**Independent Evaluation of IDA’s**

**Disability Catalyst Programme**

Realising the rights of persons with disabilities through the SDGs

**Terms of Reference**

## Background information

The International Disability Alliance (IDA) was established nearly 20 years ago as a **collective voice of the global disability movement**. While the formative years of IDA was predominantly spent on successfully advocating for the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), in the last decade IDA’s role has evolved significantly. Using the CRPD as the cornerstone of its work, and building more recently on the political momentum generated by the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (the “SDGs”) to advance the CRPD, IDA has been progressively shifting its advocacy from the ‘why to include people with disabilities’ in development and human rights to more technical debates on ‘how to include all groups of persons with disabilities’.

As the context evolved and persons with disabilities are being increasingly included in global agendas (at least on paper), IDA could observe a **disconnect between global level commitments made through the 2030 Agenda and their translation into policies at regional and national levels, or in sectoral areas**. Global gains are further challenged by budgetary cuts, lack of evidence and data, or lack of recognized CRPD-compliant practices and innovation, which may significantly reduce the impact and benefits of SDG-related programmes and services for persons with disabilities or continue to exclude them (especially most marginalized and underrepresented groups).

In this context, IDA developed and proposed a strategy to DFID through the Disability Catalyst Programme (Jan 2017-Mar 2020), with the objective that the “**Early implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda contributes to greater attention to and allocation of resources for inclusion of persons with disabilities - women and marginalized groups in particular - in accordance with the CRPD**”. This objective is pursued by IDA as a component of a larger programme implemented with the Disability Rights Fund and the UN Partnerships on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD). This programme is also complemented and co-funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, under a project entitled “Making the most of the Sustainable Development Goals to ensure the realisation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities” (Jan 2018- Dec 2020).

While continuing its work to secure a space for the movement of the organisations of persons with disabilities (DPOs) and their allies in global debates and agendas, **the Catalyst Programme aimed to provide IDA with new resources and impetus to collectively engage in framing the early years of SDG implementation to ensure compliance with the CRPD**, securing further space for cross-disability engagement especially most marginalized groups of persons with disabilities, and accelerating the development of capacities required for the disability movement to engage at all required levels. It is also meant to support the shift of IDA advocacy towards a stronger focus on accountability on commitments taken, in particular at the UN level.

More specifically, the Programme intends to achieve the following outputs:

* **(1.1) Substantive and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in UN country team work in selected countries[[1]](#footnote-1)**
* **(2.1.) DPOs increase their capacities to make the most of national and international SDGs and human rights monitoring processes to promote inclusion of persons with disabilities and implementation of the CRPD[[2]](#footnote-2)**
* **(3.1) Women with disabilities, persons with psychosocial disabilities, and self-advocates from the marginalized groups are involved in regional and global processes related to SDGs monitoring and implementation**[[3]](#footnote-3)
* **(4.1) Global and regional umbrella organizations for persons with disabilities have developed their capacities for evidence-based advocacy[[4]](#footnote-4)**.

The Disability Catalyst Programme entails a wide range of components, including: a flagship initiative on Inclusive Education, a flagship initiative on Women and Girls with Disabilities, national and regional SDG reports from a CRPD perspective, capacity development through the Bridge CRPD-SDGs training initiative, support and mentoring for DPO engagement with international monitoring mechanisms, among others.

This programme also corresponded with the launch of new operating modes of IDA as an alliance and its members, through the establishment of a Programme Committee enhancing member engagement in IDA operations, resources and initiatives managed by IDA members in the form of No One Left Behind grants or fellowships.

