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COLOMBIA:

Recommendations for the Country Office to Support the Most Vulnerable Communities for Continuous Learning during COVID-19

1. Executive Summary

UNICEF LACRO requested a supplement to the Consultancy to Provide Recommendations of the Education in Emergencies (EiE) Interventions to Support the Most Vulnerable Communities for Continuous Learning in Latin America and the Caribbean during COVID-19, which was completed May-August 2020 with final updates per requested revisions submitted in an October 2020 final report. For more information, please see the final report itself submitted to LACRO.

LACRO extended the Consultancy into this project supplement (Country Recommendations) for the

purpose of taking the recommendations from the final report and separating them out by country to provide them to individual Country Offices (COs). LACRO indicated the majority of recommendations from the Consultancy's final report are applicable/generalizable to all countries in the region. LACRO also communicated that very few countries had enough data to inform detailed country-specific recommendations. However, LACRO requested that additional recommendations specific to a certain country could be added if sufficient data unique to a country was already available from the existing report and prior data collection/access. No new data was to be collected, provided, or analyzed. The following resource represents the resulting Country Recommendations.

2. Description of Resource

The consultant recommended, and LACRO agreed, that the format of the Country Recommendations be a checklist, which serves as a practical document a CO could use to take action on supporting continued learning during COVID-19 for the most vulnerable: Rural/remote learners; learners without Internet; Indigenous learners; Migrants/Refugees; Girls, and learners with Special Needs¹. To that aim, this resource offers a checklist of practical, actionable, specific, and direct recommendations for each country in the LACRO region, with countries listed in alphabetical order. All checklists include available consultancy data from the final report on a country's efforts to support vulnerable populations' continued learning during COVID-19, and the same recommendations that apply universally. Some checklists also include additional, detailed information on a country's existing efforts and recommendations unique for that country where sufficient existing data made it possible to inform such specific recommendations. For example, significant data was available for Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, and Peru. In the majority of cases, a recommendation is made for

the CO to pursue efforts to acquire more data on how vulnerable learners are continuing their education during COVID-19 that is unique to their country and could be used to formulate further localized and contextualized recommendations, as well as to document effectiveness of their existing efforts and share that information regionally.

3. Guidelines for Using this Resource

LACRO will provide each CO with its own corresponding country checklist of recommendations which can easily be separated out from this resource. The CO will review the checklist items, noting areas of concern and items in need of follow-up, discussion, or consultation. In collaboration with their teams, UNICEF sector specialists, local partners, and most importantly with representatives from the vulnerable populations themselves, it is hoped that COs will 1) prioritize the implementation of at least one recommended item from their provided checklist; 2) make an action plan for implementing that prioritized item; 3) take action as planned; 4) assess the action taken, and 5) share results regionally if not globally. The above instructions for using this resource should be provided to each CO upon receipt of their checklist.



¹ UNICEF's Education Specialist for Diversity and Inclusion and Children with Disabilities (Cynthia Brizuela) uses CRPD-based terminology to refer to those with special needs as "person with disabilities".

4. Colombia Country Checklists of Recommendations

Colombia excels at being one of the few countries in the region where a significant amount of data was available about its efforts to support all of the listed vulnerable populations (see below); in particular, there is a focus on migrants/refugees (Colombia is part of Education Cannot Wait) so recommendations for that population may be prioritized. Colombia also promotes using telephone hotlines and WhatsApp groups for teachers to support learning. The effectiveness of these efforts should be documented and shared regionally. Schools are now partially reopened (UNICEF LACRO Update 17).



For Girls:

- Development of a specific training module to work with teachers, boys, girls and their families on strategies for preventing domestic violence and GBV. This module is developed within the framework of the Schools in Peace strategy and is supported by materials prepared by UNICEF “Equal Opportunities in the Framework of the Pandemic by COVID 19” (Survey).



For Indigenous Learners:

- In coordination with the technical group of the MEN responsible for indigenous peoples and the 4 secretaries of education of the department of La Guajira For (department that has 4 indigenous peoples) the “Ethno-educational Learning Backpack” was designed and implemented for children from the department’s ethnic schools and primary grades; The materials include the mother tongue of two of the populations and are delivered by the teachers in the children’s houses; A pedagogical and technical team was created from the secretariats that designs the material and monitors its use and advances in learning; With the MEN, a technical meeting was organized in which 15 secretariats of education with indigenous populations participated to transfer the experience of UNICEF of technical accompaniment in La Guajira; Technical support to the aforementioned education secretaries begins to implement the guidelines for returning to school with alternation for indigenous peoples, arranged between the MEN and indigenous organizations;

A call to action is currently being made on the situation of indigenous peoples in the region and a network of technicians is being promoted in the country to put the issue on the agenda with more force; get resources from donors and study the possibility of holding a high-level meeting of the governments of the area (Survey).

