

Inclusion *noun*

US UK /ɪnˈkluːʒən/

[C or U] the act of including someone or something as part of a group, list, etc., or a person or thing that is included:

She is being considered for inclusion in the Olympic team.

The book's value stems from its inclusion of multiple viewpoints.

Two last-minute inclusions are Jim and Ahmed.

[U] SPECIALIZED education, social science **the idea that everyone should be able to use the same facilities, take part in the same activities, and enjoy the same experiences, including people who have a disability or other disadvantage**

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social inclusion

Definitions

noun

the provision of certain rights to all individuals and groups in society, such as employment, adequate housing, health care, education and training, etc

Collins English Dictionary. Copyright © Harper Collins Publishers

PREFACE to Analysing and Measuring Social Inclusion in a Global Context by UNITED NATIONS

“Creating a society for all is a moral obligation—one that must reflect the commitments to upholding fundamental human rights and principles of equality and equity. There are also strong instrumental reasons for promoting social integration and inclusion. Deep disparities, based on unequal distribution of wealth and/or differences in people’s backgrounds, reduce social mobility and ultimately exert a negative impact on growth, productivity and well-being of society as a whole. Promoting social integration and inclusion will create a society that is safer, more stable and more just, which is an essential condition for sustainable economic growth and development.”

INTRODUCTION to Analysing and Measuring Social Inclusion in a Global Context by UNITED NATIONS

Social Inclusion as:

“the process by which societies combat poverty and social exclusion. In order for policies for social inclusion to be developed and implemented, the factors working against social inclusion, namely, poverty and social exclusion, have to be understood.”

United Nations Department of Economic & Social Affairs

DESA Working Paper No. 144

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The Contexts of Social Inclusion (by Hilary Silver¹)

My working definition of social in/exclusion is one of a multi-dimensional, relational process of increasing opportunities for social participation, enhancing capabilities to fulfill normatively prescribed social roles, broadening social ties of respect and recognition, and at the collective level, enhancing social bonds, cohesion, integration, or solidarity. Social inclusion may refer to a process encouraging social interaction between people with different socially relevant attributes or an impersonal institutional mechanism of opening up access to participation in all spheres of social life. Other definitions emphasize some aspects of this definition over others.

¹ Hilary Silver is Professor of Sociology and Urban Studies and Professor of Public Policy at Brown University, as well as Director of its Urban Studies Program. She is grateful to the Social Perspective on Development Branch of DESA/DSPD for its support in developing the paper, and also extends sincere thanks to an anonymous peer reviewer for comments and suggestions.

Social inclusion as defined in the Charter of the Fundamental Rights of the European Union:

Social inclusion is a process which ensures that those at risk of poverty and social exclusion gain the opportunities and resources necessary to participate fully in economic, social and cultural life and to enjoy a standard of living and well-being that is considered normal in the society in which they live. It ensures that they have greater participation in decision making which affects their lives and access to their fundamental rights .

Amartya Kumar Sen, *an Indian economist and philosopher of Bengali. He was awarded the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences in 1998 and Bharat Ratna in 1999 for his work in welfare economics. He was also awarded the inaugural Charleston-EFG John Maynard Keynes Prize in recognition of his work on welfare economics in February 2015 during a reception at the Royal Academy in the UK.*

“Inclusion is characterized by a society’s widely shared social experience and active participation, by a broad equality of opportunities and life chances for individuals and by the achievement of a basic level of well-being for all citizens”.

World Bank <http://www.worldbank.org/>

Poverty alone is not a comprehensive marker of deprivation. Race, ethnicity, gender, religion, place of residence, disability status, age, HIV/AIDS status, sexual orientation or other stigmatized markers, confer disadvantage that excludes people from a range of processes and opportunities.

The World Bank defines social inclusion as the process of improving the terms for individuals and groups to take part in society.

Social inclusion aims to empower poor and marginalized people to take advantage of burgeoning global opportunities. It ensures that people have a voice in decisions which affect their lives and that they enjoy equal access to markets, services and political, social and physical spaces.

Social Exclusion by Social Exclusion Knowledge Network (SEKN). The SEKN is one of nine global Knowledge Networks established by the WHO (World Health Organisation) Commission on the Social Determinants of Health (CSDH).

Exclusion consists of dynamic, multi-dimensional processes driven by unequal power relationships interacting across four main dimensions - economic, political, social and cultural - and at different levels including individual, household, group, community, country and global levels. It results in a continuum of inclusion/exclusion characterized by unequal access to resources, capabilities and rights which leads to health inequalities.

A Zulu aphorism

UMUNTU NGUMUNTU NGABANTU = a person is a person because of other people

Social Inclusion by UNESCO

Definition

Social rights bring together numerous rights that must be dealt with at the local level: rights to housing, education, clean water and health care emphasize the role of local authorities as a welfare provider and social provision as a duty which lies within city halls and councils.

Disability Strategy 2010-2020: A Renewed Commitment to a Barrier-Free Europe

“Building a society that includes everyone also brings market opportunities and fosters innovation”.

“There are still many obstacles ... limiting their (people with disability’s) participation in society on an equal basis with others. Those rights include the right to free movement, to choose where and how to live, and to have full access to cultural, recreational, and sports activities”.

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Article 19 - Living independently and being included in the community

States Parties to this Convention recognize the equal right of all persons with disabilities to live in the community, with choices equal to others, and shall take effective and appropriate measures to facilitate full enjoyment by persons with disabilities of this right and their full inclusion and participation in the community, including by ensuring that:

Persons with disabilities have the opportunity to choose their place of residence and where and with whom they live on an equal basis with others and are not obliged to live in a particular living arrangement;

Persons with disabilities have access to a range of in-home, residential and other community support services, including personal assistance necessary to support living and inclusion in the community, and to prevent isolation or segregation from the community;

Community services and facilities for the general population are available on an equal basis to persons with disabilities and are responsive to their needs.

Erasmus+ Programme Guide

Europe needs more cohesive and inclusive societies which allow citizens to play an active role in democratic life. Education and youth work are key to prevent violent radicalization by promoting common European values, fostering social integration, enhancing intercultural understanding and a sense of belonging to a community. Erasmus+ is an important instrument to promote the inclusion of people with disadvantaged backgrounds, especially newly arrived migrants, in response to critical events affecting European countries.

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The Erasmus+ Programme aims at promoting equity and inclusion by facilitating the access to participants with disadvantaged backgrounds and fewer opportunities compared to their peers whenever disadvantage limits or prevents participation in transnational activities

European Commission

(<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1059&langId=en>)

Active inclusion

Definition

Active inclusion means enabling every citizen, notably the most disadvantaged, to fully participate in society, including having a job.

In practical terms, that means:

- **adequate income support** together with help to get a job. This could be by linking out-of-work and in-work benefits, and by helping people to access the benefits they are entitled to
- inclusive labour markets – making it easier for people to join the work force, tackling in-work poverty, avoiding poverty traps and disincentives to work
- **access to quality services** helping people participate actively in society, including getting back to work.

UN DESA 2009 - Creating an Inclusive Society: Practical Strategies to Promote Social Integration

For Part I of the publication, social inclusion is understood as a process by which efforts are made to ensure equal opportunities for all, regardless of their background, so that they can achieve their full potential in life. It is a multi-dimensional process aimed at creating conditions which enable full and active participation of every member of the society in all aspects of life, including civic, social, economic, and political activities, as well as participation in decisionmaking processes. In Part II of the publication, social inclusion is understood as the process by which societies combat poverty and social exclusion