



More action needed to make inclusive education happen!

What we need to do to make sure children with disabilities get inclusive education after the Coronavirus pandemic.

Why we need more action:



We want a world where everyone belongs and is included!

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All the children in the world have a right to education. This includes millions of children with disabilities.

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Every child with a disability should have a good education alongside other children.

A good education means that children with disabilities will have a better future.



All over the world children with disabilities are not getting the education they deserve. This happens more in poor countries.

Girls with disabilities miss out on their education even more than boys.



There is a plan to make the world a better place and leave no one behind by 2030. It is called Agenda 2030, the Sustainable Development Goals. One of the goals of the plan is to make inclusive education available for everyone.



The Coronavirus pandemic has slowed down some of the good plans for inclusive education.



Children with disabilities learn alongside children without disabilities in mainstream schools, whenever possible. We call it inclusive education. This is fair and is better for everyone.



Inclusive education is better for all children – they can learn better together!



This means the governments of all countries must work harder to make sure all children, including children with a disability have their right to an education.

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This is a boy and girl from Nepal. They use sign language at school. They are playing a reading game. This shows how children with disabilities can be part of mainstream schools.

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This is Tresor, he cannot see well. He goes to a mainstream school in Togo, in Africa.

A mobile teacher visits him once a week to help him learn Braille. Braille has raised dots and are read by touching them to read the words.

Children with disabilities do not have a good education for many reasons. These include:

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Some school buildings are not adapted for the needs of children with disabilities.

Children who use wheelchairs may need ramps instead of stairs, for example.



Children with disabilities can have poor health just like other children, and it can be hard for them to travel to a health centre.

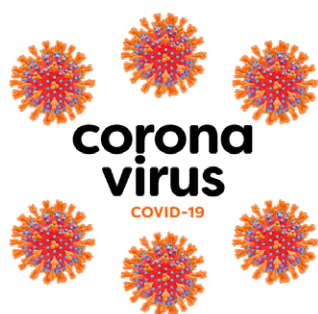


Children face discrimination and stigma. This means they are treated differently.



It needs groups like schools and people in the government to work together to make changes.

The Coronavirus has impacted the education of children with disabilities in multiple ways. These include:



The Coronavirus pandemic has slowed down some of the good plans for inclusive education.



The Coronavirus pandemic means that children with disabilities have been feeling lonely and missing out on activities they enjoy.



Some children with disabilities got poorer.



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Some children with disabilities have stopped going to school.



Plans need to be made to make sure that if there is another bad disease in the future, then all children can still get an education.

These are the things that a government and services and communities must do:



All parts of the government in a country must work together to make sure all children can get a good education. For example children need good health services so they can get the best from school.

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Put children at the centre and listen to what they are saying.



Listen to what parents say too, and teachers.



Make sure children with disabilities get the support and adaptations they need to be part of mainstream schools.



Work with organisations of people with disabilities as they know best what works for these children. They can speak up for the children and also provide support and services. Older children can also speak up for themselves.



Make sure that education services work well at a regional and local level and meet the needs of their communities.



Make sure all services that give support like education, health, employment support and housing work well together. This is so children with disabilities and their families can find out what support there is all from one place, so it is easier for them.



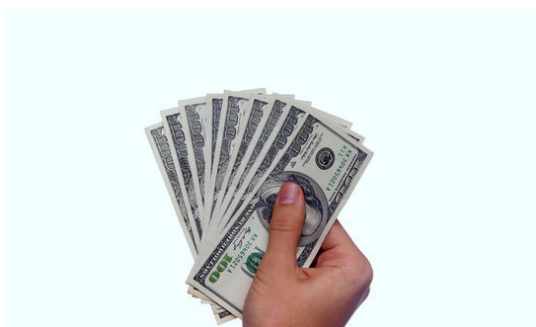
Collect more information about the numbers and needs of children with disabilities. It is important to know numbers of children with disabilities, and also their age and if they are boys or girls.



This information must be used to see how many children with disabilities are included in mainstream schools and help them plan for more inclusive education.



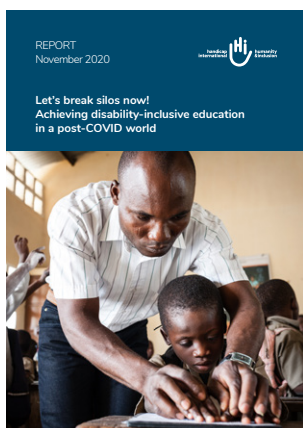
Make sure there is also support for younger children with disabilities aged 0 to 8.



Make sure there is enough money given to pay for inclusive education.



This easy read report was written in December 2020.



It goes with the full report called “Let’s break silos now! Achieving disability-inclusive education in a post-COVID world” which can be found <https://bit.ly/2Lgyklp>

Humanity & Inclusion is an independent organisation that works all around the world where there is poverty, disasters and war. It works with people who are disabled and on the edge of their community. It works to make things better for them and to make sure they are treated with dignity and that they get their rights. It does this by taking action and by letting other people and governments know what should change.



You can find out more about their work on their website <https://hi.org/>

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