



Concept Note

Bridge CRPD-SDGs Module 3

Focused on the Article 11 of the CRPD

1. Background and rationale

The barriers and the discrimination faced by persons with disabilities in everyday life are greatly amplified when society breaks down as a result of crises such as conflicts or natural disasters. The obligation of State Parties to ensure the protection and safety of persons with disabilities in such situations is enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), in particular Article 11: *“Situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies”*.

Following the adoption of the Sendai Framework in March 2015, the Resolution 31/6 of the Human Rights Council (HRC) adopted in March 2016 and the launch of the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action at the World Humanitarian Summit in May 2016, there has been significant movement towards addressing the inclusion of persons with disabilities in situations of risk and humanitarian action. This includes the creation of an Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Task Team, which is responsible for developing IASC Guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action. To complement this initiative, the International Disability Alliance (IDA), CBM and Humanity & Inclusion (HI) are collaborating on a joint project ‘Inclusive Humanitarian Action for Persons with Disabilities’ (the ‘Article 11 Project’), with the objective to support the development of an enabling and more accountable humanitarian environment inclusive of persons with disabilities.

One of the expected results of this Article 11 project is to establish a capacity building mechanism to foster cooperation, exchange and knowledge among organizations of persons with disabilities (DPOs), humanitarian actors and local stakeholders. The Bridge CRPD-SDGs Training Initiative has been identified by the partners of the Article 11 project as an ideal platform to address the requirements of this Result.

Established in 2015, Bridge CRPD-SDGs aims to equip DPOs to make the most of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in compliance with the CRPD. It does this by building their capacity to engage adequately with governments and development actors to frame both policies and programmes in line with the CRPD, as well as to build stronger ties with other social movements to tackle macro issues, such as public resource allocation.

This Bridge Module 3 also follows an increased demand from DPOs and the development actors involved with the Bridge CRPD-SDGs Initiative to have in-depth training focused on specific provisions or articles of the CRPD. As the first initiative of its kind, this Bridge CRPD-SDGs Module 3 focused on the Article 11 of the CRPD is a global pilot initiative. As such, it will engage Bridge Alumni that participated in previous Bridge CRPD-SDGs since 2015, namely Bridge Latin America, South East Asia, Pacific, East and Western Africa, Big Lakes, the Middle East and North Africa, Indonesia and Timor Lest and Uganda. It will also engage humanitarian actors who have not necessarily been involved in the Bridge Initiative before but are working towards inclusive humanitarian action.

Developing an in-depth training in this manner provides an opportunity to strengthen the relationship between DPOs and humanitarian actors, foster a better understanding of each other's strengths and roles and promote networking and future partnerships.

2. Bridge CRPD-SDGs Module 3 focused on the Article 11 of the CRPD

2.1. Objectives

1. Equip persons with disabilities having an in-depth understanding of the particular nature of Article 11 around risks and humanitarian emergencies and on how to be effectively engaging and influencing humanitarian actions,
2. Respond to the need for a capacity development of both persons with disabilities and humanitarian actors on the inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action,
3. Demonstrating DPO capacity and experiences and sharing this with humanitarian actors in a joint initiative.

2.2. Format

In March 2018, a technical workshop comprised of IDA, the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) and its members engaged in the Bridge CRPD-SDGs Initiative and the Disability Rights Advocacy Fund (DRAF) was held in Beirut, Lebanon. The purpose of the workshop was to explore the scope, opportunities and complexities of an eventual Bridge training on Article 11 of the CRPD, as well as methodological suggestions for the curriculum's possible adaptation.

The standard ongoing Bridge CRPD-SDGs training is delivered over two 7-day modules, with a policy assignment undertaken by participants in between. In summary:

1. Module 1 focuses on the development of knowledge and skills to understand the CRPD and support participants to start analysing development from a CRPD perspective, with an emphasis on inclusion and intersectionality.
2. Module 2 builds on this understanding and develops skills on how to apply the CRPD to key development and policy areas from legal harmonisation, budgetary advocacy, inclusive programming and disaggregated data, with the purpose of creating the evidence for policy change.

