

# Inclusive Education

Inclusive education aims to increase the participation of all students in their local school communities.

## The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)

- The CRC protects and promotes the rights of all children.
- Article 2 relates to non-discrimination.
- Articles 28 and 29 relate to education.
- Article 23 relates specifically to disabled children.

*“The priority needs of disabled children are not special, they are basic. Disabled children need food, shelter, love and affection, protection, and education.”*

*Education provision should reach children marginalized by poverty, social status, language, gender, disability, ethnicity, and the impact of HIV/AIDS.*

**Save the Children-UK's  
Education Strategy  
Objective No 2: Inclusion**



*“Inclusive education implies the equal right of all children to the ‘educational package’, however basic that package may be. A rights-based approach to education is consistent with providing support to the inclusion, rather than to the segregation of disabled children.”*

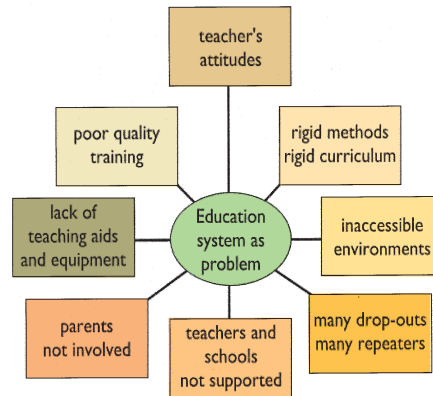
**Disability, Poverty and Development  
UK Department for International  
Development (DfID) 2000**

## EENET's Definition of Inclusive Education:

- Acknowledges that all children can learn;
- Acknowledges and respects differences in children: age, gender, ethnicity, language, disability, HIV and TB status etc;
- Enables education structures, systems and methodologies to meet the needs of all children
- Is part of a wider strategy to promote an inclusive society
- Is a dynamic process which is constantly evolving

**International Disability and  
Development Consortium (IDDC)  
seminar on IE, Agra, India, 1998**

## Education system as problem



*“School improvement may be a result of inclusive education, or it may provide the opportunity for more inclusive practices to be promoted. Whichever route is taken, school improvement must take place.”*

## Save the Children supports Inclusive Education because it:

- enables disabled children to stay with their families and communities;
- can improve the quality of education for all;
- can help overcome discrimination;
- promotes inclusion in society.

## How can we support inclusive education?

- By promoting:**
- positive attitudes;
  - inclusive learning environments;
  - early intervention;
  - positive role models.
- By supporting:**
- appropriate policy development;
  - system change in education.



*“Successful inclusion depends upon the careful and planned allocation of existing human and material resources.”*

## The rationale for IE

*IE starts from the belief that the right to education is a basic human right and the foundation for a more just society.*

*In order to realise this right, the Education For All (EFA) movement has worked to make quality basic education available to all.*

*Inclusive education takes the EFA agenda forward by finding ways of enabling schools to serve all children in their communities, as part of an inclusive education system.*

*Inclusive education is concerned with all learners, with a focus on those who have traditionally been excluded from educational opportunities – such as learners with special needs and disabilities, children from ethnic and linguistic minorities, and so on.*

**Open File on Inclusive Education  
UNESCO 2002**



How can local education managers promote more inclusive practices?

- Carry out a situation analysis before implementing IE;
- Develop a pilot school;
- Ensure that specialists, if they exist, are based at district/national level, not in the schools;
- Encourage community involvement and ownership.

How can head teachers promote more inclusive practices in their schools?

- Ensure that their teachers are not overloaded;
- Reward good teachers;
- Allocate time for teachers to observe each other;
- Identify out-of-school children;
- Encourage Child-to-Child activities.



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