## Scope of the Evaluation

This evaluation will cover the DFID Catalyst grant from April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2020. The evaluation will assess the extent to which outputs and outcomes as defined in the logframe are being reached. The scope of the Programme covers a wide range of activities and initiatives; therefore it is proposed to focus on three cross-cutting elements of the Programme, namely:

1. **Creating preconditions for accountability** **on disability inclusion with the UN**: this part will review progress and learning from IDA’s efforts to influence the UN from systemic to more targeted/ sectoral changes
2. **Development of capacities of people with disabilities and DPO leaders on CRPD and SDGs**, with a focus on the Bridge CRPD-SDGs training initiative and how it contributes to build the collective capacity of the movement to address today’s critical stakes on achievement of the SDGs in compliance with the CRPD; this component will be co-funded with other donors of Bridge to enable a 360 degree review of this large initiative and is expected to be handled as a semi-autonomous component of the evaluation (with a wider range of contributors)
3. **Support the use of such capacities for influence and accountability**: DPO engagement with SDGs through development of evidence for advocacy, advocacy and use of international and regional monitoring mechanisms, among others.

 In terms of operational review, the evaluation will look at the efficiency, effectiveness, relevance and sustainability criteria. It will focus on **consolidating learnings from the project in terms of what has worked and why; and how these successes can be leveraged and scaled up**. It will not cover the impact level changes (as measured by proxy level indicators). The DFID Catalyst programme has also been co-terminus with IDA’s last strategic framework (2015-2018).

This external evaluation will contribute to a broader reflective exercise including a wide-scope external evaluation by Sida, leading to the development of IDA’s next strategic framework 2020-2023 and identification of future strategic orientations for IDA work (Sida external evaluation report expected in September 2019).

## Objectives of the Evaluation

The purpose of the evaluation is both retrospective in terms looking at the extent to which the outcomes and outputs of the DFID Catalyst programme were fulfilled; and also forward-looking in terms of understanding ‘how’ these successes were achieved in order to build on them for future activities.

The objectives for the evaluation are as follows:

* **Identify the learning and drivers for change with regards to the three focus areas identified for the evaluation** (A: Creating preconditions for accountability on disability inclusion with the UN; B: Development of capacities of people with disabilities and DPO leaders on CRPD and SDGs; C: Support the use of such capacities for influence and accountability).
* **Provide objective feedback on the progress made towards the achievement of output- and outcome-level results in the Programme logical framework**.
* **Identify internal and external factors affecting performance**, at both the programmatic and organizational levels, including strengths and points for vigilance.
* **Provide clear set of recommendations** to improve current interventions and guide future ones, especially as IDA develops (and transitions into) its next strategic framework (2019-2020).

This work will have to be informed by the perception and feedback of different stakeholders including:

* IDA Members and their members, and IDA Secretariat
* Selected participants from the capacity building/training exercises undertaken as part of the Programme, particularly representing women and other marginalised groups
* DPOs/organisations that IDA has worked with under the Programme
* As relevant, selected partners and regular interlocutors of IDA such as IDDC members, DRF, donors, the UN and/or Member States.

## Target Audience

The primary intended users of the evaluation findings, conclusions, and recommendations are:

* IDA Members, who will have additional evidence as it develops its next strategic framework.
* DFID who will be able to report back to their taxpayers on use of state funds; monitor their contribution to disability-inclusive development; and strategise their future partnership with IDA and, more broadly, with the disability movement.
* Other strategic partners of IDA such as SIDA, DFAT, among others.

## (Proposed) schedule and tasks

**Phase 1 – Preparatory phase**

* Undertake a familiarisation exercise on IDA and the Programme through a desk review, including findings from the Sida external evaluation report (to be finalised in November 2019).
* Develop a methodology, workplan and timelines for the evaluation, after discussions with the Evaluation Advisory Group (comprising of representatives of IDA and DFID). The methodology is expected to expand and build on rather than duplicate the Sida evaluation.
* Develop an outline of the evaluation report, through discussions with the Evaluation Advisory Group.
* Liaise and coordinate with the Bridge Evaluation Advisory Group for component B, with its own detailed terms of reference (see Annex A)
* Validate the evaluation methodology for all components with respective advisory groups

**Deliverables of phase 1:**

1. **A detailed schedule,**
2. **List of evaluation questions,**
3. **General considerations framing the evaluation and detailed methodology including times for consultation with the advisory groups**
4. **Outline of the evaluation report**

