



WORKSHOP 3

Structuring the Educational System to Address Diversity and Provide learning Opportunities for All

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***INCLUSIVE EDUCATION:
"THE WAY OF THE FUTURE"***

***Structuring the Educational System to
Address Diversity and Provide learning
Opportunities for All***

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA



Historical Context

- Decades of war
- Almost complete destruction of the educational infrastructure, including human resources and school buildings



Early Efforts at Reconstruction

- Formation and development of a government
- Restructuring of the educational system
 - 1979 – 1986: 10 yr ed. System 4+3+3
 - 1986 – 1996: 11 yr ed. System 5+3+3
 - 1996 – present: 12 yr ed system 6+3+3



Inclusive Education

- Salamanca World Conference on Special Needs Education in 1994
- In 2000, the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal, set the goal of achieving "Education for All" by 2015 by including within the educational mainstream all traditionally excluded and marginalized groups, such as girls, poor children, ethnic minorities and children with disabilities



Education For All in Cambodia National Plan 2003-2015

- The marginalized and disadvantaged
 - Poor, migrant workers, children with HIV/AIDS
 - Orphans, street children and other vulnerable children
 - Ethnic and linguistic minorities
 - Children with disabilities
- All age groups, from early childhood to adults
- Girls and women for gender parity



Government Policies

- Rectangular Strategy for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency
- National Development Strategic Plan 2006-2010
- Education Strategic Plan 2006-2010
- Education Sector Support Program 2006-2010
- Education Law, December 2007

