



# Report Post - Global Disability Summit:

Advocating for European commitments to  
become reality

**September 2025**

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## Introduction

### The European Disability Forum

The European Disability Forum is an independent NGO that represents the interests of 100 million Europeans with disabilities. EDF is a unique platform which brings together representative organisation of persons with disabilities from across Europe. EDF is run by persons with disabilities and their families. We are a strong, united voice of persons with disabilities in Europe.

### Overview

This toolkit is designed for EDF members and Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) from across the European continent, covering all 51 member states<sup>1</sup>. Its objectives are to:

- Support European OPDs in advocating for meaningful involvement in disability-related international cooperation following the Global Disability Summit (GDS) and the European Regional Disability Summit.
- Influence the implementation of commitments made during the GDS.
- Leverage the momentum from the Summits for national, European and international advocacy on the implementation of the CRPD and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The toolkit is structured into three parts: the first part includes background information on the Global and European Regional Disability Summits. The second part provides an overview of commitments by made by European countries during the Global Disability Summit in 2018, 2022 and 2025. The last part shares next steps, practical tools and ideas for OPDs to influence the implementation of commitments.

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<sup>1</sup> OPDs from the 51 member states constituting the European continent: 27 countries within the European Union (EU), Nordic and Western European countries that are not part of the EU, Eastern European countries and Central Asian countries, which are located both on the European and Asian continents.

## Background

### The Global Disability Summit

The Global Disability Summit (GDS) is the world's leading platform dedicated to advancing the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities. First launched in 2018, the Summit brings together governments, organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), civil society, the private sector, international organizations, and donors to accelerate disability-inclusive development and humanitarian action. Anchored in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, it serves as a recurring mechanism to promote international cooperation, mobilise commitments, and strengthen accountability across all sectors.

The third Summit, GDS 2025, took place on 2–3 April in Berlin, co-hosted by Germany, Jordan, and the International Disability Alliance (IDA). It brought together more than 4,700 participants from over 160 countries, with a strong focus on national ownership and inclusive international cooperation. The Summit concluded with the adoption of the [Amman-Berlin Declaration](#) and the announcement of more than 800 new commitments by governments, private sector actors, and development partners to accelerate disability inclusion in policies and programs worldwide.

A notable outcome of GDS 2025 was the significant increase in government engagement. Out of 813 total commitments, governments submitted 398 (49%), compared to 32% in 2022 and 36% in 2018. This represents a 51% increase in the share of government commitments since 2022 and a 36% increase since 2018, reflecting a clear shift towards stronger national ownership—one of the Summit's core priorities. This growing government leadership marks an important step toward ensuring that disability inclusion becomes a sustained, structural priority at national and international levels.

The next Global Disability Summit will take place in Jordan in 2028. The latest news and information about GDS25 can be found on the GDS website.

### European Regional Disability Summit on International Cooperation

Ahead of GDS 2025, the German Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS), the European Disability Forum (EDF), and the German Disability Alliance (DBR) along with the GDS Secretariat organised a high-

level European Regional Disability Summit, focusing on international cooperation in November 2024. The aim was to discuss how international cooperation in the broader European region can become inclusive of persons with disabilities. An outcome document proposing future commitments and solutions was presented for adoption during the Regional Summit and presented at the GDS25.

The summit united over 800 participants, both in-person and online, including government representatives, OPDs, civil society organisations, and private sector leaders. It served as a platform to discuss the future of disability-inclusive international cooperation and humanitarian action, while highlighting systemic ableism, meaningful engagement with OPDs, and developing inclusive policies to respond to global crises such as climate change and conflicts.

More information:

[European regional Disability Summit](#)

## Commitments in 2018, 2022 and 2025

Below we offer a list of commitments made by the EU and European countries in 2018, 2022 and 2025 during past Global Disability Summits.

	<b>Commitments 2018</b>	<b>Commitments 2022</b>	<b>Commitments 2025</b>
1.	Andorra		
2.	Sweden	Sweden	Sweden
3.	Finland	Finland	Finland
4.	United Kingdom	United Kingdom	United Kingdom
5.		Ukraine	
6.		Cyprus	
7.		Denmark	Denmark
8.		Kosovo	
9.		Latvia	
10.		Norway	Norway
11.		Spain	Spain
12.		European Union	European Union
13.		European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	

14.			France
15.			Germany
16.			Italy
17.			Ireland
18.			Malta
19.			Romania
20.			Poland
21.			Slovenia

If your European country is not included in this list, it means your country did not make official commitments during past Global Disability Summits. For a full list of global commitments made by non-European countries as well as donors, foundations, multilateral organisations, local authorities, organisations of persons with disabilities and civil society organisations, please visit the [Global Disability Summit Commitments page](#).

## Andorra, National Government

The Government of Andorra made global commitments in 2018.

### Conflict and Humanitarian Contexts

- **2018: Conflict and Humanitarian Contexts**

The Government sponsored international projects that have people with disabilities as its main objective. It participates with 50.000 euros on an Iberoamerican project where it is being developed a Specific Program for people with disabilities.

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### Women and Girls with Disabilities

- **2018: Women and Girls with Disabilities**

In relation to the protection and attention to the victims of gender-based violence, the Law 1/2015 for the eradication of the gender-based violence and the domestic violence establishes that in the case of a person with disabilities has been a gender-based violence victim, the professionals who take care of this situation will establish a coordination with the department who is in charge of the people with disabilities of the competent Ministry in terms of social affairs to assess the risks, the comprehension and the access to the necessary resources with the aim of facilitating the maximum support to the victim. The Law 6/2014, of social and socio-sanitary services and the regulations of development foresee services and economical aids to the victims of this kind of crimes. The guide of prevention of gender-based violence and domestic violence foresees a specific section of women and disability. We are currently working on a drafting Law of the rights of the Childhood and Adolescence where will be a specific section for the girls with disabilities.

### Data Disaggregation

- **2018:** Commit resources to support strengthened disability data. Adoption of the Law 28/2017, of the 30th November, of the statistical Plan 2018-2021 where it is requested specific data about

the group of persons with disabilities, disaggregated by sex, age and disability degree and the social provisions granted. The Law 6/2014 of social and socio-sanitary services entrusts the Government to determine the national politics of social and socio-sanitary services, to develop legally the legislation on this matter and to perform the exercise of the competences attributed by this Law and the rules that develop it. Also, we are developing a specific census of people with disabilities.

## Harnessing Technology and Innovation

- **2018:** New programmes or services. The article 18 of the Law 27/2017 modifies the article 15 of the accessibility Law of 1995, relating to the accessibility to communication. The Government and the city Councils must establish the mechanisms and the technical alternatives that make communication accessible and usable, including the systems and technologies of information and communications (TIC) and the marking for all the population, specially watching out that all the public services are being made accessible for all people with disabilities. For this year, it has been approved a budget of 250.000 euros for technical aids. With the Service for Personal Autonomy, we expect the adaptation of housing and the deletion of architectural barriers, both for the guidance as for the economical aids in case of precariousness.

## Routes to Economic Empowerment

- **2018:** Access to decent work Implementation of the Strategy for the labor integration of people with disabilities with a period of 4 years (2016-2019). Creation of the Network of inclusive enterprises with the aim of facilitate the right to work for people with disabilities inside the ordinary labor market on an equal basis. Compatibility of the solidarity pension for people with disabilities, no contributory with part-time work up to 150% of the minimum salary. Making of a handbook concerning good accessibility practices and making of an accessibility Catalogue. Creation of the service for Personal Autonomy, of counselling and delivery of support products.

## Inclusive Education

- **2018:** Policy, standards and regulations. The principle of inclusion rules the attention to the students with special educational needs.

The students with disabilities are inside the school and they benefit of personal schooling projects made by the educational team (tutors and professors specialised on the areas, trained in terms of attention to diversity and specialised educators). The law establishes that all educative centers must watch out for the complete participation of students with disabilities on the different activities suggested by the school, whether they are educational or of cohabitation or others. We must guarantee that participation incorporating, if necessary, all the adaptations and the reasonable adjustments. More than the 95% of the students with disabilities make their mandatory education in an inclusive way on an equal basis with the others. School accessibility, since 2013 we have been prioritising the performances in terms of accessibility referred to schools and the routes of access. Until now, we have invested approximately 1 million 400.000 euros.

### **Eliminate Stigma and Discrimination**

- **2018:** Policy, legislation and its implementation. We make a Law 27/2017 of 30th November, of urgent measures for the application of the Convention on the rights of people with disabilities, done in New York on 13th December 2006. This law establishes cross-cutting measures in different areas. We create an Area of Equality Politics.

## Cyprus, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus made global commitments in 2022.

### Inclusive Health

- **2022: Mobilise resources to guarantee the right to enjoy the highest attainable standard of health for persons with disabilities.**

Alternative forms of employment The Mental Health Services will further promote the development and implementation of alternative forms of employment for the occupational rehabilitation of people with mental health problems who are unable for objective reasons to enter the open labour market. In alternative forms of employment, workers with psychosocial problems develop social skills and become productive, with the support of specialised staff and mental health workers. New Mental Health Center - A project that will contribute to the provision of high, quality and efficient level of medical services to our fellow citizens with mental health problems, is the creation of the new Mental Health Center, where the first phase of construction, which is promoted immediately, includes two Clinical Acute Cases. The Project is expected to contribute maximally to the provision of people-oriented, modern and quality health care, with respect for their needs. With the completion of the Project, the new Mental Health Center will operate based on all modern treatment standards, with respect for the patient's dignity and rights and based on the standards of modern psychiatric care. Day Care Center - Mental Health Services, operate three Day Centers, which aim to serve the mental health needs of adults (from 17 to 60 years old) with mental problems, while also aiming at the reintegration and psychosocial rehabilitation of people with mental health problems. The Day Centers provide support and counseling programs on an individual and group level, while also providing services for treatment and psychosocial rehabilitation of mental disorders, through systematic monitoring of people with mental disorders, day care organisation, individual care or group care, mental health information and awareness.

- **2022: Strengthen inclusive health systems that provide access to general health care and specialised services and programmes related to disability specific health requirements.**

Protected Hostel for people with mental illness - The Directorate of Mental Health Services has begun projects to establish a Protected Hostel for people with mental illness, which will accommodate patients with chronic mental health problems in a stable condition, who are not at risk and can be rehabilitated in the community. Specifically, it concerns people with chronic mental health problems who need deinstitutionalisation and integration into the community. The hostel will meet all the requirements required for the operation of such facilities and will be staffed with specialised mental health staff with 24-hour coverage 7 days a week. There will also be psychiatric coverage and involvement of other mental health workers where needed. An effort through this Project is to provide a more humane environment to people with mental health problems that can be remedied but there is no family or community system to take care of them.

- **2022: Review legal frameworks to promote inclusive health systems.**

Community Mental Health Care Legislation The Mental Health Services, considering an urgent need for the legislation of the Community Mental Health Care, have proceeded to the preparation of a corresponding Bill, which will be updated at this stage to be in line with the developments in the Health sector in Cyprus, through the implementation of GESY (National Health System). Psychiatric Care Law - The Mental Health Services elaborates and studies the proposed amendments to the Law on Psychiatric Care, based on the comments submitted by the European Commission against Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment - CPT.

## **Inclusive Livelihoods and Social Protection**

- **2022: Improve the adequacy and accessibility of social protection schemes for persons with disabilities.**

The Republic of Cyprus is implementing through co-financing by the European Social Fund the project "A New System for the Assessment of Disability". Disability Assessment Centers are easily accessible structures where persons with disabilities can be informed about all their rights in existing social benefits and services, fill and submit their applications, follow disability assessment in order to receive social benefits and services they are entitled to. Our commitment is to continue improving our quality of service to persons with disabilities, improve our disability

assessment mechanisms and faster procedures in order to support and enable persons with disabilities to enjoy their social rights.

- **2022: Increase coverage of social protection for persons with disabilities, advancing the realisation of universal social protection.**

The Republic of Cyprus commits to strengthening the capacity of organisations of persons with disabilities (OPD) and other entities of service provision, so as to develop and provide in co-operation new schemes for new social professional services. A service we consider essential is that of a personal assistant to persons with disabilities that would enable them to exercise their right to choose and decide for themselves and their legal capacity, to enjoy independent or supported living and employment, participate actively in the community and remain included.

## Denmark, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Denmark's Ministry of Foreign Affairs made global commitments in 2022 and 2025.

### Data collection

- **2025: Improve the quality of reporting on the OECD DAC disability inclusion policy marker**

Denmark will, in line with recommendations by the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and Disabled People's Organisations Denmark (DPOD), work to improve the quality of reporting on the OECD DAC disability inclusion policy marker.

### Meaningful Engagement of OPDs

- **2022: Support partnerships with other social movements.**

Denmark will support coalition building between OPDs and mainstream organisations to promote leadership of persons with disabilities by facilitating a strategic dialogue between Disabled People's Organisations Denmark (DPOD) and CSOs that have a strategic partnership agreement with the MFA.

- **2022: Promote underrepresented groups and address intersectionality.**

Denmark will work to provide a voice for people with disabilities as outlined in the strategy for development cooperation, the World We Share. Denmark will place a special focus on strengthening local leadership, including transfer of funds, ownership and decision-making power to local partners through the close partnership with the Disabled People's Organisations Denmark (DPOD) and through the strategic partnerships with 18 Danish CSOs. The strategic partnerships from 2022-2025 have a strong, increased focus on strengthening local leadership, with a special emphasis on participation for youth, girls and women, and groups in marginalised and vulnerable contexts.

- **2025: Strengthen the voice and inclusion of people with disabilities as part of a strengthened focus on local leadership.**

Denmark will work to strengthen the voice and inclusion of people with disabilities as part of a strengthened focus on local leadership. This includes transfer of funds, ownership and decision-making

power to local partners through the close partnership with the Disabled People's Organisations Denmark (DPOD) and through the strategic partnerships with Danish CSOs.

