

Discussion and comments

On advocacy and approaches in Vietnam: In response to a comment that at one time mother tongue-based education could not be openly spoken of in the country; it was said that this has been changing, step by step, and it was noted that high level conferences on the issue have been on the agenda recently. The ethnic minority situation is very complex in Vietnam and more mapping is needed. All the current initiatives are in the pilot stages and in general it worked best to adopt a flexible approach. In answer to a question on why the focus was on oral teaching in the SC project, SC answered that no 'one size fits all' and different approaches were being tried in different areas depending on the overall contexts. Multigrade options were also being considered but are not on the way yet. There was a clarification that the SC pilot is being replicated in five provinces.