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FIAPP ONLINE WEBINAR

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND THEIR REFERENCES TO THE  
INCLUSION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Good morning, good afternoon to everyone. Thank you very much for coming today. I'm Alessia Rogai, the knowledge management coordinator of the project Bridging the Gap. For those who did not attend last session and therefore may know a little less about the project, Bridging the Gap is a European funded, founded by Fundacion Internacional y para Iberoamerica de Administracion y Politicas Publicas, Fundacion Internacional y para Iberoamerica de Administracion y Politicas Publicas with, the Spanish, Italian and two international NGOs, the European International Disability and the International Disability Consortium. We contribute to the social, nondiscrimination of persons with disabilities for more inclusive and accountable policies. In the framework of the knowledge management strategy, developed within the project we built a webinar training cycle to explore the different cross-cutting issues taken into consideration by the project action. The first cycle was an introduction to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, its principle and structure for those who missed it you can find the video of the first webinar on the project website on Facebook and Twitter pages on YouTube channels. You can find the links here in the chat box.

Today we are here for the second session titled The Sustainable Development Goals and their References to the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities. Persons with disabilities were not considered in the development goals and left at the margins of the initiative. By contrast, the SDGs will consider persons with disabilities in seven paragraphs which explicitly refer to their inclusion.

In training session introduces the SDGs, how they connect to the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and how to be compliant with SDG strategy. To answer the questions about the SDGs and their reference to disability, why they are so important, who it involves and what has to be done to respect the rights of persons with disabilities in line with the CRPD, we have the chance to have here with us Marion Steff, SDG coordinator at the European Disability Forum. She works on the advocacy platform. She is engaged in building the capacity of organisation of persons with disabilities for inclusive SDGs at the national level and she also works on international coordination projects with EDF.

Previously Marion was a policy advisor and early in her career she conducted a study for the World Bank on higher education and disability in Indonesia. She worked also in the research team and also comanaged a center for disability study and services, also in Indonesia.

What I can say, Marion, your curriculum is impressive. I would like to go further but I prefer to give you the floor to take as much as possible all your experiences on this important subject.

Just because starting, I would like to give a couple of technical tips to the audience. The webinar is live captioned. The link to follow the live captioning is here in the chat box or you can find it in the reminder email you received previously.

So now for real I give the floor to Marion and thanks a lot.

>> MARION STEFF: Hello. I am just wondering if you all can hear me well.

I guess you can.

So my name is Marion Steff. I work for the European Disability Forum. I'm the a Sustainable Development Goals developer, SDG. I give you for -- I thank you for giving me the floor and inviting me to Bridging the Gap to talk about the SDGs. Before going further I would like to talk quickly about EDF. EDF is the central European Disability Forum, an organisation of persons with disabilities. So it is a DPO.

We represent the interests of 80 million Europeans with disabilities. So it is very much a unique platform which brings together representatives of organisations for persons with

disabilities across Europe. It is run by persons with disabilities and their families.

Today I am asked to talk about the SDGs. I think for me it is important that before going further I also talk about the 2030 Agenda. I just changed the slide. On this slide I have in front of me, that you have in front of you I have actually put the publication of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. It is also called the 2030 Agenda.

The SDGs are actually part of the 2030 Agenda. Pretty much what is important to know is that the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development is a universal commitment that has been adopted by 193 world leaders of this world, of this planet, to end poverty, to reduce inequality and save the earth. So as you can see, it is a very important vision of how the world should be, how the world should be by 2030. Because that is the end of the 2030 Agenda, it has a life span of 15 years, from 2015 to 2030.

And people like to say it is the agenda of the people, by the people, and for the people. At the time of the adoption in 2015, Ban Ki-moon, the U.N. Secretary General said this is the people's agenda, the plan of action for ending poverty. It is also rein all its dimensions, irreversibly, everywhere and leaving no one behind.

