# Behinderung und internationale Entwicklung Disability and International Development

Themen: UN-Fachausschuss und politische Partizipation Themes: UN-Committee and Political Participation



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# Editorial

Liebe Leser\*innen,

vom 15. bis 17. Februar brachte der Global Disability Summit (GDS) hochkarätige Vertreter\*innen von UN-Mitgliedsstaaten und Organisationen, Selbstvertretungen von Menschen mit Behinderungen und anderen zivilgesellschaftlichen Organisationen, dem privaten Sektor und der Wissenschaft zusammen. Der Summit lenkte Aufmerksamkeit auf den Handlungsbedarf bei der Umsetzung der UN-Behindertenrechtskonvention und der Sustainable Development Goals. Die bereits auf dem ersten GDS verabschiedete Charter of Change wurde bekräftigt und bestehende Herausforderungen in ihrer Umsetzung hervorgehoben. Diese Ausgabe adressiert einige der zentralen Themen, die auf dem Summit diskutiert wurden, und präsentiert wichtige Entwicklungen in der inklusiven internationalen Zusammenarbeit und Humanitären Hilfe.

Unerwartete Aktualität erhalten die Beiträge durch den Krieg in der Ukraine. Wie in vielen anderen kriegerischen Auseinandersetzungen weltweit, die weniger mediale Aufmerksamkeit bekommen, stehen die Rechte von Menschen mit Behinderungen in solchen Krisen besonders auf dem Spiel – ein weiterer Grund, besondere Aufmerksamkeit auf die Risiken zu lenken, denen sie inmitten kriegerischer Auseinandersetzungen und auf der Flucht ausgesetzt sind.

Zwei Beiträge dieser Ausgabe betonen die menschenrechtsbasierte Datenerhebung als eine wichtige Grundlage für politischere und advokatorische Strategien: Rebecca Daniel bietet einen Überblick über den Hintergrund und Zielsetzung des IDA Global Survey und die Involvierung der Selbstvertretungsorganisationen von Menschen mit Behinderungen in dessen Entwicklung und Durchführung. Sophie Mitra berichtet über die ersten Ergebnisse der Disability Data Initiative und betont dabei die Notwendigkeit, Menschen mit Behinderungen in nationalen (Zensus-) Umfragen sichtbar werden zu lassen.

Dear readers,

from February 15 to 17, the second Global Disability Summit brought together high-level representatives from UN member states and organisations, organisations of persons with disabilities and other civil society organisations, the private sector and academia. The summit drew attention to the need for action in the realisation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Sustainable Development Goals. The Charter for Change adopted by the 2018 London Global Disability Summit was reaffirmed and persisting challenges in its implementation were highlighted. This issue addresses some of the crucial topics discussed at the summit and presents important advancements regarding inclusive international development and humanitarian aid.

The contributions are unexpectedly topical due to the war in Ukraine. As in many other armed conflicts around the world that receive less media attention, the rights of people with disabilities are particularly at stake in such crises – another reason to draw special attention to the risks they face in the midst of armed conflicts and as war refugees.

Two contributions of this issue focus on human rights-based data collection, an important tool informing policies and advocacy: Rebecca Daniel provides an overview of the background and purpose of the IDA Global Survey and the involvement of Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) in its planning and implementation. Sophie Mitra reports on first findings of the Disability Data Initiative, highlighting the importance of making people with disabilities visible in national census.

In an interview, Ms. Rosa Idalia Aldana Salguero talks about her work as a member of the UN-Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the need for action in forwarding the human rights of people with disabilities on a global scale.

Three contributions draw experiences from the practical field of inclusive

#### EDITORIAL

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In einem Interview berichtet Rosa Idalia Aldana Salguero über ihre Arbeit als Mitglied des UN-Fachausschusses für die Rechte von Menschen mit Behinderungen und über Handlungsbedarfe hinsichtlich der Verbesserung der Menschenrechtssituation von Menschen mit Behinderungen weltweit.

Drei weitere Beiträge konzentrieren sich auf die praktische Arbeit der internationalen Entwicklungszusammenarbeit: Handicap International stellt ein Projekt in Zusammenarbeit mit lokalen Organisationen im nördlichen Haiti zu inklusiver Katastrophenvorsorge vor, das auf Bewusstseinsbildung und die Stärkung von Resilienz abzielt.

Caritas international berichtet über Aktivitäten in der gemeinwesenorientierten Rehabilitation in Kooperation mit der *Asociación de Padres y Amigos de Personas con Discapacidad* in Guatemala, die auf verschiedene Handlungsfelder wie Gesundheit, Bildung und Empowerment abzielt.

Mira Ballmeier erörtert die Verantwortung internationaler Entwicklungsorganisationen, inklusive und behinderungssensible Präventionsstrategien gegen genderbasierte Gewalt zu adaptieren und präsentiert Beispiele aus der Arbeit der Christoffel-Blindenmission.

Wir wünschen Ihnen eine angenehme Lektüre, Ihr Redaktionsteam development: Handicap International reports from a collaborative project with local organisations in Northern Haiti on inclusive disaster preparedness that focuses on awareness raising and resilience strengthening.

Caritas international reports community-based rehabilitation in Guatemala in collaboration with the Asociación de Padres y Amigos de Personas con Discapacidad tackling different areas such as health, education, and empowerment.

Mira Ballmeier elaborates on the responsibility of development organisations to adapt disability-inclusive prevention strategies against gender-based violence and presents examples of CBM Christian Blind Mission's work in this field.

We wish you a pleasant reading, Your editorial board

# Interview with Dr. Rosa Idalia Aldana Salguero Member of the Committee of the United Nations on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

Ms. Rosa Idalia Aldana Salguero was elected to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in November 2020. Through her nomination, the United Nations has once again been able to attract a credible human rights activist whose intrinsic motivation stems not least from her own physical limitations, thus giving new and important impetus to its high-level independent panel of experts. Her nomination constitutes a recognition of Ms. Aldana's ambitious and continuous work as social activist mainly in her home country, Guatemala, but also on the Latin American continent. Her nomination is an opportunity for our editorial team to introduce different members of the committee in the future and in loose order. Thus, we would like to shed light on their motivation and personal insights into the situation of persons with disabilities on the global level.

Dr. Aldana Salguero, you were introduced to the commission on CRPD one year ago and since then you have been able to substantially support global inclusion efforts. While preparing this interview we have watched your nomination video presented to the public in September 2020 and we were massively impressed and inspired by your speech to the public. Which were the main drivers for your decision to present your application?

I can make reference to the fact that the main reason for this is that in Guatemala the Law on Disability was passed in 1996 and this did not explicitly mention persons of short stature or achondroplasia<sup>1</sup>. The International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was passed in 2006 and even national and international organisations have not always seen persons of short stature or achondroplasia as an integral part of the group of persons with disabilities. My intention was to make the group more visible.

Another reason is that persons with disabilities have advanced slower than other groups in terms of the struggles for the recognition and full enjoyment of their human rights. The reason for this lies in the historical reference of exclusion, violence, and discrimination towards all persons with disabilities.

Women and girls are also an important issue that motivated my application, since many of the feminist movements in the world do not recognise the diversity of women and girls. In many cases women and girls with disabilities are neglected and the issue of diversity based on disabilities is rarely discussed. Women with disabilities have to make themselves heard so that we can tell our story.

Furthermore, the indigenous population with disabilities has been excluded and there is little recognition of cultural relevance within the human rights framework. Thus, many different aspects pointed to my role as a woman of short stature.

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was ratified by 182 countries. What is your perspective on the overall will of governments to improve the situation of persons with disabilities?

In my opinion, this is an issue that touches the depths of the soul, but persons with disabilities are looking for the heart and the reason. Beyond raising awareness, we must internalise the social and human rights model in order to provide answers, dignity, protection and the necessary guarantees so that persons with disabilities can enjoy human rights with dignity on an equal footing with others in the world.

Do you see enough progress concerning the situation and the rights of persons with disabilities since the entry into force of the convention in 2008?

Yes, there has been progress, although in my opinion not at the speed expected by persons with disabilities. Nevertheless, we have learned to be loud. The gaps of inequality and violation of the rights of persons with disabilities have become evident and we can observe that now the countries – to a greater or lesser extent – show some willingness to change.

The Convention defines important fields of action in order to improve the position of persons with disabilities i.e., in the field of education, labour market, legal sector and so on. Which fields, according to your appreciation, should be given priority?

In the field of employment, technical and vocational training and education go hand in hand. Both are essential for finding a job and thus achieving the strongly desired personal autonomy. It must be recognised that those countries investing in persons with disabilities achieve higher human development indicators than those which do not.

What should international development partners keep in mind in order to foster the human rights of persons with disabilities?

In my opinion, they should promote and invest in more programmes, scholarships or fellowships for persons with disabilities. They should be enabled to prepare and acquire the necessary tools and knowledge for the labour market which is to be based on equal opportunities. In the future, there should be a clear and systematic supervision by the countries to ensure that the labour rights of persons with disabilities are not violated.

The COVID pandemic constitutes, above all, a severe crisis which disproportionately affects persons with disabilities. Could you please, from your viewpoint, describe the most adverse factors on the lives of persons with disabilities?

Access to health under the same conditions as others is a very big issue. A very obvious example is that persons of short stature or achondroplasia cannot even reach the washing facilities to be able to take the necessary hygiene measures, which were intensified in this pandemic.

The formal labour market for most persons with disabilities is very small, so a high percentage of persons with disabilities generate income in the informal market. The pandemic forced all people into partial or total lockdown. In many cases, this meant for persons with disabilities that they could no longer provide for their households and violence at home intensified. Furthermore, the effects on education of persons with disabilities were tremendous. Those who had access to a digital device, data packages as well as the technical connectivity to local data networks could continue their studies. However, in many cases, persons with disabilities have had limited access to the digital world. And if they principally have everything to take part in digital learning, digital devices often are hardly accessible to persons with sensory impairments (i.e. visual and hearing impairment).

If you look at the situation in your home country, which are the most important challenges that have to be solved in Guatemala?

Up to now, in Guatemala, there is no law which is harmonised with the Convention. The law in force was passed in the framework of the Peace Accords and leaves many gaps in terms of fully guaranteeing the rights of persons with disabilities. Another challenge is to deconstruct the welfare and medical rehabilitation model of civil servants, institutions, and the general population.

Social protection programmes must be promoted to cover the entire population with disabilities and it is necessary to designate specific budgets for the fulfilment of the rights of persons with disabilities, amongst others.

Your nomination for the membership in the committee can be seen as a signal of your government to increase its efforts to improve the lives of persons with disabilities. Do you perceive a trustful and consequent orientation of Guatemalan politics in order to improve the situation of persons with disabilities?

In my opinion, this is an important precedent since I am the second Guatemalan woman with disabilities to be a member of the Committee. That recognises the need and requirement of the disabled population to have our voices heard. In some way it shows the will and interest of the State to move towards a model of rights. However, there is a need for investment and for the necessary resources to be allocated in public institutions to guarantee the full enjoyment of rights.

You are now more than 100 days in office. What is your personal perception of the structures and processes of UN's monitoring activities?

I came into office in a very peculiar situation which has been and is being caused by COVID-19. Yes, there have been challenges: COVID crises meant that a lot of monitoring, advice and recommendations to the States had to be given by the United Nations. As a "Never be silent! For sure, there is no secret to success but let no one silence our voice."

member of the Committee of the United Nations on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), I can mention the virtual sessions, the hard work of each member of the Committee, the accompanying and technical work of the Secretariat for the realisation of the agendas. Last, but not least, the countries which were under evaluation accepted the challenge of carrying out the dialogues and evaluations remotely. Guidelines and tools had to be elaborated with recommendations to really leave no one behind.

What would be your personal advice to those persons with disabilities who are still struggling and suffering in their daily lives?

Never be silent! For sure, there is no secret to success but let no one silence our voice. Always keep on fighting without any halt. Always be in movement and when I say movement, I don't necessarily mean physical movement. Meanwhile, I refer to our ideas, our voice, and our actions.

Dr. Aldana, Thank you very much for this interview. We wish you much luck in exercising your important work as well as all the best for your personal future.

#### Notes

1 The expression people with short stature seemed to us more understandable than people with dwarfism. Thus, we decided to use the first one. We would like to apologise, right in advance, if someone felt uncomfortable with our wording choice.

Interviewee: Ms. Aldana Salguero began her professional career as a teacher of pre-primary education and as a radio presenter in Guatemala. She holds two master degrees, one in Management of Human Resources and the other in Gender Equality in the Social Sciences. She did her Ph.D. in Strategic and Social Communication and has - inter alia - founded an association of civil society (Gente Pequeña de Guatemala), which pursues that people of small stature are recognised in the law of disability of her home country. Her work has been valued widely and brought her numerous awards in Guatemala and on the international level. However, Ms. Aldana Salguero does not want to be reduced to the characteristics associated with her disability. She likes travelling, reading and she is a very communicative person.



The photo shows the interviewee Dr. Rosa Idalia Aldana Salguero.

Interviewer: Mr. Martin Schmid, is presently on a sabbatical leave and employed with German financial cooperation. He has worked as a

portfolio manager for a wide range of development pro-

jects in Africa and Latin America. He holds a diploma in political economy with special focus on Latin America. Mr. Schmid is himself visually impaired and thus has a particular personal interest in thoroughly examining the situation of people with disabilities and in analysing the existing challenges and opportunities. He is using his sabbatical leave for extensive travels and is sharing his insights through journalistic articles. The inclusion of persons with disabilities into society is one of his favourite topics.

