

## **UNESCO IN AFRICA: VISION & MISSION IN EDUCATION**

### **VISION**

Through the support of her Offices, Networks and Centres, UNESCO in Africa seeks to contribute to the achievement of the MDGs, EFA and other internationally agreed development goals; and to peace and the sustainable socio-economic development of Africa in an era of globalization through education, science, social and human sciences, culture and communication and information

### **MISSION**

UNESCO in Africa will contribute to the development and promotion of universal principles and norms based on shared values. In close cooperation with the African Union and Regional Economic Communities, UNESCO will promote quality education as a fundamental right in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; science and technology as vehicles of development; the respect of values and cultural diversity; the empowerment and participation in the emerging knowledge society through equitable access, capacity-building for knowledge generation, management and dissemination through the use of ICTs.

### **STRATEGY**

UNESCO in Africa will:

- Provide models, standards, technical support and policy advice to Member States;
- Contribute to capacity building, data production and sector analysis at country and other levels, in order to guide the development of strategies and the implementation of national, sub-regional and regional plans;
- Strive to improve synergies within the Organisation for a better impact and greater visibility of its actions and for greater effectiveness of its leading role in education, science, culture, social and human sciences and communication and information;
- Strive for building better synergies with its partners in line with the Africa Union (AU) and NEPAD agreements; the One UN thrust and the Paris Declaration;
- Foster and strongly support south-south cooperation as well as south-south-north

cooperation.

## **PRIORITIES**

UNESCO priorities will include:

- Developing a holistic approach to, while improving the quality of, education at all levels including non formal education (NFE);
- Implementing the three UNESCO Initiatives in Education namely Literacy Initiative for Empowerment (LIFE), Teacher Training Initiative in Sub-Saharan Africa (TTISSA), Education for HIV and AIDS Prevention (EDUCAIDS) and the two UN Decades namely United Nations Literacy Decade (UNLD) and Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD);
- Assisting the Member States in formulating their Science and Technology (S&T) policies, strategies and plans of action as well as in the reform of their S&T systems;
- Contributing to Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action as concerns improving policy conditions and building mechanisms for innovation;
- Strengthening the role of communication and information, including the use of ICTs, in fostering mutual understanding, peace and reconciliation and sustainable development, particularly in post-conflict areas, through promoting the development of free, independent, pluralistic and community media;
- Supporting the development and implementation of policies which recognise and promote linkages between culture and sustainable social and economic development;
- Demonstrating and strengthening the linkage between operational action and the solid normative foundation provided by international conventions, recommendations and declarations developed by UNESCO in the field of culture, especially with respect to valuing cultural heritage and diversity.