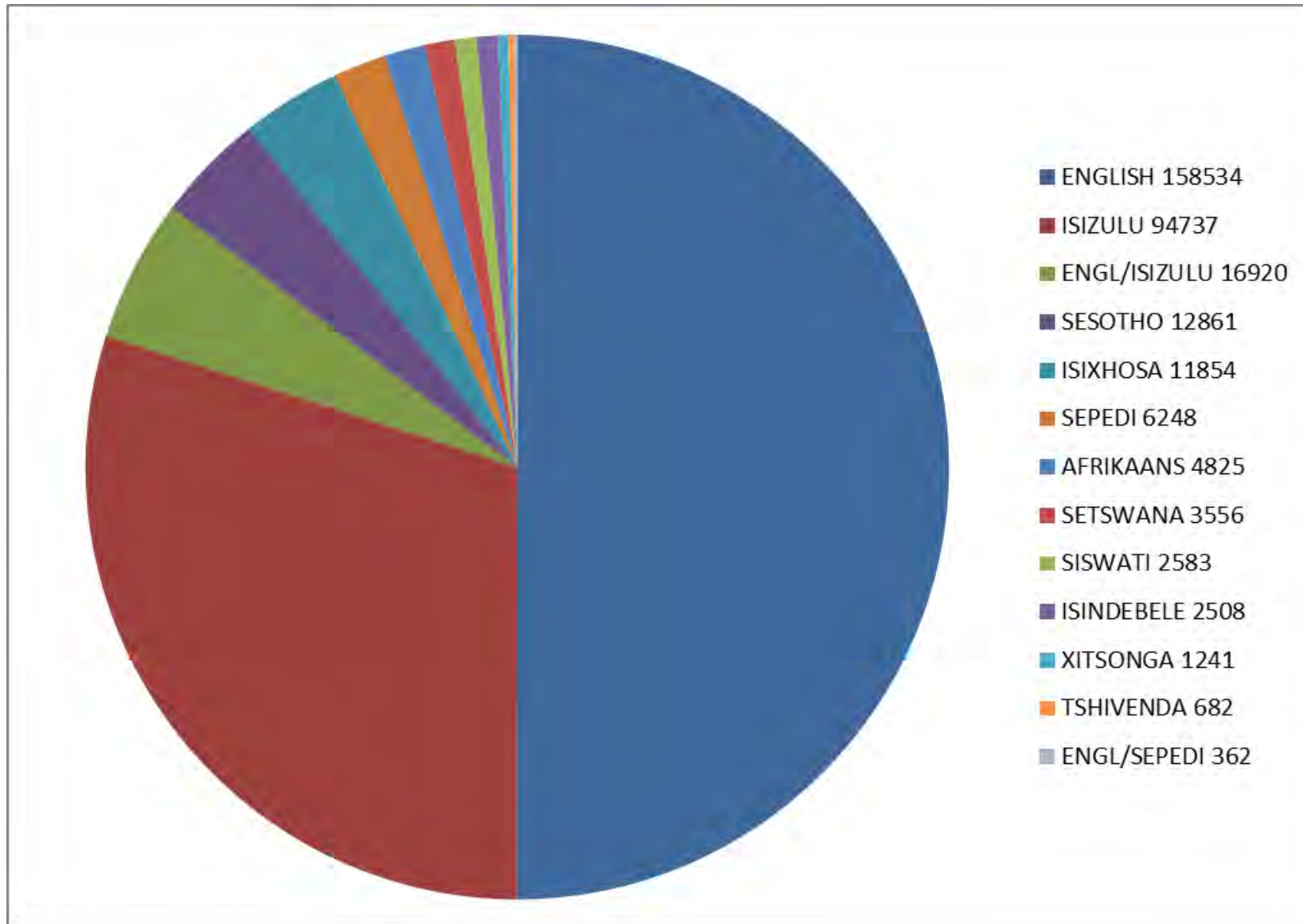
# Decline in number of ABET books sold



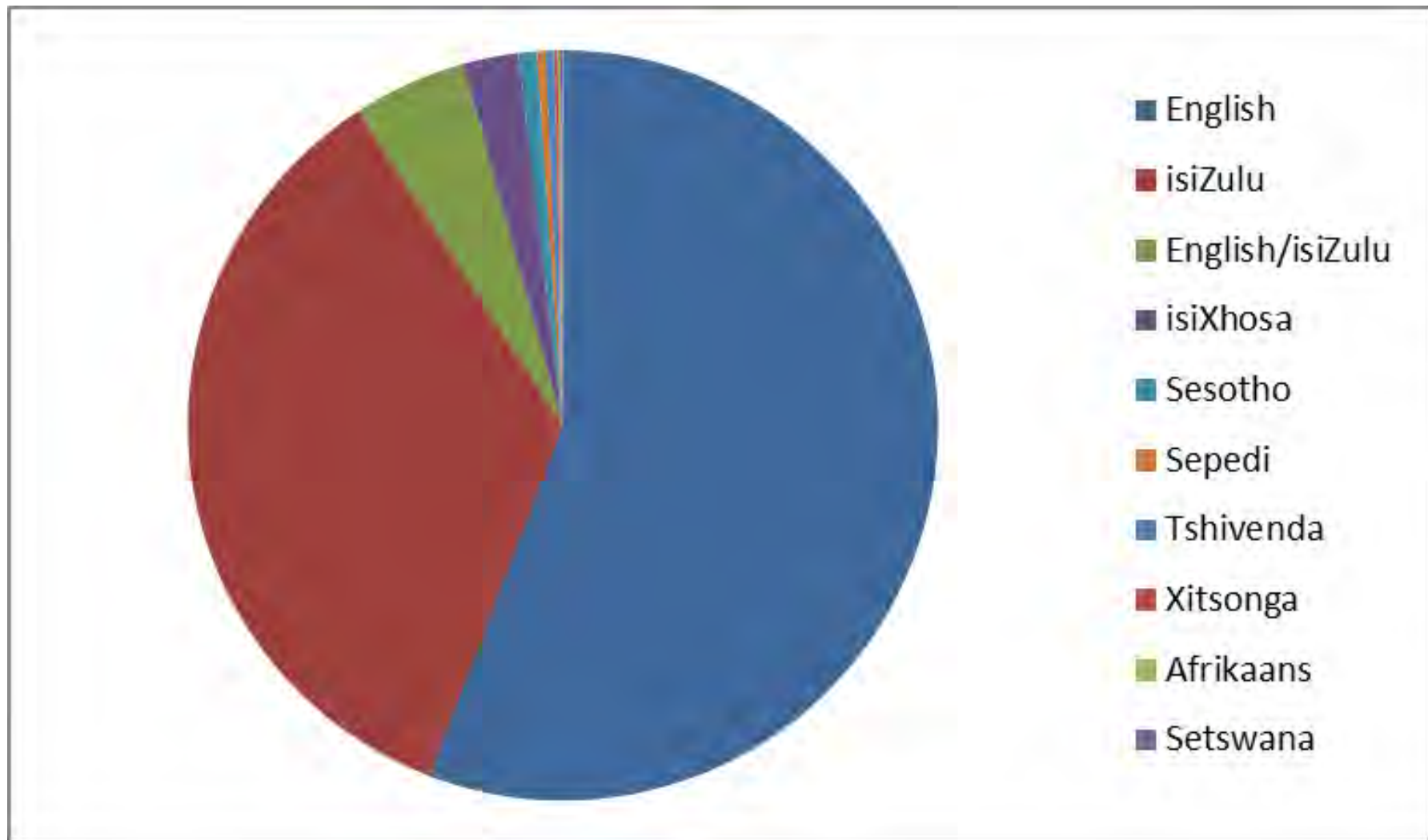
# Dominance of majority languages

“The self-esteem, self-confidence, potential creativity and spontaneity that come with being able to use the language(s) that have shaped one from early childhood (one’s mother tongue) is the foundation of all democratic polities and institutions. To be denied the use of this language is the very meaning of oppression.” Neville Alexander,  
27 October 2005

