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Bridging the Gap II (BtG-II)

Learning Spaces (LS) - Concept note

Webinar-based Training Cycle 2018-2019

1 – INTRODUCTION

Bridging the Gap II (BtG-II) is an initiative funded by the European Union coordinated by the International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies (FIIAPP) in partnership with the Spanish Agency for Development Cooperation (AECID), the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (IADC), the European Disability Forum (EDF) and the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC). It aims to contribute to the **socio-economic inclusion, equality and non-discrimination of persons with disabilities** through more inclusive and accountable institutions and policies.

Bridging the Gap is a targeted thematic response to the requirement to **make development cooperation accessible to and inclusive of persons with disabilities**, which is an obligation for the European Union (EU) and Member States as parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and which can have a significant impact in improving the social inclusion and promoting the rights of persons with disabilities.

Bridging the Gap has developed a comprehensive three-pillar **Knowledge Management Strategy**. A webinar-based training cycle is proposed in the framework of the Third Pillar of the Strategy (Learning Spaces to **LEARN and TRAIN**). As illustrated below, the cycle will gradually explore the different cross-cutting issues taken into consideration by the project.

Overall, the webinar cycle aims to foster a culture of disability mainstreaming in development and to define a homogeneous approach to the project cross-cutting topics.

2 – WEBINAR #1

The **first webinar** focuses on:

1. Introduction to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: principles, content and structure.



3 – NEXT WEBINARS

Following the first session, the Learning Spaces will develop and estimated eleven webinars tentatively focused on:

2. The SDGs and their references to disability
3. Disability-inclusive development
4. Inclusive and accessible project cycle management
5. Inclusive and accessible communication
6. Legislating for Disability Rights
7. Inclusive education
8. Universal access to employment
9. Access to Health
10. Advocacy programmes at local level
11. Women and disability
12. Livelihoods

The webinars will be prepared and conducted by field experts selected by Bridging the Gap II. Experts have been/will be contacted to provide the trainings which should be as much as possible interactive, replicable and shareable. Already existing tools, documents and networks will be mobilised¹.

As much as possible, each webinar will be conducted in English, French and Spanish in separate sessions. Other languages may be added based on the availability of experts and/or material.

4 – TARGET AUDIENCES

The webinar cycle is addressed to the **three target groups** of the project, namely:

1. Development practitioners (for instance: agencies, EU delegations)
2. National institutions of the partner countries
3. National organisations of persons with disabilities

The audience may vary according to the topic object of the webinar.

5 – WEBINAR DURATION

Each webinar lasts for one hour and a half.

¹ Ex.: Bridging the Gap I, IDA's BRIDGE initiative, COCEMFE's training on inclusive development, etc.



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6 – FIRST SESSION: LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND OVERVIEW

| N. | Session title | When/ Duration | Overview | Activity |
|----|---|--|--|---|
| 1 | Introduction to the CRPD: principles and structure | <p>19 March 2018 at Spanish – 4:30 pm</p> <p>26 March 2018 at French – 10:30 am English – 2:30 pm</p> <p>Brussels time CET</p> <p>1.5 hours</p> | <p>The module focuses on the development of knowledge to understand the CRPD and analyse its principles and attributes. The session starts explaining the concept of disability as fundamental step to understand why the CRPD was necessary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is disability? • Different approaches to disability. • A short introduction to the Convention. • What is the purpose of the Convention? • Key principles of a human rights approach to disability (general principles of article 3 of the Convention). • The structure and content of the Convention: principles and attributes. | <p>Icebreaker 15 mins – What is disability? Different approaches to disability.</p> <p>Comments and Remarks from the Audience 15 mins</p> <p>Presentation 30 mins – CRPD, principles and structure.</p> <p>Questions & answers 30 mins – A&Q plenary session – Debate</p> |

8 – FOLLOWING SESSIONS

| N. | Session title | When | Learning Objectives |
|----|---|-------------------|---|
| 2 | The SDGs and their explicit references to disability | 23 April 2018 | <p>To learn about the SDGs</p> <p>To provide practical tools to uphold CRPD implementation and CRPD-compliant SDGs</p> |
| 3 | Disability-inclusive development | 28 May 2018 | To contextualize the CRPD as a development instrument in Africa and South America. To use key concepts of the CRPD to advance disability-inclusive development. |
| 4 | Inclusive and accessible project cycle management | 24 September 2018 | To increase skills in the application of key inclusion concepts and tools in project cycle management. |
| 5 | Inclusive and accessible communication | 22 October 2018 | To increase skills in the application of key inclusion concepts and tools in communication. |



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| 6 | Legislating for Disability Rights | 26 November 2018 | To identify potential gaps in legislative provision in relation to the CRPD and to learn on advocacy for the legislative purposes. |
| 7 | Inclusive education | 28 January 2019 | To identify barriers to access to education and to review the main provisions of CRPD Article 24. |
| 8 | Universal access to employment | 25 February 2019 | To identify barriers to access to work and employment and to review the main provisions of CRPD Article 27. |
| 9 | Access to Healthcare | 25 March 2019 | To devise a number of strategies to overcome barriers to the inclusion of persons with disabilities in health services according to CRPD article 25. |
| 10 | Advocacy programmes at local level | 29 April 2019 | To improve the capacity of BtG-II target groups to implement disability-inclusive advocacy programs. |
| 11 | Women and disability | 27 May 2019 | To empower and foster the rights of women with disability and mothers of children with disabilities. |
| 12 | Livelihoods | 24 June 2019 | To enable full inclusion through mainstream access alongside disability-specific support. |