Deliver more equitable and sustainable projects by implementing accessible and disability inclusive interventions

Our experts in Universal Design, digital accessibility and Disability Inclusion will support you and your partners/clients in designing and implementing programs, projects and strategies that are more equitable, accessible and inclusive

Handicap International - Humanity & Inclusion (HI) has specialized in the inclusion of persons with disabilities since 1982. Through Inclusion Technical Assistance (ITA), we offer this expertise to organizations committed to "leaving no-one behind" and to improving the inclusion of persons with disabilities in every sector, in every context and at every level.

ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION,
A CONCERN FOR ALL OF US!

handicap international **Hi** humanity &inclusion

Key facts about disability worldwide

16%
OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION
LIVES WITH A DISABILITY
Source: WHO, 2023

80%
OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
LIVE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
Source: WB/WHO, 2011

Ensuring the accessibility of the built and digital environment in accordance with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) is essential to guarantee equality and social inclusion.

This involves making buildings, infrastructure, public spaces, mobility solutions, digital services and equipment, information campaigns and services accessible to all, thereby realizing the principles of non-discrimination and full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in society.

As a development Organization you might be involved in programs aiming at:

✓ Strengthening the capacity of local authorities to design and provide **more sustainable, affordable and inclusive services** to the population in various sectors (infrastructure, health, education, tourism, transportation, agriculture, etc.)

✓ Providing technical assistance for the design and construction of **inclusive and resilient public infrastructure** that contribute to the achievement of the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)

✓ Working with communities and governments to **design more equitable, sustainable and resilient cities for the future,** including innovative mobility solutions for all

✓ Supporting private and public initiatives for the **creation of more equitable and inclusive economic, learning and cultural opportunities for all**

✓ Providing technical assistance for the design and implementation of innovative and inclusive solutions to **facilitate access to technology and digital development to all**

We can help you reaching these objectives by making your interventions more disability inclusive and accessible

* Ensuring the respect of international instruments ratified by national governments (UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; SDGs and Agenda 2023; etc.)

* Fostering non-discrimination, meaningful participation and human-rights based approaches

* Ensuring compliance with international or national accessibility standards (ISO 21542:2021 or national regulations)

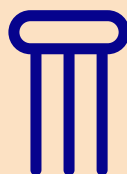** Ensuring consistency with donor's policies and strategies*
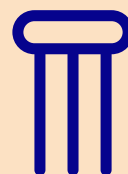
* Etc.
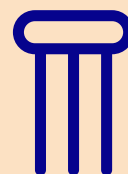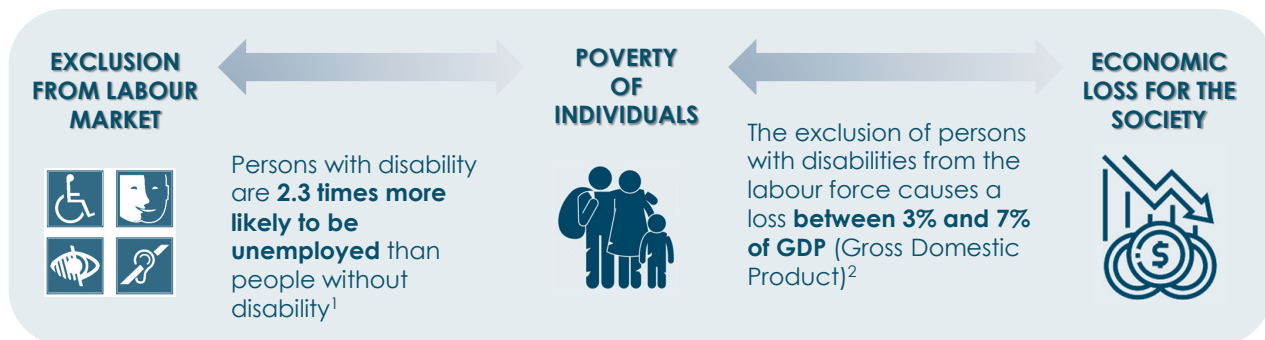
ACCESSIBILITY + **PARTICIPATION** + **NON-DISCRIMINATION**

Why **successful public investments**
should focus on Accessibility and Disability Inclusion

Exclusion has multifold drawbacks

EXCLUSION FROM LABOUR MARKET

Persons with disability are **2.3 times more likely to be unemployed** than people without disability[1]

POVERTY OF INDIVIDUALS

The exclusion of persons with disabilities from the labour force causes a loss **between 3% and 7% of GDP** (Gross Domestic Product)[2]

ECONOMIC LOSS FOR THE SOCIETY

The lack of Accessibility is a brake
on the economic development of a country

? Did you know?

1.3 billion people experience significant disability. This represents **16% of the world's population**, or 1 in 6 of us[3].

