



Report from the Survey on EDF's Members' needs

Prepared by Magdalena Verseckas (Funding and Grants Coordinator)

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1. Introduction

This mapping survey was organized by EDF's Funding and Grants Coordinator Magdalena Verseckas to understand needs and priorities of EDF members in areas of fundraising and capacity building in areas of policy and communication.

The collected data will be used to improve EDF's fundraising processes to better support EDF's members.

The survey was opened on the 5th of July 2023 and closed on 1st of January 2024.

Thanks to the survey Funding and Grants Coordinator has an data base of contacts among members of persons responsible for fundraising and projects in member organisations that she can approach with information and invitations to new projects.




EDF is very thankful to all Members who dedicated their time to fill in the survey.

2. Results of the survey

2.1 General information

Survey was filled in by 27 Members:

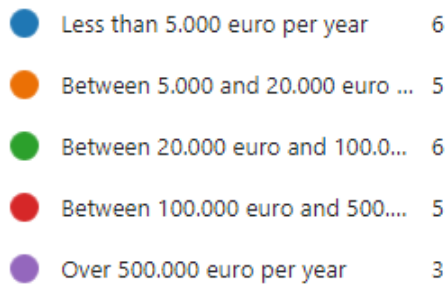
- 37% National Councils
- 48% European NGOs
- 15% Other

 National Council	10
 European NGO	13
 Other	4



We wanted to check financial situation among our members, so we asked about their yearly income. Size of organisations' annual average yearly income during last 3 years:

- 24% said that less than 5.000 euro
- 20% said between 5.000 and 20.000 euro
- 25% said between 20.000 euro and 100.000 euro
- 20% said Between 100.000 euro and 500.000 euro
- 12% said Over 500.000 euro



2.2 Involvement in the projects

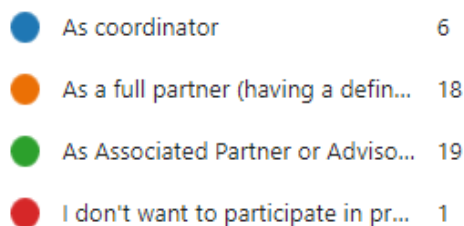
For most of the Members providing the co-financing in the European projects is the problem. The co-financing on level 5-10% is acceptable for most of them.

Most of the Members don't accept funding from pharmaceutical companies as well as tobacco and alcohol producers.

93% of Members are interested in being involved in projects, only one member is not and one didn't know. It shows the importance of development of EDF activities in this area. Members wish to join EDF's projects as full or associated partners, rather than coordinating them. It means that there is a wish for EDF to lead on the projects and invite Members to join. However, there is a small group of Members who wish to lead on the project – in this case EDF could play advising and supporting role. This means that EDF could try to increase capacity of members in project development and implementation.

Members differ in types of preferable involvement in projects.

- 14% want to join projects as coordinator
- 67% want to join projects as full partner (having a defined activities and budget allocated to cover staff cost during the whole project)
- 70% said want to join projects as Associated Partner or Advisory Board
- Only 1 Member said that they don't want to participate in projects



Regarding the content of the projects most Members are interested in the topic of accessibility, employment, digital skills, education, political participation, independent living, health and youth.

Among topics proposed by Members we can list: migration, green social economy, aging, regional networks, deinstitutionalization, children's rights, international cooperation, peer support, hate crime, mental health, and human rights.

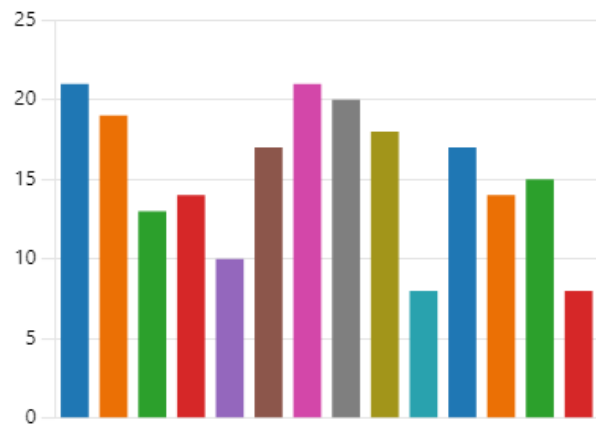
Each of Members had to list 3 main areas they would like to work on.