# Leave No One Behind - Global Survey on Political Participation of Organisations of Persons with Disabilities

#### **Rebecca Daniel**

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This article briefly discusses the IDA Global Survey on political participation of Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs), which is part of the Ph.D. research the author is currently conducting at Maynooth University, Ireland. It provides an overview of the background and purpose of the Global Survey from the International Disability Alliance (IDA), which was conducted twice already: in 2018 and in 2021. The article also gives an insight into the human rights-based research methodology which was applied throughout the process around the Global Survey, and it examines the main results from the 1<sup>st</sup> Global Survey (2018), which serves as baseline assessment against which results from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Survey (2021) will be compared, once analysed in 2022.

# **Background of the Survey** Participation as a Democratic Principle and Right

Political participation is a fundamental feature of democratic societies. At minimum, it can be seen as citizens' activities to influence politics (van Deth, 2016), at best as "control by citizen[s] of their own affairs" (Cunningham, 2002, p. 126). It is also a human right, provided for in a range of human rights and other instruments at international level (compare e.g. Mc. Veigh et al. 2021; Cornwall 2000: 38; UN 1948: art. 21; UN 1996-2021: art. 25), including the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS).

Article 4.3 on participation of Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) in implementation of the CRPD overall, and Article 33.3 on participation of OPDs in national implementation and monitoring of the CRPD declare the right of OPDs to participate in decisions that concern their lives (UN enable 2006). General Comment 7 to the CRPD further specifies this right (UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2018). Participation of OPDs is also a key principle to be considered throughout the activities of the UN, in line with the UNIDS indicator 5 on consultation of persons with disabilities (UN 2019).

While the empowering and democratising character of participation is put into focus in the herein presented research, this should not hide the fact that there are also (external and internal) limitations as well as risks of participation, such as high opportunity costs for those participating, which can lead to reduced interest to participate and, in consequence, to self-exclusion (Cornwall 2000: 57).

# The Current Situation of OPD Participation

In contrast to the pledges made in important declarations, conventions and other (international) documents, the living situation of persons with disabilities is characterised, much more than that of persons without disabilities by exclusion from and discrimination in diverse areas of life (WHO 2011: 40 ff.; WHO 2014).

When it comes to participation in public decision-making on local, global, national, and international levels, persons with disabilities can be seen as politically disabled. They are widely excluded and participate less than the average in political decisions that affect their lives. A look at different levels of public decision-making, e.g., at designing, planning, or monitoring stages of policies, programmes, plans, or projects shows that their participation is not meaningful as regards to the standards set by the CRPD (Cote 2020: 5; Mc Veigh et al. 2021: 202f.; van Deth 2015). The UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities acknowledges progress made over the past decade when it comes to funding and other support for OPDs, to their inclusion in monitoring processes and independent monitoring frameworks. However, the Committee also

"continues to observe an important gap between the goals and the spirit of articles 4 (3) and 33 (3) and the degree to which they have been implemented. This is due, among other things, to the absence of meaningful consultation with and involvement of persons with disabilities, through their representative organisations, in the development and implementation of policies and programmes" (UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2018: 2).

#### **Conceptualising Meaningful Participation**

The terminology "full and effective" participation on an "equal basis with others", as introduced by the CRPD (UN enable 2006: art. 1) clarifies that truly meaningful participation is more than sole presence of certain groups in decision-making. General Comment 7 (UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2018: 6f.) describes exemplarily some criteria of what is meant by "full and effective", such as feeling included, or receiving required support for participation.

Existing empirical and theoretical work helps to complement and specify these criteria by other aspects of meaningful participation, such as structures and institutions as well as formal ways for participation, important roles given in decision-making processes, necessary provisions for accessibility and reasonable accommodation made, capacity-building for development, participation on issues which are relevant/ priority for OPDs, or relevant impacts and influence through the engagement (Brinkerhoff 2002; Cornwall 2000: 56; Fraser 2008: 341; IDA 2020: 7; Mc. Veigh et al. 2021: 208-211; Najam 2000).

#### **Purpose of the Survey**

Against the above outlined background, the Global Survey aims to find out how persons from OPDs worldwide perceive their own participation in public decision-making on local, national, regional, and international levels over the years. Hardly any empirical research has taken place so far on the interaction between OPDs and authorities on national, regional, and international level, and to capture the quality of process and outcome of OPD participation in legislation, policies, or programmes on national, regional, and multilateral level (Cote 2020: 5). While the Global Survey cannot address this research gap fully, it aims to respond to some of those aspects from the view of OPDs themselves. It is part of a bigger research project, undertaken in frame of the Ph.D. of this article's author, which also aims to complement the view of OPDs by the one of other actors (e.g., decision-makers) as well as by looking at the environment in which participation is happening, to contextualise findings from the Global Survey.

# Human Rights-Based Research

#### Human Rights-Foundation of Disability Research

The Global Survey was developed in a human rights-based research project between Maynooth University/the Ph.D. researcher and the International Disability Alliance. The human rights-based research approach emerged in the 1960s, then mainly implemented by the human rights movement such as international Non-Governmental Organisations, and partly connected to international law research (Arstein-Kerslake et al. 2019: 590; University of Michigan 2021). Only in the last few years, the human rights-based research approach has been conceptualised specifically for research on disability.

The human rights-based research approach to disability inclusion-related research is based on emancipatory, participatory, and inclusive methodologies of disability research. It uses principles from those methodologies, in line with the human rights model of disability. The human rights model of disability, as established in the CRPD, builds the basis for the research, placing emphasis on the removal of social barriers (and not individual impairments). Principles and requirements of the CRPD guide the whole research process, demanding e.g., for ethics protocols and methodologies that protect the rights of persons with disabilities and have emancipatory character (Arstein-Kerslake et al. 2019: 590; Arstein-Kerslake 2020: 413-417, 422-427). GLOBAL SURVEY ON POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF ORGANISATIONS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

"[...] participation of persons with disabilities, through their representative organisations, is increasing overall. However, this participation remains insufficient with regards to the standards set by General Comment No. 7"

Methodological Implications for the Global Survey

The Global Survey, as well as the whole Ph.D. research process of which it is part, aims to adhere to human rights-based research, as outlined by the Disability Human Rights Research Network's protocol for human rights-based research (DHRRN 2018). In this sense it is also based on the human rights-based model of disability as well as on principles and rights declared in the CRPD (compare namely articles 1-5, 8-9 and 21 of the CRPD). Furthermore, a wide range of participatory methods are applied in the different steps of the research process. These principles are translated into practice e.g., as follows:

- IDA initiated the research as response to the voices of the community of persons with disabilities in 2017.
- The research team was selected by IDA in 2017 and 2020 for the respective survey versions.
- The research design for the first Global Survey was guided by IDA and in partnership with Maynooth University, for the second Global Survey in partnership with the Ph.D. researcher.
- Data collection was done by IDA with a survey platform called iData, that was tested by a diverse group of persons with disabilities and includes accessible features that respond to different preferences.
- · Research outcomes and data will be processed by

IDA in accessible formats and the involvement of agents for change which help to translate the find-ings into action.

There are also limitations to the implementation of a human rights-based research approach in frame of the Global Survey. These are, e.g., related to limits with regards to the level of accessibility of the research process for a wide range of different persons. The participatory nature of the overall research process was also limited in parts, as participation of the disability community was mainly guaranteed in mediated form through the close involvement in all steps through IDA and some of its members.

#### **Results from the First Global Survey**

Since the results from the second Global Survey are yet to be analysed, the findings from the first Global Survey will be examined here. This first version of the survey was implemented in 2018 with very similar questions like the 2<sup>nd</sup> version from 2021, with the aim to monitor change over years (in the following compare IDA 2020).

Overall, the first IDA Global Survey showed that participation of persons with disabilities, through their representative organisations, is increasing. However, this participation remains insufficient with regards to the standards set by General Comment No. 7, as well as Articles 4.3 and 33.3 of the UNCRPD.

Huge barriers to participation in decision-making remain, e.g., and preconditions, required for meaningful participation in decision-making processes, are still not provided sufficiently by governments and international partners (like the UN and funding agencies). Financial barriers are an additional burden, and a lack of financial support is one of the biggest challenges for OPDs to exist and participate in decision-making.

Participation of persons with disabilities is also not equal across the diverse constituencies of the disability rights movement, and OPDs are also not consulted on all issues that concern them, but too often only on disability-specific ones, such as disability laws or policies. They are also often not involved in influential roles when it comes to budget decisions or monitoring of joint work. Instead, they are – if at all – often only informed about decisions that were already made or are on-going, and neither co-deciding nor being consulted on such steps in decision-making. A result often is that OPD's contributions are not yet adequately being considered, leading to exclusion or co-optation rather than meaningful participation and relevant impacts. Some recommendations that were made by OPDs in the first Global Survey towards governments to improve the way they work with OPDs can be seen in the graphic that summarises recommendations made in an open question asked in frame of the 1<sup>st</sup> Global Survey (Mc Veigh et al. 2021: 208). They reach from the need to raise awareness and build capacities for OPD participation, via provisions for accessibility and inclusion of decision-making practices, to the need to foster participation systematically, and provide for legislation, policies and programmes that are required to do so. and contribute to positive change and improved living situations for persons with disabilities worldwide in the long run.

The above-mentioned methodological limitations concerning participatory design of the research process, and regarding accessibility, especially of the first Global Survey, were addressed in the second Global Survey to some extent, leading to an overall much more accessible and inclusive experience with regards to content and technical solutions of the survey. To make the Global Survey even more accessible and inclusive for a wide variety of constituencies, it is important

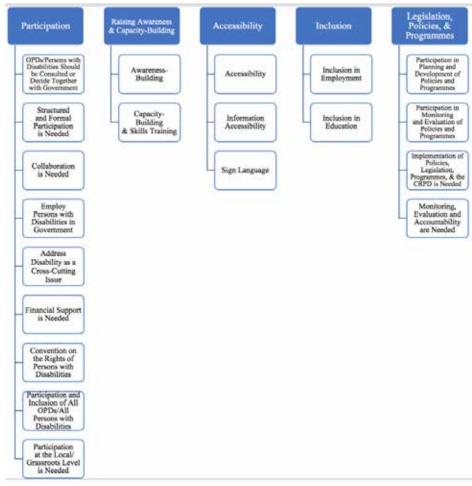


Figure 1: Recommendations for governments to improve work with OPDs

#### **Summary and Outlook**

The Global Survey can be an important tool for the disability rights movement to collect broader evidence and analyse the reality of OPD's engagement in decision-making. These data again can help to hold decision-makers on local, national, and regional level accountable for their commitments under the CRPD. As far as the United Nations are concerned it helps to monitor participation of OPDs in work of the UN, in line with the UNDIS. Both can lead to more meaningful participation of OPDs in future decision-making processes on local, national, regional, and global levels, to constantly improve its methodology and content, and to continue involving a wide range of constituencies in its development and testing stages. This will bear the opportunity to generate even more and meaningful data from a diversity of constituencies of persons with disabilities.

As the 1<sup>st</sup> Global Survey has revealed, OPDs are increasingly involved but still too often not satisfied with their level of participation decision-makers. with Α comparison of these findings with the yet to be analysed results from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Survey will be interesting to monitor change that has potentially happened since 2018. This will also show existing good practices and improvements and help to formulate recommendations for required policy changes.

While it is in line with the Nothing (About Us) Without Us principle of the CRPD to focus the view of OPDs themselves, it needs to be acknowledged that participation is a co-production process and requires a two-way communication (Cote 2020: 7 and 13). In this sense, the views of other actors of public decision-making are also relevant to get a comprehensive impression of the full picture of OPD participation in public decision-making. Furthermore, it is important to contextualise the survey's findings by having a look at the context (laws, policies, action plans, institutions etc.). To do so, the Global Survey's results will GLOBAL SURVEY ON POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF ORGANISATIONS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

be complemented by findings assessed through country case studies and an OPD participation index to be developed.

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#### Zusammenfassung

In diesem Artikel wird kurz auf den IDA Global Survey zum Thema politische Beteiligung von Organisationen von Menschen mit Behinderungen (OPDs) eingegangen, der Teil der Doktorarbeit ist, die die Autorin derzeit an der Universität Maynooth, Irland, schreibt. Der Artikel gibt einen Überblick über den Hintergrund und den Zweck der globalen Umfrage der International Disability Alliance (IDA), die nun bereits zweimal durchgeführt wurde: im Jahr 2018 und im Jahr 2021. Der Artikel gibt auch einen Einblick in die menschenrechtsbasierte Forschungsmethode, die während des gesamten Prozesses rund um den Global Survey angewandt wurde. Außerdem untersucht er die wichtigsten Ergebnisse des ersten Global Surveys (2018), der als Ausgangsbasis dient, mit dem die Ergebnisse des zweiten Global Surveys (2021) verglichen werden, sobald sie 2022 analysiert wurden.

#### Résumé

Cet article traite brièvement de l'Enquête Mondiale de IDA sur la participation politique des organisations de personnes handicapées (OPD), qui fait partie de la recherche de doctorat que mène l'auteur. Il donne un aperçu du contexte et de l'objectif de l'enquête mondiale, qui a été menée entre juin et décembre 2021. Il rend également compte de la méthodologie fondée sur les droits de l'homme qui a été adoptée et examine les principaux résultats de la première enquête mondiale, qui a été menée en 2018 et qui servira d'évaluation de référence à laquelle seront comparés les résultats de la deuxième enquête mondiale (2021).

#### Resumen

Este artículo analiza brevemente la Encuesta Global de la IDA sobre la participación política de las Organizaciones de Personas con Discapacidad (OPD), la cual forma parte de la investigación del doctorado que la autora está llevando a cabo. Ofrece una visión general de los antecendentes y el objetivo de la Encuesta Global que

#### LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND GLOBAL SURVEY ON POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF ORGANISATIONS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

ya se ha realizado en dos ocasiones: en 2018 y en 2021. El artículo también ofrece una visión de la metodología de investigación basada en los derechos humanos que se aplicó en todo el proceso en torno a la Encuesta Global, y examina los principales resultados de la 1ª Encuesta Global (2018), que sirve como evaluación de referencia con la que se compararán los resultados de la 2ª Encuesta Global (2021), una vez analizada en 2022.