**Phase 2 – Assessment phase**

* Assess results and progress in terms of outcomes and outputs of the programme as per the agreed methodology.
* Assess how these interventions have contributed to IDA’s larger mandate, vis-à-vis strengthening capacities of the global disability movement and their increased engagement in development processes, among others.
* Analyse what interventions have worked and why; what could be improved and why/how.
* Based on the learnings, assess how successes can be leveraged /scaled up.
* Review the external environment and the changing context in which IDA functions, and its impact on future work.
* Review IDA’s and where relevant e.g. for Bridge IDA and IDDC’s operational and programmatic strengths and gaps that need to be addressed to enhance the impact of ongoing interventions and for effective response to growing demands.
* Produce a clear set of recommendations that improve current interventions and guide future ones.
* Any other tasks as agreed upon after discussions with IDA and funders of this evaluation.

**Deliverables of phase 2:**

1. **Interim report and presentation to be discussed, with relevant advisory groups**
2. **Final evaluation report including an executive summary and a separate chapter on the Bridge CRPD-SDGs initiative**
3. **Presentation outlining the process, the key findings and recommendations from the Evaluation Report.**

## Timeline and Management

The planning and initial process of the evaluation is scheduled to start in November 2019. The final product, the evaluation report, is due by June 2020.

The **Executive Director and Program Manager** will jointly supervise the work. The Program Manager with close support from IDA’s Monitoring Evaluation Accountability and Learning (MEAL) Officer, will be responsible for the day-to-day management and communication, as well as providing all necessary documentation and orientation.

An **Evaluation Advisory Group** including DFID representative will provide strategic oversight, feedback and guidance. For the component on capacity development, the evaluator/ evaluation team will coordinate and liaise with the **Bridge Evaluation Advisory Group** established for the evaluation of the Bridge CRPD-SDGs training initiative (composed of representatives of the Bridge Steering Committee, IDA, donors and contributors to the Bridge CRPD-SDGs initiative, see Annex A).

## Calendar for the evaluation

The planning and initial process of the evaluation is scheduled to start in November 2019. The final product, the evaluation report, is due by June 2020.s

Key events relevant for the evaluators to take part of are:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Evaluation component** | **Event** | **Dates and location** |
| B | Coordination | Bridge strategy review meetingPresence of IDA and IDDC representatives (IDA Programme Committee meeting, Indigenous annual meeting, among others)Meeting with the Bridge coordination team, IDA and IDDC members and partners. | November, 2019, Kenya |
| A, B and C | Overall | Meeting with IDA Programme Committee | Nov 2019, Kenya |
| B | Regional training cycle West African cycle (EN or FR) | Module 1 of the Bridge regional cycle for the West Africa | November 2019, (TBD) |
| B | Regional training cycle (module 1) | Module 1 of Bridge regional cycle for the Southern Asia + Laos  | December 2019, Nepal |
| B | National training cycles (module 2) | Module 2 of Bridge national cycle Tanzania  | Jan 2020, Dar es Salam |
| B | Training of trainer  | Training for DID and IDDC partners led by Bridge ToT Alumni | March 2020, (TBD) |
| A and C | UN advocacy, use of evidence by DPOs, UN agencies | CRPD CommitteeMeeting with IDA team in GVA | March 2020, GVA |
| C | Inclusive Education Flagship | Workshop of the IE flagship task team linked with African consultation on IE | 1st Nov, Niger tbc |

## Budget and funding contributions

Overall tentative budget: 71,000 to 81,000 GBP (including 45-55,000 GBP for the Bridge component, see Annex A)

A **co-funding approach** will be adopted:

* DFID: 43,000 GBP (including 16,712 GBP to the Bridge component, see Annex A)
* Other contributors through the Bridge CRPD-SDGs evaluation component (see Annex A): 28,000 to 38,000 GBP