So it is the people's agenda because if you remember, before the 2030 Agenda, we had the millennium development goals. It was eight goals that were agreed in 2000 -- the millennium development goals, agreed by the United Nations. There was no consultation with Civil Society Organisations. With the 2030 Agenda there has been three years and nonstop advocacy, heated discussions, tension because everybody wanted to see their issue or their cause included in the discussion. And then this was very much why it is called the people's agenda because Civil Society Organisations, just like an organisation of persons with disabilities, were very much included in the process.

The 2030 Agenda as a model, which is to leave no one behind. The idea is really to get the people who are most at risk of marginalization, like people with disabilities, and what is important to remember for people working in our field or working in the disability movement is that people with disabilities are very well represented in that document in the 2030 Agenda. I'm changing the slide. In fact, we have minimum times -- many times referencing people with disabilities in the 2030 Agenda. Three times in the Declaration. Once in the paragraph on human rights, and another one in vulnerable groups, another in education.

Seven times in the targets of the SDGs, so in education, in employment, reducing inequalities, in inclusive cities, and in means of implementation and data.

Last time is in follow-up and review of the paragraph on disaggregation.

This is the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. And if you think about it, well, if you read the document, as we say, you will see that the SDGs is actually a chapter of the 2030 Agenda. First you get in the 2030 Agenda you get the preamble. Then you have the Declaration. Then you have the chapter on the SDGs. Then you have the means of implementation. And then the last chapter is called follow-up and review. So the SDGs, you have a picture of the SDGs in front of you. And it is a set of seven goals. I am going to read them out loud. The first one is about poverty. The second goal is on zero hunger. The third is good health and wellbeing. The fourth goal is quality education. The fifth goal is gender equality. The sixth goal is clean water and sanitation. The seventh goal is affordable and clean energy. The eighth goal is decent work and economic growth. The ninth goal is industry, innovation and infrastructure. The tenth goal is reduced inequalities. The 11th goal is sustainable cities and communities. Goal number 12 related to responsible consumption and production.

Number 13 relates to climate action. Number 14, life below water. Number 15, life on land. Number 16, peace, justice and strong institutions. And the last goal is the partnerships for the goals.

I am going to change the slide. The Sustainable Development Goals or the SDGs also known as the global goals. You might hear sometimes SDGs or you might hear global goals. It is actually the same.

This is what I was saying earlier, the SDGs are actually chapter 3 of the 2030 Agenda. The idea is that all the SDGs are integrated and indivisible. So you cannot really focus on just one goal because it very much interrelates with another goal. Say, for instance, quality education. In order to receive an education, for instance, you need to be able to access education. And we need to be in good health and you need to be not hungry, et cetera.

So the idea is that all the goals are indivisible. And when we say it is global in nature, it is because it is not just for people living in Developing Countries. It is goals for everybody. It is for everyone. It is goals for any continent, any countries. It is not just for Developing Countries.

The idea is that each government must decide on how the SDGs should be incorporated into national planning processes, policies, and strategies.

Now, the SDGs are not legally binding. It is not like a U.N. convention or like the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It is voluntary. However, if you remember, all the countries in 2015 agreed to adopt part of that vision. Thus, they have in some way, even if it is not legally binding, they have to implement and monitor the SDGs in their own countries.

So countries are expected to take ownership and establish a national framework for achieving the sustainable goals. They also have responsibility to follow up and review with quality, accessible and timely data collection. That is important for people working in the field of disability, where there is not much data on people with disabilities.

So as the coordinator of the SDGs within the European Disability Forum, I often get the question on if we should prioritize one goal over another. And I always say, like I said earlier, no, because the SDGs are a set of indivisible goal and very much interconnected.

However, we recognize that we might want to focus on different aspects of the goals. So for the members of the European Disability Forum, I always recommend to support the goals and targets focused on the most vulnerable. The goals where urgent action is required. For instance, the situation of jefes with disability in Greece is an urgent action. Something needs to be done quickly.

But the idea is that now we are not going to -- we are not having more work to do. We need to use what has been done, what is already in place or what has been already created by the convention. We need to be using existing policies and human rights frameworks to help us using those goals.

