



Consortium for Research on  
Educational Access, Transitions & Equity

Funded by DFID

## About CREATE

The purpose of CREATE is to encourage the application of knowledge and insights to improve access to basic education. CREATE will develop conceptual frameworks and empirical insights into how to improve access which is more equitable and pro-poor. It will undertake research and dissemination of findings to enhance progress towards the MDGs and EFA.

Access to basic education lies at the heart of development. Lack of education is both a part of the definition of poverty, and a means for its diminution. Sustained access is critical to long term improvements in productivity, the reduction of inter-generational cycles of poverty, demographic transition, preventive health care, the empowerment of women, and reductions in inequality.

The key problem CREATE addresses is how to increase meaningful access for those between the ages of 5 to 15 years. The numbers are large. Even where primary gross enrolment rates exceed 100%, national data indicates that attendance may be below 70%, completion rates may fall below 50%, and fewer than 20% may attend lower secondary. Achievement data often show a minority acquiring basic learning skills by grade 5.

Exclusion from basic education is a process culminating in an event with multiple causalities. Zones of vulnerability describe the various spaces where children are included, excluded, or are at risk. Initial access has little meaning unless it results in (i) regular attendance (ii) progression (iii) meaningful learning and (iv) appropriate access to post-primary education. Children falling into the zones of vulnerability are the subject of our research, especially

disadvantaged groups (e.g. girls, HIV/AIDS orphans, displaced people, ethnic minorities). Enrolments decline through the primary grades and those attending irregularly and achieving poorly fall into zones where they are "at risk" of drop out or failure to proceed through secondary schooling. CREATE identifies seven zones of exclusion.

## CREATE seeks to explore five key clusters of questions

- What are current patterns of access and exclusion, who is currently excluded from basic education at different stages, and why are they excluded?
- What strategies are most effective in meeting the basic educational needs of those who are excluded? To what extent are alternative forms of service delivery viable?
- What options are available to improve progression, completion and transition rates? How can drop before primary completion be reduced? How can re-entry of drop-outs be eased?
- What options exist to maintain and improve transition rates into lower secondary grades in pro-poor ways? What effects do declining transition rates have on primary completion?
- What are the political, social and economic conditions under which EFA has been achieved? Where progress has faltered what are the reasons for this? How has expanded access had an impact on social mobility and the intergenerational transmission of poverty?

## Invitation



**The Centre for International Education cordially invites you to the launch of the first tranche of CREATE publications in the Pathways to Access series of research papers.**

The CREATE Reception will be from:

**5.00 pm on Tuesday  
10<sup>th</sup> July in the concourse  
area Arts E level 3**

Eleven thematic papers will be released and four Country Analytic Reviews. All these papers are available free from our website.

Website: [www.create-rpc.org](http://www.create-rpc.org)  
Email: [create@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:create@sussex.ac.uk)

Authors of some of the papers will be available for discussion and there will be a short introduction to the work of CREATE since its inception in 2006.

We look forward to seeing you at the event.

Please RSVP on email to Elena Dennison:  
[e.dennison@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:e.dennison@sussex.ac.uk)