Members would like to work on projects in following areas:

- 80% is interested in Accessibility
- 80% is interested in Employment
- 76% is interested in Digital Skills, Education and Political Participation
- 72% is interested in Independent Living
- 68% is interested in Health
- 60% is interested in Youth
- 56% is interested in Inclusion of People with High Support Needs, Women rights and Accessible Tourism
- 40% is interested in Culture
- 32% is interested in Sexuality.

● Accessibility	21
● Digital skills	19
● Women	13
● Youth	14
● Culture	10
● Health	17
● Employment	21
● Education	20
● Political participation	18
● Sexuality	8
● Independent living	17
● Accessible tourism	14
● Inclusion of people with high su...	15
● Other	8



Since EDF is often approached by different companies and organisations with requests to provide trainings and speakers on accessibility, disability, and other related topics. We asked Members if they would be interested in providing paid trainings on behalf of EDF and we followed up with question on the area of expertise.

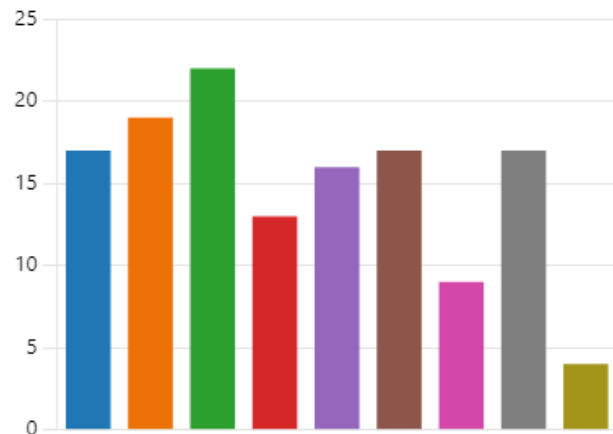
95% of respondents are interested. Funding and Grants Coordinator added areas of expertise to the Members database and will use it in the future when EDF will be approached by interested companies/organisations.

2.3 Capacity building

We asked Member what type of support in area of capacity building they would expect from EDF. The survey showed that the main areas that Members expect support from EDF are networking, invitation to projects and capacity building:

- 85% participation in networking activities and exchange of best practices
- 69% participation in the projects
- 65% support in advocacy activities
- 62% improving organizational management and capacity (e.g. in creation of organization strategy, HR),
- 62% support in fundraising,
- 62% training
- 50% networking with potential civil society partners (e.g. equality bodies, women's organisation, LGBTI organisations, victims' support organisations)
- 35% engaging and leading a membership network.

Support in advocacy activities	17
Participation in projects as a wa...	19
Networking with other member...	22
Networking with potential civil s...	13
Improving organizational mana...	16
Support in fundraising	17
Engaging and leading a membe...	9
Training	17
Other	4



In order to plan EDF's capacity building activities for Members well, we also wanted to know what topics of training would be interesting for our Member organisations. The majority of Members is interested in gaining Fundraising, EU policy and advocacy and leadership skills.

Respondents also proposed topics related with Human Resources and staff development (internal policies, recruitment, knowledge retention, getting better response to surveys) and communication training.

