



# INCLUSIVE EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Transforming Education for Children with Disabilities

**Commonalities and Differences in Experience: Conducting Disability  
Inclusion Research across SSA and South Asia**  
September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021



## INCLUSIVE EDUCATION INITIATIVE

IEI Research Exchange Workshop Series

### Researching Disability-Inclusive Education in Sub-Saharan Africa & South Asia:

*Unpacking barriers, realizing  
enablers & exploring  
solutions*

## Purpose of the Research Exchange

- Identify research priorities in the field of disability-inclusive education and their potential contributions
- Understand the challenges faced by Southern scholars while researching and publishing on disability-inclusive education.
- Increase the Southern scholarship visibility and collaboration

# Research Exchange Participant Profile

- Workshops held in June, July and September 2021
- 63% of participants had collaborated on internationally funded research
- 33% of participants identified as a person with a disability



TOTAL  
ATTENDEES

60

AVERAGE YEARS  
OF EXPERIENCE

10-15

LANGUAGES  
SPOKEN

67  
including 4 sign  
languages

COUNTRIES  
REPRESENTED

20

ATTENDED  
UNIVERSITY  
ABROAD

31

UNIVERSITIES  
REPRESENTED

41

## Research Evidence

The content for these workshops was guided by two important research studies:

1. [“Primary Schooling for Children with Disabilities- A review of African scholarship”](#) by Singal, N., Spenser, C. , & Mitchell, R. (2021)
2. [“Research Capacity, Training, and Culture in South Asian Universities: Understanding the research landscape in South Asia and building capacity for disability-inclusion”](#) conducted by Schuelka, M.

## Discussion Questions:

- What challenges are faced by the Southern scholarship in conducting robust research on disability-inclusive education?
- What should be the research priorities in the area of disability-inclusive education?
- What kind of research design and methodologies should be considered while researching disability-inclusive education?
- What are the current opportunities which can be built upon to ensure that there is more rigorous and relevant research emerging from the regions in relation to disability-inclusive education?

# Thematic Analysis: Challenges



IT'S DIFFICULT  
FIND COLLABORATORS



# Thematic Analysis: Priorities



MAKE SURE  
ALL STAKEHOLDERS  
ARE INCLUDED

COMMUNITY  
ATTITUDES &  
STEREOTYPES



CAN WE LOOK AT DISABILITY  
FROM AN AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE?

LONGITUDINAL STUDIES



TEACHER  
TRAINING

is important



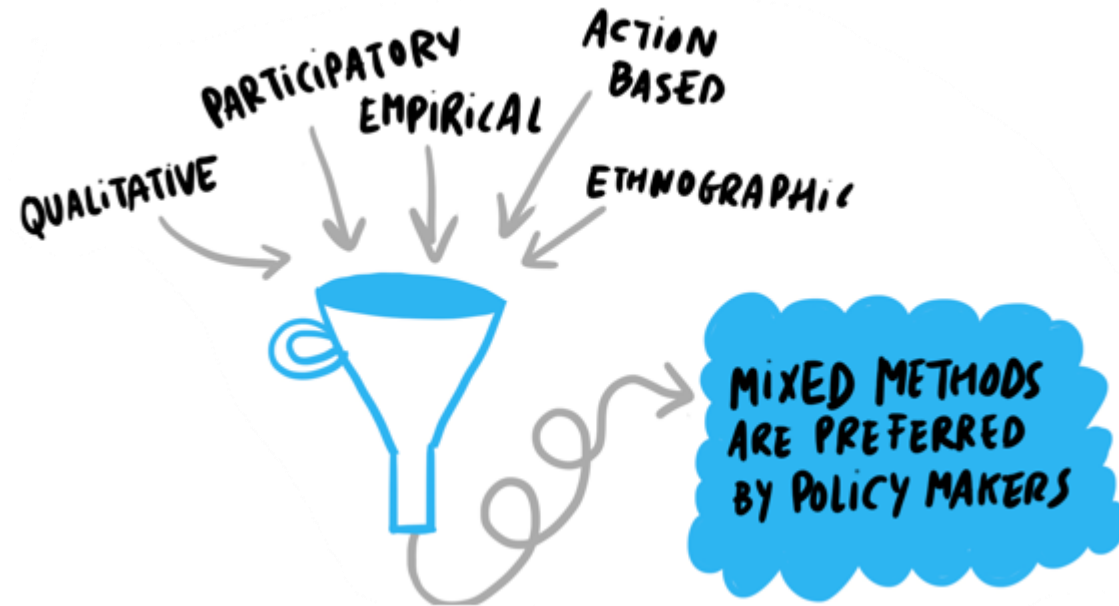
LET'S LISTEN TO  
THE VOICES OF DISABLED  
CHILDREN...

HOW DO YOU  
WANT TO BE  
INCLUDED?





# Thematic Analysis: Desired research principles and approaches





## Thematic Analysis: Current opportunities

JOIN A COMMUNITY  
OF PRACTICE  
FOR RESEARCHERS

CREATE MENTORING  
OPPORTUNITIES

CONFERENCES  
TO FOLLOW UP

• ENCOURAGE SOUTH & SOUTH COLLABORATION

PROMOTE ACCESS  
TO FINDINGS





Here are ways to continue this  
conversation!

[worldbank.org/inclusive-education-initiative](http://worldbank.org/inclusive-education-initiative)

[E-mail: iei@worldbank.org](mailto:iei@worldbank.org)

[http://bit.ly/Linkedin IEI](http://bit.ly/Linkedin_IEI)