

## **About the Education Practice**

At Oxford Policy Management (OPM), we are committed to supporting governments in low- and middle-income countries to achieve growth and reduce poverty and disadvantage through public policy reform. Education is one of our oldest and largest practices. We provide high-quality, impact-oriented, and contextually-relevant policy research, technical assistance (TA) and consulting services to governments and their development partners across a wide range of education policy areas, including through our work on equity and inclusion.

### **Our Inclusive Education Hub**

Many layers of discrimination lead to unequal learning and school experiences for children. These include differences by gender, remoteness, disability, socio-economic status, ethnicity, language, migration and conflict. Existing inequalities have been further spurred by recent global shocks – Covid-19, climate change, political and funding crises, with the poorest and most vulnerable often the ones who are the worst affected.

The UN 2030 Agenda has been key in making Inclusive Education desirable and possible, with SDG 4 committing to ensuring equity, inclusion and equal opportunities in education.

In light of this, our Inclusive Education hub aims to support policy makers and stakeholders to create education systems and learning environments that genuinely allow fair and equal opportunities for quality learning of all children regardless of gender, marginalization, wealth or ability.



### What we offer

- Impact focus ensuring the requirements and preferences of children remain at the core of our decision-making criteria.
- Leveraging our position as a thinker-doer to adopt a life cycle approach to children's learning and well-being.
- Conducting inequality and marginalization measurement and analysis.
- Fostering genuine partnerships with our clients, national experts and stakeholders to enable our work as trusted advisors.
- Access to a deep network of experienced Inclusive Education externals and trusted associates.

- Providing technical assistance to the design of inclusive education programs and education frameworks, while promoting quality learning.
- Scope for cross-sectoral and geographically diverse teams, through collaboration with other OPM hubs and practices (e.g. social protection, research and evidence, health, gender) and its global footprint of offices.
- Expertise in policy and framework development on Gender, Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) priorities, including out of school children (OOSC) and girls education, through existing long-term projects.

# **Our work**

Our education team has been working on themes of marginalization, inequalities and inclusion for over a decade. Some of our more recent work includes:

### **GENDER AND GIRLS EDUCATION**

We support girls in their right to a quality education through evidence and system reform.

- Girls Results Framework (FCDO Global completed)
  We developed a Girls' Education Results Framework for FCDO to monitor improvements in girls' education in their focal countries up to 2026.
- Girls Education Challenge evaluation (FCDO- Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria - completed) We conducted a mixedmethods gender and disability sensitive evaluation of education projects for marginalized girls.

### **INEQUALITIES AND MARGINALIZATION**

We conduct research and ensure relevant policies and strategies are in place to bring children back to school, especially the most at-risk/vulnerable groups

- Out-of-School Children studies (UNICEF East Asia, Middle East and North Africa (MENA), South Asia, Zanzibar - completed) We documented and analyzed profiles, pull-push factors, barrier analysis and policy advice focusing on vulnerable and at-risk groups
- Back to School study (FCDO Sierra Leone completed)
  We conducted a rapid assessment of learning inequalities, child wellbeing and coping mechanisms post Covid-19 induced school closures.

# REMEDIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMMING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

We help design programs and provide technical support to ensure learning approaches and remedial education strategies cater to all children.

- Technical Assistance to Complementary Education Agency (CEA) (FCDO – Ghana – ongoing) We are providing TA and capacity building support to enable the CEA to transition from its former role as the Non-Formal Education Division, to its new mandate provided in the Complementary Education Agency Act, 2020.
- Sindh Education Non-state Actors Program (FCDO - Pakistan - completed) We are monitoring and providing technical assistance support to NGO schools providing full-cycle primary education to the most marginalized OOSC in Sindh, Pakistan.

### **EDUCATION IN CONFLICT**

We evaluate strategies for learning recovery and manage transitions of the most vulnerable learners in response to shocks and crises.

- Evaluation of the Education Cannot Wait (ECW) Multi-Year Resilience Program (MYRP) (Global – completed) We conducted a formative evaluation of the ECW MYRP modality which addresses the long-term needs of children in crisis, strengthens education systems, and enhances joint humanitarian-development nexus approaches.
- Humanitarian Education Accelerator Project Evaluation
   (UNHCR Chad, Jordan, Uganda ongoing) We are
   conducting an external evaluation of implementation
   processes and scaling outcomes of three innovations
   targeting marginalized groups in Jordan, Uganda and Chad.

### **CHILD SAFETY AND VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS**

We support programs to keep all children safe, and identify and report on violence in and around schools

Learning and School Safety studies (FCDO – Sierra Leone – ongoing) We are conducting a mixed-methods evaluative study to measure learning outcomes and attitudes and practices related to safety and violence reporting in and around schools, especially for girls and the most marginalized children.



# **About us**

Oxford Policy Management enables low- and middle-income governments to bring about sustainable positive change using analytical and practical policy expertise.



# **Find out more**

For further information on our Inclusive Education work and projects, please refer to our website (opml.co.uk) or reach out to our Inclusive Education lead Zara Durrani (zara.durrani@opml.co.uk)