- **2025: Support coalition building between OPDs and other civil society organisations**

Denmark will support coalition building between Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) and other civil society organisations to promote voice, inclusion and leadership of persons with disabilities by facilitating a strategic dialogue between Disabled People's Organisations Denmark (DPOD), Danish pooled funds and CSOs that have a strategic partnership agreement with the MFA.

## Conflict and Humanitarian Contexts

- **2022: Protect persons with disabilities from violence, exploitation and abuse.**

Denmark will work to combat gender-based violence in crises. As the global lead of Call to Action on Protection Against Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies 2021-2022, Denmark is committed to advocating for the inclusion of people with disabilities in efforts against gender-based violence in humanitarian contexts.

## Overarching Commitments

- **2022: Support multi-stakeholder coordination and efforts to strengthen the knowledge-base on achieving community-based support in different contexts.**

Denmark will join the Global Action on Disability (GLAD) to support multi-stakeholder coordination and to strengthen the knowledgebase across the Danish MFA and in Danish development cooperation.

## European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) made global commitments in 2022.

### Inclusive Livelihoods and Social Protection

#### - **2022: Other**

Accessibility of EBRD Offices:

- Ensure that the design and final fit-out provides for an accessible headquarters building and facilities for all EBRD staff and visitors.
- Collaborate with the Business Disability Forum for external expert advice and guidance.
- Co-ordinate with the EBRD disAbility Network to continuously capture and consider staff feedback and ideas.
- Collaborate with Canary Wharf Facilities Management with the aim that Emergency Procedures in the building are established and maintained for people with disabilities.
- Endeavour to ensure we take into account accessibility when acquiring new offices within our Countries of Operation.
- Accessible meetings and events:
- Support innovations to expand the quality and availability of accessible meetings and events.
- Produce guidance on hosting “accessible” events utilising assistive technology where appropriate.
- Collaborate with AM Protocol and Event management Department to improve access to the EBRD’s AGM.
- Audit potential venues for the AGM to ensure physical accessibility.
- Consider improvements that could be made on accessible web content.

### Information, awareness and training:

- Carry out a gap analysis of disability information and training provided for EBRD staff.
- Identify key areas for improvement to support inclusion of and awareness around disability in the workplace.
- Source and provide additional information and training for staff on disability inclusion at EBRD.

- Deliver awareness raising workshops, topical talks, other events and relevant information via the EBRD disAbility Network.

### **Client engagements:**

- Continue to develop projects with EBRD's clients and policy partners promoting access to market-relevant skills, sustainable livelihoods, and services for people with disabilities throughout EBRD's countries of operations in line with EBRD's transition impact mandate.
- Help improve EBRD clients' capacity for promoting disability inclusion at the operational level by mobilising international donor support and delivering technical support to client companies and policy partners in EBRD countries of operations.
- Improve impact monitoring and reporting in projects promoting economic inclusion for people with disabilities in line with EBRD's new Equality of Opportunities Strategy.

### **Social due diligence and compliance:**

- Mainstream disability inclusion and universal access through the application of relevant requirements included in the EBRD's Environmental and Social Policy relating to equality of opportunity, vulnerable persons, inclusive design, health and well-being of workers, gender-based violence and harassment, resettlement and stakeholder engagement on disability-related issues.
- Strengthen due diligence and monitoring of compliance around disability inclusion and universal access for EBRD clients.
- Train Bank staff on identifying disability- and inclusion-related risks and potential issues that can be covered in due diligence.
- Apply a disability lens under the next revision of the Environmental and Social Policy (due in 2024).
- Identify avenues of support provided to workers following project-related accidents where injuries result in temporary or permanent disability.

### **External partnerships:**

- Continue to engage among EBRD's international peers within the multilateral development banking community – through the MDB H&S Working Group and Inclusive Business DFI Working Group –

and under the Global Action on Disability (GLAD) Network's upcoming Working Group on Sustainable Livelihoods.

Foster cooperation between EBRD's NGO partners (namely Save the Children and Oxfam) on disability awareness and action, particularly in the areas of policy and advocacy, capacity building and operational collaboration.

## European Union

The European Union (EU) made global commitments in 2022 and 2025.

### Inclusive Education

- **2022: Other**

The EU will strengthen inclusive education systems through its education sector programmes in its international partnership countries.

The Commission commits to support inclusive education in situations of crisis (i.e. conflict, disaster, epidemics, etc.)

### Situation of Conflict and Crisis

- **2022: Other**

The Commission commits to take into account the specific needs of persons with disabilities to ensure their full participation in humanitarian action, including in emergency preparedness activities. It also commits to support capacity building of its humanitarian partners on disability inclusion.

The Commission commits to collect data on beneficiaries of humanitarian action disaggregated by disability, and to report on disability inclusive humanitarian action with the OECD disability marker.

The Commission commits to continue raising awareness around the principles of non-discrimination and inclusiveness including the specific needs of persons with disabilities, in prevention, preparedness and response operations in the context of civil protection and commits to support Member States exchange of best practices in the area.

The Commission commits to take into account the specific needs of persons with disabilities to ensure their participation in the civil protection response, including in emergency prevention and preparedness activities, such as civil protection exercises.

- **2025:** The European Commission:

- o commits to foster disability inclusion in EU-funded humanitarian aid, ensuring effective access and participation

of persons with disabilities. It will continue to take into account the specific needs of persons with disabilities and to mainstream disability inclusion in EU-funded humanitarian operations, from design to reporting;

- acknowledging that disability can intersect with other vulnerabilities, commits to pursue the work on intersectionality and strengthen its staff capacity on this matter for stronger equality and inclusion in EU-funded humanitarian aid;
- will continue to advocate for disability inclusion in humanitarian aid and to raise this topic proactively with its strategic partners. Also, in line with its commitment to localization, the Commission will continue to promote equitable partnerships with Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) in EU-funded humanitarian aid.
- Civil Protection, the European Commission commits to continue strengthening accessibility and inclusivity in EU Civil Protection activities and to take into account the specific needs of persons with disabilities to ensure their participation in the emergency response, prevention and preparedness activities. It will also continue to work closely and actively with Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) and other key stakeholders to shape EU civil protection policies and practices;
- remains committed to raising awareness and promoting a disability-inclusive approach while supporting the Union Civil Protection Mechanism Member and Participating States in promoting inclusive early warning systems, disaster risk reduction plans, and training programs that specifically address the needs of persons with disabilities;
- through the Union Preparedness Strategy, it commits to take a whole-of-society approach, including vulnerable groups to strengthen the EU citizens preparedness and resilience to natural and human-induced disasters.

## Overarching Commitments

- **2022: Commit to tracking expenditure and efforts for inclusion in national accounting and development cooperation.**

The Commission will track disability inclusive investments for a targeted monitoring of EU funding by systematically using the OECD Development Assistance Committee Disability Marker.

The EU aims to a steady increase of the proportion of new international partnership actions that are disability inclusive, measured by OECD Development Assistance Committee disability marker.

- **2022: Support efforts to align existing legislation with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), using the participatory approach of law reforms as required by the CRPD.**

The EU will increasingly raise the rights of persons with disabilities in dialogues with its partner countries, support the implementation of UNCRPD and foster its ratification globally.

The Commission will continue to uphold the human rights of persons with disabilities and support their social inclusion in the framework of the EU's enlargement and neighbourhood policies.

Through the policy and political dialogues with partner countries, the Commission will support reforms of public policies to make these more inclusive of persons with disabilities;

The Commission intend to make available EUR 5 million dedicated financial support to UN Partnership on the Rights for Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) from the new Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument thematic programme - Global Challenges.

- **2025: The European Commission joins the Summit Declaration and the '15 by 15' Initiative.**

The European Commission will remain committed to safeguarding the human rights of individuals with disabilities and fostering their social inclusion in the framework of its engagement with partners countries, including under the EU's enlargement policy. It will: • strengthen its efforts to integrate disability rights into its political and human rights dialogues with partner countries, in line with its commitment to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and the EU acquis, as applicable, also by supporting reforms of public policies to make these more inclusive of persons with disabilities:

- engage with civil society, including Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs), to ensure their perspectives inform EU external action;

- apply a Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) to programming, from design to reporting of actions;
- build the capacities of its staff working in Headquarters and EU Delegations (including disability and human rights focal points) through training and provision of guidance on disability inclusion and on the UN Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- provide technical expertise and support the inclusive programme design of its external initiatives and of Global Gateway investments, ensuring they are accessible and inclusive for people with disabilities;
- launch a pilot of the Distributional Impact Assessment Plus (DIA+) tool to evaluate how Global Gateway investments affect persons with disabilities, emphasizing monitoring and evaluation;
- aim to support the inclusion of organizations of persons with disabilities in consultations relating to EU investments in partner countries, particularly where these interventions also affect persons with disabilities;
- adopt an intersectional approach in all external policies and action plans, or their revisions, with a particular focus on women with disabilities;
- ensure accessibility, preferably using a Universal Design approach, across programmes related to the build environment, transportation, services, information and communication, including technologies.

In programmes under responsibility of the European Commissioner for International Partnerships, the European Commission will continue promoting disability inclusiveness in particular in programmes on health, education, and social protection. It will promote disability-inclusive health services and healthcare models, inclusive education systems, as well as reinforce national social protection systems to include persons with disabilities. As above, it will achieve this goal through its programmes, policy dialogue with partner countries and key global initiatives such as the WHO's Universal Health Coverage Partnership.

Where supporting micro-data collection in partner countries, the European Commission will aim to collect disability-disaggregated data using the Washington Group Short Set of Questions on Disability.

These efforts will continue to be assessed using the OECD Development Assistance Committee's disability marker (D-marker).

## Inclusive Health

### - **2022: Other**

The Commission commits to continue raising awareness around the principles of non-discrimination and inclusiveness including the specific needs of persons with disabilities, in prevention, preparedness and response operations in the context of civil protection and commits to support Member States exchange of best practices in the area.

The Commission commits to take into account the specific needs of persons with disabilities to ensure their participation in the civil protection response, including in emergency prevention and preparedness activities, such as civil protection exercises.

## Inclusive Livelihoods and Social Protection

### - **2022: Other**

The EU will further strengthen national social protection system building including persons with disabilities in its new generation of international partnership programmes in view of universal social protection for all.

The EU will encourage the formulation in its international partnership of best practice in standardisation of social protection schemes, including persons with disabilities.

The EU continues to organise regular structured dialogues during the annual UNCRPD Conference of State Parties, and in the context of other existing multilateral fora, and enhance cooperation with a focus on accessibility and employment.

## EU internal policy commitments

The European Commission as the focal point for the EU will:

- continue dialogue on EU disability policies with EU member states and Organisations of Persons with Disabilities in the context of the Disability Platform.

- further promote the application of the Disability Employment Package deliverables (also EMPL).
- support the implementation of EU accessibility legislation including the provision of training including through the resource centre AccessibleEU and engaging with the accessibility community of practice.
- disseminate and promote the use of the Guidance on independent living and inclusion in the community of persons with disabilities in the context of EU Funds.
- prepare a report of the EU Strategy assessing the progress of its implementation and, if deemed necessary, update its objectives and actions.
- continue to organise regular structured dialogues during the annual UNCRPD Conference of State Parties, and in the context of other existing multilateral fora, and enhance cooperation with a focus on accessibility and employment.

## Finland, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Finland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs made global commitments in both 2018, 2022 and 2025.

### Inclusive Education

- **2022: Strengthen education systems so that they are inclusive of all.**

Finland will promote the right to education for persons with disabilities by supporting systemic transformation towards inclusive education systems in cooperation with partner countries and through international partnerships.

- **2025: Finland continues to promote the right to education for persons with disabilities.**

Finland continues to promote the right to education for persons with disabilities by supporting systemic transformation towards inclusive education systems in cooperation with civil society actors, partner countries and through international partnerships. Implementation: Finland will engage in systematic policy dialogue on the right to education for persons with disabilities, in particular women and girls with disabilities, with partner countries and international partners. Finland will provide technical support to partner countries in strengthening teacher education for inclusion and support multilateral partners through expert secondments to strengthen their commitment and approach on disability inclusive education. Finland will support the policy influencing efforts of organizations of persons with disabilities and non-governmental organizations to hold duty bearers accountable about the right to education for persons with disabilities.

### Conflict and Humanitarian Contexts

- **2018:** Finland is doing this by renewing one of its three cross-cutting objectives to become non-discrimination with a specific attention to address discrimination against persons with disabilities.
- **2018:** Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland is committed to further strengthen mainstreaming of disability rights across its development policy and programme. Finland is doing this by renewing one of its three cross-cutting objectives to become non-discrimination with a specific attention to address discrimination against persons with disabilities.

- **2022: Make humanitarian action inclusive of persons with disabilities throughout the humanitarian programme cycle.**

Disability inclusive humanitarian action is a priority in Finland's humanitarian policy. Finland will strengthen disability inclusive disaster risk reduction through improved representation and participation of organisation of persons with disabilities, including organisations of women with disabilities.

- **2022: Include persons with disabilities in the peace continuum.**

Finland will promote rights and meaningful inclusion of persons with disabilities in every stage of the peace processes and peacebuilding. This means improving accessibility and including the views and needs as well as active participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organisations all the way from conflict prevention to conflict resolution and in building sustainable peace.

- **2025: Finland continues to promote rights and meaningful inclusion of persons with disabilities in peace processes, peacebuilding and climate action.**

The rights and participation of persons with disabilities will be highlighted in issues concerning peace processes, peacebuilding and climate and biodiversity action. Finland promotes including the views and needs as well as active participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations all the way from conflict prevention to conflict resolution and in building sustainable peace as well as in climate and biodiversity action. Implementation: The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland will advocate for the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities in peace processes, peacebuilding and climate action in UN fora and with other relevant partners. Finland will advocate for the implementation of the Security Council Resolution 2475 on Protection of Persons with Disabilities in Conflict at relevant UN discussions and formats. Finland will emphasize disability inclusion in climate and biodiversity actions through advocating for the representation and participation of organizations of persons with disabilities, with focus on organizations of women and youth with disabilities, when appropriate. Finland will also promote disability inclusive approaches, the rights of women and girls and gender equality in a cross-cutting manner. Finland will promote the national and international implementation of the resolutions of the UN Security Council on Women, Peace and Security and on Youth, Peace and Security. Finland has successfully highlighted the role of young

people in conflict prevention and resolution. Both resolutions include elements of disability inclusion.

