# Programme proposal – 4th Funding Round 2021

# Cover page

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| **Title of the programme:** “Advancing in the setting of a favourable environment for the acknowledgement of persons with disabilities as right holders and active members of the Panamanian society”. |
| **Country:** Panamá  **Region or provinces:** National |
| **Duration (max. 24 months):** 24 months |
| **Total Budget:** $300,000 USD |
| **Co-funding: 25.000 + 53,400**+ **55,000 (TOTAL= 133,400 USD)** |
| **Resident Coordinator (name and contact details):**   * Ms. Cristian Munduate, UN Resident Coordinator |
| **Overall focal point of the programme (name and contact details):**   * To be determined by project launch. For the time being Ms. Jacqueline Ruíz, Partnerships and Development Finance Official, [jacqueline.ruiz@un.org](mailto:jacqueline.ruiz@un.org). |
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| **Programme description**  The objective of this Joint Programme is to contribute to the setting of a favourable environment for the acknowledgement of persons with disabilities as subjects of rights and promote their participation and inclusion in the Panamanian society, as well as to bring visibility to under-represented and the most vulnerable groups. Furthermore, it is expected to stimulate the transition process towards a human rights approach to disability and the capacity building of OPDs, government agencies, UN agencies, for the mainstreaming of disability into planning, budgeting and accountability to support the implementation of the CRPD and SDGs with an inclusion-based approach.  This proposal intends to address the following preconditions: 1) the participation of persons with disabilities and the strengthening of their representative organizations, 2) the provision of inclusive services and 3) financial budgeting and management aligned with the CRPD and a gender equality approach, as well as with Article 4 (General Duties), and Article 29 (Participation in public and political life) and Article 6 (Women with disabilities). To do so, it is intended that national parties are equipped with knowledge and practical tools to revise and reform the disability certification services with a human rights-based approach and national planning and budgeting processes to achieve the provision of health, education, employment and social protection services that cater for the needs of persons with disabilities.  Furthermore, it is expected to consolidate the capacity of persons with disabilities to form associations by means of a round table of OPDs and a multi-stakeholder technical group oriented to enforce Art. 8 of Law No. 15 of 2016 about the permanent consultation mechanism to persons with disabilities to adopt new regulations, policies, programmes, services and other relevant issues including their participation in the national coordination mechanism to implement and follow up SDGs. |
| **Targeted CRPD articles:** Art 4. General Obligations, Art. 29 Participation in political and public life, Art. 6 Women with disabilities |
| **Targeted SDGs:** 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 17 |
| **Preconditions:** Participation of persons with disabilities, service delivery, CRPD-compliant budgeting and financial management. |
| **Target groups:** all persons with disabilities, women and girls with disabilities, and more under-represented groups of persons with disabilities (indigenous persons with disabilities, afro descendant persons with disabilities, persons with intellectual and or psychosocial disabilities, among others. |
| **Thematic focus:** OPDs capacity building; inclusive SDGs planning and monitoring; access to social protection programs, economic benefits, and disability certification service. |

# Background and rationale

## **Challenges and opportunities to be addressed by the project.**

According to the National Survey on Disability (PENDIS, 2006) in Panama, 11.3 per cent of the total population (370,053 persons) has some degree of disability [[1]](#footnote-1) out of which 54 per cent are women (199,738) and 46 per cent are men (170,315). In accordance with the PENDIS (2006), the disability incidence rate is higher among women (12.4 per cent) than men (10.4 per cent) in all the national territory,[[2]](#footnote-2) especially in the most vulnerable socio-economic groups (indigenous and people of African descent, among others) and rural areas.[[3]](#footnote-3) However, up to this date, the disaggregation of data per ethnic group of persons with disabilities is still not available.[[4]](#footnote-4)

Subsequently, in 2010, the Population and Housing Census used an abbreviated version of the abbreviated version of the six Washington Group questions and determined a **disability prevalence of 2.9 per cent** (97,165 persons)[[5]](#footnote-5) out of a total population of 3,405,813 inhabitants, which poses a significant discrepancy with the results of the first National Survey on Disability (PENDIS).[[6]](#footnote-6)

With regard to the distribution of this population per age group, the higher proportion of persons with disabilities in the country (58 per cent) is in an age range associated to the economically active population (25-64 years of age),[[7]](#footnote-7) while 11.5 per cent of the population of persons with disabilities are children.[[8]](#footnote-8) However, only 26 per cent of persons with disabilities are economically active, hired as unskilled workers in services, mining, industry and construction, mainly in the agricultural sector (2010 Census).[[9]](#footnote-9) It is important to point out that only 21.7 per cent of the employed population with disabilities has completed basic primary education, compared to 24.3 per cent for the general population, and only 7.8 per cent are able to complete four or more years of university education.[[10]](#footnote-10)

These inequalities in the access to education and employment have direct influence on the opportunities of household income of persons with disabilities. According to data contained in the ATLAS of Local Human Development (2015), households with persons with disabilities reached a Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) of 19.3 per cent, compared to 13.9 percent of households without any members with disabilities,[[11]](#footnote-11) thus the vicious circle of poverty and disability, which increases their vulnerability conditions and their political and economic empowerment chances, is reinforced (WHO, 2011).

As it was described in the “Situational Analysis of persons with disabilities” (SITAN, 2021), this population every day faces a series of cultural, physical, communication, administrative barriers that hinder their access to health, education, employment and social protection services and therefore cannot enjoy their rights fully. Among these barriers, one of the main and most cross-cutting barriers, is the persistence of stereotypes and prejudice towards disability in legislation, the provision of State services and the society in general, where the medical welfare model of understanding disability is still observed in contrast with a human rights-based model. In this regard, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2017, page 1) indicates that it “*notes with concern that the medical model of disability continues to be applied in the State party and that legislation and public policies and programmes have not been aligned with the human rights model of disability established in the Convention*.”

The persistence of this medical model is observed in the criteria for qualifying disability for the disability certification service which enables such population to access the benefits set in Law No. 134 (2013), which establishes access to social protection programmes and economic benefits to provide equal opportunities for persons with disabilities. Furthermore, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2017) “*recommends that the State party review its criteria for the classification and certification of disabilities and ensure that they reflect a human rights-based approach*” since it is observed that “the criteria for classifying disabilities are not standardized or in line with the principles of the Convention, in that they are based on the impairment in question and do not take into account the barriers that persons with disabilities face.”

Besides, another great challenge faced by persons with disabilities in the country is the compliance with the legislation in force, both of the **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)** and of **Law No. 15 (2016), which amends Law No. 42 of 1999 on the promotion of equal opportunities for persons with disabilities**.[[12]](#footnote-12) Although this legislation sets forth the obligation of all State agencies to mainstream through their policies, programmes and services the principle of equal opportunities, and entrusts the Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) and SENADIS with inter-agency coordination for the implementation of measures aimed at ensuring that persons with disabilities have their rights respected, these regulations are still not fully complied with given the limited economic, material and human resources allocated to achieve the implementation of public policies such as the National Strategic Plan (2015-2019, 2020-2024 - under construction-)[[13]](#footnote-13) and the operation of the Offices to promote equal opportunities in government agencies (2008).[[14]](#footnote-14)

Furthermore, another identified challenge is the effective participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in the adoption of policies and programmes that directly affect them so that their recommendations are considered in a binding manner. Pursuant to **Art. 8 of Law No. 15 of 2016**, the State must implement a permanent consultation mechanism to persons with disabilities. However, up to this date, this mechanism has not been established nor is in operation. It must be pointed out that the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, in its concluding observations to Panama (2017), recommends that the State party implement the coordination mechanism, including through OPDs in rural and urban areas and in indigenous regions, of women and children.[[15]](#footnote-15)

Considering the above, the main recommendations of the Situational Analysis (2021) include: a) to promote and implement transformative public policies towards a human rights-based approach of disability, including budgeting and planning focused on the needs of persons with disabilities; b) to strengthen the disability association movement to exercise the enforceability of their rights; c) to guarantee the accessibility and the provision of quality inclusive services with a national coverage for this population, in particular, regarding health and welfare, education, employment and social protection; d) to foster the generation of disaggregated and up-to-date data for public policy formulation and accountability by means of the disability certification service, among others. Accordingly, considering the mentioned challenges and the SITAN of 2017, this proposal intends to address the following preconditions: 1) the participation of persons with disabilities and the strengthening of their representative organizations, 2) the provision of inclusive services and 3) financial budgeting and management aligned with the CRPD and a gender equality approach, as well as with **Art. 4 (General Duties), and Art. 29 (Participation in political and public life)** and **Art. 6 (Women with disabilities)**. Besides, as it will be mentioned in *section* 3 (Overall results Framework), this project proposal is expected to contribute to comply directly with **SDGs 5, 10 and 17** and, indirectly with **SDGs 1, 3, 4 and 8**.

## Proposal development process

The development process of this proposal comprised 2 stages: **a) drafting the situational analysis of persons with disabilities in Panama and b) systematizing the project proposal in the layouts required by the UNPRPD**.

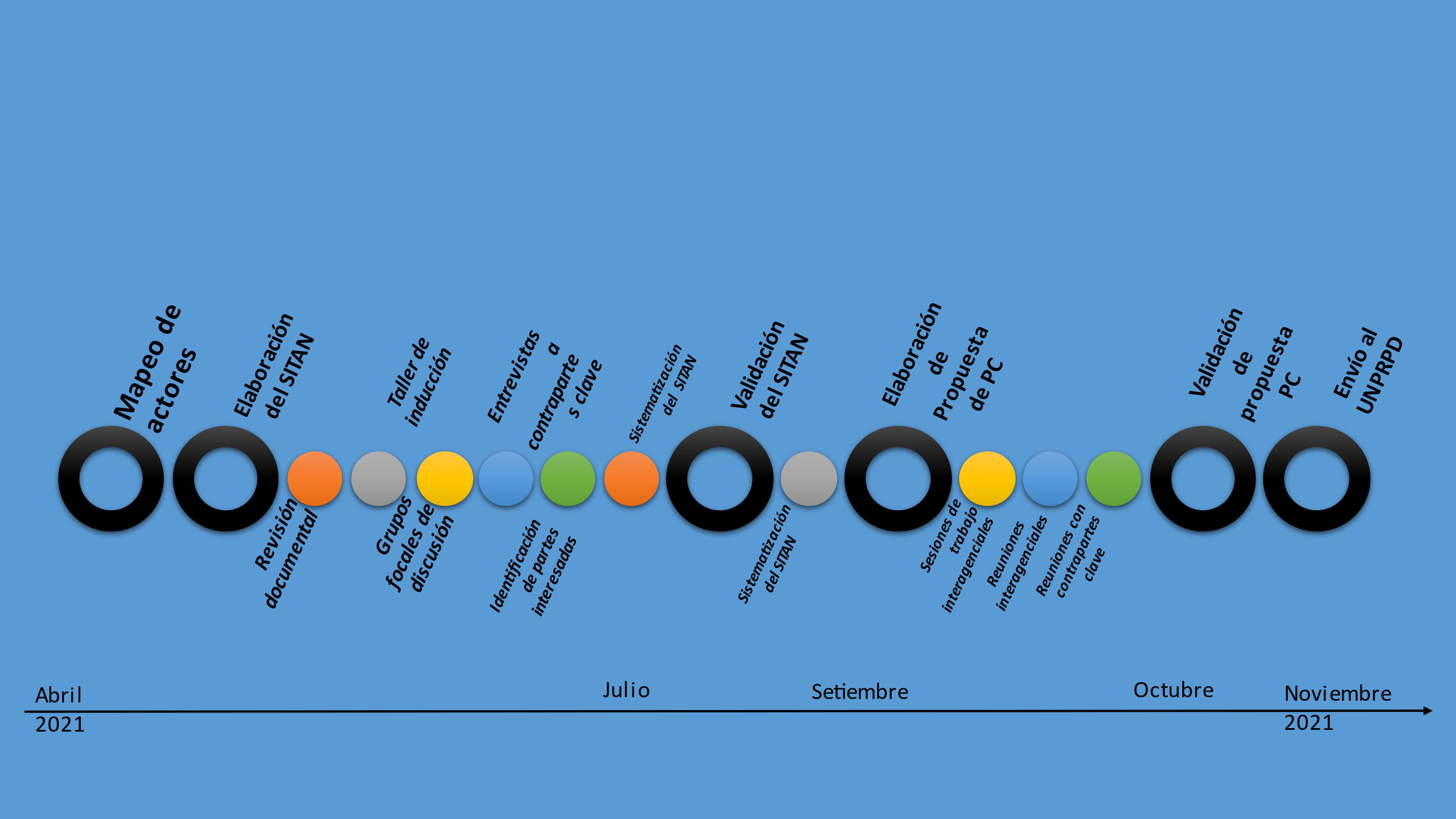
For the first stage, a methodological strategy was implemented. It included an exhaustive mapping of organizations of persons with disabilities and organizations of families of persons with disabilities at a national level; a **documentation revision of different sources**, such as PENDIS (2006), the national regulatory framework, information gathered during the United Nations Common Country Analysis (CCA), the 2021-2025 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), and reports and fact sheets of the United Nations System Agencies. Besides, to gather information, the following documents were consulted: CRPD compliance reports, human rights treaties, progress reports on the implementation of SDGs, and of Gender and Human Rights[[16]](#footnote-16).

