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>> MARY KEOGH: Like I have got a list of nine people in the room at the moment.

>> No, no.

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: I can see the subtitles.

>> MARY KEOGH: Sorry, subtitles, yeah, I can see the subtitles. I'm multi‑tasking.

>> YOLANDA MUNOZ: And also the complete transcript.

>> Cool. So that's what I wanted to make sure. Okay. We will start soon.

>> MARY KEOGH: So we have two more people to join, Angelique. Two more panelists.

>> We'll have to go ‑‑ we will ‑‑ I will add ‑‑

>> MARY KEOGH: I don't see ‑‑ I'm going to send ‑‑ I keep hearing all the beep beeps.

>> Yeah it means that people are joining in the waiting room.

>> MARY KEOGH: Yes. I'm keeping an eye out in the waiting room for other panelists.

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: And I'm not cohost. If you mute all, you also mute me. So please do not mute me.

>> MARY KEOGH: No, I won't mute you. Do I need to mute ‑‑ when I'm ‑‑ I can mute me, can't I? I'm trying to think.

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: And I can mute myself. I'll be quiet. If you choose the option of mute all, I don't have the option to unmute myself.

>> MARY KEOGH: Okay. Okay. So we have ‑‑ I'm trying to see. There is no sign of Nadia yet. What time should we start it? Should we give another minute or ‑‑

>> We should start now, actually. So I just need to.

>> MARY KEOGH: Okay. Is I'm going to send Gordon a note to say that Nadia is not here with us yet.

>> Just to let you know ‑‑ there is somebody called guest to guest. Have you shared the link that I sent to someone?

>> MARY KEOGH: Yes. No, I don't think so. No. I didn't.

>> Somebody could ‑‑ somebody got the link because that was emergency link and I only sent to a few of you. So we need to rename themselves.

>> MARY KEOGH: Who are they?

>> Now I'm going to start the recording. And I will disactivate my sound.

>> MARY KEOGH: Okay. Hello, who came in there under the guest guest? Can you rename yourself?

>> Sorry. I don't know what happened there. It's me.

>> MARY KEOGH: That's okay. Okay. So...

>> So I will start recording now.

>> MARY KEOGH: So we have two panelists still to come in yet but let's keep an eye.

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: We just let people in. Thank you, Angelique. Hello, everyone. We are just allowing people in to the room. And then we'll begin. Great to see so many of you participating. Okay.   
 A very warm welcome to this third workshop under the title build back inclusively that is on climate and disability. This session will be comoderated by Mary Keogh from CBM Global and myself, Mette Muller Kristensen, Vice‑Chair of IDDC.   
 Before we begin this interesting session, there is a few practical information. The link to captioning has been inserted in the chat box. If you have any problems, please write in the chat and we'll make sure everything is working. You also see sign language interpretation. And then I would encourage you to make sure that your name appears and the organization you are representing.   
 And if you have questions, you can raise your hand under participants or write it in the chat box.   
 Please make sure ‑‑ know that the session is being recorded. So it can be uploaded on IDDC's Youtube page, Youtube channel afterwards. So that's a few of the practical information. I'll give the word now to Mary, the co‑Moderator, who will outline the purpose of the session, the program, and introduce the first two speakers. Thank you very much.

>> MARY KEOGH: Thank you, Mette. And apologies to everyone, I have beeping going on as I'm letting everyone in the room.

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: It is only you who can hear it.

>> MARY KEOGH: Oh, good. Hi everyone. Welcome to this session. Pleased to see such a big audience coming. This is a ‑‑ not a brand new topic for disability but it's definitely a new and emerging one. And really keen to have a really good discussion today. So Mette and myself will try and be as entertaining as possible. And moderate in an interactive way. But it's really very much over to our speakers and our colleagues from IDDC who will be sharing their experiences.   
 So just really broadly in terms of the objectives of the session, before I outline how we will run this session. First of all the idea is to look at exploring the intersection of disability rights and climate change. It is to highlight activities by OPDs and IDDC members on climate action and that can be in terms of at country level, at global level and it is to discuss key areas for strength collaboration between the different stakeholders in the fight against climate change. I think all the speakers will speak to the impact of that. How this session is going to run is, we will have two keynote speakers speaking first of all. So I will introduce both of these colleagues now and then we will move to a panel discussion where myself and Mette will comoderate three rounds of questions with colleagues to draw out the experiences and highlight key areas of work. And then we will open it out to all of you to come in with questions and we hope for an interactive panel and looking forward to today.   
 So without further ado I would like to hand over first of all to our colleague Elham Youssefian from the International Disability Alliance who is going to start the session with giving us a kind of an overview from the perspective of the global perspective and from OPDs with climate change. Elham, thank you for joining us so early in the morning New York time. We're really pleased to have you, and we look forward to your intervention.