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# Berichte | Reports

# Breaking the Silence: The Role and Responsibility of Development Cooperation to End Gender-Based Violence Against Women with Disabilities



A close-up picture of a woman with her eyes closed. Her face and the white background are covered with drops of water (© Roslyn, Silent Tears Project).

Women are at high risk of experiencing violence during their lifetime. For women with disabilities, this risk increases significantly. With recommendations based on our workshops on disability-inclusive prevention of gender-based violence, CBM Christian Blind Mission wants to start a discussion on how to structurally counteract this.

Getting comprehensive data remains a challenge, but studies estimate, that one in three women will experience sexual or physical violence in their lifetime. Women and girls with disabilities are even three times more likely to be affected by gender-based violence than women without disabilities (UNHCR/UNFPA 2009). Even though their stories might seem personal at first, they are in fact not. Therefore, it is time to listen to the voices of countless women and girls with and without disabilities, who are constantly facing various forms of violence and discrimination, and support their empowerment. Enabling persons with disabilities to claim and realise their rights is at the heart of CBM's work. Based on more than 100 years of professional expertise as an international development organisation, we work towards an inclusive society and to improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities in poorer regions of the world. To do this, we need to make sure, that especially persons in vulnerable situations are not left behind.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), more than one billion people worldwide live with a disability, which is equivalent to 15% of the world's population. In all countries around the world, the prevalence of disability is higher among women than men (Mitra/ Posarac/Vick 2011). Women and girls with disabilities often experience multiple discrimination, meaning they are not only discriminated because of their disability, but also because of their gender or other characteristics such as age, ethnic origin, and religious affiliation. All this places them at a high risk to be confronted with violence. Women with intellectual disabilities are particularly affected.

The range of violence is very diverse: Direct violence can include physical, psychological, or economic violence. Perpetrators may target the women for instance because of their limited physical mobility or means of communication. It often happens through people from the immediate environment, e.g. from inside the family, the community or caregivers (UNFPA 2009). Inappropriate behaviour by people a person trusts or depends on demonstrates clearly underlying power structures which need to be cracked open to foster real change.

Indirect violence refers to structural violence like additional structural barriers in accessing education, health, and social services. Indirect violence is characterised by norms, attitudes, and stereotypes on disability and changes the path of a person forever.

According to the World Report on Disability (WHO/ World Bank 2011), girls with disabilities complete primary school in only 42 percent of cases. Respectively, the literacy rate for women with disabilities is lower than for men with disabilities. The affected women have fundamentally less access to vocational training and thus less access to employment opportunities than other women. Only 20 percent of women with disabilities are employed in the formal sector, compared to 53 percent of men with disabilities. Additionally, the Global Education Monitoring Report 2020 states that over a quarter of girls in eleven African, Asian, and Latin American countries reported that they never or rarely felt safe on their way to and from school (UNE-SCO 2020).

The Corona pandemic has stalled limited progress towards achieving gender equity and empowerment for all women and girls and has exacerbated existing barriers to participation. In education in particular, huge setbacks are evident for girls with disabilities who experienced educational disadvantage even before the pandemic (UNESCO 2021).

Women with disabilities, regardless of age, often have limited access to health services or sexual and reproductive health services. Too often, young women with disabilities are excluded from family planning and other sexual and reproductive health services. The assumption that they lack the capacity to make autonomous decisions is yet another barrier for young women with disabilities to access information and services that are essential to prevent sexually transmitted diseases, unwanted pregnancies, as well as many forms of sexual violence.

When it comes to sexual violence, breaking the silence is often even harder. The sexuality of persons with disabilities is too often seen as either something inexistent, or as a problem to be controlled. Young women and girls with disabilities are mostly regarded by society as asexual. These views, particularly present in the case of intellectual and psychosocial disabilities, foster hard-to-break cycles, which have profound and long-lasting negative effects. Of course, we need to acknowledge the fact also highlighted by the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in General Comment N° 3 on Art. 6 CRPD (2016): Women with disabilities are not one homogenic group. They include indigenous women, refugees, migrants, asylum seekers and internally displaced women, women living in poverty, women from different ethnic, religious and racial backgrounds, to name only a few. And we need to consider this in all actions taken and must do our best to give them all a say.

What needs to be done is, first of all, changing the rationale from prejudice-based to human rights-based. We can break the cycle of misconceptions, abuse, and violence, enabling more chances for women with disabilities. Violence is diverse and so is disability. But tackling deep-rooted inequalities around gender and disability will benefit not only women and girls but also the society as a whole. A rethinking must take place at personal and institutional level, which is not only a moral, but a human rights obligation. International frameworks such as the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) oblige states to take targeted measures against multiple discrimination. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development also focuses on specific needs of vulnerable groups, including women with disabilities. Promoting their development is considered key to achieving the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to realise the 2030 Agenda's key Leave No One Behind principle.

# CBM Takes Action to Empower Women with Disabilities

At CBM Christian Blind Mission we want to play our part as well. Our work is guided by a human rightsbased approach and focusses on the empowerment of women with disabilities to make their voices heard. We want to make sure that we meet women with disabilities in their respective reality of life and support them in knowing their rights. For example, together with the Pakistani partner organisation Bedari and the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women, we aim to ensure the safety of women and girls with disabilities in the Punjab province and promote their empowerment. We do this with the support of female social workers immersing deeply in the village community, sometimes for months. They provide education in schools and lobby for change with local authorities and the police. However, the most important task is to support and strengthen the women themselves. The project has created many self-help groups, and women with disabilities in particular have benefitted. Additionally, we are working with men to develop non-violent coping mechanisms in dealing with their emotions and give them an active role in the change process initiated in their community.

In Germany, CBM has also started an advocacy campaign for the empowerment of women and girls with disabilities in the Global South around the exhibition Silent Tears (see info box). This included overall three workshops on practical steps towards disability-inclusive prevention of gender-based violence. Together with Bedari, our aim was to show how any organisation can start a journey to inclusion.

Further, the Petze-Institute for the Prevention of Violence in Germany gave insights into the situation of persons with intellectual disabilities (see info box). From these workshops we have drawn recommendations, which include but are not limited to the following:

- Update your project cycle management to an inclusive project cycle: Include concrete measures for women and girls with disabilities and regard them as beneficiaries and leaders at the same time. An inclusive stakeholder mapping can help you get an understanding of the situation and accessibility needs. Don't make assumptions but invite persons with disabilities to take part in planning as well as the monitoring and evaluation. Measure your results using a disability lens and collect disaggregated data. Activities, events, and information of the project should be free and accessible.
- **Identify barriers:** People with different impairments experience various types of institutional, attitudinal, environment or communication and information barriers.
- Review your environment and the system you operate in with particular attention to the legal system, education policies, health services provisions, belief systems. Identify barriers together with persons with disabilities to get an understanding of this. For instance, women with disabilities may be deprived of legal capacity or may be prohibited from testifying in court.
- Prejudice, discrimination, and stigma cause the biggest barrier for persons with disabilities. Women with disabilities may fear losing custody of their children if they report domestic violence. Courts might view their non-disabled partner as the more competent parent or the more credible witness. When it comes to health issues, reproductive health needs or menstrual hygiene are rarely discussed openly.
- Ensure accessibility: Emergency shelters and

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spaces are often inaccessible and fail to provide reasonable accommodation to women with disabilities. Inaccessible homes and communities foster dependence. Information about legal rights, emergency shelter services, availability of assistive devices, police services/procedures are often inaccessible as well, e.g., not available in Braille, Screen reader or easy to read formats, no provision of Sign Language interpretation.

- **Capacity-building for all:** Educate yourself and your staff about human rights granted in the CRPD and intersectionality. If it is within your scope, employ persons with disabilities or advocate for their employment.
- Always keep in mind: **Nothing about us without us** (the slogan of the disability movement) means that no policy should be decided without the **meaningful participation** of members of the group(s) affected by that policy.

Every government is called to align its national and international policies with these recommendations as well as the commitments of the CRPD and the 2030 Agenda. Even though violence is not an issue limited to the Global South, but prevalent in any country, lower income countries need an increased commitment as poverty is a key problem for gender inequality. Consequently, the following issues should be addressed:

- Equal opportunities for all: In order to achieve inclusive development, a consistent analysis of multiple discrimination is needed. Political measures must be adapted or developed from this point of view. Disability and gender must be thought of together instead of separately.
- Eliminate gender-specific risk factors: Equal access to education, the labour market, health services and especially protection from violence must be ensured through targeted and inclusive action.
- A voice for all: Visibility, independence and participation are key factors for equality. The targeted promotion of girls and women with disabilities, e.g. in their participation in social decision-making processes or leadership opportunities, is a step towards inclusive development. Giving women and girls with disabilities a real chance to talk about experiences of violence and access to legal report systems helps to understand the scope of the topic and fosters the removal of taboos and stigmatisation.
- **Collect data:** There is a need for systematic collection and analysis of data on the life situation of women with disabilities. Only where success or failure becomes measurable does the pressure on those responsible increase.

#### BREAKING THE SILENCE GLOBAL SURVEY ON POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF ORGANISATIONS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

To truly leave no one behind and specially to reach the furthest behind first, we need to make sure that women and girls with disabilities have a seat at every table and get access to health, education, social, legal and economic services to finally break the silence.

### **About the Exhibition Silent Tears**



The exhibition Silent Tears portrayed in Bensheim.

The exhibition Silent Tears tries to change the view on gender-based violence and disability in a powerful way. The Australian artists Belinda Mason, Dieter Knierim, Margherita Coppolino and Denise Beckwith portrayed women across the globe, who have been subjected to violence because of their disability or acquired a disability caused by violence. Silent Tears stand for the turning point in the lives of the women. By publishing their experiences, they give a strong testimony and empower themselves to their own story.

If you are interested in co-hosting the exhibition in Europe or would like to plan joint activities, please reach out via politischearbeit@cbm.de. More information online: www.cbm.de/silent-tears

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#### About the Exhibition INDEED MY RIGHT!



Picture of a booth at the exhibition with various information and hands-on activities such as windows that can be opened to access further information.

The Petze-Institut für Gewaltprävention (The Petze Institute for the Prevention of Violence) is committed to the prevention of sexual abuse and sexual violence in Germany. They develop practical materials and projects for their prevention work. This includes the exhibition: ECHT MEIN RECHT! A touring exhibition on self-determination and protection against sexualised violence for people with learning difficulties.

Find more information here: https://petze-kiel. de please reach out via politischearbeit@cbm.de. More information online: www.cbm.de/silent-tears

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# A New Initiative to Produce Disability Statistics: The Disability Data Initiative

#### Background

Reporting on disability rights and human development indicators is essential to inform and support disability policy and advocacy. In particular, there is a need to monitor data and produce statistics disaggregated by disability status, related to the rights stipulated in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). As of January 2022, 184 countries have ratified the CRPD (United Nations 2022). Article 31 of the CRPD requires that States Parties "collect appropriate information, including statistical and research data, to enable them to formulate and implement policies to give effect to the present Convention". Many countries have also adopted national disability policies and legislations towards implementing the Convention and the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) also need to be monitored for persons with disabilities.

Have the rights of persons with disabilities been realised? It is hard to say. While there is considerable anecdotal evidence that much work remains to be done on the implementation front, the situation is unclear given limited data and statistics.

Data and statistics on disability need to be based on concepts that are in line with a human rights approach to disability. Statistics should be disaggregated by disability status, and reflect various aspects of the lives of persons with disabilities and their diversity. This is particularly important in the context of the pandemic during which disability inequalities may have been exacerbated and disability prevalence may have increased. The disability data initiative and its first report (Mitra and Yap 2021) provides the first systematic analysis of the disability questions in national censuses and household surveys globally. Such questions are what national disability statistics are based on. The initiative also exploits the increasing availability of internationally comparable disability questions by analysing 41 countries national census and/or survey data to produce indicators disaggregated across disability status.

## Analysis of Disability Questions in National Censuses and Household Surveys

The report finds that disability questions of any kind are absent for 24% of the countries and 65% of the household surveys and censuses under review. Disability questions that meet international standards of comparability, i.e. those that collect information on functional difficulties in at least four core domains (seeing, hearing, walking, cognition) (United Nations 2017) have been increasingly adopted. Yet, only 84 of the 180 countries and 16% of the household surveys and censuses under review have internationally comparable functional difficulty questions. In many countries' national household surveys and censuses, persons with disabilities continue to be invisible.

#### Analysis of Survey and Census Data for 41 Countries

This report also presents an analysis for 41 countries of national censuses and household surveys with functional difficulty questions. The report provides one

#### A NEW INITIATIVE TO PRODUCE DISABILITY STATISTICS: THE DISABILITY DATA INITIATIVE

of the first international efforts to document functional difficulty prevalence and education, work, health, standard of living and multidimensional poverty indicators for adults with and without functional difficulties. Earlier efforts used data from the early 2000s (WHO-World Bank 2011) or did not rely exclusively on internationally comparable disability questions (United Nations 1990; United Nations 2018).

The report finds that functional difficulties are not rare. Across countries, the median share of the adult population with any functional difficulty stands at 12.6%, while the median share of households with adults with functional difficulty is at 27.8%. This finding goes against the commonly held belief that persons with disability are a small minority. In addition, the extent to which some of these functional difficulties might be preventable through policies that address environmental barriers and underlying health conditions needs attention.

This report also finds significant inequalities associated with functional difficulties in terms of education, health, work and standard of living (e.g. electricity, adequate housing). A disability gap, i.e. a disadvantage for persons with functional difficulties compared to persons with no functional difficulty, is consistently found across countries and disaggregation methods in terms of educational attainment, literacy, food insecurity, exposure to shocks, asset ownership, health expenditures and multidimensional poverty.

