**UK GLOBAL DISABILITY SUMMIT**

**Update from Civil Society**

**Monday 30 April 2018**

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# Updates from the Civil Society Reference Group (CSRG)

* For the full description of the roles, membership and methods of working, [Download the Terms of Reference to the Civil Society Reference Group](http://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/sites/default/files/tor_gds_civil_society_reference_group.docx)
* Since early March the CRSG has formed two working groups. The first focused on defining and carrying out the DPO nomination and selection process. The review process is still on-going. The second is focused on the Civil Society Forum and has begun to put together the programme.
* The list of representatives that will attend the Summit from DPOs is nearly finalized. Invitations should go out in mid-May to DPO participants. That will allow DPO representatives around 8 weeks to secure a visa.

## Civil Society Forum

* As noted in the last update, the Civil Society Forum will take place 23 July, a day prior to the Summit, in the same venue as the Summit. Everyone invited to the Summit will also be invited to the Forum. If space is available, additional DPO representatives from the UK and surrounding countries will be invited to attend. That will become clearer in early to mid-June. The aim is to provide a platform for civil society to come together and agree on key messages to bring to the Summit. The Forum is a pre-Summit preparation meeting.
* A concept note and draft programme will be shared once available.

## Co-moderators of the main Summit

* DFID has asked civil society to provide proposals for co-moderators for the main summit
* The CSRG provided DPO proposals for co-moderators to UK DFID. The decision by the co-hosts for the slot of co-moderator will be shared when confirmed.

# National Consultations towards Commitments

* DFID country teams have been asked to organise national coordination mechanisms ahead of the Summit in the 13 target countries (see list under the first section of this update). See the first IDA update on 16 April for more background information on these mechanisms. Below are updates from countries currently available. If you are engaged with the national coordination mechanism in another country for the Summit and would be willing to provide us with an update, please email Summit@ida-secretariat.org. If you are not already involved and would like to get involved, try to find a local contact. Since these activities are led at the country level, we do not have a full overview of when they are happening or who is leading, however if you are in one of the priority countries and are not able to find a contact, please email summit@ida-secretariat.org and we will do our best to get a contact person for you.
* Country Updates:
	+ Bangladesh: DFID are working with BRAC and the Disability Alliance in order to coordinate with CSOs and DPOs on advocacy to the government for the Summit.
	There is a Disability and DRR conference being held in early May led by the Government.
	+ Ghana: There have been vibrant discussions on the level of commitment that the government should make at the Summit, led by the Ghana Federation of Disability Organisations (GFD), and including DFID and Government Representatives. There is clear agreement to develop the commitment in a multi-stakeholder and participatory approach.
	+ Kenya: The Government are holding a mini-Summit on 24 May, which the National Council for Persons with Disabilities are helping to organise. At the mini-Summit, a draft commitment will be discussed by stakeholders. In addition, on 8 May there is a DPO caucus meeting to talk about the commitment.
	+ Malawi: DFID, NGOs, DPOs and the Government have been coordinating about agreeing a commitment for the Summit, including how to bring in all the relevant line-ministries and build awareness of disability.
	+ Nigeria: DFID are working with DPOs and NGOs and coordinating with the Government on a commitment for the Summit – there are a range of meetings taking place, including on how to extend the buy-in beyond the federal government to the state level.
	+ Uganda: The Government has convened a National Technical Working Group to lead on multi-stakeholder coordination for the government's commitment – including the active engagement of DPOs.
	+ Zambia: DFID is coordinating DPOs and the Government to support the development of a commitment.
	+ Zimbabwe: There has been a mini-summit and progress is well underway towards the agreement of a commitment.

# Updates from the Thematic Working Groups

## Stigma and Discrimination

There is nothing new to report since the last update. Here is what was shared previously: There have been two meetings conducted by the working group on Stigma and Discrimination. The group is focusing on four thematic areas to influence stigma and discrimination.

1. Political and Institutional will
2. Evidence and Inclusive Data
3. Leadership, representation and empowerment
4. Stereotypes, attitudes and behaviours

The last meeting focused on developing specific activities and concrete outcomes around these thematic areas. Upcoming priorities include identifying speakers and panellists as well as focus areas for the Spotlight sessions.