>> ELHAM YOUSSEFIAN: Thank you very much. I hope you can hear me well. Good afternoon, good evening, everyone. It is my pleasure to be with my IDDC colleagues, many of you I have worked with you on different projects and its exciting to be here again to discuss a new thing. I don't think I have discussed this with many of you. So I'm so excited that we can talk about climate change and disability today. And very appreciate this opportunity to be with you today.   
 So what I would start with is that this is a real, real problem. The impact of climate change on Persons with Disabilities. It is not really documented. There have been some research work going on that colleagues will touch on later. What we know is that people with disabilities, 80% of people with disabilities live with poverty. The more poor you are the more likely you experience the impacts of climate change and the less likely you have been contributing to that.   
 So I can safely say that people with disabilities are among the most impacted by climate change while have played the least role in climate change.   
 Many disasters these days are caused by climate change. Whether they are like floods, cyclones, droughts, sea rise and all over the world we know in is a huge problem going on and honestly, the level of problem is not even clear for the (inaudible). But what we know this is a global problem that impacts everyone. Some people experience the impact in a more obvious ways because they see that their health is going under the water. Some people experience it less. They feel that there is no more rain, experience a heat wave. They experience all the problems of losing the nature around them. So but the reality is that everyone is experiencing the impact of climate change. But for people with disabilities, for the reason of poverty that I just mentioned, plus the reality that unfortunately the disaster preparedness and response plans and programs are not really inclusive and accessible for Persons with Disabilities. So they are more likely to experience heart impact of climate change. So we know that, for example, people with disabilities are two to four times higher likely to die because of the disasters. Then their displacement happens. They are more likely to have to leave their houses while at the same time it is very difficult for them to move.   
 So they have to experience displacement and be known that in many situations they face difficulties. They are being left out. So I was in a meeting with colleagues from the Asia psychosocial groups, the TCI Asia colleagues, consulting them about the impact of disasters on persons with psychosocial disabilities. And I was shocked what I heard that many people with psychosocial disabilities are left out when the rest of the family are evacuating or leaving because of the disasters because they feel that it is difficult to take them together with the journey, with the journey or because they are shackled and many other reasons. And even when they are joining the journey, it's still difficult because most of the time the wheelchairs are not taken. The other assistive devices are left behind. And then another impact that I want to touch on is impact on livelihoods. Many Persons with Disabilities lose their jobs first when the disaster impacts. Because they are work ‑‑ because they work in informal sector.   
 So, of course, it is yet to be documented. I know that my colleagues in the Pacific Disability Forum are con ‑‑ have conducted research and are in the process of finalizing their report on impact of climate change in three countries there. Other things are going on. We have Yolanda will talk about what the University has done. But still research has to be done in this regard. I want to take this opportunity to encourage colleagues that have research agendas under organizations to look in to documenting the impact of climate change on Persons with Disabilities.   
 So yeah, first a layer of the conversation is that climate change does impact for Persons with Disabilities. Or as I call it, in an event that I'm organizing climate change is for us, too. Yes, climate change is for Persons with Disabilities as others. It is not because we have disabilities we are exempted from climate change. Then the next layer of the discussion is that we can actually play a role and we must play a role. This is a global problem for humanity. The whole humanity is being impacted by climate change. And this is not ‑‑ this is very serious. We know that if we don't do anything about it in the next ten years, 20 years, the whole humanity is going to be in danger. So why we should leave 15% of the population out from fulfilling their role, and doing their responsibility. So I would say that yes, we do have a role to play, and the society, the government should prepare what is required for us to play the role. Because this is a must. This is a serious problem. So there is no way for people with disabilities to be excused. And we don't want to be excused. We are equal citizens. And here is the example ‑‑ where we ‑‑ most of the climate actions and actions that people can take to combat climate change is not really inclusive or access. It is not inclusive because sometimes the plans are made without considering rights and requirements and needs of Persons with Disabilities. So, for example, we see that they are planning for green jobs. But how they are ‑‑ are they have really considering impact of this creation of this green jobs on people with disabilities? Are these green jobs going to be accessible and inclusive for Persons with Disabilities or not. Or, for example, we see that they are planning for carbon emission reduction of carbon emission. And then again many of these plans are not accessible, are not inclusive. You can remember the famous example of plastic straws in New York City. So just last week we got a new order, finally, after a few years of disability activists in New York fighting that yeah, you cannot band single use plastic straws because some people with disabilities rely on them to eat and drink because paper straws are not ‑‑ does not work for them. They are not flexible, bendable and they dissolve when they are exposed to liquid for a few minutes. Now the new order is that all shops should keep some plastic straws handy. And upon with request and without mentioning the request reason, it should be provided.   
 I hope that scientists start working on a new product that is as flexible as plastic straws and is not as dangerous as plastic straws. But until then we cannot deprive people with disabilities from the right to eat and drink independent just because they want to save the environment. So here is one example of why the consultation did not happen in the beginning.   
 So yeah, we need to be given the opportunity to play our roles and then finally layer is that we can actually be helpful and we can provide ‑‑ with solutions. So one example that I was giving here is how you can use disability rights arguments actually in favor of climate change and in favor of disability.   
 So one way of helping the environment is to use public transportation. So if we make a public transportation accessible for everyone, including Persons with Disabilities, then that would be mean that people with disabilities can travel independently and the environment is safe. So there is a win win for both sides. And I always recommend to colleagues with disabilities that we can go to transportation management people and tell them hey, if you make a transportation accessible, that would mean that we will be able to achieve our independence. So contribute in the global movement to save the environment, to save the earth.   
 So I myself, for example, always feel bad that I cannot use the subway in New York City because it is not really accessible and I have to ‑‑ I have to use taxi. So we can provide solutions. At the same time it is very well‑known that people with disabilities because of the whole battle in life that we had ‑‑ we had to fight, we are solution oriented. Whenever we face a barrier, the first reaction is to find a solution. And I think that's exactly what we mean in global climate battle that we all have to play. Because we can always be creative in finding solutions. Including people with disabilities in global climate action is necessary, is not excusable and it is helpful. So the rest is on us as whatever we stand as organizations of Persons with Disabilities as development organizations, as research organizations to look at our policies, programs, plans and see how we can contribute in this, in this global movement.   
 And how we can make sure that people are disabilities are protected, included and can participate.   
 Thank you so much Mary. I hand over back to you and happy to participate in further conversation.

>> MARY KEOGH: Thank you so much Elham. Maybe to pick three key points. There will be room and opportunities for questions later. And but I think your three layers of climate does impact Persons with Disabilities and your key message that, you know, Persons with Disabilities have contributed the least but also are impacted the most by climate change is really critical. The fact that OPDs must play a role, I think we'll speak about that a little bit further and expand on that and then also looking at providing solutions and that's also something that you will discuss later. So thank you Elham for that input.   
 Next is our second keynote speaker is Dr. Yolanda Munoz from the disability inclusive action research program with Miguel University. She is a coordinator of outreach and policy activities with Miguel. And Yolanda, we're very happy to have you here with us today to talk about the whole area of how knowledge is really important in capacity building for this area of climate and disability. So Yolanda over to yourself. Thank you.

