

READING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS!

International Development Week 2026

BOOKS WITHOUT BORDERS: STORIES OF SOLIDARITY & JUSTICE



**No Poverty

 **Demon Copperhead: Barbara Kingsolver (2022)**

A young boy born into Appalachian poverty navigates the hardships of a system stacked against him, illuminating the cycles of disadvantage and resilience.


**Gender Equality

 **Nightbloom: Peace Adzo Medie (2023)**

Power, gender, and justice in Ghana, told through stories of quiet resistance and everyday courage. The novel reveals how women navigate constraint and choice within deeply rooted social structures.




**Zero Hunger

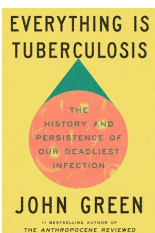
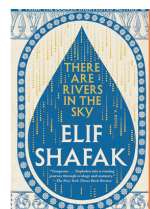
 **A Guardian and a Thief: Megha Majumdar (2025)**

This novel explores survival, scarcity, and community resilience, showing how people confront hunger and injustice in their daily lives.


**Clean Water & Sanitation

 **There Are Rivers in the Sky: Elif Shafak (2024)**

A lyrical narrative linking human life to water, emphasizing the cultural, environmental, and survival significance of clean water.




**Good Health & Well-Being

 **Everything Is Tuberculosis: The History and Persistence of Our Deadliest Infection - John Green (2025)**

A nonfiction examination of TB's biological, social, and historical impact, weaving personal stories with global public health insight.

**Affordable & Clean Energy

 **The Lost Cause: Cory Doctorow (2023)**

A speculative tale exploring energy access, technology, and the social impacts of sustainable—or unsustainable—energy systems.



**Quality Education

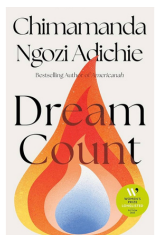
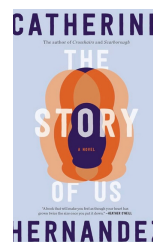
 **Finding My Way: Malala Yousafzai (2025)**

Malala shares her journey from a student in Pakistan to a global advocate, highlighting how education empowers individuals and transforms societies.

**Decent Work & Economic Growth

 **The Story of Us: Catherine Hernandez (2023)**

A rich narrative reflecting on labor, ambition, and community, illustrating the value of meaningful work in a changing economy.




**Gender Equality

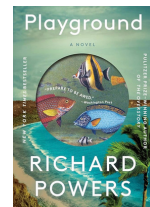
 **Dream Count: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (2025)**

Through powerful storytelling, this book explores gender, identity, and equality, emphasizing the importance of women's voices in shaping culture and society.

**Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure

 **Playground: Richard Powers (2024)**

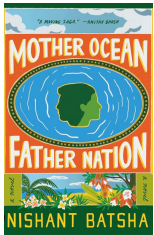
Celebrates human creativity, collaboration, and the building of infrastructures—both literal and metaphorical—that support thriving societies.



#IDW2026

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**Reduced Inequalities

📖 **Mother Ocean Father Nation: Nishant Batsha (2022)**

A lyrical debut novel following a brother and sister separated by political upheaval on a Pacific island, exploring migration, belonging, and the quiet ways families navigate displacement and fractured homelands

**Life Below Water

📖 **In Ascension: Martin MacInnes (2024)**

A novel that delves into the deep ocean and human ambition, blending science and suspense with environmental consciousness.



**Sustainable Cities & Communities

📖 **Mobility: Lydia Kiesling (2023)**

Explores migration, urban life, and the complexities of moving across borders in a globalized society.

**Life on Land

📖 **Waiting for the Long Night Moon: Amanda Peters (2024)**

A powerful collection of short stories rooted in Indigenous experience, exploring grief, resilience, tradition, and resistance from early contact through present-day struggles for land and community.



**Responsible Consumption & Production

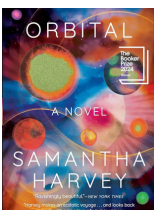
📖 **A Psalm for the Well-Built: Becky Chambers (2021)**

A hopeful sci-fi novel that examines ethical consumption, community stewardship, and the environmental responsibility of society.

**Life on Land

📖 **Harmattan Season: Tochi Onyebuchi (2025)**

A powerful story set in Africa, exploring climate change, migration, and the human relationship with land.



**Climate Action

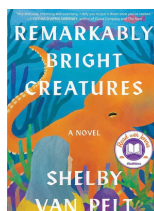
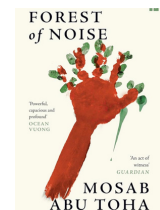
📖 **Orbital: Samantha Harvey (2024)**

Climate fiction set on the International Space Station, shortlisted for a climate fiction prize, showing global challenges and cooperation

**Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions

📖 **Forest of Noise: Mosab Abu Toa (2024)**

An evocative exploration of conflict, memory, and the pursuit of justice in fractured communities.



**Life Below Water

📖 **Remarkably Bright Creatures: Shelby Van Pelt (2022)**

A heartfelt story about an octopus and her human connections, exploring the mystery and beauty of marine life.

**Partnerships for the Goals

📖 **The Ministry for the Future: Kim Stanley Robinson (2020)**

A visionary story imagining global collaboration to tackle climate change, sustainability, and equitable development.

