Foundations of Social Inclusion: What You Need to Know

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What is social inclusion?

- The process of improving the terms for individuals and groups to take part in society
- The process of improving the ability, opportunity and dignity of people disadvantaged on the basis of their identity to take part in society

Social inclusion is...
- Specific to time, place and identities
- Multidimensional
- Related to poverty and inequality, but goes beyond these
- Both an outcome and a process
Identity drives exclusion

- Ethnicity: Roma in Eastern Europe, Indigenous Peoples
- Caste: in India and Nepal
- Race: people of African descent
- Religion: Muslims in the post-9/11 world
- Gender and age: women, older people, widows
- Nationality and migrant status: refugees, undocumented persons, unwelcome migrants
- Disability
- Sexual orientation
- Social and economic status

Yet it’s the intersection of identities that heaps the disadvantage.

Note: Illustrative example of types of identities. The size of each bubble denotes the importance of an identity, which can vary across individuals, groups and even for the same individual over time.
Inclusion in what?

- Markets
  - Land
  - Housing
  - Labor
  - Credit

- Services
  - Social protection
  - Information
  - Electricity
  - Transport
  - Education
  - Health
  - Water

- Spaces
  - Political
  - Physical
  - Cultural
Inclusion how?

ABILITY + OPPORTUNITY + DIGNITY
Why now?

Demographic
- Youth
- Elderly
- Migrants
- Women
- Non-traditional families

Spatial
- Slum residents
- Indigenous people
- Left-behind families
- IDPs, refugees

Economic
- Poor
- Middle class
- Food insecure
- People affected by crises

Knowledge and ICT
- Youth
- Politically active
- People left-out of information revolution
- Disabled

Because dramatic transformations are creating new demands and new opportunities
Transitions & Transformations

Demographic

- More and better jobs
- Demand for care services
- Demand for marketable and non-cognitive skills
- Demand for voice, representation and dignity
- Demand for equal access to jobs, credit, housing & fair treatment

Demographic
- Youth
- Elderly
- Migrants
- Women
- Non-traditional families
Transitions & Transformations
Spatial

- Demand for infrastructure and services
- Demand for protection against vulnerability to disasters
- Demand for legal standing, recognition, political representation
- Claim on public spaces
- Demand for safety

Spatial
Slum residents
Indigenous people
Left-behind families
IDPs, refugees
Transitions & Transformations
Knowledge and ICT

Knowledge and ICT
Youth
Politically active
People left-out of information revolution
Disabled

- Demand for access to information
- Demand for new skills and quality of education
- Demand for greater accountability
- Demand for functioning and fair justice systems

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Economic

- Better public services and infrastructure
- Demand for social security and safety nets
- New aspirations and demands for voice and decision-making
- Vulnerability to crime, drugs, prostitution

Poor
Middle class
Food insecure
People affected by crises
How do we understand social inclusion? Start by asking *Why?*

High mortality among tribal women in India

- **High maternal mortality among tribal women in India**
  - (One of the reasons)
  - They don’t deliver babies in health institutions
    - (Most frequent reason)
    - Why?
      - No female provider 1%
      - They do not trust facility 2%
      - Facility not open 5%
      - Husband, family do not allow 5%
      - Not customary 7%

- They don’t think it necessary 72%
  - Why?
    - Too costly 23%
    - Too far, no transport 17%

- They are not treated with dignity
  - Why?

Source: World Bank team adapted from World Bank, 2011 based on National Family and Health Survey 2005 in India.

Note: 80% of tribal women deliver their babies at home, versus 60% of all Indian women. Percentages denote reasons for not delivering at health institutions by respondents who delivered their babies at home.