

48<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Education



## WORKSHOP 2

# Inclusive Education - a means for Social Inclusion Selected Policy Statements

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# **Inclusive Education - a means for Social Inclusion**

## **Selected Policy Statements**

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# First: Briefly on Norwegian Education and Training Policy

- 10 years compulsory education + legal right to 3 more years
- Universal access, regardless of gender, social, religious, economic, geographical factors
- General right to receive adapted education in local, regular school, regardless of personal needs and challenges
- Strong public school, restrictions regarding private schooling
- No school fees in public schools at any level, and needs-based financial support to students and their families
- Extensive cooperation with external partners in policy development and implementation of education and training
- National Building Regulations ensures universal access to public buildings, regardless of physical disabilities
- Free education for the unemployed, immigrants, prisoners

# 1. All individuals have the same, equal worth

- People constitute the most valuable resource
- Education is an individual, human right
- Inclusive Education corresponds with:
  - Universal access
  - Adequate delivery (adapted approach)
  - High quality and relevant content

## 2. Development of Inclusive Education is a long-term process

- Has taken several decades in the Nordic countries
- Do not expect developing countries to reach similar level in only 5 – 10 years

### 3. Early intervention is crucial

- Identify specific needs, challenges
- Adapted measures aiming to:
  - Develop basic skills, learning tools for life
  - Develop positive attitudes to learning
- High quality ECCE is particularly important for success

## 4. Cooperation and coordination with external partners is vital

- Ensures relevance and quality of provision
- Inclusive Education covers even groups outside of mainstream education (labour, immigration)
- Other sectors control relevant resources and regulating measures, for removal of obstacles etc.

## 5. Equality must be ensured through adequate governance

- Local organisation of adapted education and training, services and equipment
- Need for:
  - Central/national policies, regulations, financing
  - National & regional monitoring, quality control

More on "Governance to ensure equality":

- **EFA Global Monitoring Report 2009, and**
- **HLG Meeting in Oslo, December 16 - 18**

Thank you!