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**UN Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

ILO | OHCHR| UNDESA | UNDP | UNESCO| UNFPA | UNICEF | UNWOMEN |WHO

**END OF PROJECT REPORT**

**Introduction**

The purpose of this report – which is consistent with the UNDG Standard Progress Report format – is to provide information on the progress made by the project towards the realization of its stated objectives. In keeping with the UN system on-going efforts to strengthen result-orientation, the report should focus on systemic, structural transformation rather than process, highlighting how the different elements of the result chain described in the approved project document contributed to advance disability rights in keeping with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. [[1]](#footnote-1)

Reporting teams are encouraged to attach annexes containing additional relevant information (including assessments, evaluations and studies undertaken or published) and share videos, photographs or other multi-media materials illustrating the work of the project. It is recommended, however, that all annexes be clearly referenced, using footnotes or endnotes within the body of the narrative.

1. **Variations in impact and outcome indicators**

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| **Impact** |
| Enhanced multi-stakeholder dialogue surrounding implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD) and the inclusive Sustainable Development Goals, including for marginalized groups within the population of persons with disabilities |

**Note on Start and End Levels:** Due to the nature of a conference, it is hard to clearly measure the start and end level of common understanding amongst conference participants. As a result of the application process, which required interested candidates to submit information on their organisation’s background, area of focus and knowledge, we know that all participants held a basic understanding of the UN CRPD and issues related to the rights of persons with disabilities and development, as well as contact with at least one or two other organisations who had crossover on issues.

Through conference discussions, the development of the Outcome Document and networking of participants we can infer that general knowledge and common understanding amongst all participants increased with regards to implementation of the UN CRPD and an inclusive 2030 Agenda.

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| **Outcome 1** | | |
| Common understanding between government, civil society and international development agencies about implementation of the CRPD and the inclusive sustainable development goals, including for marginalized groups within the population of persons with disabilities. | | |
| **Outcome indicators** | | |
| **Indicator** | **Start level**  (Beginning of the project implementation period) | **End level**  (End of the project implementation period) |
| Common understanding between stakeholders of challenges and innovative approaches to implement the CRPD and an inclusive post 2015 agenda, both in terms of policy content and in terms of multi stakeholders dialogue. |  |  |
| Common understanding of gender equality challenges as well as issues faced by under represented groups such as persons with psycho-social disabilities, persons with intellectual disabilities, deaf blind and indigenous persons with disabilities, youth with disabilities. |  |  |
| Common reflection on the use of the post 2015 framework to advance rights of persons with disabilities and how with the CRPD and post 2015 planning and accountability. Frameworks can mutually reinforce each other. |  |  |
| Common assessment of needs for capacity and knowledge development to support national stakeholders on implementing the CRPD and an inclusive post 2015 framework |  |  |
| Common understanding of opportunities and challenges of the UNPRPD approach to support UNCTs and national stakeholders |  |  |

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| **Outcome 2** | | |
| Strengthened DPO advocacy at the national, regional and global levels to support implementation of the UN CRPD and an inclusive post-2015 development agenda in Latin America. | | |
| **Outcome indicators** | | |
| **Indicator** | **Start level**  (Beginning of the project implementation period) | **End level**  (End of the project implementation period) |
| The outcome document and report are utilized to advocate for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the review and monitoring mechanism of the Post-2015 Development Framework | Drafting of the outcome document during the conference by all conference participants | The outcome document and report of the conference have been circulated to Latin American Member States and shared with the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC) in New York and Geneva |
| The CRPD Committee receives feedback on the challenges and opportunities faced with regards to implementation of the Committee’s concluding observations and recommendations | Drafting of the outcome document during the conference by all conference participants | The outcome document has been circulated to all conference participants for use in their national advocacy strategies |
| The outcome document and report are utilized to advocate for the inclusion of persons with disabilities within the General Assembly’s Subsidiary Bodies (main committees, Human Rights Council and other subsidiary mechanisms) | Drafting of the outcome document during the conference by all conference participants | The outcome document and report have been circulated to Member States in the GRULAC region  A meeting with GRULAC Member States was held in Geneva to present the outcome document  The outcome document and report has been circulated on the IDA CRPD Forum listserv and with all conference participants for use in their advocacy work  The conference report has been circulated to relevant donors, UNPRPD members and relevant UN Member States |
| The outcome document and report are utilized to advocate for the inclusion of persons with disabilities within the framework of the Organisation of American States (OAS) and work of UN regional offices | Drafting of the outcome document during the conference by all conference participants | The outcome document and report have been received by RIADIS to support their advocacy towards the OAS and UN regional offices |
| The outcome document and report provide input into the strategic discussion of the UNPRPD with regards to capacity building at national and regional levels | Drafting of the outcome document during the conference by all conference participants | The outcome document and report have been received by the UNPRPD members |

