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# The Media in Education Trust Africa



**Capitalisation Series: SDC Supported Projects and Activities in HIV/AIDS**

A fact sheet elaborated in the frame of the 2009 SDC Backstopping Mandate with support from the Swiss Centre for International Health of the Swiss Tropical Institute

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## Introduction

The Media in Education Trust AFRICA (MiETA) established in 1996, is a regional non-profit organisation with its head office in Durban, South Africa. Its purpose is to promote the holistic development of children and their associated school communities in the SADC Region by supporting education, as well as health and socio-economic development where it relates to education. For over ten years the organisation has assisted Ministries of Education to strengthen their education systems so that they are better able to address key barriers to learning, in particular HIV and AIDS, and poverty.

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## Objectives

MiETA aims to realize the educational rights of vulnerable children in the SADC Region through schools as inclusive centres of learning, care and support.

Strategic objectives have been defined at Regional and Member State levels.

### **Regional:**

- Improve and strengthen education delivery to benefit vulnerable children across the SADC region through policy harmonisation
- Increase learning and knowledge on care and support strategies shared across the Region

### **Member State:**

- Strengthen the education systems within the countries that respond to care and support needs of vulnerable learners
- Mobilise school communities to support and provide care to vulnerable children
- Improve the educational success of vulnerable learners through integrated service delivery

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## Project Description

The SADC Secretariat, in partnership with the Media in Education Trust Africa (MiETA), UNESCO, and UNICEF, has developed the Care and Support for Teaching and Learning programme. It provides a comprehensive approach to addressing the barriers to teaching and learning associated with health and poverty related challenges.

The initiative builds on the Schools as Centres of Care and Support (SCCS) model implemented in South Africa from 2000-2005. In 2006 the SCCS was supported by SDC in a first phase regional collaboration with existing programmes in Zambia and Swaziland.

A second phase is being implemented from 2008-2011 in six countries of the SADC. The programme is implemented in a partnership with the Ministries of Education, UNICEF, UNESCO and national NGOs. Important products and outcomes of the programme will include:

- A regional support guide and tools developed collaboratively with participating member states that can be adapted for use in each country
- Families and communities mobilised to participate in activities aimed at supporting children within the schools and community
- Governmental departments collaborating to deliver services to children

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## Results and Achievements

In the first phase the programme exhibited an effective way to mobilise communities to participate and provide support to children. It further facilitated joint planning and implementation of HIV and poverty mitigation measures amongst government departments of the participating countries in the region which resulted in increased services and support provided to children. In July 2008, the programme was adopted by the Education Ministers of the 14 SADC Member States as a response to the impact of HIV with the education sector.

In the second phase (2008-2011), the programme will facilitate the development of a SADC framework and guidelines on care and support within the education system as well as ensure that children's overall well being is improved towards the achievement of Education for All (EFA) targets and Millennium Development Goals.

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## SDC Partnership

SDC is one of the donors to MiETA. MiETA is also funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and receives support from a number of Foundations and others institutions.

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## More about this Project

[www.miet.co.za/about.aspx](http://www.miet.co.za/about.aspx)