Of course, what is important to do is to work with partner to address goals and targets because not everybody has the capacity to focus on each goal.

So the way the goals are organised, they have targets and indicators. So in each goal you have a number of targets. And a number of indicators. In total we have 169 targets with approximately 230 indicators. That was set up by the consensus of experts. So I think my presentation there would be shared. As much as I could, I provided the links of all the documents I talk about. So you will have access to the full list of indicators and targets.

So the experts that came up with that list of targets and indicators is called the Inter-agency and Expert Group on indicators. That group is composed of Member States as well as regional and international agencies as well as, for instance, national statistical offices, et cetera.

So the CSOs, Civil Society Organisations can influence the IAEG, can be involved there to make sure they can take on board our recommendation.

One more thing related to the organisation of the SDGs. In the indicators, it becomes a bit more complicated, meaning they are divided into three tiers. So tier 1 means that the countries are already collecting the data and it is regularly produced by countries. That is the type of indicators that you can easily collect the data for.

Then tier 2 is an indicator that conceptually is clear. There is an established methodology and standards, but data is not regularly provided by the countries.

And tier 3 is where there is actually no established methodology and we don't really know how to do it. We have the indicator but we don't know how to collect the data. That is very important for us because if you remember, I was telling you that the SDGs are a chapter of the 2030 Agenda. In that chapter, the SDGs have been taken and expanded. In it are 19 references to persons with disabilities. One in the introduction, which actually -- let me take my paper. At the top of the list of the SDGs indicators it says that the indicator should be disaggregated where relevant by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, and geographic location or other characteristics in accordance with the fundamental principles of official statistics.

That is very important for us because whenever possible, wherever it is possible for us data should be disaggregated by disability.

We have seven times in targets and 11 times in indicators. As you can see there is only one indicator in tier 1; 4 indicators in tier 2; 5 indicators in tier 3. One indicator is in all three tiers. That means that the indicators, the five indicators that relate to disability in tier 3 could be a bit difficult to obtain to get the data on disability. Even if it is wanted it would be difficult to get it. So the IAEG, the group of experts is working on that to see how it would be achievable for the different countries in the world.

So I can come back on that. If you have any questions now I can maybe take a break and answer some questions before I go further.

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>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Yes. If you want now, you can make some questions. We will take ten minutes for questions and answers.

And you can text your question in the chat box and I will read them one by one or you can raise your hand and I will give you directly the floor to make your question to Marion.

Well, if there are no questions for the moment, I suggest we go ahead with the presentation and then we will open later the Plenary for question an answer. Thanks a lot, Marion.

>> MARION STEFF: Okay. So now I will explain what is the link with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

So like I said earlier, the SDGs are not legally binding, contrary to the CRPD, which is legally binding.

However, when I work with the colleagues at EDF or the members of EDF, I always recommend to use the SDGs and the CRPD together. The way we see that in EDF, SDGs is a good map or platform to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. So for instance, through the implementation of the SDGs, more data will be available for the implementation and the monitoring of the CRPD. The reality is that it is really up to us organisations of persons with disabilities or the disability movement and all the allies to provide this connection and this synergy between the CRPD and the SDGs to ensure persons with disabilities are included.

So similarly to the CRPD, the SDGs have to be integrated in laws, policies, and budgets. And as you know, the CRPD focuses on disability. But the SDGs mainstreams the rights of persons with disabilities. When you are getting involved with the SDGs and I'm sure some of you are, you realize it is not just a disability movement there. It is all the different stakeholders in all the different fields that relates to the environment, to the economy, to everything you can think on this planet.

So from a national perspective, there is considerable overlap between the provisions of the CRPD and the SDGs. And there is really only three goals that do not have some specific links to the Articles within the CRPD. It is goal number 12 on responsible consumption and production. The goal 14, on life below water, and goal 15, life on land.

Here we have on this slide, this new slide is a picture, more like a drawing or schema of the link between the SDGs and the CRPD. Because actually, for instance if we take the goal number 1 which relates to no poverty, that goal relates to all the Articles of the CRPD. And if I take, for instance, number 4 on quality education, that relates directly to Article 24 of the CRPD. Et cetera.