## Expertise Required

A successful candidate (team) for the tasks outlined will be expected to have:

* Masters’ degree in a relevant field with demonstrable experience in evaluation techniques, including the logical framework approach, participatory M&E methods that examine causal relationships using quantitative and qualitative data such as process tracing or contribution analysis, among others.
* Comprehensive background in working with civil society organisations in the field of international development, human rights, disability rights, advocacy, and/or international grantmaking and philanthropy.
* Experience of working with global alliances with diverse membership (in terms of mandate, reach and capacity) is highly desirable.
* Experience of working on DFID, or other development agencies such as MoFA Finland, DFAT, or international grantmaker’s evaluations.
* Ability to manage evaluation tasks remotely.
* Ability to produce high quality analytical reports in English with limited editorial oversight.

## Process for Interested Parties

Interested parties should send their CVs, a brief proposal with timeline and budget, at least 2 references (who are familiar with candidate’s evaluation work), and a copy of a recent evaluation authored by the candidate to consultancy@ida-secretariat.org no later than **October 30, 2019.**

***Annex A – Bridge CRPD-SDGs training initiative***

***External evaluation - Terms of Reference***

***Background on the Bridge CPRD-SDGs training initiative***

*Bridge CRPD-SDGs is an intensive training programme that aims to support* ***DPO and disability rights advocates to******develop an inclusive (all persons with disabilities) and comprehensive (all human rights) CRPD perspective on development****,* ***including the post-2015 agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).***

*The Bridge CRPD-SDGs training aims to develop capacities of DPOs advocates, in particular persons with disabilities themselves, from low and middle income countries to improve the effectiveness of their advocacy, by developing a sound understanding of the CRPD as a tool to analyse development, and by identifying different avenues to propose policy reform to translate the treaty into effective change at all levels (all human rights), for all groups (all persons with disabilities) thus bridging the gap between human rights and inclusive development perspectives.*

*In this way, the programme seeks to increase the number of skilled DPO advocates and leaders, who can take action and challenge the status quo, especially in low and middle-income countries where the majority of persons with disabilities live.**This can help to build a critical mass of skilled DPO advocates representing the diversity of constituencies in all regions.*

*Bridge CRPD-SDGs is a joint initiative by the International Disability Alliance (IDA) and the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC), and is supported by the Disability Rights Fund (DRF), drawing from the resources and experiences of the IDA and IDDC networks and their members.*

*The initiative was started in 2015 (building on earlier initiatives such as IDA’s training of trainers, advocates and leaders, ToTAL, and IDDC’s training of trainers on inclusive facilitation, ToTIF) and have developed into a comprehensive and multi-stakeholder programme covering:*

1. ***Regional and national training cycles*** *(modules 1 + 2)*
2. ***A training of trainer cycle*** *(module A + B)*
3. ***Collaborative coordination*** *including an IDA-IDDC global-level steering committee, a global coordination team at IDA, partnership protocols, task team processes, quality criteria*
4. ***A wider mentoring set-up*** *including formal assignments, knowledge sharing, informal networking, connecting people with opportunities to engage in disability-inclusive development and disability rights advocacy*
5. ***Systematic attention to enhance and develop participation of underrepresented groups of persons with disabilities*** *(as an investment in the disability movement and representation of its diversity)*

***External evaluation of the Bridge CRPD-SDGs training initiative***

*Bridge CRPD-SDGs has been co-funded by a wide range of donors and contributors, including DFID, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Finland, DFAT, the Big Lottery Fund, CBM, HI, DPOD, the Disability Rights Fund, the Ford Foundation, among others.*

*Almost 4 years after the start of the initiative, an external evaluation is timely to assess the outcomes and learning of the Initiative and the investments made through Bridge CRPD-SDGs.*

*It is proposed that IDA will lead on the overall process, coordinating to ensure coverage of all dimensions of this comprehensive initiative (referring to the 5 points covered above), and to address the requirements of multiple stakeholders involved.*