>> YOLANDA MUNOZ: Thank you very much, Mary. Thank you very much members of the International Disability and Development Consortium for having me here today. And well, as Mary mentioned, I am currently collaborating as part of the disability inclusive climate action research program. I am a scholar and an advocate with a disability myself. And I am going to talk about this small journey that we had started, that started several years ago to make connections between disability rights and environmental justice and climate action.   
 I ‑‑ to start with I will give you an overview of the present situation of the challenges and opportunities ahead to advance in the dialogue on climate change. At the international level, Persons with Disabilities have received minimal attention in this dialogue that started in 1994 with the adoption of the UN framework Convention on climate change that I will refer to as UNF tribal C, that's the regular name for economy of language.   
 And NGOs from around the world have joined the conversation as observers and are currently grouped in nine constituencies. That is the business and industry, environmental, farmers, Indigenous People's organizations, local Government and municipal authorities, research and independent NGOs of which Miguel is part of, Miguel University. And ‑‑ I'm sorry, trade union NGOs, women and gender and finally, youth NGOs.   
 So as you can perceive disability is not among these constituencies, despite the social inequalities increase their risk to floods, and other natural disasters that Elham mentioned before. As well as the impact of environmental degradation caused by overexploitation of existing resources. There is little mention on what this means for food security as well and what are supplies for people with disabilities who already are facing extreme poverty and malnutrition and plans for the creation of a caucus are under way.   
 A first milestone to include disability in the dialogue of climate change was the preamble, is the preamble of Paris Agreement which is a legally binding international Treaty on climate change. It was adopted by 196 parties at the Conference of States Parties COP21 in Paris in December 2015. And entered in to force in November 2016.   
 And although most of the signatories of the Paris Agreement have also signed and ratified the CRPD, meaningful inclusion of people with disabilities in country climate and action strategies remain lukewarm or completely absent.   
 According to our research by our director, professor Sebastien and his team there are 39 countries with at least one climate adaptation policy that mentioned people with disabilities. While there are only nine countries with at least one policy document mentioning people with chronic illnesses. Most of these documents are in Europe and in Sub‑Saharan Africa. But the rest of the world is still we're talking about a handful of countries.   
 And to make things even more complicated, all of these policies simply lump people with disabilities in a list of vulnerable groups. They also use the medical model, make no reference to disability as a Human Rights concern. There are also no specific measures to enhance the climate resilience of people with disabilities, and there is no evidence that people with disabilities have been consulted in the development or should be consulted in climate adaptation strategies which means that we are considered as passive recipients of health and not as problem solvers as Elham was mentioning. And this goes against the obligation of States Parties to consult us in every aspect that is related to our life.   
 Now moving forward also in 2015, of course, was a key year for our inclusion, not only in the Sustainable Development Goals, that also considered climate change, although we are not specifically mentioned in that ‑‑ in the target. And but also the same time framework on Disaster Risk Reduction 2015‑2030 is a very important document for us to advocate for inclusion in case of emergency.   
 Later on in 2019 another key document was produced by the International Labour Organization, that is the policy brief Persons with Disabilities in a transition to allow carbon economy. And this is very important because for the first time we are expanding our perception of climate change only as natural disasters or weather events. No, it is like moving forward what's going to happen with transportation of people with disabilities, how precarious it is a situation of people with disabilities in the transition to a low carbon economy. And this is a document that we need to keep always in mind to produce knowledge.   
 Later, in April 2020, the UN office of the High Commissioner on human rights published the analytical studies on the rights of Persons with Disabilities in the context of climate change that's available online. This is a very important document because it's, of course, the most recent one. And also it has an easy to read version that I strongly recommend you to read and study.   
 And this launching of this document was also ‑‑ with a Human Rights Council panel discussion on rights of Persons with Disabilities in the context of climate change where experts and people with disabilities urge the States Parties to take action on meaning inclusion of people with disabilities in the strategies to mitigate the affects of climate change from a Human Rights perspective.   
 Meantime at the grassroots level there were some donors that were trying to connect the dots between disability rights and environmental justice and climate action. And one very specific example that I can quote is global green grants fund. Globe green grants fund has awarded more than 250 small grants in several countries since 2018. I had the opportunity, I still have the opportunity to participate in this process of building bridges between movements and I have trained them on anti‑ablist practices in grant making. And everybody was very receptive to this idea of welcoming people with disabilities, of creating an inclusive projects related to reducing the im pact on Human Rights of everyone related to environmental degradation.   
 But we found an unexpected obstacle that is that organizations of people with disabilities at the grassroots level did not want the grants because they felt intimidated by the idea of making connections between disability rights and climate justice because they didn't have the knowledge. And we realized that we had skipped one step, that is building capacity of the organizations of people with disabilities to better understand why climate change matters. Why climate change needs to be addressed as a priority in their agendas.   
 And at this point Sebastien who had been working for more than 15 years on international Human Rights and climate change, and myself, met and we discussed this gap that is still existing. And that he has addressed at the academic and international level. But that I also have the chance to work with at the grassroots level through my participation with global green grants fund. And this is why we decided to launch the disability inclusive climate action research program.   
 And thanks to the support of an advisory panel conformed by advocates with disabilities and academics interested in the subject, we wish to produce the necessary knowledge help disability rights promoters to develop solid advocacy platforms to ensure meaningful inclusion at the international, national, and local levels. As academics with a disability our goal is to serve the community by providing information and facilitating the dialogue between movements to the best of our capacity.   
 And today, I wish to encourage you all to learn more about the relationship between climate justice and disability rights.   
 This is a very new field of action as we have already said before and the opportunities for doing participatory research in my opinion are very exciting. Because there's everything that needs to be done. And as Persons with Disabilities we must be proactive to attain meaningful inclusion in this dialogue that concerns us all.   
 As Elham mentioned we are created problem solvers and we have a strong sense of resilience. And at the same time environmental activists you will be surprised but they are very receptive to incorporating disability rights in their agenda of priorities.   
 But what we have to avoid is that disability remains an afterthought. By improving our own knowledge on the subject it will become more evident that including disability as a central issue, as a priority will represent an asset to better understand multiple forms of privilege and oppression as well as multiple opportunities for building other society for all. Thank you very much.

