



**SIDE-EVENT 6**

**Regional Issues and Challenges of Inclusive Education:  
from Romania to Cameroon**

*organised by the International Bureau of Education (IBE)*

If you were to choose the ICE sub-theme which is most important to discuss in relation to inclusive education in your region, which would be the main issues and challenges to share with the audience?

Major participants of the preparatory activities of the ICE gather once again to focus upon this extremely important question. The event's moderator, Mr Renato Opertti will open the debate, followed by a response from one speaker on behalf of all panel members for each UNESCO region. There will then be a 15 minute discussion and the moderator's concluding statement.

**Background**

In 2007 and 2008, the IBE undertook an international consultation process of preparatory workshops and conferences on key issues and challenges of inclusive education for the ICE, from Romania to Cameroon, involving 914 diverse participants from 128 countries and international, national and local backgrounds.

The regional "Focal Points" of the IBE's international Community of Practice (COP) in curriculum development played a crucial role in this process, as did UNESCO offices, Ministries of Education and international organizations.

**Panel Composition**

**Africa (Eastern & Western Sub-Saharan/ Central)**

**Mr. Paul Mushi**  
Director of the Tanzanian Institute of Education  
**Ms. Lydia Nzomo**  
Director of the Kenyan Institute of Education  
**Mr. Godswill Obioma**  
Executive Secretary of the Nigeria Educational Research & Development Council

**Europe (Commonwealth of Independent States, Eastern Europe and Nordic regions)**

**Mr. Alexandru Crisan**  
Executive President Centre Education 2000+ in Romania and COP Focal Point for Eastern and South-eastern Europe  
**Ms. Irmeli Halinen**  
Director of the Finnish National Board of Education and COP Focal Point  
**Mr. Iouri Zagoumenov**  
Director of Comparative Education of the Belarus National Institute of Education and COP Focal Point

**Objectives**

- Deepen the understanding and conceptualization of inclusive education by sharing key outcomes from the regional workshops and conferences;
- Identify key issues and challenges common to different regions in addressing and implementing a broader vision of inclusive education.

**Arab States**

**Mr. Ali Bubshait**  
Researcher and COP Focal Point  
**Mr. Hegazi Idris**  
Education Specialist of UNESCO Beirut

**Asia**

**Ms. Vivian Heung**  
Head of the Centre for Special Needs and Studies in Inclusive Education, Hong Kong Education Institute  
**Mr. Johan Lindeberg**  
Associate Expert in Education and Human Rights, UNESCO Bangkok

**Latin America and the Caribbean (Southern Cone and Andean regions, English-speaking Caribbean region)**

**Ms. Silvina Gvirtz**  
Director of the Master in Education of the University of San Andres, Argentina and COP Focal Point  
**Mr. Paolo Fontani**  
Programme Specialist in Education, UNESCO Kingston Office

**Documentation**

- Information Doc. No. 3 "Outcomes and Trends in Inclusive Education at Regional and Interregional Levels: Issues and Challenges" (English and French)
- CD containing the workshops' reports and other related documentation
- Running presentation of key messages and photos from the preparatory events

Thursday, 27 November 2008

13.30 - 14.45

Room 2

*Simultaneous Interpretation: English, French and Spanish*