- **2025: Finland supports disability inclusion in humanitarian action including accessibility and promotes DI in the humanitarian coordination system**

Implementation: Finland earmarks support and funds initiatives of mainstreaming disability inclusion and measures the amount of targeted support for disability inclusion annually. Finland will invite OPDs to participate in various workshops or consultations organized together with humanitarian or other relevant actors to discuss and advance disability inclusion in their humanitarian response.

Implementation: Finland supports the work of the Disability Reference Group, now an IASC Associated Entity and advocates for a UN organization to be designated as the lead entity on disability inclusion. Finland encourages country-level humanitarian coordination mechanisms to systematically consider the needs of persons with disabilities across the cluster/sector system, influencing disability-inclusion in all stages of the humanitarian program cycle. Finland encourages holistic frameworks such as “people-centered approaches” to be grounded in analysis of the different and intersecting experiences of persons in need of assistance, including the particular risks that they face. Finland promotes for the increased collection and use of data for analysis of needs and integration of disability inclusion in Needs and Humanitarian Response Plans (HNRP) and country-based pooled funds of the UN OCHA.

## International cooperation

- **2025: Finland champions the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities in international partnerships**

Finland will continue its long-term human rights policy of promoting and defending the rights of women, girls, persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples, gender and sexual minorities, and other people in particularly vulnerable positions. Finland promotes the objectives of its international human rights policy as part of the EU, bilaterally and in multilateral forums. Promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities, including the rights of women and girls with disabilities, is a long-standing priority in Finland’s foreign and security policy, development policy as well as in humanitarian assistance. The meaningful participation of persons with disabilities, as well

organizations representing them, is essential. Persons with disabilities and organizations representing them will be consulted when formulating Finnish policies, as appropriate. Implementation: Finland will advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities, the rights of women and girls and gender equality in a cross-cutting manner, including in the implementation of the Global Digital Compact. Finland will continue to support organizations of persons with disabilities. Finland will continue to mainstream rights of persons with disabilities in all international development cooperation and advance the inclusion and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in every stage of development cooperation projects and programs.

## Overarching Commitments

- **2022: Support efforts to align existing legislation with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), using the participatory approach of law reforms as required by the CRPD.**

Finland renews its long-term commitment to the implementation of the CRPD and inclusive development Agenda 2030. Finland will provide and advocate for support to the UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD).

- **2022: Reduce discrimination and stigmatisation by promoting attitudinal change in communities and across all development cooperation and addressing intersectionalities.** Finland will champion disability inclusive and gender transformative policies, strategies and programmes as well as accountability mechanisms in its policy influencing in the EU and with bilateral and multilateral partners. Promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities, including the rights of women and girls with disabilities, is a long-standing priority in Finland's human rights-based foreign and security policy, human rights-based development policy as well as in humanitarian assistance.

- **2025: Finland will provide and advocate for support to the UN Global Disability Fund**

Finland renews its long-term commitment to the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and inclusive development Agenda 2030. Finland will provide and advocate for support to the UN Global Disability Fund (GDF). Implementation: Finland has been a considerable contributor to the

implementation of the CRPD through the GDF and will continue to do so. Finland will strive to secure substantive funding to ensure effective implementation of the CRPD through the GDF for 2025-2027. Finland will advocate for projects to integrate transformative approaches that address disability, the rights of women and girls and gender equality in a cross-cutting manner.

- **2025: Finland commits to championing the rights of persons with disabilities to be included in trade policies and initiatives**

International trade impacts persons with disabilities in various ways including access to essential products and services as well quality employment. However, disability inclusion has largely been ignored in trade. Finland commits to championing the rights of persons with disabilities to be included in trade policies and initiatives.

Implementation: Finland has pioneered disability inclusive trade by commissioning a study on inclusive trade and persons with disabilities. Thereafter, Finland has worked with the Geneva-based organizations to create the inter-organizational technical working group on trade and disability inclusion. Finland will continue supporting the working group particularly to advocate for more countries to participate. Finland will strive to increase Aid for Trade funding towards disability inclusion.

- **2025: Finland will continue to support implementation and continuation of the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy**

Finland will advocate for the continued implementation of the UNDIS on various fora. Finland will actively raise the issue in discussions or consultations with different organizations and other actors. Finland will also support the successful evaluation of the UNDIS. Implementation: Finland will support strengthening UN system-wide coordination and monitoring work done by the disability team based on the evaluation results. Finland will annually request organization-specific UNDIS reports from its key UN partners for review and organize discussions around them. Finland continues to encourage its partners to publish their UNDIS reports.

## Data Disaggregation

- **2018:** Commit to use the Washington Group questions. Finland is committed to strengthen the data and evidence of disability by introducing a minimum requirement of collecting disability disaggregated data for all programmes funded by Finland. Finland

will promote the use the Washington Group Short Set of questions as a key method for data collection and disaggregation. Finland will ensure the implementation and accountability for this commitment by renewing the guidelines on cross-cutting objectives in collaboration with the organisations of persons with disabilities, and by providing mandatory training for all key MFA staff and other stakeholders responsible for implementing Finnish development cooperation. Finland will also align its internal guidelines to match with the criteria in the OECD-DAC disability marker and will start adopt it progressively as soon as it is officially introduced.

## France

The national government of France has made global commitments in 2025.

### Social inclusion and living in the community

- **2025: Give everyone the means they need for their own communication: strengthen augmentative and alternative communication**

Access to communication is a fundamental right enshrined in international texts, including the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The fundamental rights of persons with disabilities in society can only be respected and medical-social services can only be transformed while respecting their self-determination if the conditions required for their expression are created regardless of their age, their disability, their living situation and their level of independence. With this in mind, the National Disability Conference on 26 April 2023 and interministerial disability committee meetings on 16 May 2024 and 6 March 2025 have reiterated the French Government's wish to make the access to augmentative and alternative communication a priority of its action. Augmentative and alternative communication is based on a model of participation of persons with disabilities. It must be implemented over the long term and become a genuine part of these persons' lives.

- **2025: Making culture in all its wealth and diversity accessible to all. Launch in 2025 of the Audio Description Portal**

Making culture accessible is a wonderful way to promote empowerment, civic awareness and independence. For several years, the film and television industries have been conducting a major project to make accessible to persons with vision impairments via audio description. Although the number of films is growing every year, resources that provide information to people with visual disabilities, their families, assistants and companions about audio description and its availability are piecemeal, partial and not centrally organized, creating a barrier to inclusion of persons with disabilities and the exercise of their cultural rights on the same level as other members of society. The Audio Description Portal <https://audiodescription.beta.gouv.fr/> of films, managed by the Ministry of Culture, was launched in February 2025 with an

editorialized catalogue of approximately 2,600 films available with audio description on partner platforms. The user system is adapted and accessible to all audiences. This portal is to be available soon.

## Protection against violence

- **2025: Sexual violence: Fight sexual exploitation of minors with disabilities**

In November 2021, the French Government launched the first National Plan to Combat Child Prostitution. It is based on 1) awareness raising and information, ii) strengthening the tracking on all levels of the young people concerned, iii) supporting children being prostituted and iv) stepping up legal action against clients and procurers. Building on the previous plan's commitments, a 2024-2027 National Plan to Combat Exploitation and Human Trafficking and a Strategy to Combat the Prostitution System and Sexual Exploitation in May 2024 were launched. According to the estimates of the Central Office for the Suppression of Trafficking in Human Beings (OCRTEH) for sexual exploitation, nearly 11,000 minors are sexually exploited every year in France. These actions aim to provide minors with better protection in the face of sexual exploitation risks and special attention should be focused on minors with disabilities. To better understand the problem, more data on child exploitation needs to be available to improve the tracking of victims. Therefore, all actions implemented by the Government will also focus on the specific case of minors with disabilities.

## Situations of crisis and conflict

- **2025: Take more specific consideration of the needs of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action, in line with France's 2023-2027 humanitarian strategy**

France's 2023-2027 humanitarian strategy stresses France's commitment to focusing special attention on the categories of people hardest hit by conflicts, especially women with disabilities, in its humanitarian action.

Consideration of disabilities in its humanitarian responses is a priority for France. The resurgence of armed conflicts, the spread of conflicts into urban areas and the use of mines are a direct cause of the increase in disabilities among people affected by these conflicts. This is the case in Ukraine, Lebanon and Syria and in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. For example, in Gaza – the territory with the

highest number of children who have had an amputation in the world – France is funding several humanitarian projects to support persons with disabilities, led in particular by Handicap International.

## Education

- **2025: Establish ambitious and seamless education opportunities for young people with disabilities**

With regard to teaching children from pre-school through secondary school, France is working to develop the educational opportunities for students with disabilities with a new cooperation model that is increasingly based on the expertise of teachers and education professionals within schools. Education support services will be massively deployed until 2027 to scale up enrolment of students with disabilities and ensure teaching responses that are adapted to their needs. It is one of the steps in the overall process of mainstreaming. With regard to higher education, France is working to develop inclusive universities by 2027. Six inclusive universities have already answered a call for projects this year. These first inclusive universities plan to develop their physical accessibility but also inclusive teaching practices that will provide support and be drivers for other universities, top graduate schools and their teachers and researchers to join this inclusive movement. There was a significant increase in the number of these students enrolled in the education system, 519,000 students with disabilities at the start of the 2024 academic year and 64,000 students in higher education. The building of school education paths from pre-school to higher education is a decisive factor for France in providing quality education.

## Germany, Federal Government

The German Federal Government has made global commitments in 2025.

### Social inclusion and living in the community

- **2025: Accessible Housing**

Germany commits to facilitating a dialogue process on accessibility in housing in collaboration with the federal states and relevant associations, with the support of the Federal Office for Accessibility (Federal Ministry for Housing, Urban Development and Building)

- **2025: Promotion of Accessibility in Volunteering**

Germany commits to improving accessibility in volunteer opportunities. As part of the campaign "No matter what you can do, you can help", the web platform "With You for All of Us" will undergo external review and accessibility certification by the end of 2025. Together with organizations of persons with disabilities, a standardized concept will be developed by the end of 2026 for accessible outreach, inclusion, and participation of persons with disabilities in volunteer work, as part of the overarching volunteer concept to support and promote volunteer-based civil and disaster protection. (Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community).

- **2025: Developing and testing a digital prototype of a common basic application form for rehabilitation and participation services**

The aim is to create a common application form for all rehabilitation providers and thus a citizen-oriented "one-stop shop" in the field of rehabilitation and participation. The common application form will make it significantly easier for all applicants to access rehabilitation and participation benefits and services. In addition to improving the participation of persons with disabilities, the project has also gained importance due to the increasing focus on reducing administrative bureaucracy. The primary goal is the gradual and permanent implementation of the common application form after the end of the project phase in October 2025. The Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs not only provides financial support for the common application form but is also actively involved in the work of the project advisory board and the project group.

- **2025: More self-determination for persons with disabilities regardless of their living arrangements (de-institutionalisation)**

With the Federal Participation Act, the federal legislator has further developed German legislation in line with the UNCRPD, realigning integration assistance in order to empower and support persons with (severe) disabilities in leading a self-determined life. In line with the person-centred approach, the integration assistance services are now consistently geared to the individual needs of persons with disabilities, regardless of their living arrangements. This helps to further support the ongoing trend towards increased de-institutionalisation through the legislation on benefits. (Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs).

## Situations of disaster and crisis

- **2025: Enhancing Self-Protection and Self-Help during Crises**  
Germany commits to expanding opportunities for self-protection and self-help for persons with disabilities by developing targeted, accessible programs and services that address their specific needs during crises and disasters. The Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance (BBK) is currently revising the "Guide to Emergency Preparedness and Correct Action in Emergency Situations", a key information product. The overarching aim is to adapt the content more closely to the information needs and living environments of the population. The special needs of persons with disabilities are also to be taken into account. In addition, special attention will be paid to a barrier-free design, and additional versions in easy language and sign language will be created. The publication date is expected to be in the first half of 2025 (Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community / Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance, BBK)
- **2025: Inclusive Resilience Strategy**  
Germany commits to developing national tools, recommendations, and indicators to ensure inclusive disaster preparedness and response by 2027. This includes enhancing data collection to demonstrate how persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected by disasters and crises. The findings will contribute to the ongoing development of Germany's Resilience Strategy and will be published on our Catastrophic Risk Management Platform [www.katrima.de](http://www.katrima.de). EU funding for this project has been confirmed, and the financial agreement signed in December 2024. (Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community).

## Health

- **2025: Improving diversity, inclusion and accessibility in the healthcare system**

On December 2, 2024, the Federal Ministry of Health (BMG) presented the "Action Plan for a Diverse, Inclusive, and Accessible Healthcare System". The Action Plan aims to remove existing barriers in the healthcare sector and ensures equitable access to care for everyone. The intended measures are to be implemented both in the short and long term. The action plan will be regularly evaluated and updated

## Accessibility

- **2025: Strengthening the participation of persons with disabilities in the digital world**

The aim is to strengthen participation in the field of information and communication technology. The Act to Enhance the Implementation of Accessibility requires private actors for the first time to produce and offer certain products and services in an accessible manner. This applies in particular to products and services in the field of information and communication technology. The Act to Enhance the Implementation of Accessibility will enter into force on 28 June 2025. In order to keep pace with technological progress and to enable persons with disabilities to participate in this important field, there are plans to examine which products and services could be included under the scope of the Act. Furthermore, the digital participation strategy pursues a strategic approach, especially to enhance participation through digitalisation. For example, disability-specific information, advice and support services will be provided in an appropriate digital form. (Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs).

