



# EDUCATION EQUITY RESEARCH INITIATIVE

EQUITY IN AND THROUGH EDUCATION IS THE CORNERSTONE OF A TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION AGENDA  
– Education 2030: Incheon Declaration

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*“A focus on equity is essential for achieving the Sustainable Development Goal on education. It will not happen accidentally. The Education Equity Research Initiative is critical to support collective efforts on education and keep them rigorously focused on equitable outcomes.”*

– Kolleen Bouchane, Global Campaign for Education-US

Rising inequality is one of the greatest challenges facing the global community today. Nowhere is the challenge of equity more salient than in education, with its potential to positively shape life outcomes — or further exacerbate societal disparities.

Launched in March 2016, the **Education Equity Research Initiative** is a vital forum for bringing collective knowledge and expertise together to address the challenge of equity. It connects researchers, technical experts working in implementing organizations and decision makers at the policy level around a common goal and framework. Through its work, the Education Equity Research Initiative is building a stronger knowledge and evidence base on root causes and effective solutions for improving equality in educational participation and learning.

## **MET BY ALL**

**Equity is at the heart of the new global development agenda**, reflected in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and in the Education 2030 Incheon Declaration, which states: *no target should be considered met unless met by all*. The next three years present an important opportunity for the education sector to lay the groundwork for success in the SDG period. Just as quality proved a blind spot in the early years of the Millennium Development Goals, there is a risk that inequity in education will go unmeasured, unreported



Brookings Institution  
Cambridge Education  
Chemonics  
Creative Associates  
EnCompass LLC  
Equal Measures 2030  
Finn Church Aid  
Gates Foundation  
Gallaudet University  
Global Campaign for Education-US  
Global Partnership for Education  
Harvard University  
International Rescue Committee  
Juarez & Associates  
Leonard Cheshire  
Light for the World  
New York University  
PAL Network  
Room to Read  
RTI International  
School to School International  
Sightsavers  
Teachers College  
UNESCO  
UNICEF  
University of Minnesota  
USAID  
War Child Holland  
World Bank  
World Vision

and unaddressed. Improved data and evidence will help governments and international actors better address the vital, underlying questions of an equity agenda for education: **Who is being left behind, both in terms of access and learning?** How do contextual factors, such as state fragility and education financing, shape access and learning outcomes for different groups of children? And, how are programmatic interventions and policy initiatives improving or exacerbating existing disparities?

## A COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP

Led by FHI 360 and Save the Children, representatives from more than two dozen organizations are actively participating in the Initiative. Working collaboratively, Equity Initiative partners are developing common measurement frameworks, tackling known data gaps and under-researched equity issues and dimensions, developing and testing hypotheses for strengthening equity and helping maintain the focus on equity in education in the post-2015 global development agenda.

Concerted efforts today to incorporate an equity lens into data, policies and programs will pay important dividends for years to come. Addressing equity in the coming period will require a reconceptualization of our measure of success: **a goal is not met unless it is met by all.** The task is huge, but with the right data on who is not learning and evidence of what works to meet their needs, it is achievable. The Education Equity Research Initiative will serve as a meeting point and source of evidence and learning for organizations and individuals committed to improving data, monitoring, and reporting on equity to work collaboratively on addressing gaps and building a bigger knowledge base — until the goals of the Incheon Declaration are truly met by all.

## KEY RESEARCH PRODUCTS

- **Education Equity Indicators for Access: Guidance for Practitioners in Crisis and Conflict-Affected Contexts:** FHI 360, Education Development Center, and the USAID Education in Crisis and Conflict Network (ECCN)
- **Handbook on Measuring Equity in Education:** UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS), FHI 360 Education Policy and Data Center, Oxford Policy Management, and the REAL Centre at the University of Cambridge
- **Mainstreaming Equity in Education:** FHI 360 Education Policy and Data Center
- **Practical Recommendations for Equity Analysis in Education:** FHI 360, Save the Children, RTI International, People's Action for Learning Network
- **Structured Questions for Equity Analysis:** FHI 360, Save the Children, RTI International, World Vision, IRC



## CONTACT US

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