So the Articles of the CRPD are directly related to the SDGs to the targets and the indicators of the SDGs. That is why the SDGs and the CRPD should be used together.

So for those of you working on the CRPD, you know that in June is the conference of state parties to monitor the implementation of the CRPD in different countries. Well, there is something slightly similar, which is called the High Level

Political Forum, this is to monitor the SDGs. It is every July in New York in the United Nations. It is a global structure set up to assess progress, achievements and challenges faced by all countries as they implement the 2030 Agenda.

So each country is encouraged to report on their progress at least twice in 15 years. It is a voluntary process.

So, for instance, in July we are going to have 47 countries that decided to show case their progress so when it comes to Bridging the Gap, I wrote the different countries that relate to the project. For instance, Ecuador, Paraguay, Spain, and Sudan are going to show case their progress in July in New York. Burkina Faso will present in 2019 while Ethiopia and Italy already presented in 2017.

Now, we don't know for Austria. There is no plan. When it comes to the European Union, there is some talk, some discussion about the fact that possibly they are going to present their work in 2019. So it seems like most likely they are going to do it.

When they present the work it is called a Voluntary National Review. It is actually a report that is presented to the High Level Political Forum. And so the idea, they need to show case how they have incorporated SDGs into their national development plans and budget. And the VNR is very important because the process that leads to the report should be inclusive with the possibility for Civil Society Organisations to share on the progress of the SDGs.

So I am almost finished there. I'll just go back to explain what is the impact on the SDGs on our work. I think it is quite clear that the SDGs are a powerful tool and clear roadmap to eradicate poverty, reduce inequality and save the planet. We rely on governments, private sectors, Civil Society Organisations, donors have started to align to the SDGs. When funding is allocated, governments have a tendency to follow the SDGs. Like I said, it is a clear roadmap. So it is very important to start working on the SDGs in the disabilities movement to make sure that it is also implemented at the national level, at the local level, et cetera.

I have two or three slides on suggestions on how to engage in the SDGs. This is what I have been suggesting to EDF Members, for example, to find out what your government has done so far, and what it is planning to do. It is also important to find out what Civil Society Organisations are doing. Because, for instance, in Europe we've got a Civil Society organisation called SDG watch Europe, which is a platform where all the European organisations are part of it. So we can update each other what is happening on the SDGs at the European level.



It is also important to find out what is happening at the national level with a Civil Society coordination. If you can take part in that mechanism. For those working on the SDGs, you can find out who the focal point is for the CRPD and advocate for the SDGs awareness. Engage in goal 17, so meaning the goal on partnership, by cooperating with other organisations of persons with disabilities, with the disability movement, Civil Society Organisations, academic and governments.

To raise awareness, build capacity, share information, and train experts on the SDGs within your organisation.

And a number of tools are already available. In my next slide I'm going to provide some links. EDF, for instance, I just published a report on the SDGs. The International Disability Alliance, IDA is a -- EDF is a member of the International Disability Alliance and has a number of tools available. It is important to take part in the SDGs. It is part of the U.N. that followed the process of the SDGs.

You can also engage with the national statistics office and find out what type of data is being collected. And advocate for SDG indicators to be translated at the national level and with data disaggregated by disability. Of course, we recommend using the Washington group set of questions.

So this is my last slide. So, for instance, I put four ideas of materials that is possible to use. The EDF report I just mentioned which is the link between the SDGs and the CRPD from the European perspective. There is a number of recommendations on how to implement and monitor the SDGs in Europe and also international cooperation.

EDF also published in March a resolution on the SDGs and you are invited to read it.

IDA published a toolkit to engage in the Voluntary National Review. So important to have a look at it. It is very helpful.

And the stakeholder group of persons with disabilities just finalized a paper that has been submitted to the High Level Political Forum. I invite you to read it.

So this is the end of my presentation. I am happy to answer any questions that you have.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Thanks a lot, Marion. Yes, we have several questions. I will now read the questions one by one and ask you to answer to each question one by one.