- **2025: Introducing Technical Standards for Accessible Charging Infrastructure**

Germany commits to developing and implementing technical standards for barrier-free charging locations as part of the Charging Infrastructure II Master Plan. The National Centre for Charging Infrastructure (NLL), on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport (BMDV) has published a guide that outlines clear technical, spatial, and digital requirements for barrier-free charging locations. The guide served as a basis for the development of DIN SPEC 91504: Barrier-free Charging Infrastructure for Electric

Vehicles published by the German Institute for Standardization (DIN) on 18th October 2024.

- **2025: Advancing accessibility through the development and implementation of Easy-to-Read Language Standards**

In early 2025, the DIN SPEC 33429 "Recommendations for German Easy-to-Read Language" will be published. The aim is to agree on standardised recommendations for German Easy-to-Read Language, which is being developed in the process of a DIN SPEC (SPEC for "Specification". A DIN SPEC has the status of a pre-standard in the German standard architecture). The pre-standard describes and introduces a technology that has not yet been standardised (in this case: criteria for creating texts in easy-to-read language). Building on these standards, follow-up activities will be started to raise awareness of the new standards and support their implementation. (Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs).

- **2025: Advancing digital accessibility at federal public bodies**

The aim of the Ordinance on Accessible Information Technology (BITV, 2.0) is to ensure that federal public bodies guarantee a fully accessible design of information and communication technology, in particular by making digital information and services accessible and usable for persons with disabilities. The Ordinance on Accessible Information Technology 2.0 was evaluated in 2024. The findings of the evaluation are currently being reviewed and the Ordinance will be adapted accordingly as part of a reform. (Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs).

- **2025: Strengthening interministerial and cross-level cooperation on accessibility**

The aim is to bolster the network of the various stakeholders who are responsible for implementing accessibility at the political level and in society at large, pooling expertise, creating synergies and accelerating the implementation of measures. This process was launched by establishing the Federal Accessibility Initiative and is to be intensified over the next years. (Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs).

- **2025: Providing more Accessible Communication and Information on the Website of the Federal Foreign Office**

By 2026, Germany will expand the availability of information in German Sign Language and by 2027 Germany will launch a dedicated section of the Federal Foreign Office website in plain language. This will include key resources, such as videos on consular services, translations of press conferences, or foreign

policy briefings. Germany will also pilot accessibility improvements on social media platforms (Instagram and Facebook) and collect feedback from users with disabilities to evaluate and refine these efforts.

- **2025: Accessibility in Public Transport through mFUND**

Germany (Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport) commits to supporting the development of accessible public transport through its mFUND programme and numerous investment measures. Since 2023, under the annual theme "Mobility for All: Open Data for an Inclusive Transport Sector", mFUND has focused on research projects that harness data innovations to improve accessibility. The following mFUND projects are being implemented:

- mFUND project "a11y" (Ally): This project aims to develop a global data layer for accessibility. An accessibility score will enhance transparency as a foundation for investment decisions and enable comparability between different regions through systematic analysis. Various datasets are used, including data from cadastral offices, Wheelmap, and OpenStreetMap (OSM). The project started in June 2023 and is funded with a total of approximately 1,015,000 EUR over a period of three years.
- mFUND project "OD2Guide": The "OD2Guide" project aims to improve the use of public transport for blind and visually impaired persons by providing open and interactive geospatial and local transport data. To achieve this, an audio navigation platform will be developed, featuring an audio chatbot (an AI-based dialog system) and a feedback channel. The system is designed to assist blind and visually impaired people in using public transport. It achieves this by providing barrier-free access to existing data (e.g. OSM, Mobilithek, BIM) and new open data related to public transport route guidance. The project is funded with a total of approximately 865,000 EUR.
- mFUND project "Opener Next": The "Opener Next" project uses open data models, civic data engagement, and navigation tools to improve accessibility in public transport. A central element of this project is the implementation of a navigation app. Using this freely available data collection app, citizens can voluntarily participate in gathering barrier-related data. The practical benefits of this data collection will be demonstrated through an example of a barrier-free travel information system, including indoor navigation at train

stations. The project is funded with a total of approximately 1.7 million EUR.

## Economic empowerment

- **2025: Increasing the willingness of employers to hire persons with disabilities.**

The single contact points for employers will continue their work of providing independent advice to employers concerning the training and employment of persons with severe disabilities. In the future, the contact points will even work more closely together with the agencies responsible for placement into work, offering more advice to employers on hiring people who have been receiving benefits and services in workshops for persons with disabilities to date. (Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs)

- **2025: Strengthening a disability-inclusive workplace through employment, training and equal participation of persons with disabilities (BMZ)**

We are committed to remaining an attractive employer for persons with severe disability or equivalent status. The share of persons with severe disability or equivalent status in the BMZ workforce is already eight per cent. We want to maintain this level in the future. We are committed to employing at the BMZ, from 2026, at least one apprentice per year who has a severe disability or equivalent status. We are committed to revising, by mid-2026, the BMZ's disability inclusion agreement and to developing it in such a way that it can be used for regular monitoring of the achievement of goals and the status of implementation, and for critical reflection about and continuous enhancement of the inclusion of persons with severe disability or equivalent status at the BMZ. We are working to increase the share of persons with a severe disability or equivalent status in leadership positions. In order to contribute towards increasing the share of female employees with a severe disability or equivalent status in leadership positions at the BMZ, we will take female senior policy officers with a severe disability or equivalent status into appropriate account as we select women for participation in our internal "Women in Leadership" network programme. We are committed to hiring an interpreter for German Sign Language (Deutsche Gebärdensprache – DGS) and spoken German at the BMZ Translation and Interpreting Service Division before the end of 2025 in order to advance the inclusion of Deaf BMZ employees and

the accessibility of the BMZ's public relations work. We are committed to continuing to include the topic of unconscious bias with regard to persons with a severe disability or equivalent status as an integral part of training for members of recruitment committees for external candidates and for staff in leadership positions whose responsibilities include performance reviews. We are committed to undertaking regular efforts to sensitise all BMZ staff with regard to the inclusion of persons with a severe disability or equivalent status (German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development / BMZ).

- **2025: Improving the quality of vocational education and training for persons with disabilities**

The participation process on the quality of vocational education and training for persons with disabilities will be continued. To this end, all relevant organisations representing persons with disabilities will be included in the process. The results of the process will be implemented in an appropriate manner.

- **2025: Facilitating transitions from workshops for persons with disabilities to the general labour market**

The aim is to enable persons with disabilities to decide for themselves how and where they want to work. In line with the action plan for transitions from workshops to an inclusive labour market, the alternatives to working in a workshop such as the budget for work will be made even more attractive and accessible, transition barriers will be removed and the workshops' task to facilitate transitions will be supported. (Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs).

- **2025: Expanding supported employment opportunities**

The aim is to place more persons with disabilities in employment relationships in the general labour market through supported employment. In line with the action plan for transitions from workshops for persons with disabilities to an inclusive labour market, the services provided under supported employment will also be made available to persons with disabilities who so far have been excluded from these services due to the severity of their disabilities. (Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs).

- **2025: Professional Internship**

Professional internship at the BPA for a person with intellectual disabilities from the 4th quarter of 2024 to mid-2025. The placement, which lasts several months, is intended to provide guidance on whether activities and work processes at the BPA are suitable for the employment of people with intellectual disabilities. With a view to promoting an inclusive labour market, the aim is to examine the extent to which people with intellectual disabilities can be offered employment outside sheltered workshops, which ideally also creates added value for the Federal Government's disability-inclusive communication. (BPA / Press and Information Office of the German Federal Government).

## Engagement with OPDs

- **2025: Supporting the implementation of the Federal Participation Act**

According to the Basic Law, the Länder and the providers of integration assistance are responsible for implementing the reformed integration assistance. However, the German Government is working intensively to achieve the common goal of making the implementation of the Federal Participation Act a success and is supporting the Länder at all levels. The Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs has commissioned a study about the effects and the practicality of the new provisions. After the end of the projects (end of 2024), the results will be published and evaluated by the Federal Government to find out whether changes are needed. In addition, there is regular, close exchange with the Länder on implementation in order to identify any difficulties and find the best possible solutions together.

## Children with disabilities

- **2025: Inclusive child and youth welfare service**

Germany is committed to inclusive child and youth welfare and has launched a corresponding bill at the end of 2024. Young people with disabilities and their families should have a central point of contact with the child and youth welfare service. With the law, the responsibilities for the integration assistance service for children and young people with disabilities are brought together under the umbrella of the child and youth welfare service. The law is intended to significantly improve the participation of children and young people with disabilities and their families. With the child and youth

welfare service assuming responsibility for integration assistance services for all children and young people with disabilities, difficulties in determining responsibility for such services - for example in the case of multiple disabilities or the differentiation of mental and intellectual disabilities - will be overcome. The inclusive child and youth welfare service will support children and young people holistically and individually in the future. The law impacts around 430.000 children and young people with disabilities in Germany. (Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth / BMFSFJ)

## Protection against violence

### - **2025: Improved protection against violence in home care settings**

Germany commits to improving protection against violence in home care settings as per the decision of the 99th Conference of Ministers for Labor and Social Affairs (ASMK) in December 2022. A steering group has been set up consisting of representatives of the State of Berlin, the Federal Ministry of Justice, the Federal Ministry of Health and the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth. The steering group identified six fields of action: 1.) professional care, 2.) advice and information within the framework of nursing care insurance, 3.) victim protection, 4.) procedures in cases of violence, 5.) law on legal representation of adults, and 6.) general information and specific advice. Building on this, appropriate measures were developed in consultation with civil society, associations and scientific experts. A status report was published for the 101st session of the ASMK on the 4th and 5th December 2024. Recommendations for measures in the home care setting include: The committee on quality in care shall develop nation-wide recommendations to strengthen the protection from violence in both outpatient and institutional care. The Federal States should set up a nationwide system of contact- and counselling centers for professional and informal care. These centers shall refer to the local support system. In addition, the Federal Government shall explore further measures to develop and promote information material on the prevention of violence in the various care settings. The Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth / BMFSFJ took the lead for the fields of action "Protection of victims and violence in home care settings" and "General and

specific advice on protection and prevention of violence in care". The 101st ASMK decided on next steps in December 2024 and tasked the Steering Group to set up a broad continuous dialogue with research and welfare organizations, counselling services and civil society to enhance "prevention of and protection from violence in care settings" by November 2025.

## Ireland, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

The Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has made global commitments in 2025.

### Data collection

- **2025:** Ireland will continue to use the OECD DAC Disability inclusion policy marker and will strengthen internal capacity on its use to increase accuracy.

### Education

- **2025:** Ireland will continue to ensure that support to global education has a strong disability inclusion focus.

### Engagement with OPDs

- **2025:** Ireland will review and expand engagement and support to Organizations of Person's with Disabilities (OPDs) in development cooperation to promote their meaningful participation in the design and implementation of development cooperation, humanitarian response and peacebuilding initiatives.

### Situations of conflict and crisis

- **2025:** Ireland will adopt a stronger focus on promoting the role of persons with disabilities, especially women with disabilities, in peace building and conflict resolution, in line with UNSC 2475 on the rights of persons with disabilities in situations of conflict, and UNSC 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.
- **2025: Strive to make humanitarian action inclusive and accessible to persons with disabilities**  
Ireland will continue to ensure its partners including civil society organizations working in humanitarian action and the UN Organization for Coordinating Humanitarian Action (OCHA) including through the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), advance progress to lift barriers to humanitarian action, experienced by persons with disabilities.

## International cooperation

- **2025:** Ireland will strive to implement a systematic disability inclusion approach in all development cooperation.

## Health

- **2025:** Ireland will continue to strengthen interventions in health to reach the furthest behind. Health interventions will have a particular focus on women and girls and marginalized groups, including persons with disabilities.

## Overarching commitments

- **2025: 15% for the 15%**

Ireland will strive to ensure that by 2028, at least 15% of development cooperation programmes implemented at country level, include a disability inclusion objective.

- **2025: Promote partnering with stakeholders to foster disability inclusion**

Ireland will continue to partner with Global Disability Fund, World Health Organization (WHO) on digital and assistive technologies and work closely alongside civil society networks to exchange information and learning on disability inclusion to strengthen our approach and support our objective of reaching the furthest behind first.

- **2025: Continue to promote the rights of persons with disabilities**

Ireland will continue to use its voice in the multilateral space to advance the rights of Persons with Disabilities in line with UNCRPD, and other human rights instruments.

## Italy, Minister for disabilities, Presidency Council of Ministers

The Italian Minister for Disabilities has made global commitments in 2025.

### Overarching commitments

- **2025:** Nationwide initiative aimed at promoting participation in social life, autonomy, talents and skills of persons with disabilities, in the different dimensions of life: recreational, housing and occupational. Innovative model, also replicable at the international level.
  - Rationale: Initiative aimed at promoting the concrete implementation of the principles of the UNCRPD and the Solfagnano Charter to foster participation in social life, autonomy, talents and skills of persons with disabilities, in the different dimensions of life: recreational, housing and occupational.
  - Objective: Improve the opportunities of full citizenship and support the possibilities of living a life that is as participative, autonomous and independent as possible for persons with disabilities through the implementation of opportunities for sociality, skills development initiatives and work and employment collaboration.
  - Target: 300 million EUR in 2025, to support projects and initiatives, for a duration of 24 months, carried out by third sector entities whose purpose is to promote growth opportunities for persons with disabilities. It is estimated to support at least 600 projects with the participation of about 2.000 entities and the involvement of about 30.000 persons with disabilities and their families.
  - Beneficiaries: Third sector entities shall propose initiatives, experimental approaches to promote the radical change of perspective that sees the person with disabilities as the protagonist and at the center of interventions for social and work inclusion.
  - Areas of intervention: • Training initiatives, also for informal and non-formal learning certifications (micro credentials); • Opportunities to develop personal and friendship relationships, cultivate interests and hobbies in sports, artistic, cultural and creative disciplines; • Inclusive opportunities for quality work for the enhancement and development of talents; • Initiatives to increase autonomy

through housing and mobility opportunities for full participation in work and social life.

