PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ARE FUNDAMENTAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS!

The 2030 Agenda for Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted by all world leaders in 2015. The 2030 Agenda is a universal plan of action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity. It enshrines 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be achieved by 2030, by all countries.

The SDGs are universal and they provide a clear policy framework for regulatory actions at national and international level. They must be implemented in all countries.

Inclusion is at the core of the 2030 Agenda with not only a pledge to “leave no one behind” but also an agreement “to reach the furthest behind first”.

For the goals to be reached, everyone needs to do their part:
• governments,
• civil society,
• the private sector,
• organisations of persons with disabilities,
• and citizens like us!

How are persons with disabilities included?

The 2030 Agenda commits to empower people at risk of vulnerability, including persons with disabilities. The 2030 promotes universal respect for human rights, equality and non-discrimination.

Persons with disabilities are clearly included in the following SDGs:

- Goal 1 - No poverty
- Goal 4 - Quality education
- Goal 8 - Decent work and economic growth
- Goal 10 - Reduced inequalities
- Goal 11 - Sustainable cities and communities
- Goal 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions
- Goal 17 - Partnership for the goals

Persons with disabilities are also implicitly included in the following goals:

- Goal 3 - Good health and well-being
- Goal 5 - Gender equality
- Goal 6 - Clean water and sanitation
- Goal 7 - Affordable and clean energy

What are the 2030 Agenda for Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?
What is the European Disability Forum?

The European Disability Forum (EDF) is an umbrella organisation of persons with disabilities that defends the interests of over 80 million Europeans with disabilities. We are a unique platform which brings together representative organisations of persons with disabilities from across Europe. We are run by persons with disabilities and their families. We are a strong, united voice of persons with disabilities in Europe.

What is EDF’s role?

EDF wants the SDGs to become a reality for the 80 million of Europeans with disabilities.

Our work focuses on four main areas:

1. Support EDF members to implement and monitor the SDGs at the national level,
2. Promote SDGs policy on disability-inclusive development at the European level,
3. Share information with other regional platforms of persons with disabilities outside the EU,
4. Advocate for data disaggregation by disability.

What can you do? (EDF can support you!)

- Join your SDG national platform
- Organise trainings about the SDGs
- Share information about the SDGs
- Find out who is responsible for the SDGs in your government
- Find out who is responsible for the CRPD in your government and advocate for SDGs awareness
- Ask to join your national delegation attending the High Level Political Forum (the event monitoring the implementation of the SDGs)

Data in the SDGs

The inclusion of specific references to persons with disabilities in the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs is highly positive. However, collecting data on persons with disabilities remains challenging because the process is deemed uneasy. But this data is very necessary because impairment and severity differences can have a significant impact on experiences of inclusion.

EDF advocates for data to be disaggregated by disability, using the Washington Group Short Set of Questions. EDF also recommends to work with National Statistics Offices so they integrate disability-specific questions into their national surveys.

We want more reliable and comparable data on disability so we can truly understand the exact nature of barriers for persons with disabilities, determine actions to be taken, and plan for their implementation!

Are you looking for more information about the 2030 Agenda for Development and the SDGs?

Check out EDF’s webpage

Read EDF’s human right report on the link between the SDGs and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2018)

Read the Easy-to-read version of the European Human Rights Report

Any other questions, contact Dr. Marion Steff, SDGs coordinator: marion.steff@edf-feph.org