1. Values, Beliefs and Principles

1.1. IDDC’s Purpose and Objectives:

Article 4.
The object of the association is to promote inclusive development internationally, with a special focus on promoting the full and effective enjoyment of human rights by all disabled people living in economically poor communities in lower and middle-income countries. Inclusive development means respecting the full human rights of every person, acknowledging diversity, eradicating poverty and ensuring that all people are fully included and can actively participate in development processes and activities, regardless of their age, gender, disability, state of health, ethnic origin or any other characteristic.

The objectives of IDDC are:
• To promote the inclusion of the disability dimension, as well as appropriate disability-specific approaches, in all development policy and practice.
• To improve the practice of the member organisations by collaborating and sharing experience about policy and practice.
• To support the exchange of information and knowledge about inclusive development, especially between people and organisations in economically poorer countries, by the wide distribution of information.

1.2. Values and Beliefs

The Values and Beliefs of IDDC on Human Rights, Inclusion and Diversity, Sustainable Development and Social Justice, Partnership, Participation and
Collaboration, are in accordance with and reflected in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. IDDC is committed to engage in the full realisation of the provisions of this UN Convention.

1.2.1. Human rights for all. We believe

a) in the full range of human rights and the respect for the dignity of all human beings
b) that the rights of disabled people are frequently violated
c) that the right to survival, development, food, clothing, water and shelter are all fundamental and that to respect these rights, poverty and discrimination need to be eliminated
d) that disabled people and other marginalised groups have the right to participate in, and have power to make decisions relating to all matters that affect their lives

2. Inclusion and diversity. We believe

a) in inclusion as a process and a goal
b) that diversity is a richness from which we all benefit that needs to be nurtured and respected
c) in fully accessible environments and processes
d) in accordance with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, that disability is an evolving concept and that disability results from the interaction between persons with impairments and attitudinal and environmental barriers that hinders their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others

3. Sustainable development and social justice. We believe

a) that development is defined by its respect for, protection of, and promotion of, all human rights
b) that poverty alleviation and inclusion are necessary to promote sustainable development
c) that development must strive to promote equity, justice and respect for diverse cultures and peoples
d) that IDDC should strive to be a model of inclusion, transparency, social justice and respect for full human rights
e) that resources need to be utilised creatively, and efficiently

4. Partnership, participation and collaboration. We believe
a) effective and efficient partnership is essential to the achievement of inclusive development  
b) in working in partnership with disabled people, DPOs and networks  
c) in working with families, communities, and organisations to promote respect for the human rights of disabled persons  
d) in transparent, flexible, and respectful collaboration  
e) disabled girls and boys have an equal right to participation and have an important role as actors in the development of their communities.

1.3. Operating Principles

1.3.1. In all our development activities we will apply the above values and beliefs as follows:

a) Promote the full realisation of disabled people’s human rights and respect for the inherent dignity of all disabled people  
b) Challenge and overcome disablism in our own agencies and in wider society  
c) Work to remove attitudinal, institutional and environmental barriers to the participation of disabled people and other marginalised groups in our own agencies and in wider society  
d) Work in partnership with disabled people, DPOS and networks, and work with families and local communities to promote respect for the human rights of disabled people.  
e) Work to ensure all our research, projects, evaluations and other operations are implemented within a human rights framework  
f) Create facilitating environments for the empowerment of disabled people and other marginalised groups  
g) Support and promote the full participation of disabled people in our own organisations and wider society.  
h) Acknowledge and respond to diversity in communities and within the disability community (gender, age, ethnicity, impairment, HIV/ status, and others)  
i) Actively share and learn from and with other agencies, and promote wide dissemination of learning to all stakeholders

1.3.2. In relation to our internal processes, structures and communications we will:

a) Strive to be inclusive and transparent  
b) Promote the equal say of all members, actively seeking the contribution of those at risk of being marginalised  
c) Encourage diversity and show respect for differences of opinion and belief

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1 Disablism, n.: “discriminatory, oppressive or abusive behaviour arising from the belief that disabled people are inferior to others”. [Link](http://www.timetogetequal.org.uk/disablism/index.shtml) [Link](http://www.demos.co.uk/catalogue/disablism/)
d) Work towards consensus  
e) Continue to create ownership and maximum participation  
f) Share power and responsibility between members  
g) Use accessible environments, language, materials and processes  
h) Prioritise our tasks and utilise resources as efficiently as possible  
i) Encourage a critically aware and flexible environment, open to change and development  
j) Promote a spirit of trust and equity, and address any conflicts through peaceful mediation