- Eligible costs: • Personnel (assistance, intermediation, accompaniment); • Goods and services; • Infrastructural interventions for reasonable accommodations.

## Kosovo, Office of Good Governance-Office of Prime Minister

The Office of Good Governance-Office of Prime Minister of Kosovo made global commitments in 2022.

### Inclusive Education

- **2022: Strengthen education systems so that they are inclusive of all.**  
Effective advocacy between DPOs and relevant institutions to support improved agenda for inclusive education for children with disabilities.

### Overarching Commitments

- **2022: Increase consultation and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities and organisations of persons with disabilities in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national policies and systems, and in international cooperation.**  
Following the decision by the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, declaring the 2022 as the year of persons with disabilities, commitment by the government to implementation of the calendar of activities and Strengthening of the Kosovo's Council for Persons with Disabilities ( a joint mechanism composed of relevant institutions and organisation's for persons with disabilities), to influence creation, monitoring and implementation of legal and policy framework contributing to the improvement of the situation of persons with disabilities in Kosovo. disabilities.

### Meaningful Engagement of OPDs

- **2022: Support partnerships with other social movements.**  
The government of Kosovo will continuously consult, cooperate and address the voice of DPOs to influence their active participation to advocate on improving the quality of life for persons with children and persons with disabilities.

## Latvia, Ministry of Welfare of the Republic of Latvia

The Ministry of Welfare of the Republic of Latvia made global commitments in 2022.

### Overarching Commitments

- **2022: Reduce discrimination and stigmatisation by promoting attitudinal change in communities and across all development cooperation, and addressing intersectionalities.** For instance by allocating funds for awareness raising activities, for these are vital to reduce discrimination and promote inclusion of people with disabilities into all life domains and this is a precondition to allow other support measures and initiatives that are calling upon inclusion of people with disabilities to be successful and meaningful.

### Sustainable Livelihoods and Social Protection

- **2022:** Provide social protection that supports and encourages economic participation of persons with disabilities.
- **2022:** Provide support to promote the employment of persons with disabilities in the public and private sectors.
- **2022:** Increase coverage of social protection for persons with disabilities, advancing the realization of universal social protection. Disability benefits is one of the key support measures for people with disabilities, however these need to be developed in line with the human rights approach, that requests emphasis on appropriate and needs based services.

## Malta, Directorate for Disability Issues

The Directorate for Disability Issues of the government of Malta has made global commitments in 2025.

### Overarching commitments

- **2025:** Continuing with Malta's efforts to ensure a disability perspective:
  - o in EU-Arab cooperation through the Valletta Forum on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its concrete outputs, such as the Arab-EU Disability Research Network;
  - o in EU-Mediterranean Cooperation, through Malta's input to the Regional Framework on Disability being coordinated by the Union for the Mediterranean, and;
  - o at Commonwealth level, through Malta's ongoing support, further also to endorsement by the Cabinet of Ministers, of a Commonwealth-level disability perspective, to be eventually formalised by means of a Commonwealth Disability Inclusion Action Plan.

### Access to Justice

- **2025:** Finalise and put into practice Malta's disruptive model for reforming access to justice, by providing person-centred, accessible modes of redress for countering disability discrimination, backed up by strong mediation and enforcement models within a reinvigorated national disability equality body further to transposition of sector-specific provisions of EU legislation on Equality Bodies, and in partnership with local justice and law enforcement stakeholders, and key international partners such as the Validity Foundation.

### Living in the community

- **2025:** Continue working on a reform of Malta's Personal Assistance Scheme, and introduction of a system of Personal Budgets, as led by Aġenzija Sapport, Malta's State disability service provider, with the cooperation of the European Network on Independent Living (ENIL) and promote this model in current and future bilateral and multilateral engagements.

### Data collection

- **2025:** Continue current Malta efforts in partnership with the Global Partnership on SDG Data, within the framework of the Inclusive

Data Charter, to finalise the national exercise by IDCC, the Inter-Ministerial technical Disability Committee, mapping disability data across different Ministries and entities, identifying data gaps, creating common indicators aligned with international best practices, and structuring a regularly-updated national unified disability register, while considering the impact and inclusion of citizen-generated data into relevant processes.

## Engagement with OPDs

- **2025:** In the spirit of 'Nothing Without Us!', promote Malta's home-grown models for implementing Articles 4(3) and 33(3) of the UNCRPD, and General Comment No. 7 thereto, with partners bilaterally and multilaterally:
  - Malta's ENGAGE model of implementing the UNCRPD's Article 4(3) vis-à-vis involving disabled people in Government's work, as well as;
  - the Council for the Rights of Persons with Disability, Young People's Disability Rights Forum and KCC (Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities) as models for implementing Article 33(3), vis-à-vis involving disabled people in the work of Malta's disability equality body (Commission for the Rights of Persons with Disability), together with specific models such as Malta's Autism Advisory Council, and;
  - the ACTIVATE European Autistic Advocacy School concept, through bilateral and multilateral efforts, and in furtherance of General Comment No. 7 to the UNCRPD.

## International cooperation

- **2025:** Ensure a disability inclusion perspective in funding schemes operated by the Ministry responsible for Disability, and the Malta Council for the Voluntary Sector (MCVS), through the development and updating of guidelines based on international best practices and markers, with the full involvement of disabled people and their representative organisations, including those most left behind (e.g. at regional/local level), while;  
Additionally committing part or all of various schemes' budgets, including part of the budget for the Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) scheme operated by the Ministry responsible for Foreign Affairs, to specific disability-inclusive development projects, including those led by OPDs.



## Norway

The national Government of Norway made global commitments in 2022 and 2025.

### Inclusive Livelihoods and Social Protection

- **2022: Provide support to promote the employment of persons with disabilities in the public and private sectors.**  
Work to increase labour market participation for persons with disabilities and ensure that efforts to promote decent work also address the needs of persons with disabilities.

### Inclusive Education

- **2022: Other**  
Ensure that Norwegian funding for education is used to promote more inclusive education.

### Inclusive Health

- **2022: Strengthen inclusive health systems that provide access to general health care and specialised services and programmes related to disability specific health requirements.**  
Promote equal access to health, care and welfare services, including sexual and reproductive health services.

### Meaningful Engagement of OPDs

- **2022: Mainstream OPD engagement across funding.**  
Promote the involvement and participation of persons with disabilities and their organisations in development cooperation. Continue to cooperate with organisations of persons with disabilities.

### Conflict and Humanitarian Contexts

- **2022: Include persons with disabilities in climate action.**  
Include the rights and needs of persons with disabilities in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation efforts.

- **2025:** Norway will promote adaptation for and inclusion of persons with disabilities and their representative organisations in humanitarian efforts and work to ensure that the international framework to protect civilians from violence and abuse includes the protection and rights of persons with disabilities.

## Overarching Commitments

- **2022: Disaggregate data by disability, gender and age in data collection and statistics.**

Work to ensure that data and statistics in relevant areas are disaggregated using markers for persons with disabilities and help to generate the knowledge needed to achieve results in identified priority areas.

## International cooperation

- **2025:** Norway will extend the period for its strategy “Equality for all: Norway’s strategy for disability-inclusive development (2022–2025),” for a further three years, from 2026 to 2028.
- **2025:** In the period leading up to 2028, Norway will continue its efforts to promote inclusion of persons with disabilities across all sectors of development cooperation and increase the proportion of aid that has inclusion of persons with disabilities as a main or significant objective.
- **2025:** Norway will advocate for multilateral partners to strengthen their efforts to promote inclusion of persons with disabilities and disability rights.

## **Poland, Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs**

The Polish Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs has made global commitments in 2025.

### **Political participation**

- **2025: Youth with disabilities who are active in the fields of political and public life**

Developing a three-year strategic and action plan to enhance the capacities of persons with disabilities and their organizations to political participation. This initiative will begin by empowering and building the capacities of 200 young men and women with disabilities across the Kingdom's three regions in skills and tools for participation in political and public life. This initiative aims to integrate them and enhance their effectiveness in political and public participation.

## Romania, National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The Romanian National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has made global commitments in 2025.

### Engagement with OPDs

- **2025:** “In light of the provisions of Article 8 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Romania supports the promotion of the recognition for the merits and abilities of persons with disabilities, as well as their contribution to the upliftment of communities. In this regard, we develop partnerships with public stakeholders, involving organizations of persons with disabilities in our actions, in all matters regarding public policies that affect their lives.”

## Slovenia, Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

The Slovenian Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities has made global commitments in 2025.

### Consultation with OPDs

- **2025:** The Republic of Slovenia commits to ensuring ongoing consultation with persons with disabilities and their representative organisations in matters affecting them, in line with the principle of “nothing about persons with disabilities without persons with disabilities.”

### Social inclusion

- **2025:** The Republic of Slovenia commits to ensuring independent living and social inclusion of persons with disabilities by providing access to personal assistance, social inclusion services for persons with disabilities, and other programmes.

## Spain, Spanish Agency of International Cooperation (AECID)

The Spanish Agency of International Cooperation made global commitments in 2022, and together with DGDPD, FIAP, ONCE Social Group in 2025.

### Women and girls with disabilities

- **2025: Quality of life of women and girls for a life free of gender violence through education and technology**

Joint development of the project 'Education and Technology: Social Inclusion of Women and Girls with Disabilities for a Life Free of Gender Violence' through the ONCE Foundation for Latin America and co-financed by the Joint development of the project 'Education and Technology: Social Inclusion of Women and Girls with Disabilities for a Life Free of Gender Violence' through the ONCE Foundation for Latin America and co-financed by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID). The objective is to improve the lives of girls and women with visual impairments and deafblindness through actions in the school and community environment, linking educational and technological aspects.

### Education

- **2022: Promote inclusion of persons with disabilities in vocational training and higher education.**

By offering scholarships and grants programs each year, that enables students with disabilities to acquire international experience that will boost their employability towards a successful transition to the labor market.

By promoting alumni or similar networks that increase future professional opportunities of students.

- **2022: Strengthen targeted support for learners with disabilities.**

By continue supporting projects related to inclusive education that address the digital divide suffered by learners with disabilities and the scarcity of accessible and inclusive materials.

- **2025: Strengthening support for a quality inclusive education for learners with disabilities, mainly girls and young women, through innovation projects**

Supporting inclusive education projects in the field of "Innovation for Development" with a gender-based approach that addresses the digital divide suffered by learners with disabilities, mainly girls and young women, as well as by paying attention to the scarcity of accessible and inclusive mater.

- **2025: Developing inclusive educational systems for students with disabilities through SIRIED monitoring framework**

Support of RIINEE countries (Ibero-American Inter-Governmental Cooperation Network for People with Special Educational Needs) through an UNESCO project co-financed by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) and the Ministry of Education and Professional Training of Spain. The project aims at developing SIRIED framework, the Regional Information System for Students with Disabilities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

## Conflict and Humanitarian Contexts

- **2022: Strengthen capacity on a rights-based approach to disability inclusive humanitarian action including in situations of armed conflict.**

Trough projects to improve inclusive services and promote accessible materials provided to displaced persons with disabilities. Creating and disseminating guidelines related to the needs and situation of displaced persons with disabilities.

- **2022: Include persons with disabilities in climate action**

Trough projects to ensure inclusion and meaningful participation of OPD in climate change action. Creating and publishing guides with a disability inclusive approach to climate change adaptation and climate mitigation policies and disaster preparedness plans.

- **2025: Including persons with disabilities on Climate Action in humanitarian and emergency contexts**

Publicize the AECID's "Guide for Incorporating the Environment in Humanitarian and Emergency Actions", which includes a specific chapter referred to inclusive actions for persons with disabilities on interventions regarding with situations of climate emergency and environmental risk.

## Inclusive Livelihoods and Social Protection

- **2022: Develop open, inclusive, and accessible work environments.**

Assisting and promoting the growth of social economy employers. Advocating towards the significant role played by disability inclusive employers.

- **2022: Provide support to promote the employment of persons with disabilities in the public and private sectors.**

Supporting the implementation of effective job placement mechanism for persons with disabilities through the use of technology in collaboration with the IADB Lab.

Assisting public administrations in the design and implementation of legal frameworks that subserve to the labor inclusion of persons with disabilities under the Socieux, EUROsociAL+ and others European Programmes. Strengthening collaboration with the private sector to create awareness of the talent of persons with disabilities. Providing technical assistance to entrepreneurs with disabilities. Design initiatives to promote the labor inclusion of persons with disabilities in the public sector.

- **2025: Promoting job opportunities for young people and women with disabilities in the tourism sector.**

Continuation of a public-private partnership in Morocco for the labor inclusion in the tourism sector of at least 100 young people and women with disabilities. This is a joint project of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), the ONCE Social Group, Moroccan public institutions and the Union for the Mediterranean.

- **2025: Strengthening the inclusion of young people with disabilities through culture and sport**

Capacity building for public administrations to ensure access to public services for young people with disabilities under the "EUFor kYouth in Tunisia" project.

- **2025: Promoting inclusion of persons with disabilities in higher education through scholarships and grants**

Offering at least 15 scholarships and grants through programs that enable students with disabilities to acquire international experience that will boost their employability towards a successful transition to the labor market.

- **2025: Strengthening inclusive capacities of public educational systems through training of public officers and teachers**

Implementation of at least 10 training sessions on educational inclusion for visually impaired students through "Intercoonecta" knowledge exchange programme. Public officers and teachers from

the education sector in 19 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean will participate in these sessions with the support of AECID, the Ministry of Education and Professional Training of Spain, and ONCE Social Group.

- **2025: Strengthening gender-based policies on social protection, inclusion and prevention of sexual violence for vulnerable women and adolescents**

Through "We Decide", a joint initiative between AECID and UNFPA, supporting an intervention model for preventing sexual violence, as well as discrimination in sexual and reproductive health policies, suffered by vulnerable women and adolescents, with a main focus on persons with disabilities.

