

**Development Co-operation Directorate  
Development Assistance Committee**

## **DAC Working Party on Development Finance Statistics**

### **PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE A POLICY MARKER IN THE CRS TO TRACK DEVELOPMENT FINANCE THAT PROMOTES THE INCLUSION AND EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

This note presents a proposal for a policy marker to track development finance that promotes the inclusion and empowerment of persons with disabilities. It is based on the proposal discussed at the January 2018 WP-STAT informal meeting [DCD/DAC/STAT(2018)14] and on subsequent comments from members.

This proposal is presented **for APPROVAL under the written procedure**. If no objections are received **by cob 2 July 2018**, the proposal is considered approved.

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## 1. Introduction

1. Persons with disabilities are among the most vulnerable groups in developing countries; they consistently fare less well than their non-disabled peers, often face stigma and discrimination and have difficulty accessing public services.
2. The importance of the inclusion of persons with disabilities is reflected in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through specific targets and indicators and through the overall commitment of “leave no one behind”. There is however little information available on how they are being supported.
3. Disability-inclusive programming is critical to addressing the needs of persons with disabilities. The current CRS classification does not provide an accurate picture of development financing to disability-inclusive projects, as the issue is not recorded explicitly and cannot be tracked across several purpose codes.
4. At the WP-STAT formal meeting of June 2017<sup>1</sup> the UK presented a room document advocating for the introduction in the CRS of a policy marker to track development finance in support of persons with disabilities<sup>2</sup>.
5. At the WP-STAT informal meeting of January 2018 the Secretariat presented a proposal for discussion, based on the UK proposal, and asked for written comments<sup>3</sup>. Members reacted positively to the proposal, which is presented here in amended form to take into account the comments received.
6. Members are invited to review and approve the proposal in sections 2.2 through 2.7, paragraphs 13 through 26, under the written procedure. **If no objections are received by cob 2 July 2018, the proposal will be considered approved. It will take effect in 2019 reporting on 2018 development co-operation flows.** Reporting of this marker will be on a voluntary basis.

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<sup>1</sup> See DCD/DAC/STAT/M(2017)2, paragraphs 69.

<sup>2</sup> See DCD/DAC/STAT/RD(2017)9.

<sup>3</sup> See DCD/DAC/STAT(2018)14.

## 2. The proposal

### 2.1. Rationale

7. Persons with disabilities are one of the most vulnerable groups, often the poorest in their communities; they face multiple barriers to fully realise their rights and live with dignity.

8. Inclusion and non-discrimination are at the core of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that affirms that “*People that are vulnerable must be empowered*”, making an explicit reference to persons with disabilities.

9. The current statistical classification for development co-operation does not allow tracking of activities that are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities. Disability is mentioned in the explanatory notes of two purpose codes:

16010 – Social/ welfare Services

15160 – Human rights

In both cases, the coverage is not exclusive to disability but include disability-related activities within a group of other possible purposes.

10. Seven SDG targets mention disability (4.5, 4.a, 8.5, 10.2, 11.2, 11.7, 17.18, see Annex I). None of these exclusively address disability, but all mention disability or persons with disabilities among other issues or vulnerable groups. The SDG indicator framework includes a number of disability disaggregated indicators also to monitor several other SDG targets (e.g. indicator 1.3.1. on Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/system)<sup>4</sup>. The eventual approval of an SDG field in the CRS database would not adequately address the need to monitor development finance in support of persons with disabilities, in the absence of specific targets or goals for disability<sup>5</sup>.

11. The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) includes a specific commitment that clearly states the obligation of state parties to make development co-operation inclusive of persons with disabilities [art.32 *Ensuring that international cooperation, including international development programmes, is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities*]<sup>6</sup>. Furthermore, CRPD Article 31 reminds us to collect data and statistics on implementation of the Convention.

12. The inclusion of persons with disabilities, and the mainstreaming of disability concerns into development co-operation activities, are cross-cutting issues that can be effectively tracked only through an overarching policy marker. Development finance statistics on the issue will be important for improving understanding of where more effort is needed and for leveraging government and donor responses.

