



Global priorities in education for children with vision impairment

Frances Gentle

RIDBC, ICEVI, SPEVI

SPEVI 2020 Conference

Pullman Hotel, Adelaide, 14th January 2020





Overview of Presentation

- Some population data
- Global education priorities and initiatives
- Pacific priorities and initiatives
- Questions to ponder
- UNICEF and IIEP Framework for disabilityinclusive education
- Discussion around questions to ponder
- References

Population Data (1)

- 2011 Global population: 7.33 billion
- 2011 Persons with disabilities:
 - Global population: 1 billion (15%, or 1 in 7 persons)
 - Global population of Children with disabilities: Between 93 and 150 million
 - Pacific Islands population of persons with disabilities: 1.7
 million
 - 1 in 5 of the world's poorest people have a disability
 - 80% of persons with disabilities live in developing countries
 - 33 million children with disabilities not in school in low and middle income countries

Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2015); UNICEF & International Institute for Educational Planning (2019); World Bank and World Health Organization (2011)

Population Data (2)

- 2015 Global population of persons with vision impairment (VI): 217 million
 - 36 million with blindness [VA <3/60]
 - 47 million with severe VI [VA <6/60 but ≥3/60]</p>
 - 170 million with moderate VI [VA <6/18 but ≥6/60]

International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (2015)

Global education priorities and initiatives for children with disabilities

- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006, Article 24 Education)
- Sustainable Development Goals (2015, Goal 4 Education)
- Education 2030 Incheon Declaration and Framework for Action (2015)
- UNESCO Global Education Monitoring Reports "Inclusion" (2020)
- WIPO Marrakesh Treaty (2013)
- UNICEF Accessible Digital Textbooks for All (2019)
- UNHCR Education 2030: A strategy for Refugee Children (2019)
- UNGA Resolution on the Rights of the Child with a Focus on Children without Parental Care (2019)
- Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Guidelines, Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action (2019)

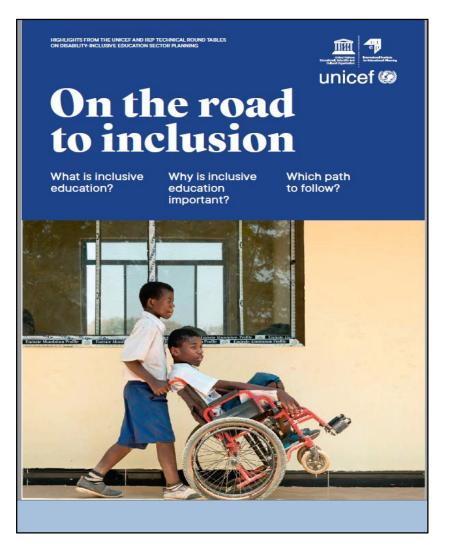
Pacific education priorities and initiatives for children with disabilities

- Pacific Disability Forum Strategic Plan 2011-2016
- Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2016-2025 (Pacific Islands Forum, 2016)
- Pacific Regional Education Framework 2018-2030 (Pacific Islands Forum, 2018)
- Pacific indicators of disability inclusive education (Pacific INDIE) project (Monash University, 2016).
- SPEVI Principles and Practice: Guidelines for quality education of learners with vision impairment (2016)
- SPEVI Professional standards elaborations for specialist teachers (Vision impairment), Career stages (2016)

Questions for to ponder...