And please take your time to give answers, also go into details because we have plenty of time.

So we have a first question from Thomas. He said do you know when Uganda will present to HLPF?

>> MARION STEFF: I don't know it by heart, but I can have a look. I'm trying to think what is best. I can have a look now online or you can also look on the VNR page and you will see if

Uganda already presented or will present, the country will be there, also the key person representing the government for you to contact.

So yeah, can I look, Alessia? Can I look for Uganda?

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Yes, of course.

>> MARION STEFF: In that case ... let me have a look. That would be easier.

VNR? Do you have access on to my screen? Right now on this page, focusing on the Voluntary National Review. And then here you will have all the different countries that have submitted to VNR or will submit to VNR.

If I look ... I don't see plans yet for Uganda. They don't have intention yet, is what that means.

They may volunteer for next year in 2019. It is not clear yet. And if not, they might be later. For the moment in 2019 we have 18 countries that already said they will write a Voluntary National Review.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Okay. Then we have a comment, I think, by Anders Jacobson. How we report on the SDGs has not been clear. Please help -- how do you report on the SDGs have been not clear.

>> MARION STEFF: I am not sure what you mean. Could you rephrase the question?

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Just I have another question. Could we say that the CRPD Article 32 is not leading to goal 17 but cross-cutting to all goals? It said that the three are not related?

>> MARION STEFF: Yeah, Francois, yes, I totally agree. There is a bit of, that picture or schema I show cased I think will be improved in Article 32 which is on international cooperation, and could relate to all of the goals not the goal 17. I fully agree. Thank you.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Then we have another question from Andrea that it says I missed your point on the second suggestion which said something like you would not necessarily engage on environmental issues.

>> MARION STEFF: I think what I meant to say is that when you work on the -- if you work on the CRPD, you have a tendency maybe to focus on issues that might seem more relevant to people with disabilities. When you work within the SDGs, you might actually engage with actors that you don't necessarily engage with, for example people working on climate action, people working on life on land, et cetera. So then that is for a number of, with the Members of EDF. This new dialogue is a bit different. We are not used to that. We are not necessarily used to mainstream the issue of people with disabilities in different aspects. So that is what I mean. Then another point

I would make is that what we have noticed so far in Europe is that some governments have decided to sometimes focus on one aspect of the disds. For instance, in France if you try to find the platform within the government that is taking care of the SDGs, you will find that is under the environmental website of the government. So a number of colleagues in the field wonder how really that relates to the issue of persons with disabilities. And then I think it is arguable to raise awareness to our government to mention that no, the SDG is not just about the environment. It really has three pillars. The pillars are the social pillar, the economical pillar, and the environmental pillar.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Thanks. Then we have another question from Birendr, hop and when to review if the Member States are achieving the relevant targets on SDGs. Who and when to review if the Member States are achieving the disability-related targets on SDGs.

>> MARION STEFF: Well, that's a very complicated question to answer. It really does go from one pillar to another. Some countries have decided to create their own national set of target and indicators. And then for instance, when I was supporting a colleague in Estonia, they came to see me. My colleague came to see me because whilst there was nothing on disability in the targets and indicators anymore. So again, if you want the disability aspect of the targets and indicators were a bit lost in the translation or lost along the way. So it was up to us to remind the government of the importance of making sure that disability was in the national set of indicators.

So yes, it really depends on one country to another. For instance, the EU, European Union has decided to come up with its own set of indicators and targets. I should not say target, because they kept the 17 SDGs and they came up with 100 indicators. There are no more targets. At first when we saw the first version there was nothing on disabilities. We advocated to make sure that persons with disabilities were also included, and then they are.

But we still are going to have to press to make sure that it is not just on the paper but we actually have data that is collected on people with disabilities at the European Union level.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Then we have a couple of questions from Raia, asking for: Can we work on different periods and then can we work on our monitoring data collection?

>> MARION STEFF: Can you work on the monitoring the data collection?