- In communities where Save the Children works it provides education through printed materials; developed its own guide focusing on literacy, numeracy, and SEL; close follow up with parents through WhatsApp; online classes focusing on programming and video gaming (Survey).



For Migrants/Refugees:

- The Village strategy for continuity of learning at home was adjusted in the spaces of learning circles serving migrant children, led by UNICEF in coordination with local governments; Provision of educational materials and monitoring of learning; Participation in the regional EIB group whose objectives are: i) to influence government agendas to make the issue of education of indigenous peoples relevant; ii) establish a network made up of technical teams from the countries to make the situation visible, collect experiences, carry out exchanges and make joint programs; and iii) promote a possible meeting between ministers to give relevance to this issue. Strengthen the participation of indigenous communities in this process (Survey).
- UNICEF is working with the Significarte Foundation, ICBF, UNHCR and IOM, to protect [migrant] children and adolescents in Riohacha, La Guajira. In the Significarte care and shelter house they have recreational, psychosocial, training, recreational and care activities [like “quarantine stories/los intocables”] that incorporate key messages of protection, violence prevention, emotional support and promotion of prevention measures against COVID-19 (UNICEF Colombia).
- UNHCR’s partner “Opción Legal” adapted its existing programme, “Pedagogía y Protección de la Niñez y la Juventud Migrante y Refugiada Venezolana” to provide virtual orientation and psychosocial support to students and their



families during the COVID-19 crisis. This initiative is implemented in coordination with government and educational institutions and supports refugee children, adolescents and families in Medellín and Bogotá. A virtual platform has been set up to equip approximately 100 teachers in Cartagena with tools and strategies to foster social inclusion and prevent xenophobia. This initiative is implemented in coordination with local authorities and 20 prioritized educational institutions and assists Venezuelan refugee children and adolescents and their families, as well as host communities (UNHCR).

- Learning Circles have been adapted for the migrant population and host communities that guarantees that boys and girls can reinforce their learning and level their knowledge to be able to enter regular classrooms and continue with their educational trajectories (Survey).
- As a joint action between IRC, NRC and UNICEF, pedagogical material was delivered for the education continuity of 195 children (pendulares) living in Venezuela but studying in Colombia (UNICEF LACRO Update 11).
- 5,595 units of educational material and recreation kits, and 5,383 school kits in Riohacha, Maicao, Uribia

and Fonseca; 3 educational classrooms in Maicao (R4V GIFMM Colombia).

- In Colombia, Venezuelan students work in one of Save the Children's recently established Temporary Learning Center (TLCs) in Maicao's informal settlements (UNESCO GEM Report).
- Education through Save the Children's printed materials; developed own guide focusing on literacy, numeracy, and SEL; close follow up with parents through WhatsApp; online classes focusing on programming and video gaming (Survey).

For Learners without Internet:

- Education via TV (Profe en tu casa) and radio (Podcast Profe en tu casa) (Gallano Report).
- UNICEF has reached around 1,700 girls and boys accompanied by their tutors from home learning circles (UNICEF LACRO Update 10).
- La Aldea strategy is a flexible, distance-based strategy based on the curriculum grid of basic and socio-emotional skills for grades from 3rd of primary to 2nd secondary. It works through printed material, in virtual format (smartphones, tablets, computers), through audios and eventually a TV series. Its main objective is to ensure that children are not disconnected from their educational process. The material is made up of 4 stories. Currently, the strategy is for 7 weeks of class (Overview).
- Education through printed materials; developed own guide focusing on literacy, numeracy, and SEL; close follow up with parents through WhatsApp; online classes focusing on programming and video gaming (Survey).
- The strategy of "La Aldea" stories to tell at home reaches children in their homes through textbooks, messages by WhatsApp and a school kit delivered to those children in poverty; In the areas affected by conflict, the Schools in Peace strategy has been developed, which has been suitable for work in rural areas and without virtual means, accompanying teachers and parents to guarantee the continuity of learning and improve coexistence in the house, preventing domestic violence and GBV; These two strategies are carried out in 7 departments of the country in coordination with local and national authorities; In all cases (rural populations; indigenous groups, migrants, girls, and adolescents) resources in

the education area have been reorganized to address learning continuity and proposals have been made to donors to seek new resources (Survey).