It also included an **induction workshop *“UNPRPD Joint Programme Induction Training on Cross-cutting Approaches and Preconditions for Disability Inclusive Development****”.* This has enabled a collaborative forum for reflection and sharing opinions, knowledge and experiences among participants. The discussion focused on the elements that hinder the effective implementation of the CRPD and the achievement of the inclusive SDGs in Panama. It also facilitated **mapping of institutions** in terms of their potential to influence the dynamics of guaranteeing and promoting the rights of persons with disabilities as well as their level of interest, in the opinion of those who participated. A total of 200 people representing 48 institutions (government agencies, OPDs and self-represented)[[17]](#footnote-17) took part in this activity.

Also, to further advance on the analysis, two **focus groups** were held with four organizations of parents of children and adolescents with disabilities, one in the province of Chiriqui and another in the province of Colon, with the participation of women of African descent, young men and older adults with vision impairment, cognitive and physical disabilities. Furthermore, **semi-structured interviews** were conducted (following the guidelines set out in the **Situational Analysis Guide** provided by the UNPRPD Secretariat) remotely with key stakeholders, such as organizations of parents of persons with disabilities, civil society organizations actively involved in promoting the rights of children and adolescents, institutional stakeholders[[18]](#footnote-18), persons with disabilities (including persons from indigenous *comarca* areas, women, youth, persons of African descent with disabilities), representatives of the academia and United Nations officials. A total of 55 semi-structured interviews were carried out[[19]](#footnote-19). The information gathered in the field work was systematized in the “**Situational Analysis of persons with disabilities in Panama**” (SITAN, 2021) and was subsequently validated through two workshops, one with OPDs and persons with disabilities, and another one with State agencies.

The second stage included setting priorities resulting from the previous process, as well as the **systematization** of this information in the **layout of the project proposal established by the UNPRPD**. Likewise, for the development process, several inter-agency work sessions and meetings with key counterparts (SENADIS) were carried out. Finally, this project proposal was validated through a virtual workshop with the participation of representatives from State agencies, OPDs and UN agencies. The following figure represents this process.

