GUIDANCE FOR FOCUS GROUP

Introduction

Good evening and welcome to our session. Thanks for taking the time to join us to talk about inclusive education. My name is XXXX and assisting me is
XXXX. We're both with the University of XXXXX.

-It is necessary to explain the aims of the research and the objective of this focus group

Southwest University (SWU) is the coordinator of an Erasmus + Program (European Union) and is conducting research on inclusive education in China with three Chinese universities (Guangxi Normal University, Tibet University for Nationalities and Sichuan Normal University) and four European universities (Autonomous University of Barcelona, Polytechnic University of Lisbon, Trinity College of Dublin and University of Bath).
The title of this project is: *Promoting inclusive education through curriculum development and teacher education in China (INCLUTE)*.
The aim of the INCLUTE project is to promote inclusive education through teacher training in primary schools in China.

The specific project objectives are:

•To know the development of inclusive practices in social and educational contexts.

•To strengthen the teacher's competence/skills related to inclusive education in Chinese universities.

•To design and develop a continuous training curriculum on inclusion for primary school teachers.

•To create an inclusive international education network.

The *objective of this focus group* is to know how schools are developing/implementing inclusive education from different stakeholders' perspectives (local government, NGO and primary teachers).

- It is necessary to explain the dynamic of this focus group

We ensure the protection, anonymity and confidentiality of the data obtained both in its management and storage. If you do not mind, we are recording the interview to properly collect your thoughts, perspectives, ideas.

- It is necessary that everyone introduces himself/herself (name, institution, position)

Useful suggestions

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INCLUTE

- Focus group guidelines:

- No right or wrong answers, only differing points of view
- We're tape recording, one person speaking at a time
- We're on a first name basis
- You don't need to agree with others, but you must listen respectfully as others
- share their views
- Rules for cellular phones and pagers if applicable. For example: We ask that
- your turn off your phones or pagers. If you cannot and if you must respond to a
- call, please do so as quietly as possible and re-join us as quickly as you can.
- My role as moderator will be to guide the discussion
- Talk to each other

- Focus group developing

We want to know what are the barriers and facilitators and how inclusive education programs might be improved. We are having
discussions like this with other groups. You were invited because you are...., and we are very interested in your opinion as a ......

There are no wrong answers but rather differing points of view. Please feel free to share your point of view even if it differs from what others have said. Keep in mind that we're just as interested in negative comments as positive comments, and at times the negative comments are the most helpful.

You've probably noticed the microphone. We're tape recording the session because we don't want to miss any of your comments. People often say very helpful things in these discussions and we can't write fast enough to get them all down. We will be on a first name basis tonight, and we won't use any names in our reports. You may be assured of complete confidentiality. The reports will go back to the SWU staff to help develop inclusive education in China.
Well, let's begin. We've placed name cards on the table in front of you to help us remember each other's names. Let's find out some more about each other by going around the table. Tell us your name and your role.

Initial question: How do Chinese schools develop inclusive education?

Topics to be considered:

What inclusive education practices are currently being implemented in your school?

1. Inclusive schools management

2. Inclusive methodologies

3. Collaboration

4. Teacher's training on inclusive education

What are the values about inclusive education in your school?

1. Attitudes and values related to inclusion

What are barriers to the implementation of inclusive education practices?

What are facilitators of inclusive education?

1.   Limitations

What are barriers to inclusive education?

How could inclusive education be improved in your school?

1.   Improvement