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| **Outcome 3** | | |
| Creating an enabling environment for Latin American DPOs to enhance national and regional networks and strengthen advocacy related to implementation of the UN CRPD and Post-2015 Development Agenda. | | |
| **Outcome indicators** | | |
| **Indicator** | **Start level**  (Beginning of the project implementation period) | **End level**  (End of the project implementation period) |
| Common understanding between stakeholders of challenges and innovative approaches to implement the CRPD and an inclusive post 2015 agenda, both in terms of policy content and in terms of multi stakeholders dialogue. |  |  |
| Common reflection on the use of the Post-2015 framework to advance the rights of persons with disabilities and how the UN CRPD and Post-2015 planning and accountability frameworks can mutually reinforce each other. |  |  |
| Common understanding of gender equality challenges as well as issues faced by under represented groups such as persons with psycho-social disabilities, persons with intellectual disabilities, deaf blind and indigenous persons with disabilities, youth with disabilities. |  |  |
| An email list for conference participants is created following the conference to share information and developments on the rights of persons with disabilities in the region |  |  |
| Regional networks such as RIADIS increase communication, information-sharing and advocacy activities with national and regional DPOs and other stakeholders |  |  |

1. **Overall progress**

To coincide with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015, the International Disability Alliance (IDA)—in partnership with the United Nations Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN PRPD), the São Paulo State Secretariat for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and with the support of UNICEF—held a conference in Sao Paulo, Brazil from 22 – 24 October titled: “The Post-2015 Agenda and the UN CRPD in Latin America: Fostering Regional Dialogue to Develop Common Understanding on Implementation of the UN CRPD and an Inclusive Post-2015 Framework”.

The overall aim of the project was to **enhance multi-stakeholder dialogue on implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD) and the inclusive Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including for marginalized groups within the population of persons with disabilities**.

The conference came at a pivotal moment in international human rights and development advocacy. Less than a month after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the two-and-half day programme aimed to provide background information on UN CRPD implementation and Agenda 2030 and support dialogue on strategic, coordinated and co-operative work amongst DPOs, UN agencies, governments and other civil society stakeholders.

The conference provided a significant opportunity for Latin American countries to exchange on efforts to implement the UN CRPD, including the recommendations that have been made so far by the CRPD Committee and challenges and opportunities related to the implementation of these recommendations. Simultaneously, the conference contributed to dialogue on the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by all UN Member States in September 2015, and how to ensure that an inclusive development agenda will be achieved in a UN CRPD compliant way, contributing to the realisation of all rights for all persons with disabilities. Additionally, the conference provided a forum for UN country teams to exchange on the process of implementing proposals at the national level, which was an opportunity to reflect on lessons-learned with governments, DPOs and UN PRPD regarding support to national stakeholders.

Over 135 participants attended the conference. Working closely with IDA members and their networks, other regional DPO and NGO networks, the UN PRPD, UN agencies and States, the selection committee—comprising the IDA Chair and Executive Director, RIADIS Chair and a representative from the UN PRPD—worked to ensure broad multi-stakeholder representation.

Following the development of agreed selection criteria and a formal application and selection process run by IDA, the final list of conference participants was comprised in the following way:

* + National, regional and global DPOs
  + Disability and development organisations, and NGOs working on the rights of persons with disabilities
  + Donors, including USAID
  + Representatives of UN PRPD country project teams from Costa Rica, Mexico and Bolivia
  + Representatives from the UNPRPD, UNICEF, UNFPA and UNDP regional office in the Dominican Republic
  + State representatives from Ecuador, Bolivia, Chile, Dominican Republic, El Salvador and São Paulo State

The selection process took into account gender balance, regional and sub-regional representation and under-represented groups. As a result, 16 countries from Latin America and the Caribbean were represented in the conference, as well as under-represented constituencies including persons with psychosocial disabilities, persons with intellectual disabilities, persons who are deafblind indigenous persons with disabilities and youth with disabilities.