**Figure 1. Project proposal development process**



# Overall programme results framework

**Table 1. Results framework**

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| **Outcome 1. National stakeholders are equipped with the knowledge and practical tools for disability inclusive policies and systems.** |
| It is expected that the project consolidates the capacity of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations, with a particular emphasis on women, indigenous persons with disabilities, afro descendant persons with disabilities, persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities, and of rural and *comarca* areas, so that they are equipped with the necessary knowledge and tools to exercise the enforceability of their rights; to plan and budget with a human rights- based approach of persons with disabilities and to take part in national SDG follow-up mechanisms. Furthermore, it is intended to enhance the capacities of the staff of government agencies and UN agencies to apply planning and budgeting methodologies with a rights-based and a gender equality approach of persons with disabilities so as to promote an inclusive health, education, employment and social protection services as well as a reform of the disability certification model with a human rights-based approach and the generation of disaggregated data to enable the access of persons with disabilities to social protection programmes and economic benefits to provide equal opportunities as established in Law No. 134 (2013). |
| **Output 1.1. Capacity of national stakeholders, especially of key duty bearers and rights holders, is enhanced, to ensure more effective contributions towards disability inclusive policies, systems and - for the implementation of the CRPD and SDGs.** |
| **Indicators:**   * + 1. # of trainings (disaggregation by type of capacity building[[20]](#footnote-20)) developed and delivered in the UNPRPD programme. (Disaggregated by topics[[21]](#footnote-21))   1.1.2 # of participants (disaggregated by type of stakeholder) disaggregated by sex, disability, rural/urban participating in capacity building activities funded or provided by UNPRPD programmes.  1.1.3 # and % of participants reporting increased knowledge or capacity to design or revise policies or systems to be more disability inclusive.  1.1.4 # of OPDs (For instance disaggregated for disability specific such as visual disability, auditive disability, physical disability, intellectual disability, women, young people, children - and other under-represented groups as parents and relatives of persons with disability, Afro-descendants; especially from rural and indigenous territories) capacity building activities (type of activities) funded by UNPRPD programmes to strengthen the capacity of organizations of persons with disabilities. |
| **1.1.1**. Representatives of OPDs are trained through the training programme called “***Using the CRPD for the empowerment of persons with disabilities and their organizations”*** to promote the implementation of a disability certification model with a human rights-based approach and to increase their participation in national planning and budgeting in order to provide inclusive services. |
| **Description:** a) Identifying local leaders who will participate in the training programme, especially women with disabilities, indigenous people, people of African descent and of rural and *comarca* areas, b) designing the training programme through a trainers’ training methodology, with an inter-cultural approach and considering gender equality and human rights[[22]](#footnote-22), c) implementing capacity-building and training activities for identified organizational leaders through a trainers’ training methodology, so that they can later share their knowledge with other OPDs, especially of women, indigenous people, people of African descent, persons with intellectual, psychosocial disabilities and coming from rural and *comarca* areas, d) systematizing the training process and identifying lessons learned. |
| **Baseline:** 1.1.1: 0; 1.1.2: 0; 1.1.4: 0 |
| **Milestone year 1:** 1.1.1: 10; 1.1.2: 50; 1.1.4: 15 |
| **Milestone year 2:** 1.1.1: 0; 1.1.2: 0;1.1.4: 0 |
| Target: 1.1.1: 4;1.1.2: 50;1.1.4: 15 (For instance disaggregated for disability specific such as visual disability, auditive disability, physical disability, intellectual disability, women, young people, children - and other under-represented groups as parents and relatives of persons with disability, Afro-descendants; especially from rural and indigenous territories) |
| **Means of verification:**   * Work plan and methodological proposal * Attendance record of training activities * Follow-up reports of joint programme * Record of OPDs benefited through the joint programme * Systematization documents of contents * Systematization of experience. |
| **Responsible:** **UNESCO\*, PAHO \*, UN Women** |
| **1.1.2. Round table of OPDs**[[23]](#footnote-23) **with the necessary knowledge** to enforce Art. 8 of Law No. 15 of 2016 about the permanent consultation mechanism to persons with disabilities to adopt new regulations, policies, programmes, services, and other relevant issues including their participation in the national coordination mechanism to implement and follow up SDGs. |
| **Description:** a) Technical support for the creation and effective establishment of OPD in rural and indigenous areas, particularly OPDs that are specific for women and/or girls with disabilities that have participated in the the training programme “Using the CRPD for the empowerment of persons with disabilities and their organizations”, b) mapping of OPDs for the identification of participant leaders, c) inviting leaders of participant OPDs, d) technical support to design the work proposal of the Round Table of OPDs, e) technical support for its implementation, f) systematizing the experience and identifying lessons learned through a Manual of good practices. |
| **Baseline:** 1.1.1: 0; 1.1.4: 0 |
| **Milestone year 1:** 1.1.1: 6; 1.1.4: 15 |
| **Milestone year 2:** 1.1.1: 6; 1.1.4: 15 |
| **Target:** 1.1.1: 12; 1.1.4: 15 |
| **Means of verification:**   * Work plan and methodological proposal * Attendance record of training activities * Follow-up reports of joint programme * Record of OPDs benefited through the joint programme * Systematization of the experience |
| **Responsible:** **UNESCO\*, UN Women\*** |
| **1.1.3. Government agencies and UNS agencies staff is trained** in ***Certification models of disability with a human rights-based approach [[24]](#footnote-24)***to enable the access of persons with disabilities to social protection programmes and economic benefits to provide equal opportunities as established in Law No. 134 (2013). |
| **Description:** a) Designing the training programme, b) Recruiting participants from government agencies, c) Implementing capacity-building and training activities for staff of government agencies, d) Workshop assessment. |
| **Baseline:** 1.1.1: 0; 1.1.2: 0; 1.1.4: 0 |
| **Milestone year 1:** 1.1.1: 10; 1.1.2: 50; 1.1.4: 15 |
| **Milestone year 2:** 1.1.1: 0; 1.1.2: 0; 1.1.4: 0 |
| **Target:** 1.1.1: 10; 1.1.2: 50; 1.1.4: 5 |
| **Means of verification:**   * Attendance record of training activities * Follow-up reports of joint programme * Record of government agencies and staff of UNS agencies benefited through the joint programme. |
| **Responsible: PAHO\*, UNESCO,** UN Women |
| **1.1.4.** Government agencies staff is trained in “***Person-centred planning and budgeting strategies with a gender equality approach and based on the rights of persons with disabilities”*** to promote the provision of inclusive health, education, work and social protection services. |
| **Description:** a) Designing training programmes, b) Recruiting participants from government institutions (MIDES, MEDUCA, INAMU, MEF, MITRADEL, MINSA, DANE, INEC and others) in coordination with CONADIS, c) implementing capacity-building and training activities for staff of government institutions, d) workshop assessment. |
| **Baseline:** 1.1.1: 0; 1.1.2: 0; 1.1.4: 0 |
| **Milestone year 1:** 1.1.1: 6; 1.1.2: 50; 1.1.4: 5 |
| **Milestone year 2:** 1.1.1: 0; 1.1.2: 0; 1.1.4: 0 |
| **Target:** 1.1.1: 50; 1.1.2: 50; 1.1.4: 5 |
| **Means of verification:**   * Work plan and methodological proposal * Attendance record of training activities * Follow-up reports of joint programme * Record of OPDs benefited through the joint programme * Systematization of the experience * Documents of workshop assessment |
| **Responsible:** **UNESCO\*, PAHO,** UN Women |
| **Output 1.2. Knowledge products (e.g., tools and guidelines) are developed and piloted, particularly to address gaps in achieving the preconditions for disability inclusion.** |
| * + 1. # of knowledge products (disaggregated by type of product[[25]](#footnote-25)/thematic focus[[26]](#footnote-26)) developed, piloted and disseminated to the relevant stakeholders to inform inclusive practices      * + 1. # actors involved in developing and testing of knowledge products (disaggregated by actor (GOV/NGOs/OPDs/Other)     2. # of stakeholders reporting increased or strengthened policies and systems as a result of UNPRPD funded KM tools (disaggregated by stakeholder) |
| **1.2.1**. **Developing, validating and implementing a toolbox about “*Person-centred planning and CRPD compliant budgeting tools with a gender equality approach and based on the rights of persons with disabilities*”[[27]](#footnote-27)**, to promote the provision of inclusive health, education, work and social protection services. |
| **Description:** a) Designing a toolbox about “Person-centred planning and budgeting with a gender equality approach and based on the rights of persons with disabilities oriented to OPDs and government agencies staff, b) Validating the toolbox with OPDs and government agencies staff, c) Publishing tools on line in an accessible format, d) Implementing a dissemination strategy of tools with key stakeholders, e) Technical support to government agencies and OPDs to apply the toolbox (outputs 2.1.2, 2.2.1). |
| **Baseline:** 1.2.1: 0; 1.2.3: 0; 1.2.4: 0 |
| **Milestone year 1:** 1.2.1: 4; 1.2.2: 5; 1.2.3: 0 |
| **Milestone year 2:** 1.2.1: 4, 1.2.2: 10, 1.2.3: 10 |
| **Target:** 1.2.1: 4; 1.2.2: 15, 1.2.3: 10 |
| **Means of verification:**   * Developed knowledge outputs (communication guidelines, tools and products) * Attendance record of knowledge output validation activities * Record of people who have downloaded the tools from the website where they have been hosted for their online downloading * Follow-up reports of joint programme * Attendance record of dissemination of tools activities |
| **Responsible**: **UNESCO\*,** PAHO |
| **Outcome 2. Gaps in achievement of essential building blocks or preconditions to CPRD implementation in development and humanitarian programs are addressed.** |
| It is expected that the Project revises and reforms the planning and budgeting mechanisms of institutional operational plans, in particular, of government agencies that provide health, education, employment and social protection services to promote a human rights-based approach to disability, according to what is set forth in the Convention (Art. 4) and the gender equality approach (Art. 6) so that the necessary resources are allocated and are therefore accessible and inclusive and comply with what is established in the national legislation. Furthermore, it is intended to strengthen the disability certification service to integrate a human rights-based approach to disability and to integrate an information system with sufficient disaggregation levels of data that enable the identification of the most vulnerable groups of people and to facilitate the access of persons with disabilities to social protection programmes and economic benefits to provide equal opportunities as established in Law No. 134 (2013). Finally, it aims at generating a space created for dialogue and exchange among several stakeholders by forming a multi-stakeholder technical group with knowledge and tools to implement a permanent consultation mechanism to OPDs to adopt legislation, public policies, budgeting processes and planning programmes and institutional services pursuant to Art. 8 of Law No. 15 of 2016. |
| **Output 2.1. Legal frameworks and systems (i.e., laws, policies, plans, programs, services and administrative systems) addressing the preconditions for disability inclusion are newly developed, reviewed, or reformed, to be in line with CRPD standards.** |
| **Indicators**  2.1.1 # of national regulatory frameworks and systems changes targeted by the UNPRPD program disaggregated by 1) legislation/regulation, 2) policies/plans/strategies, 3) capacity building programs, 4) operational guidance/standards, 5) direct services/service overhaul/service modelling, 6) audits/reviews/assessments, 7) governmental programs, 8) administrative procedures, 9) formal monitoring and accountability mechanisms or bodies, 10) regulatory/oversite/monitoring systems, 11) financing and budgeting or 12) other (please explain)  2.1.3 # type of change (development/revision/reform) in legal frameworks and systems. |
| **2.1.1.** **The disability certification service has been revised and strengthened after adopting a human rights-based approach and integrating an information system** with sufficient disaggregation levels of data that enable the identification of the most vulnerable groups of people (sex, age, place of residence, type of disability and sense of ownership to an indigenous or African descent community). This facilitates the access of persons with disabilities to social protection programmes and economic benefits to provide equal opportunities as established in Law No. 134 (2013). |
| **Description:** a) Carrying out a technical review to analyse marking criteria and procedures used in the disability certification process as well as in the collection of administrative records of this service, b) Presenting and disseminating the recommendations of the technical review that ensure that the certification model is based on human rights of persons with disabilities, including the collection of administrative records of this service, c) Developing an **improvement plan/reform** of the disability certification service, including an information system which may speed up the service, with a human rights-based approach, which collects administrative records (identifying, standardizing, managing data quality and disseminating and disaggregating information that enables the identification of the most vulnerable groups of persons with disabilities), d) Technical support to government agencies to implement an **improvement plan/reform** of the disability certification service. |
| **Baseline:** 2.1.1: 0; 2.1.3: 0 |
| **Milestone year 1:** 2.1.1: 1; 2.1.3: 0 |
| **Milestone year 2:** 2.1.1: 1; 2.1.3: 1 |
| **Target:** 2.1.1: 1; 2.1.3: 1 |
| **Means of verification:**   * Technical review to analyse marking criteria and procedures used in the disability certification process as well as in the collection of administrative records of this service * Improvement plan/reform of the disability certification service, including an information disaggregation system * Follow-up reports of joint programme * Attendance record to technical support activities provided to government agencies |
| **Responsible:** **PAHO\*** |
| **2.1.2. Planning, budgeting and accountability methodologies of operational plans of five government agencies are reviewed/reformed** to promote the provision of more inclusive and CRPD compliant accessible health, education, work and social protection services to persons with disabilities. |
| **Description:**  a) Designing a pilot proposal to apply disability-inclusive planning and budgeting methodologies with a gender equality approach, b) Choosing participant government agencies for the pilot proposal to apply disability-inclusive planning and budgeting methodologies, c) Implementing this pilot experience in five government agencies and providing technical support through the participation of participating OPDs in the Round Table (output 1.1.2), d) Systematizing the pilot experience by identifying lessons learned and the potential to be replicated and expanded to other government agencies, e) Designing a resources mobilization strategy as well as a project sustainability strategy, f) Undertaking an internal assessment of the project, g) Monitoring and following up of the project. |
| **Baseline:** 2.1.1: 0, 2.1.3: 0 |
| **Milestone year 1:** 2.1.1: 2, 2.1.3: 1 |
| **Milestone year 2:** 2.1.1: 3, 2.1.3: 4 |
| **Target:** 2.1.1: 5, 2.1.3: 5 |
| **Means of verification:**   * Disability-inclusive planning and budgeting methodologies with a gender equality approach * Document showing the systematizing of the pilot experience in five government agencies * Document including the resources mobilization strategy as well as the project sustainability strategy * Report of the internal assessment of the project * Project progress report |
| **Responsible:** **UN Women\*, PAHO, UNESCO, in coordination with RCO** |
| **Output 2.2. Multi stakeholder participation and contribution to the design, reform, and implementation of disability inclusive laws policies and systems is enhanced.** |
| **Indicators**  2.2.1 # of multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms (disaggregated formal/informal) to support legislative policy and systems changes developed or strengthened  2.2.2 # of stakeholders within each mechanism (disaggregated by type of stakeholder Gov/ UN/OPDs/other).  2.2.3 # stakeholders involved in consultation and validation processes (disaggregation by stakeholder (GOV/UN/OPDs/other) |
| **2.2.1.** **A multi-stakeholder technical group is created.** It has the knowledge and tools to implement a permanent consultation mechanism with OPDs to adopt legislation, public policies and programme budgeting and planning processes as well as institutional services and other matters of relevance pursuant to Art. 8 of Law No. 15 of 2016. |
| **Description**: a) Identifying stakeholders that will be part of the multi-stakeholder technical group, b) Designing a work strategy of the multi-stakeholder technical group, c) Inviting identified key counterparts, d) Developing a permanent consultation mechanism to OPDs pursuant to Art. 8 of Law No. 15, e) Generating strategic alliances with the private sector, government agencies, OPDs to implement the permanent consultation mechanism. |
| **Baseline:** 2.2.1: 0, 2.2.2: 0, 2.2.3: 0 |
| **Milestone year 1:** 2.2.1: 1, 2.2.2: 5, 2.2.3: 5 |
| **Milestone year 2:** 2.2.1: 1, 2.2.2: 5, 2.2.3: 10 |
| **Target:** 2.2.1: 1, 2.2.2: 10, 2.2.3: 15 |
| **Means of verification:**   * Document including work strategy of the multi-stakeholder technical group * Attendance record of working sessions of the multi-stakeholder technical group * Joint programme progress report. |
| **Responsible:** **PAHO\*, UNESCO\*, UN Women\*** |
| **Outcome 3. National development and humanitarian plans, budgets, programs, and monitoring processes are disability inclusive.** |
| It is expected that the project increases the participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in national planning mechanisms and SDGs follow up mechanisms through an agreed agenda of political commitment and advocacy geared towards the inclusion of OPDs to advance and implement SDGs in national mechanisms. The above, related to the capacity building of OPDs mentioned in outcome 1 and the formation of the multi-stakeholder technical group mentioned in outcome 2. |
| **Output 3.3. OPDs are supported to systematically engage in the national development coordination mechanisms and accountability frameworks, (gov/UN/Independent) around SDGs and in humanitarian coordination mechanisms.** |
| **Indicators**  3.2 # of governmental coordination mechanisms with established consultation processes undertaken to ensure the active involvement of persons with disabilities, including through their representative organizations, in the planning, implementation and monitoring of SDGs. |
| **3.3.1**. OPDs increase their participation in national coordination mechanisms of the 2030 Agenda (Inter-agency and Civil Society Commission for the Support and Monitoring of the SDGs[[28]](#footnote-28), the multi-sectoral commission attached to the Social Affairs Office and the National Coordination Council for Development[[29]](#footnote-29)) by developing an agreed agenda of political commitment and advocacy geared towards the inclusion of disability in the planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs. |
| * **Description:** a) Mapping of OPDs for the identification of participant leaders, including participants of the Round Table of OPDs (output 1.1.2), b) Inviting leaders of participant OPDs, including participants of the Round Table (output 1.1.2), c) Technical support to OPDs to develop an greed agenda of political commitment and advocacy geared towards the inclusion of OPDs to advance and implement SDGs in national mechanisms, d) Technical support for its implementation, f) Systematizing the experience and identifying lessons learned. |
| **Baseline:** 3.3.1: 0 |
| **Milestone year 1:** 3.3.1: 1 |
| **Milestone year 2:** 3.3.1: 1 |
| **Target:** 3.3.1: 2 |
| **Means of verification:**   * Mapping of OPDs * Methodological proposal for building an agreed agenda of political commitment and advocacy geared towards the inclusion of OPDs to advance and implement SDGs * Document with agreed agenda of political commitment and advocacy geared towards the inclusion of disability in the planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs * Joint programme progress report |
| **Responsible:** **UN Women\*, UNESCO** |

# Outcome strategy

## 5.1 Theory of change

The change proposed in this project is oriented to contribute to the setting of a favourable environment for the acknowledgement of persons with disabilities as subjects of rights, in line with the CRPD and with the underlying principle of “***leaving no one behind***” in the attainment of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. To achieve such change, it is intended that the project addresses the following identified gaps in the **“*Situational Analysis of persons with disabilities***” (SITAN, 2021):

1. Limited capacity of OPDs in rural and indigenous areas to represent the interests of persons with disabilities and to demand their rights, especially of the most vulnerable and under-represented groups such as women, indigenous persons with disabilities, afro descendant persons with disabilities, persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities, and of rural or *comarca* areas.
2. A national budget which does not show any evidence of investment or expenses associated to institutional programmes to address the needs of persons with disabilities in all sectors, and which constrains the full compliance of the CRPD regarding service provision.
3. Physical, cultural and socio-economic barriers which hinder the inclusion of persons with disabilities in their access to health, education, employment, political participation, recreation and sports, among others.
4. Persistence of a welfare-based medical approach to disability in legislation, (including the disability certification service) and in the society.
5. Lack of disaggregated and updated information on persons with disabilities which limits the formulation of public inclusive policies aligned with the CRPD, the achievement of SDGs and monitoring their compliance.