In addition, for a majority of countries, there is a disability gap for the employment population ratio, the youth idle rate, the share of adults in informal work, living conditions and domestic violence. A multidimensional analysis, either by considering multiple deprivations or indicator-by-indicator basis, shows large and consistent inequalities.

#### Conclusion

Results of the first report of the Disability Data Initiative show that more policy work is needed to curb the inequalities across disability status and realise the CRPD. More work is also necessary to make sure persons with disabilities are not invisible in national survey or census data and in national statistics.

The next disability data report and website updates will be released in June 2022. It will continue to review datasets, including recent ones collected during the pandemic, and it will have data analysis results for additional countries.

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**Author:** Sophie Mitra, Fordham University and principal investigator of the Disability Data Initiative

# Aus der Praxis

# Katastrophenhilfe – wie inklusive Katastrophenvorsorge Leben retten kann

Das folgende Praxisbeispiel aus Haiti zeigt, wie inklusive Katastrophenvorsorge dazu beiträgt, die Bevölkerung auf Naturkatastrophen vorzubereiten. Das Modellprojekt zur Sensibilisierung und Stärkung der Bevölkerung gegenüber Naturkatastrophen, befindet sich im Nordwesten Haitis und wird von Handicap International (HI) gemeinsam mit lokalen Partner\*innen umgesetzt. Das Projekt wird bis Mitte 2022 mit Mitteln des Bundesministeriums für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit (BMZ) gefördert. Es ist wichtig, Katastrophenvorsorge inklusiv zu gestalten, da insbesondere Menschen mit Behinderung im Katastrophenfall einem erhöhten Risiko ausgesetzt sind. Untersuchungen des Büros der Vereinten Nationen für Katastrophenvorsorge (United Nations Office of Disaster Risk Reduction) zeigen, dass weltweit nur einer von fünf Menschen mit Behinderung im Katastrophenfall sicher evakuiert werden kann<sup>1</sup>.

#### Einleitung

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Haiti ist ein Land mit einem hohen Risiko für Naturkatastrophen. Das Projektgebiet Département Nord-Ouest ist hochgradig anfällig für Risiken in Verbindung mit Wasser, Witterung und Erdbeben. 80 Prozent der Kommunen in der Region befinden sich in einem Tsunamirisikogebiet und 100 Prozent des Gebiets liegen in einem Risikogebiet für Erdbeben. Zu der an sich bereits vorhandenen Gefährdung durch die geographische Lage, führt der Klimawandel dazu, dass extreme Wetterphänomene zunehmen. Um die Bevölkerung besser vor Naturkatastrophen schützen zu können, ist eine inklusive Katastrophenvorsorge notwendig. Nur so können alle Menschen besser auf das Eintreffen einer Katastrophe vorbereitet sein. Dafür müssen besonders Menschen mit Behinderung von Anfang an in die Vorsorgemaßnahmen miteinbezogen werden.



Bild 1: Die Mitarbeiter\*innen der lokalen Partnerorganisation bereiten sich auf eine Simulationsübung vor (© Jéthro-Claudel Pierre Jeanty/HI).

#### Umsetzung der inklusiven Katastrophenvorsorge in Haiti

Das Projekt im Nordwesten Haitis hat zum Ziel, Gemeinden für die Risiken von Naturkatastrophen zu sensibilisieren. Schutzbedürftige Familien und Schulungen regionaler Behörden zu inklusiven Notfallplänen stehen dabei besonders im Fokus. Ein wichtiger Aspekt des Projekts ist die Sensibilisierung vor den Gefahren der Hurrikans, da es in der Region eine jährliche Hurrikan-Saison mit regelmäßigen starken Stürmen und Überschwemmungen gibt.

Teil des partizipativen und gemeindebasierten Ansatzes zur Katastrophenvorsorge, sind Schulungen zur Risikosensibilisierung, die in den Gemeinden durchgeführt werden.

So werden gemeinsam mit den Gemeindemitgliedern inklusive Notfallpläne erstellt. Auch Evakuierungsübungen sind Teil dessen. Mit diesen Übungen wird sichergestellt, dass jedes Gemeindemitglied auf Warnzeichen reagieren und einen sicheren Ort erreichen kann. Dies ist elementar im Falle einer sich ankündigenden Naturkatastrophe. Denn Menschen mit Behinderung sind besonders gefährdet, nicht rechtzeitig evakuiert zu werden und zählen deshalb besonders häufig zu den Todesopfern von Naturkatastrophen. Gleicherweise werden regionale Akteure geschult, wie sie Risiken erkennen und Menschen mit Behinderung und schutzbedürftige Personen besser in Notfallpläne integrieren können.



Bild 2: Lokale Partner\*innen führen mit Gemeindemitgliedern Evakuierungsübungen durch. Hier wird eine Frau auf einer Trage transportiert (© Jéthro-Claudel Pierre Jeanty/HI).

Ebenfalls werden regionale Behörden und Evakuierungsteams beraten, wie sie die Bedürfnisse von besonders schutzbedürftigen Personen, wie Menschen mit Behinderung, Kindern oder älteren Menschen besser berücksichtigten können. Zum Beispiel wird ihnen erklärt, wie sie schutzbedürftigen Menschen am besten notwendige Informationen und Hilfe zukommen lassen und Notunterkünfte barrierefrei gestaltet werden können.

Des Weiteren spielen lokale Katastrophenschutzkomitees eine bedeutende Rolle. Diese sorgen im Falle einer eintreffenden Katastrophe für die reibungslose Umsetzung der neu entwickelten inklusiven Notfallpläne.

Außerdem wurde dem regionalen Notfallzentrum zur Vorbereitung auf die Wirbelsturm-Saison 2020 neue Technik zur Überwachung der Wetterentwicklungen bereitgestellt. Somit sollen Risiken möglichst schnell erkannt werden und entsprechend danach reagiert werden können. Im Falle eines bevorstehenden Hurrikans beispielsweise können dann Maßnahmen für eine Evakuierung der Bevölkerung rechtzeitig veranlasst werden.

#### Sicherung der Versorgung und der existenziellen Lebensgrundlagen

Aber nicht nur inklusive Notfallpläne sind Teil des Projekts. Auch der Ausbau von Straßen und Wasserspeichern wird verbessert, da somit ein schnellerer Zugang zu lebensrettender Hilfe und Trinkwasser sichergestellt werden kann. Darüber hinaus wird über nachhaltige Baumethoden mit lokalen Materialien informiert, die starken Stürmen standhalten können.

Da die Lebensgrundlage der Bevölkerung Haitis durch die regelmäßigen Naturkatastrophen häufig beschädigt oder zerstört wird, ist es wichtig, Sicherungsmaßnahmen für diese durchzuführen. Bei der Stärkung der wirtschaftlichen Widerstandsfähigkeit stehen vulnerable Haushalte besonders im Vordergrund. Jennifer M'Vouma, HI-Beauftragte für Katastrophenvorsorge und Anpassung an Klimawandel erklärt, dass Katastrophen nicht alle Menschen auf die gleiche Weise betreffen: "Es hängt viel davon ab, wo wir leben, von unserem sozioökonomischen Hintergrund, unserem Alter, unserem Geschlecht, ob wir eine Behinderung haben oder nicht. Es ist wichtig dabei, dass wir die unterschiedlichen Auswirkungen von Katastrophen auf die Menschen berücksichtigen und alle Faktoren in Betracht ziehen". Dabei können vulnerable Haushalte beispielsweise durch inklusive Familiennotfallpläne den Schutz ihrer Lebensgrundlage (Werkzeuge, Boote, Tiere) integrieren.

Eine wichtige Einkommensgrundlage in der Region ist die Fischerei. In diesem Fall sieht eine Sicherungsmaßnahme so aus, dass bestimmte Mechanismen entwickelt werden, um die wichtigen Fischerboote im Falle eines Hurrikans besser zu sichern. Eine andere im Projekt durchgeführte Sicherungsmaßnahme unterstützt Familien dabei ihre Gärten so anzulegen, dass starke Regenfälle nicht zum vollständigen Abtrag des fruchtbaren Bodens führen. Ebenfalls werden Aktivitäten zur Diversifizierung der Einkommensquelle durchgeführt. Insgesamt kann somit die Bevölkerung des Département Nord-Ouest eine größere Widerstandsfähigkeit gegenüber den regelmäßigen Naturkatastrophen aufbauen.

#### Notes

1 Das Büro der Vereinten Nationen für Katastrophenvorsorge (United Nations Office of Disaster Risk Reduction, UNDRR) liefert einige Zahlen und Fakten zu den Risiken für Menschen mit Behinderungen bei Katastrophen sowie Informationen über die UNDRR-Strategie zur Inklusion von Menschen mit Behinderungen in die Katastrophenvorsorge finden Sie unter: https://www.undrr. org/news/un-global-survey-explains-why-so-many-people-living-disabilities-die-disasters

Autorin: Emily Niklas, Handicap International e.V.

# Veränderungen bewirken – Teilhabe von Menschen mit Behinderung in Lateinamerika

Dem Zensus 2018 zufolge leben in Guatemala 10,4% der Bevölkerung mit einer Behinderung, das sind 1,7 Millionen Menschen (Instituto Nacional de Estadística Guatemala 2019). Gleichzeitig ist das Angebot an spezialisierten Dienstleistungen sehr gering und Menschen mit Behinderung erfahren eine erhebliche Benachteiligung im kulturellen, sozialen und politischen Bereich. Obwohl sich der guatemaltekische Staat durch die Unterzeichnung der UN-Behindertenrechtskonvention (UN-BRK) sowie nationalen Gesetzgebungen verpflichtet, die Rechte dieser Menschen zu schützen und umzusetzen, fehlt es an Durchsetzungsmechanismen, staatlichen Ressourcen und politischem Interesse. Es ist darum ein hohes zivilgesellschaftliches Engagement nötig, um die Entscheidungen und Handlungen der verantwortlichen Institutionen auf lokaler und nationaler Ebene zu beeinflussen und damit Menschen mit Behinderungen in ihren Rechten zu stärken.

Caritas international (Ci)<sup>1</sup> fördert seit Jahrzehnten gemeinsam mit seinen Partnerorganisationen in zahlreichen Ländern die Inklusion von Menschen mit Behinderung mittels der gemeindebasierten Rehabilitation (CBR-Konzept)<sup>2</sup>. Um die fehlenden und unzulänglichen Strukturen auszugleichen, werden bislang ungenutzte Ressourcen mobilisiert. Spezielles Fachwissen wird dabei an Familien, Gemeinden und lokale zivilgesellschaftliche Organisationen vermittelt, die selbst Akteur\*innen im Rehabilitationsprozess werden (vgl. Wegner-Schneider 2010).

Basierend auf dem CBR-Konzept unterstützt Ci auch Projekte in Guatemala. Partner im Departement Sololá ist die Organisation Asociación de Padres y Amigos de Personas con Discapacidad (AS-OPADIS, Verein der Eltern und Freunde von Menschen mit Behinderung). Der Elternverein wurde 2012 in San Lucas Tolimán gegründet und betreibt ein Therapiezentrum, um Kinder und Jugendliche mit Behinderungen zu unterstützen. Beispielsweise wird durch physiotherapeutische Angebote im Zentrum selbst, aber auch bei Hausbesuchen durch die Einbeziehung der Eltern und Vermittlung von Übungen nicht nur die Gesundheit der Kinder und Jugendlichen verbessert, sondern auch deren Alltag erleichtert. Der Verein erweitert sein Angebot stetig, um mehr Menschen zu erreichen und optimale Unterstützung leisten zu können. Mit Hilfe von Ci wurden im Jahr 2021 zusätzlich die Bereiche psychosoziale Betreuung und sensorische Therapie eingerichtet. Derzeit wird ein weiteres Gebäude errichtet, das anteilig von Ci finanziert wird. Unter anderem ist auch ein Schwimmbecken für Hydrotherapie vorgesehen, durch die das Wohlbefinden der Nutzer\*innen deutlich verbessert werden kann.

Die Arbeit der Organisation beschränkt sich aber nicht auf den Bereich Gesundheit, sondern erstreckt sich auch auf die Bereiche Bildung, Soziales Leben und Empowerment. In der aktuellen Projektphase liegt daher ein Fokus auf Inklusion an Schulen und in der beruflichen Entwicklung. Dafür wird entsprechendes Bildungsmaterial zur Förderung von Inklusion entwickelt und in den Einrichtungen im Departement verbreitet. Schulungen zur inklusiven Bildung und Sensibilisierung für Lehrpersonal und Schüler\*innen an vier Bildungseinrichtungen fördern die Akzeptanz und das Wissen der Beteiligten.

Um ihr Umfeld mit einzubeziehen und die Kinder und Jugendlichen in ihrer sozialen Teilhabe zu stärken, veranstaltet ASOPADIS halbjährlich Sport-, Kulturund Freizeitevents mit verschiedenen Gruppen der Gemeinde. Um den Betroffenen zu helfen, selbständiger zu werden, gibt es im Therapiezentrum Angebote für Jugendliche, wie gemeinsames Kochen, Malerei und Handwerk, die derzeit mit einer Pilot-Gruppe durchgeführt werden.

Aktuell wird die Umsetzung der Projekte und die Arbeit von ASOPADIS durch die COVID-19-Pandemie erschwert, die starke soziale und wirtschaftliche Auswirkungen in Guatemala hat. Dabei sind sowohl die regulären Angebote als auch das neue Programm an den Schulen durch die zeitweise Aussetzung des Präsenzunterrichts betroffen. Mit kreativen Lösungen versucht ASOPADIS ihre Mitglieder dennoch zu unterstützen, beispielsweise durch die Entwicklung eines COVID-19-Begleithefts für Familien zu Themen wie Hygiene, Prävention, Ernährung und sportliche Übungen, das in der Gemeinde verteilt wurde.

