



UN WOMEN APPROACH TO DISABILITY INCLUSION

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Executive Board Informal: 19 October 2023

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INSTITUTIONAL AND STRATEGIC PRIORITY

- UN Women’s 2022-2025 Strategic Plan commits to mainstreaming disability inclusion using an intersectional approach throughout its work, in compliance with UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), UN Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS), and UN Women Global strategy on Disability Inclusion.
- It includes a focus on addressing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, including based on age, sex, race, ethnicity, location, disability, migration, and displacement, and indigenous, socioeconomic, and another status.
- Global Disability Summit (GDS) Commitments [2018, 2022, forthcoming GDS 2025].

Photo | UN Women Rwanda

UN WOMEN APPROACH TO DISABILITY INCLUSION

Multi-pronged approach

Track I: Mainstreaming

- Systematically include gender, age and disability perspectives across initiatives.
- Widening Accessibility-Feminist Accessibility Protocol

Track II: Targeted

- The empowerment and meaningful/ effective participation of all women and girls with disabilities as the main focus of initiatives

Track III: Inclusion

- Women with disabilities of all ages have a seat at the table, and agency.
- Reasonable accommodation, Disability Marker

Women and girls with disabilities across their life course fully and effectively participate and are included in development, humanitarian, peace and security, and human rights on equal basis with others.



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| DISABILITY & GENDER: A CRITICAL INTERSECTIONAL LINK

- Women are at greater risk of disability – 19.2% vs 12%
- Women are at greater risk of exclusion- subject of stigma-discrimination.
- Intersection of gender & disability (age, ethnicity, sexual orientation etc.) are issues of fundamental human rights, equality, justice, and economic empowerment.
- Global Toolkit and Guidance on Intersectionality issued.



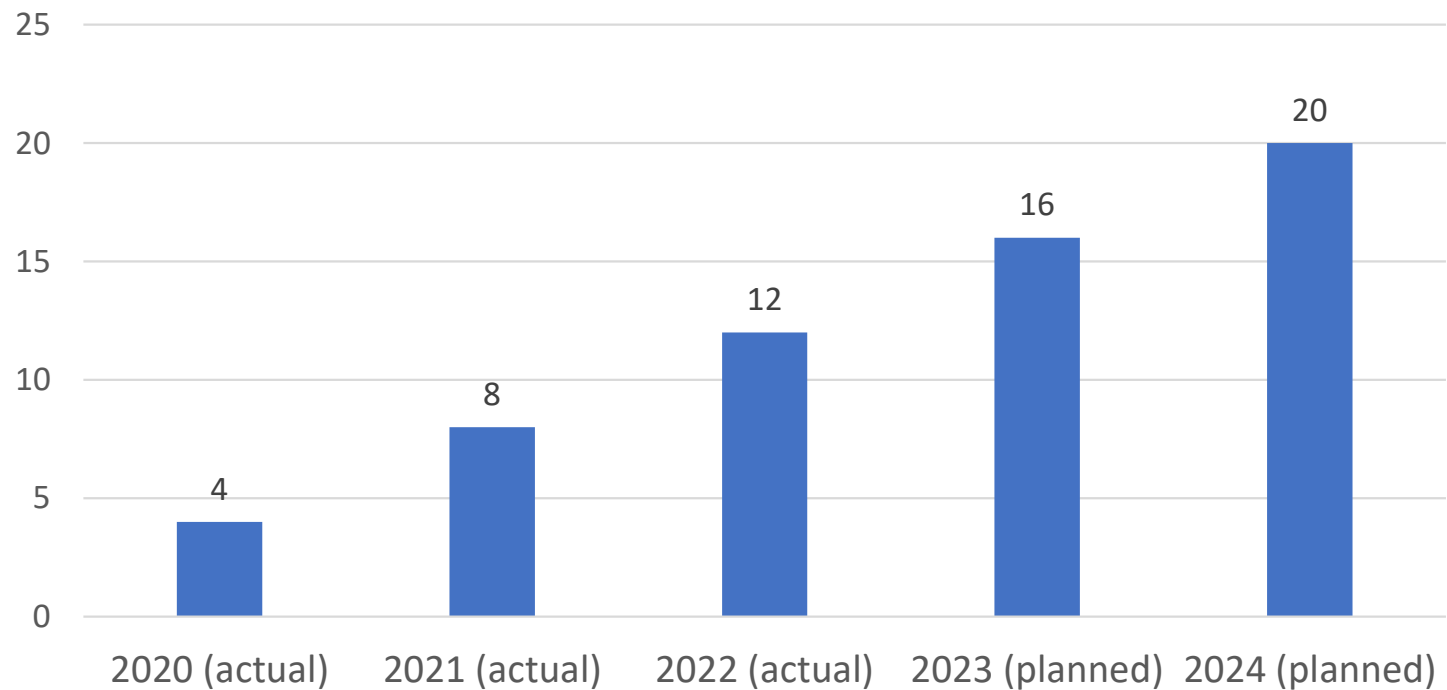
CONSULTATION AND MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION

