

A Look back at REACH Symposium (Feb 2023)

The first REACH x Canada x Jordan x Kazakhstan symposium occurred between Feb 13th and Feb 17, 2023. REACH: Pathways project experts, scholars, and researchers gathered in Vancouver, Canada (and virtually from Atyrau, Kazakhstan) to discuss critical topics related to the experiences of forcibly displaced or relocated children with dis/abilities. Presentations, lectures, and facilitated discussions were aimed at exchanging ideas and knowledge on this topic that is vital to the research being conducted in the three location sites.

This visit also brought participants to visit local Canadian schools and community support sites. These sites were in Burnaby, New Westminster, and Mississauga district schools. These visits allowed participants to observe displaced children with dis/abilities.

Detailed Report of the symposium

The REACH Symposium was held in Vancouver, Canada, from February 14 to 17, 2023. The symposium brought together professionals from Canada, Jordan, and Kazakhstan (virtually) to discuss and share experiences on the project. This report provides a summary of the symposium's activities.

Day 1: Monday, February 13, 2023

The group gathered informally in the evening to meet and greet. Introductions were held.

in the Research Hub at Simon Fraser University (Burnaby Campus), where they were welcomed by Lucy, Associate Dean of graduate studies in Education at Simon Fraser University. After lunch, the attendees had a discussion on international lessons learned facilitated by Ching

Day4: February 16, 2023

On dayfour, attendees visited another site on the agenda, MOSAIC located at New Westminister Secondary School where they met with Rick and Mani leaders from New Westminister Schools and MOSAIC)The attendees were given a tour of the Welcome Centre and the Wel Centre, after which they were briefed on MOSAIC and the inclusive education system at New Westminister Secondary School. The group had lunch on their own and then attended the Arts Based Research Workshop Susarand Ching in the afternoon where they discussed strategies for creating, analyzing and disseminating arts-based research.

Day4: February 17, 2023

On the final day of the symposium, the group visited a Community School located in Burnaby the RQ1 site in Canada. The visitors met with school leadership and got the chance to observe how inclusive education is being practiced in a classroom setting. After the site visit, the attendees had lunch on their own and then had a group discussion on gathering final thoughts for the next steps and recommendations.

Our first REACH Symposium was a great success, with attendees from Canada, Jordan and exchanging ideas and experiences person both formally and informally. The symposium provided

