

MAY TO AUGUST 2026



AITENGA DESIGN THINKING PROJECT REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2026



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Between May and August 2026, Aitenga continued the Design Thinking Tailoring Training Project with support from Projekthilfe Dr. Luppa. During the period, 75 students remained in the Beginner Tailoring Class and 18 in the Advanced Class. A new Bridal and Suits Fashion Class launched with 11 participants.

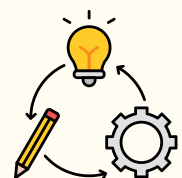
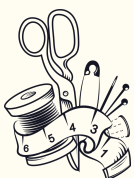
Weekly Design Thinking Workshops engaged 26 students from Aitenga and the CIDI Training Centre. SRHR workshops reached 355 students, including the 75 Beginners at Golden High School. 19 students took part in an exposure tour of successful tailoring and fashion businesses. Renovation of the Golden High School tailoring classroom also progressed.



PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Aitenga Design Thinking Tailoring Training Project combines tailoring instruction, Design Thinking, entrepreneurship, and SRHR education for youth and women. The project equips youth and women with practical tailoring, Design Thinking, entrepreneurial, and SRHR (sexual and reproductive health and rights) skills to improve their prospects for employment, entrepreneurship, and self-reliance.

The Design Thinking curriculum guides students through identifying problems, generating ideas, prototyping, testing, and refining products based on feedback.



KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED DURING QUARTER 1

ADVANCED TAILORING TRAINING PROJECT

This quarter, the **18 students** in the Advanced Tailoring Class, guided by two dedicated teachers, have continued strengthening their practical skills through producing diverse garments and accessories. They are creating bags, skirts, dresses, trousers, shorts, shirts, sportswear, coats, among other products, while exploring different designs and styles.

As part of their preparation for this year's Directorate of Industrial Training (DIT) examinations, students are undertaking theory and practical assessments to evaluate readiness and identify areas for improvement. They will be assessed at three levels: Modular, involving practical examination only, and Level I and II, requiring both theory and practical examinations. With continuous guidance and mentorship, students are building confidence and skills towards DIT examination success.



BEGINNERS TAILORING TRAINING PROGRAM.

The tailoring project at Golden High School is ongoing, providing students with practical tailoring skills alongside their regular studies. The programme currently brings together **75 students**, comprising 55 students from Senior One and 20 from Senior Two. They are gaining hands-on experience in sewing, garment construction, and other essential tailoring skills. In addition to their practical learning, some students are being prepared for Modular DIT registration, giving them an opportunity to work towards formal recognition of their acquired skills. The project continues to nurture creativity, practical competence, and self-reliance, equipping students with skills to support future livelihood opportunities.

KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED DURING QUARTER 1

CLASS ROOM RENNOVATION

Renovation of the Golden High School tailoring classroom is progressing well, with the ceiling, floor, middle wall, and windows completed. The project is now in the final finishing and setup phase, including painting, lighting, electrification, and installation of storage shelves. Once completed, the classroom will accommodate at least 50 students per session. Meanwhile, students continue training in another room to ensure the beginners' curriculum remains on schedule.



DESIGN THINKING CLASSES

This quarter, Aitenga introduced a weekly Design Thinking Workshop to strengthen students' creativity, innovation, and product development skills. The two-hour sessions, adapted from the SDC Design Thinking Book, bring together **26 students** from Aitenga and CIDI. Students explored mobile objects, accessories, dolls, and bag designs while developing and presenting creative ideas. Through peer and teacher feedback, students are learning to refine their designs, improve functionality, and create appealing, innovative products.

BRIDAL & SUITS CLASSES

This quarter, Aitenga introduced a new Bridal and Suits Class with **11 students**, aiming to equip participants with specialized skills in traditional wear, men's suits, and bridal outfits. Currently, 8 students remain, as 3 dropped out due to family-related challenges. The students have trained in making Gomesi, Mushanana, and complete men's suits, and will proceed to bridal gown production before preparing for DIT examinations.

Eight participants also trained in producing complete men's suits, including trousers, waistcoats, and coats. The class will progress to bridal gown production, after which participants will prepare for Directorate of Industrial Training (DIT) examinations to demonstrate their acquired skills.



KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED DURING QUARTER 1

SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH & RIGHTS EDUCATION

This quarter, we conducted an SRHR workshop at Golden High School, Nsaggu, under the theme “Let’s Talk: Health, Rights and Friendships.” A total of **355 students aged 13–26** participated. The sessions covered relationships and friendships, teenage pregnancy prevention, menstrual and personal hygiene. The workshop created a safe space for questions and experiences while strengthening students’ confidence, communication, decision-making, self-esteem, peer-pressure management, and ability to make healthy choices.



HOME VISITS

During the quarter, the Social Workers conducted home visits for the **18 students** enrolled in the Advanced Tailoring Class. They visited students’ homes and engaged with parents and guardians to understand their experiences, progress, and challenges. The visits provided an opportunity for families to share their observations and highlight the positive changes they had witnessed. The insights gathered helped identify areas where students and families may need additional support. These engagements strengthened relationships with families and the community while guiding Aitenga in improving its services and ensuring programs respond to students’ needs.



ONE ON ONE COUNSELING SESSIONS

This quarter, social workers provided one-on-one counselling to all **26 students** in the Advanced and Bridal Tailoring Classes at the Mugongo office. The sessions provided a safe space to discuss personal challenges, receive guidance, and seek support. Counselling focused on academic performance, behaviour, health, and well-being, while helping social workers identify individual needs, encourage positive behavioural change, and promote confidence, resilience, and personal growth.



EXPOSURE VISIT

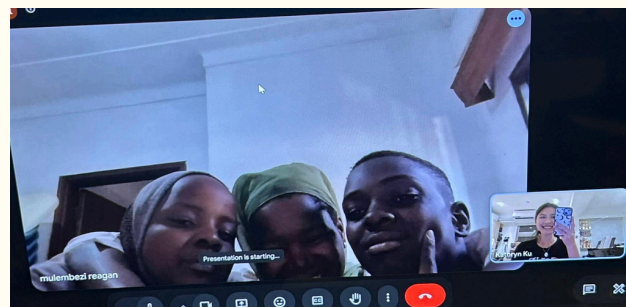
As part of the tailoring project, **19 students** participated in an exposure visit to Gaddafi Mosque Craft Market, SDC, and MoTIV Innovation Hub. The visit broadened their understanding of how tailoring skills can be transformed into innovative, marketable products.

Students gained practical insights into design, product development, branding, marketing, pricing, customer engagement, and presentation. The experience encouraged them to combine technical skills with creativity and entrepreneurship, inspiring them to explore new products and consider tailoring as a pathway to sustainable income.



UVTAB CERTIFICATION

The former Aitenga Advanced Tailoring students completed DIT examinations in November 2025: **3 at Modular Level, 2 at Level I, and 6 at Level II**. Results were released in 2026, and brought excitement to the students. The certifications formally recognise their tailoring skills and competencies, creating opportunities for employment, entrepreneurship, and personal growth.



ENGLISH CLASSES

English Language Support Classes are ongoing, supporting **7 students** through Basic and Advanced classes, strengthening communication, comprehension, reading, and speaking skills while building confidence and improving learning.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES FOR QUARTER 3

- DIT Examinations for the tailoring students.
- Student showcase of the products they innovated from the design thinking class.
- Accomplishment ceremony
- Entrepreneurship workshops at Aitenga and CIDI
- Continuation of the design thinking classes.
- Health camp with focus on SRHR for the students.

CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS



- Time Constraints: The project requires additional time to achieve its targets, particularly Design Thinking, to support greater creativity and innovation. DIT examinations were also postponed from November to December to allow students more time to prepare.
- DIT Level 3: Level 3 examinations will be conducted next year, as the new Bridal and Suits Class requires more time for training and exam preparation.
- Rising Costs: Inflation has increased costs, with some budgets, particularly bridal materials, exceeding initial estimates. Efforts are ongoing to manage the costs.
- SRHR Challenges: Some SRHR challenges are beyond Aitenga's capacity, highlighting the need for stronger partnerships with organisations that can provide specialised support.

CONCLUSION

The May - August 2026 period reflects progress in implementing the Aitenga Design Thinking Tailoring Project. Regular training continued for 75 Beginner and 18 Advanced students, complemented by the launch of the Bridal and Suits Fashion Class, which drew 11 participants. Alongside this, 26 students engaged in Design Thinking Workshops, developing and refining products through hands-on practice and iterative feedback.

We sincerely thank Projekthilfe Dr. Luppa for their belief in this project and their investment in equipping young people and women with skills that create lasting opportunities for their future.

