

A Guide to the Pamphlet Collection at Nordic Africa Institute.

About the pamphlet collection:

Over the years, the Nordic Africa Institute's library has built up a large collection of ephemera, minor publications and grey literature. The collection is not catalogued. Both due to the extent of the collection as well as to the various forms of the material, cataloguing of the collection requires extensive staff resources. The collection consists of pamphlets, brochures, essays, documents, posters, leaflets, telegrams and incomplete periodical series. Approximately 70 percent of the collection is in English or French and around 25 percent is in Portuguese or Swedish. The remaining 5 percent of the material is in other languages. Most of the material available in the collection spans the period from 1960 to 1980, broadly representing African issues and events within this historical period. Certain earlier documents are available in the collection. Africa published material and documents originating from or dealing with the national liberation movements and solidarity movements are well represented and contributes to the uniqueness of the collection.

The collection is still growing, but at a slower rate. The material type within the collection is increasingly published electronically instead of in print.

In 2002, the material was organized and classified in a system of over 500 boxes to facilitate access. Each box contains some 10 to 100 items. Although the single boxes were made searchable through the online catalogue, it was not possible to search and find individual items in the collection. During the 2017-2019, the institute was able to set up a project to enhance the searchability of the country section of the collection. A content list of each box was produced and uploaded as searchable files in the library search tool [Africalitplus](#). Approximately 20 000 items are searchable since August 2019, thus adding to the visibility of the library collection. The content of approximately 140 boxes within the subject collection still need to be registered in order for the whole collection to be searchable.

The actual publications are only available in printed format and cannot be accessed electronically. The publications are not available for loan, due to the uniqueness of the collection. The collection can be consulted in the library and relevant information can be photocopied/scanned for individual use.

Search within the pamphlet collection.

The content of the country collection is searchable in [Africalitplus](#). It is also possible to limit a search to the actual pamphlet collection by choosing *Advanced search*, typing in a search term and then choosing *Material Type Pamphlets*. In each record in the result list, there is a Link to Table of content (PDF) where the item(s) can be found. Each record can contain several hits. For example, searching for Cabral results in 11 records. The table of contents of each record lead to an additional result of 100+ publications.

Browse through the collection of boxes

The collection is organized in over 550 boxes. Below is a description of how the collection is organized and what to expect in the different boxes. An index of the country collection can be found here. Länk till arkivindexet

Country Collection

By far the largest portion of the collection has been divided according to countries and regions; each of these sections having then been further subdivided into subject areas. The amount of material available differs from country to country, although the bulk of the information in the collection concerns the following countries: **Ethiopia, Kenya, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia and Zimbabwe.**

Under each country or region, the main subject headings in use are: **agriculture, anthropology, development projects, economy, national liberation movements, politics, religious institutions and solidarity movements.** Documents concerning the economy of South Africa can be found under **South Africa: economy.** Sometimes, however, it is easier and more natural to find certain documents under the organisation or institution by which it was published, rather than by subject. This means that documents concerning Shell in South Africa, for example, *could* be filed under **politics** or **economy**, although they are more likely to be found under **solidarity movements** or **religious institutions**, which have published such a vast amount of such material.

Under the category **general** - specific for each country - miscellaneous facts about that particular country can be found: geography, bibliographies, and documents concerning more than one subject. In cases where there are not enough documents on a particular subject to justify having its own box, the items have been filed under a related subject. In the case of certain countries, the documents available are so few that they have all been filed under **general.**

Subject Collection

A second, smaller part of the collection has been divided into subject headings that are *not* country specific. This latter section represents a wide range of subjects pertaining to Africa and African affairs such as health issues, mass media, gender issues, and migration.

Tips and guidelines:

- **Aid:**
All documents concerning development aid have been filed under the heading **Development projects.**
- **Anthropology, sociology, ethnology:**
Anthropology, sociology and ethnology have been combined under the heading **anthropology** since there is insufficient material available on these subjects

individually to fill a file. Should enough information become available under any of these subjects, however, they will then be allocated a separate file.

- **Conferences:**
Material from various conferences are not kept together, but are filed under their respective subjects. *See also* the library's separate collection of conference proceedings.
- **Conflicts:**
Materials concerning conflicts have been placed in the same files regardless of their subject. That is to say, diverse subjects such as religion and weapons, as long as they relate to a specific conflict, will be found under **conflicts**. Two conflicts areas about which a great deal of material is to be found are Biafra and Southern Sudan.
- **Eritrea:**
All material concerning Eritrea, regardless of historical period, will be found under **Eritrea**.
- **Guinea-Bissau/Cape Verde:**
All material from the period when Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde were united will be found under the country heading **Guinea-Bissau/Cape Verde**.
- **History:**
Only documents with a general historical viewpoint have been filed under **history**. Historical aspects of various subjects are referred to the respective subject category. Agrarian history, for example, will be filed under **agriculture**.
- **Languages used:**
Documents written in Arabic or in African languages (with the exception of Swahili) have been placed in the file marked **general**.
- **Liberation movements:**
All material published about liberation movements, irrespective of the subject, are be found in the same files.
- **Religious institutions:**
All material published by religious institutions, regardless of the subject, are to be found in the same files.
- **Solidarity movements:**
All material published by solidarity movements, regardless of subject, are be found in the same files.
- **Statistics/Economy:**
Statistics have been put in the same file as **economy**. Under this category one will find descriptions of specific companies, annual reports, labour market/trade unions (if not written from a strictly political angle), industry and infrastructure.