Considering the challenges mentioned in *section* 2 and the outcomes of the Situational Analysis (2017), this proposal addresses the following preconditions: **1) the participation of persons with disabilities and the strengthening of their representative organizations, 2) the provision of inclusive services and 3) budgeting and financial management aligned with the CRPD and a gender equality approach.** To obtain the desired effect, the project intends:

1. **To strengthen the capacities of OPDs** by equipping them with the necessary knowledge and tools to operate, to enforce their rights, to promote their association and to increase their participation **(CRPD, Art. 29)** in national adoption mechanisms of public policies, legislation and other relevant aspects of their life pursuant to Art. 8 of Law No. 15 (2016), including the SDGs national follow-up mechanisms **(OUTCOME 1 and 3).** Furthermore, it seeks to increase the visibility and empower persons with disabilities, particularly, of under-represented and the most vulnerable groups **(OUTCOME 1** **and 3).**
2. **To strengthen the capacities of government agencies and UNS agencies** by equipping them with the necessary knowledge and tools to apply planning and budgeting methodologies with a human rights-based and a gender equality approach of persons with disabilities so as to provide inclusive health, education, employment and social protection services. **(OUTCOME 1).**
3. **To revise and reform the planning and budgeting mechanisms of institutional operational plans**, in particular, of the government agencies that provide health, education, employment and social protection services to promote a human rights-based approach to disability, according to what is set forth in the Convention **(Art. 4)** and the gender equality approach **(Art. 6)** with the purpose of allocating the necessary resources so that they are accessible and inclusive and comply with what is established in the national legislation **(OUTCOME 2)**.
4. **To revise and strengthen the disability certification service to integrate a human rights-based approach to disability** and to integrate an information system with sufficient disaggregation levels of data that enable the identification of the most vulnerable groups of people and to facilitate the access of persons with disabilities to social protection programmes and economic benefits to provide equal opportunities as established in Law No. 134 (2013) **(OUTCOME 2).**
5. **To increase the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in the national consultation mechanisms and SDGs national follow-up mechanisms (OUTCOME 3).**

Finally, this project proposal is expected to contribute to comply directly with **SDGs 5, 10 and 17** and, indirectly with **SDGs 1, 3, 4 and 8**. This project also supports the advancement of the **United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework** (UNSDCF) **for Panama, 2021-2025**, in particular **Area 2** (**Governance, institution framework, citizenship and justice**); **outcome 2** (“By 2025, Panama has participatory governance and inclusive, effective, transparent and fair national and local institutions at the service of the people, articulated among themselves and in alliance with non-governmental actors; with a territorial, human rights, inter-cultural, gender, and life-course approach and leaving no one behind”) and **outcome 4** (“By 2025 Panama has an inclusive and comprehensive system of protection of rights, with special emphasis on the prevention and care of all forms of violence and discrimination based on gender, life-course, and sensitive to all people in vulnerable situations”).

## 5.2 Result Chains

The objective of this Joint Programme is to contribute to the setting of a favourable environment for the acknowledgement of persons with disabilities as subjects of rights and their participation and inclusion in the sustainable development of Panama.

It is expected that the project also: a) promotes the participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities in the Panamanian society, as well as brings visibility to under-represented and the most vulnerable groups, b) stimulates the transition process towards a human rights-based approach to disability, c) builds up the institutional capacity of OPDs, government agencies and UNS agencies for the mainstreaming of disability into planning, budgeting, accountability to support the implementation of the CRPD and SDGs with an inclusion-based approach.

The desired effect of the project is: “To contribute to the setting of a favourable environment for the acknowledgement of persons with disabilities as subjects of rights and their participation and inclusion in the sustainable development of Panama” in line with the scope of work of the UNPRPD: “To promote the implementation of the CRPD and SDGs with an inclusion-based approach of persons with disabilities at a national level.”

The expected outcomes and outputs of the main activities of the project will be the following:

**OUTCOME 1: National stakeholders have the knowledge and practical tools to contribute to the policies and systems that include disability.**

**Expected outputs:**

* Training programme for OPDs “Using the CRPD for the empowerment of persons with disabilities and their organizations”: designed and implemented with OPDs
* Round table with OPDs: organized and fully operational.
* Toolbox about person-centred planning and budgeting with a gender equality approach and based on the rights of persons with disabilities: designed, validated and disseminated.
* Training programme to government staff on disability certification model with a human rights-based approach: designed and implemented.
* Training programme: “Person-centred planning and budgeting strategies with a gender equality approach and based on the rights of persons with disabilities”: designed and implemented with government agencies, UNS agencies and OPDs.

**Activities**: Identifying key counterparts, designing training programmes, carrying out training sessions, technical support for the round table with OPDs, systematization of results.

**OUTCOME 2:** The identified gaps in achieving the essential components or preconditions of the CRPD implementation (services provision, participation of persons with disabilities and financial budgeting and management in line with the CRPD) are addressed.

**Expected outputs:**

* Disability certification service with a human rights-based approach of disability and integrated to a disaggregated information system: revised and reformed.
* Pilot proposal to apply disability-inclusive planning and budgeting methodologies: implemented in five government agencies, according to improvement plan (health, education, work and social protection).
* A multi-stakeholder technical group to implement a permanent consultation mechanism to OPDs pursuant to Art. 8 of Law No. 15 of 2016: organized and fully operational.

Activities: Carrying out technical reviews, developing improvement plans/reforms to systems, technical support to key counterparts, designing and implementing pilot experiences and consultation mechanisms, systematizing experiences and lessons learned, designing a resources mobilization and sustainability strategy, internal assessment of project, monitoring and following up.

**OUTCOME 3:** National development plans and follow-up processes include disability mainstreaming.

**Expected outputs:**

* Increased participation of OPDS in national coordination mechanisms of the 2030 Agenda by developing an agreed agenda of political commitment and advocacy geared towards the inclusion of disability in the planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs.

**Activities**: mapping of organizations, technical support to key counterparts, systematizing the experience and lessons learned.

## 5.3 Geographic scope

According to the Population and Housing Census (2010), the largest number of persons with disabilities are found in Panama province, the highest disability rate is observed in the Embera-Wounaan *comarca* area with 50 persons with disabilities per thousand inhabitants, 42.6 per cent of which are located in the most difficult areas to have access. Besides, the PENDIS (2006) concludes that the disability incidence rate is higher in the most vulnerable socio-economic groups and rural areas, particularly in the Kuna Yala and Gnöbe Buglé *comarcas* and in Veraguas, Herrera, Darién, Coclé and Chiriquí provinces.

Considering the Population and Housing Census (2010) and the National Survey on Disability (PENDIS, 2010), the geographic scope of the project is national but with particular attention to indigenous *comarca* areas and rural areas where the highest exclusion and/or vulnerability incidence rate has been found in persons with disabilities, such as the ones mentioned, including Colon and Panama provinces.

## 5.4. Sustainability

To achieve long term sustainability conditions, it is intended that the project inspires **national ownership of the key counterparts of the project** (government agencies, OPDs, academia, and others) since its approval. Therefore, during the entire drafting of this proposal, including the situational analysis, several consultation and work sessions have been held, and the outputs generated during the inception stage have been validated as well as communicated to key counterparts to generate the process.

Furthermore, the project seeks, through its governance structure (mentioned in *section 7*), that the organizational commitment and leadership of counterparts is strengthened for the sustainability of the expected outputs, such as: a round table with OPDs, a technical multi stakeholder group, piloting in five government agencies the application of disability-inclusive planning and budgeting methodologies, adopting an agreed agenda of political commitment and advocacy geared towards the inclusion of disability in the planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs, among others.

Along the same line, the project will develop a **sustainability and resources mobilization strategy** to give continuity to the achieved outputs, taking advantage of the fact that one of the outputs of the project is to promote a larger allocation of resources to include disability in the provision of services through the piloting experience to apply inclusive planning and budgeting methodologies in five government agencies. Also, the sustainability strategy will include actions such as the following:

* Signing commitment letters by participants of training programmes “***Using the CRPD for the empowerment of persons with disabilities and their organizations***” so that they commit to share the knowledge with other OPDs, particularly with the most under-represented.
* Carrying out actions of advocacy so that by means of the round table and the multi-stakeholder technical group the permanent consultation mechanism to persons with disabilities and their representative organizations is consolidated, in compliance with Art. 8 of Law No. 15 of 2016.
* Incorporating disability-inclusive planning, budgeting and accountability methodologies into institutional guidelines and institutional procedure manuals, as a part of the results obtained through the activities mentioned above. In order to do so, it is expected that the staff of the Offices for the promotion of equal opportunities of participant institutions (created by Law) as well as staff from finance departments, management and programmes, among others, take part in this process.
* Generating strategic alliances with other ongoing or new initiatives to maximize resources and enhance impacts.
* Participant OPDs will sign the agreed agenda of political commitment and advocacy geared towards the inclusion of disability in the planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs.
* The National Disability Plan will be published and identify the gaps of resources which could be mobilized through donors or external entities.

## 5.6 Innovation

The project will design their training programmes called: “***Using the CRPD for the empowerment of persons with disabilities and their organizations***”, “***Person-centred planning and budgeting strategies***” and the **Planning and budgeting toolbox to promote inclusive health, education, work and social protection services provision**, with a human rights-based approach, a gender equality approach and also, incorporating an inter cultural approach so that the needs of indigenous persons with disabilities and those of African descent are catered for.

These practices implemented by the project will produce knowledge about the application of such approaches considering disability, ethnic group, gender but also about the diversity of disabilities of the most under-represented groups addressed by the project (psychosocial and intellectual disabilities) and the differences in terms of where they live (urban and rural areas).

Likewise, this will also be extended to the revision and reform of other system such as the disability certification system and the planning and budgeting pilot experience in five government agencies, where apart from applying the human rights-based approach to disability, a gender equality, an intercultural and territorial approaches should be taken into account. All these experiences will be systematized to identify good practices, lessons learned and analyse their replication potential to other contexts and initiatives (*section* 10).

## 5.7 Complementarity with other ongoing initiatives.

The project will seek to supplement other ongoing initiatives in the country from other donors (IADB, European Union, the US Embassy, among others), organizations of the international civil society that develop projects in Panama and UN MPTF, if any. To do so, once the project is approved, together with the International Cooperation Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, we will map the initiatives to identify possible strategic alliances that may enable to reinforce the efforts of the different initiatives, by implementing coordinated actions and joint work aimed at achieving the outcomes proposed by the project. Furthermore, as will be seen in *section* 9, further engagement will be sought from other UNS residing and non-residing agencies (UNDP, UNFPA, ILO, OHCHR, UNICEF, UNOPS, and World Bank), whose expertise could be used to provide further contributions to achieve the outcomes of the project.

