

48th International Conference on Education



Final Debate

Inclusive education : the way of the future

Gaston de la Haye



ICE 2008

Inclusive Education: the way for the future

Final debate

Gaston De la Haye EI SC



Inclusive education

The way of the future

5 items I will comment on:

- ▶ The concept of inclusive education
- ▶ Financial resources
- ▶ Role of public authorities
- ▶ Central role of teachers
- ▶ The way forward



Inclusive education The way of the future

The concept of inclusive education

- ▶ From integration to inclusion (<> **assimilation!**)
- ▶ Horizontal and vertical inclusion
- ▶ Right based concept
- ▶ Multipolar pedagogy
- ▶ Positive approach: value added
- ▶ Intercultural dialogue and tolerance-appreciating diversity
- ▶ **Inclusive education developed in and supported by an inclusive society**



Inclusive education The way of the future

Financial resources

- ▶ Guarantee adequate resources at national, local and school level (inclusive education <> budget cuts) : **Financial crisis**
 - ▶▶ Adequate redistribution of means available
 - ▶▶ 6% of GDP ???
 - ▶▶ Inclusive education <> **marketisation of education**
- ▶ **Maintain and increase the level of aid to education**
 - ▶▶ Present level of aid to basic education = 1/3
 - ▶▶ FTI & Catalytic Fund= 2 billion shortfall



Inclusive education The way of the future

Role of public authorities

- ▶ Build bridges between formal and non formal education
- ▶ Stop recruiting unqualified teachers and set up programs to upgrade their qualifications
- ▶ Apply the 1966 and 1997 Recommendations on the status of teachers
- ▶ Practices of privatization in and of education: **Responsibility of public authorities for achieving EFA**



Inclusive education The way of the future

Central role of teachers

- ▶ Recognize at international and national level the central role of quality teachers for quality education for all and act accordingly
 - ▶▶ 75 million children out of school
 - ▶▶ 18 million teachers needed by 2015
- ▶ Provide teachers with decent working and teaching conditions
 - ▶▶ Salaries, P/T ratio's, teaching material and infrastructure
- ▶ Provide teachers with adequate initial and in service training making inclusive education possible



Inclusive education The way of the future

Central role of teachers

- ▶ Maintain and increase teachers' motivation:
 - ▶▶ Networking
 - ▶▶ Teamwork
 - ▶▶ Awareness of being pioneers
 - ▶▶ ICT facilities
 - ▶▶ Institutional support
- ▶ Develop education practice and pedagogy based on team work <> competition and individualism via merit pay etc ...



Inclusive education The way of the future

The way forward

- ▶ Convergence GMR/EFA WG and Inclusive Education
 - ▶▶ Horizontal and vertical inclusion
 - ▶▶ Quality and equity
 - ▶▶ Link between education and poverty reduction programs
- ▶ Use the crisis as an opportunity to increase public investment in education and in public aid to education
- ▶ Develop democratic governance practices
- ▶ School leadership = Team leaders and managers
- ▶ Quality teachers : qualified and motivated