

**International Disability and Development
Consortium**
Annual Report 2021/2022

Publishing Information

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Foreword by the Chair



While we are still coping with an ongoing pandemic that has critically impacted the lives of persons with disabilities across the Globe, we cannot but remind ourselves that there is still a long way to go before we see our shared vision fulfilled.

In that crisis context, I am proud that the IDDC members have chosen to continue prioritising working together, finding new ways to collaborate and influence the changes we want to see at the international level and to work together programmatically, building a wide range of partnerships both together, and with national and local organisations of persons with disabilities.

Although many instances could illustrate the power of our collaborating in this way, I would like to focus on two specific examples. The first is our participation in the COVID-19 Inclusive Response and Recovery of the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of people with disabilities (UNPRPD) where we undertake a learning project covering the experiences of ourselves and our partners during the early stages of the pandemic. This is the first project grant IDDC received from a UN entity.

The second is our official role in the Global Disability Summit 2022. For the second edition of this major event, one of our members, the Atlas Alliance, was at the heart of the planning and operation of the Summit. As a Consortium, we had a number of official representatives, speakers, chairs and panellists.

2021/2022 has been a period of great achievements but unfortunately it was also one of a great loss with the passing of Francois Carbonez, our dear Board colleague and long-serving Light for the World staff member. Francois was a brilliant colleague to work with on the Board over the last more than five years.

I am going to stop there and wish you and people with disabilities wherever they live as positive and productive a year ahead as possible.

Dominic Haslam

Chair

International Disability and Development Consortium

About the International Disability and Development Consortium

The International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) is a network of 33 civil society organisations and 6 individual members, active in more than 150 countries around the world, coming together around a common objective: promoting inclusive international development and humanitarian action with a special focus on the full and effective enjoyment of human rights by all people with disabilities.

IDDC in 2021/2022, we are:

39

Members

8

Task Groups

3

Projects

A broad consortium

Our membership includes organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), non-governmental development organisations, national networks, and international member-based networks. In this diversity, we find our strength.

Member-driven

Our activities are defined and run by members through thematic task groups. Partnership is at the heart of what we do and, as well as dynamic internal collaborations. We have built up a trustworthy reputation among disability organisations, donors and experts, many of which are close partners.

3 objectives for a common purpose

Through our actions and activities, guided by our core values and the principles of both the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we aim at promoting inclusive development internationally, with a special focus on the full and effective enjoyment of human rights by all persons with disabilities living in economically poor communities in lower and middle-income countries.

To achieve this purpose, we:

- 1. Promote** the inclusion of the disability dimension, as well as appropriate disability-specific approaches, in all development policies and practices.
- 2. Improve** the practice of member organisations by collaborating and sharing experience about policies and practices.
- 3. 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.

Our values

IDDC is committed to 4 key values which uphold inclusive ways of working, both internally and in all its development activities, seek the participation of all members and both encourage and respect diversity.



About Inclusive Development

Promoting inclusive international development is at the heart of what we do, but what do we mean exactly by inclusive development?

- **Equity and equality**, with **no discrimination**
- **Leaving no one behind because** human rights are universal and apply to all.
- **Empowerment of persons with disabilities**, enabling them to speak up for themselves at every level, within their family, their community, their country, or at an international level.
- **Awareness-raising and capacity-building among authorities, civil society and the population** in general. Inclusive development cannot be achieved without the participation and engagement of everyone in the **community**.
- **Technical cooperation between donor and partner countries:** financial aid won't do much without **sharing experience, expertise and good practices**.
- **Coordination with all stakeholders** to ensure that development aid does not create undue barriers or finance inaccessible or discriminatory projects.