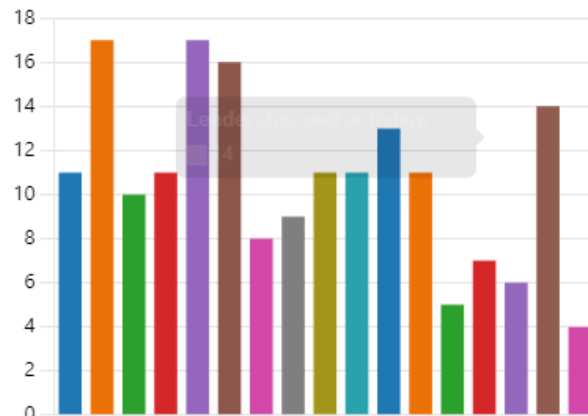
Members are interested in following trainings:

- 62% in Fundraising and income generation
- 62% in EU policy
- 58% in Advocacy
- 54% in Leadership and activism
- 46% in Working with media
- 42% in Accessibility in communications
- 42% in Project management



- 42% in Campaigning
- 38% in CRPD and CRPD/CEDAW review
- 38% in Social Media
- 35% in General training on Communications
- 35% in International cooperation and humanitarian action
- 31% in Being a diverse and inclusive organization
- 27% in Accessibility
- 23% in Organisation of trainings
- 19% in Clear writing

● CRPD and CRPD/CEDAW review	11
● EU policy	17
● International cooperation and h...	10
● Project management	11
● Fundraising and income generat...	17
● Advocacy	16
● Being a diverse and inclusive or...	8
● General training on communicat...	9
● Campaigning	11
● Social media	11
● Working with media	13
● Accessibility in communications	11
● Clear writing	5
● Accessibility	7
● Organisation of trainings	6
● Leadership and activism	14
● Other	4



We wanted also to know the practical preferences of Members in relation to trainings provided by EDF. We can see that Members are interested both in online and face-to-face trainings – with the preference to online ones. Members wish to participate in face-to-face trainings both during the governing bodies meetings but also in their own countries.

- 96% Online
- 73% Face to face during or around the Board meeting or AGA
- 46% Face to face in your country

There was not one preferred time for online trainings, all the parts of the day were the same popular.



2.4 Policy work

Members of EDF are interested in working in many policy areas – the main are: accessibility, employment, health, education and independent living.

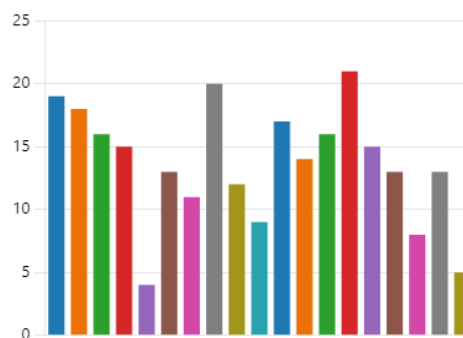
Amongst others Members mentioned: Digitalization; Political participation; International development cooperation and humanitarian aid, Deinstitutionalization.

We also asked Members to choose their own three priorities they would like to work in coming two years.

Responses in numbers:

- 83% Employment
- 79% Accessibility of transportation, or nondiscrimination and human rights
- 75% Accessibility of built environment
- 67% Health, or Accessibility of Information and Communication Technologies
- 63% Accessibility of products and services, or Social Protection
- 58% Education, or independent living.
- 54% EU Disability Card, or Poverty and Social Exclusion
- 50% Personal Assistance, or Youth
- 46% Women rights
- 38% Culture
- 33% Family Support for Inclusion
- 17% Climate action, just transition, and sustainability (“Green Deal”)

Accessibility of transport	19
Accessibility of built environment	18
Accessibility of Information and ...	16
Accessibility of products and ser...	15
Climate action, just transition, a...	4
EU Disability Card	13
Women	11
Non-discrimination and human ...	20
Youth	12
Culture	9
Health	17
Independent living	14
Social Protection	16
Employment	21
Education	15
Poverty and social exclusion	13
Family support for inclusion	8
Personal assistance	13
Other	5





The types of support that Members would you like to get from EDF in their policy work includes:

- Information and trainings on new and existing EU legislation and policy initiatives (67%)
- Support in national implementation of EU legislation) More direct involvement in the EU legislative procedures (58%)
- Information and trainings on the EU in general, for example how the institutions work or the EU decision-making procedure (33%).