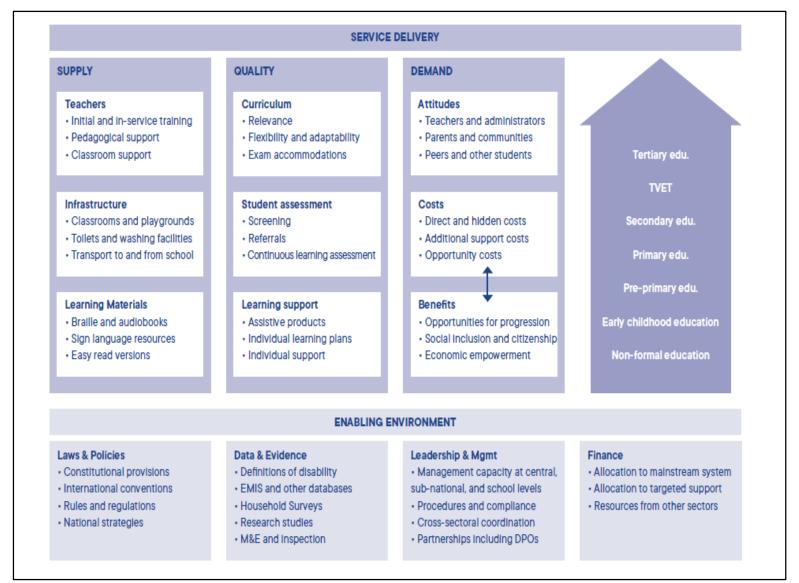
- What do SPEVI, ICEVI and WBU have in common?
- What is the role of SPEVI?
- What is the role of ICEVI in the Pacific Region?
- What initiatives should we focus on?
- How should we achieve those initiatives?

UNICEF & IIEP Framework for Disability-Inclusive Education



Source: UNICEF & International Institute for Educational Planning (2019)

Framework for Disability-Inclusive Education



Source: UNICEF & International Institute for Educational Planning (2019)

UNICEF & International Institute for Educational Planning

Education: Early childhood, Pre-primary to tertiary, & non-formal SERVICE DELIVERY

Supply

Teachers

- •Initial & in-service training
- Pedagogical support
- •Classroom support

Infrastructure

- •Classrooms & playgrounds
- •Toilets & washing facilities
- •Transport to & from school

Learning materials

- •Braille & audiobooks
- •Sign language resources
- Easy read versions

Quality

Curriculum

- Relevance
- Flexibility and adaptability
- Exam accommodations

Student assessment

- Screening
- Referrals
- Continuous learning assessment

Learning support

- Assistive products
- Individual learning plans
- Individual support

Demand

Attitudes

- Teachers & administrators
- Parents & communities
- Peers & other students

Costs

- Direct & hidden costs
- Additional support costs
- Opportunity costs

Benefits

- Opportunities for progression
- Social inclusion & citizenship
- •Economic empowerment

UNICEF & IIEP (2019)

Education: Early childhood, Pre-primary to tertiary, & non-formal ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

Laws & Policies

- Constitutional provisions
- International conventions
- Rules & regulations
- National strategies

Data & Evidence

- Definitions of disability
- EMIS & other databases
- Household surveys
- Research studies
- M&E & inspection

Leadership & Management

- Management capacity at central, subnational & school levels
- Procedures & compliance
- Cross-sectoral coordination
- Partnerships including DPOs

Finance

- Allocation to mainstream system
- Allocation to targeted support
- Resources from other sectors

Education: Early childhood, Pre-primary to tertiary, & non-formal SERVICE DELIVERY – GLOBAL & PACIFIC INITIATIVES



Teachers

- Initial & in-service training
- Pedagogical support
- Classroom support

Infrastructure

- Classrooms & playgrounds
- Toilets & washing facilities
- Transport to & from school

Learning materials

- Braille & audiobooks
- Sign language resources
- Easy read versions

Supply Global

Teachers

- ICEVI Teacher training curriculum (online)
- Conferences, workshops
- Publications

Infrastructure

 UN initiatives, including refugee support

Learning materials

- WIPO Marakesh Treaty & Accessible Books Consortium
- UNICEF Accessible digital textbooks initiative



Teachers

- SPEVI Elaborations
- Kiribati Institute of Technology (DFAT project)
- CBM support for IE in PNG & Fiii

Infrastructure

 Access to Quality Education Fiji (DFAT project)

Learning Materials

- MoEs have access to braille production equipment
- Adhoc provision in PICs

Education: Early childhood, Pre-primary to tertiary, & non-formal SERVICE DELIVERY – GLOBAL & PACIFIC INITIATIVES



Curriculum

- Relevance
- Flexibility and adaptability
- Exam accommodations

Student assessment

- Screening
- Referrals
- Continuous learning assessment

Learning support

- Assistive products
- Individual learning plans
- Individual support

Quality Global

Curriculum

- ICEVI & Nippon Foundation Higher Education Project
- ICEVI Mathematics instructional videos

Student assessment

• ICEVI partners work with IAPB in screening & referrals

Learning support

- ICEVI-ONNET technology initiative in East Asia
- NVDA uptake
- Burmese text-to-speech software



Curriculum

- ECC Project Melissa Fanshaw
 Vision Aust
- Pacific indicators of disab inclusive ed (Monash)
- PNG: Access issues...