## Inclusive Education Working Group

In preparation for the Summit, a Workshop was held on April 26-27, hosted and organized by

the REAL Centre at the University of Cambridge. The event began to develop a Statement of

Action to Accelerate Equitable and Quality Education for Children with Disabilities which could be available for the Summit and used to support subsequent activities. The event also

discussed the potential to announce the creation of an Inclusive Education Facility at the

Summit. There was support for the creation of such a targeted mechanism and discussion of

where such an initiative might be housed and what its main tasks would be. The group

generally supported housing such a mechanism at either the World Bank or UNICEF. Functions

would depend on the level of funding and could include technical assistance, creation of tools

and information and innovation. The Inclusive Education working group will meet again on 3 May.

Technology and Innovation

The 2nd call of the working group took place on Friday, 27 April. The group agreed on the three outcome areas and leads for each. They are:

* Outcome 1: Political and institutional will and momentum amongst national governments, donors, NGOs, global institutions, foundations, the private sector etc. catalysed
* Outcome 2: Key supply side challenges to establish well-functioning markets are better understood and starting to be addressed (R+D; quality; innovation, labelling) – Lead
* Outcome 3: Key demand side challenges to establish well-functioning markets are better understood and starting to be addressed (manufacturers + suppliers; gov; NGO/donors)

The leads for each outcome area will further develop outcomes for each area, drawing upon the expertise in the thematic working group, and possible commitments per organization/actor.

## Routes to Economic Empowerment

The working group has an updated Theory of Change and is currently working on four key outcome areas, as follows:

* **Outcome 1: UNCRPD Compliant Legislation and Policies** on equal opportunities employment, financial inclusion and social protection.
* **Outcome 2: Understanding of the obstacles & economic cost of exclusion** through disaggregated data & evidence on labour force participation, driving wide scale, informed action.
* **Outcome 3: PWDs effectively and full participate in economic life** and have the necessary skills and means to achieve financial independence and shape their lives.
* **Outcome 4: Inclusive environments** in the workplace, further education and financial services, reducing discrimination of PWDs in employment and society.

In the lead up to the next meeting, the focus will be on setting achievable commitments associated with the interventions and outcomes. It will also be to consider how these can be achieved, how to bring in new actors in support the commitments and key strategic action that can be taken to make the commitments a reality. The group will also consider how best to include the cross-cuttings themes and ensure the commitments are context-specific, reaching the poorest and most marginalised.

## Humanitarian Action (cross-cutting)

There has been one meeting of the humanitarian network, which took place on April 12. The first meeting was a general introduction to the planning for the Summit and discussion on focal areas for the network to engage on. A smaller working group has been established: they are formulating suggested commitments for different stakeholders under the main Summit themes, and formulating proposals for the spotlight sessions and market stalls. These will be considered by the wider network at its May meeting.

# Coming up

* Next meeting of Inclusive Education working group: 3 May 2018
* Next meeting of the Humanitarian network: 10 May 2018 in Geneva and by phone
* Next meeting of the Economic Empowerment working group: 16 May 2018
* The Government of Kenya with support from the National Council of Persons with Disabilities is organizing a Mini-Summit 24 May 2018
* Civil Society Reference Group will share a concept note and proposed agenda for the Civil Society Forum that will take place on 23 July as soon as it’s available.

# For more information

The persons listed below may be contacted for general information on the thematic Working Groups only:

* Stigma and Discrimination: IDA, Megan Smith, msmith@ida-secretariat.org
* Inclusive Education: IDA, Diane Richler, dianer@cacl.ca
* Routes to Economic Empowerment: Philip Vernon, P-Vernon@dfid.gov.uk and Mosharraf Hossain, Mosharraf.Hossain@add.org.uk
* Technology and Innovation: Berhanu Tefera, berhanubis@gmail.com
* Humanitarian: Jazz Shaban, j.shaban@hi.org

**For general information, please contact:**

* Email summit@ida-secretariat.org
* Updates will be posted on: <http://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/summit>