>> MARY KEOGH: Yolanda, thank you so much for taking us through that. Just some key points, I mean really important critical points around disability and Persons with Disabilities not being visible within the climate policies and adaptation approaches and how that needs to change and obviously COP is coming up this year and we can have that conversation a bit later on. I think your points around the intersection of working with environmental activists is really critical and how we can think through that and the intersectionality of disability and climate change and the perspective of hiring privilege is something also really critical to discuss. Thank you to both our keynote speakers to taking us through that whirl wind overview perspective. We wanted to frame, to kind of frame the discussions that we will have. I am now going to hand over to Mette that's going to take the first round of questions with some of our other colleagues who joined us to speak from a country perspective. Over to you.

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: Great. Thank you so much. Thank you Yolanda and Elham for really setting the scene and painting the overall picture. We have three colleagues to go their own perspectives of how they have worked with climate change and disability. And the first one we have is Dr. Bhusan Punani are you with us?

>> Yes.

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: Excellent. And I know you are the President of the ICEVI west Asia. And I'll give you the floor just now. But if you could please share with us the work you are doing related to climate change and how the work started. In India how big is the priority is the work on climate adaptation and any focus on disability inclusion?

>> BHUSAN PUNANI: Thank you very much. Good afternoon to all the participants. First of all I bring you greetings of Dr. Francis our President, Dr. Manci. Thanks to IDDC to give us the opportunity to speak about climate change. Started with earthquake of Girard which was the worst disaster that that country had, killing thousands of people. And our organization, blind people Association, which is a partner of CBM and is the lead disability organization in this part of the world, started working. And we had a permanent center which is for the rehabilitation and there with a ‑‑ we worked closely with CBM, modeling, WHO, European Union, European Red Cross both providing relief to the people who are affected due to this earthquake. And which alerted to a lot of things happening in this country. And the outcome was we establish a permanent relief center which provides services to people with disabilities. And our work on the committee which was headed by Handicap International. We prepared Guidelines for that disaster preparedness and which focus on how climate change can effect more disasters and how we should be prepared and having the disaster lead management program in this country, and I have presented a few papers in India, Turkmenistan and we worked very closely when there was a flood. That's how we started. And as mentioned, basically now we are working also on the COVID in a very big way. We are trying to provide the optimal support, medicines and all. When I'm talking to you this moment, our country is very badly, I should say impounded by the cyclone which is a direct outcome of climate change because of overheating of the Arabian sea. I saw myself, impact of a cyclone, 100,000 people have become homeless and no shelter and no food. How we should control the cyclones and what role we should play in the climate change. And that's what we are trying to do. And if you see further down, so like to move in my ‑‑ you can see the presentation?

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: Yes, we can see your notes.

>> BHUSAN PUNANI: Yes, in fact, I want to go down. Okay. It is not ‑‑ yes. It is there. Yep. Thank God. Now basically when I come to the effect of the climate change on people with disabilities, I like to share with the panelists that there is a direct correlation between poverty and disability. And as a climate change affects poor people very adversely, they are bound to suffer due to poverty and lack of resources and lack of employment, lack of knowledge. They compound to climate change on people with disabilities. The disasters resulting from climate change can cause disabling conditions. We have seen ourselves, these conditions, like loss of limbs, high infection, psychological disorders and psychiatric manifestations, these are outcomes of many disasters. The biggest challenge is evacuating people with disabilities when the disaster comes. There is a delay in getting modeling signals. Most of my countries in my part of world doesn't have a special mechanism where people with disabilities can get signals like everyone else. And then the biggest problem is reaching them the relief services, when the disaster is there, they can re ‑‑ very big problem. And they lose their processes, rehabilitation, assistive devices. And these disasters cause adverse effects many times which is irreversible on the health and well‑being of people with disabilities. We are ‑‑ you can't even stay there. Because people with disabilities have all sorts of asthmatic problems and other problems. And it become the most polluted city in the world and that's because of the climate change. And then the floods in Sri Lanka, Katmandu, almost every year there are floods in that country. And there are sliding of the rocks in other regions which is in Nepal and India and many other countries. And then glaciers wars. And all people with disabilities, they were left on the mercy of the people. And they found it very difficult to survive. And as you see, we have a number of cyclones because of the overheating. Arabian sea. This is Bulbo and one happened yesterday, is the Tauktae. Because we ‑‑ it was getting ‑‑ and people with disabilities was affected and a lot of disabling conditions emerged because of eye infections, et cetera. Now coming back to why floods tsunamis and sliding rocks are common in many countries. Disaster cyclone are the most disastrous outcome of the climate change. It is established by resource studies that all these cyclones are not of the climate change. And they are resulting in to loss of life to people with disabilities.   
 Now coming to the second part, Mette, about what priority is being given to the work in India, very fortunate that our Government is very sensitive of disability. We are one of the few countries where we establish disaster management which is very inclusive. It involves people with disabilities also and they develop the guideline in the training module, they have cover people with disabilities and we have further disaster preparedness Guidelines that covers people with disabilities also. And our governance wanted to ‑‑ is ‑‑ that works towards awareness creation and low carbon development and that cause people with disabilities also. It has established a national network on reporting level of pollution and monitoring. Also evolved and implemented a number of legislation. I was very happy that I was a member of the drafting Committee. We are one of the few countries that has a law, that affects climate change and disasters of Persons with Disabilities. As I side India is one of the few countries that has a national law. The person with disability shall have equal protection, I underline shall have, equal protection and safety and institution of armed conflict, humanitarian tendencies and natural disasters. Our law says, disaster management authorities shall take appropriate measures to ensure inclusion of people with disabilities in disaster management activities for the safety and protection. I like to highlight as our speakers were saying, key speakers the key words are the safety. And their protection which is being focused upon and then we are a disaster management which maintains people with disabilities and informs them well in advance. The authorities engage in reconstruction activities, subsequent to any risk, armed conflict and natural disaster and consult with state Commissioner of disabilities in accordance with accessibility requirements of people with disabilities.   
 Mette just took a good ‑‑ to answer your two questions that we have a law. But I must tell the law is one thing. But implementation is the other thing. How effective law is implemented is a question mark. Thank you.