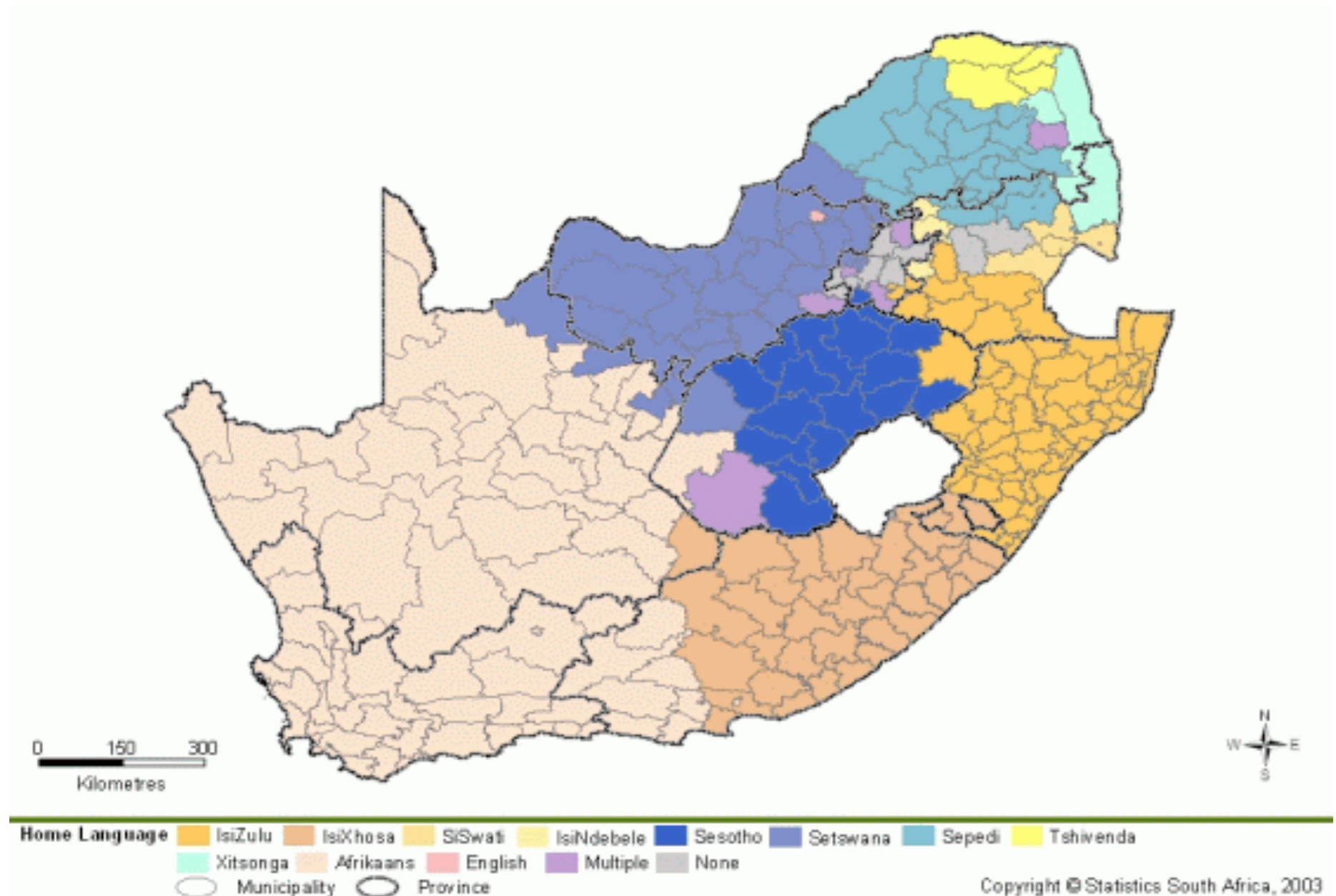
# NRP books sold per language



# Books sold to training organisations by NRP 1991 - 2013



# Language map of South Africa



# My Conclusions

- Original aims – Successes
- On-going challenges
- Final thoughts