- **2025: Promoting social and labour inclusion of persons with disabilities through effective access to their rights**

Development of a project for promoting the social and labour inclusion of persons with disabilities through the Ministry of Family, Inclusion and Social Development (MFIDS) of Cape Verde and with the support of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID).

- **2025: Promoting an inclusive culture through the Spanish Cooperation Network of Cultural Centers**

Through the Spanish Cooperation international network of Cultural Centers, promoting inclusive cultural initiatives for persons with disabilities as a way of mainstreaming disability in Culture and sustainable development.

## Political participation

- **2025: Improved political participation for persons with disabilities**

Promoting the exchange of good practices on accessible elections experience. Furthermore, supporting PNUD "Electoral Compass" Programme aiming at designing policies and methodologies in collaboration with different CSOs, many of which are composed by persons with disabilities themselves. This Programme includes several workshops and other activities that engage hundreds of participants, addressing a broad range of physical and cognitive disabilities.

## Access to justice

- **2025: Strengthening judiciary systems and other legal institutions to ensure inclusive access for persons with disabilities**

Implementation of 4 training activities with the Attorney General's Office, the General Council of the Judiciary System (CGPJ), and the General Council of Notaries of Spain through AECID's Interconecta knowledge exchange program to promote the rights of persons with disabilities to inclusive justice. Public officials from several countries of Latin America and the Caribbean will participate in these sessions.

- **2025: Strengthening judiciary systems and other legal institutions to ensure inclusive access for persons with disabilities**

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## Overarching Commitments

- **2022: Increase consultation and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities and organisations of persons with disabilities in the design, implementation, monitoring a**

Enhancing initiatives with governments and public administrations, both at bilateral and ibero-American level, to improve public systems in the benefits of citizenship with disabilities.

Preparing, editing and publishing a guide on how to mainstream disability inclusion in cooperation programs.

Including a disability inclusive approach and indicators in cooperation programs.

- **2025: Mainstreaming of inclusive measures in actions**

Development of a guide for mainstreaming disability in the cooperation programs implemented by the FIIAPP. Incorporation of the inclusive approach and indicators to promote the inclusion of people with disabilities in at least 1 program.

- **2025: Mobilizing Public Expertise for Inclusive Policies**

Promoting initiatives like Socieux, Sociedades Inclusivas, and EU4Youth to share best practices and provide technical assistance in developing effective and inclusive policy measures.

## Meaningful Engagement of OPDs

- **2022: Support partnerships with other social movements**

Promoting partnerships that whilst aim to deal with address issues such as the digital divide, women political participation or just transition, they do so with a disability inclusive approach.

Through alliances with private donors, the impact investment community and other financing institutions to promote a disability inclusive approach and draw attention to OPDs.

- **2022: Support the building of a diverse disability rights movement and OPDs, including underrepresented groups.**

Providing technical capacity programs being designed to benefit all kinds of OPDs, leading to a more diverse movement.

- **2022: Promote underrepresented groups and address intersectionality.**

Trough the programs and initiatives develop by ONCE Foundation for Latin-America for the deaf blindness persons will put in place programs and initiatives to increase awareness and promote assistive technology that enables a better access to education, autonomy, culture and sports.

Promoting initiatives such as “Mujeres en modo ON” that aims at empowering women autonomy, motivation, employability, entrepreneurship, and social inclusion and encourage companies to employ survivors of gender – based violence.

Providing specific support in the Spanish cooperation programs, to minorities and persons further away of society due to intersectionality.

## Inclusive Health

- **2022: Incorporate a mental health approach in line with the principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.**

Trough specific projects and awareness campaigns

- **2022: Address multiple and intersecting discrimination in the health sector.**

Trough ongoing specific projects such “we decide” in alliance with UNFPA and new projects in the following years.

- **2025: Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls with disabilities**

Exchanging good practices on the promotion of sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls with disabilities through the support of the Ministry of Social Rights, Consumer Affairs and 2030 Agenda of Spain.

## Sweden, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) made global commitments in both 2018, 2022 and 2025.

### Women and Girls with Disabilities

- **2018:** Gender equality and a Human Rights Based Approach are key areas in all development cooperation. Commitment to integrating persons with disabilities and gender equality in funded initiatives. Support for organisations like UNFPA, UNICEF, UN WOMEN, including UN Women's Strategy on the Empowerment of Women and Girls with Disabilities: Towards Full and Effective Participation and Gender Equality, CREA, and AWID.

### Conflict and Humanitarian Contexts

- **2018:** Disability is a significant aspect of vulnerability in humanitarian assistance. Planning a survey on partner inclusion of disability issues. Funding interventions focusing on the needs of people with disabilities, e.g., ICRC's activities.
- **2022: Strengthen capacity on a rights-based approach to disability inclusive humanitarian action including in situations of armed conflict.**  
Since the adoption of UNSCR 2475, Sida has participated in discussions on the need to strengthen meaningful engagement of persons with disabilities in peacebuilding. Sida provides core support to organisations such as Conciliation Resources and International Alert that conduct evidence-based research and advocate for the meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in peacebuilding.
- **2022: Provide resources to and prioritise disability inclusive humanitarian action.**  
Disability is a significant aspect of vulnerability and thus of importance when focusing on providing needs-based, principled humanitarian assistance. More concretely, Sida has conducted a survey on disability mainstreaming capacities among Sida partners and discussed it with the partners. Moreover, Sida funds interventions that particularly focus on the needs of persons with disabilities. For example, Sida continues to support the International Committee of the Red Cross' (ICRC) humanitarian activities in conflicts worldwide, where the organisation works to address the

needs of all persons with physical disabilities, especially those caused by clashes, cluster munitions, mines and ERW, as well as those arising from certain medical conditions. To this end, ICRC helps to develop national capacities in physical rehabilitation and directly provides services, including physiotherapy and the fitting of prostheses and orthoses. Sida's support to ICRC is unearmarked below the level of ICRC's country appeals. Disability/vulnerability has been identified as one important issue of dialogue with partners in many programmes. IASC's new guidelines on integration of persons with disabilities are followed up by Sida in dialogue with partners such as UNHCR and OCHA.

- **2022: Include persons with disabilities in climate action.**

Housing and urban resilience: Sida provides global support to The organisation Recall which works with climate change mitigation and adaptation in developing housing designed to ensure, e.g., access for persons with disabilities, including partner consultations on access and building from an inclusion perspective. UN-Habitat which has a strong focus on climate change adaptation. The New Urban Agenda recognises multiple forms of discrimination faced by persons with disabilities and emphasises their rights, including to accessibility and universal design, as an essential precondition for their inclusion in society. It also recognises the need for their effective inclusion in society and respect for their right to an adequate standard of living.

Disaster Risk Reduction, as an important part of climate change adaptation: Sida provides global support to:

- UNDRR, with a Strategic Framework 2022-2025 which emphasises the ambition of a 'People-centred, gender responsive and disability inclusive DRR' and that '...persons with disabilities and their organisations have a critical role to play at all stages of disaster risk reduction planning. The Sendai Framework reflects a human rights-based sustainable development agenda inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities. It also requires all disaster risk reduction policies to integrate a disability perspective and promotes inclusive risk-informed decision-making based on the dissemination of information disaggregated by disability'. UNDRR clearly links its work to the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy.

- Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction. Persons with disabilities are an important target group and are integrated into the Network's actions. There is e.g. training for members on how to strengthen inclusion in DRR.
- World Bank's Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction, where disability is part of the 'inclusive disaster risk management'. In the work plan for 2022, 100 percent of projects financing public facilities in post-disaster reconstruction are disability-inclusive.

## Data Disaggregation

- **2018:** Adopt the voluntary OECD-DAC disability marker. Sweden has supported the implementation in the DAC of a new policy marker that aims to measure development assistance toward persons with disabilities.

## Inclusive Education

- **2018:** Additional resources and implementation support for inclusive education efforts globally through organisations like the Global Partnership for Education, UNESCO, UNICEF, and Education Cannot Wait.
- **2025: Global Partnership for Education**  
Sida continues to be a key partner to Global Partnership to Education (GPE), both with global support to 90 partner countries based on leaving no-one behind and disability inclusion, and as Grant Agent on country level in Tanzania. The grant in Tanzania will support a national program to make primary schools more inclusive, also regarding disability, as set out in the country's inclusive education strategy. Several Organisations of Persons of Disabilities regularly contribute to and engage in GPE processes and education sector, e.g.:
  - Tanzania Federation of OPDs has a project on inclusive digital literacy for learners with visual impairments. The project is targets learners with visual impairment to use braille computers in the teaching-learning process. The project trains learners, teachers, repair braille computers and ensures all learning materials. The Federation also has a project on advocacy for inclusive education, where, through a regional network, advocacy work is done at two different levels. The

regional network carries grassroots advocacy work and brings up issues that are addressed at local level. The federation also prepare and table issues that require engagement at central government level to the responsible ministry and follows up until handled.

- Information Center on Disability is working with Free Pentecoste Churches on projects for learners with disabilities. They have a project on advocacy in Bahi district where they are engaging parents and community members to support education for their learners with disabilities.
- Tanzania Albinism Society in partnership with Zanzibar Association of the Blind are implementing a project on inclusive education in some districts in Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar. The project includes awareness raising for parents of children with disabilities, enrolment of children with disabilities in schools, supportive environment for school children, awareness on prevention of skin cancer to Persons with Albinism and referral to hospitals to handle skin cancer.

Other active OPDs are Tanzania Association of the Deaf (CHAVITA) working to increased the number of uses of sign language for deaf children, Association of Spinal bifida and hydrocephalus (ASBAHT) working to support children with spinal bifida and hydrocephalus to access education, Tanzania Society for the DeafBlind (TASODEB) are working to promote tactile communication to DeafBlind Children in schools.

## Eliminate Stigma and Discrimination

- **2018:** Policy, legislation, and its implementation core support to the International Disability Alliance (IDA). IDA was established in 1999 (supported by Sida since 2010) as a network of global and, since 2007, regional DPOS and the families of persons with disabilities. The aim of IDA is to promote the full implementation of the CRPD, through the active and coordinated involvement of representative DPOS with disabilities at all levels. Sida is also funding two positions, one Bilateral Associate Expert (BAE) to IDA/World Blind Union and one Junior Professional Officer (JPO) with focus on disabilities in Human Resources to UNDP.

## Inclusive Health

- **2022: Address multiple and intersecting discrimination in the health sector.**

Sida provides core support to International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), a civil society movement that provides and enables services and champions sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for all, especially the under-served. IPPF focuses on SRHR of persons with disabilities in areas that are often neglected. Young people with learning disabilities face obstacles to enjoy their sexual rights and are nearly five times more likely to experience sexual violence than non-disabled youth. IPPF therefore works with carers who are often not adequately trained to deal with sexuality issues, to be able to provide guidance on protection and behaviour. Taking a client-centred approach, IPPF has trained persons with disabilities as peer educators, improving access to SRH services by meeting with persons with disabilities to understand their specific needs, mapping disability-friendly SRH services, and training service providers on the provision of disability-friendly services. IPPF develops 'best practice' for providers and stakeholders and innovative service provision interventions. They are also in the process of developing disability inclusive guidelines.

- **2022: Ensure a fully inclusive health sector through Universal Health Coverage.**

Sida provides core support to HelpAge to promote healthy ageing, including through advocating for the implementation of UHC and development and strengthening of long-term care and support systems. HelpAge systematically includes disability in their work. They develop disaggregated data, to be able to more concretely include targets for specific groups such as persons with disabilities. HelpAge also works with e.g. inclusive social protection and humanitarian action.

- **2022: Strengthen inclusive health systems that provide access to general health care and specialised services and programmes related to disability specific health requirements.**

Sida provides core support to WHO. WHO is e.g. responding to the requests under WHA Resolution on 'The highest attainable standard of health for persons with disabilities' adopted in May 2021. These are examples of current activities:

- Development of a WHO Global Report on disability inclusion in the health sector that will be launch at the end of 2022.
- Development of a Guide for Action to support countries in the implementation of the recommendations of the WHO Global Report.
- Support to countries in their efforts to collect and disaggregate reliable data on disability through the WHO Model Disability Survey.
- Progressing the implementation of the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy across the organisation through a 3-year Action Plan. A new policy on the employment of persons with disabilities has been just launched

- **2025: Support to Ipas - SRH services to women and girls with disabilities**

Ipas (a global civil society organisation with focus on the right to safe abortion) applies various strategies and interventions designed to address and overcome the barriers faced by women and girls with disabilities in accessing essential Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services, ensuring that their needs are met and their voices are heard. They work to improve physical accessibility and raise awareness, advocate for policy changes, and foster an inclusive environment where women and girls with disabilities can receive the care and support, they require. Special efforts in DRC, Ethiopia and Nigeria. Ipas collaborate with Organisations of Persons with Disabilities.

## Inclusive Livelihoods and Social Protection

- **2022: Provide support to promote the employment of persons with disabilities in the public and private sectors.**

Sida provides support to:

- RECONOMY, an inclusive and green economic development programme in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Western Balkans, created to enable women and youth, including marginalised groups e.g. persons with disabilities, to benefit from economic opportunities by increasing their income and taking up decent jobs, inclusively and sustainably.
- Strengthening Women’s Ability for Productive New Opportunities in Bangladesh, designed to lift women out of

extreme poverty and targets ultra-poor, rural, women who are widows, divorced, abandoned or left with a disabled husband.

- **2022: Increase coverage of social protection for persons with disabilities, advancing the realisation of universal social protection.**

Sida provides support to:

- Social Cash Transfer programme in Zambia, which monthly transfers cash to the poorest households. Persons with disabilities included in the programme receive two transfers each month. Further, to make the social protection sector more disability inclusive, Sida supports Zambia Agency for Persons with Disabilities, which e.g. has resulted in strengthened Disability Management Information System and Social Cash Transfer disability assessment tool.
- Basic Social Subsidy Program, through the UN Joint Program, in Mozambique, which will be redesigned to include a disability grant and efforts to review the definition of the Eligibility Criteria for Disability Allowance for children and adults.
- World Bank Multi Donor Trust Fund 'Strengthening Mozambique's Social Protection System'. The eligibility and prioritisation criteria include (but are not limited to) households headed by persons with disabilities and households with persons with disabilities.