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: Thank you so much, Dr. Punani. This was really interesting with all the tangible examples from west Asia and also the second part about some of the steps that has actually been taken and, of course, we all know that one thing is the ‑‑ is having the laws and the policies and another thing is implementation, maybe that will be the next round of discussions we'll have. But thank you so much for your contribution for now.   
 Now I'll move on to our second speaker, who is Zacarias Zicai joining us from Mozambique. I have the same two questions for you. If you could share with us the work that you are doing related to climate change and how the work started and also if it's a big priority, the work on climate adaptation in Mozambique and focus on disability inclusion. So Zicai, we tested your sound earlier. Are you with us?

>> ZACARIAS ZICAI: Yes. I'm here. Can you hear me?

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: Yes. Going through perfectly. Thank you. I'll leave it to you and to give your presentation on these two questions.

>> ZACARIAS ZICAI: Thank you so much, Mette. And good afternoon everyone. And thanks for the presentation for the two main speakers. My name is Zacarias Zicai. I'm country director for the Light For The World. Light For The World is a global disability development organization. And we have been noticing gradually that in our focus countries such as Ethiopia, Burkina Faso and South Sudan, Mozambique, the climate change has brought direct impact in the rights of Persons with Disabilities. And has been ‑‑ and it has been mentioned in the presentation climate change is an extremely wide event which are the driving factors for increased migration of persons and their ability to migrate often depends on resource and mobility. Persons with Disabilities have been facing many challenges to deal with this situation.   
 In Mozambique, in 2019, Mozambique was hit by a cyclone Ida which was categorized as 4 and very strong cyclone. And Persons with Disabilities were hugely affected by this cyclone. And we had over 400 humanitarian organizations that came to Mozambique that supported the government to mitigate and rescue the affected people. And we ‑‑ no one of these humanitarian organizations prioritized a person with disabilities.   
 And this situation we noted because from the accommodation centers the site, Persons with Disabilities were not prioritized. And we had to work with the Government and with the DPOs, with the disabled people organizations. And so to make sure that we could raise the awareness about the need for the inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in the emergency response.   
 So together with the disabled people organizations we created a disability Working Group. It was under the UN emergency clusters, so that we could raise the awareness raising. We could bring information about how to include Persons with Disabilities in the humanitarian response. I can tell you in the first month of the humanitarian response in Mozambique on 1% of more than 100,000 Persons with Disabilities affected by the cyclone was not included in the humanitarian response. People were left behind at the community level and then their accommodation centers that created were not designed in inclusive manners. The accessing of information was not inclusive. The full distribution was not done in inclusive manner. So ‑‑ and what do we have seen is really that men of the humanitarian organizations do not how to include Persons with Disabilities in their programs. And the first question that came up was where we are going to find Persons with Disabilities. So what we always recommend is that it is really extremely important that in humanitarian response is it is very important to include the organizations of Persons with Disabilities.   
 So that you can be able to find where, where are Persons with Disabilities. Even at the community levels Persons with Disabilities they had a lot of struggle because of the accessibility. The cyclone destroyed the roads and it become an accessible for Persons with Disabilities to move. So that's why we encouraged main organizations with humanitarian organizations to really work together with the DPOs to ensure that Persons with Disabilities can be included in the humanitarian response. Besides that, also we started to work with the government entities that are responsible in humanitarian response because we could see that there was no data about how many people with disabilities have been affected. So we started to work together with the Government entities to ensure that the data collection also take in to account the work groups to make sure that Persons with Disabilities also can be counted in terms of statistics when they collected data on persons or persons affected by the cyclone.   
 So this is a really very important that we ensure in terms of data collection that Persons with Disabilities have been encountered and are part of the statistics, because otherwise it will be very, very difficult for the humanitarian organizations to plan their response and take in to Persons with Disabilities. If the statistics themselves, that the Government are providing for the different humanitarian organizations in terms of the number of Persons with Disabilities affected by the disaster, if there is no number about Persons with Disabilities likely Persons with Disabilities are going to be left behind, because the response is not going to be designed, taking in to account the number of Persons with Disabilities affected by the disaster.   
 Additionally, we as Light For The World also we design a package of trainings for humanitarians actors because it was very common to hear when we were participating in the humanitarian, in the humanitarian clusters, the UN clusters, the different humanitarian organizations we were attending, protection cluster, shelter cluster, and many others of it was very common to hear from different humanitarian actors saying that we don't know how to include Persons with Disabilities.   
 So we designed a package of training on how to include Persons with Disabilities in humanitarian response in an emergency response. And we started to provide trainings to different humanitarian actors on how to include Persons with Disabilities in their different emergency response projects or activities.   
 So this is also ‑‑ was very crucial, beyond training as such, there is also the training as a way of awareness raising for the needs of ‑‑ for inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in the humanitarian or emergency response. So this is something that we are still doing until now. We are still supporting different humanitarian organizations in terms of providing inclusive emergency response package training. We are work with the government entities because the government has a different level, different layers of emergency response from community level, to the district level to the provincial and regional levels. What we are doing is to train the Government staff, for them to understand how to include Persons with Disabilities in emergency response from preparedness, early warning, accessible information to the community level, to the Persons with Disabilities and also we have make sure that Persons with Disabilities are part of the different disaster risk management Committees, that the government has created to ensure that Persons with Disabilities also are part of this disaster risk management so that we can ensure that the emergency response if designed taking in to account Persons with Disabilities.   
 And as Mozambique is prone to the disaster, to the disaster. For us as Light For The World, climate change is really a priority for to ensure that our partners, Persons with Disabilities, are including in the humanitarian response when disaster happens or in extreme situation that is created by climate change. It can be a drought. It can be a disaster. It can be flooding. So all this situation that's in very common in Mozambique we need to ensure that Persons with Disabilities are not left behind.   
 So this is what we have been doing and we will continue doing. And we are very happy also to see that some international NGOs like humanity inclusion, like UN agencies, like UNICEF are on board together like Light For The World. Bringing this topic to the different humanitarian actors, bringing this topic to the EU, bringing this topic to other bilateral and multilateral donors in Mozambique so that it is important in different programs that are designed and also emergency response programs they include Persons with Disabilities.   
 And just to finalize, we did a study just to assess how far Persons with Disabilities were included in humanitarian response. And it was ‑‑ it was not a surprise for us as Light For The World, but for many different organizations which is a big surprise to see that from this study it was very clear that Persons with Disabilities were not prioritized in the humanitarian response. And then the reasons for that was the different humanitarian organizations came over and they normally don't think about Persons with Disabilities. And normally they think that including Persons with Disabilities is extra cost. So that's why from this studies we did a huge dissemination of these studies so that the different humanitarian organizations can really understand that if we want to make a sound emergency response, it is really extremely important that we take in to account Persons with Disabilities, women and girls, elderly people and other vulnerable groups so that our emergency response can be ‑‑ can be inclusive.   
 And just two final remarks. We are happy as Light For The World that we still have a great collaboration and partnership with the UNICEF and with other disability like‑minded organizations, like humanity inclusion and SightSavers as well. We are scaling up at national level has to create a disability working ground within the humanitarian clusters so that also we can have the topic of disability inclusions being spotlighted in the emergency response. So this explains what I wanted to bring in this session. Thank you so much. And I hand over to you.