Eine weitere Herausforderung stellt die Akquirierung finanzieller Mittel sowie die Zusammenarbeit mit Behörden dar. Menschen mit Behinderung und ihre Institutionen erfahren in Guatemala unzureichende staatliche Unterstützung. Durch Besuche bei lokalen und regionalen Behörden sowie Teilnahme an Gremien versucht ASOPADIS die Situation zu verbessern und ihren Mitgliedern eine Stimme zu verleihen. Auch die Bevölkerung soll für das Thema sensibilisiert werden. Darum beteiligt sich die Organisation beispielsweise an der lokalen Fernsehsendung *A todos nos pasa* (Es geht uns allen so).

Welchen Einfluss der Einsatz auf politischer Ebene haben kann, zeigt der Erfolg der Organisation *Los Angelitos* (Die Engelchen) in El Salvador. Der Elternverein engagiert sich seit 2004 für die Inklusion von Menschen mit Behinderung und wird dabei von Ci unterstützt. Die Vermittlung von kostenlosen Reha-Maßnahmen nutzt die Organisation als Brücke, damit Menschen mit Behinderung und ihre Familien politisch aktiv werden und sich für ihre Rechte einsetzen. Die Arbeit von *Los Angelitos* hat die Wahrnehmung im Land für Menschen mit Behinderung gewandelt und die Thematik in den Medien präsenter gemacht. Im vergangenen Jahr hat die salvadorianische Regierung ein Gesetz zur Inklusion verabschiedet, wozu das Engagement von *Los Angelitos* wesentlich beigetragen hat<sup>3</sup>.

Kleinere Organisationen, wie ASOPADIS in Guatemala, können von diesen langjährigen Erfahrungen profitieren. Aus diesem Grund stärkt Ci die Vernetzung ihrer Partner in Zentralamerika und organisiert Austauschtreffen. Beide Projekte zeigen auf, wie die direkte Unterstützung der Betroffenen in den Gemeinden in Verbindung mit Lobbyarbeit auf lokaler und nationaler Ebene zu einer Verbesserung der Lebenssituation von Menschen mit Behinderung führen kann.

#### Notes

- 1 Im Ausland bekannt als Caritas Germany.
- 2 Engl. Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR)/Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID) auf der Basis der Internationalen CBR-Guidelines von 2010.
- 3 Informationen zum Projekt in El Salvador finden Sie unter: https://www.caritas-international.de/hilfeweltweit/lateinamerika/elsalvador/behinderte-staerken

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# Kurzmeldungen | Announcements

# Global Disability Summit 2022: Co-Chairs' Summary

On 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022, the Government of Norway, the Government of Ghana, and the International Disability Alliance co-chaired the second Global Disability Summit (GDS) 2022. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the event was held virtually and hosted 91 side-events. The Secretary-General of the United Nations participated in the Summit together with high-level representatives from UN member states. Other participants included heads of UN organisations and representatives of multilateral development banks, the private sector, organisations of persons with disabilities, civil society organisations and academia. Since the London Summit in 2018, the world has been hit hard by the pandemic. Participants underlined the need to build back better, and for pandemic recovery measures to ensure that systems and societies are inclusive, resilient, and sustainable. During the 2022 Summit, participants reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring that political will and leadership generate lasting and meaningful change for persons with disabilities. The summit did not only gather representatives from all regions of the world, but also accommodated widespread participation of different stakeholder groups. Approximately, 1,300 ambitious commitments were made by world leaders and organisations from across the world to improve the lives of people with disabilities. Hence, the summit announced new policies and funding, and ground-breaking

initiatives to support people with disabilities in education, inclusive health care, in the job market and in gender rights as well as the meaningful consultation and participation of organisations of people with disabilities (OPDs). At the close of the GDS 2022 it was announced that the third Global Disability Summit will be co-hosted by the governments of Germany and Jordan in 2025.

Information: https://www. globaldisabilitysummit.org/

### Climate Change Is Our Crisis Too! Persons with Disabilities Demand COP26 Break the Exclusion Cycle

As COP26 took place in Glasgow in November 2021, the International Disability Alliance (IDA), who was representing more than 1,100 organisations of persons with disabilities and had obtained observance status to officially participate at COP26, drew attention to the failure of including persons with disabilities in the world's efforts to combat the climate crisis. Persons with disabilities, despite being recognised as most at risk of the impact of climate change, have been largely excluded from decision-making processes and outcomes under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UN-FCCC), as well as from States' climate change policies and plans at the domestic level. Due to inaccessible disaster preparedness plans, systemic discrimination, and widespread poverty, people with disabilities are left behind in relief and response efforts. The impact of climate change has disproportionate effects on the lives, well-being, and livelihoods of persons with disabilities all over the world. Likewise, persons with disabilities may also be adversely affected by responses to climate change. Policies to reduce carbon emissions are often designed without considering the rights, perspectives, and requirements of the disability community, and do not address the differential costs and burdens that these changes may impose on individuals with disabilities. These types of ableist climate mitigation policies create barriers for persons with disabilities and reinforce social inequities. Hence, as the world moves forward with measures to combat climate change, IDA emphasises that it is vital that States and other actors design and implement disability-inclusive policies that enhance and protect, rather than undermine, the human rights of persons with disabilities.

Information: https://www.

internationaldisabilityalliance.org/blog/ climate-change-our-crisis-too-personsdisabilities-demand-cop26-break-exclusioncycle

# Words Matter: UN Disability Inclusive Language Guidelines Launched

The UN Disability Inclusive Language Guidelines in all six official UN languages were launched by the United Nations Office at Geneva to enable UN staff to communicate using disability-inclusive language, which supports the implementation of the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy. The language we use to refer to persons with disabilities has an impact, because it shapes our perception of the world, and can either help remove or create barriers to full and meaningful participation. With this approach, the guideline provides five general principles, examples of disability-inclusive and person-centred words, as well definitions a list of often misunderstood terms on disability. Guidelines in English, Chinese, Russian, and French are attached under the following link for an Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) reference. ESCAP has been active in disability-inclusion throughout the three consecutive disability-specific regional decade initiatives. ESCAP implements the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy and the ESCAP Disability Inclusion Policy, which ultimately support member States' implementation of disability-inclusive development. Information: https://www.

maketherightreal.net/news/words-matterun-disability-inclusive-language-guidelineslaunched

## Jamaica: Disabilities Act Coming into Effect on February 14, 2022

In Jamaica the Disabilities Act is to come into effect on 14th February 2022. Minister of Labour and Social Security, Hon. Karl Samuda, made the announcement during a sitting of the House of Representatives as he tabled the Disabilities Regulations, 2021, Resolution. The Regulations were approved by Members of the House and will now enable the Disabilities Act and all its attendant parts to come into effect. The Disabilities Act, which was passed in 2014, makes provisions to safeguard and enhance the welfare of persons with disabilities across Jamaica. The Regulations comprise 15 provisions, which cover, among other things, the registration of persons with a disability and the prohibition of discrimination against them. Minister Samuda said it is unfortunate that implementation of the Act has taken such a long time. Leader of Opposition, Mark Golding, in his contribution, said that the Disabilities Act is one of the most significant pieces of legislation to be passed in Jamaica in this millennium and appreciates that it sought to bring Jamaica's domestic law into compliance with the United Nations (UN) Convention for the protection of persons with disabilities.

Information: https://

globalaccessibilitynews.com/2021/10/19/ jamaica-disabilities-act-to-come-into-effecton-february-14-2022/

# Mali Passes New Law to Protect the Rights of People with Disabilities

In September Prime Minister Choguel Kokalla Maïga of Mali signed a new social decree into law that will protect the rights of people with disabilities. The decree of implementation is related to the Law of Social Protection, covers the correction of current legal deficiencies and will give people with disabilities greater access to employment, education and social benefits. One of these benefits includes better access to public sector jobs. People with disabilities will now be able to apply based solely on their skills and qualifications and without passing the required regular exam. They will also gain equal access to water, sanitation and hygiene services and development programmes and benefits. This will allow the specific requirements of people with disabilities to be considered across the board in various key development sectors. The Equal World Campaign and the Federation of People with Disabilities of Mali (FEMAPH) have been calling on the government to sign the decree for years.

Information: https://www.sightsavers.org/ news/2021/09/mali-passes-law-to-protectrights-of-people-with-disabilities/

# Court Victory for Persons with Disabilities in Kenya

The Constitutional and Human Rights Division of the High Court of Kenya recently delivered a judgment upholding the right to employment of persons with disabilities enshrined in article 27 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). In Wilson Macharia v Safaricom PLC, the Court upheld the rights to human dignity, fair administrative action and reasonable accommodation during the recruitment and employment of persons with disabilities in Kenya. In 2016, the Petitioner, Mr Wilson Macharia applied for a customer Experience Executive position at Safaricom PLC. The company had indicated that it is committed to creating a diverse environment and that all qualified applicants would receive consideration for employment without regard to race, colour, religion, gender, tribal origin, disability, or age. Despite this commitment, the company failed to integrate its customer service platform with the requisite software to enable Mr Macharia who is visually impaired to take up the position. Consequently, Mr Macharia sought for declarations to the effect that the company denied him employment based on his visual disability and that his right to be treated with dignity had been violated. In his submissions, Mr Macharia relied on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which entered in to force in 2008, and forms part of the laws of Kenya by virtue of article 2(6) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. The Court decided that Mr Macharia's right to human dignity as enshrined in the Kenyan Constitution was violated. The judgement is important as it reiterates the rights of persons with disabilities to human dignity and fair administrative action, provides an opportunity for further strategic litigation and conversations on the subject of reasonable accommodation at the workplace and forms part of other disability rights related cases which confirm that the Courts provide a suitable avenue to reinforce the human rights of persons with disabilities. **Information:** https://www.chr.up.ac.za/ dru-news/2638-court-victory-for-personswith-disabilities-in-kenya

# UN Chief: COVID-19 Laid Bare Barriers Faced by 1 Billion People with Disabilities

Marking the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, the United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres, said that those with a disability were among the hardest hit by the pandemic. As part of the day, Mr. Guterres argued that a disability-inclusive pandemic response and recovery should be guided by persons with disabilities themselves and that there is need to expand access to technology and strengthen institutions to create a more inclusive, accessible, and sustainable post-COVID-19 world. According to the UN, about 80 per cent of persons with disabilities live in developing countries. To respond to the needs of these people, the Secretary-General urged all countries to fully implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Governments, he said, should also work to increase accessibility, and dismantle legal, social, economic and other barriers with the active involvement of persons with disabilities and their representative organisations. In her message, the Director-General of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) highlighted how the pandemic had battered those with disabilities. Inequalities

relating to technology and the digital world were brough to the fore. She noted that, according to the latest Education Monitoring Report (GEM), only 68 per cent of countries have a definition of inclusive education and just 57 per cent mention all the multiple marginalised groups. Across the world several events took place to mark the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, which thematised reducing inequalities through technologies or shaping an inclusive future post COVID-19. Information: https://news.un.org/en/ story/2021/12/1107102

# IDA Welcomes Landmark HRC Resolution on Violence against Women with Disabilities

Though the reality of women and girls with disabilities and their vulnerability to violence is dire, the International Disability Alliance (IDA) and its members find hope in the nuanced approach of the United Nations Human Rights Council **Resolution on Accelerating Efforts** to Eliminate All Forms of Violence against Women and Girls: Preventing and Responding to All Forms of Violence against Women and Girls with Disabilities. Most notable is the recognition it gives to the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination that women and girls with disabilities face that result in violence. This Resolution was adopted in September by consensus (A/HRC/RES/47/15). The advance in internationally agreed language has been a demand of IDA's, its members and other organisations of women and girls with disabilities for a very long time. The Resolution also has the clearest articulation of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights in any UN Resolution to date. The negotiations resulted in a

robust and progressive text reflecting human rights standards and expressing strong commitments from States to respond appropriately to the scourge of violence against women and girls with disabilities by respecting, protecting, and fulfilling their rights.

#### Information: https://www.

internationaldisabilityalliance.org/blog/idacelebrates-landmark-human-rights-councilresolution

# Witchcraft Killings of People with Albinism Have Risen during the COVID-19 Pandemic, Says UN Expert

People being plunged into poverty during the COVID-19 pandemic has led to an increase in the killing of people with albinism, the outgoing UN appointed independent expert said in July. Ikponwosa Ero stated that people had been turning to witchcraft "because of the mistaken belief that using their body parts in potions can bring good luck and wealth". As the pandemic exacerbates the challenges faced by people with albinism, others have been verbally abused or banished from their communities. Earlier in the same month, the Human Rights Council passed a ground-breaking resolution condemning human rights violations committed through witchcraft accusations and ritual attacks and called for international consultation and recommendations on the matter. Ms. Ero mentioned that there has been much progress on several continents and cited a regional action plan on albinism in Africa and awareness-raising campaigns in Africa and countries like Brazil, Japan and Fiji. Also, research on albinism has increased more than tenfold and an explosion in data and reliable information has increased understanding of how the right to health, education, and

on disability rights and racial discrimination, pertain to people with albinism. But she added that there is still much to be done to demystify albinism and end discrimination. Information: https://news.un.org/en/ story/2021/07/1096692

# Unilateral Sanctions Particularly Harmful to Women, Children, Other Vulnerable Groups

According to an independent UN human rights expert unilateral sanctions are more likely to impact the human rights of vulnerable groups the populations of countries targeted by the sanctions. The Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, Alena Douhan, added that people with disabilities are among the groups most hurt by those sanctions. Vulnerable groups are often those who rely and depend the most on aid and support, but because of sanctions the supply of social and humanitarian aid is being hindered. The fear of consequences of inadvertent violations breaches leads to an over-compliance by entities and humanitarian NGOs are forced to stop operating in sanctioned countries because of these difficulties. It was noted that unilateral sanctions can be a major threat for targeted countries to achieve the universal Sustainable Development Goals that are meant to improve the lives of everyone, particularly the lives of vulnerable people. Calling, from a human rights point of view, to the United Nations, NGOs and other humanitarian actors to focus attention on vulnerable groups in sanctioned countries through ongoing monitoring and assessments of their human rights consequences, Ms. Douhan urged them to "intensify their engagement through collaborating

where possible and developing greater solidarity to ensure that the necessary humanitarian support gets through". She also called on States and Governments to avoid the adverse effect on human rights of unilateral sanctions and to take all necessary measures to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid in spite of sanction regimes. Information: https://news.un.org/en/ story/2021/12/1107492

# Special Rapporteur is Offering First Report on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the Context of Armed Conflict

At the 76<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly, the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Gerard Quinn, launched the first report on the rights of persons with disabilities in armed conflict. The report assesses the protection of persons with disabilities in the context of armed conflict and examines the current application of the specific obligations enumerated in Article 11 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and in Security Council Resolution 2475 (2019). It comes with a set of recommendations for states, multilateral agencies, and humanitarian organisations. The report on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Armed Conflict is the first of three in a series on advancing disability inclusion on the peace continuum. The forthcoming reports to the UN General Assembly will be in 2022 on the conduct of hostilities and disability and in 2023 on peacebuilding and disability. The report is based to a large extent on inputs by States, military authorities, and civil society actors as well as an expert consultation attended by experts on international humanitarian law, humanitarian action, and the rights of persons with disabilities. The inclusive drafting process enabled the report to reflect the perspective of organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) from around the world. The following link will lead you to the full report.