***Proposed evaluation objectives***

1. *Identify the learning and drivers for change of the Bridge CRPD-SDGs training initiative to develop the capacities of people with disabilities and DPO leaders on CRPD and SDGs*
2. *Provide objective feedback on the progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Bridge CRPD-SDGs training initiative (using OECD criteria)*
3. *Identify internal and external factors affecting performance, including programmatic levels and broader strategic set-up of this multi-stakeholder initiative, including strengths and points for vigilance*
4. *Provide clear set of recommendations to improve current interventions and guide future developments of the Bridge initiative*

***Calendar for the evaluation***

*The planning and initial process of the evaluation is scheduled to start in September 2019. The final product, the evaluation report, is due by June 2020.*

*Key events relevant for the evaluators to take part of are:*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Bridge component*** | ***Event*** | ***Dates and location*** |
| B | Coordination | Bridge strategy review meetingPresence of IDA and IDDC representatives (IDA Programme Committee meeting, Indigenous annual meeting, among others)Meeting with the Bridge coordination team, IDA and IDDC members and partners. | November, 2019, Kenya |
| A, B and C | Overall | Meeting with IDA Programme Committee | Nov 2019, Kenya |
| B | Regional training cycle West African cycle (EN or FR) | Module 1 of the Bridge regional cycle for the West Africa | November 2019, (TBD) |
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| B | Training of trainer  | Training for DID and IDDC partners led by Bridge ToT Alumni | March 2020, (TBD) |

***Budget and funding contributions***

*A* ***co-funding approach*** *will be adopted. On IDA’s side, the external evaluation of Bridge will be part and parcel of a larger external evaluation of IDA’s Disability Catalyst Programme), which has been funding Bridge since 2017 (see diagram below). In this programme, Bridge is clearly an investment in developing the capacities of DPOs, which is complemented by further activities supporting engagement of DPOs in advocacy and monitoring processes.*

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*The Bridge evaluation advisory committee will play a role of strategic oversight and will be recommended by the Bridge Steering Committee.*

*As approved by DFID, a* ***single procurement process*** *will be conducted to select a consultant (or most likely a team of consultants) with adequate expertise to review and assess the Bridge CRPD-SDGs initiative as an investment and catalyser to promote CRPD-compliant inclusive development in the context of the 2030 Agenda.*

*The Bridge component of the broader IDA’s Catalyst Programme evaluation is singled out in the current Terms of Reference, and a specific Bridge evaluation advisory committee will be established including stakeholders contributing to this part of the evaluation.*

***Overall budget -*** *The estimated total budget for a full-fledged evaluation of the initiative, covering all 5 components and including travel for in-situ observation and interview of participants, trainers and other stakeholders is of* ***45,000 to 55,000 GBP.***

***Expertise Required***

*A successful candidate /team for the evaluation will be expected to have:*

* *Masters degree in a relevant field with demonstrable experience in evaluation techniques, including the logical framework approach, participatory M&E methods that examine causal relationships using quantitative and qualitative data such as process tracing or contribution analysis, among others.*
* *Comprehensive background in working with civil society organisations and social movements in the field of international development, human rights, disability rights, advocacy, and/or international grantmaking and philanthropy.*
* *Experience of working with global alliances with diverse membership (in terms of mandate, reach and capacity) is highly desirable.*
* *Experience of working on DFID, other development agencies such as DFAT, or international grantmaker evaluations.*
* *Ability to manage evaluation tasks remotely.*
* *Ability to produce high quality analytical reports in English with limited editorial oversight.*

**Process for Interested Parties**

The procurement process will be managed through a broader tender for the evaluation of IDA Disability Catalyst Programme, of which this evaluation is a component. Please see details of application process above.

1. DFID output 1.1 ; MoFA Finland ouput 2 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. DFID output 2.1 ; MoFA Finland output 1 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. DFID output 3.1 ; MoFA Finland ouput 3 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. DFID output 4.1 ; MoFA Finland output 3 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)