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: Thank you so much. It was really interesting to hear some examples of ‑‑ from Mozambique and the cyclone and how you worked with it. And this also brings forward what Bhusan was talking about, how there is a ‑‑ there is some way from the big policies and from the yes, Guidelines, for example, and then on how its being implemented when the ‑‑ when a cyclone hits, is it actually possible, do the humanitarian organizations do they have the right tools and knowledge and data to actually be inclusive. Thank you very much for your presentation.   
 I think we need maybe two or three or four hours more for this session. But we will have to make a version 2 of this workshop to include all the different perspectives. For now I would like to hand over the word to Nadia who is on the board and executive Committee member of European Disability Forum. So moving from the country examples to that of the EU. And if you could elaborate on initiatives for climate funding, that are really important and the EU announced a new EU green deal. So if you could share about EDF's thoughts on the green deal and why it is so important to be disability inclusive and your thoughts on EDF members and partners in the EU to ensure that rights for Persons with Disabilities are included in the EU Member State national plans on climate change. Nadia. I'll give the word to you.

>> NADIA HADAD: Thank you very much Mette. I thank you the organizers. So I'm glad to present a little bit of reflection about European green deal, that's addressing transport and environment ‑‑

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: Is it possible for you to turn your camera on?

>> NADIA HADAD: Yes.

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: Okay. Great.

>> NADIA HADAD: I cannot because the host has stopped it.

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: We'll make sure it works. You just continue speaking. We will see if we can fix it.

>> NADIA HADAD: Within the European green deal they are mentioning about addressing transport built environment, for example, virtual environment and communication and if they are not accessible, more than 100 million Europeans with disabilities they will be excluded completely. So for us it is really important that we have four pillars that we rely on. First of all is accessibility is a right in itself but also precondition for accessing other rights. So in many cases separate provisions need to be ‑‑ okay. I can start my video. I see. Okay. It is working now.

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: Excellent.

>> NADIA HADAD: Thank you. So as I said, in many cases separate provisions need to be made for Persons with Disabilities due to unaccessibility. So these are more expensive and less sustainable than accessible solutions. So that's why included accessibility from the beginning in the planning and the concept phase produced the cause and leads to a better outcome. Second is smart and sustainable availability. Transport systems when focusing on rail or travel, rather than air travel, measures need to be taken to make the rail also accessible for Persons with Disabilities. So this will allows persons, passengers with disabilities to make sustainable choices such as switching from using a private car to rail travel, special attention shall be paid to make rail travel accessible and affordable for everyone, independently from their support needs. And the third part, point is also social Human Rights and gender dimension by putting a stronger focus on the inclusion of Persons with Disabilities and, for example, the regular labor market through emerging opportunities that the green deal would bring about. Attention should also be paid to leave no one behind in the transition process of the economy. For example, by providing a trainings and allowing provisions for reasonable accommodation measures and improving accessibility. And the last part that the European Green deal should not lead to improvements in Europe and at the expense of the Global South or groups in society that are marginalized and well‑beings and income and access to services for Persons with Disabilities. And your second question was about how the members could be involved?

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: Yes. Yes. Exactly.

>> NADIA HADAD: So first very important within the Member States, we are doing the lobbying on European level but the members, they need to take inclusive planning and the meaningful involvement I could stipulate it in UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities under general comment 7, it should be the engine above the SDGs to defend their rights. Lobby to get the consultation and the decision‑making process integrally accessible. And including communication and stakeholder participation has to be inclusive, allowing also the reimbursement of all costs and adequate remuneration for disabled people to be also as experts. And second thing is also to adapt that Human Rights compliment approach and all climatic actions. So efforts should be done really on sufficient ‑‑ there must be sufficient Foundation, nondiscriminatory and otherwise compliant with responsibilities of the states and under the duty barriers, including business, on the international regional and national Human Rights obligations.   
 And so why? To mitigate climate change, and to prevent its negative Human Rights impacts. Another reason is to ensure that all persons have the necessary capacity to adapt to climate change because we need some time to do that. And another reason is to ensure the accountability and effective remedy for Human Rights when harm is caused which climatic change and also to mobilize maximum of available resources for sustainable Human Rights based development. And also we need to protect Human Rights from business harms, it should not be priority. It should not be overwhelming of basic Human Rights. And we need to ensure that there is an equity under climate actions. I leave it now until we have the next round.