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Can we work on our monitoring data collection?

>> MARION STEFF: I'm not sure what you mean. Is it with the government? Or as a Civil Society organisation? Because in, I guess what is miss in the SDGs, there is not really room for data collected by Civil Society Organisations, or there is no qualitative data. But I think it is important to still as Civil Society Organisations to continue to share the story we collect,. All the data we collect, to also bring that to governments and show case what is happening when you live with a disability.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Marion, we have another question from -- unfortunately he didn't put his or her name. Considering that SDGs is not binding as compared to the CRPD, what can DPOs do if the government is not in line with the SDGs?

>> MARION STEFF: Well, I mean, this is a good question. I am not sure. There are so many avenues you can take. I think it is important to continue the advocacy role that we can have on raising awareness, making the link between the SDGs and the CRPD because the SDGs actually are based on human rights conventions. So they are very often forgotten when it comes to the implementation of the SDGs.

So I think it is just up to us to continue our role and advocate for the SDGs to be monitored and implemented with the inclusion of people with disabilities.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Then we have a comment again from an deers Jacobson. Saying it has not been clear how we report on SDGs. Your presentation has helped clarify this.

Then we have a question from.

>> MARION STEFF: Of course, I am just going to add the fact that because I had that question, when it comes to CRPD, there is an alternative report. This is not the case for the Voluntary National Review. I mean, in some countries, Civil Society Organisations have decided to provide an alternative report with the views of all the stakeholders in the Civil Society Organisations. But it is not necessarily an alternative report when it comes from one country to another.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: A question from nationally: Is the private sector reporting the HLPF? And are the countries and actors somehow obliged to mention disability-related achievements?

>> MARION STEFF: The private sector doesn't report, but it can be obviously included by the government in the report. Now, there is no governments, the governments do not need to mention disabilities. There is no requirement as such. I always feel like disability movements have to make that link an advocate to raise awareness, even among the governments.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: A question from Shamila: The role of Civil Society Organisations to implement it in their national context.

>> MARION STEFF: The role of Civil Society Organisations to implement in the international complex? Well, I think Civil Society Organisations are so broad and so vast. It very much depends, the work of the different Civil Society Organisations. You know, I think it depends -- I guess the main goal the Civil Society organisation has to play is to raise awareness. And train experts on SDGs, provide materials, et cetera.

But then, of course, they also have a role to play when they are working -- I don't know, with their members, et cetera. At EDF we have different organisations, one representative per country in you are. And they have, that organisation by country will have a number of organisations at the national level. So they have to relay the information, et cetera, to reach the local level. So it is really providing awareness and sharing this information.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Another question from Elgin in 2016 Uganda presented its report at CRPD and both the government and CSO used, can the HLPF use the reports from the group of experts to understand the status of countries like Uganda?

>> MARION STEFF: Yes, I think that is the idea. The idea is not to duplicate the work that we are doing. So, for instance, when Uganda will be presented its Voluntary National Review, it is very much important to see what has been done with the CRPD Committee, with the different reports, and use that.

Now, it doesn't mean of the government is going to think about using the CRPD reports, but it is up to us to make sure that that report already are used again.

For instance, when the EU, when the EU reported and then the Committee provided its report -- I'm not sure, trying to remember how it is phrased. The idea is that when the Committee told the EU that it was time to take the SDGs on board also for people with disabilities, so the CRPD Committee is very much aware of the SDGs. They also are usually making the recommendation that the SDGs needs to be taken on board by the different governments.

And that recommendation needs to be used when it is time to report for the Voluntary National Review.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: A question from Sabana, could you talk a little bit more about the connection between the SDGs and the Sendai framework?

>> MARION STEFF: I am not an expert in the Sendai framework, if you leave your details, I will be happy to send you a bit more documentation about that.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Another question from Raia: The goal related to the climate, I think climate change, has it been connected to the CRPD?

>> MARION STEFF: Yes, when it comes to climate I don't think there is any Article on the CRPD that relates to climate action. Now, correct me if I'm wrong, but I don't think it is the place.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: We have the comment and question from joy: Thank you, Steff and Alessia, thank you for the participation, joy.