Student assessment

Support needed in this area across PICs

Learning Support

- Perkins braille maintenance-Pilot PNG (Ben Clare)
- Embosser maintenance Fiji, Tonga, SI (Index & Ben)

Education: Early childhood, Pre-primary to tertiary, & non-formal SERVICE DELIVERY – GLOBAL & PACIFIC INITIATIVES



Attitudes

- Teachers & administrators
- Parents & communities
- Peers & other students

Costs

- Direct & hidden costs
- Additional support costs
- Opportunity costs

Benefits

- Opportunities for progression
- Social inclusion & citizenship
- Economic empowerment

Demand Global

Attitudes

- ICEVI support for International Parent Association
- ICEVI Country champions program
- WBU Youth empowerment & employment programs

Costs

Benefits

Demand Pacific

Attitudes

- When parents know education is available, will demand enrolment & support their children with disabilities
- Concern about bullying in school

Costs

Benefits

Discussion: Questions to ponder...

- What do SPEVI, ICEVI and WBU have in common?
- What is the role of SPEVI?
- What is the role of ICEVI in the Pacific Region?
- What initiatives should we focus on?
- How should we achieve those initiatives?

References

Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. (2015). Development for all 2015-2020: Strategy for strengthening disability-inclusive development in Australia's aid program. Retrieved from https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/development-for-all-2015-2020.aspx

Inter-Agency Standing Committee. (2019). Guidelines: Inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action. Retrieved from https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/iasc-task-team-inclusion-persons-disabilities-humanitarian-action/documents/iasc-guidelines

Monash University. (2016). Pacific indicators of disability inclusive education (Pacific INDIE) project. Retrieved from

https://www.monash.edu/education/research/projects/pacific-indie

Pacific Disability Forum. (2011). Strategic Plan 2011-2016 (Final draft – April 2011). Retrieved from https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/pacific-disability-forum-stratplan-2011-16.pdf

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. (2016). Pacific framework for the rights of persons with disabilities 2016-2025). Retrieved from https://www.forumsec.org/framework-for-rights-of-persons-with-disability/

South Pacific Educators in Vision Impairment. (2016a). Professional standards elaborations for specialist teachers (vision impairment), career stages (2nd ed.). Retrieved from https://www.spevi.net/professional-standards-elaborations/

References

South Pacific Educators in Vision Impairment. (2016b). SPEVI Principles and Practice: Guidelines for quality education of learners with vision impairment (2nd. Ed.). Retrieved from https://www.spevi.net/spevi-principles-and-practice/

UNESCO. (2019) Global education monitoring report. Retrieved from https://en.unesco.org/gem-report/taxonomy/term/210

UNICEF. (2019). Accessible digital textbooks for all global initiative. Retrieved from https://www.accessibletextbooksforall.org/

UNICEF & International Institute for Educational Planning. (2019). On the road to inclusion. Retrieved from http://www.iiep.unesco.org/en/road-inclusion-13270

United Nations. (2019). Resolution on the rights of the child with a focus on children without parental care. Retrieved from

https://www.un.org/en/ga/62/plenary/children/bkg.shtml

University of the South Pacific & Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. (2018). Pacific regional education framework (PacREF) 2018-2030: Moving towards education 2030. Retrieved from https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Pacific-Regional-Education-Framework-PacREF-2018-2030.pdf

World Bank and World Health Organization. (2011). World report on disability. Retrieved from https://www.who.int/disabilities/world_report/2011/report/en/

World Intellectual Property Organization. (2013) The Marrakesh Treaty. Retrieved from https://www.wipo.int/marrakesh treaty/en/