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: Thank you so much Nadia. I thought that was really interesting to hear from the EU perspective and what EDF is doing. I noticed that you brought forward the Human Rights perspective which is what Yolanda Munoz did. I will pass over to Mary for the next round. Hopefully a lot of questions. I see a lot of them coming in the chat. Keep them coming. We will see how much we can sum up.

>> MARY KEOGH: I might take some questions from the floor if the panelists are okay. I think that would be good to do. We had prepared another round. Questions but I think it's good that we integrate some of the questions. Maybe to Elham and to Yolanda and anybody else who would like to come in, it is a question from Johanna. Do you know any of the international organizations that have started to mainstream, Johanna, you mean include Persons with Disabilities in terms of mainstreaming which organizations could be partners for us and the big mention of COP in November 2021 and also next year as well, I think is a ‑‑ is something that's on everyone's mind at the moment.   
 So Elham and Yolanda, I might put that question to both of you if you would like to respond.

>> YOLANDA MUNOZ: This is a milestone because for the first time there will be a clear entity that will address disability in the upcoming COP29 in Scotland. And as I mentioned there is no constituency on disability and we have to push forward to the creation of this constituency. And but at this point we already have the caucus that has been proposed but ‑‑ by the UNF tribal C. This is our chance to really move forward to make disability a priority in the dialogue on climate change. And it has not been easy. But I'm confident that it will eventually become a constituency. The problem is the figure of constituency is closed at this point. The UNF tribal C does not want to open a new constituency. However, we ‑‑ there is also the obligation, I mean this policy at the United Nations that they have to provide equal opportunities for Persons with Disabilities in every initiative within the UN.   
 So probably we could use ‑‑ it will be possible to use this policy to push forward for the creation of a constituency and have equal opportunities for participation. But this will take years. It will demand a lot of work. And building more solid advocacy strategies.

>> MARY KEOGH: Thank you.

>> ELHAM YOUSSEFIAN: Thank you so much. From my side, what I can add is in terms of partnerships, I think first of all, we can see a drastic change in attention to disability and climate change which is fantastic. I mean we have the ‑‑ now see that everyone is trying to become active and this is a perfect opportunity. So, of course, we need to start prioritizing DPO engagement and for supporting OPDs to get engaged in climate action, especially in climate mitigation policies, because most of the examples that we have right now is the activities around impact of climate change and people with disabilities and disability inclusive disaster response, which is very important. Very critical. And a must. But it is not just only ‑‑ it is not the only area. And as I mentioned we need to especially work on supporting OPDs to become active in the area of disability inclusive combat of climate change. And, you know, mitigation policies.   
 So I think for this the most critical thing that could be done is to encourage and establish partnerships, collaborations between disability, OPDs and climate organizations. There are lots of networks and movements on the ground, especially youth networks, working on climate change, climate action. This partnerships can be get started and supported. We can see that naturally climate organizations, climate movement is opening up and becoming disability inclusive. And OPDs start prioritizing disability inclusive climate action, start looking in to role of Persons with Disabilities in climate action. So I would see this as a kind of key solution, a kind of partnership between DPOs and climate organizations. I want to highlight the importance of funding. We need to look in to funding opportunities and project support for climate work, how disability inclusive they are. Are we asking for the disability inclusion when we are funding climate work? And are we looking in to also targeted funding for disability inclusive climate action? This will be a game changer in my opinion. Thank you so much.

>> MARY KEOGH: Thanks, Elham. If I can just follow up with a question with, it is from Blandine and also to others, Elham I know you are involved. The Glad network of donors decided to set up a new group on climate change. How much progress are we seeing from the donors front and any champions there. We do invite Charlotte from the World Bank she couldn't make it. Sends her apologies. Excited to see the video.

>> ELHAM YOUSSEFIAN: The Working Group on climate has been established chaired by Charlotte from World Bank and Steffan from the labor organization and myself. We have two Working Groups, one on content formation and the other is information. The second meeting of this group is going to be this week. In terms of funding it has not been mostly the conversation ‑‑ mostly the conversation has been around join, Lou to ensure joint position by Glad members around climate change and disability. In terms of funding there was this conversation in the content development group around developing a checklist on what funders should do to ensure that the climate funding is disability inclusive and this is one of the materials that's going to be developed in the group. So I think Angelique circulated an invitation to join that group between IDDC members. And we have many colleagues, including from HI but I want to use this opportunity to encourage other IDDC members who are interested to get involved, to get in touch with Glad Secretariat through Angelique. And see if they can participate. Yeah. Thank you.

>> MARY KEOGH: Thanks, Elham. So two more questions and then we might look at doing a wrap‑up because we are finishing I think in 15 minutes. So this is a question to all the panels, whoever would like to answer this question. How Persons with Disabilities, different disabilities are included in humanitarian responses, in the example of death or persons with intellectual disabilities tend to be left further behind. Anyone who wants to make a quick comment. I know that Zicai you made a comment and Bhusan you made a comment. If anybody would like to comment or if not. I'll give it a minute. Okay. So we might come back to that question. We can put some notes after. The next question then is from Gordon, from EDF. Are organizations truly integrating disability inclusive justice in to ongoing development or humanitarian work or is this still being looked at a new thing and something to tackle when there is enough resources? Important question. Any of our colleagues that would like to respond to that? Go ahead.

>> BHUSAN PUNANI: Should I go ahead?

>> MARY KEOGH: Yeah, go ahead.

>> BHUSAN PUNANI: I can wait for Yolanda.

>> YOLANDA MUNOZ: Oh, you want me to answer? I mean, of course, as I mentioned also, I mane there is global ‑‑ they have already worked on that. But I mean humanitarian response is something that at this point from my experience is still a work‑in‑progress. And it has ‑‑ it has not reached the levels that it should. And, for example, also going back to many ‑‑ I cannot read ‑‑ the question ‑‑ I mean deaf people in particular in Haiti are ‑‑ have a lot of experience on what it means to find themselves in a chaotic situation with no resources, and how they had to improvise to find food, water and everything that was available. Really there is no ‑‑ I don't ‑‑ I don't know of any efficient response for humanitarian action, but in terms of participating in environmental justice activities, the feigning Human Rights what we have been focusing on, yeah, I mean I think that global green grant fund is the best example I have found so far.

