

Education for Severely Disabled Children

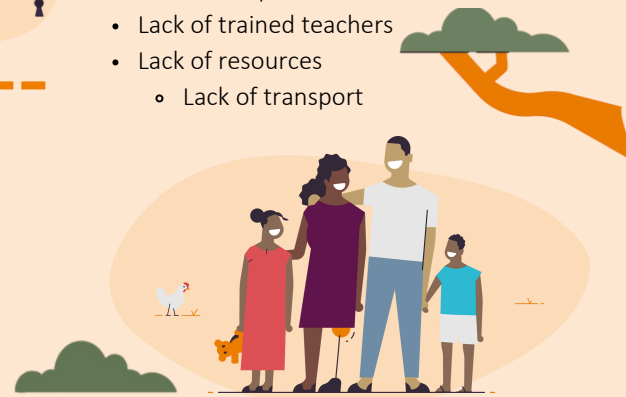
Inclusive education for children with disabilities is seen as the most effective way for them to participate in education. But in reality it is a big challenge too also include severely disabled children. We see that these children can't compete in the big inclusive classes because they need more specialized attention. As a result they often stay at home where they don't follow education, even though alternatives exist.

Because also for these children: Education is a right, not a favour

BARRIERS

1

- Stigma in community
- Attitude of parents
- Lack of trained teachers
- Lack of resources
 - Lack of transport



"By collaboration between the teacher, health worker, physiotherapist and social worker, we can improve the life of the child"



Rehabilitation centres

Day care or boarding facilities without a specific focus on education

- + Multiple specialists (physiotherapist, hospital etc.) at one place
- + Facilitates overnight possibilities
- Separated from community
- Not always includes education

Home-based education

Teachers or specialists teaching at the homes of children

- + Close to the community
- + No transportation barriers, all children can follow education
- No interaction with other children and limited interaction with teacher
- High costs

BEST PRACTICES

Integrated education

Special units or resource rooms within a mainstream school

- + Specialized education in unit
- + Leads to education closer to the community and social inclusion
- + Interaction with children without disabilities

Home-based education

Teachers or specialists teaching at the homes of children

- + Close to the community
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ENABLERS

- Educational focus on life-skills and vocational skills with a focus on independence
- Parental support
 - Collaboration between parents and school
 - Continuous practice of life-skills at home
- Instructional practices: Montessori and Play-Based
- Accessible tools: especially toys and assistive devices



- Individualized education
 - Individual education plan
 - Individual development plan (rehabilitation and educational goals)
 - Exit plan (what happens when the child departs school)
- Teacher attitude: focus on passion, motivation and love
- Specialist collaboration (physiotherapist, occupational, medical etc.)
- Nutrition



Special education

Segregated education, different separated schools

- + Specialized education and teachers
- + A lot of individual attention
- No interaction with children without disabilities

OUTCOMES

Outcomes of education should focus on

Independentness

Vocational skills

Inclusion
Participation
Well-being