The conference was structured around panel discussions and breakout parallel workshops on thematic issues, followed by plenary discussion. Panels were of a multi-stakeholder nature and aimed to bring perspectives of DPOs, governments, UN country teams and funders to the discussion. The parallel workshops focused on sharing practical experience, challenges and successes on the following themes: women and girls with disabilities; children and youth with disabilities; indigenous persons with disabilities; situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies; employment and social protection; education; and living independently and being included in the community.

Panels and workshops benefitted not only from Latin American and Caribbean regional actors; representatives from other regions were able to share their experiences, particularly with regards to the discussion, outcome and lessons-learned from the 2014 IDA-UN PRPD conference on implementation of the UN CRPD and the post-2015 development agenda in the African region.

1. **Progress towards specific outcomes**

The specific outcome of the project focused on **building common understanding between governments, civil society and international development agencies about implementation of the CRPD and the inclusive sustainable development goals, including for marginalized groups within the population of persons with disabilities**.

Substantive results of the overall project and outcome listed above are presented in the conference report (see Annex 1 “Report of the IDA-UNPRPD Conference in Latin America and Caribbean”) and were reflected in the conference Outcome Document, which was developed and agreed to by all participants at the conclusion of the conference (see Annex 2, “Outcome Document of the IDA-UNPRPD Conference in Latin America and the Caribbean”). Particular outputs that contributed to the outcome are described in further detail below.

To support discussion and common understanding between government, civil society and international development agencies on implementation of the UN CRPD and SDGs, broad representation of Latin American State actors, civil society organisations and UN agencies was sought. As a result, the following actors were represented in the conference:

* **State and Government Actors:** Representatives from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, El Salvador, Ecuador and the São Paulo State Secretariat on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities attended the conference. In addition, invitations were extended to the governments of Brazil, Panama, Mexico and Peru.
* **UN Agencies, Actors and Independent Funders:** Invitations to attend the conference were extended to all UNPRPD member agencies. UNICEF, UNFPA, and the UN PRPD participated in the conference, in addition to representatives from the UNICEF Latin America Regional Office, UNDP Costa Rica and Dominican Republic county offices and UN country team representatives from Bolivia and Mexico. In addition, Wellspring, OSF, USAID, ONCE, Disability Rights Advocacy Fund also participated in the conference, along with a former member of the CRPD Committee and the Chair of the CRPD Committee and Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (remotely).
* **Civil Society Organisations:** Civil society was represented by national, regional and global DPOs, including regional DPOs from Africa, the Middle East and the Pacific in addition to regional and sub-regional Latin American DPOs; and disability and development organisations, in particular the International Disability and Development Consortium, Inter-American Institute on Disability and Inclusive Development, Know UNPRPD-GATE, Handicap International and Rehabilitation International. In total, 42 national, sub-regional and regional DPO representatives participated in the conference, as well as eight indigenous persons with disabilities.

To support the development of common understanding between stakeholders on challenges and innovative approaches through both a policy and multi-stakeholder approach, as well as assessment of the need for capacity and knowledge-development to support and implement the CRPD and Agenda 2030 to support national stakeholders, a twin-track approach was undertaken.

In the first instance, plenary panel sessions highlighted the following key areas (substantive results are provided in detail in Annex 1):

**“From Needs to Rights: Implementing the UN CRPD at the Regional Level, Particularly in Latin America”:** Discussion focused on the following areas: CRPD implementation in Latin America, presenting a summary of Concluding Observations from the nine Latin American countries reviewed thus far; a case study on lessons-learned from the CRPD Committee review of Peru; the sharing of regional experiences, in particular European Disability Forum advocacy in the European Union—ratification and monitoring; and lessons-learned from the 2014 IDA-UNPRPD Africa Conference in Nairobi, Kenya.

**“Presentation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Review and Analysis from Organisations of Persons with Disabilities, Disability and Development Organisations and Donors”:** Discussion centered on inclusion of persons with disabilities in Agenda 2030; the role of disability and development organisations in the implementation of Agenda 2030; and the role of donors in the implementation of Agenda 2030.

**“Global Indicators, National Data and Statistics, Data Partnerships”:** The panel included the presentation of the UNPRPD One Data and the KnowUNPRPD-GATE projects, as well as discussion on strengthening the capacity to use disability data to develop evidence-based inclusive policies.

**“National, Regional and Global Coordination and the Role of Stakeholders Towards Implementation”:** Discussion in this panel focused on best practices and the added value and benefit of involving DPOs in planning and implementation of projects; Agenda 2030 in the context of the Dominican Republic; establishing a regional coordination mechanism for implementing the SDGs, including planning, accountability and monitoring; as well as a presentation of the IDA-IDDC BRIDGE training on UN CRPD and Agenda 2030.

