

UN PARTNERSHIP TO PROMOTE THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

UNPRPD



THE UNPRPD FUND

A joint United Nations Fund on Disability Rights

Disability—the global picture

According to the *World Report on Disability*, it is estimated that more than a billion people, or about 15% of the world's population, live with some form of disability. Disability has been found to affect vulnerable populations in a disproportionate way, with a higher disability prevalence observed in lower income countries, people from the poorest wealth quintile, women, children and older people.

“Seizing the opportunity to realize a society for all in the twenty-first century”

In 2006, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), acknowledging the widespread discrimination, exclusion and marginalization that persons with disabilities are facing. The CRPD—which embodies a paradigm shift towards a human rights-based approach to disability—is very comprehensive in scope, covering at the same time civil, cultural,

economic, political and social rights. As such, it represents a remarkably innovative human rights treaty and a development instrument with great potential to generate break-throughs for persons with disabilities. Few countries, however, currently have adequate mechanisms in

place to ensure its full implementation. Against this background—and building on the Convention's explicit recognition of the importance of international cooperation—six United Nations entities have decided to join hands in the UN Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD). The UNPRPD is a collective effort which aims to uphold the rights of persons with disabilities in all aspects of society and development, thus contributing to seizing the exceptional opportunity offered by the CRPD to realize a “society for all” in the twenty-first century. A Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) – the UNPRPD Fund – has been established by the participating UN organizations to achieve the objectives of the Partnership.



Bernard Frank –SHORES OF LIFE

Current UNPRPD membership

ILO | OHCHR | UNDESA | UNDP | UNICEF | WHO



Overall objectives of the UNPRPD Fund

Developing capacity for sustainable social transformation

The goal of the UNPRPD is:

To develop the capacities of national stakeholders, particularly governments and organizations of persons with disabilities, for the effective implementation of the CRPD, including through promoting disability-inclusive internationally agreed development goals.

The UNPRPD Fund supports projects strengthening national capacity for the implementation of CRPD through interventions at the environmental level (e.g. normative frameworks, shared values and attitudes); the organizational level (e.g. the set-up and functioning of key organizations—governmental and non); and the individual level (e.g. individuals' awareness and competencies). Thematically, its areas of primary focus are:

- **Promoting ratification and reforming and/or developing legislation, policy, strategies and plans of action;**
- **Improving the delivery of programmes and services (both mainstream and targeted);**
- **Raising awareness and enhancing dialogue and coordination between States, persons with disabilities and their representative organizations, social partners and UNCTs;**
- **Improving data and research on disability.**

Specific priority interventions will be identified in a Funding Policy to be periodically approved by the Policy Board, which will function as the Fund's medium-term results framework.



Krzysztof Goluch—WHEELS TO MARRIAGE

What is an MDTF?

An MDTF is a multi-donor, multi-agency funding mechanism used to support joint UN action in a specific geographic or thematic area. As such, MDTFs have proved to be a very successful way to promote UN system-wide coherence and aid effectiveness as well as exceptional levels of accountability and transparency.

For more information:
<http://www.mdtf.undp.org>

A “One-UN” approach to disability

UNPRPD responds to the complexity of disability by integrating the different competencies of various UN agencies into a common programmatic platform.

Focus on partnership-building

UNPRPD and its Fund leverage the unique position of the UN at country level to facilitate partnerships between governments, DPOs and broader civil society.



Governance of the UNPRPD Fund

Promoting inclusion through participation



Arkadiusz Dzikczek—THINKING

The governance of the UNPRPD Fund is based on two mechanisms. The Policy Board, established as a high-level body, meets once a year to set the strategic direction of the Partnership and address the implications of major policy issues for the Fund. The Management Committee, established as a working-level, standing committee of the Policy Board, reviews project proposals and makes fund allocation decisions within the parameters set by the Board. The Board and the Management Committee are supported in their work by a Technical Secretariat, currently hosted by the UNDP Poverty Group.