I noticed that Nigeria was scheduled to make a presentation on the HLPF meeting in 2017. Did they actually make a presentation?

>> MARION STEFF:

(Lost audio.)

(Captioner standing by for audio.)

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(Audio resumed.)

>> MARION STEFF: It did not carry out the page.

I will, I am just going to click on the PDF. I believe that will be the full national voluntary review. That was provided to the High Level Political Forum last year. You can see at the top, it is a number of pages. If we do a quick search, I can look. We can see, if I do a quick search, it seems that the word disability is in the document. It doesn't mean much, but in some documents people with disabilities are fully focused. So I think this seems like a number of organisations took part in the VNR. And persons with disabilities seems to be included. Which you don't always see that in some VNRs.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Then we have another question from another anonymous attendee who said I think that the SDGs is a very good platform for implementation of the CRPD. But also I think that the various approaches by governments are a key factor that we as CSOs and DPOs need to look at.

If you want to make a reply to this comment?

>> MARION STEFF: Yes. I think like I said earlier, the platform is a very good, the SDGs are a very good platform to use it to really fight for the rights of persons with disabilities and to make sure the CRPD is implemented and monitored in the different countries.

But the disabilities, from one country to another there is really different ways to make sure the governments are implementing the SDGs. So there is not really one clear answer to how we start from one country to another.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: We have another question from Raia asking how does goal 13, climate action, connected to the CRPD?

>> MARION STEFF: I won't answer that because I am not really an expert on climate action and when it comes to the environment. But I invite you to look at the CRPD and just do the exercise yourself and see how it could relate to climate action if you looked at the targets and indicators of climate action, how it will relate to the CRPD. You will receive my presentation, so you will have a full list of targets and indicators.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Apparently we don't have any other questions. I encourage the audience to feel free to make more questions, since we have time,.

You can also if you want raise your hand and directly talk with Marion. I will allow you to talk and I will activate your microphone.

Don't be shy. Ask Marion.

(There is no response.)

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Well, good. Maybe your presentation was so clear and it is really good and I don't know, Marion, if you want just to make a conclusion or give some tips or good practices, how to educate, for example, to link the SDGs and CRPD or if you want to give some suggestions especially because our audience is full of DPOs and Civil Society Organisations. I don't know if you want to make a conclusion or give some suggestions to our audience today.

>> MARION STEFF: Thank you, Alessia. I think I am going to leave it there. In the presentation I left my email address. Then you will also find my Twitter account. I'm happy if you have any question, you can contact me, please, by all means. I will also be attending the High Level Political Forum forum in July in New York. I hope I can meet some of you if you attend. I remain available if you have any questions after that by email or by Twitter. Thank you.

>> ALESSIA ROGAI: Well, thanks a lot, Marion. It was a really interesting session. Unfortunately we are right at the end of the second session about the SDGs and their reference to inclusion of persons with disabilities. I thank you again for your participation and for having dedicated your time to us today. I also would like to say thanks to our audience and I sincerely hope that today's session has clarified some doubts about this important topic.

A few last things. The training cycle issues a certificate of attendance only to those who attend 75 percent of the webinars and respond to the satisfaction survey. The training course corresponds to nine out of 12 webinars. You will receive the survey together with the webinar recordings and learning materials in the follow-up email after the session. A lot of persons asked me about the Power Point presentation. Don't

worry, you will receive it together with a follow-up email after this session. Also the Power Point presentation.

The next session will take place the third week of May and it is titled Disability Inclusive Development: International Donor Strategies and Approaches on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Development Cooperation.

This session will explore the links between disability and development and the role of international cooperation in promoting approaches to the inclusion of persons with disabilities. So again I thank you. I thank our speaker today, Marion. Thank you to the audience. I hope to see you also for the next session. Thank you very much. Enjoy the rest of the day.

(The session concluded at 8:30 a.m. CDT.)

(CART captioner signing off.)

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