# CONTRIBUTION TO UNPRPD IMPACT

**Table 1 Progress against UNPRPD Impact Indicators**

| **UNPRPD MPTF IMPACT**  **(2025)** | **Reduce the inequality and exclusion for all persons with disabilities within and across countries.** |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Indicators** | **How will the project contribute to this indicator?** | **Country Baseline 2021**  **(please indicate the source)** |
| *#Number of persons with disabilities who have undergone a CRPD aligned disability assessment and are in possession of disability certification compared to statistical estimations of the number persons with disabilities.* | The project will revise the disability certification service, including its procedures, and it will strengthen it by including a human rights-based approach to disability in line with the CRPD. | **10. 240 certified persons with disabilities**  May 2015 to July 2021  (SENADIS, 2021) |
| *Percentage of public spending on disability rights and inclusion, as a proportion of the GDP/sector budgets, disaggregated by disability specific budget allocations and allocations within mainstream budget.* | The project will strengthen the capacities of the government agencies to apply disability-inclusive planning, budgeting and accountability methodologies and with a gender equality approach through a training programme to government staff and a toolbox. It will also implement a pilot experience in five government agencies so that their institutional operational plans are revised/reformed by applying these methodologies to promote a more inclusive service provision of health, education, work and social protection, that is more accessible to persons with disabilities, so that this experience can then be deployed at a national level. | **Unavailable** |
| *Increase of disability data/disaggregation (including by sex) within standard data and CRPD compliant collection processes.* | The revision of the disability certification service will include improving the collection of administrative records of such service, including identifying, standardizing, managing data quality and disseminating and disaggregating information that enables the identification of the most vulnerable groups of persons with disabilities according to sex, age, place of residence, type of disability and ownership to an indigenous or of African descent community. | **370,053 (11.3 per cent total population)**  199,738 Women (54 per cent)  170,315 Men (46 per cent)  Unavailable disaggregated data per ethnic group  (PENDIS, 2006) |
| *SDG indicator 16.7.2 Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age and population group.* | The project plans to create a **Round table of OPDs** aimed at enforcing compliance with Art. 8 of Law No. 15 of 2016 on the permanent consultation mechanism for persons with disabilities in the adoption of legislation and policies, programmes, services and other relevant aspects, including their participation in the national coordination mechanisms to implement and follow up SDGs (Inter-agency and Civil Society Commission for the Support and Monitoring of the SDGs, the Multisectoral Commission attached to the Social Affairs Office and the National Coordination Council for Development) through the development of an agreed agenda of political commitment and advocacy geared towards the inclusion of disability in the planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs. It is also intended to create a multi-stakeholder technical group to support this previously mentioned mechanism for permanent consultation with OPDs. | **Unavailable** |

# Cross cutting approaches

## Equality between men and women.

The project aims to ensure that all its outputs focus on gender equality and the rights of persons with disabilities by addressing two key challenges: **(a) accessible and inclusive planning, budgeting and accountability of government agencies** that tackle the structural inequalities and the different gaps faced by men and women with disabilities in their access to health, education, employment and social welfare services, **(b) a revised and strengthened disability certification service with the adoption of a human rights-based approach and a gender equality approach**, ensuring that the data produced by this service is disaggregated in such a way that it is possible to identify groups of people in situations of increased vulnerability according to sex, age, place of residence, type of disability and sense of ownership to an indigenous or African descent community.

Moreover, in operational terms, where possible, the project will ensure that there is gender parity in the representation and participation of persons with disabilities in all training and capacity-building activities, round table discussions, the project's governance structure and any other relevant areas, and that indigenous women, women of African descent and women from rural areas with disabilities are represented.

In order to achieve the effective participation of women with disabilities, they will be consulted on their availability in terms of schedule, possibilities of being accompanied by their children if they not have access to childcare services, the provision of financial support for transport to project activities, and the implementation of any reasonable accommodations that will guarantee their effective participation. For example, sign language and/or indigenous language interpreter, information in different formats and personal assistant.

## 6.2. Full and effective participation of persons with disabilities.

As will be seen in *section 7*, the governance structure of the project will provide for the participation of persons with different types of disabilities and their representative organizations, both at the technical as well as the operational level of the mentioned structure, so that they can be involved in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation phases of the project.

The project will also envisage the development of specific actions aimed at strengthening the capacities of OPDs to contribute to their empowerment and active participation in the decision-making process, with special emphasis on women's organizations, indigenous women, Afro-descendant women and women from rural areas. Some of these actions include the development and implementation of a training programme called ***"Using the CRPD for the empowerment of persons with disabilities and their organizations"***; and the creation of a ***toolbox for "Person-centred planning and budgeting with a gender equality approach and based on the rights of persons with disabilities"*[[30]](#footnote-30)** to promote the provision of inclusive health, education, employment and social welfare services; in a format that is accessible, pedagogically mediated, culturally relevant and available online.

Furthermore, the project plans to provide technical support to OPDs in the creation of a **Round table of OPDs**[[31]](#footnote-31) aimed at enforcing compliance with art. 8 of Law No. 15 of 2016 on the permanent consultation mechanism for persons with disabilities in the adoption of legislation and policies; their participation in a multi-stakeholder technical group formed with the necessary knowledge and tools to implement this mechanism for permanent consultation with OPDs in the adoption of regulations, public policies, budgeting and planning processes for institutional programmes and services, and other relevant issues; and also, ensure their effective participation in the national coordination mechanisms of the 2030 Agenda (Inter-agency and Civil Society Commission for the Support and Monitoring of the SDGs, the Multisectoral Commission attached to the Social Affairs Office and the National Coordination Council for Development) through the development of an agreed agenda of political commitment and advocacy geared towards the inclusion of disability in the planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs.

As stated above, the project will ensure accessibility to participation with disabilities in all spheres (physical, information and communication, procedures, among others), as well as the implementation of reasonable adjustments necessary to guarantee their full participation, and will seek to provide for the time and costs associated with this participation, particularly for those living in poverty.

## 6.3. Full and effective participation of most marginalized groups.

In order to guarantee the participation of under-represented groups of persons with disabilities, the project will ensure that in all activities there is a balanced participation of persons with different types of disabilities and their representative organizations, considering persons with physical, hearing, visual, intellectual, psychosocial and one or more disabilities, but also other intersecting characteristics such as sex/gender, ethnicity, sexual diversity, migratory status and area of residence (intersectional approach). To this end, invitations to the Joint Programme events will be sent out to OPDs that were identified during the Situational Analysis (mapping) and other organizations that may be identified during the project implementation process.

In addition, to ensure that reasonable adjustments are made for participants, prior to each project activity, participants will be consulted through a registration form about the support they may require to ensure their full participation.

# Governance and management arrangements

The governance structure of the project will consist of the following three levels: political-strategic, technical and operational, which will be coordinated through a steering committee.

**Political-strategic level**: it will be made up of a Steering Committee, composed of the UNS Panama Resident Coordinator (serving as leader), the Resident Representative of UN Women, PAHO and UNESCO, or their designees, a representative of the Government through the National Secretariat for Disability SENADIS, and one representative of the OPDS to be defined once the project starts. The Steering Committee will be responsible for taking decisions on strategic matters. It may be expanded to include other strategic partners who commit technical or financial resources to achieve the objectives of this project where appropriate. In addition, the Project Steering Committee will conduct revisions to the project as necessary, when major risks to the project or its management capacity (time and budget constraints) are identified. On the basis of the Annual Work Plan, the Steering Committee will authorize material deviations from the approved plans, after notifying the UNPRPD Secretariat.

**Technical level**: it will be composed of a Technical Committee that will be led by one of the project's implementing agencies as agreed by the project. The Committee will be made up of representatives of the project's implementing agencies (UN Women, UNESCO and PAHO). It will meet on a monthly basis to coordinate the activities planned under the Joint Programme according to the Annual Work Plan, with the participation of the government focal points and OPDs, where appropriate. When communication issues are addressed, the representatives of the Communication Advisory Group (*section 11*) will also be convened.

**Operational level**: it will be made up of three working groups, one for each project outcome with the participation of experts from partner government agencies, as well as representatives of OPDs and other key actors (academia, CSOs, private sector organizations, etc.). There will be a lead implementing agency for each outcome: Outcome 1, UNESCO; Outcome 2, PAHO; and Outcome 3, UN Women. The working groups will meet at least once a month to coordinate the activities to be undertaken for each proposed outcome, to follow up on the work plan and deliver the activities on time. The following table lists the lead strategic partners for each outcome.

**Table 3. Implementation arrangements**

| **Outcome number** | **Implementing UN agencies[[32]](#footnote-32) Include contact details of focal points and role and responsibility in the programme** | **Government  Include contact details of focal points and role and responsibility in the programme** | **OPDs  Include contact details of focal points and role and responsibility in the programme** | **Other partners Include contact details of focal points and role and responsibility in the programme** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1.1.** | * **UNESCO:** A. Gisselle Burbano, [ag.burbano-fuertes@unesco.org](mailto:ag.burbano-fuertes@unesco.org) * **OPS:** Dra Itzel Thomas, [thomasitz@paho.org](mailto:thomasitz@paho.org) ; Dra Ileana Brea, [thomasitz@paho.org](mailto:thomasitz@paho.org) * **UN Women**: Dayanara Salazar, [dayanara.salazar@unwomen.org](mailto:dayanara.salazar@unwomen.org) | * SENADIS, Enoc Menéndez, [enmenendez@senadis.g](mailto:enmenendez@senadis.g) ob.pa * Ministry of Social Development (MIDES), Virginia Barreiro [vbarreiro@mides.gob.pa](mailto:vbarreiro@mides.gob.pa) * National Institute for Women (INAMU), Daniela Torrijos, [daniellatorrijos@inamu.gob.pa](mailto:daniellatorrijos@inamu.gob.pa) * Academia (University of Panamá - to be confirmed) | * National Association of persons with disabilities (FENAPEDI), José Batista, [josebati07@gmail.com](mailto:josebati07@gmail.com) * Organization of women with disabilities or working towards gender equality, OPDs made up of indigenous persons, persons of African descent and from rural areas. |  |
| **1.2.** | * **UNESCO:** A. Gisselle Burbano, [ag.burbano-fuertes@unesco.org](mailto:ag.burbano-fuertes@unesco.org) * **OPS:** Dra Itzel Thomas, [thomasitz@paho.org](mailto:thomasitz@paho.org) ; | * SENADIS, Enoc Menéndez, [enmenendez@senadis.g](mailto:enmenendez@senadis.g) ob.pa * Ministry of Social Development (MIDES), Virginia Barreiro [vbarreiro@mides.gob.pa](mailto:vbarreiro@mides.gob.pa) * CONADIS Commissions * Academia (University of Panamá - to be confirmed) | * Federación Nacional de Personas con Discapacidad (FENAPEDI), José Batista, [josebati07@gmail.com](mailto:josebati07@gmail.com) * Organization of women with disabilities or working towards gender equality, OPDs made up of indigenous persons, persons of African descent and from rural areas. |  |
| **2.1.** | * **OPS:** Dra Itzel Thomas, [thomasitz@paho.org](mailto:thomasitz@paho.org) * **UNESCO:** A. Gisselle Burbano, [ag.burbano-fuertes@unesco.org](mailto:ag.burbano-fuertes@unesco.org) * **UN Women**: Dayanara Salazar, [dayanara.salazar@unwomen.org](mailto:dayanara.salazar@unwomen.org) | * SENADIS, Enoc Menéndez, [enmenendez@senadis.g](mailto:enmenendez@senadis.g) * Ministry of Social Development (MIDES), Virginia Barreiro [vbarreiro@mides.gob.pa](mailto:vbarreiro@mides.gob.pa) * MITRADEL, Katherine KA. Arosemena, [karosemena@mitradel.gob.pa](mailto:karosemena@mitradel.gob.pa) * MEDUCA, Kiria Kant, [kiria.kant@meduca.gob.pa](mailto:kiria.kant@meduca.gob.pa) * Academia (University of Panamá - to be confirmed) | * National Association of persons with disabilities (FENAPEDI), José Batista, [josebati07@gmail.com](mailto:josebati07@gmail.com) * Organization of women with disabilities or working towards gender equality, OPDs made up of indigenous persons, persons of African descent and from rural areas. |  |
| **2.2.** | * **OPS:** Dra Itzel Thomas, [thomasitz@paho.org](mailto:thomasitz@paho.org) * **UNESCO:** A. Gisselle Burbano, [ag.burbano-fuertes@unesco.org](mailto:ag.burbano-fuertes@unesco.org) * **UN Women**: Dayanara Salazar, [dayanara.salazar@unwomen.org](mailto:dayanara.salazar@unwomen.org) | * SENADIS, Enoc Menéndez, [enmenendez@senadis.g](mailto:enmenendez@senadis.g) * SUMARSE, Bruno Basile, bbasile@sumarse.org.pa * Academia (University of Panamá - to be confirmed) * MINSA, Gladys Rumbo, Directora médica del Instituto Nacional de Medicina Física y Rehabilitación, [gerumbos@minsa.gob.pa](mailto:gerumbos@minsa.gob.pa) * National Institute for Women (INAMU), Daniela Torrijos, [daniellatorrijos@inamu.gob.pa](mailto:daniellatorrijos@inamu.gob.pa) | * National Association of persons with disabilities (FENAPEDI), José Batista, [josebati07@gmail.com](mailto:josebati07@gmail.com) * Organization of women with disabilities or working towards gender equality, OPDs made up of indigenous persons, persons of African descent and from rural areas. |  |
| **3.3.** | UN Women, UNESCO   * **UN Women**: Dayanara Salazar, [dayanara.salazar@unwomen.org](mailto:dayanara.salazar@unwomen.org) * **UNESCO:** A. Gisselle Burbano, [ag.burbano-fuertes@unesco.org](mailto:ag.burbano-fuertes@unesco.org) | * Inter-agency and Civil Society Commission for the Support and Monitoring of the SDGs | * National Association of persons with disabilities (FENAPEDI), José Batista, [josebati07@gmail.com](mailto:josebati07@gmail.com) * Organization of women with disabilities or working towards gender equality, OPDs made up of indigenous persons, persons of African descent and from rural areas. |  |

