

Disability Inclusive Recovery in Ukraine

WHAT SHOULD BE FUNDED?

Ukraine Recovery Conference – Rome, July 2025



**The smart money, the right money,
goes where it lifts everyone.**



EMPOWER UKRAINE
disability rights

What you need to know

Persons with disabilities, including veterans and civilians injured during war should be able to live full and fulfilling lives. Statistically, over 2.7 million people (and now an additional 300 000 since February 2022) live with a disability in Ukraine, and are facing systemic barriers in accessing education, employment, healthcare, and public infrastructure.

The stories of courage, determination, and hope of Ukrainians, including persons with disabilities, remind us that no one should be left behind, especially in times of conflict and reconstruction.

Research shows that inclusive investments, from accessible urban design to workplace accommodations are not just ethical; they offer high social and economic returns. International frameworks like the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to which Ukraine and the European Union is a party, provide clear legal obligations on how to build more equitable systems.

We know it instinctively: rebuilding without inclusion wastes potential and weakens progress. The smart money, the right money, goes where it lifts everyone.

Investing in inclusion means investing in sustainable peace and human rights, in Ukraine, the region and globally.

Let's make Ukraine's recovery an example of inclusive reconstruction for the world.

What's Already Working

Examples from EDF-supported projects:

- **Inclusive infrastructure planning**
Persons with disabilities established an Accessibility Expertise Centre advising local authorities.
- **Humanitarian cash assistance**
Persons with disabilities led disability-inclusive needs assessments influencing EU-funded relief.
- **Women's leadership**
Persons with disabilities train and mentor women with disabilities in crisis contexts.
- **Deinstitutionalisation pilots**
Persons with disabilities co-developed strategies for closing institutions and creating community-based alternatives.
- **Disability inclusive trainings on humanitarian action and security in Ukraine**
These courses are invaluable for anyone engaged in Ukraine's humanitarian efforts, whether you're a practitioner or a person with disabilities facing conflict-related challenges.

Warsaw
Declaration





What You Should Fund

1. **Involve people with disabilities in decisions.** Invest in groups led by people with disabilities so they can help plan and check recovery efforts.
2. **Support laws that protect rights.** Fund changes that follow the United Nations rules on the rights of people with disabilities.
3. **Include everyone.** Make sure recovery efforts reach people who are often left out, especially women and children with disabilities.
4. **Build accessible places.** Invest only in schools, homes, health clinics, and transport that everyone can use.
5. **Collect the right data.** Make sure information is gathered by age, gender, and disability so no one is missed.
6. **Make humanitarian aid accessible to all.** Only support emergency aid that meets international standards for including people with disabilities.
7. **Help people live in the community.** Fund services that let children and adults with disabilities live at home, not in institutions, where we live happier lives, and contribute to society.
8. **Plan for emergencies for all.** Support disaster plans that include people with disabilities.



Who We Are

European Disability Forum (EDF)

EDF is the umbrella organisation representing 100 million persons with disabilities in Europe.

The National Association of Persons with Disabilities (NAPD) - Ukraine

League of the Strong (LoS) - Ukraine



National Assembly
of People with Disabilities
www.naiu.org.ua



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Need more information?

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