



Terms of Reference

GDS Website Features

1. About the International Disability Alliance (IDA)

The International Disability Alliance is the permanent co-host of the Global Disability Summit. IDA brings together over 1,100 organizations of persons with disabilities and their families from across eight global and six regional networks. IDA has the mandate to [promote the rights of persons with disabilities](#) across the United Nations' efforts to advance human rights and sustainable development. IDA also [supports organizations of persons with disabilities](#) to hold their governments to account and advocate for change locally, nationally, and internationally.

With [member organizations](#) around the world, IDA represents the estimated one billion people worldwide living with disabilities. This is the world's largest – and most frequently overlooked – marginalized group. IDA, with its unique composition as a network of the foremost international disability rights organizations, is the most authoritative representation of persons with disabilities on the global level and acknowledged as such by the United Nations system both in New York and Geneva.

More information is available on www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org

2. About the Global Disability Summit

The Global Disability Summit (GDS) is a unique global mechanism that aims to galvanize global efforts to address disability inclusion. This four-year cycle of advocacy and events offers a concrete platform for collecting new, ambitious, and widespread commitments critical to achieving real change for persons with disabilities. GDS aims to bridge the gap between two arenas that are still separate: disability inclusion and development cooperation. While each GDS cycle builds to one major global summit event held every three years, GDS is so much more. It is a mechanism that entails continuous advocacy with global disability development stakeholders and mobilization of the disability rights movement and its allies. Importantly, it is a partnership between member states and Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs), embodied in the way that co-hosting arrangements are made.

GDS2025 is the third cycle of summits and is being co-hosted by the International Disability Alliance (IDA) and the Governments of Germany and Jordan. To be held in Berlin, Germany in April 2025, this GDS will build upon the achievements of the two previous summits (GDS2018 and GDS2022). The primary objective of this summit cycle is to build and expand the momentum of the previous two GDS cycles by **amplifying its impact toward advancing the rights and inclusion of all persons with disabilities through international cooperation**. To do this, the co-hosts have developed several key messages to underpin the process, from planning to implementation to follow-up and monitoring:

1. "Nothing About Us, Without Us."
2. Focus on implementation.
3. Focus on rights.
4. National ownership.
5. Disability inclusive development
6. Bridging the gap of the haves and have-nots.
7. Focus on data and evidence.

3. Services Required

The GDS Co-Hosts are looking for a Web Developer to critically assess and further develop the GDS website. The website currently works on Ruby on Rails.

The services required include:

- Assessment and restructuring of overall website structure and design.
- Assessment of overall accessibility of the website and implementation of accessibility standards according to the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) Version 2.2
- Compliance of website with GDPR / data protection laws.
- Ongoing technical support and maintenance, ensuring uninterrupted operation. Appropriate service and response times for the elimination of bugs, technical errors, etc. Continuous monitoring for errors and their elimination (bug fixing), regular security checks and defense measures.

1. Website structure and design

- Run an evaluation of current website design and structure,
- Restructuring the landing page (design, structure, and content),
- Using "style guide" or similar for design,
- Revisit "resources" page, make it easier to search for resources by keyword, date of publication, etc.

- Embed videos and add content.

2. Accessibility

- Run accessibility tests to understand the level of accessibility of current GDS Website,
- Compare GDS website to different accessible websites,
- Implement any further accessibility features required / follow the WCAG 2.2 Web Content Accessibility Guidelines.

Examples of websites: <https://www.sustainability-conference.org/en/> or <https://wuf.unhabitat.org/>

4. **Qualifications**

- Extreme fluency with HTML5/XHTML and CSS,
- Experience with content management systems (CMS) like WordPress, Ruby on Rails, Drupal, or Joomla.
- Experience working with PHP, JavaScript, and jQuery.
- Advanced and wide site-building experience,
- Experience building user interfaces for websites and/or web applications,
- Experience defining and implementing website management tools within the user interface to ensure quality of website postings and changes,
- Experience designing and developing responsive design websites,
- Demonstrated experience building highly accessible websites (front-end and back-office),
- Knowledge of web accessibility standards and guidelines, including WCAG (Web Content Accessibility Guidelines) 2.0 or higher.

Desirable requirements:

- Familiarity with assistive technologies used by individuals with disabilities, such as screen readers, voice recognition software, and keyboard navigation,
- Ability to assess existing websites for accessibility issues and develop strategies for remediation,
- Aptitude for identifying accessibility barriers within websites and proposing creative solutions to address them,
- Analytical mindset to evaluate the impact of design and development decisions on accessibility and user experience.

5. Contracting and Remuneration

- Payment and financial compensation will be subject to location and experience.
- A consultancy contract (as per Swiss law) will be signed between the selected consultant and IDA.
- Applicants are invited to submit a copy of their passport and commercial/consultant registration/tax numbers. Only applicants with valid commercial and/or consultant registration and/or tax numbers will be considered.
- Payments will be made in several installments and upon successful completion of the deliverables and submission of invoices.

To Apply:

The interested consultant should submit a letter of interest, CV, sample of previous work, and financial offer indicating the total fees by **20 April 2024** to consultancy@ida-secretariat.org with the subject "*GDS website application*".

***Note: Only Shortlisted Candidates Will Be Contacted**