In addition, to support exchange on the UN CRPD and Agenda 2030 on specific issues, parallel thematic workshops were held on the following themes (substantive results are provided in detail in Annex 1):

**Employment and Social Protection:** Presentations focused on inclusive labour policies and a comparative analysis on social protection models between Europe and Latin America. The workshop included a review of lessons-learned through the UN PRPD project on the national plan for labour inclusion in Costa Rica.

**Education:** The workshop addressed perspectives of inclusive education from the global and local levels. Speakers presented an overview of a joint position paper on inclusive education prepared by IDA, as well as a donor perspective on the challenges and opportunities of ensuring inclusive education in Latin America.

**Living Independently and Being Included in the Community:** The workshop addressed the implementation of CRPD Article 19 in Latin America and beyond, building on the UNPRPD project in Mexico on support to children with disabilities and their families, as well as best practices from abroad.

Secondly, strong efforts were made to ensure diverse multi-stakeholder representation in every panel to ensure State and government actors, UN agencies, civil society and donors were given the opportunity to reflect on the theme of each panel and engage with each other and conference participants in discussions on how to collaborate, coordinate and develop common understanding on implementation of the UN CRPD and an inclusive 2030 Agenda.

In order to build common understanding of gender equality challenges as well as issues faced by under represented groups, three main activities were undertaken. The first was to ensure a diverse range of participants in the conference itself. In the development of selection criteria of participants, particular emphasis was placed on diversity of participants, in particular, ensuring gender balance and representation of persons with psychosocial disabilities, persons with intellectual disabilities, persons who are deafblind, indigenous persons with disabilities and youth with disabilities. As a result, all groups had strong representation in the conference itself and gender balance was achieved.

The second activity was aimed at ensuring that challenges faced by these groups was an integral part of the entire conference discussion. To achieve this, the conference comprised break-out parallel thematic workshops on the following areas: women and girls with disabilities; children and youth with disabilities; and indigenous persons with disabilities. The parallel workshop discussions were led by representatives of these groups and a rapporteur was elected to present the result of each workshop in a plenary session discussion with all participants.

The third activity was to hold two complementary workshops in advance of and during the main IDA-UNPRPD conference. The first, a youth and self-advocacy workshop, "New Voices, New Challenges" was hosted by the Instituto Interamericano sobre Discapacidad y Desarrollo Inclusivo (iiDi) and UNICEF. More than 20 participants in this workshop joined in the opening and closing sessions of the conference, participated in plenary sessions and made interventions from the floor and led the thematic breakout workshop on youth with disabilities in the main conference.

Additionally, the first regional meeting and workshop “Change and Exchange” of the Indigenous Persons with Disabilities Global Network (IPWDGN)-Latin America Region was held in advance of the main IDA-UN PRPD conference. The workshop provided space for participants to discuss the unique situation of indigenous persons with disabilities in the region and common issues faced. Ultimately, the smaller workshop supported the participation of this group in the wider conference. In addition, the IPWDGN Steering Committee member from Latin America ran the thematic breakout workshop on indigenous persons with disabilities in the main conference and participated in the drafting of the declaration to ensure perspectives of indigenous persons with disabilities were included.

1. **Other results**

**Spin-off Effects:** While not originally anticipated, the momentum that built during the planning of the conference with UN, DPO and civil society partners resulted in two independent workshops held in advance of and during the conference, one on indigenous persons with disabilities, led by the Indigenous Persons with Disabilities Global Network to support exchange amongst indigenous persons with disabilities in Latin America, and one on youth and persons with intellectual disabilities, led by iiDi and Inclusion International, both of which are detailed above.

**Participation and Partnership-Building:** The overall result of the conference was the development of broad participation of DPOs, civil society stakeholders, UN agencies, donors and States to support exchange and partnership-building amongst stakeholders engaging on implementation of the UN CRPD and an inclusive Agenda 2030. In addition to facilitating contact and communication between stakeholders, the conference provided an opportunity for regional networks of organisations of persons with disabilities—in particular, RIADIS (the Latin American Network of Non-Governmental Organisation of Persons with Disabilities and their Families) and REDODICEC (the Central-American and Caribbean Network of Organisations of Persons with Disabilities) to hold a unique and critical exchange on possible future partnerships and coordination.

