

Equity & Education for All: Reaching the Excluded

Fast Track Initiative
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What is inclusive education

- Exclusion many faces
- Despite progress towards UPA, still 72 million children not enrolled
- 7 out of 10 in SSA and S and W Asia
- Poverty and marginalization
- Remote areas, slums, disabled, working children etc.
- 37% of out of school children in Fragile states
- Face of exclusion different in every country
- Underscores the need for governments to identify children unlikely to go to school
- Also need to identify early dropouts and not reaching minimum mastery of curriculum
- Data that reflects the different profiles of the excluded sends an important signal: being counted makes you visible
- Dakar HLG 2007 a strong message to UNESCO to work on better understanding the char. of inclusion

How is it defined

- UNESCO Guidelines of Inclusion (2005)
“A process of responding to the diversity of all learners by increasing participation and reducing exclusion within and from education. Inclusive education involves changes in content, approaches, structures and strategies and a conviction that it is the responsibility of the regular system to educate all children”
- Implies a holistic approach

Principles of inclusion

- 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 26
- 1960 UNESCO Convention against discrimination
- 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- The Convention of the Rights of the Child (the most widely ratified Human Rights treaty)

UNESCO's position

- UNESCO affirms that promoting inclusive education systems is the key to reaching out to all of those who are excluded within and from education
- Inclusion is an integral part of quality
- Without inclusion no quality, without quality no inclusion
- Focus - Particularly marginalized and excluded groups

Issues for discussion

- How can FTI support inclusion of the hard to reach children?
- Mandatory / incentives for governments
- Endorsement process
- HR approach
- From a donor driven agenda to a global agenda for EFA