- **2025: UN-Multi Partner Trust Fund Office in Kenya - Social Protection**

SE will support the next phase of the UN-MPTFO - Social Protection Programme. It builds on to the good results of the previous phase The Joint Programme Child Protection and Social Protection. ILO and FAO have joined as implementing partners besides UNICEF and WFP. The Programme has been implemented jointly with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and other partners such as the National Council for Persons with Disabilities and county governments. Kenya has a solid social protection system which included child benefits, transfers to vulnerable households and universal pensions. The joint program is implemented at central and local levels and includes support to the development of policy and legislation, systems strengthening and coordination and when needed the activities have been scaled up to include the actual cash transfers to families affected by climate crisis such as droughts. Inclusion of gender and disability is ambitious. Kenya's first Support

Needs Assessment for Persons with Disabilities and their Caregivers has brought to the fore the glaring gaps in provision of support to persons with disabilities and their caregivers, and the needs which require immediate attention and action. This report has now become a major resource for informing social protection and child protection policy and programming in relation to persons with disabilities.

- **2025: UN Joint Programme on Social Protection in Zambia**  
Sida continues to support the UN Joint Programme on Social Protection in Zambia together with the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services. The programme is based on Zambia's Social Cash Transfer Programme which reaches 1.3 million households. One of the target groups is households with at least one person living with a disability – 23 percent of the recipients. Recipients with disabilities receive Social Cash Transfer which is disbursed every two months. UNICEF, which is the lead UN agency, works with disability issues in different ways: influencing policy to make Zambia's Social Protection sector more 'disability sensitive' and speed up registration of persons with disabilities, which is key as you are not eligible for support without registration, and make services and information more accessible for persons with disabilities. Both civil society organisation ZAFOD and the government organisation ZAPD are highly involved in the programme and receive funds through the UN. They have for example influenced the new Social Protection Policy which was adopted in 2024. ZAPD is responsible for registration of persons with disabilities. The programme has a strong gender focus, through for example work on combatting GBV and improve nutrition among mothers and children.

## Political and public life

- **2025: International Foundation for Electoral Systems**  
Sida provides core support to The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES). IFES works toward fostering partnerships among OPDs, civil society and governments. IFES strives to remove barriers which prohibit full participation of persons with disabilities as voters and candidates. When barriers are removed, voters with disabilities are afforded their full rights as citizens. IFES implements disability programs in every region of the world and has an internal Knowledge Management Initiative Working Group on Disability

Access and Inclusion to help grow the research, tools and technical expertise offered to partners. Due to the present uncertain funding situation Sida will provide funding for one year.

## Overarching Commitments

- **2022: Promote accessible information and access to democratic processes and elections and promote inclusion and diversity in political representation.**

Sida provides core support to The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) for fostering partnerships and implementing OECD DAC policy markers on gender equality and disability.

- **2022: Disaggregate data by disability, gender and age in data collection and statistics.**

Implementation of the OECD DAC policy markers on gender equality and disability.

- **2025: UN Global Disability Fund**

Sida provides core support to GDF (formed UNPRPD), a partnership operating through a Multi-Partner Trust Fund and created to foster collaboration through UN Joint programming. Participating partners, among others, ILO, ITU, OHCHR, UNDESA, UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN Women, WHO as well as IDA and the International Disability and Development Consortium. GDF's main focus is country-level joint programming, with use of GDS funds. GDF supports countries to design, implement and reform national policies, plans, budgets, programs and services with the meaningful participation of OPDs so that they comply with the CRPD and disability inclusive SDGs. In recognition of the importance of the GDF in terms of mobilizing/engaging the multilateral system in disability inclusion, Sida's intention is to enter into a new multi-year funding agreement with GDF in 2025.

## Meaningful Engagement of OPDs

- **2022: Support the building of a diverse disability rights movement and OPDs, including underrepresented groups.**

Sida provides support to the Swedish membership-based organisation MyRight (through the organisation ForumCiv). MyRight works to ensure fulfillment of human rights of persons with disabilities globally, and that persons with disabilities can live independently, free from poverty, and in inclusive societies. MyRight

works in partnership and supports OPDs around the world - umbrella organisations that bring together disability law organisations in a country, regional collaborations and larger and smaller organisations that bring together people with certain disabilities.

- **2022: Support partnerships with other social movements.**

Sida provides support to the Swedish organisation MyRight, core support to IDA and UNPRPD, and supporting IDA's work on promoting underrepresented groups and addressing intersectionality.

- **2022: Promote underrepresented groups and address intersectionality.**

Sida provides core support to the International Disability Alliance (IDA). A key issue in IDA's work is 'underrepresented groups and intersectionality'. IDA works towards turning people with disabilities from being recipients of activities such as training, to taking active part. Over the past 2-3 years IDA has worked on training of trainers with disabilities, including underrepresented groups' facilitators. i.e. persons with intellectual disabilities, with cerebral palsy, and with deafblindness. IDA combines this work with targeted initiatives promoting leadership of underrepresented groups, i.e. establishment of a caucus of youth with disabilities, a caucus of women with disabilities, and working with the indigenous persons with disabilities global network.

Sida supports IDA and one of the key dialogue issues during the current agreement period is "underrepresented groups and intersectionality". Sida is continuously following upon this strategic issue. Through its work IDA pays attention to turning persons with disabilities from recipients of training, activities, etc. to active parts of them: over the past 2-3 years IDA has worked on training trainers with disabilities (including underrepresented groups' facilitators [persons with intellectual disabilities, with cerebral palsy, with deafblindness]). This, in combination with targeted initiatives promoting leadership of underrepresented groups: creating a youth with disabilities caucus, working with the indigenous persons with disabilities global network, working to create a women with disabilities caucus demonstrates the priority of the promotion of underrepresented groups and its priority to address intersectionality. Through its members-based structure Sida believes IDA is one of the leading actors in the sector who promotes the rights of persons with disability on a global scale.

- **2022: Increase funding to support OPDs' priorities.**

Sida provides core support to IDA and UNPRPD, two long-term and strategic partnerships. The funding has increased over the years. Core support enables Sida to partner with organisations in a comprehensive manner based on the organisations' own strategic plans and frameworks which set the priorities (theme II:4, Adapt funding conditionalities to OPD support). Both IDA and UNPRPD support OPDs by providing technical capacity development of OPDs primarily at national level in order to foster and strengthen OPDs so that they can operate in an enabling environment for the promotion of the rights of persons with disability (theme III, Support OPD technical and organisational capacity development).

- **2025: International Disability Alliance.**

Sida provides core support to IDA, consisting of 14 global and regional organisations of persons with disabilities (OPD), aiming at improved awareness of and human rights for persons with disabilities globally. The IDA works with NGOs/CSOs, multilateral organisations and governments to improve legislation, empower of OPD, fund projects at country level and advocate for persons with disabilities around the world. IDA works closely with the UN and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. One key issue in IDA's work is underrepresented groups and intersectionality. IDA works towards turning persons with disabilities from being recipients of activities such as training, to taking active part. IDA is the backbone of the global disability movement and in light of this Sida is in the process of extending its agreement with IDA for core support by one year, with the aim of entering into a multi-year agreement to start in 2026.

## Ukraine, Ministry of Social Policy

The Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine made global commitments in 2022.

### Inclusive Livelihoods and Social Protection

- **2022: Develop open, inclusive, and accessible work environments.**  
Designing at the legislative level of favorable conditions for the employment of persons with disabilities. In particular, by introducing incentive mechanisms for employers to create jobs.

### Overarching Commitments

- **2022: Support, develop and implement programmes on assistive technology.**  
Improvement of the mechanism for providing assistive technologies for persons with disabilities.

### Meaningful Engagement of OPDs

- **2022: Support the building of a diverse disability rights movement and OPDs, including underrepresented groups.**  
Develop a capacity development/institutional support mechanism for organisations of persons with disabilities.

## United Kingdom, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

The United Kingdom Government: Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office made global commitments in both in 2018, 2022 and 2025.

### Inclusive Education

- **2018:** Endorse and support the Partnership for Inclusive Education We will set up, fund and lead the new Inclusive Education Initiative (IEI). This new multi-donor partnership will pool expertise to support developing countries to realise the promise of truly inclusive schools, teaching and learning. It will support countries to collect data, integrate disability into education sector plans, build capacity to rollout reforms and train teachers. It will focus on real world outcomes to ensure all children complete school and learn.
- **2022: Strengthen education systems so that they are inclusive of all.**  
As a leading donor to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and Education Cannot Wait (ECW), the UK will use its voice to call for accelerated action to promote the rights of children with disabilities across our multilateral investments, so they are disability inclusive.
- **2022: Increase information and knowledge on inclusive education for policy-making and targeted interventions.**  
The UK will promote the disaggregation of results tracking on global girls' education targets by gender, age and disability, where possible, and ensure a focus on inclusion in reporting.
- **2022:** The UK will actively involve youth disability activists in our wider education engagement inform our future education programmes and policies.
- **2025: A Partnership to Champion Progress in Disability Inclusive Education**  
We, the undersigned, reaffirm our commitment to championing disability-inclusive education to drive progress and accountability. At a time when gains in inclusive education are at risk of reversal, we remain steadfast in our leadership and collective action to ensure children with disabilities are not left behind. We will continue to share knowledge, foster collaboration, and use our collective influence to protect and expand progress and ensure inclusive education remains a priority. Now more than ever, we must act with urgency to keep disability-inclusive education at the forefront of the

global agenda — because every child deserves the right to learn and thrive.

- **2025: Disability Inclusive Education Programming**

FCDO will ensure that all education programming is disability inclusive and includes disability inclusion criteria and targets by 2030.

## Accessibility

- **2025: Green Cities and Infrastructure Centre of Expertise**

The UK will integrate disability inclusion across its technical assistance programming, the 'Green Cities and Infrastructure Centre of Expertise', to facilitate inclusive and accessible infrastructure design and planning.

- **2025: Digital Access Programme**

Through the UK Digital Access Programme (DAP) in Kenya, we have been working to enhance access to essential digital services, including government digital services, for persons with disabilities. In alignment with the digital inclusion principles outlined in the FCDO Digital Development Strategy (2024-2030), we will share the learnings from our digital accessibility work, and will advocate for universal design and delivery, adaptive digital literacy and tailored digital employability skills. The programme has been working in close consultation with persons with disabilities, recognising their experience and leadership.

- **2025: Resilient and Inclusive Cities Hub**

We will work in partnership with the Resilient and Inclusive Cities Hub, including through our research, evidence, and innovation programme, to promote the importance of disability inclusion in the built environment and the need for better connected more inclusive climate resilient cities and infrastructure services for all.

## Economic Empowerment

- **2018: Economic Empowerment**

Access to decent work will publish a Good Practice briefing note for CDC's fund managers, investees and clients – and broader private sector investors. It will provide guidance on inclusive and practical actions that investors/ private sector companies can take to provide decent work for people with disabilities.

- **2022: Ensure conducive policy environment.**

The UK will produce and publish an FCDO Organisations for People with Disabilities (OPDs) Engagement guidance by 2023.

## Women and Girls with Disabilities

- **2018: Women and Girls with Disabilities**

We will contribute a further £1 million to the UN Trust Fund on Violence Against Women and Girls hosted by UN Women. This will support their efforts in preventing and responding to violence against women and girls with disabilities. This funding will support grassroots organisations to scale up their response to prevent and respond to the scale of violence experienced by women and girls with disabilities.

## Children with disabilities

- **2025: Global Campaign on Children's Care Reform**

FCDO commits to ensuring that the voices of children and young people with disabilities are at the heart of the Foreign Secretary's new global campaign on children's care reform, which calls for safe and nurturing family care for all children and a progressive end to institutionalisation. Children with disabilities are disproportionately represented in institutional care settings but their voices are too often marginalised. This campaign will ensure the full and meaningful participation of children and young people with disabilities and representative organisations to ensure their voices are heard and their views reflected. Through a new Global Charter we will commit alongside other countries to address the systemic and specific issues faced by children with disabilities and their families, to empower families to provide safe and loving care at home.

## Eliminate Stigma and Discrimination

- **2018:** Policy, legislation and its implementation. We will publish a new Disability Framework later in 2018 setting out how we will put disability at the heart of our work.

## Conflict and Humanitarian Contexts

- **2018:** We will be publishing a set of updated humanitarian commitments to form part of the revised Disability Framework by the end of 2018.
- **2025: Education in Emergency and Protracted Crisis**  
FCDO will support Education in Emergency and Protracted Crisis (EiEPC) stakeholders in adopting the Twin-Track programmatic approach to inclusive education and strengthening data, evidence, and accountability for inclusive education and will use our global position to advocate for greater disability inclusion across the education sector. We will do this by joining others in championing inclusive education.

## Data Disaggregation

- **2018:** Sign up to the Inclusive Data CharterWe have signed up to the Inclusive Data Charter to support the quality, quantity, financing and availability of inclusive and disaggregated data.
- **2025: Disability Disaggregated Data in Education Programmes**  
FCDO will collect and use disability disaggregated data in our education programmes by 2030. All programmes will use the Child Functioning Model or the Washington Group Short Set where use of the CFM is not possible.

## Harnessing Technology and Innovation

- **2018:** Join Global Partnership for Assistive TechnologyWe will launch 'ATscale', a global partnership for assistive technology (with partners such as USAID, WHO, UNICEF and GDI Hub) to transform access and affordability for life-changing AT such as wheelchairs, prosthetics, hearing aids and glasses. Our objective is that 500m people globally will be being reached by essential assistive technology by 2030.
- **2025: AT2030 Assistive Technology Investment Vehicle.**  
The FCDO, with the Global Disability Innovation Hub, has set up an investment vehicle through our AT2030 programme, which aims to crowd in at least \$60m of public and private investment by July 2026 to scale the provision of affordable AT innovations in low- and-middle- income countries.