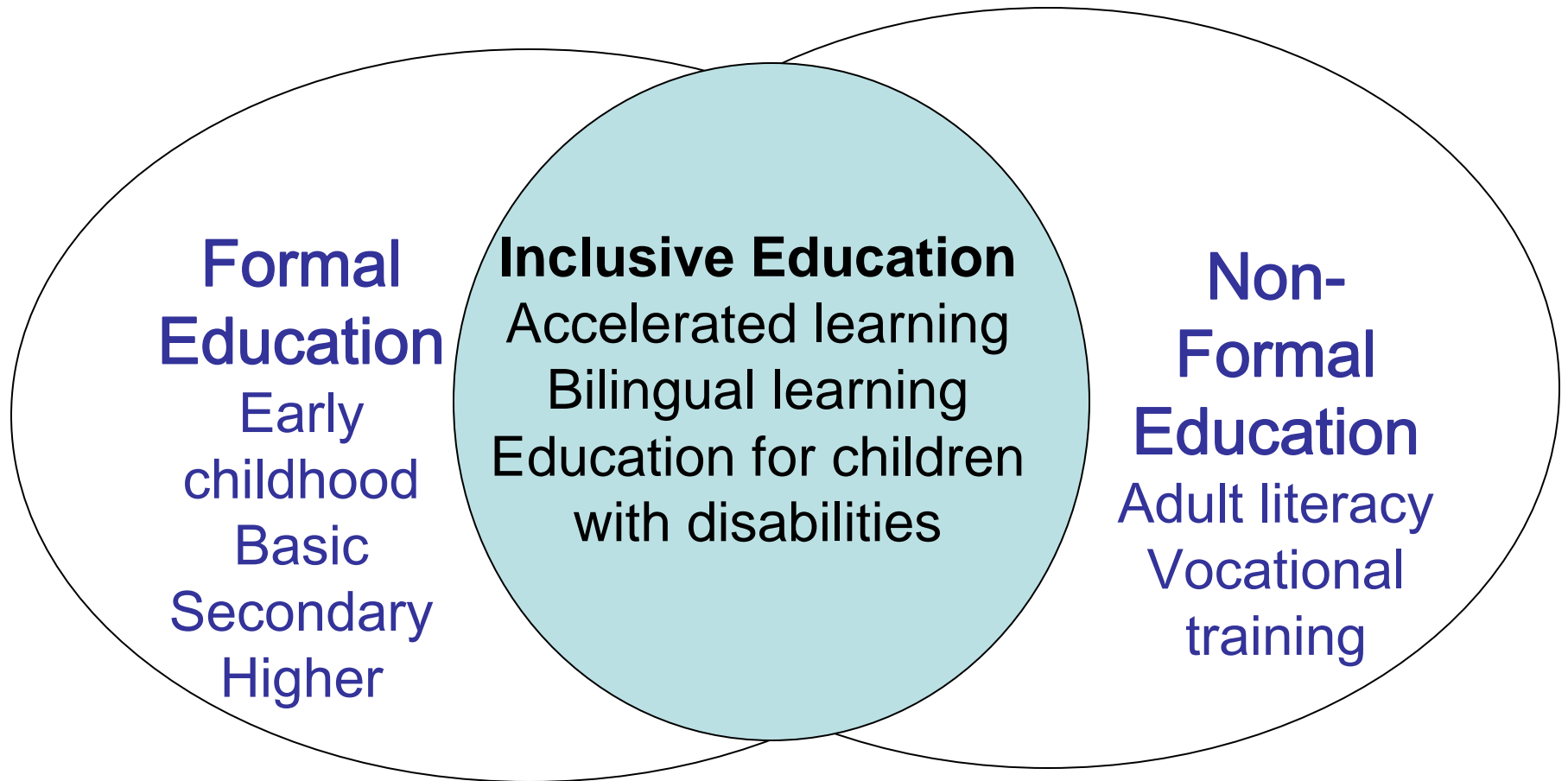


Ministry of Education Policies

- Early Childhood Education, 2000
- Non-Formal Education, August 2002
- Gender Mainstreaming Strategy, 2003
- Child Friendly Schools, December 2007
- Education of Children with Disabilities, March 2008



Structure Inclusive Education



Implementation Mechanism and Strategies

- National Scholarship Program
- Collaboration with I/NGOs
 - E.g., World Food Program for free lunch and breakfast program
- Special Education Office facilitates implementation of inclusive education through
 - Primary Education, Non-Formal Education, Early Childhood Education, Secondary Education, Teacher Training, Higher Education, and Pedagogical Research Departments



Inclusive Education Programs

- Education for Children with Disabilities
- Accelerated Learning
- Bilingual Education



Objectives of Education of Children with Disabilities Program

- To build capacity through training of teachers of children with disabilities.
- To raise awareness among teachers and communities of the needs of children with disabilities and increase identification of children with disabilities



Objectives of Accelerated Learning Program

- To provide a program that allows more mature students to complete their primary education at an accelerated pace.



Objectives of Bilingual Education Program

- To provide and extend educational opportunities for the tribal minorities in Cambodia.
- To preserve the language, culture and traditions of the tribal minorities, while also providing the educational opportunities for assimilation.



Non-Formal Education Programs

- **Adult literacy** (functional literacy, post-literacy, equivalency, re-entry programs)
- **Vocational training** (income generation, quality of life improvement programs)



Objectives of Adult Literacy Programs

- To provide literacy and life skills for daily needs and access lifelong learning
- To develop libraries and reading centers in villages, sub-districts and temples
- To provide children who dropout of school to re-enter and gain school completion equivalency



Objectives of Vocational Training Program

- To provide adults with specific vocational skills to generate incomes and meet the requirements of the labor market in order to alleviate poverty.
- The programs and contents based on 4 crucial categories:
 - Family Life.
 - Small Business and Incomes.
 - Hygiene and Health.
 - People Consciousness



Continuing Challenges

- Poverty, with an increasing divide between rich and poor
- Poor access to health care: malnourishment and disability
- Persistent high dropout and repetition rates
- Shortage of teachers
- Teacher and student absenteeism
- Crowded classrooms
- Inadequate physical structures (incomplete schools, schools without wheelchair accessibility)



The Way of the Future

- Create a quality education that will encourage children to enroll in school and to stay and complete their schooling
- Develop a cadre of educational personnel trained in effective teaching and learning strategies to work with overage students, children from ethnic minorities and children with disabilities, and a cadre of technical personnel to provide on-going support to ensure effective implementation of these strategies
- Increase community involvement in disability awareness, by creating parent support groups and establishing and training community working groups



The Way of the Future (Cont.)

- Fast Track Initiative
 - Funding for Fast Track Initiative to the Ministry of Education for a total of \$57 million, has begun in October 2008
 - \$3 million earmarked for “reach the un-reached” with specific focus on disability screening pilot and implementation, inclusive and disability training programs



Conclusion

- Cambodia has made many gains in the last three decades, despite some overwhelming obstacles, and a desperate shortage of resources.
- However, with the support of NGOs and international donors and the political will of the Royal Government, we believe that Cambodia will achieve its goal of inclusive education and Education For All.

