

Programme

**Policy Dialogue: Bridging the Gap Between
Inclusive Education Policy and Practice**

Abuja, Nigeria.

12–13 November 2024

Monday 11 November

Arrival for Delegates

16.30 – 17.30	British Council Staff Briefing
17.30 – 18.30	Speakers Briefing
20.00 – 21.30	Dinner

Tuesday 12 October

09.00 – 09.05	Welcome Introductions and Housekeeping – MC
09.05 - 09.10	National Anthem - MC, Edemekong Uyoh - Regional Head, CE Marketing, British Council, Nigeria
09.10 – 09.15	Opening Remarks – Besa Chilufya , Ag Country Director, British Council.
09.15 – 09.45	Goodwill Message: FCDO – Ian Attfield , Senior Education Manager, Nigeria USAID - Elice Elegbe, Education Director UNICEF – Jutaro Sakamoto , OiC Chief of Education, UNICEF Sightsavers – Esther Bature , Country Advocacy Coordinator Plan International – Charles Usie , Country Director
09:45 – 09.55	Official Opening and Inauguration of the National Working Committee on Inclusive Education–Hon Tunji Alausa, Hon. Minister of Education
09.55 - 10.30	Group Photograph

Break 10.30 – 11.15

11.15 – 11.25	Jatau John – Programme Manager , English and School Education, British Council.
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Keynote Speech – Day 1

Name	Folasade Adefisayo			
Date	12 November 2024			
Duration of session	Start	11:25	Finish	11:45
Presentation title*	Bridging the Gap Between Inclusive Education Policy and Practice			
Format	Please see details below			
Presenter	Folasade Adefisayo, Former Commissioner of Education, Lagos State.			

Plenary 1: Day 1

Name	Dr Folake Olatunji-David, Amb. Jake, and ES NCPWD			
Date	12 November 2024			
Duration of session	Start	11:45	Finish	12.30
Presentation title*	Education for All: A Synopsis of the Policies on Inclusion Education and People with Disabilities			
Format	Please see details below			
Presenters	Dr Folake Olatunji-David, Director of Basic Education, Federal Ministry of Education Chief Ayuba Gufwan, Executive Secretary, NCPWD Amb. Jake Epelle CEO, TAF Africa.			

Plenary 2: Day 1

Name	Foluke Fadere, Mr Adegboye Adebola, Deep Adhikari			
Date	12 November 2024			
Duration of session	Start	12:30	Finish	13:40
Presentation title*	Developing Sustainable Monitoring & Evaluation Systems for Inclusive Education Implementation in Nigeria			
Format	Please see details below			
Presenters	Fadare, Mofoluwake, Director, Evidence Evaluation and Learning, British Council. Mr Adegboye Adebola, Director FEQAS, Federal Ministry of Education. Mr Deep Adhikari, Country Exams Director, British Council, Nigeria			
Workshop host	Abiola Sanusi, FCDO PLANE			

Lunch 13.40 – 14.40

Plenary 3: Day 1

Name	Dr Abubakar Isah, Aleshin Mayowa, Rhoda Odigboh			
Date	12 November 2024			
Duration of session	Start	14:40	Finish	15:50
Presentation title*	Building Capacity and Collaboration for Inclusive Education			
Format	Please see details below			
Presenters	Dr. Abubakar Isah, Director of ICT FME, Aleshin Mayowa, Director of Teachers training, UBEC, Rhoda Odigboh, Head of Africa Programs, Kizazi			
Workshop Host	Dr Mary Abah			
15:50 – 16:00	Wrap-up and announcement - MC			

Wednesday 13 October

Plenary 4: Day 2

Names	Dr Adebayo, Bukola Ayinde, Prof Muftahu Muhammad			
Date	13 November 2024			
Duration of session	Start	09:20	Finish	10:30
Presentation title*	How do we embrace innovations to promote disability-inclusive education? What are the opportunities and challenges?			
Format	Please see details below			
Presenters	Dr Adebayo Adebukola, Specialist in Disability-Inclusive Development. Bukola Ayinde, Founder of Dairy of a Special Needs Mum Initiative Prof. Muhammad Muftahu, Dean of Education, Kaduna State University			
Workshop Host	Esther Bature, Sightsavers.			