ACCESSIBILITY IN THE WORKPLACE IS GOOD FOR BUSINESS

Studies show that to employ significant numbers of persons with disabilities can see gains such as a **20% increase in productivity** and a **67% return on investment**[5]

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ARE CONSUMERS

The global market of persons with disabilities is over 1 billion people with a **spending power of more than $6 trillion.** However, most of it is wasted due digital services, e-commerce platforms, infrastructure or mobility strategies that are not designed taking Accessibility into account.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES WANT TO TRAVEL

Accessible tourism contributes over **$50 billion** to the travel industry in the U.S and over **AUD 10.8 billion** in Australia[4], and there is a potential market of travellers with disabilities from the European Union (EU) of **130 million people (**including senior citizens and their travel companions)[4]. **Accessible touristic facilities can be a game changer!**

SENIOR CITIZENS NEED PUBLIC TANSPORTATION
The economic contribution to society by older people (shopping, childcare, volunteering, etc.) can be largely dependent on public transportation: more accessible mobility solutions can enable them to **contribute to 10% to the national economy**[6]

1: OECD, 2019
2: S. Backup, ILO, 2009
3: WHO / World Bank, 2024
4: UNWTO, 2020
5: USA data, ILO, 2011
6: UK data, Mackett (2014)

Accessibility benefits all, including elderly people, parents with small children and persons with temporary injuries.

Accessibility may lead to a range of potential economic gains at all levels: **PUBLIC INVESTMENTS ON ACCESSIBLE INFRASTRUCTURE, MOBILITY AND DIGITAL SOLUTIONS ARE WORTHWHILE!**

OUR CAPACITY STATEMENT

Strategic and programmatic support to local authorities and institutional bodies

- **Assess local context-related approaches** to accessibility and Universal Design, identify potential gaps and suggest options for improvement
- **Analyze the existing regulatory frameworks and standards on accessibility** of infrastructure, communications and digital services, and develop the needed documents: missing technical standards, guiding documents and tools, capacity building materials and activities, awareness raising sessions, etc.
- **Examine existing policies, strategies and action plans** for accessibility and propose realistic and effective solutions for improvements, clarifying objectives, methodologies and indicators.

TEACHING   DEVELOPMENT   COACHING   SKILLS

Capacity development for implementing organizations and partners

- **Provide awareness raising sessions** to stakeholders about disability inclusion and accessibility
- **Provide training sessions** to technical partners about accessibility principles and standards, regulations, practical applications, etc.
- **Develop technical and operational guiding documents:** guidelines, handbooks, Standard Operating Procedures, factsheets, etc.

Technical support to ongoing infrastructure or transportation projects

- **Revise project proposals i**n order to include Universal Design principles to achieve a better accessibility for persons with different disabilities
- **Support in the accessibility M&E of projects** by developing appropriate monitoring frameworks and KPIs for accessibility
- **Revise technical project documents** to ensure the appropriate accessibility standards are taken into account
- **Periodically assess the ongoing activities** to make sure they meet the appropriate accessibility standards and criteria

Accessibility enhancement of existing project-related buildings or infrastructure

- **Assess existing project-related buildings or infrastructure** in terms of accessibility and propose realistic solutions aligned with relevant accessibility standards

We can work
on a personalised offer
depending on your needs.

"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US":
We collaborate with a wide network of local Organizations of Persons with Disabilities, to ensure that both processes and outcomes are fully inclusive at every stage of the project cycle

Who We Support

- **NGOs** whose designed and implemented activities have to take better into account the needs of persons with disabilities

- **DONORS** that need to encourage and guide their implementing partners towards more accessible initiatives

- **INTERNATIONAL ACTORS** that conduct research projects and develop high level guiding documents on sustainable and inclusive programming

- **UN Entities** that need to fulfill their obligation to uphold the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities - Article 9 on accessibility, and the UNDIS-United Nations Disability and Inclusion Strategy.

- **CONSULTING COMPANIES** whose urban development programs cannot ignore the needs and the rights of persons with disabilities

- **FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS** whose large scale investments for infrastructure projects have to foster universal access and inclusion for all

- **LOCAL AUTHORITIES** that need to develop accessible and inclusive public policies and services for users and citizens with disabilities

- **ORGANIZATIONS** that need to turn their premises into more accessible and inclusive workplaces for all.

Testimony

« HI has been an invaluable partner to the World Bank teams for incorporating Universal Accessibility in public facilities and space supported by the two pilot projects. The team at HI is agile and adaptive to the project dynamics and professional in fulfilling the scope of work within the delivery timeline»

Narae Choi, Senior Urban Development Specialist (The World Bank Group)

They trusted us

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Contact us so that we can offer you the best technical assistance to suit your needs!
ITA@HI.ORG

More info on:
https://www.hi.org/en/inclusion-technical-assistance

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