Highlights May 2021 / May 2022

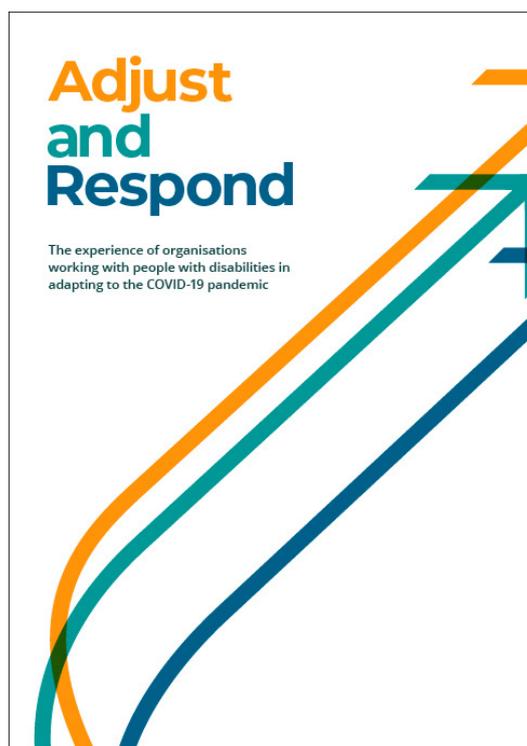


18-21 May 2021. IDDC General Assembly Workshop 2021 “Build Back Inclusively”.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the enduring travel restrictions meant that the IDDC General Assembly took place once again online in 2021. However, contrary to 2020, we were able to organise a full-fledge GA workshop where we explored the theme of “Build Back Inclusively” in the course of 5 sessions, each looking at a different dimension. While the plenary session set the scene, the 4 thematic sessions looked at:

- COVID-19 Recovery and Disability Rights;
- Climate Change and Disability;
- Access to digital learning education: Technology – pitfalls and opportunities;
- Civic Space and meaningful participation.

Taking the advantage of meeting online meeting, the GA workshop gathered many high-level speakers, including several experts from the Global South, the International Disability Alliance, as well as the UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities.



16 June 2021. IDDC-IDA-Inclusive Futures CoSP14 side event “One pandemic, different realities: Evidence on the experience of the diversity of persons with disabilities, OPDs and CSOs in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and preparing to Build Back Inclusively”.

The side-event provided guidelines based on the lessons learned from COVID-19 to local, national and international stakeholders to support their recovery and build sustainable resilience to any future shocks. It created a space to reflect on how persons with disabilities will access the vaccinations and how to ensure participation of OPDs as essential actors to ‘rebuild’ more inclusively.

IDDC launched its report “Adjust and Respond” which focused on analysing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the related emergency measures on civil society organisations, with a particular focus on projects and programmes and the continuation of service provision for people with disabilities run by IDDC members and its partners in the Global South. Supported by the UNPRPD through its global programme on COVID-19 inclusive response and recovery, IDDC’s report records IDDC members’ experiences of how they adapted and are still adapting to challenges posed by the pandemic.



19 October 2021. Improve the AU-EU strategic partnership by ensuring that education for all is at the centre.

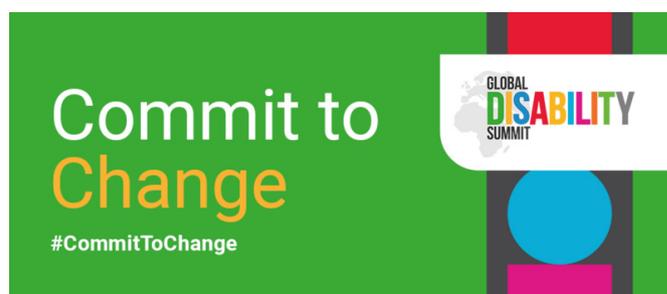
IDDC and 19 other organisations have joined forces ahead of the 6th Africa-EU Summit to call on the new and long-awaited strategic partnership between the African Union (AU) and the European Union (EU) to address the crisis in education that has occurred over the years and that has escalated during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In a joint open letter to the European and African leaders, we urged them to ensure:

Quality inclusive education at all levels with significant investments to strengthen public education systems.

A comprehensive, ambitious plan to advance human development and social justice based on three pillars: addressing structural inequalities, including gender inequalities; strengthening ties across policy sectors and meeting funding commitments.

Civil society to be recognised as a key partner that is consulted during the preparations leading up to the Summit and meaningfully involved with access to information regarding the design, the implementation and evaluation of the new Africa-EU partnership.