For Rural/Remote Learners:

- Distributing printed materials to rural areas (SITEAL).
- “La Aldea” stories to be at home with textbooks, educational aids for teachers and families that can be used by children in rural areas who have internet access; Technically assist the MEN to issue guidelines for the return with alternation to face-to-face classes, taking into account the conditions of the schools in rural areas (Survey).
- Delivery of printed learning guides so that boys and girls have educational materials. The greatest difficulty has been in distribution during quarantine due to mobility restrictions. Transport agencies have been a possible solution. As far as possible, the accompaniment of the teachers has been carried out by telephone; The current challenge is to be able to guarantee the continuity of learning when most families do not have the means to guarantee it, but the most important challenge is to prevent the dropout of boys and girls from the school system; Being able to guarantee the bond of boys and girls with their learning is the way to prevent them from dropping out of education (Survey).
- RET also works in remote rural areas (Catatumbo) that are difficult to access due to the state of the roads and the presence of armed actors in Colombia

and the limitations of mobility and access (Survey).

- For the rural areas it is necessary to find additional non-virtual options to guarantee the continuity of learning and the right to education (UNICEF CO & GOVT Actions).



For Learners with Special Needs:

- “A House with Many Windows” consists of a series of inclusive workshops, where children with and without disabilities and their families, participate expressing through art, music and dance. The first workshops were inclusive drawing workshops with Gusti. The event was transmitted in Facebook live (UNICEF LACRO Update 10).

Survey respondents provided their own additional recommendations: the gap in terms of connectivity and internet access is very wide and the majority of children in rural areas do not have the tools or the means to access virtual means of education; That is why printed materials (learning guides) and other materials have been provided so that children can continue their learning in accordance with their level of progress and can carry out various activities while they are at home; The current challenge is to be able to guarantee the continuity of learning when most families do not have the means to guarantee it, but the most important challenge is to prevent the dropout of boys and girls from the school system; Being able to guarantee the bond of boys and girls with their learning is the way to prevent them from dropping out of education (Survey).

5. Overall Recommendations

Check Mindset/Biases/Assumptions

- Abundance mindset that prioritizes opportunity of what is locally available already over assumptions of negativity, scarcity, and deficiency.
 - Ex: Consider that someone who is rural/remote may have an abundance of traditional social networks that can be utilized to disseminate information and a girl may have an abundance of influence on younger siblings in her care that can be used to shape their perceptions of gender roles.

- Human-centered design that involves vulnerable populations in decision-making and leadership roles.
 - Ex: Ask representatives of vulnerable populations regarding what, if anything, they need and how they prefer to receive what they express they need, which follows INEE’s Handbook on Minimum Standards for Education in an Emergency.²
- Promotion of effective practices from your country for other countries to learn from and implement.

² https://inee.org/system/files/resources/INEE_Minimum_Standards_Handbook_2010%28HSP%29_EN.pdf

³ COVID-19 CEPAL-UNESCO Agosto 2020

Ex: CEPAL³ states it is essential to share experiences and consult teaching staff and experts from academia and other sectors because there is no one-time solution for all countries; your country's rapid, innovative, and appropriate responses to local needs could be adopted and adapted by others, and vice versa.

Improve Data Collection and Analysis

- New methods for data collection that ensure vulnerable populations such as displaced and indigenous are reached and get their voices heard as recommended by the recommended by the JIPS reference guide.⁴

Ex: Consider sending a survey by SMS text message or sending paper copies of a survey dropped and collected by a drone. Define the category labels to be used in data collection based on the terms vulnerable people use for themselves; use a combination of self-selection and language to identify those who are indigenous.⁵
- Country news report monitoring.

Ex: Scan newspaper and other media feature stories since March 2020 to find data in published stories/reports about efforts for education in emergencies for the most vulnerable including innovative ways teachers have continued reaching students and follow up with those featured.
- Additional and cooperative desk reviews.