Information: https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ Issues/Disability/SRDisabilities/Pages/GA76-Armed-Conflict-Report.aspx

# Prolonged COVID-19 Pandemic Deepens Hardship for over 12 Million Forcibly Displaced People with Disabilities

At least 12 million people with disabilities are forcibly displaced worldwide, UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, estimates, and their already precarious situation is becoming harder as the COVID-19 pandemic drags on. The UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, Gillian Triggs points out that forced displacement disproportionately affects people with disabilities. They are often at higher risk of violence, discrimination, neglect, gender-based violence, exploitation and abuse, face barriers to access basic services, and are often excluded from education and livelihood opportunities. "While many refugees faced these unacceptable, preexisting risks of exclusion and discrimination, we fear that the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic is only deepening inequalities and hardship," she added. On the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, UNHCR was urging national authorities to do more to secure the rights of forcibly displaced and stateless people with disabilities and to counter all forms of discrimination. Governments and humanitarian actors must promote the meaningful participation of refugees, internally displaced and stateless persons with disabilities and ensure that their needs are taken into account in national disability inclusion plans as well as in COVID-19 prevention, response and recovery plans. Also, donors must commit to increase funding to ensure people with disabilities have access to protection, assistance, and solutions around the world. **Information:** https://reliefweb.int/report/

world/prolonged-covid-19-pandemicdeepens-hardship-over-12-million-forciblydisplaced-people

#### World Sight Day 2021

On 14<sup>th</sup> October, the World Health Organisation (WHO) was marking World Sight Day by raising awareness and focusing global attention on vision impairment, including blindness. The World Sight Day 2021 took place with the theme: Love Your Eyes. The WHO highlighted that globally, more than 2.2 billion people - a quarter of the world's population - have a visual impairment. This also includes at least 1 billion people who have near or distance vision impairment that could be prevented or has yet to be addressed. While around half of the vision loss is preventable or treatable, a lack of quality eye care services means many people cannot access the care they need. Yet, vision impairment and blindness can have major and long-lasting effects on all aspects of life, including daily personal activities, interacting with the community, school and work opportunities and the ability to access public services. Without urgent action, the number of people worldwide who are blind could increase dramatically. That is why the eye health has also been addressed at the 74th World Health Assembly in 2021, where Member States adopted two new global targets for eve care by, which will play a key role in not only increasing global eye care coverage in the future but also in delivering quality services. Information: https://www.who.int/newsroom/events/detail/2021/10/14/defaultcalendar/world-sight-day-2021

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# WHO and Partners Call For Urgent Action on Meningitis - New Meningitis Strategy Aims to Save More than 200,000 Lives Annually

The World Health Organisation (WHO) and partners launched the first ever global strategy to defeat meningitis - a debilitating disease that kills hundreds of thousands of people each year. By 2030, the goals are to eliminate epidemics of bacterial meningitis and to reduce deaths by 70% and halve the number of cases. Meningitis that is caused by bacterial infection tends to be the most serious - leading to around 250,000 deaths a year - and can cause fast-spreading epidemics. It kills 1 in 10 of those infected – mostly children and young people - and leaves 1 in 5 with long-lasting disability, such as seizures, hearing and vision loss, neurological damage, and cognitive impairment. The organisations estimate that in total, the strategy could save more than 200,000 lives annually and significantly reduce disability caused by the disease. This strategy, the Global Roadmap to Defeat Meningitis by 2030, was launched by a broad coalition of partners involved in meningitis prevention and control at a virtual event, hosted by WHO in Geneva. Its focus is on preventing infections and improving care and diagnosis for those affected. Over the last ten years, meningitis epidemics have occurred in all regions of the world, though most commonly in the 'Meningitis Belt,' which spans 26 countries across Sub-Saharan Africa. These epidemics are unpredictable, can severely disrupt health systems, and create poverty - generating catastrophic expenditures for households and communities. WHO and partners are providing support to countries to implement the Roadmap, including through the development of regional and national frameworks that will help countries achieve its ambitious goals.

Information: https://www.afro.who.int

# Centre for Human Rights Successfully Hosts 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Disability Rights in Africa Conference

In November, the Disability Rights Unit, Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria has successfully hosted its 9th Annual Disability Rights Conference. The conference was held virtually and focused on the sexual and reproductive health rights of persons with disabilities in the African region. Article 25 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) protects and promotes the right to health of persons with disabilities, including sexual and reproductive health. The conference sought to identify the implementation or lack thereof. One of the common misconception around sexual and reproductive health rights is that persons with disabilities are asexual, the conference sought to provide a platform in which such misconceptions are debunked. Various thematic areas were covered during the conference, such as the intersection between disability and other forms of vulnerabilities, the role of parents and teachers in the sexual and reproductive rights of children and learners with disabilities, safety and sexual and reproductive health and rights, sexuality education, access to justice as it relates to sexual and reproductive rights, and the strategies for the effective implementation of the sexual and reproductive rights of persons with disabilities. The topics presented at the conference ranged from academic research, empirical research, the social aspect of sexual and reproductive health rights, and self-testimonies of persons with disabilities themselves.

Information: https://www.chr.up.ac.za/ latest-news/2749-centre-for-human-rightssuccessfully-hosts-9th-annual-disabilityrights-in-africa-conference

# Literatur

# United Nations Report of the Secretary-General: Disability Inclusion in the United Nations System

When launching the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy in June 2019, the Secretary-General stated that the United Nations should lead by example and raise the organisation's standards and performance on disability inclusion. To track progress on steps taken by the United Nations system to mainstream disability inclusion and implement the strategy, the Secretary-General submits an annual system-wide report to the General Assembly. The report establishes recommendations for the system to do more and lays down concrete steps to support Member States to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, contributing to a more inclusive United Nations for all. This second report, for the 2020 programme year, establishes a baseline on disability inclusion across 130 United Nations country teams. The report also reflects on the clear progress made by entities to implement the strategy since its launch, documents common actions taken by the system to advance disability inclusion, as well as lessons-learned in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. Bezug: https://www.un.org/sites/un2. un.org/files/undis\_sg\_report\_2020\_english. pdf

#### Julian Eaton/Aleisha Carroll/ Nathaniel Scherer/Lucy Daniel et al.

# Accountability for the Rights of People with Psychosocial Disabilities: An Assessment of Country Reports for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) has been identified as a milestone in human rights protection, offering people with psychosocial disabilities the opportunity to hold their governments accountable for the realisation of their rights. To facilitate such accountability, the country reports produced under the CRPD reporting process should adequately reflect these persons' experiences and relevant positive or negative developments in the country. The study used content analysis to review the extent and quality of reporting related to mental health and psychosocial disabilities in 19 country reports. The criteria used were based on provisions of the CRPD and on priorities identified by a steering committee of people with psychosocial disabilities. The authors found a wide variation in the quantity and quality of states' reporting, with an indication that this variation relates to countries' economic development. Increasing the participation of representative organisations of people with psychosocial disabilities is needed for state parties to fulfil their reporting obligations. State parties must actively include these groups to ensure implementation of the CRPD principles. Bezug: https://cdn1.sph.harvard.edu/wpcontent/uploads/sites/2469/2021/06/Dryer. pdf

Catherine Carty/Daniel Mont/ Daniel Sebastian Restrepo/Juan Pablo Salazar WeThe15, Leveraging Sport to Advance Disability

# Sport to Advance Disability Rights and Sustainable Development

#WeThe15 launched at the Tokyo Paralympic Games. It aims to mobilise global partners to level the playing field for the 15% of the global population living with disabilities. This paper examines how current policy, human rights and development objectives seek this inclusive change. It explores how sport and the media, both popular components of culture globally, are vehicles for impacting positive change for individuals and society. Researchers conducted analyses of mainstream media coverage across the US, UK, Latin America, and the Caribbean (LAC) of the 2016 Summer Paralympics. This was taken as a proxy to popular culture or public perception of disability. Focus groups in Latin America examined athletes' use of their platforms to identify and overcome barriers and promote disability rights. Athletes reported access barriers to sport across infrastructure, culture, school, environment, and sport itself. They are willing to use their voice to advance inclusion. While work is needed, para-sport has potential in the policy context and culturally significant media platforms to promote human rights and sustainable development for all people with disabilities. Bezug: https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/13/21/11738

## Lauren Watters/Martina Orsander

# Disability-Inclusive Child Safeguarding Guidelines

Able Child Africa and Save the Children partnered to create the first international disability-inclusive child safeguarding guidelines. These guidelines provide advice on how to plan for disability-inclusive child safeguarding, with practical solutions for organisations and practitioners working across development and humanitarian sectors on how to include children with disabilities in each step of the process. For ease of reading, mini-read versions of the guidelines have also been developed. Part one outlines practical guidance for organisations. Part two outlines practical guidance for practitioners.

Bezug: https://ablechildafrica.org/ wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Able\_ Child\_Africa\_Save\_The\_Children\_DiCS\_ Guidelines\_Full.pdf

#### UNFPA

# We Matter. We Belong. We Decide. UNFPA Disability Inclusion Strategy 2022 – 2025

UNFPA works to ensure persons with disabilities are leading efforts to make the world more inclusive and are championing equal rights and a life free from violence. The UNFPA Disability Inclusion Strategy puts persons with disabilities at the very centre of everything UNFPA does. Disability inclusion means making the work of UNFPA stronger by ensuring sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for all. Focusing on the rights of persons with disabilities supports the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, especially the principle of Leaving No One Behind and Reaching the Furthest Behind, this strategy aligns with the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS) as well as the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2022-2025. Disability inclusion

matters because it contributes to all UNFPA transformative results. **Bezug:** https://www.unfpa.org/sites/ default/files/pub-pdf/2021\_Disability%20 Inclusion%20Strategy\_v06%20%282%29. pdf

# World Bank Disability Inclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Path to Sustainable Development

About 85 million persons with disabilities live in Latin America and the Caribbean today. They comprise a highly heterogeneous population but share a common history of invisibility and exclusion. In the last decades, persons with disabilities have improved their situation in terms of statistical visibility, poverty reduction, access to schools, and increased recognition and participation in public and private spaces. Yet, they are more likely to live in households that are poor, are overrepresented amongst the vulnerable, continue to face unequal opportunities in the labour market, have lower accumulation of human capital, and have limited voice and agency to have their aspirations of development included in decision-making. The report offers a snapshot of the drivers behind the persistent exclusion of persons with disabilities and proposes a framework to build an actionable agenda building on promising practices available in the region. The COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare the urgent need to build more inclusive and resilient societies. The region has shown its resilience in recovering from many crises in the past. Today, we are at a crucial flection point where it is clear that universal policies and economic growth alone are insufficient to eradicate the remaining pockets of exclusion. A disability-inclusive recovery should be at the core of the region's rebuilding strategy.

**Bezug:** https://openknowledge.worldbank. org/handle/10986/36628

## Inclusive Futures How Much Do Counties in Kenya Invest in Disability Inclusion? A Synthesis Report

This synthesis report summarises the major findings from those five briefings and provides context and supplementary information. It first discusses the disability prevalence rates at national and county level, and reasons for the discrepancies between the last two censuses. It then examines policy, governance, and institutional set up for inclusions of persons with disabilities. Then it presents the major findings from the five budget-tracking exercises. The report ends with general conclusions and recommendations. Bezug: https://asksource.info/sites/default/ files/SynthesisReport.pdf

#### **Inclusive Futures**

# Consequences of Exclusion: A Situation Report on Organisations of People with Disabilities and COVID-19 in Bangladesh, Nigeria, and Zimbabwe

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated inequalities and barriers to social inclusion for people with disabilities. These experiences of social exclusion have been felt to an even greater extent by women with disabilities and under-represented groups of people with disabilities, leading to a range of effects on the operations and priorities of organisations of people with disabilities (OPDs). To address a critical gap in the evidence base, the Disability Inclusion Helpdesk carried out a rapid assessment of the role of OPDs during the pandemic, and how the pandemic has affected OPDs' operations and priorities.