<sup>4</sup> See <https://undocs.org/A/RES/71/313>

<sup>5</sup> [DCD/DAC/STAT(2018)1]

<sup>6</sup>

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRPD/Pages/ConventionRightsPersonsWithDisabilities.aspx>

## 2.2. Objectives

13. The policy marker has the objective of tracking development co-operation projects or programmes that promote the inclusion and empowerment of persons with disabilities.

14. The policy marker would also track development co-operation projects or programmes in support of the ratification, the implementation and/or the monitoring of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

15. The policy marker would not cover programmes that prevent disabilities, for example immunisation or road safety programmes and development co-operation activities that create segregated systems<sup>7</sup>.

## 2.3. Definition

16. Development co-operation activities are classified as being inclusive of persons with disabilities (scores Principal or Significant) if:

- They have a deliberate objective on ensuring that persons with disabilities are included, and able to share the benefits, on an equal basis to persons without disabilities.

**or**

- If they contribute to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities, and promote respect for their inherent dignity in line with Art. 1 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

**or**

- If they support the ratification, implementation and/or monitoring of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

17. In accordance with the CRPD, persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

## 2.4. Criteria for eligibility

18. Support to activities that contribute to respect, protection and fulfilment of the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities, explicitly promoted in activity documentation through specific measures which:

- promote and protect the equal enjoyment of all human rights by all persons with disabilities, and promote respect for their inherent dignity (CRPD Art. 1).

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<sup>7</sup> UNCRPD art. 1 and A/70/297, para 68.

([http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/70/297](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/70/297))

- ensure empowerment and accessibility for persons with disabilities to the physical, social, economic and cultural environment, to health and education and to information and communication.
- promote social, economic or political inclusion of persons with disabilities; or develop or strengthen policies, legislation or institutions in support of effective participation in society of persons with disabilities and/or their representative organisations.

## 2.5. Scoring

19. An activity should be marked as **principal** (score 2) if disability inclusion, as defined in section 2.3, is the main objective of the development co-operation activity and is fundamental in its design and expected results. The activity would not have taken place without this disability inclusion perspective.

20. An activity should be marked as **significant** (score 1) if disability inclusion, as defined in section 2.3, is an important and deliberate objective, but not the principal reason for undertaking the development co-operation activity.

21. An activity should be marked as **non-targeted (score 0)** if it has been screened against the marker but has not been found to target disability inclusion as defined in section 2.3.

22. For activities that have not been assessed, the marker field should be left empty. This ensures that there is no confusion between activities that do not target the objective (score = “0”) and activities for which the answer is not known (score = “null”).

## 2.6. Examples of activities

23. Examples of activities that could be marked as **principal** (score 2) objective include:

- Support to inclusive education as defined by art 24 of the CRPD.
- Support to job insertion programmes inclusive of persons with disabilities.
- Support to health and social projects specifically designed to reduce the vulnerability of the persons with disabilities.
- Support to reduce architectural barriers in urban areas.

24. Examples of activities that could be marked as **significant** (score 1) objective include:

- A new or refurbished infrastructure project that is fully accessible to persons with disabilities.
- A local library/school that makes cultural and education material also available in a form accessible to persons with visual or hearing impairments.
- A social inclusion project that includes persons with disabilities among the target groups.

25. Examples of activities that could be marked as **non-targeted** (score 0):

- A programme or activity aimed at improving basic services for the poor that states that it will also reach persons with disabilities because they tend to be amongst the poorest, but does not contain specific mechanisms or activities to ensure inclusion.
- A programme establishing a segregated school for children with disabilities.

## 2.7. Implementation

26. The proposal above is presented for members' approval under the written procedure. **If no objections are received by cob 2 July 2018, the proposal will be considered approved** and will take effect in 2019 reporting on 2018 development co-operation flows. Reporting on this marker will be on a voluntary basis.

## *Annex 1: Disability targets in the SDGs*

The vision of the SDGs is a world where extreme poverty is eradicated and ‘no one is left behind’.

The needs of persons with disabilities apply to all SDG goals and targets. Those which specifically mention persons with disabilities are as follows:

**Goal 4.** Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations

4.a Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and people safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.

**Goal 8.** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.

**Goal 10.** Reduce inequality within and among countries

10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.

**Goal 11.** Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

11.2 By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons

11.7 By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities

**Goal 17.** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts