

**IDDC's contribution to
the public
consultation on 'What
funding for EU
external action after
2013?'**



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- **Introduction**

[The International Disability and Development Consortium](#) is a network of 23 organizations, working to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities in mainstream development. This is our response to the Public Consultation on *What funding for EU external action after 2013?* This contribution highlights our main concerns and we look forward to discussions later in the process on the many remaining details (such as the instruments, geographical and thematic areas etc).

- **Background: Persons with Disabilities in Development**

Persons with disabilities the world over are excluded, discriminated against and have little access to development processes. One in five of the world's poorest persons is a person with a disability. The EU recently became a party to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and explicitly included development cooperation in its 'conclusion' of this UN human rights instrument which also covers poverty reduction and humanitarian policy. Improved inclusion, access and participation of persons with disabilities should be an outcome of the EU's development cooperation.

- **Well funded Development Cooperation**

The European Union must commit itself to ensuring that it retains well-funded mechanisms for development cooperation. These mechanisms should have a pro-poor approach with the intention of addressing global poverty, human rights, inequalities and exclusion.

- **Resources for external relations chapter of the EU Disability Strategy 2010-2020**

The EU has adopted a 10 year strategy in order to implement its obligations as a party to the CRPD. This Strategy includes important objectives in the EU's external relations. The financial instruments under the next MAFF should ensure that resources are available and committed to the realization of this Strategy. The inclusiveness of EU aid should be regularly monitored and evaluated.

- **Positive impact of thematic instruments**

The thematic instruments are an important element of the EU's external relations financing. They provide NGOs globally, including Disabled Peoples Organisations, with much-needed resources to act within their areas of expertise in an independent manner that contributes to inclusive poverty reduction strategies and furthers human rights.

- **Disaster relief reduction and rehabilitation needs to include disability**

In its emergency response, the EU must ensure that all vulnerable and marginalized persons, including persons with disabilities are reached. The EU has committed under the CRPD to take 'all necessary measures to ensure the protection and safety of persons with disabilities in situations of risk...'. The new financial instruments must ensure that the EU can continue to respond to the increasing number of crises all over the world and must deliver the expertise and resources that disability inclusion requires.