**UN System-Wide Coherence:** The UNPRPD, as a UN multi-donor partnership trust fund, aims to build collaboration between UN agencies and undertake projects to support the implementation of the UN CRPD in country. As described above, the conference brought UN country teams in the process of implementing UNPRPD projects together to share their work, findings and results with each other, as well as with other stakeholders. IN addition, UN Country Teams were able to interact with persons with disabilities from the Region working on diverse issues as well as participate in discussions on a number of important inter-sectional issues like age, gender and ethnicity which are critical to coherent programming.

**Knowledge Creation:** The outcome of the discussions held during the conference supported exchange and the development of common understanding between DPOs, wider civil society, UN agencies, donors and States on implementation of the UN CRPD and an inclusive 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean. For substantive outcomes, please see Annex 1.

**Leveraging Effect:** The project had two catalytic effects of note. The first was a partnership developed with the São Paulo State Secretariat on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which resulted in administrative, logistic and financial support to the conference that contributed to its success. In addition, the São Paulo State Secretary on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Dr. Linamara Rizzo Battistella, joined the conference on the first day to address conference participants.

The second was the coordination with iiDi and UNICEF to develop a side workshop on youth with disabilities that ran parallel to the main conference, which occurred due to the financial support of the organization and UNICEF.

1. **Life stories and testimonies**

Of particular note is a video that was uploaded to social media during the conference and received thousands of views showing four ways in which persons who are deafblind communicate in a conference environment. The video as well as other life stories and testimonies, are included in the substantive report (see Annex 1).

1. **Challenges and unforeseen events**

The conference panels and discussion relied heavily on the knowledge and expertise of participants. While the final composition of conference attendees was very diverse, elements of the conference—in particular, the panels and thematic workshops—required revision on the basis of experts’ availability.

For example, the project proposal presented two topics for exchange during the conference: the first, on resource mobilization for CRPD implementation and inclusive development—highlighting in particular the Ecuador budget equity tracking system; and second, on legal harmonization with the CRPD with input from OHCHR. Due to the technical expertise required to present on these topics and lack of availability of experts in this area to attend the conference, these themes were only lightly touched upon.

However, this challenge had a positive result in that it provided space for thematic workshops on education, employment and living independently and bring included in the community, which were subjects of particular relevance to conference participants and allowed for in-depth and informed information-sharing that further developed common understanding amongst stakeholders.

1. **Project follow up**

The conference resulted in two tangible outcomes: the creation of a conference Outcome Document and a substantive report.

The Outcome Document continues to be utilized by the IDA Secretariat and its member, the Latin American Non-Governmental Organisation of Persons with Disabilities and their Families (RIADIS) to support advocacy on behalf on persons with disabilities from Latin America and the Caribbean at the UN. In particular, it has been disseminated amongst Member States from the region, the Group of Friends to the CRPD in New York and Geneva, as well as UN agencies and Member States from other regions more broadly. In Geneva, a meeting was held following the conference to introduce the conference and its outcome document to the Latin American and Caribbean group of States.

The recently-finalised report will be widely shared amongst Member States, UN agencies, DPOs and other stakeholders to support further discussion on implementation of the SDGs in line with the UN CRPD at the national, sub-regional and regional levels.

1. **Expenditures breakdown by outcome**

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| **Outcome** | **UNPRPD funds allocated to the outcome** | **UNPRPD funds spent for the outcome** | **Non-UNPRPD funds spent for the outcome** |
| OUTCOME 1 | $49,500.00 | $49,500.00 | $82,100 |
| OUTCOME 2 | $49,600.00 | $49,600.00 | $5,400 |
| OUTCOME 3 | $20,900.00 | $20,900.00 | $ 31,000 |
| Recovery cost rate of UNICEF for interagency pooled funds | $8,400.00 | $8,400.00 | n/a |
| Total: | $128,400.00 | $128,400.00 | $111,500.00 |

1. The following definitions, which are based on the UN Development Group Harmonized RBM Terminology, were used in the “Template for Programme Proposals”, utilized by UN Country teams to developed the approved project documents:

   Impact: Positive and negative long-term effects on identifiable population groups produced by a development intervention, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended. These effects can be economic, socio-cultural, institutional, environmental, technological or of other types.

   Outcome: The intended or achieved short-term and medium-term effects of an intervention’s outputs, usually requiring the collective effort of partners. Outcomes represent changes in development conditions which occur between the completion of outputs and the achievement of impact.

   Outputs: The products and services which result from the completion of activities within a development intervention. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)