**Club and leader profile**

**Leaders**
- **Sex**: 90% women
- **Age**: 80% 30-59 years old
- **Race**: 89% Black African, 8% Coloured, 2% White, 1% Indian
- **Employment**: 65% work full-time, most in educational organisations

**Venues**
- **Schools**: 49%
- **Preschools**: 18%
- **Homes**: 15%
- **Libraries**: 8%
- **Churches & community centres**: 7%

**Attendance**
- At 72% of clubs, most children attend regularly.

**Reading Club quality**

**Adult / child ratio**
- Ideal: 1:15
- 63% of clubs meet this.

**Frequency and duration of meetings**
- Ideal: at least once a week
- 97% of clubs do this.
- Ideal: At least 45 minutes per session
- 66% of clubs do this.

**Access to resources**
- Ideal: at least 2 types of core reading materials (own books, Nal’ibali newspaper inserts, library books)
- Materials are generally available in the language/s used at clubs, except in Tshivenda.

**How many types of core resources do clubs have?**
- 3 types: 29%
- 2 types: 46%
- 1 type: 25%
- None: 1%

**Practice**
- Ideal: Activities mapped in the graph (%) should take place mostly or always.
- Children do not engage with text independently as often as intended. This may be hindered by Reading Club Leaders’ understanding of its importance, and in some cases by insufficient reading materials.

**Perceived outcomes**
- Some of the changes most frequently reported are that children are spending more time reading for enjoyment and their reading skills have improved.

**Sustainability**
- More than two thirds of Reading Clubs stop running within a year of registration.
- Threats to sustainability are:
  - Departure of Nal’ibali staff when a focused project ends.
  - Challenges of attracting volunteers in communities with high unemployment.
  - Difficulty balancing curriculum demands and running a school-based Reading Club.

**Quality of Reading Clubs (%)**
- There were no weak Reading Clubs: 65% were good and excellent.

**Conclusion and recommendations**

Cost-effective strategies identified include:
- **Face-to-face training which better emphasises ideal practice**: R1 654
- **1-year supplement subscription (15 editions) to increase reading resources**: R1 350
- **Stipends for Nal’ibali staff to monitor and support clubs**: R894

*Assuming an average of 30 children per Reading Club