Composition of the Policy Board

- All participating UN organizations
- 2 members of the Bureau of the Conference of States Parties (CoSP) to the CRPD
- 2 UNPRPD Fund donor countries
- The Chair of the International Disability Alliance (IDA)
- One civil society organization to be appointed by the Civil Society Forum (CSF) of the CoSP to the CRPD

The Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission on Social Development and the Chair of the CRPD Committee are invited to participate in Board meetings, together with other two eminent persons to be appointed by the Board Chair.

Composition of the Management Committee

- All participating UN organizations
- 1 member of the Bureau of the CoSP to the CRPD
- 1 UNPRPD Fund donor country
- 1 representative of IDA
- 1 representative of the civil society organization appointed by the Civil Society Forum of the CoSP to the CRPD

Centrality of persons with disabilities

UNPRPD strongly believes that persons with disabilities and their representative organizations should be actively involved in all relevant decision-making processes, including those directly concerning them. The International Disability Alliance —the global network of organizations of persons with disabilities—will participate in all levels of the UNPRPD governance structure contributing to ensure that the views of persons with disabilities from around the world are adequately taken into account.

The UNPRPD Policy Board and its Management Committee are based on four key constituencies — UN, CRPD States Parties, donors, persons with disabilities and broader civil society. Each Board member is expected to act also as representative of its constituency peers. The criteria regulating selection and rotation of Members are laid out in the Fund's Rules of Procedure. The UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office serves as Administrative Agent of the Fund and is an *ex officio* member of the Board and the Management Committee.



Operating modalities of the UNPRPD Fund

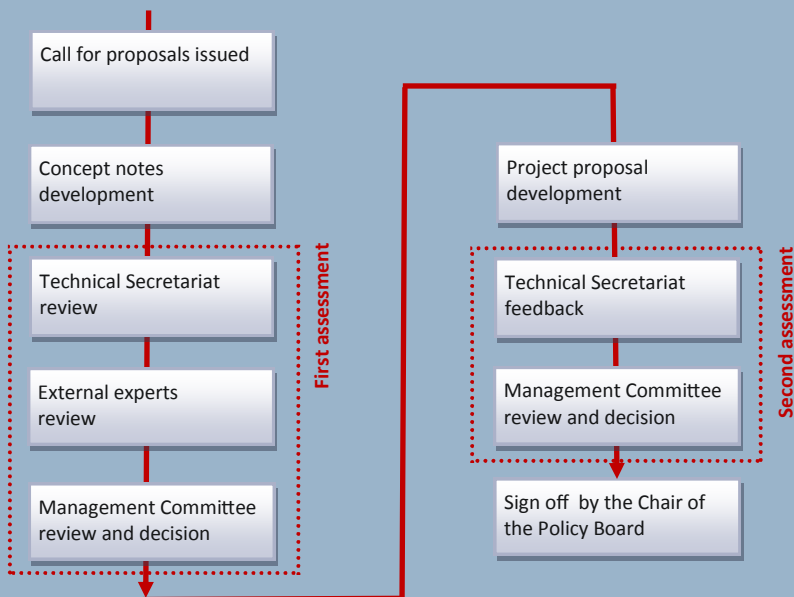
Ensuring quality through lean processes

Proposals for funding are submitted to the UNPRPD Fund by one or more of the participating UN organizations. However, the Fund will only consider project ideas that can effectively demonstrate a significant level of engagement on the part of relevant government sectors, persons with disabilities

and broader civil society. Disbursed funds are programmed by the receiving organization in the most aid-effective way given the specific circumstances of the proposed initiative, including national execution and NGO execution, if and when appropriate. The Fund focuses on country level activities, although a certain amount of support is provided to global and regional activities as well.

Once a call for proposals is issued, concept notes undergo various stages of assessment, including a thorough review by a group of previously vetted independent experts. After a concept note is selected for funding by the Management Committee, the submitting organization is invited to develop a full project proposal. After a review of this document, funding is confirmed and disbursed in keeping with MDTF procedures.

Steps for proposal submission and consideration



Raniel Jose Castaneda—BLIND MESSAGING

THE PHOTOS IN THIS BROCHURE

The photos of this brochure are awarded photographs from the WHO photo contest "Images of health and disability 2005". - www.who.int/classifications/ict

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