

# Needs Assessment on Global LGBTIQ+ Inclusive Education Strategies

## Introduction

At the civil society side meeting on May 18, 2016, it was decided to carry out an assessment of the impact of the UNESCO strategy until now from the civil society perspective. Because several international bodies undertake action in this field, it was decided to also take this into account and broaden the scope of the assessment to international strategy.

The goals of the assessment are:

- A. to provide input for a joint strategy of civil society organizations on how they can to support UNESCO and/or relevant global bodies in an effective strategy to include sexual diversity in education systems
- B. to explore how civil society (both local and international organizations) should take initiatives on forging productive types of cooperation with UNESCO and/or other relevant global organizations on the global level.

At the civil society meeting, a Proposal Committee was formed which will guide and assist the assessment and which will formulate a proposal for a global civil society strategy.

## Assessment questions

During the civil society meeting the following aspects to be explored were mentioned.

1. What are the objectives of CSO in global engagement? This will vary depending on the different states' constraints.
2. How can different UN bodies attain these goals? We should remember that UNESCO offers the highest level authority in global education policy work, UNDP may offer money/resourcing, UNICEF and other bodies may offer different tools).

Because UN bodies do not always consider civil society groups as prime target groups to support, GALE would like to add the following questions:

3. Which goals have global bodies on securing the inclusion of LGBTI/DESPOGI<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Acronym used by GALE: Disadvantaged because of their Expression of Sexual Preference Or Gendered Identity

students? What are the goals of global bodies on securing the inclusion of LGBTI/DESPOGI students?

4. How do they strategize and what activities are employed to achieve these goals?
5. What are the impacts of these strategies till date and what should be the next steps?
6. How do they see the role of civil society organizations in this?
7. How can global bodies foster dialogue across GO's and NGO's

## **Methodology**

We propose to employ Key Informants (KI) and In-depth Interview through a short survey among civil society organizations and interviews with key officials in UN bodies and some other key actors in relevant global organizations.

## **Survey**

Due to the lack of funding for this activity, the survey will be brief and simple to ensure easy data analysis. GALE will do this with help of researchers in the Proposal Committee. The survey will be sent to members of ILGA, GALE, IGLYO and GATE (main national civil society organizations), the SOGI listserv and to other listservs, for example in the AIDS/health sector. The analysis will be done by GALE in cooperation with RenfoCap and other active members of the Proposal Committee and checked by a researchers from the Proposal Committee.

This topic list can be elaborated into the short survey.

1. Interest in the context of UN work on education and LGBTI/DESPOGI
2. Ambitions of CSOs to be active on the international level
3. Experience/ambitions of CSOs to work locally with UN organizations and why
4. Needs of the civil society organization in cooperation with UN bodies
5. How can we foster dialogue between GOs and NGOs

## **Interviews with UN and other global organizations officers**

The interviews should be done with allies and officers who are responsible for LGBTI related policy and activities. Notes on the answers should be made and if possible documentation

about LGBTI related policy and activities should be added as background.

We need to make a list of UN bodies and other relevant global organizations to be interviewed. This could be the list (we need to add names and contact details):

- UNESCO
- UNICEF
- UNDP
- UNFPA
- UNAIDS
- Special Rapporteur on Education
- World Bank
- Education International
- International Labour Organisation
- Inter American Commission of HR
- Possibly others

We propose a topic list, which can be used as an interview format.

1. Which goals does your organization and you personally have on securing the inclusion of LGBTI/DESPOGI students?
2. How does your organization and you personally strategize and engage to achieve these goals?
3. What are the impacts of these strategies till date and what should be the next steps, according to your organization and you personally?
4. How does your organization and you personally see the role of civil society organizations in this? Differentiate between international and national/local organizations and between States where cooperation with civil society is constrained by the State, where this is ambiguous and where this is supported.
5. How can we foster dialogue between GOs and NGOs?

## **Communication with civil society**

The commitment of wider civil society will be strengthened when we continuously update the field about our progress.

We propose the following communication strategy:

1. Like currently, any civil society member interested can join the No Bullying Coalition

([no-bullying-coalition@gale.info](mailto:no-bullying-coalition@gale.info)) listserv (<https://www.gale.info/no-bullying-coalition>), for NGOs only. This will be the main channel for communication.

2. After review of the Proposal Committee of this paper and getting the survey online, GALE will inform civil society of the start of the research
3. After finalization of the report, GALE will take initiative to publish the report
4. After the Proposal Committee has made the proposal for a joint strategy, GALE will take initiative to publish the proposal and ask for feedback
5. After the Proposal Committee and the international ILGA, GALE, IGLYO and GATE NGOs have agreed on the proposal for a joint strategy, GALE will take initiative to publish the strategy