**Figure 2. Project governance structure**

**Steering Committee**

**Resident Coordinator**

**Political-strategic level**

**Project  
Coordinator\***

**Technical Committee**

**Communication Advisory Group**

**Technical level**

**OUTPUT 1. UNESCO**

**OUTPUT 2. PAHO**

**OUTPUT 3. UN Women**

**Working groups**

**Communication**

**Operational level**

# Partnership-building potential

The project intends to establish a round table of OPDs, a multi-stakeholder technical group and an agreed agenda on political commitment and advocacy to ensure the inclusion of disability in the planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of the national mechanisms to support the SDGs. These opportunities for dialogue and inter-sectoral and inter-agency coordination shall help establish partnerships with different key stakeholders for achieving the outcomes and also for the mobilization of possible additional resources to ensure project sustainability.

In Outcome 3, the OPDs will be able to submit their agenda to the Inter-agency and Civil Society Commission for the Support and Monitoring of the SDGs[[33]](#footnote-33), the Multisectoral Commission attached to the Social Affairs Office and the National Coordination Council for Development[[34]](#footnote-34). These bodies created through national legislation are formed by government agencies and key stakeholders from private sector organizations, academia, civil society organizations from all sectors, among others.

Similarly, in Outcome 2, the creation of the multi-stakeholder technical group is envisaged, involving interdisciplinary, inter-agency and intersectoral participation that will enable the project to enhance coordination with different sectors and stakeholders, leverage available resources and establish relations with existing initiatives conducive to achieving the project's objectives.

# Long-term UN engagement in the area of disability

As indicated in *section 4*, this project supports the advancement of the **United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework** (UNSDCF) **for Panama,** **2021-2025**, in particular **Area 2** (**Governance, institutional framework, citizenship and justice**); **outcome 2** (“By 2025, Panama has participatory governance and inclusive, effective, transparent and fair national and local institutions at the service of the people, articulated among themselves and in alliance with non-governmental actors; with a territorial, human rights, intercultural, gender, and life-course approach and leaving no one behind”) and **outcome 4** (“By 2025 Panama has an inclusive and comprehensive system of protection of rights, with special emphasis on the prevention and care of all forms of violence and discrimination based on gender, life-course, and sensitive to all people in vulnerable situations”).

The project aims to promote the involvement of other UNS agencies such as UNDP, UNFPA, ILO, OHCHR, UNICEF and UNOPS, whose expertise could be used to provide technical assistance in activities such as the design of training programmes, toolboxes, the formation of the multi-stakeholder technical group and the reform or redesign of administrative record-keeping in the disability certification service.

To support the process of mainstreaming disability in the country team, the staff of the United Nations system in Panama is expected to participate in training and capacity-building programmes on person-centred planning and budgeting focusing on gender equality and the rights of persons with disabilities, so that they have the necessary knowledge and tools to develop programmes and projects geared towards guaranteeing the inclusion of this population in the country programme documents.

# Knowledge Management

As mentioned in *section 12*, the project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan will include the development of a knowledge management strategy, the implementation of which will be reported to the project Steering Committee. Therefore, the Joint Programme intends to record in a report the lessons learned from its implementation, in particular from the following processes: (a) the articulation of associations of OPDs in a round table, (b) the formation of the multi-stakeholder technical group, (c) a plan to improve the disability certification service, including the collection, standardization and quality management of statistical data from the administrative records of the population with disabilities, and (d) the pilot application of disability-inclusive planning and budgeting methodologies based on a gender equality approach, in five government agencies. For the **systematization of these experiences**, a participatory development methodology will be applied with key counterparts, who will provide feedback during the implementation of the project through the governance structure proposed herein at the operational level (*section 7*).

Also, as mentioned in the Outcomes Framework (*section 3*), the project will generate a series of knowledge outputs as a result of its implementation, which are described in Table 4.

**Table 4 Knowledge outputs**

| ***Output*** | ***Type of knowledge output*** | ***Expected dissemination and use*** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| “***Using the CRPD for the empowerment of persons with disabilities and their organizations”*** training programme to promote the implementation of a disability certification model with a human rights-based approach and increase their participation in national planning and budgeting in order to provide inclusive services. | Training and experience systematization program | Training for OPDs  UNS website |
| “**Person-centred planning and budgeting tools, a gender equality approach and the rights of persons with disabilities**” training programme to promote the provision of inclusive health, education, work and social welfare services. | Training and experience systematization program | Training for government personnel  UNS website |
| **Developing, validating and implementing a toolbox for “*Person-centred planning and budgeting with a gender equality approach and based on the rights of persons with disabilities*”[[35]](#footnote-35)**, to promote the provision of inclusive health, education, work and social welfare services. | Tools and guides | Training for government personnel and OPDs  Presentation session with key stakeholders.  UNS website |
| **Systematization of project experiences**  a) **Round table of OPDs**[[36]](#footnote-36) about permanent consultation mechanism for persons with disabilities in the adoption of new regulations, policies, programmes, services and other relevant issues including their participation in the national coordination mechanism to implement and follow up SDGs.  (b) **Revised and strengthened disability certification service with the adoption of a human rights-based approach and integrating an information system** with sufficient disaggregation levels of data that enable the identification of the most vulnerable groups of people.  c) Pilot reform/review of the operational plans of five government agencies that apply **planning, budgeting and accountability methodologies** to promote the provision of more inclusive and accessible health, education, work and social welfare services to persons with disabilities.  d) **Multi-stakeholder technical group** to implement a permanent consultation mechanism with OPDs to adopt legislation, public policies and programme budgeting and planning processes as well as institutional services and other matters of relevance pursuant to art. 8 of Law No. 15 of 2016. | Systematization of good practices and lessons learned | Project outcomes presentation activity.  UNS website |

# Communications and visibility

The project will develop a **Communication Plan** and establish an organizational structure for its implementation, in line with the project's governance structure (*section 7*). This structure will comprise two levels: advisory level and operational level.

1. **Advisory level**: A **Communication Advisory Group** will be set up, which will include the Communications Officers of the implementing agencies and the counterparts participating in the project, as appropriate, as well as the Project Coordinator. This group will be responsible for planning and supporting the communication strategy for each project, evaluating the progress of the proposed communication strategies, agreeing and defining communication actions designed to respond to project requirements, identifying new areas and opportunities for action, settling any disagreements between the counterparts on communication issues that have arisen and have not been previously resolved, and presenting the communication plan to the Steering and Technical Committees for approval.
2. **Operational level**: It will be formed by specially appointed project personnel, including consultants. It will be responsible for the implementation of the strategic communication proposal with the support of the Communication Advisory Group. The operational level shall regularly report to the Advisory Group's communication focal points on the progress of the communication plans contained in the work plan.

To ensure the visibility of the Joint Program, the communication plan will include specific actions for media management through press releases of relevant activities, spokespersons and postings on the implementing agencies' social media to inform about project activities and outcomes, in compliance with the established organizational guidelines.

Furthermore, in order to comply with organizational guidelines on visibility and dissemination, all project outputs must include the logos of the partners involved, including official counterparts, the UNPRPD and implementing agencies. For example, videos, publications and invitations to events. Table 5 shows the main communication outputs to be developed by the project.

**Table 5 Communications outputs**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Output*** | ***Type of communication output*** | ***Expected dissemination and use*** |
| Joint Program Communication Plan | Work Plan | Implementing agencies, Joint Program strategic partners |
| Information about the project and its activities | Videos, postings on social media, website | Social media, project training activities, forums |
| Project outcomes (first year and closure of the project) | Videos  Progress report submitted to the UNPRPD Secretariat | Activity to present the outcomes of the first year and closure of the project.  Videos |
| Communication and dialogue to raise awareness and make disability visible in Panama. | Communication and dialogue plan with key partners. | Opportunities for dialogue organized by the project, such as working sessions of the multi-stakeholder technical group, round table of OPDs, national mechanism to follow up on the SDGs. |

1. Monitoring and Evaluation

The Joint Program will design a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan that will include the following activities:

* **Monitoring the project's progress in achieving outcomes**. This will consist of collecting and analysing data on progress against the outcome indicators in the project's Outcomes Framework, in order to assess its advancement towards the achievement of the agreed outputs. Reports will be submitted by the Technical Committee to the project Steering Committee on a quarterly basis.
* **Risk monitoring and management**. This will include the identification of specific risks that may compromise the achievement of the project's expected outcomes in accordance with **Table 6** (*section 13*), as well as the implementation of mitigation measures through a quarterly risk register, in accordance with organizational provisions. Quarterly progress reports to the Steering Committee will include the risks identified in the reporting period and the measures implemented to mitigate them, as appropriate.
* **Knowledge management**. As indicated in *section 10* (*Knowledge Management*), the project will regularly systematize the knowledge, good practices and lessons learned it generates, identifying the replicability and scalability potential of the initiatives so that they can be shared with other countries financed by the UNPRPD.
* **Project quality assurance.**  Project quality will be assessed on an annual basis against the quality standards of the UNPRPD Quality Assurance Framework and implementing agencies. Strengths and weaknesses will be identified and reported to the Steering Committee to support decision making and enable relevant improvements.
* **Review and implementation of improvement measures in the project's course of action**. An internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions will be conducted to ensure informed decision making within the framework of the project governance mechanism.
* **Annual project outcome reports.**  An annual report of project outcomes will be submitted to the Steering Committee, key counterparts and the donor, as required by the UNPRPD Secretariat. This report will provide data on the Joint Program's progress in achieving outcomes in line with the defined annual targets and its Outcomes Framework. It will also include an annual summary of the project's quality rating.
* **Project Review (Project Steering Committee)**. As noted in *section 7* (*Governance and Management Arrangements*) the project governance mechanism will conduct regular project reviews to assess project performance and revise the Annual Work Plan to ensure realistic budgeting and deadlines throughout the project life cycle. During the final year of the project, the Steering Committee will conduct a final project review to identify lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and sharing project outcomes and lessons learned with relevant stakeholders.
* **Internal project evaluation**. To evaluate the outcomes and impact of the project, an internal evaluation of the project will be conducted.

