The pressures on policy makers to demonstrate how policies are leading towards greater educational inclusion results in the need for the systematic collection of qualitative and quantitative information that answers key questions and can be used longitudinally by countries to map their own developments and comparatively across countries to compare relative developments.

Mapping the Implementation of Policy for Inclusive Education (MIPIE) is a project conducted by the European Agency for Development in Special Needs Education with support from European Community LLP Comenius funding under agreement number: 510817-2010-LLP-DK-COMENIUS-CAM. MIPIE has been a 1-year project involving over 60 experts from 27 countries:

Austria, Belgium (Flemish and French speaking communities), Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom (England, Scotland and Wales).

The overall goal of the MIPIE project has been to build on existing work being undertaken at national and European levels and – using information collected from countries during the project lifetime – develop recommendations in the form of an outline agenda for future national and European level data collection to be used for mapping the implementation of policy for inclusive education.

Specific project objectives have been to work with policy makers from 27 European countries in order to:

- Develop a rationale for what information needs to be made available for policy makers;
- Identify what information is already available;
- Highlight the gaps in current information;
- Provide detailed proposals on how the necessary information could be collected in the future for the purposes of national, self-mapping and for European level comparative purposes.

Two conferences were organised during the project lifetime – in Brussels during December 2010 and Budapest, March 2011. Both were co-hosted with the respective Ministries of Education for the countries and both had clear goals linked to the development of the eventual project outputs, including final project recommendations.

The full project report, the two conference reports, a collation of all current country data collection work, as well as all project materials can be downloaded from:

http://www.european-agency.org/agency-projects/mipie