

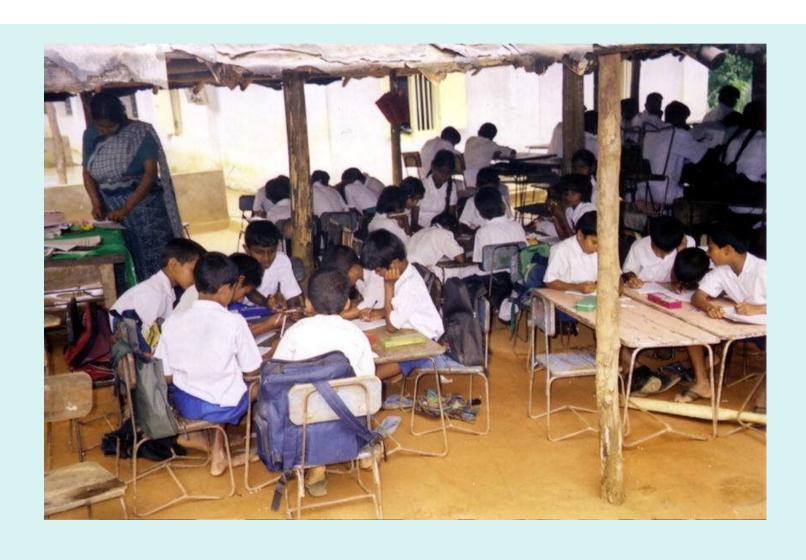
Multigrade Teaching: challenges and opportunities
Angela W Little

CREATE/CRIQPEG conference University of Cape Coast, April 2009

www.ioe.ac.uk

## Maheswari's multigrade school





### What is multigrade teaching?



The teaching of pupils from different curriculum grades within the same timetabled period. Multi-grade is also referred to as:

- Multiple class
- Composite class
- Vertical group
- Mixed year class
- Family class
- Double class
- Combined class
- Unitary schools (one-teacher schools)

## Making the invisible visible



India: In 2005-6 76% of all primary (grade 1-5) schools

had 3 or fewer teachers

England: In 2000 25% of primary classes were 'mixed

year'

• Ghana?

# Teaching and curriculum strategies



#### **AVOIDANCE**

- Neglect
- Deferred entry of one grade combine with next year's entry
- Double-shift

### **QUASI MONOGRADE**

- One teacher, multiple spaces/chalkboards
- Multi-year curriculum spans. Learners 'enter' the span at different points

#### DIFFERENTIATION

- Teacher driven: Differentiated inputs/tasks/outcomes
- Materials driven

## **Quasi-monograde Vietnam: one teacher, five grades**





# Quasi-monograde Multi-year curriculum span for Grades 5 and 6 (except Maths), Grade 2 Rhodes, Greece





### **Teacher driven differentiation**



•Multigrade class(3 grades) in rural Ireland



### **Materials driven differentiation:**



### (i) Escuela Nueva progammes

Pedagogy
Self-organised learning

Students learn from teacher, materials and each other

In-service training
Several layers of workshop to initiate, train, follow-up, demonstrate

Multigraded



# Materials driven differentiation (ii) Activity Based Learning, Tamil Nadu



- Graded learning
- 'Learning ladders'
- Common timetable
- •Classes of 30-60
- •Teacher training and support

Multigraded

Students learn from teacher, materials and each other





**Education for All and Multigrade Teaching: Challenges and Opportunities** 

Springer, 2006 (ed. A W Little)

www.ioe.ac.uk/multigrade