Bezug: https://www.

internationaldisabilityalliance. org/sites/default/files/english\_-\_ situation\_report\_opds\_covid\_19\_ report\_final.pdf

#### International Campaign to Ban Landmines–Cluster Munition Coalition (ICBL-CMC) Cluster Munition Monitor 2021

The Cluster Munition Monitor 2021 shows how the global efforts to eliminate and stigmatise these weapons through the international ban treaty continue apace despite the dislocation and upheavals brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. The report covers cluster munition ban policy, use, production, transfers, and stockpiling globally, and also contains information on the impact of cluster munition contamination and casualties, as well as developments and challenges in addressing such impact through clearance, risk education and victim assistance. The monitor focuses on calendar year 2020, with some information updated into August 2021 where possible.

**Bezug:** http://the-monitor.org/ media/3299952/Cluster-Munition-Monitor-2021\_web\_Sept2021.pdf

## Elizabeth Murray Disability-Inclusive Peacebuilding: State of the Field and the Way Forward

Despite being an estimated 15 percent of the world's population, people with disabilities are not routinely included in peacebuilding, which would benefit from their expertise and perspectives. Although efforts to include marginalised populations can help, the current deficits are too great to be remedied through general approaches. This report reviews the current state of disability inclusion in peacebuilding, covering the international legal frameworks, gaps requiring immediate attention, and opportunities. It concludes with recommendations for how organisations can further the inclusion of people with disabilities in peacebuilding.

**Bezug:** https://www.usip.org/sites/default/ files/2021-10/sr\_502-disability-inclusive\_ peacebuilding\_state\_of\_the\_field\_and\_the\_ way\_forward.pdf

# Islamic Relief Worldwide Tigray Refugees with Disabilities in Eastern Sudan Camps

The report showcases the persistent exclusion of persons with disabilities from the humanitarian response, which further exacerbates the situation of refugees with disabilities, contributing to the violation of their rights. It is based upon field research in two refugee camps in Eastern Sudan, fleeing from the Tigray conflict. The findings presented in this report were identified through qualitative methods including a desk review, interviews and focus group discussions. The research reveals the challenges faced by refugees with disabilities, including non-identification during the refugee registration process, and a lack of access to mainstream assistance programmes due to institutional, attitudinal, physical, and informational, and communication barriers. The barriers faced by refugees with disabilities mean that they are less likely to be included in decision-making processes or in the appointment of camp leadership and management committees. In general, as this research reveals, refugees with disabilities are among the most excluded of all displaced populations.

#### Bezug: https://www.

internationaldisabilityalliance.org/sites/ default/files/tigray\_refugees\_report\_final. pdf

# ADD International Preventing Violence against Women and Girls with Disabilities. Cambodia.

For women with disabilities, gender-based violence is often compounded by disability-based discrimination. Unfortunately, too many services that are meant to protect women do not consider the unique dangers and challenges faced by women and girls with disabilities. In Cambodia, survivors of, and those vulnerable to violence, are often not aware of their rights under existing laws or services available to support them. In rural areas, women, and girls, face multiple problems in accessing justice and support services. In 2018, ADD International partnered with six other Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), and Organisations of Disabled Persons (ODPs) and initiated a project to address the root causes of violence. This research learning paper aims to share key insights from this work. Women with disabilities who have directly experienced violence led the research process from designing questions to analysing findings. The report is meant to help guide policymakers, NGOs, ODPs, services providers, and activists in how to create effective primary prevention to protect women and girls with disabilities from violence. Bezug: https://add.org.uk/file/4436/ download?token=1IvuxoRD

# Human Rights Watch No One Represents Us: Lack of Access to Political Participation for People with Disabilities in Iraq

Human Rights Watch published this report ahead of the parliamentary elections on 10th October 2021 and concludes that people with disabilities in Iraq were facing significant obstacles to participating in the elections, due to discriminatory legislation, inaccessible polling places and significant legislative and political obstacles to running for office. Between January and August 2021, Human Rights Watch interviewed 14 people with disabilities as well as activists, authorities, and the staff of the Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC). The 36page report called for urgent reform, such as making sure that voting procedures, facilities, and election materials are accessible, to bring Iraq up

to international standards, so that all Iraqis can participate equally in the political process.

**Bezug:** https://www.hrw.org/ report/2021/09/16/no-one-represents-us/ lack-access-political-participation-peopledisabilities-iraq

## International Labour Organisation World Social Protection Report 2020-22

Despite the unprecedented worldwide expansion of social protection during the COVID-19 crisis, more than 4 billion people around the world remain entirely unprotected. It finds that the pandemic response was uneven and insufficient, deepening the gap between countries with high- and low-income levels and failing to afford the much-needed social protection that all human beings deserve. The report gives a global overview of recent developments in social protection systems, including social protection floors, and covers the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The report identifies protection gaps and sets out key policy recommendations, including in relation to the targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As social protection includes access to health care and income security, particularly in relation to e.g. disability, the report also points out that only one in three persons with severe disabilities worldwide receive a disability benefit. Bezug: https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/ groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/--publ/documents/publication/wcms\_817572. pdf

Inclusive Friends Association (IFA)/Save the Children/Action Against Hunger (AAH) Situation Analysis: The Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Social Protection in Nigeria

With support from Save the Children International Nigeria through its partnership with the Inclusive Friends Association (IFA), this situational analysis was commissioned to highlight Nigeria's socio-economic context and the inclusion of persons with disability within social protection programmes in the country. This report helps to gather findings on the extent to which persons with disability are knowledgeable, meaningfully participating, accessing, benefiting, and impacted by the social protection policies, programmes, and processes in Nigeria. Bezug: https://resourcecentre. savethechildren.net/document/situationalanalysis-inclusion-persons-disabilitiessocial-protection-nigeria/

Lena Morgon Banks/Monica Pinilla-Roncancio/Matthew Walsham et al.

# Does Disability Increase the Risk of Poverty in All Its Forms? Comparing Monetary and Multidimensional Poverty in Vietnam and Nepal

To meet the Sustainable Development Goals target of ending poverty in all its forms, it is critical to monitor progress towards poverty alleviation, including amongst people with disabilities. This research used data from a population-based nested case control study and compares monetary and multidimensional poverty levels amongst people with and without disabilities in the districts of Cam Le, Vietnam and Tanahun, Nepal. Overall, there were no significant differences in incidence of monetary poverty between people with and without disabilities. However, approximately half of people with disabilities were multidimensionally poor in both settings, twice as frequent as compared to people without disabilities. Amongst people with disabilities, multidimensional poverty was associated with having a functional limitation affecting cognition and self-care, disability severity and younger age. The high incidence

of multidimensional poverty amongst people with disabilities even in the absence of monetary poverty indicates a need for social protection and other interventions.

**Bezug:** https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/ pdf/10.1080/13600818.2021.1985988

## Inclusive Futures Labour Market Assessment: Bangladesh, Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda

Inclusive Futures compiled four labour market assessments for Bangladesh, Kenya, Nigeria, and Uganda. All Labour Market Assessments are a refresh of the initial assessments done in 2019 for the Inclusion Works programme. The assessments adopt a Markets for Poor (M4P) approach to mapping demand for and supply of labour, supporting functions and regulatory frameworks, recognising that labour markets conditions will have evolved since 2019. The perspectives of jobseekers, employers, and organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) are also included in these analyses. The reports provide insights into market changes and recommendations to enable Inclusion Works programming to adapt and be more effective in their interventions. The assessments are captured in four separate publications.

Bezug: https://asksource.info/sites/default/ files/Labour%20Market%20Assessment%20 -%20Bangladesh%20-%202021.pdf; https://asksource.info/sites/default/files/ Labour%20Market%20Assessment%20-%20 Kenya%20-%202021.pdf; https://asksource. info/sites/default/files/Labour%20 Market%20Assessment%20-%20Nigeria%20 -%202021.pdf; https://asksource.info/ sites/default/files/Labour%20Market%20 Assessment%20-%20Uganda%20-%202021. pdf

#### Ishaque Mia

# Case Study on Best Practices in the Inclusive Employment of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities in Bangladesh

This case study investigates the barriers that persons with intellectual disabilities face in Bangladesh in finding and retaining inclusive employment and highlights good practices in providing an inclusive and accessible work environment. Twenty people were interviewed in Bangladesh, including persons with intellectual disabilities, family members, and employers. The interviews emphasised the need to adapt work practices and workplace culture as a whole in order to create an inclusive environment for persons with intellectual disabilities, not just provide individualised adaptation and support. The case study finishes with recommendations for the government of Bangladesh and employers, including measures to prevent discrimination, incentivise employment in the private sector, and train the workforce to create inclusive environments for persons with intellectual disabilities and all other employees.

**Bezug:** https://www.ds-int.org/inclusiveemployment-case-study-and-webinars

#### World Bank

# Policy Recommendations on Accelerating Inclusive Employment of Persons with Disabilities in Bangladesh

Disability-inclusive development directly responds to the World Bank's twin goals of ending extreme poverty and promoting shared prosperity. Disability and poverty are inherently linked, with persons with disabilities having poorer health outcomes, lower education achievements, less economic participation, and higher rates of poverty than people without disabilities. Poverty may also increase the risk of disability, by leading to the onset of health conditions associated with disabilities. The development challenges faced by persons with disabilities need to be addressed through a multisectoral and multidimensional approach that entails measures to improve accessibility and equality of opportunity; promotes participation and inclusion; and increases respect for the autonomy and dignity of persons with disabilities. Ensuring the social and economic inclusion of persons with disabilities in Bangladesh remains a challenge. To break the cycle of disability exclusion and poverty for persons with disabilities and their households, access to work and or livelihoods is essential. This note provides a set of recommendations to support the equitable participation and inclusion of women and men with disabilities in the labour market through a variety of mechanisms, including legislative policies, education and skills development, self and wage employment, social protection, accessibility, and the importance of changing attitudes. Bezug: https://openknowledge.worldbank. org/handle/10986/36521

Valéria Aydos/Daniela Navarini/ Bernardo Oliveira

# The Paradox of Remote Working in COVID-19 Pandemic Times: Disability, Inclusion, and Accessibility in Brazil

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many countries have adopted social isolation as a strategy to fight and limit the spread of the global crisis of COVID-19, which has impacted organisation processes and employee's relationships with one another. Several issues such as the lack of accessibility and adaptations on work routines, that were already present in people with disabilities' life in the work environment are now highlighted, bringing to light theoretical debates and practical discussions about the experience of using technological accommodations as possible strategies for promoting

accessibility and inclusion. Based on narratives of people with different corporalities in this contemporary shifting reality, in this article, the authors aim to reflect on how accessibility issues are being managed in labour practices in Brazil. More precisely, they seek to understand the role and effects of this new use of technology on social inclusion and exclusion of people with disabilities in the times and spaces where they work remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Bezug:** https://dsq-sds.org/article/ view/8359/6188

### Christoffel-Blindenmission (CBM) Inclusive Education Training Guide

This package is designed to assist with the training of staff within CBM and its partners. It has been prepared with country and regional advisory staff in mind but will have value for project/programme management and other staff, too. This training package focuses on inclusive education. It interprets inclusive education in a broad sense as a dual process of bringing about education system change, at all levels of education, to the benefit of all learners, and supporting the needs of individual learners, especially those with disabilities. It is not a training about specific impairments, nor will it show participants how to identify, teach and support learners with specific impairments. Instead the package helps participants to understand better the overarching challenges being faced and the systematic programme and advocacy approaches that CBM, its partners and other similar organisations need to engage with.

**Bezug:** https://afri-can.org/wp-content/ uploads/2021/09/Inclusive\_Education\_ Training\_Guide\_\_Accessible.pdf

#### World Bank

# Learners with Disabilities and COVID-19 School Closures: Findings from a Global Survey Conducted by the World Bank's Inclusive Education Initiative

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the world quickly experienced a crisis within a crisis, a global public health emergency that exacerbated educational inequalities within a learning crisis that was already occurring for hundreds of millions of young people who were attending school without acquiring basic skills in literacy and numeracy. Specifically, COVID-19 intensified this learning crisis massive school closures and a subsequent economic recession. Governments tried to respond to these unprecedented times by employing remote learning initiatives using both digital and nondigital formats. However, inadequate infrastructure or the absence of trained teachers who could quickly transition to online models of teaching often limited the effectiveness of such responses. This study arose from a deep need to understand the experiences of learners with disabilities during the onset of COV-ID-19 and the accompanying school closures. The survey was disseminated in May 2020 and the findings from this survey show various examples of a two-track approach, as well as the importance of Universal Design Learning (UDL) in remote teaching and learning for learners with disabilities. Bezug: https://openknowledge.worldbank. org/handle/10986/36326

#### UNESCO

# Violence and Bullying in Educational Settings: The Experience of Children and Young People with Disabilities

Learners with disabilities are disproportionately affected by school violence and bullying at all ages and in all learning settings. This has significant adverse impacts on their education, health, and well-being. This document aims to raise awareness of the problem and encourage action to ensure that children and young people with disabilities have access to a safe learning environment. For the first time, it brings together evidence on the scale and nature of violence and bullying affecting learners with disabilities in educational settings. The document is primarily intended for education policymakers and planners, school management, principals, teachers and other school staff; and may also be of interest to organisations of persons with disabilities, parents' associations, youth organisations, the media and the wider public.

