

Tool: How are international donors addressing disability?¹

Following is a selection of policies and guidelines from international donors with links. Because of the coming into force of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with disabilities this year, it is likely that many governments will take new actions in this field in the coming years.

Asian Development Bank: Developed "[Disability Brief: Identifying and Addressing the Needs of Disabled People](#)"

Austria: Reference to the needs of children and people with disabilities is an integral part of the law that established the Austrian Development Agency (2003). Furthermore the Austrian Development Agency produced a focus paper on "Persons with Disabilities within the Austrian Development Cooperation" (http://www.ada.gv.at/up-media/2579_focus_persons_with_disabilities_f.pdf).

Denmark: The study, "From Charity toward Inclusion: The Way Forward for Disability Support through Danish NGOs" (2000), was commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/DANIDA. It resulted in 13 recommendations for DANIDA's criteria for disability support.

[Inclusion of Disability Aspects in Danish Development Cooperation](#) was then published in 2004.

European Commission:

The EC published the [Guidance Note on Disability and Development](#) in 2004, and is financing the project '[Mainstreaming Disability in Development Cooperation](#)' which supports, among other activities, the development of this manual.

Finland: "[The Disability Dimension in Development Action](#)" (2000) is the result of intensive collaboration between disabled people's organizations (DPOs) and the Department of International Development Co-operation (DIDC) to create an explicit policy on disability and development. Many tools and concepts used in the present manual are adapted from this work.

The Finish MFA is in partnership with FIDIDA, an association of DPOs working in development cooperation; see [Finnish funded disability specific projects](#).

Germany

BMZ the German Government Agency produced a [Disability and Development Policy](#) in 2006.

¹ Adapted from Social Analysis and Disability – Social Dept., World Bank, p.80-81, and www.asksource.info, and research from CBM

Italy: The Italian Cooperation “[Guidelines for Italian Cooperation on themes concerning disability](#)” (2003) has been adopted by the General Directorate for Development Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Norway: The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) produced guidelines on “[Planning and Monitoring for the Inclusion of Disability Issues in Mainstream Development Activities](#)” in 2002.

Sweden: The Swedish International Development Agency’s “[Children and Adults with Disabilities](#)” (1999) summarizes previous experience and current international policy issues with a strong human rights approach.

United Kingdom: The Department for International Development (DFID) has adopted a twintrack approach to disability. This approach seeks to mainstream disability issues alongside specific initiatives to empower and enhance the lives of people with disabilities.

Two major publications on disability and development from DFID are:

- [Disability, poverty and development](#), published in 2000 is a seminal policy outlining the links between poverty and disability.
- [How to Note: Working on Disability in Country Programmes](#) was published in 2007 and gives concrete guidelines to DFID’s country offices.

They have taken on the promotion of disability rights through a core Partnership Programme Agreement (PPA) with Action on Disability and Development, one of the premier agencies campaigning for the inclusion of people with disabilities. Further, DFID have supported DPOs in Zambia, Uganda, Rwanda and Bangladesh to influence their respective governments to include disability in their poverty reduction strategies and budgets.

United States: The U.S. Agency for International Cooperation (USAID) has a mandatory reference [USAID Disability Policy Paper](#) that articulates its commitment to pursue advocacy for, outreach to and inclusion of people with physical and mental disabilities, to the maximum extent feasible, in the design and implementation of USAID programming, and provides guidance for making that commitment operational (e.g., through standards for accessibility in USAID-financed construction).

WHO: Disability prevention and rehabilitation is a key focus area of the WHO, which has taken the lead in programs to eliminate and reduce the incidence of disabling diseases, such as polio, TB and malaria. WHO champions and supports the development of community-based rehabilitation across the world. It also leads in the gathering of disability data and has developed the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) to act as a global system for data collection.



WHO is also responsible for implementation of the [WHA resolution 58.23](#) on [Disability, including prevention, management and rehabilitation](#), and will publish a World Report on Disability, Rehabilitation and Inclusion in 2009.

UNICEF:

[Promoting the Rights of Children with Disabilities](#) was published in 2007.

World Bank:

[Making Inclusion Operational legal and institutional resources for World Bank staff on the inclusion of disability issues in investment projects](#). Published in 2006 this paper aims to support World Bank staff to mainstream disability issues in their work.