Inclusive Education in Action

Inclusive Education in Action ([IEA](https://www.inclusive-education-in-action.org/)) is an on-going activity conducted jointly by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization ([UNESCO](https://en.unesco.org/)) and the European Agency for Special Needs and Inclusive Education ([the Agency](https://www.european-agency.org/)). The activity aims to provide an online resource for international policy-makers working to develop equity and equal opportunities within education systems globally.

The premise for the IEA resource base is that building more inclusive, just and fair societies must start with inclusive education systems. UNESCO’s Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 on education emphasises inclusion and equity as the foundation for quality education. SDG 4 and the 2017 UNESCO publication [‘A guide for ensuring inclusion and equity in education’](http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002482/248254e.pdf) provide the framework for the resource base.

IEA presents a wide range of [resources](https://www.inclusive-education-in-action.org/resources), including international normative instruments, national policy and legislative documents, guidelines, research policy papers and practical tools. It covers topics such as inclusive pedagogy and practices, professional development, language of instruction, curriculum, and the physical learning environment. It also presents a collection of [case studies](https://www.inclusive-education-in-action.org/case-studies) relating to policy statements, descriptions and evaluations of policy developments, plans for and reflections on policy implementation from different regions.

This document provides guidelines for submitting a case study for consideration within the IEA resource base.

Case studies

The case studies present detailed and highly structured material on key policy development in the move towards inclusive education policy and practice. The aim of the case study material is to provide detailed information from policy-makers and practitioners for inclusive education about their work and its results.

The case studies may include policy statements, descriptions and evaluations of policy developments, plans for and reflections on policy implementation. Material such as videos and photographs, as well as written accounts, are welcomed.

Quality assurance

Submitted case studies are examined to ensure they meet the agreed criteria, as outlined in the table below:

| **Criteria** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| Relevance | Information is provided about which theme the case study is linked to.  The case study is relevant in time (not outdated) |
| Diversity | Information is provided about the geographical, social and policy context, including a definition/description of inclusion in the context of the case study country. Information about setting, ages, ethnic, cultural, linguistic backgrounds and abilities of learners should be included to allow judgements to be made regarding appropriate coverage of different aspects of diversity. |
| Clarity of information | The case study clearly describes:   * Rationale (supported by theory) to explain significance of work (in context); * Issue to be addressed, aims and planned outcomes; * Methods, procedures and management of change; * Outcomes, feedback and reflections.   Sufficient information must be included for readers to know if/how the content of the study might apply to their own situation. |
| Quality assurance and credibility | Evidence is provided of monitoring, timescales, confirmation of outcomes by external/independent source and final evaluation. |
| Collaboration/partnerships | Full information on relevant partnerships and stakeholders is available, including who is involved and how. |
| Sustainability | Information is available regarding sustainable practice in the longer term, including actions, which are not heavily resource dependent. |

In line with the Agency’s wider working procedures and agreements, case studies coming from Agency member countries are approved by the respective Country Representatives before publication.

Accepted case studies are copy-edited and final versions checked with contributors before publishing on the website.

Submitting case studies

The following template provides some headings to help you write up your case study. Please make sure that you provide contact details as we may wish to contact you for further information. At present, we are only able to consider your information in English, but additional/supporting material may be in any language.

If you have any questions, please contact: iea@european-agency.org

Please send your completed case study to: iea@european-agency.org

The case study template

Your name, job title/role and contact details (the Agency will keep your details and will use them only for the purposes of contacting you in relation to the IEA work):

Please specify which information can publicly appear on the IEA website:

Additional/alternative contact for further information (if applicable):

Information about your case study:

Which policy area does the case study link to?

Specific policy initiatives for inclusive education

Inclusive curriculum development

Developing inclusive learning environments

Educational staff professional development

Suggested title and overview of your case study (max 100 words):

5 key words for your case study:

What were the main aims of the initiative/policy development?

Background to your case study:

Short description of geographical location, the setting/situation and size/scope:

What policy issues/challenges does the case study address?

Summary information: The implementation process

Please give a brief summary of the key events that led to this initiative, i.e. why was this action undertaken (including relevant theoretical background/research evidence if available).

How was the initiative/policy implemented?

Who worked on and sustained the initiative/policy (key partnerships)?

When did the initiative/change/policy development take place (give dates)? What was the timescale?

What were the key outcomes? What impact/added value did they provide? What were the biggest challenges? What lessons were learned?

Has the initiative/policy development been evaluated or are there plans for this in the future? If so, who will carry out this work? (Optional)

Have any plans been made for future developments? (Optional)

Please provide information about supporting materials which are available for your case study (i.e. web links, video clips, photos, reports, references, etc.):