To ensure effective cross learning between participants of both the disability movement and humanitarian communities, as dictated by Result 3 of the Article 11 project ('...foster cooperation, exchange and knowledge among DPOs, humanitarian actors and local stakeholders...') and maximise the potential for individuals from each constituency to participate in and benefit from this training, a third module specifically on Article 11 of the CRPD has been indicated as the most effective and appropriate methodology by the Bridge Steering Committee. This third module will be developed as a single training block, becoming a part of the overall Bridge CRPD-SDGs Initiative and, as such, it will promote, follow and respect the principles and quality criteria of the overall Bridge CRPD-SDGs initiative.

2.3. Length and content

The Bridge Module 3 on the Article 11 of the CRPD is foreseen to take eight days of intensive training, as well as two additional days prior to the training for preparation of the facilitation team (one full day) and the underrepresented groups and humanitarian actors (one full day). An additional day is also foreseen after the training for debriefing of the facilitation team and preparation for the assignment.

The first part of the training week will set the scene by providing participants with an in-depth understanding of the CRPD articles through the lens of Article 11 on situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies. This will be followed by an introduction to the humanitarian system and its cycle and structure. A detailed exploration of the increased barriers that are evident in humanitarian emergencies including how to mitigate and address these barriers through the full and meaningful participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities as well as the actions undertaken by humanitarian and other relevant actors will be covered.

All participants, both from the disability movement and the humanitarian community, will be requested to prepare a short non-academic policy paper/ analysis no more than six months after participating in the module, with support/mentoring provided by the facilitation team.

2.4. Target group, date and location

The Bridge Module 3 on the Article 11 of the CRPD will accommodate up to 30 participants. Including facilitators, captioners, illustrators, interpreters, sign language interpreters, personal assistants, observers and logistics there will be a maximum of 60 attendees.

The participants for Module 3 will include both DPO members and humanitarian actors:

1. DPO representatives: Because Bridge CRPD-SDGs is primarily a training by, with and for persons with disabilities, the majority of the participants (75%) will be representatives from DPOs (or disability movement for some underrepresented groups that are not yet organised under organisations). To maximise the relevance of the training to their ongoing work, it is proposed that DPO representatives will be selected from risk prone and/or conflict or chronic crisis countries/regions and will ideally have experience in humanitarian situations.

2. Humanitarian actors: Twenty-five per cent of the participants will be humanitarian actors who hold a position within their organisation that makes them able to influence their policies and/or humanitarian/Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) programs. They should represent either a humanitarian agency or organisation specialised in DRR which has demonstrated interest and commitment to inclusion of persons with disabilities. This commitment can be in the form of a policy or proven interest to work on diversity or inclusion of persons with disabilities within the humanitarian context.

The Bridge Module 3 on the Article 11 of the CRPD will take place in March 2019. Location must be confirmed by December 2018, taking into consideration budget and accessibility implications. It should be as centrally-located as possible to allow representation of participants across all regions. In addition, the relation of the training location to disaster or humanitarian contexts as well as access to external humanitarian/UN/government stakeholders (i.e. UN regional hub) may be taken into account.

2.5. Learning objectives

The specific learning objectives listed below apply to all participants, though it is expected that there will be varied outcomes depending on the background and experience of each individual participant/organisation:

1. Familiarisation with the CRPD informs the humanitarian and DRR frameworks' and actors' work. It also informs how persons with disabilities and humanitarian actors can leverage and learn from these frameworks/commitments.
2. Using the CRPD as the baseline to understand what steps are required and what are the entry points for the humanitarian and disability sectors to establish/influence toward more inclusive humanitarian actions, programs and policies.
3. Greater mutual understanding of the working methods and structures of the humanitarian and disability sectors to foster relevant and meaningful partnerships and collaboration.