The other responses include: Best practice and resource sharing, Continued support from EDF to fight the draft Oviedo protocol, developments in the area of DI and independent living, and fighting for implementation of concluding observations by CRPD Committee.

2.5 Communications

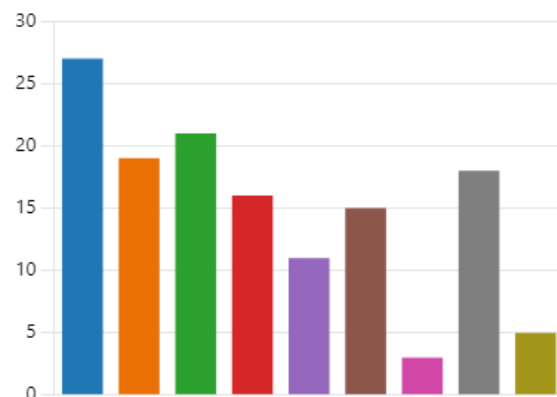
In area of communication, we wanted to know what our Members are using and where are the gaps that EDF could help with.

All our Members have websites and most of them are using social media. In their communication work they use also YouTube and Vimeo, organise ad hoc campaigning activities, meetings and seminars and do a lot of email communication.

Detailed numbers can be found below:

- 100% use Website
- 78% use Facebook
- 67% send Newsletters
- 63% publish Press/Media/Contacts with journalists
- 56% use Twitter or LinkedIn
- 41% use Instagram
- 19% mentioned other responses like
- 11% use TikTok

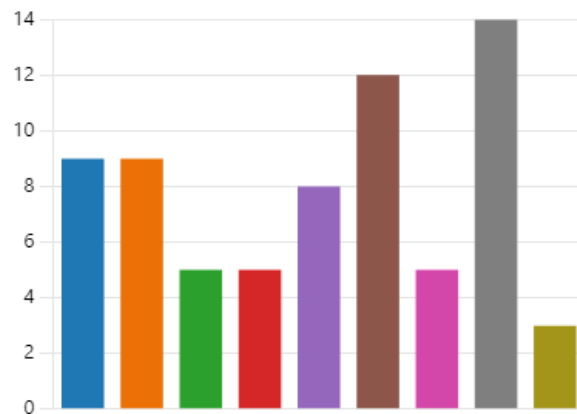
Website	27
Newsletters (online or offline)	19
Facebook	21
Twitter	16
Instagram	11
LinkedIn	15
TikTok	3
Press/Media/Contacts with jour...	18
Other	5



The tool that Members would like to improve or learn to use are Press/Media/Contacts with journalists (59%), LinkedIn (50%) and Website (41%). Members are rather happy with their Newsletters (only 36% would like to improve it), Instagram (32%), TikTok (23%) and Facebook, or Twitter (18%). Some Members would like to learn how to better organise face-to-face meetings.



Website	9
Newsletters (online or offline)	9
Facebook	5
Twitter	5
Instagram	8
LinkedIn	12
TikTok	5
Press/Media/Contacts with jour...	14
Other	3



The target groups of communication of our Members are the same as EDFs and cover the following groups:

- Their members (96%)
- Persons with disabilities in general (69%)
- The General Public (69%)
- Other Disability Organizations (62%)
- Policymakers at national level (58%)
- Policymakers at European Level (54%)
- Companies (42%)

2.6 Additional comments

We gave the Members a place where they could have added other comments they have. All the comments are listed below.