1. Risk Management

**Table 6 Risk Management Strategy**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Type of risk\**** | ***Risk*** | ***Likelihood (L, M, H)*** | ***Impact on result*** | ***Mitigation strategies*** | ***Risk treatment owners*** |
| ***Contextual*** | The COVID-19 pandemic affects the work of the Joint Programme at national and local levels due to changes in priorities of implementing agencies, other potential donors, OPDs and government institutions. It may also impact the participation of key counterparts, especially persons with disabilities in conditions of increased vulnerability, as events are carried out in virtual mode and access to technology might be limited. | High | Medium | * Rethink the methodology used for project activities so as to adjust it to a virtual or mixed mode, ensuring greater participation of persons with disabilities, especially those with less access to technology. * Inform the UNPRPD about the impact that the measures taken in the country to address COVID 19 are having on the project in terms of expected timelines for the achievement of outcomes and mitigation strategies. * Align the initiatives of the Joint Programme with other initiatives being implemented to address the COVID 19 emergency in order to leverage available resources. * Develop alternative resource mobilization strategies to ensure sustainability of project outcomes. | RCO  Implementing agencies |
| Contextual factors such as political, economic, humanitarian or other instability, including political will to promote the rights of persons with disabilities, generate delays in the implementation of the Joint Programme. | Medium | Medium | * Conduct quarterly political, economic and other contextual analyses through the Project Steering Committee to identify potential contextual risks affecting the implementation of the Joint Programme in terms of time and resources. * Implement the monitoring strategy proposed by the Joint Programme and take appropriate actions to avoid possible delays in project implementation resulting from contextual factors. | RCO  Implementing agencies |
| ***Operational*** | The operations of the implementing agencies and/or strategic partners of the project affect the efficiency of the Joint Programme management. | Low | High | * Establish feedback mechanisms for implementing agencies and strategic partners in the Joint Programme monitoring strategy. * Regular meetings of the project's Technical Committee to identify possible operational risks affecting the execution of the Joint Programme in terms of time and resources. * Regular briefings of the project's working groups by outcomes to follow up on the progress of activities according to plan. | RCO  Implementing agencies |
| ***Programmatic*** | The Joint Programme fails to achieve its intended outcomes and objectives due to the project staff's lack of expertise in disability; insufficient funding to adequately staff the project activities; lack of meaningful participation of DPOs; poor communication/coordination with and among strategic partners and/or among implementing agencies. | Low | High | * Apply UNDG guidelines and quality assurance standards established by the organization to the programmatic implementation strategy. * Design a monitoring and evaluation strategy to identify and systematize the project's outcomes and impact. * Develop a knowledge management strategy for the Joint Programme to identify best practices and lessons learned from the initiatives that have been implemented for their subsequent replication. | RCO  Implementing agencies |

\* Please specify here the type of risk and refer to the following definitions:

Contextual: risk of state failure, return to conflict, development failure, humanitarian crisis; factors over which external actors have limited control.

Programmatic: risk of failure to achieve the aims and objectives; risk of causing harm through engagements.

Institutional: risk to the donor agency, security, fiduciary failure, reputational loss, domestic political damage etc.

# Budget

The budget can be found in **Annex 2**.

* 1. **Value for money**

The value for money approach proposed by the project will be governed by the following criteria:

1. **Finance**: for the procurement of products and services, the project will develop an **annual procurement plan** based on the approved work plan. The main costs of the project will be related to contractual consulting services for the development of the expected outputs. In accordance with the administrative procurement rules of the organization and each implementing agency, procurement processes will be carried out through competitive bidding to select suppliers that meet the established requirements. Bids will be evaluated according to the criteria of best value and quality.

The respective terms of reference of the consulting services will be prepared for each procurement, according to the criteria established by each implementing agency to that end. The selection of bids shall be based on the **Local Price List**, which is in line with the organization's **Universal Price List** (**UPL**).In all cases, a minimum of three bids will be sought for each solicited service or product. Only bids that meet the technical and financial criteria will be selected.

1. **Efficiency**: the implementing agencies will provide the necessary administrative support to ensure the efficient use of technical and financial resources. Thus, each implementing agency will provide access to its administrative platform for budgetary and financial follow-up of the implementation of activities, according to its administrative procedures and in accordance with the monitoring and follow-up plan established by the project (*section 12*). Similarly, the staff of the implementing agencies will ensure compliance with the terms of the contracts as regards time and quality of the products and services offered in accordance with the project's procurement plan and work plan.
2. **Effectiveness**: the analysis of the theory of change has allowed us to explore different options to achieve the best results with the available resources. Furthermore, to improve cost-effectiveness and achieve the objectives with the available resources, the project's programmed activities will be used and partnerships will be established with other initiatives and projects, both from the implementing agencies and participating government institutions.

**13.2 Co-funding**

***Table 7 Co-funding arrangements***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Output*** | ***Funding source*** | ***Amount*** | ***% of total output*** |
| **National Output 1.1.1 Representatives of OPDs are trained through the training programme called “Empowering persons with disabilities and their organizations through the CRPD” to promote the implementation of a disability certification model with a human rights-based approach and to increase their participation in national planning and budgeting in order to provide inclusive services.** | *PAHO: 25% of National consultant and 20% of a second national consultant* | ***12,000.00 USD*** | ***25%*** |
| **National Output 1.1.2.**  **Round table of OPDs**[[37]](#footnote-37) **with the necessary knowledge** to enforce art. 8 of Law No. 15 of 2016 about the permanent consultation mechanism to persons with disabilities to adopt new regulations, policies, programmes, services and other relevant issues including their participation in the national coordination mechanism to implement and follow up SDGs. | *UN WOMEN: 30% of National officer position, 30% of the SB3 position and national cooperation framework.* | ***7,900.00 USD*** | ***17%*** |
| **National Output 1.1.2.**  **Round table of OPDs**[[38]](#footnote-38) **with the necessary knowledge** to enforce art. 8 of Law No. 15 of 2016 about the permanent consultation mechanism to persons with disabilities to adopt new regulations, policies, programmes, services and other relevant issues including their participation in the national coordination mechanism to implement and follow up SDGs. | *PAHO: 20% of National Consultant* | ***3,300.00 USD*** | ***7%*** |
| **National output 1.1.3.**  **Government and UN agencies staff is trained in Certification models of disability with a human rights-based approach[3] to enable the access of persons with disabilities to social protection programmes and economic benefits to provide equal opportunities as established in Law 134 (2013).** | *PAHO: 25% of National Consultant* | ***9,800.00 USD*** | ***35%*** |
| **National Output 1.1.4**  **Government agencies and UN staff is trained** in “***Person-centred planning and budgeting strategies with a gender equality approach and based on the rights of persons with disabilities”*** to promote the provision of inclusive health, education, work and social protection services. | *PAHO: 20% of National Consultant* | ***3,000.00 USD*** | ***14%*** |
| **National Output 1.1.4**  **Government agencies and UN staff is trained** in “***Person-centred planning and budgeting strategies with a gender equality approach and based on the rights of persons with disabilities”*** to promote the provision of inclusive health, education, work and social protection services. | *UN WOMEN: 30% of National officer position, 30% of the SB3 position and national cooperation framework.* | ***7,900.00 USD*** | ***38%*** |
| *National output 1.1.4. Government agencies and UN staff are trained in “Person-centred planning and budgeting strategies with a gender equality approach and based on the rights of persons with disabilities” to promote the provision of inclusive health, education, work and social protection services.* | *UNESCO Regular Programme Budget 2022-2023 for Central American Region.* | ***4,000.00 USD*** | ***19 %*** |
| *National output 1.2.1 Developing, validating and implementing a toolbox about “Person-centred planning and budgeting tools a gender equality approach and based on the rights of persons with disabilities”, to promote the provision of inclusive health, education, work and social protection services.* | *UNESCO Regular Programme Budget 2022-2023 for Central American Region.* | ***10,000.00 USD*** | ***31 %*** |
| *National output 1.2.1 Developing, validating and implementing a toolbox about “Person-centred planning and budgeting tools a gender equality approach and based on the rights of persons with disabilities”, to promote the provision of inclusive health, education, work and social protection services.* | *PAHO: 20% of National consultant* | ***5,000.00 USD*** | ***15%*** |
| **National output 2.1.1**  **The disability certification service has been revised and strengthened after adopting a human rights-based approach and integrating an information system with sufficient disaggregation levels of data that enable the identification of the most vulnerable groups of people (sex, age, place of residence, type of disability and sense of ownership to an indigenous or African descent community). This facilitates the access of persons with disabilities to social protection programmes and economic benefits to provide equal opportunities as established in Law 134 (2013).** | *PAHO: 25% of National consultant and 20% of a second National consultant* | ***12,000.00 USD*** | ***55%*** |
| **National Output 2.1.2**  **Planning, budgeting and accountability methodologies of operational plans of 5 government agencies are reviewed/reformed** to promote the provision of more inclusive and accessible health, education, work and social protection services to persons with disabilities. | *UN WOMEN: 30% of National officer position, 30% of the SB3 position and national cooperation framework.* | ***11,400.00 USD*** | ***26%*** |
| **National Output 2.1.2**  **Planning, budgeting and accountability methodologies of operational plans of 5 government agencies are reviewed/reformed** to promote the provision of more inclusive and accessible health, education, work and social protection services to persons with disabilities. | *PAHO: 25% of a National consultant* | ***6,000.00 USD*** | ***13.6%*** |
| **National Output 2.2.1.**  **A technical multi-stakeholder group was created. It has the knowledge and tools** to implement a permanent consultation mechanism with OPDs to adopt legislation, public policies and programme budgeting and planning processes as well as institutional services and other matters of relevance pursuant to Art. 8 of Law No. 15 of 2016. | *UN WOMEN: 30% of National officer position, 30% of the SB3 position and national cooperation framework.* | ***8,400.00 USD*** | ***34%*** |
| *National output 2.2.1*  *A technical multi-stakeholder group was created. It has the knowledge and tools to implement a permanent consultation mechanism with OPDs to adopt legislation, public policies and programme budgeting and planning processes as well as institutional services and other matters of relevance pursuant to Art. 8 of Law No. 15 of 2016.* | *PAHO: 20% of a National Consultant* | ***2,700.00 USD*** | ***11%*** |
| *National output 2.2.1. A multi-stakeholder technical group was created. It has the knowledge and tools to implement a permanent consultation mechanism with OPDs to adopt legislation, public policies and programme budgeting and planning processes as well as institutional services and other matters of relevance pursuant to Art. 8 of Law No. 15 of 2016.* | *UNESCO Regular Programme Budget 2022-2023 for Central American Region.* | ***6,000.00 USD*** | ***24 %*** |
| **National Output 3.3.1.**  **Increasing the participation of OPDs in national coordination mechanisms of the 2030 Agenda** (Inter-agency and Civil Society Commission for the Support and Monitoring of the SDGs[[39]](#footnote-39), the multi-sectoral commission attached to the Social Affairs Office and the National Coordination Council for Development[[40]](#footnote-40)) by developing an agreed agenda of commitments and political implications to guarantee the inclusion of disability in the planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of SDGs. | *UN WOMEN: 30% of National officer position, 30% of the SB3 position and national cooperation framework.* | ***17,800.00 USD*** | ***100%*** |
| **National Output 3.3.1.**  **Increasing the participation of OPDs in national coordination mechanisms of the 2030 Agenda** (Inter-agency and Civil Society Commission for the Support and Monitoring of the SDGs[[41]](#footnote-41), the multi-sectoral commission attached to the Social Affairs Office and the National Coordination Council for Development[[42]](#footnote-42)) by developing an agreed agenda of commitments and political implications to guarantee the inclusion of disability in the planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of SDGs. | *PAHO: 20% of a National Consultant* | ***1,200.00 USD*** | ***7%*** |
| *National output 3.3.1 Increasing the participation of OPDs in national coordination mechanisms of the 2030 Agenda (Inter-agency and Civil Society Commission for the Support and Monitoring of the SDGs[5], the multi-sectoral commission attached to the Social Affairs Office and the National Coordination Council for Development[6]) by developing an agreed agenda of political commitment and advocacy geared towards the inclusion of disability in the planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs.* | *UNESCO Regular Programme Budget 2022-2023 for Central American Region.* | ***5,000.00 USD*** | ***28 %*** |