**Bezug:** https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ ark:/48223/pf0000378061?posInSet= 1&queryId=66d5f7f9-94e2-4253-9cc9eba3d7b7ee8a

# UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office Sign Language for Deaf Children's Education and Guidance on its Use in Accessible Digital Teaching & Learning Materials

While we are witnessing a growing awareness among policy makers in the ESA region of the need to make education more inclusive especially for children with disabilities, data on children with disabilities, policies, and funding to support their access to quality education remain major issues and will be bottlenecks to progress towards SDG4. As part of the United Nations Partnership for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) multi-country initiative Promoting Inclusive Education through Accessible Digital Textbooks, UNICEF ESARO wishes to support efforts to improve schooling and learning opportunities for children with hearing disabilities by providing guidance on the use of sign languages. The document seeks to improve inclusive education for deaf learners by advancing the

use and official recognition of national sign languages as the first and most accessible natural languages and the consistent use of national sign languages in the development of accessible digital teaching and learning materials for deaf children. Although the guidance note focuses primarily on countries in the Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) region, it can also help inform efforts to develop accessible digital teaching and learning materials in other regions. **Bezug:** https://www.unicef.org/esa/ media/9531/file/UNICEF-ESA-Guidance-Use-Sign-Language-ADT.pdf

Syeda K. Ahmed/David Jeffries/ Anannya Chakraborty et al. Teacher Professional Development for Disability Inclusion in Low- and Middle-Income Asia-Pacific Countries: An Evidence and Gap Map

According to prior research, teacher readiness and capability are key contributors for successful transition towards disability inclusive education, yet in-service teacher professional development for disability inclusion remains an under-researched area. The key objective of this evidence and gap map (EGM) is to locate evidence on interventions for disability inclusion focused teacher professional development (TPD) in low-to-middle-incomecountries (LMICs) in the Asia-Pacific region. As such, it will illustrate different levels of evidence for TPD interventions as well as where there is no evidence (i.e., gaps). In other words, the EGM can make agencies aware where they might be operating in an area that is evidence-free or evidence-weak so they can take up interventions that are evidence-based or collect evidence for the intervention they are presently supporting. Thus, the ultimate goal for the EGM is to assist funders and implementing agencies when making decisions as to how to support LMICs in the region to reach their aim of developing

quality teachers for the global inclusive
education agenda.
Bezug: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/
doi/10.1002/cl2.1201

# Anna Hata/Joko Yuwono/ Ruwiyati Purwana/Shinsaku Nomura Embracing Diversity and Inclusion in Indonesian Schools: Challenges and Policy Options for the Future of Inclusive Education

This policy note reviews the current status of Inclusive Education (IE) in Indonesia with dedicated attention to children with disabilities, focusing on school facilities and environment, teacher competency, and governance and service delivery. The study used focus group discussions to understand stakeholder perspectives in the implementation of IE, in addition to an extensive review of policy frameworks and IE practices in Indonesia and international good practices. This policy note finds that while the government has made progress on establishing policy framework for IE, the implementation of IE faces significant challenges. IE has not been fully mainstreamed into the education system due to limited legal and financial responsibilities and coordination at national, local, and school levels. The study also provides policy recommendations in three strategic areas including access and equity of IE, quality of teaching and learning, and improved governance and ecosystem of service delivery.

**Bezug:** https://documents1.worldbank. org/curated/en/535361634052935364/ pdf/Embracing-Diversity-and-Inclusionin-Indonesian-Schools-Challenges-and-Policy-Options-for-the-Future-of-Inclusive-Education.pdf

#### UNFPA/ Women Enabled International

Compendium of Good Practices during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Ensuring Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for Women and Girls with Disabilities

As research conducted by UNFPA and Women Enabled International (WEI) in 2020 has revealed, the COV-ID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on the rights and wellbeing of women and girls with disabilities. Healthcare systems and providers have been overstretched, local clinics providing family planning services and shops providing menstrual hygiene items have closed during the crisis, some clinics and hospitals implemented rules that reduced accessibility and the way that healthcare services are delivered has been changed. But there have also been positive developments. The good practices outlined in this Compendium come from all regions of the world and represent diverse healthcare systems, cultures, and socioeconomic positions. This resource aims to aid a range of actors such as United Nations Country teams, civil society, governments, multilateral organisations, and others involved in COVID-19 response and recovery—as well as planning, response, and recovery from other crises-to ensure that their practices are inclusive of women and girls with disabilities and ensure their rights.

**Bezug:** https://womenenabled.org/wpcontent/uploads/2021/11/UNPRPD-UNFPA-WEI-Compendium-of-Good-Practicesduring-the-COVID-19-Pandemic.pdf

# Faruk Ahmed Jalal/Esrat Jahan/ Md. Tareq Mahmud/Md. Rakibul Islam/Md. Mazedul Haque/ Samira Naher Tazreen Step Towards Disability Inclusive Sexual Reproductive Health: Learnings from WISH2ACTION Project

The WISH2ACTION project was being implemented in Bangladesh between September 2018 and August 2021. During these years of implementation, Handicap International (HI) worked to ensure the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the sector of sexual and reproductive health through community engagement as well as policy changes at the national level. Throughout the project period, many success stories and good practices were drawn as learning and could be used as a reference for future practices, and HI Bangladesh is delighted to introduce these documents of learning through this publication.

**Bezug**: https://asksource.info/sites/default/ files/Step%20Towards%20Disability%20 Inclusive%20Sexual%20Reproductive%20 Health%20Learnings%20from%20 WISH2ACTION%20Project%20%20English. pdf

Jane Wilbur/Nathaniel Scherer/ Islay Mactaggart et al.

# Are Nepal's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene and Menstrual Hygiene Policies and Supporting Documents Inclusive of Disability? A Policy Analysis

This study assesses the inclusion of disability in Nepal's policy and guidance relevant to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), and menstrual hygiene management (MHM) in comparison to gender. The authors investigated both policy formulation and implementation, using the Kavrepalanchok district as a case study. Though the Constitution of Nepal enshrines gender equality and disability inclusion,

there are consistent gaps in attention to disability and MHM in policies and practice. These omit and exclude people with disabilities from MHM interventions. Investment is required to generate evidence on the MHM barriers faced by people with disabilities, which would then be drawn on to develop training on these issues for professionals to improve understanding. Subsequently, policy makers could include more concepts of human rights against disability in relevant policies and service providers could implement policy commitments as intended. Bezug: https://equityhealthj.biomedcentral. com/articles/10.1186/s12939-021-01463-w

#### USAID

# The Effects of COVID-19 On Non-Communicable Disease: A Case Study of Six Countries

Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) are health conditions that cannot be transmitted from one patient to another, and usually manifest a prolonged, persistent, and slow pathology. NCDs are responsible for over 70% of all deaths, with nearly 80% of these deaths occurring in low-and middle-income countries. In addition, NCDs constitute approximately 80% of all years lived with disability globally. With the global population aging, rises in multi-morbidity, longer life expectancies, and increasing survival rates, more and more people are expected to live with the health burden of NCDs. This research attempts to understand the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on NCDs in Burkina Faso, Bangladesh, Colombia, DRC, Nigeria, and Syria. All six countries are included in the iM-MAP COVID-19 Situational Analysis Program, as they are affected by humanitarian crises and conflicts. The report covers the effects of COVID-19 on access to health services, resources allocations, and the medical status of the patients with NCDs.

**Bezug:** https://reliefweb.int/sites/ reliefweb.int/files/resources/The%20 effects%20of%20COVID-19%20on%20Non-Communicable%20disease\_\_A%20Case%20 Study%20of%20Six%20Countries%201.pdf

# Christoffel-Blindenmission (CBM)/Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) Integrated Health and Rehabilitation Services in Mass Displacement: A Model for Inclusive Healthcare from the Rohingya Response in

Bangladesh Since August 2017, extreme violence in Myanmar has driven almost 860,000 Rohingya refugees across the border into Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh. In partnership with the Centre for Disability in Development (CDD), CBM has been providing health and rehabilitation services in the Rohingya camps and host community. This documentation on the CBM/CDD model of health and rehabilitation service provision is based on their continuous learning throughout the past four years and also reflects on the feedback and experiences that clients have given. This documentation is intended to provide a replicable example to be used by other humanitarian health actors to implement integrated health and rehabilitation services which are inclusive and accessible for all persons. The CBM/ CDD health and rehabilitation services within the Cox's Bazar Refugee Camps includes general health services, eye health services, audiometry, rehabilitation therapy) and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS). Bezug: http://cbm-global.org/wp-content/ uploads/2021/12/CBM-CDD\_Integrated-Health-and-Rehabilitation-Services-in-Mass-Displacement.pdf

#### UNICEF

## Seen, Counted, Included: Using Data to Shed Light on the Well-Being of Children with Disabilities

Millions of children with disabilities around the globe continue to be left behind, despite the near-universal ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the call for action embedded in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the clear mandate set by the Sustainable Development Goals. Often, this neglect is the result of limited data. When absent from official statistics, children and adults with disabilities remain politically and socially invisible, increasing their marginalisation and exposure to rights violations. Recent years have seen renewed interest in generating reliable and internationally comparable data on children with disabilities. Using the latest available data, the publication covers more than 60 indicators of child well-being - from nutrition and health, to access to water and sanitation, protection from violence and exploitation, and education. The report also includes the first-ever global and regional estimates of children with disabilities.

**Bezug:** https://data.unicef.org/resources/ children-with-disabilities-report-2021/

#### Islay Mactaggart/Ammar Hasan Bek/ Lena Morgon Banks et al.

Interrogating and Reflecting on Disability Prevalence Data Collected Using the Washington Group Tools: Results from Population-Based Surveys in Cameroon, Guatemala, India, Maldives, Nepal, Turkey, and Vanuatu

The Washington Group (WG) tools capture self-reported functional limitations, ranging from six domains in the Short Set (SS) to 11 in the Extended Set (ESF). Prevalence estimates can vary considerably on account of differences between modules and the different applications of them. The authors compare prevalence estimates by WG module, threshold, application and domain to explore these nuances and consider whether alternative combinations of questions may be valuable in reduced sets. They conducted secondary analyses of seven population-based surveys (analyses restricted to adults 18+) in Low- and Middle-Income Countries that used the WG tools. The prevalence was higher using the ESF than the SS, and much higher (5 to 10-fold) using a wider threshold of some or greater difficulty. The WG tools are valuable for collecting harmonised population data on disability. It is important that the impact on prevalence of use of different modules, thresholds and applications is recognised. An alternative SS may capture a greater proportion of people with functional domains without increasing the number of items. Bezug: https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/18/17/9213

# Josephine E. Prynn/Sarah Polack/Islay Mactaggart et al. Disability among Older People: Analysis of Data from Disability Surveys in Six Low- and Middle-Income Countries

This analysis of surveys from six low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) aimed to estimate the prevalence of disability among older adults and compare experiences and participation in key life areas among older people with and without disabilities which may show vulnerability during the COVID-19 pandemic. Data were analysed from district-level or national surveys in Cameroon, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Nepal, and the Maldives, which across the six databases totalled 3499 participants aged 60 years and above including 691 people with disabilities. Disability was common among adults 60+, ranging from 9.7% (8.0-11.8) in Nepal to 39.2% in India (95% CI 34.1-44.5%). Mobility was the most commonly reported functional difficulty. In each setting, older people with disabilities were significantly less likely to be working and reported greater participation restrictions and environmental barriers in key life areas compared to people in the same age categories without disabilities. Disability is common in this population, and older people with disabilities may have greater difficulties participating in COVID-19 responses and have high economic vulnerabilities. It is imperative to prioritise the needs of older people with disabilities in the COVID-19 pandemic, including ensuring accessibility of both health services and the community in general.

Bezug: https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/18/13/6962

# Inclusive Futures Uganda's Disability Data Landscape and the Economic Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities

This report looks at the landscape of data on disability in Uganda - summarising what data on persons with disabilities is available, who produces and uses it, and how - as well as what this means for the economic inclusion of persons with disabilities. For persons with disabilities to benefit from and contribute to society and the economy there needs to be effective policies, programmes and services that support their inclusion, particularly in employment. Reliable information and data on persons with disabilities is essential to planning and for decision-making. The report highlights important data sources, challenges, and recommendations, providing a valuable evidence base to inform efforts aimed at strengthening the enabling environment for disability inclusion.

**Bezug:** https://asksource.info/sites/default/ files/Uganda%20Disability%20Data%20 Landscape.pdf

# Veranstaltungen/Events

#### 20.04. – 22.04.2022

**4th International Conference of the World Federation of the Deaf, Bangkok, Thailand** Information: https://wfdbangkok2021.com/ Kontakt: info@wfdbangkok2021.com

#### 1st Deafblind International Africa Conference, Nairobi, Kenya & Digital

Information: https://www.deafblindinternational.org/conferences/africa/ Kontakt: africaconference@deafblindinternational.org

#### 15th Session of the Conference of States Parties to the CRPD, New York

Information: https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/conference-of-states-parties-to-the-convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities-2.html Kontakt: UN DESA

High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) 2022, New York Information: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf#hlpf2022 Kontakt: UN ECOSOC

#### Hochschullehrenden-Workshop "All Means All - inklusive Umsetzung von SDG 4 zwischen Anspruch und Realität"

Information: https://www.bezev.de/de/home/bildungsarbeit-fuer-nachhaltige-entwicklung/ inklusive-bne-in-der-ausserschulischen-bildungsarbeit/all-means-all-inklusive-umsetzungvon-sdg-4-zwischen-anspruch-und-realitaet/ Kontakt: langensiepen@bezev.de

#### World Health Summit 2022, Berlin, Germany & Digital

Information: https://www.worldhealthsummit.org/whs-2022.html Kontakt: contact@worldhealthsummit.org

# Schwerpunktthemen kommender Ausgaben der Zeitschrift Focal Topics of Upcoming Issues

1/2022: Inklusive Arbeit Inclusive Work

#### 2/2022:

Organisationen von Menschen mit Behinderungen Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs)

.....

3/2022: Inklusion in der Daseinsvorsorge Inclusion of Services of General Interest

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Kurzbeiträge/Other contributions

 1/2022
 2/2022
 3/2022

 Hauptbeiträge/Focal articles
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 01.04.2022
 01.07.2022

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#### Disability and International Development

The journal Disability and International Development is published three times a year since 1990, featuring contributions in both English and German. Its objective is the scholarly and practice-oriented discourse on disability in the Global South. The journal aims at providing a platform for a cross-border dialogue and promoting the professional discussion of related development policy, pedagogical/educational, socio-political and intercultural questions. Each issue is dedicated to a focal topic, complemented by single contributions on other subjects and up-to-date information.

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