



**What is the SADC Model  
Law All About?**

# A Sunny Day in Southern Africa

ERADICATING  
CHILD MARRIAGES IN  
THE SADC REGION  
#WAITTOWED

WAIT TO  
**WED**

LEGAL  
OFFICE

WAIT TO  
**WED**

GOODBYE, MRS.  
MONDLANE, CHISISI.  
I'LL GET RIGHT BACK  
TO YOU WITH A  
PLAN OF ACTION.

PLEASE FANAKA! WE  
MUST PERSUADE MY  
HUSBAND THAT OUR CHILD  
IS FAR TOO YOUNG TO  
GET MARRIED!

ANOTHER  
CASE OF  
CHILD  
MARRIAGE,  
BAHATI.

ANOTHER MAN  
WANTS TO MARRY  
A YOUNG GIRL  
WHO IS BARELY 14.  
HER ENTIRE LIFE  
AND POTENTIAL  
AHEAD OF HER.

**SIGH**

WE PROMOTE A SIMPLE  
MESSAGE, THAT GIRLS SHOULD  
WAIT TO WED IF THEY CAN, THAT  
THEY SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO  
MAKE THAT CHOICE THEMSELVES.  
BUT IT FEELS LIKE IT'LL NEVER  
BE HEARD!

IT MIGHT --  
WITH THE RIGHT  
FRAMEWORK AND  
PARTICIPATION!

SADC  
MODEL LAW  
on  
Eradicating  
Child Marriage

LET'S LOOK AT  
THE SADC MODEL  
LAW ON THE  
ERADICATION OF  
CHILD MARRIAGE, AND  
SEE WHAT WE CAN  
DO FOR HER.

I LIKE  
THE TERM  
"MODEL LAW".

... IT REALLY DESCRIBES WHAT  
THIS IS: A STANDARDISED SET OF  
LAWS ON CHILD MARRIAGE THAT  
CAN BE USED IN EVERY COUNTRY  
IN THE SADC REGION.

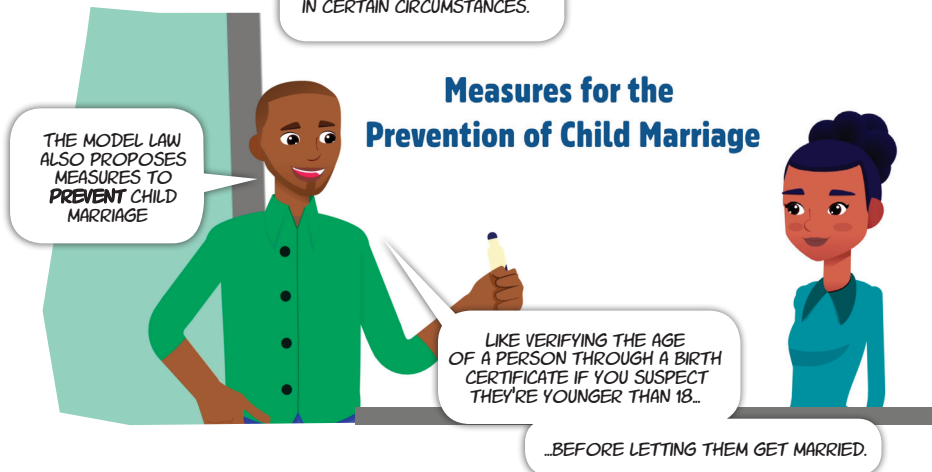
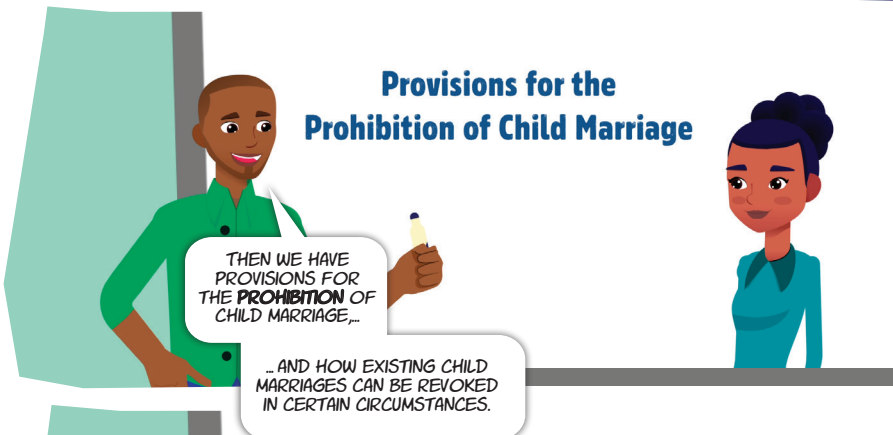
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AND IT'S QUITE  
SPECIFIC. A LOT OF  
WORK WENT INTO  
DEVELOPING THIS!...

