UN Women informal Executive Board on disability inclusion

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We need an effective systematic approach to advocate and strengthen the inclusion of the rights of women and girls with disabilities

Leaving no one behind



Approx. **12%** of the population has some form of **disability in LAC** (70 million people) (ECLAC, 2022)

In 8 LAC countries disability prevalence is higher for women compared to men (World Bank, 2021):

- Elder people: women (55.2%), men (50%)
- 26 to 64 years old: women (21.7%), men (18.4%)
- Children and youth (up to 25 years): women (6,7%), men (5,8%)

6 in 10 women are not in the workforce, compared to 4 in 10 men with disabilities (World Bank, 2021)



We are advancing an intersectional approach and affirmative actions with: indigenous women, afrodescendant women, rural women, women in mixed movements, and women with disabilities are exposed to greater situations of vulnerability and discrimination.



- Women with disabilities are increasing their
 participation in UN Women Civil Society Advisory
 Groups in LAC (Colombia, México, and the regional
 SCAG LAC network of indigenous and afro descendant
 women with disabilities).
- UN Women Country Offices such as Argentina, El
 Salvador, Panama, and Uruguay have partnerships and systematic joint efforts with women with disabilities organizations.
- Women with disabilities actively participate in UN
 Women LAC's regular open meetings with
 CSOs organized by the Regional Office.

UN Women's engagement with women with disabilities' organizations and representatives





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• Joint UN Care campaigns such as "Contemos los cuidados" have women with disabilities at the center.

During the preparatory process and the XV Regional
Conference on Women co-organized by ECLAC, UN
Women, and the government of Argentina (Buenos
Aires, November 2022), women with disabilities
were actively engaged as panelists and participants.



UN Recent and ongoing MPTF joint UN programmes and UN coordination in the field



Panama: Training Program on Disability Certification Model based on human rights for national organizations of persons with disabilities (UNESCO, UN Women, and PAHO/WHO).

Strengthening of the National Registry of Certifications for use in the formulation of inclusive policies, plans and programs at the national level.

Colombia: Technical Assistance Program for the Inclusive Management of Disability. Situational Analysis as an input for the basis of the Public Policy on Disability and the National Development Plan 2023 – 2027.

Induction Training to increase levels of knowledge about the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.



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Uruguay: UN Gender SWAP integrated disabilities.

Project with the United Nations Fund for the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD).

Supporting women's disabilities networks.

Argentina: Contributed to the national care system's law project content on disabilities. Contribution to the Federal Map of Care with a national survey of care services for people with disabilities:

Technical and financial assistance to cooperatives and social organizations (10) at the federal level to optimize the provision of quality care services, directly reaching more than 1,000 people living with disabilities.



Lessons learnt

We need to advance HR practices and policies to become more inclusive of women with disabilities and other intersections (indigenous and afro descendant women). GBV against women and girls with disabilities is a public issue requiring a multidimensional, multisectoral, and multistakeholder approach that is essential to inclusion.

Women with disabilities and their organizations must be recognized as key actors with their voices in GBV prevention and response strategies.



Eradicate the isolation of women with disabilities with cross-cutting interventions and the incorporation of technologies as a priority. Provide training to GBV response services and promote the participation of women with disabilities and the knowledge of their rights as a critical factor in advancing towards structural changes.





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