- **2025: AI for Development (AI4D) Programme**

FCDO will test AI solutions and develop the evidence base driven by and responsive to persons with disability through the Research and Evidence Directorate's AI for Development (AI4D) programme. This includes addressing bias, developing inclusive datasets, promoting technical skills, engaging with entrepreneurs offering AI solutions and supporting local advocacy networks.

## Inclusive Health

- **2022: Strengthen inclusive health systems that provide access to general health care and specialised services and programmes related to disability specific health requirements.**

The UK's Women's Integrated Sexual Health (WISH) programme will be extended to continue strengthening ground-breaking work with Organisations of People with Disabilities in 2022/23. The programme assesses and addresses barriers which prevent people living with disabilities realising their full Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights.

- **2022:** The UK's 'What Works to Prevent Violence: Impact at Scale' programme will contribute to more effective, concerted global efforts to tackle violence against women and girls with disabilities.

This means in practices:

- Testing and building the evidence on new approaches to address violence against women with disabilities including at least two targeted innovation grants alongside wider project mainstreaming.
- All data will be disaggregated by disability.
- Women with disabilities will be consulted through design and implementation.
- Women with disabilities will be represented on the programme's advisory board.

- **2025: Disability Inclusion in Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights Programming**

We commit to improving the reach of UK-funded SRHR programming to women and girls with disabilities, applying the learning gained from past programmes, such as the Women's Integrated Sexual Health programme (2018-2024). This means ensuring that organisations and individuals with disabilities are consulted and actively engaged in programme design,

implementation, and monitoring – including tracking the proportion of clients reached with a disability and spend on disability inclusion.

## **Inclusive Livelihoods and Social Protection**

- **2022: Develop open, inclusive, and accessible work environments.**

As a Disability Confident Leader, the UK's FCDO department will be a kind and respectful organisation which provides a supportive, accessible working environment for our colleagues with disabilities/long term health conditions where they are treated fairly and can achieve their full potential.

- **2022:** The UK's British International Investment will build on the 2021 Disability Inclusion Guidance for companies through:
  - o raising awareness in demonstrating best practice to the investor community to consider in their investment.
  - o embedding Disability Inclusion in its new Policy of Responsible Investing (PRI) which include a list of key recommended practices and promoting and starting relevant discussions on disability inclusion with investees.
- **2022: Provide support to promote the employment of persons with disabilities in the public and private sectors.**

The UK's Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG) will recommit and expand on our ambition set out in 2018. Between 2022 -2025 we will:

  - o Screen all new projects for disability-specific risks and empowerment opportunities, and where possible and relevant, start working with Disabled Person's Organisations during the early design phases to help materialise this potential.
  - o Embed questions when undertaking impact assessments and surveys of stakeholders in our projects to assess the particular impact on people with disabilities.
  - o Identify suitable projects each year and develop project case studies.
  - o Conduct training and knowledge sharing sessions on disability inclusion to build capacities and raise awareness

## **International cooperation**

- **2025: Disability Inclusive Development Programme Learning**

We commit to publishing and disseminating the learning from our Disability Inclusive Development programme to accelerate implementation of inclusive approaches to education, health, economic empowerment and tackling stigma and discrimination.

## Meaningful Engagement with OPDs

- **2022: Promote underrepresented groups and address intersectionality.**

The UK will ensure all new programme business cases implemented in Africa and all centrally managed education programmes demonstrate participation of OPDs during the design process, where relevant.

- **2022: Ensure conducive policy environment.**

The UK will produce and publish an FCDO Organisations for People with Disabilities (OPDs) Engagement guidance by 2023

## Overarching Commitments

- **2018:** We have extended the ICS youth volunteering programme until December 2019. We have doubled the number of applications we want to achieve from people with disabilities to 6% of total applications. Under the extension we have also doubled the number of bespoke disability focused projects in the portfolio, and will ensure that 40% of the overall project portfolio focuses on disability related outcomes.

- **2022: Support multi-stakeholder coordination and efforts to strengthen the knowledge-based on achieving community-based support in different contexts.**

The UK will fund the Global Action on Disability (GLAD) Network, a coordination body of key international stakeholders with a common interest to progress disability inclusive development until March 2024.

- **2022: Reduce discrimination and stigmatisation by promoting attitudinal change in communities and across all development cooperation and addressing intersectionalities.**

The UK's "Safe to Be Me" Conference which aims to improve the lives of LGBT+ people will ensure the participation of people with disabilities at the event, including through accessibility.

- **2022: Invest in accessible and disability inclusive needs assessment, information management systems, and**

**outreach mechanisms that facilitate coordinated support for community inclusion.**

By 2025 the UK will take tangible action within our existing portfolio of work to support people with disabilities, drawing on analysis or engagement activities across global health, education, social protection, LGBT, economic development, and humanitarian programmes. We will mainstream disability inclusion into our portfolio of programmes, where relevant, work through our multilateral and bilateral partnerships to progress the agenda.

- **2022: Develop cross sectoral policies and design action plans in partnership with the full range of stakeholders and communities to facilitate the meaningful inclusion of all children and adults with disabilities, with a special focus on gender equality.**

The forthcoming FCDO 2022 Women and Girls Strategy and Implementation Plan will ensure that women and girls with disabilities are meaningfully embedded across key priorities and mutually reinforces the 2022 FCDO Disability Inclusion Strategy.

- **2022: Increase consultation and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities and organisations of persons with disabilities in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national policies and systems, and in international cooperation.**

By 2025 the UK will establish meaningful engagement with people with disabilities, including through their representative organisations, across priority areas in global health, education, economic development, and existing protracted crises and new humanitarian programming. We will facilitate community empowerment and look to increase the visibility and voices of people with disabilities, finding opportunities to bring them into decision making and planning processes.

- **2022: Support efforts to align existing legislation with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), using the participatory approach of law reforms as required by the CRPD.**

The UK's Human Rights Ambassador will champion the promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all people with disabilities, both in their work in UN multilateral negotiations and engagements in countries.

- **2022: Disaggregate data by disability, gender and age in data collection and statistics.**

By 2025 the UK will work towards embedding results tracking disaggregated by disability across all new activities in education, global health, LGBT, economic development, and existing and new humanitarian responses. We will collect data disaggregated by disability in programmes where this is possible and look for opportunities to increase our understanding of what works on disability inclusion *and influencing our partners to do the same*.

- **2022: Mobilise resources to ensure that public services are inclusive by actively working towards with the aim of removing physical, institutional, and attitudinal barriers.**

By 2025 the UK will increase our awareness and understanding of and attention to disability inclusion across our global health, education, economic development, and humanitarian portfolios.

- **2025: Co-chairing the Global Action on Disability (GLAD) Network**

The FCDO will co-chair the Global Action on Disability (GLAD) donor network to drive forward cooperation and new partnerships on disability inclusion around the world.

- **2025: FCDO Research Programmes**

From June 2025, FCDO's Research and Evidence Directorate will ensure that all new research programmes consider how the programme will consult with Organisations for People with Disabilities at the research design stage and collect and disaggregate data on disability.

- **2025: Research Advisory Group**

FCDO will proactively seek to recruit a member with lived experience of disability to FCDO's external Research Advisory Group during the next intake of new members in 2026.

- **2025: FCDO Research Publications and Events**

FCDO's Research and Evidence Directorate (RED) will ensure that all new RED research publications on the gov.uk internet domain are published in digitally inclusive formats from June 2025 onwards. They will ensure that all open research dissemination events are accessible by January 2026.

- **2025: Research & Evidence Programme Funding**

FCDO's Research and Evidence Directorate will increase the percentage of RED funded programme targeting disability as significant or principal, measured through regular reviews of the OECD DAC disability marker by December 2027.



## Next steps

After the Summit, the work just begins. Across the globe, Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) are leading efforts to analyse, review, and become implementing partners for entities that submitted commitments.

A central tool for this phase is the [GDS Commitments Portal](#), an open and accessible platform where individuals, organisations, and stakeholders can:

- Explore commitments made at GDS 2018, 2022, and 2025, with key statistics from each cycle.
- Apply filters (by organisation type, scope, or thematic area) to find relevant commitments, e.g. a government's national pledge on inclusive education.
- Download datasets for offline use in reports, research, and advocacy.

GDS 2025 placed stronger emphasis on delivery, accountability, and monitoring. Commitments are not only published but also embedded into a cycle of reporting and follow-up.

Key milestones include:

- July 2025: Reporting begins on commitments from GDS 2022.
- September 2025: Publication of the GDS 2025 Report, highlighting results and impacts.
- April 2026: Reporting opens for commitments from GDS 2025, with improved monitoring tools based on interviews, workshops, webinars, and surveys.

## How to get involved

Although the GDS 2025 has concluded, the true work of turning commitments into tangible outcomes is only beginning. There are numerous ways in which persons with disabilities and OPDs can actively engage, contribute, and advocate to ensure that the promises made at the Summit lead to meaningful change:

- **Explore the [GDS Commitments Portal](#):** Find out what your government, private companies and other stakeholders have pledged.
- **Stay informed:** Visit the [GDS Secretariat website](#) and subscribe to the [GDS Newsletter](#) for updates, reports, and upcoming consultations.
- **Identify key ministries and officials:** Determine which ministries in your country are involved (or should be involved) in the GDS and European Regional Disability Summit. If unclear, ask your minister responsible for disability affairs, CRPD, SDGs, or international cooperation, or contact the [EU delegation in your country](#).
- **Seek guidance if needed:** Contact the EDF Secretariat or GDS Secretariat for advice on locating responsible officials or ministries.
- **Exercise your right to be consulted:** Write to the relevant officials or ministers to request a meeting and present your priorities (see template letter in Annex 1). EDF can support you with preparation, advice, or even participate in the meeting if appropriate.
- **Engage with other groups:** Collaborate with organisations representing different disability groups, women, children, or other stakeholders to build coalitions and strengthen advocacy. Agree on a common strategy before engaging with government representatives.
- **Contact national parliamentarians:** Identify members interested in disability rights and international cooperation. They can help ensure your government's active involvement and accountability in the Summits.
- **Refer to international obligations:** Highlight your country's commitments under the CRPD and the SDGs and show how participating in the Summits supports their implementation.
- **Use commitments as advocacy tools:** Leverage downloaded datasets from the GDS commitments portal to support campaigns, policy dialogue, or research.
- **Participate in monitoring and reporting:** Join post-Summit consultations, webinars, and surveys to help shape stronger reporting and evaluation tools. Find out more information in the next GDS Secretariat newsletter.

## Useful Resources

EDF webpage: Positive participation of European leaders in first European Regional Disability Summit on international cooperation 2022-

<https://www.edf-feph.org/positive-participation-of-european-leaders-in-first-european-regional-disability-summit-on-international-cooperation/>

Global Disability Summit homepage-

<https://www.globaldisabilitysummit.org/>

Global Disability Summit 2018 summary report-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/global-disability-summit-final-summary>

Global Disability Summit Charter for Change-

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/721701/GDS\\_Charter\\_for\\_Change.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/721701/GDS_Charter_for_Change.pdf)

Global Disability Summit 2022- International Disability Alliance-

<https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/gds-2022>

SAFOD and Atlas Alliance, Advocacy toolkit to prepare for the Global

Disability Summit 2022- <https://atlas-alliansen.no/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Advocacy-toolkit.pdf>.

Overview and Outline for GDS 2025-

[https://www.globaldisabilitysummit.org/rails/active\\_storage/blobs/redirect/eyJfcmljcmFpbHMlOnsibWVzc2FnZSI6IkJBaHBBdEVDIiwiaXhwIjpudWxsLCJwdXIiOiJibG9iX2lkIn19--7fc89ea8a5f9e657c39ce66b973c96649724c5e6/GDS2025%20Key%20messages%20and%20Objectives.pdf](https://www.globaldisabilitysummit.org/rails/active_storage/blobs/redirect/eyJfcmljcmFpbHMlOnsibWVzc2FnZSI6IkJBaHBBdEVDIiwiaXhwIjpudWxsLCJwdXIiOiJibG9iX2lkIn19--7fc89ea8a5f9e657c39ce66b973c96649724c5e6/GDS2025%20Key%20messages%20and%20Objectives.pdf)

## Annex - Template Letter to Your Government

Date

**To:** Minister of xx  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

**Subject: Following up on the Global Disability Summit commitments**

Dear Minister,

I am writing to follow up on your government's participation in the Global Disability Summit 2025, held in Berlin on 2–3 April 2025, as well as the European Regional Disability Summit on International Cooperation in November 2024. These Summits were critical opportunities to advance the rights of persons with disabilities in international cooperation, and we warmly welcome your government's involvement.

As you know, the Global Disability Summit process has, since 2018, generated thousands of commitments from governments, international organisations, donors, and civil society. These pledges cover essential areas such as inclusive education, accessible health care, employment, gender equality, and meaningful participation of organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs). The credibility and impact of the Summit process now depend on ensuring that these commitments are implemented and monitored effectively.

We would like to discuss the progress your Ministry is making in implementing and reporting on its pledges, and how we, as OPDs can support this process. The GDS Commitments Portal provides tools and data that can help track and assess these efforts.

The next Global Disability Summit in 2028, in Jordan, will be an important moment to showcase achievements, share lessons learned, and put forward new, ambitious commitments. Early preparation will be crucial to ensure your government's engagement reflects the priorities and aspirations of persons with disabilities, in line with the CRPD and the SDGs.

We therefore kindly request a meeting with you to review the follow-up to your government's existing GDS commitments, explore opportunities for cooperation in monitoring and reporting and discuss how your

government can begin preparing for meaningful participation in the Global Disability Summit 2028.

We value your leadership and commitment to disability-inclusive development and are ready to support you in this important work.

Yours sincerely,

[Name, Signature and Organisation]

## Document Credits

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