... I KNOW SEVERAL  
COUNTRIES HAVE ALREADY  
USED IT TO IMPROVE  
THEIR LEGISLATION TO  
END CHILD MARRIAGE!

I CAN'T WAIT TO  
KNOW MORE.  
GETTING STARTED  
IMMEDIATELY!

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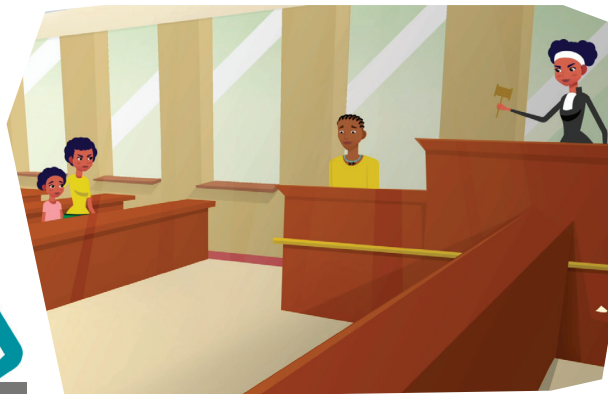


I SEE... AND WHAT ABOUT CHILDREN WHO ARE ALREADY CAUGHT IN SUCH A MARRIAGE? WHO COULDN'T OR DIDN'T WAIT TO WED?

## Guidance for Mitigation of Harmful Effects of Child Marriage

THAT'S THE NEXT POINT...

...THE LAW HAS GUIDANCE ON HOW TO **MITIGATE** THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF CHILD MARRIAGE.



## Monitoring and Evaluation / Access to Data

THERE'S MORE...

...THE MODEL LAW ALSO SUPPORTS THE MONITORING OF CHILD MARRIAGE, AND CHAMPIONS THE CREATION OF PUBLIC RECORDS ON THE PRACTICE.

THAT WILL ENSURE THE SITUATION IS CONSTANTLY EVALUATED AND PROPER DATA IS COLLECTED FOR FUTURE USE.



## Measures for Enforcement and Compliance

EXACTLY...

...AND THEN THE LAST IMPORTANT POINT: THE MODEL LAW ESTABLISHES MEASURES FOR ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE.

**VERY IMPORTANT!**

BECAUSE WE KNOW A LAW MAY BE FANTASTIC ON PAPER, BUT WHAT MATTERS IS HOW IT IS ENFORCED.

THE ONUS CANNOT BE ONLY ON THE GIRL TO CHOOSE TO WAIT TO WED. IT MUST BE ACCEPTED SOCIETY-WIDE.



**YES,  
NO MORE LIP  
SERVICE - ONLY  
ACTION!**

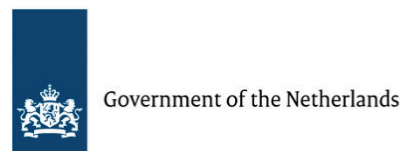


WELL, I MUST SAY I'M IMPRESSED. I FEEL THAT WAIT TO WED IS COMING INTO FOCUS SO STRONGLY NOW.



**End.**

# The UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to End Child Marriage is generously funded by



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