- Support (political and financial) from public authorities for National Councils varies greatly from one country to another within the Union. Greater political support and lobbying of national governments by the EDF could make it easier for National Councils of Governments to gain support.
- Specific targeted trainings on new topics (for instance, artificial intelligence) might be organised around the Board, AGA.
- It would be good to work more closely together with EDF and other EU level members on common issues - operating grants, recruitment, leadership, IT support for organisations etc. Perhaps having meetings 1-2 per year, or some training etc.
- Our annual budget has risen extraordinarily in the past 2 years thanks to the EDF projects. We have very limited funding (about 20 000 €) except this money.
- Thank you for your constant and important support to our organization and the opportunities to engage with other EDF members. We do not always have the resources to participate as much as we would like, but try our best knowing our greater solidarity in numbers!
- Whenever we asked EDF for support, this was always and immediately given. This type of support is very beneficial to us. Having just one person doing all that is required is very frustrating and EDF's continuous support alleviates this frustration.



- According to our new strategy, we really need to improve the funding opportunities and enlarge the team.
- As we cannot afford to hire staff, we would like to leverage your communications and advocacy teams to design a coordinated communication strategy and campaign for ME/CFS, advocating for an urgent and dedicated EU strategy on ME/CFS.
- Thanks for this survey! We believe it will be useful and we hope to work and network more with EDF and other members.

3. Conclusions

The mapping survey appeared to be a very useful source of information about members. All collected information will help us to plan better EDF's activities towards members.

List of main conclusions is presented below.

- Only 23% of Members replied to the survey. It was exactly 27 organisations, which is less than the Board members and it was achieved with a big effort and sending lots of communication – why? European NGOs were more active in responding – why? Do they have more capacity or do we have better cooperation with them?

It seems like at EDF we should rethink the way we work with Members and improve ways we connect and cooperate with them.

- Our Members are rather small and poor organisations, 45% yearly budget is below 20.000 euro and next 20% below 100.000 euro. IN this situation it is crucial for EDF to continue developing ways that we could support our Members financially and empower in other ways in order to have strong and independent disability movement.
- 93% of Members are interested in being involved in projects (most as partner). It seems that participation in projects is an attractive way of support for Members. In this case there is needed a discussion – if we should dedicate more energy in the secretariat in developing more projects?
- It was interesting to see the areas that Members would like to work on. In most cases we know it, but there are also some new topics that EDF is not working on at the moment. Members would like to work on projects in following areas:

- Accessibility
- Employment
- Digital Skills
- Education
- Political Participation
- Independent Living
- Health



- Youth
 - It is great to know what needs Members have in area of capacity building and expected support that EDF can offer. It's interesting to see that Members have a big appetite for networking activities as it was not so clear for us until now. On the second place Members expect to be invited in the projects, receive support in advocacy activities and help in improving organizational management and capacity (e.g. in creation of organization strategy, HR) and fundraising. This is very important to see that now Members expect a lot of practical support, not only in policy area.
 - Members' expectations regarding the trainings are divided between EU policy and advocacy skills and practical skills like: fundraising and income generation, Leadership and activism and Communication.

4. Annex 1 Survey

Mapping of EDF members' needs

Introduction:

This mapping is organised by EDF's Funding and Grants Coordinator to understand needs and priorities of EDF members in areas of fundraising and capacity building. All collected information is confidential. The collected data will be used to improve EDF's fundraising processes to better support EDF's members.

The survey is open until 11th September 2023.

For any questions, please contact Magdalena Verseckas Magdalena.verseckas@edf-feph.org

Questionnaire:

Projects and Fundraising

1. Is your organisation interested in being involved in projects?
2. What is your preferable involvement in projects? (1-5)
 - a. As coordinator



