**IASC Task Team**

**Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action**

**Notes of monthly call - 10th January 2018**

# Online survey

The survey design is close to completion. Final comments will be received from the consultation work stream today and it should be ready for full testing by the end of the week following which it will be shared for responses by TT members. The survey will be also be translated into French, Spanish and Arabic. When this is complete the survey will be launched externally for a month, with the possibility of an extension of two weeks if it is deemed necessary.

# Information kit

The four sheets which comprise the information kit were circulated with the agenda for this call. They have been reviewed extensively by the co-chairs and the communication work stream. TT members are invited to review the documents and send final comments to Valerie by Tuesday, 16th January latest.

# Pacific regional consultation

The Pacific consultation will be hosted in Fiji by the Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) on 24th and 25th January. PDF has issued invitations based on this list of participants proposed by TT members. The deadline for RSVP’ing will be extended by a week to Monday 15th January. The agenda and full participant list will be shared when they have been finalised. Efforts are being made to ensure a full cross-section of participants. The zero draft of the guidelines which will be discussed at the consultation will also be shared with all TT members on an FYI-basis.

A request has been received from Save The Children Australia for the TT to provide opportunities for colleagues in Pacific time zones to join TT conference calls. The co-chairs will look into the possibility of holding from time to time a follow-up or information call for people from that time zone. Save the Children Australia also proposed hosting an additional smaller consultation in Australia if the TT perceives there to be an added value.

# Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week 2018

An invitation was circulated a few days ago, inviting TT members to join the HNPW (scheduled from 05 to 09 February 2018 in Geneva). The HNPW is the annual event of OCHA’s Leading Edge Programme, a year-round collaborative platform for humanitarian experts, aimed at improving crisis preparedness and response. This year, more than 30 Networks and Partnerships will participate in the event and hold their annual meetings and consultations.

Three events are of particular interest to TT members:

On the morning of Thursday 8th February, there will be two sessions relating to inclusion of persons with disabilities. The first at 9am is a roundtable discussion co-organised by IDA, CBM and Handicap International. It will be an advocacy awareness raising session and the focus will be on engaging other networks and partnerships and colleagues from the humanitarian sector attending the HNPW to look for synergies. The second session will start at 11am and will be hosted by the TT co-chairs. This will take the form of a mini consultation on the IASC guidelines. The precise agenda of both events is being developed.

Additionally on Wednesday, 7 February, TT member are encouraged to participate in the Inter-Network Day which is an open-door event for humanitarian professionals where participants can choose from a diverse programme of over 20 thematic sessions. One of these sessions with address inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action.

Members are encouraged to register using this link: <https://vosocc.unocha.org/Reg/4948_Disab_HumAction_2018.html>

More information about all aspects of the HNPW is provided at [www.leading-edge-programme.org](http://www.leading-edge-programme.org) (click on HNPW 2018 on the left).

The possibilities presented by the HNPW is illustrated by this example: during last year’s HNPW, Ricardo participated in a panel discussion of the Simulation Exercises and Training Network (STN). They expressed great interest in inclusion of persons with disabilities and as a result the TT co-chairs are exploring the possibility of testing elements of the draft IASC guidelines in a real-time simulation exercise being conducted in the UK in May 2018.

# MENA Regional consultation

This consultation has been rescheduled for 6-7th March and will be hosted by the Arab Organisation of Persons with Disabilities. The list of current participants is currently being reviewed to ensure comprehensive representation. Funding for this consultation has been provided by Finland.

# Resource mobilization

There is good news regarding two successful funding applications. Firstly, IDF Australia has agreed to grant AUD75,000 (almost USD60,000) for the Pacific Consultation and other items. These funds will be administered by IDA. Secondly, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Luxembourg has committed €200,000 which will cover the costs of further consultations. These funds will be administered by HI as they had a pre-existing relationship with MoFA Luxembourg. Thanks should go to Isabelle and members of the Resource Mobilisation working group for their good work in fundraising.

TT members are invited to join the resource mobilisation work stream if they would like to be involved in discussions around the allocation of funds. Members can sign up using the [google spreadsheet](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1bkI1w_3YiWz6inThTX5oPfK0-lale6fGt1l56k8_J64/edit#gid=0) (column L) or by contacting the co-chairs or Isabelle.

# AOB

* **COHAFA side event during the European Week on Disability and Development**

On 6 December, the European Disability Forum (EDF), CBM International and Handicap International organised an event in the European Parliament on the inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action.

Within the framework of the IDDC European Disability and Development Week, the event was also organised at the side-lines of the 4th European Parliament of Persons with Disabilities organised by EDF and the European Parliament. In this occasion, the Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides announced new measures to support people with disabilities in crises, especially the development of EU standards in all EU humanitarian projects. [More details are available here](http://blog.handicap-international.org/influenceandethics/2017/12/15/3224/).

* **Technical workshop on disability data**

During the week of the Humanitarian Policy Forum, HI, IDA, UNICEF and UNHCR organised a two-day technical workshop on collecting data on disability during humanitarian action in New York on 11th and 12th December. This brought together experts from across the data and humanitarian fields and the level of participation was very high. The recommendation from the event will be integrated into a background paper which will be ready to share soon. One of the recommendations was to initiate a data workstream of the IASC TT which would allow colleagues with experience in this area to contribute their expertise to the development of the guidelines. TT members who would like to join this work stream are invted to indicate as such on the [google spreadsheet](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1bkI1w_3YiWz6inThTX5oPfK0-lale6fGt1l56k8_J64/edit#gid=0) (column M).

* **Shelter cluster – update from Mina**

The Australian Red Cross, IFRC (with herself) and possibly the Norwegian Refugee Council are preparing the proposal to the Global Shelter Cluster on a technical working group on inclusion of persons with disabilities in shelter, which they aim to submit this spring. Please contact Mina for more information in case of interest.

* **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be moved back one week to **14th February** to avoid a clash with the HNPW.

(end)