Ex: Consult with other COs, MoEs, UNICEF specialists, other UN agencies and representatives of vulnerable populations; it is common for one group not to know what the other group is doing and groups may unify efforts for a shared goal, as well as save time and money, by collaborating on data collection

- Follow-up on novel approaches, particularly their assessment data on learning success while out of school.

Ex: Learning is challenging to measure; when learning is moved online or otherwise remote, it becomes even harder to measure. For example, receiving materials, clicking on or downloading an online resource, or playing a video do not show learning has occurred. Once school has resumed, it may be necessary to physically collect a portfolio of whatever work a student was able to complete while out of school in order for teachers to assess student learning and make fair adjustments to grade level and content.

Support Inclusion

- African descent/African diaspora as vulnerable population due to higher levels of poverty related to a history of systematic racism and discrimination.

Ex: Leading agencies and reports⁶ recommended including those of African descent as a vulnerable population in need of analysis and prioritized support, and to disaggregate data by race.
- Intersectionality of vulnerable populations

Ex: UNICEF population sector specialists, among others, recommend analyzing which risk factors and types of support affect someone who represents more than one vulnerable group, for example a learner who is not only a girl with special needs but also a refugee without Internet.
- Differences between ages and life stage of children and youth who have unique characteristics and rights.

Ex: UNICEF specialists recommend disaggregating data, for example children 0-6, primary level 6–12 and adolescents 12-18 who each require specific recommendations tailored to them.

⁴ <https://www.jips.org/news/the-new-normal-collecting-data-amidst-a-global-pandemic-covid19/>

⁵ <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000373718/PDF/373718eng.pdf.multi.page=23>

⁶ Informe COVID-19 CEPAL-UNESCO Agosto 2020; <https://www.vanderbilt.edu/lapop/insights/ITB031en.pdf>; https://inee.org/system/files/resources/INEE_Minimum_Standards_Handbook_2010%28HSP%29_EN.pdf; https://unesdoc.unesco.org/in/documentViewer.xhtml?v=2.1.196&id=p::usmarcdef_0000373718&file=/in/rest/annotationSVC/DownloadWatermarkedAttachment/attach_import_7f053edb-de47-40f5-8f69-5f500dffe977%3F_%3D373718eng.pdf&updateUrl=updateUrl7783&ark=/ark:/48223/pf0000373718/PDF/373718eng.pdf.multi.page=23&fullScreen=true&locale=en#p280; <https://www.unicef.org/peru/notas-de-prensa/covid19-148-ninas-ninos-adolescentes-durante-pandemia-quedaron-en-acogimiento-familiar-canastas-alimentos-cuidado-nutricional>

⁷ <http://udlguidelines.cast.org/>

⁸ <https://wmich.edu/sites/default/files/attachments/u57/2013/child-trauma-toolkit.pdf>

Choose familiar and low-tech resources already part of the lives of vulnerable populations—such as their mobile phones—in addition to already existing education via television, radio, and printed resources.

- Users' existing resources such as non-Internet connected mobile phones are more accepted by learners, do not require training to use, and are more cost-effective than imposing new, higher-tech resources.

Ex: Instead of building a web portal of online lessons which few can access or passing out tablets which few know how to use or can connect, focus more time, talent, and money on educational programs delivered via basic SMS text message for those without Internet-connected phones, and WhatsApp or similar services for those with Internet-connected phones.

- Training for teachers and parents/families on digital literacy and especially in Universal Design for Learning⁷ and Trauma-Informed Teaching.⁸

Ex: Because teachers and families supporting student learning may not know how to teach under conditions created by the pandemic, are further burdened with providing socio-emotional support without training and at a time when they also need it themselves, and face increased workload both professionally and in the home, priority can also be given to their technical training (to use introduced tools in situations where learning has continued via new devices/online), methodological training (for online learning best practices and inclusivity with Universal Design for Learning), socio-emotional support for themselves and training in how to provide it for students and families (via Trauma-Informed principles), protected working conditions, and local teacher support networks. Lessons themselves should be designed to teach practical skills related to the crisis such

as health, critical thinking and interpretation of information, etc. These recommendations support the ones provided in UNICEF's Learning Must Go On report⁹, the Gallano report¹⁰, and CEPAL¹¹ among others. As with the delivery of education to vulnerable learners themselves, teachers and families who need emergency training in the above areas can receive it faster, more equitably, and at a lower cost when delivered via low-tech solutions such as receiving training information via their mobile phones.

Expect widespread hunger and malnutrition due the global economic downturn resulting from COVID-19.

- Survival over education as a priority with schools maintaining food programs.

Ex: The World Food Programme (WFP)¹², UN agencies¹³, and CEPAL¹⁴ all note that even if learning cannot be continued, it may become critical to keep schools open to serve as food distribution centers and re-assign teachers and parents to the duty of organizing school feeding programs and teaching new skills to those who have lost jobs in the informal sector, many of whom will be women and migrants/refugees.

- Need for increased rural family farm food production, necessity entrepreneurship, and micro-finance.

Ex: Include agricultural education topics such as blending ancestral knowledge with modern science and technology as part of education in emergencies particularly for those in rural/remote areas who may be called upon to increase production of their family farms to sustain inventory of local markets. Also consider increased partnerships with international organizations like Heifer International¹⁵ that educate people about raising food using a sustainable, communal approach, and microfinancing partnerships.

⁹ <https://www.unicef.org/lac/media/11796/file/LEarning-must-go-on.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/EI%20derecho%20a%20la%20educaci%C3%B3n%20en%20tiempos%20de%20crisis%20-%20alternativas%20para%20la%20continuidad%20educativa.pdf>

¹¹ Informe COVID-19 CEPAL-UNESCO Agosto 2020

¹² <https://insight.wfp.org/coronavirus-and-hunger-wfp-ready-to-assist-largest-number-of-people-ever-23aea919e87d>

¹³ <https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/article/forecast-2020-financial-meltdown-and-malnutrition>

¹⁴ Informe COVID-19 CEPAL-UNESCO Agosto 2020

¹⁵ <https://www.heifer.org/>

6. Recommendations Specific to Vulnerable Populations



- Continue to consult UNICEF's gender, disability, and ECW specialists as well as girls themselves.
Ex: Separate the unique needs and rights of girls at different ages.
- Employ a combination of approaches due to intersectionality.
Ex: Consider girls who are also rural and indigenous or with special needs. In the case of rural girls, they may not be able to use the provided mechanisms such as a telephone hotline to report gender-based violence occurring while they are home and out of school during COVID-19 due to lack of phone access or signal.
- Educate boys as well as girls and teachers about the difference between gender equality and equity, equality of work in the home, and gender-based violence.
Ex: Use student leadership/student government groups as a mechanism for advancing these topics; provide micro-lessons (short and convenient) knowing that girls will have less time to spend on schoolwork when they are assigned increased home duties compared to boys and have less access to devices.
- Focus on other aspects of girls' representation, participation, empowerment and learning beyond their bodies such as job, digital, and financial skills; inclusion into political parties, social, and community organizations, and positive examples of women in school lessons and materials.
Ex: Fund existing community organization structures such as women's groups, and programs that supply feminine hygiene products so that families who have lost income due to COVID-19 do not have to choose between paying for school materials and paying for sanitary supplies.



- Do no harm when protecting sovereignty.
Ex: Consult indigenous representatives themselves and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples¹⁶ to guarantee whether offering education or health support in emergencies represents appropriate intervention.
- Provide literacy skills in indigenous languages before distributing materials in those same indigenous languages.
Ex: It's possible oral learning via TV or radio in indigenous languages may be more effective than written materials.
- Include images of indigenous people as heroes and leaders in various professions in educational materials.
- Consult UNICEF's forthcoming consultancy on indigenous populations, and continue to consult UNICEF's gender and disability specialists, as well as indigenous learners themselves.
Ex: Consider intersectionality of vulnerable populations such as data about indigenous girls and indigenous learners with special needs.



- Continue to consult ECW reports on Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil, and Peru and UNICEF's gender and disability specialists, as well as migrants/refugees themselves.
Ex: Consider intersectionality of vulnerable populations such as data about migrants/refugees who are girls and with special needs, and data on internal migrants/refugees (within the same country).
- Align recommendations to international standards on human rights for migrants/refugees.

¹⁶ <https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/declaration-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples.html>

- Maintain school feeding and other food programs.
Ex: A majority of migrants/refugees report their priority concern is food not education.¹⁷
- Provide education on practical skills to be used as necessity entrepreneurs and navigating new country systems and deliver it via WhatsApp and micro-learning through text messages on mobile phones (forthcoming UNICEF LACRO consultancy).
Ex: CEPAL suggests to prioritize the skills and values that have been revealed as priorities at the current juncture: solidarity, self-learning, self-care and others, socio-emotional competences, health and resilience, among others.¹⁹ Migrants/refugees themselves also mention needing education on immigration paperwork, job skills, the host country school system and anti-human trafficking.
- Update school system databases to process migrant/refugee student documents/records.
Ex: School system enrollment may allow migrants/refugees to become eligible for emergency education resources provided by the government.
- Educate against xenophobia.
Ex: Even teachers require training on bias recognition and reduction regarding their attitudes and behavior towards their migrant/refugee students, particularly the false associations made about migrants/refugees and COVID-19 and women migrants/refugees and prostitution.

Without Internet

- Leverage basic features of families' existing phones.
Ex: Focus on creating and disseminating learning materials that can reach people by simple SMS text message or WhatsApp; work with local telecoms to provide these educational text message for free to learners.
- Use UNESCO's recommended distance learning solutions²⁰ many of which feature systems built for

use on basic mobile phones and ones with strong offline functionality.

- Ex: A model from UNESCO's list that is applicable to the LACRO region is Kenya's Eneza Education²¹, an example of re-purposing the government curriculum to deliver it by text SMS with a teacher support hotline.
- Remember that low-tech may reach many more for less cost and require minimal training, whereas high-tech online learning platforms may be more expensive, require extensive training, yet reach very few, and only the most privileged.
Ex: Establish a toll-free telephone service or hotline, SMS text message campaign, and/or WhatsApp group where teachers can answer student and parent questions regarding their lessons; go with even lower tech solutions such as broadcasting information via megaphones/speakers from cars that drive through neighborhoods.
- Teach students, teachers, and families digital literacy skills required for using any newly introduced technology or connectivity.
Ex: Pay special attention to training/supporting younger, primary school-aged children who may be even less familiar with devices and the Internet if it is introduced.

Rural/Remote

- Prioritize hygiene education (aka WASH) particularly because these communities are reopening schools first.
Ex: Include methods for maintaining hygiene to protect against COVID-19 when there is no running water or electricity as common in rural/remote areas; in emergency situations, consider delivering supplies like water-free hand sanitizer gel which could even be dropped by drone to the most remote regions.
- Employ traditional community communication practices such as telephone trees and family buddy systems to pass educational information.

¹⁷ https://www.oas.org/es/sadye/publicaciones/GUIA_SPA.pdf

¹⁸ ECW MYRP CO Needs Analysis

¹⁹ Informe COVID-19 CEPAL-UNESCO Agosto 2020

²⁰ <https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse/solutions>

²¹ enezaeducation.com

Ex: Encourage the “buddy system” of telephone trees for community members who do have phone or other access to help spread the information via their social bonds and networks by calling each other systematically.

- Prepare this population for becoming leaders in the fight against malnutrition by including relevant educational topics related to the agricultural economy, scaling up food production, and business leadership.

Ex: Focus on relevant educational topics based on the agriculture economy and how to scale up food production, as well as leadership and business training for teaching others how to grow and sell food.



Special Needs

- Continue to consult UNICEF’s Education Specialist for Diversity and Inclusion and Children with Disabilities, as well as gender and ECW specialists, and the children with special needs and their families themselves to advocate for mainstreamed inclusion.

Ex: Consider the data on the unique needs and rights of children and youth at different ages/developmental stages, and prioritize early learning when preparing and supporting families with at-home child development.

- Consult the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) as key planning guides.
- Employ a combination of approaches due to intersectionality.

Ex: Consider data about how this population intersects with other vulnerable populations such as girls, migrants/refugees, people of African descent, indigenous, and those in conditions of extreme poverty such as in rural areas.

- Train educators, as well as decision-makers, families, and support staff, in Universal Design for Learning.

Ex: Designing lessons for those “in the margins” also works for the benefit of all students; include images of students with special needs (visible and invisible) in school materials and as heroes and leaders in various professions.

- Make sure learning platforms and resources are in accessible formats.

Ex: Websites include an accessibility widget that allows learners to increase font size, contrast, etc; videos are captioned and/or transcribed; materials such as those in Microsoft Word and PDF are reviewed with the accessibility checker to ensure their inclusive formatting such as providing Alt-text to images.