- b. As a full partner (having a defined budget and activities for 0,5-1 time person per month during the whole project)
 - c. As Associated Partner or Advisory Board (only participating in project meetings, reviewing documents with travel cost covered and remuneration per day etc.)
 3. Would your organisation be interested in being invited to the projects as Associated Partner / Advisory Board member when the remuneration is assured? In this role organisation usually has to participate in one-two meetings per year, review publications or training materials. (yes/no)
 4. What areas of projects are interesting for your organisation?
 - Accessibility
 - Digital skills
 - Women
 - Youth
 - Culture
 - Health
 - Employment
 - Education
 - Political participation
 - Sexuality
 - Accessible tourism
 - Independent living
 - Inclusion of people with high support needs
 - Other
 5. What are the 3 main areas your organisation would like to work on in the next 2 years?
 6. Is there any specific topic you would like to work on in cooperation with other EDF members?
 7. EDF is often approached by different companies and organisations with requests to provide trainings (on accessibility, disability, and other related topics). Would your organization be interested in providing paid trainings? What is your area of expertise?

Capacity building

1. What type of support from EDF would be interesting for your organization?
 - Support in advocacy activities
 - Participation in projects as a way to implement changes and a source of funding



Networking with other members and exchange of best practices

Networking with potential civil society partners (e.g. equality bodies, women's organisation, LGBTI organisations, victims' support organisations)

Improving organizational management (e.g. in creation of organization strategy, HR)

Support in fundraising

Engaging and leading a membership network

Training

Other

2. What topics of training would your organisation be interested in?

CRPD and CRPD/CEDAW review

EU policy

International cooperation and humanitarian action

Project management

Fundraising and income generation

Advocacy

Being a diverse and inclusive organization

General training on communications

Campaigning

Social media

Working with media

Accessibility in communications

Clear writing

Accessibility

Other (please be precise)

3. What type of training is interesting for your organisation?

a. Online

b. Face to face during or around the Board meeting or AGA

c. Face to face in your country

d. Other

4. What is your preferred time for online trainings?

Morning 9-11

Noon 11-13

Afternoon 13-15



5. What type of support/expertise you could offer to EDF secretariat and other EDF members?

Policy work

1. Areas that you work on from policy perspective:

Accessibility of transport

Accessibility of built environment

Accessibility of Information and Communication Technologies

Accessibility of products and services

Climate action, just transition, and sustainability (“Green Deal”)

EU Disability Card

Women

Non-discrimination and human rights

Youth

Culture

Health

Independent living

Social Protection

Employment

Education

Poverty and social exclusion

Family support for inclusion

- a. Other (please add here topics interesting for you)

What are 3 main policy areas you would like to focus on in the next 2 years, including new topics?

What support would you like to get from EDF in your policy work?

Information and trainings on new and existing EU legislation and policy initiatives

Information and trainings on the EU in general, for example how the institutions work or the EU decision-making procedure

Support in national implementation of EU legislation) More direct involvement in the EU legislative procedures

- d) Other



Communications

1. What are the tools that you use to communicate:

Website

Newsletters (online or offline)

Facebook

Twitter

Instagram

LinkedIn

TikTok

Press/Media/Contacts with journalists

Other

2. What are the tools that you would like to improve or learn to use?

- Website
- Newsletters (online or offline)
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- LinkedIn
- TikTok
- Press/Media/Contacts with journalists
- Other

3. What are the target groups of your communication?

Your members

Other disability organisations

Persons with disabilities in general

Policymakers at European level

Policymakers at national level

Companies

General public

Others

4. Additional comments:



About your organisation:

1. Name of the organisation
2. Country
3. Type of Membership
 - a. National Council
 - b. European NGO
 - c. Other
4. Type of disability your organisation is representing
5. Name and Surname of person filling in the survey
6. Contact email:
7. Contact person for fundraising / project activities in your organization
8. How many people work in your organization?
9. What is the estimated monthly cost (including taxes) of hiring a project officer in your organisation?
10. What is the daily rate (consultancy rate) in your organisation?
11. In some projects the funder is covering only 80-90% of the cost of the projects and organisations have to cover the rest from their own budget. Is 10-20% of co-financing needed for European projects an issue for your organization?
12. Is there a type of funding you would not accept (e.g. pharmaceutical companies, corporations etc)? If yes, what is it?

Other

Additional comments and remarks.