#GDS2022



Government of Norway



15-17 February 2022. Global Disability Summit 2022.

The International Disability Alliance, the Government of Norway and the Government of Ghana hosted the second Global Disability Summit. The Summit mobilised efforts for the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the principle of 'Leave No One Behind' and on building back better and more inclusive with regards to Covid-19.

As a network, IDDC put forward a total of 15 commitments on strengthening engagement with organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) in particular in the Global South, on Inclusive Education, on inclusive livelihoods and social protection, on Inclusive Health and on Gender.





21 February 2022. EDF-IDDC Input for the List of Issues Prior to Reporting for the second review of the EU by the CRPD Committee.

In March 2022, the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities will start the second review of the European Union. It will examine how the EU implemented the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, since it was evaluated for the first time in 2015.

The review starts with the adoption of a document called a “List of issues prior to reporting” that will ask questions on how the EU implemented each article to the Convention.

Together with the European Disability Forum, IDDC submitted Input for the List of Issues Prior to Reporting for the second review of the EU by the CRPD Committee. This joint submission together focuses on the EU’s implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in its external action beyond Europe.

Update on our projects

Bridging the Gap II



This project is funded
by the European Union



Co-financed by the European Union, Bridging the Gap II (BtG-II) project was a strategic initiative to foster greater collaboration in the Global South, as well as between development actors in countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Bridging the Gap-II was implemented by a consortium led by the International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies and composed of the Spanish Agency for Development Cooperation, the Austrian Development Agency, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, the European Disability Forum and IDDC. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland also contribute to the initiative.



Together with the European Disability Forum, IDDC led the development and implementation of the Knowledge Management and Learning Component.

Launched in 2017, BtG-II has established strong synergies with UN actors, other EU-funded initiatives, the GLAD Network and International Non-Governmental organisations (NGOs), thus reinforcing the project's contribution to disability-inclusive development and to key EU policy documents like the post-2020 Disability Strategy and the Gender Action Plan III. The project ended in the Summer 2021. BtG-II held its closing event at CoSP14.



BRIDGE CRPD-SDGs Training Initiative



The BRIDGE CRPD-SDG Training initiative is a unique capacity development initiative between the International Disability Alliance and IDDC, with the support from the Disability Rights Fund.

Launched in 2015, the initiative aims at supporting DPO activists to develop an inclusive (all persons with disabilities) and comprehensive (all human rights) CRPD perspective on development, including the agenda 2030 and sustainable development goals (SDGs), and to reinforce their advocacy for inclusion and realisation of right of persons of persons with disabilities.

BRIDGE CRPD-SDG was devised to respond to increasing demands for training on the implementation of the CRPD and inclusive development, and how these link to achieving Agenda 2030 and the SDGs. It is a coordinated training investment, drawing from the resources and experiences of the IDA and IDDC networks and their members.

The past few years have seen a fair share of challenges due to the COVID-19, however it was possible to complete ongoing Bridge CRPD-SDGs cycles as well as launching long-awaited cycles, mostly at the national levels. Bridge CRPD-SDGs alumni trajectories have been furthered through the Community of Practice, supplementary workshops and the Training of Trainers. Alumni have been reunited after the isolation that COVID-19 related lockdowns brought about, which has been extremely valuable towards strengthening the OPD movement at the national and regional levels.

In 2021/2022, 8 modules took place:

- Bridge CRPD-SDGs Kenya Module 1 (June 2021)
- Bridge CRPD-SDGs Sub Saharan Africa, Module 1 (October 2021)
- Bridge CRPD-SDGs Iraq, Module 1 (November 2021)
- Bridge CRPD-SDGs Training of Trainers Module A (November 2021)
- Bridge CRPD-SDGs Bolivia Module 1 (February 2022)
- Bridge CRPD-SDGs Bangladesh Module 1 (March 2022)
- Bridge CRPD-SDGs South Asia Module 2 (March 2022)
- Bridge CRPD-SDGs Kenya Module 2 (March 2022)