# Safeguarding

The UNS has a number of safeguards in place to prevent unethical behaviour (including sexual exploitation and abuse), protect victims and witnesses (through appropriate protocols on reporting and cooperation with investigations), and ensure that prompt corrective action is taken to end violations.

Links to a number of organizational policies that address these specific issues to which the implementing agencies of this project are committed are listed below:

* Protection against retaliation for reporting misconduct and for cooperating with duly authorized audits or investigations. <https://undocs.org/ST/SGB/2017/2>
* Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse. <https://www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/content/documents>
* Regulations Governing the Status, Basic Rights and Duties of Officials of the United Nations or Regulations Governing the Status, Basic Rights and Duties of Officials other than Secretariat Officials and Experts on Mission. <https://undocs.org/pdf?symbol=en/ST/SGB/2002/9>
* Observance by United Nations forces of international humanitarian law [•ST/SGB/1999/13• (unmissions.org)](https://conduct.unmissions.org/sites/default/files/keydoc1.pdf)

1. Work plan

The Work Plan can be found in **Annex 3.**

1. National Strategic Plan of the Secretariat on Disability 2015-2019. Panama. 2015. https://www.senadis.gob.pa/transparencia/art93-plan-estrategico-nacional.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Study on the Prevalence and Characteristics of Disabilities in the Republic of Panama. SENADIS. Final report. 2006. https://www.senadis.gob.pa/documentos/vitacora/informe-pendis.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The analysis made by provinces and *comarcas*, as in the case of housing, shows a higher prevalence of persons with disabilities, compared to the national average, in Kuna Yala and Gnöbe Buglé *comarcas*, as well as in Veraguas, Herrera, Darien, Cocle, Chiriqui and Los Santos provinces, remaining below only the provinces of Colon and Panama. National Strategic Plan of the Secretariat on Disability 2015-2019. Panama. 2015. <https://www.senadis.gob.pa/transparencia/art93-plan-estrategico-nacional.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Third National Compliance Report on the Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (CIADDIS) and the Program of Action for the Decade of the Americas for the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities (PAD). 2020 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. 11th National Census of Population and Housing, 2010. https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C1CHBF\_enUS869US869&sxsrf=ALeKk00h7L5NJsDliXw\_8Q-llWBfWtbM3Q:1625441456314&q=Censo+de+poblaci%C3%B3n+2010 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Atlas Situación Social de las Personas con Discapacidad en Panamá [Atlas of the Social Situation of Persons with Disabilities in Panama]. 2010. <https://www.mef.gob.pa/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/08-Situacion-de-las-personas-con-discapacidad-en-Panama.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Atlas Situación Social de las Personas con Discapacidad en Panamá [Atlas of the Social Situation of Persons with Disabilities in Panama]. 2010. <https://www.mef.gob.pa/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/08-Situacion-de-las-personas-con-discapacidad-en-Panama.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Atlas Situación Social de las Personas con Discapacidad en Panamá [Atlas of the Social Situation of Persons with Disabilities in Panama]. 2010. <https://www.mef.gob.pa/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/08-Situacion-de-las-personas-con-discapacidad-en-Panama.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Situación de las Personas con Discapacidad en Panamá [Social Atlas of Panama: Situation of Persons with Disabilities in Panama]. Ministry of Economy and Finance. See: https://www.inec.gob.pa/redpan/sid/docs/documentos%20tematicos/Atlas%20social%20de%20Panama/08%20-%20Situaci%C3%B3n%20de%20las%20personas%20con%20discapacidad%20en%20Panam%C3%A1.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. La Discapacidad en Panamá: Situación Actual y Perspectivas [Disability in Panama: Current situation and outlook]. MINSA (Ministry of Health). 2005. https://docplayer.es/5418914-La-discapacidad-en-panama-situacion-actual-y-perspectivas.html [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. The vulnerability of households of persons with disabilities was 9.8 per cent higher than that of households that do not have any members with disabilities, which reached 9.1 per cent. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Law No. 15. Amendment to Law No. 42 of 1999, which establishes equal opportunities for persons with disabilities. SITEAL. 2018. https://siteal.iiep.unesco.org/sites/default/files/sit\_accion\_files/siteal\_panama\_0042.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. In 2020, SENADIS started a State policy **evaluation and reformulation** process, by means of consultations to associations of persons with disabilities and their families which was expected to be expanded by other citizen consultations and workshops with the civil society, public agencies and the private sector to **validate a new disability policy** at a national level. Consultations also began to design the new 2020-2024 national strategic plan. The previous plan remains in effect until the new plan is approved (2015- 2019). [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. The objective is to mainstream disability inclusion in the institutions, both internally and externally, as well as advising officials and external users with disabilities to help ensure the effective exercise of rights, duties and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities and their families. Currently, the State has implemented 45 Offices for the promotion of equal opportunities. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2017). Concluding observations on the initial report of Panama.  
    https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/\_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRPD/C/PAN/CO/1&Lang=En [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. Human Development and Multidimensional Poverty Report, Clara González Report, Beijing+25 Report, Universal Periodic Review, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) reports and recommendations, and the country profile on gender equality in Panama. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. Induction workshop systematization report sponsored by the UNPRPD. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. MITRADEL, MEDUCA, MIDES, the Ministry of Culture (MiCULTURA), as well as the National Institute for Women (INAMU), the National Secretariat for the Development of Afro-Panamanians (SENADAP), the Ombudsman's Office, the Public Prosecution Service, the Secretariat of the Social Affairs Office, the Social Security Fund, IPHE and SENADIS. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. Different public and private actors were involved in the interviews, including fourteen (14) government organizations, twelve (12) persons with disabilities, ten (10) non-governmental organizations, nine (9) organizations of parents of persons with disabilities, five (5) organizations of persons with disabilities, two (2) parents of persons with disabilities, one (1) organization for persons with disabilities, one (1) expert and one (1) international agency. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. Training (in person/online), workshops, seminars, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. 1. CRPD 2. Preconditions for disability inclusion 3. National development plans for the SDGs. 4.women with disabilities and under-represented groups needs and rights 5. instruments for planning and implementation of UN development 6. other [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. Some of the contents that will be addressed are mainstreaming disability in public policies, a right-based approach on disability, gender equality, dialogue strategies, strategic planning, inclusive budgeting, management of resources and financial sustainability, monitoring and assessment, management of strategic alliances, the accountability and the transparency of OPDs. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. Women, indigenous people, people of African descent and persons with disabilities from urban, rural and *comarca* areas must be engaged. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. Tools, guidelines, protocols, reports [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. COVID-19 response and recovery; Inclusive SDGs planning and monitoring; Climate change; Inclusive education; Early childhood development; Access to health; Access to Justice; Social protection; Employment; GBV & sexual and reproductive health; Statistics and data collection; CRPD monitoring (art 33); Intersectionality; Political participation; Disability assessment and referral services; Disability Policy and/or Law; Access to Information and ICTs; Deinstitutionalization; Legal Capacity; Independent living; Awareness raising; OPDs capacity building [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
27. The Toolbox will be available on line in a platform which contains a repository of various types of knowledge products: (a) Theoretical technical specializing in: (Planning and budgeting, Access to services: Disability certification process from a rights-based approach); (b) repository for the systematization and sharing of good practices concerning prioritized topics (budgeting and certification processed); and (c) Outreach and awareness-raising material: audiovisual campaigns, communication material related to the project. [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
28. Created by Decree No. 393 of 16 September 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
29. Created by Law No. 20 of 2008, it is a legally established space for dialogue and consultation where different sectors converge, working in a participatory and collaborative manner to seek agreements and consensus on relevant national issues. [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
30. The Toolbox will be available on an online platform containing a repository of various types of knowledge outputs: (a) specialized technical and theoretical (Planning and budgeting; Access to services: disability certification process from a rights-based approach); (b) repository for the systematization and sharing of good practices concerning prioritized topics (budgeting and certification processes); and (c) outreach and awareness-raising material: audio-visual campaigns, communication material related to the project. [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
31. Women, indigenous people, people of African descent and persons with disabilities from urban, rural and *comarca* areas must be engaged. [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
32. Please note minimum amount of UN Participating Agencies is 2 and maximum is 3. [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
33. Created by Decree No. 393 of 16 September 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
34. Created by Law 20 of 2008, it is a legally established space for dialogue and consultation where different sectors converge, working in a participatory and collaborative manner to seek agreements and consensus on relevant national issues. [↑](#footnote-ref-34)
35. The Toolbox will be available on an online platform containing a repository of various types of knowledge outputs: (a) specialized technical and theoretical (Planning and budgeting; Access to services: disability certification process from a rights-based approach); (b) repository for the systematization and sharing of good practices concerning prioritized topics (budgeting and certification processes); and (c) outreach and awareness-raising material: audio-visual campaigns, communication material related to the project. [↑](#footnote-ref-35)
36. Women, indigenous people, people of African descent and persons with disabilities from urban, rural and *comarca* areas must be engaged. [↑](#footnote-ref-36)
37. Women, indigenous people, people of African descent and persons with disabilities from urban, rural and *comarca* areas must be engaged. [↑](#footnote-ref-37)
38. Women, indigenous people, people of African descent and persons with disabilities from urban, rural and *comarca* areas must be engaged. [↑](#footnote-ref-38)
39. Created by Decree No. 393 on 16 September 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-39)
40. Created by Law 20 of 2008, it is a legally set up dialogue and consultation mechanism where several sectors come together and participate and try to reach agreements and consensus about relevant national issues. [↑](#footnote-ref-40)
41. Created by Decree No. 393 on 16 September 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-41)
42. Created by Law 20 of 2008, it is a legally set up dialogue and consultation mechanism where several sectors come together and participate and try to reach agreements and consensus about relevant national issues. [↑](#footnote-ref-42)