>> MARY KEOGH: Thank you. Dr. Bhusan you had a comment to make as well.

>> BHUSAN PUNANI: Many countries in west Asia are charity. We have a very strong advocacy groups which are ensuring that all disability related matters are a matter of Human Rights. They will covered like anybody else. And because of that a lot of strong advocacy groups national laws and we have in the Guidelines, now. A lot of initiatives on climate change are becoming inclusive. Countries are recognized, countries like Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India, Nepal. They realize we have to see that the rights of people with disabilities are protected. And the climate change being part of Human Rights movement it affects everyone. It affects people with disabilities. So now a lot of initiatives in this part of the world are becoming inclusive. They are teaching training the people, if they are connecting the courses, they see there is a component related to effect of climate change on people with disabilities. We have a long way to go and needs strong advocacy by the people in the countries to ensure that things are inclusive.

>> MARY KEOGH: Thank you. I think that's all of our questions that have been asked and back to Gordon to the point around the intersection of climate justice and humanitarian, there is really is that learning piece and drawing out how all of these areas intersect together and are interrelated. So we hope today that the discussion has kind of peaked your interest around the whole climate perspective. I wondered, if no more questions, I will do wrap‑up. And if Mette, and panelists could some final comments. It is really important that we have had this conversation today and it is a starting point. And I know in IDDC Mette, you can speak to that around, around how we can take this forward. But really would like to thank each and every one of the panelists for giving your time and particularly our colleagues that came very early from Canada and New York in to this. We appreciate your input. Even for CBM Global this is a critical piece that we are looking at and looking forward to working with our colleagues on this. Mette I might let you take it from IDDC in terms of the next steps. I think COP has been mentioned. So we'll looking very much at CBM Global is working around COP. We are happy to connect with people on that and looking to come back strong collectively with. All of us together the advocacy piece is really critical. Mette over to you.

>> METTE MULLER KRISTENSEN: I would like to join in the gratefulness of having this session and from both all the speakers and all the great questions in chat box. And I'm sorry that we haven't had the time simply to go through all of them. I think this speaks to an increased interest and also need for the disability movement and for IDDC to really take on this issue and build knowledge and capacity in terms of how to actually address it. And there has been some major, major events or publications or, you know, efforts on this the last year or two years where it has really been put forward, the link also between climate change and disability.   
 As it is now IDDC doesn't have a specific task group on climate change. But if there is an interest then and a sum of organization ‑‑ member organizations who has an interest in this, then of course it is possible to set up a specific task group and maybe that's something that should be put forward tomorrow when IDDC has its General Assembly, the actual governance session.   
 But for me, representing an organization that really hasn't dealt that much with climate change and disability, I think this session has really given some great examples both from specific countries, but also the overall policy framework and important events and that's definitely something that we can use in our work. So that was just a comment from me and my organization.

>> MARY KEOGH: Thanks, Mette. Yes. Anybody else from the panel want to say a quick closing remark? Again thank you to each and every one of the panelists. We really really appreciated all the effort and energy that you have put in to this session. Please, if you have some closing remarks that you would like to make quickly, please do so.

>> ELHAM YOUSSEFIAN: I want to do a quick touch on the question about underrepresented groups people with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities. Again it is under researched but I mean did mention the impact of climate disasters on people with psychosocial disabilities. But one more thing that I want to highlight is barrier and access to information. I'm trying to highlight climate mitigation and participation of Persons with Disabilities in global national fight against climate change, we don't have the information in accessible formats. So many people with disabilities especially deaf people, people with intellectual disabilities and people with deaf‑blindness do not have access to information to play their role. They are not aware of scope of the climate crisis. And that's why they ‑‑ so we need to also think about sensitizing them so that they can play the role and also force the disaster management processes that are not really inclusive and accessible. That has been part of colleagues from India and Mozambique. Yes, underrepresented groups are much more impacted and much less included in action. So I want to thank you and the IDDC team for this opportunity. And all the participants and really look forward to seeing some of you in COP26. I don't know if it is going to be in person. Or in ‑‑ or virtual and for future, let's hope for the next General Assembly IDDC we can be together in person and touch on some of the progress has that been made since today.

>> MARY KEOGH: We will be sending out all the content discussed in the notes and some notes around COP, but we will be sending that out as well. A recording of this. So a big thank you to everyone and Dr. Bhusan. I see your camera is on. You are waving good bye or a quick minute note to say.

>> BHUSAN PUNANI: I will take half a minute. I will show you pictures of how the disaster affects and one comment on Elham. She mentioned that we need to have the climate change and closure. To prove that the government should be inclusive we need to show that people with disabilities suffer more when there is a disaster and a calamity and people with disabilities they get a lot of difficulty in surviving and protecting themselves and then more disability, the disability commission, then only we can demand governments to be become inclusive. You just see on the screen how devastating these effects can be. This is yesterday's cyclone. See how the organization of people with disabilities have virtually destroyed because of this cyclone. We need to be inclusive and we need to be inclusive. We need to give the examples of how people with disabilities are affected in various disasters. Thank you very much. And thanks to IDDC for inviting ICBA. We already set up a task force. It is called climate change education. We will be happy to support anything in climate change.

>> MARY KEOGH: Thank you for showing exactly a practical example what is happening at the moment in India. And finishing on that point. A very big thank you to everyone. We had an audience that stayed with us on in 90 minutes and that's very impressive in this an online world. Thank you all for coming and asking such great questions. Take care all. Take care.

>> Thank you, everyone.

>> MARY KEOGH: Thank you. A big thank you to the interpreters and captioners. Thank you for all your support. Thank you Marshall. Thank you Monika. Nice to see you on the screen.

>> Thank you. Bye.

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