- **Consultation should not be limited to extraction of information about challenges but::**
 - Their take on coping strategies and resilience
 - Contributions to ways forward
 - Feedback mechanisms and assessing progress
- **Partner with and/or support OPD, OWD, OYD/ individual activists:**
 - capacity development,
 - funding,
 - inclusion in networks, meta networks
- Roles in preparedness, DRR and response.
- Roles in Peace and Security Context – increasing number of active conflicts

Photo | UN Women/Asfandyar Khan

PARTNERSHIP: PERFORMANCE MEASURE : 2022-2024 [CPC]

Number of organizations of persons with disabilities partnering with UN Women Offices [including and UNCTs] to address the specific needs and demands of women and girls with disabilities (cumulative)



Source | UN GA A/78/6 (sect. 17) p.13



GLOBAL COLLABORATION AND WORK

UN Working Group on Gender and Disability Inclusion

UN colleagues explore joint initiatives, discuss UNDIS implementation, exchange knowledge, share upcoming events and activities

UN Inter-Agency Statements

UN-Women, together with UNICEF, WHO, ILO, FAO, UNDP, UNFPA and UNPRPD, worked together to develop an inter-agency statement on violence against girls with disabilities.

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Global Disability Summit and Global Action on Disability Network (GLAD)

UN Women commits to Global Disability Summit and its global commitments and is a part of the multi-stakeholder forum [GLAD]
Normative work

UN Women together with the CEDAW, and the CRPD Committees issued a joint statement on Ending Sexual Harassment Against Women and Girls with Disabilities

PIVOT TO FIELD: REGIONAL AND COUNTRY LEVEL WORK



Disability-inclusive humanitarian response

UN Women with 4 other UN agencies in 2023 is implementing joint programme for mainstreaming a disability inclusive humanitarian response to the Ukrainian refugee crisis in its neighbouring countries (Moldova and Georgia)



Addressing Stigma and discrimination

In 2023 UN Women and UNDP completed cross-regional programme to strengthen behavioural insights and intersectional approaches to confront stigma and discrimination in Pakistan, Samoa, Moldova, and Palestine



Country-level joint programmes

Throughout 2022, UN Women initiated several new country level JPs together with other UN agencies in six countries: Bangladesh, Colombia, Nepal, Panama, Rwanda, and Tanzania



Global Task Team, Helpdesk and Knowledge Exchange Forum - SSC

HQ Disability Inclusion and Intersectionality Facility and its dedicated Disability Inclusion Helpdesk providing technical expertise to country teams.



| GENDER & DISABILITY DURING PANDEMIC AND CRISIS

Access to Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights and general healthcare

Priority of care “rationing”

Access to mental/ psychosocial support

Resources re-allocated and no longer available for MHPSS

Conflict, Post-conflict

Loss of Income, care, support network, during & aftermath of conflicts: Reasonable Accommodation

Increased risk of domestic violence, institutional abuse

Increased isolation during mobility restrictions/lockdown

Increased dependency for care/provisions

Access to livelihood support

Women with disabilities more likely to lose jobs first during downsizing

Less help, information about government support schemes

Photo | UN Women/Chris Piarconi

Photo | UN Women/Maura Ajak

| THANK YOU

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