Plenary 5: Day 2

Name	Rivers, Enugu, Lagos, Bauchi and Oyo, Kaduna			
Date	13 November 2024			
Duration of session	Start	10:30	Finish	11:30
Presentation title*	The world from my window – How states are using the policies on Inclusion Education in reaching out to the marginalised populations			
Format	Please see details below			
Presenters	Dr. Ovy Chinedum Chukwuma – Hon Commissioner of Education, Rivers Pro Ndubueze Leonard Mbah- Hon Commissioner of Education, Enugu Mr Tolani Allli-Balogun – Hon Commissioner of Education, Lagos Prof. Muhammad Sani Bello – Hon Commissioner of Education, Kaduna Prof Abdulwaheed Adelabu – Hon Commissioner of Education, Oyo Hajia Aishatu Ahmad Aminu - Director, Quality Assurance, Ministry of Education Bauchi			
Workshop host	Leo Ebenezer - Head of Education, Nigeria Governors' Forum			

Break 11.30–12.10

Plenary 6: Day 2

Name	UNICEF, FCDO PLANE, PLAN International			
Date	13 November 2024			
Duration of session	Start	12:10	Finish	13:10
Presentation title*	Scaling Inclusive Education: A Multi-Stakeholder Approach			
Format	Please see details below			
Presenters	Believe O. Eke, Education Specialist, UNICEF, Salim Sadiq, Kaduna Technical Adviser FCDO PLANE, Laban Onisimus, Head of Social Programmes and Development, Plan International.			
Workshop host	Fwanshishak Daniel			

Facilitated Discussions 1 – Day 2

Name	Laban Onisimus , Emmanuel Yakusak, Dr Alice Altraide			
Date	13 November 2024			
Duration of session	Start	13:10	Finish	14:10
Discussion Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the most pressing inclusion issues facing the Country and how are policymakers and educators responding through policy and practice? • How can stakeholders effectively bridge the gap between inclusive education policy, practice, and culture to create sustainable, systemic change? • What particular issues do we need to consider for states where education is being delivered in emergency contexts? 			
Format	Please see details below			
Facilitators	Laban Onisimus, Emmanuel Yakusak, Dr Alice Altraide			

Lunch 14.10 – 15.10

Conference Reflection - Day 2

Country teams	British Council			
Date	13 November 2024			
Duration of session	Start	15:10	Finish	15:50
Presentation title*	‘Bridging the Gap Between Inclusive Education Policy and Practice: planning a road map’ – State teams will have time to discuss and reflect on the conference considering how they might apply their learning on return.			
15:50 – 16:00	Closing Remarks: Chikodi Onyemerela			

Aim of conference

Globally, education strategies are evolving which seek to secure high-quality, inclusive education systems towards the Sustainable Development Goals. This has led policymakers worldwide to rethink their strategies to reflect the various learning needs of young learners for expected outcomes.

The essence of inclusion is to ensure that the right to learn is available for everyone, no matter what one's background and circumstances might be. Developing a high-quality, inclusive, and equitable school system is therefore essential for every school's system.

It is important to acknowledge that the Nigerian government has made considerable progress with the launch of inclusive education policy last year, 2023. However, the perennial challenge with most policies is in its implementation and transition from the policies to practice.

Conceivably, part of the challenges facing the implementation of the policy include: schools lacking the infrastructure for effective teaching and learning, training of teachers, and particularly, resources needed for accommodating different learners including those with SEND

If the inclusion of all children and young people is to be successful and sustainable, then, it must be predicated on an approach that is achievable, empowering, and based upon a thorough and sensitive understanding of the current context of the particular school and education system. The commitment to develop a more inclusive schooling therefore requires a multi-tiered response that addresses policy, practice, and culture at all levels, within the education system.

Against this backdrop and as a follow-up to the inclusive conference last year, the British Council under its English and School Education programme is organising a two-day Inclusive Education Conference.

This conference will provide the opportunity for policymakers and other practitioners to explore the intersection of inclusive education policy and practice. By examining the challenges and opportunities in aligning these two keys elements, we aim to identify strategies for creating a more inclusive and equitable education environment for all students in Nigeria.

This conference will focus on four key areas relating to the alignment of inclusion policy and practice in the Nigerian school systems making reference to the extant Inclusive Education Policy, and the policy on People living with Disability. It will:

- explore the current state of Inclusive Education policies and practices in Nigeria.
- explore key challenges and opportunities in aligning the policy and practice in educational settings.
- generate recommendations for improving the alignment of inclusive education policy and practice
- support the improvement and development of inclusive school systems by sharing international and national evidence, insight, and effective practice into 'what works' about creating more inclusive school systems.





Notes

