**Germany’s contribution** **to the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities**

Germany would like to contribute the following points to the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, based on the key questions on the participation of persons with disabilities in the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the post-2030 discussions:

Human rights and sustainable development are mutually dependent. The goal of German development cooperation is to contribute to realising human rights. The Human Rights Strategy for German Development Policy explains the relevance and content of the human rights-based development policy approach, including its feminist approaches, and it defines mandatory requirements for official development cooperation. The focus is on feminist approaches, the rights of persons with disabilities, children’s and youth rights, and the rights of other particularly marginalised groups.

The feminist development policy emphasises fundamental concerns of the human rights-based approach: It is self-reflective, learning-based and power-critical, aspires to be postcolonial and antiracist, and attaches particular importance to cooperation with civil society. By being intersectional, it also contributes to promoting the inclusion of persons with disabilities and to protecting and promoting the rights of other disadvantaged and marginalised groups.

The cooperation with organisations of persons with disabilities (OPD) is therefore a core principle of the feminist and human rights-based approaches of German Development Cooperation. Where possible, civil society, in particular in the Global South, is to be consulted in the context of strategy and planning processes as well as in the run-up to intergovernmental talks with partner countries.

German development cooperation has some catching up to do when it comes to disability inclusion. It does not yet have sufficient importance in the portfolio of German development cooperation. In addition, our reporting and monitoring capabilities have so far been very limited. In order to foster and monitor development projects working on disability inclusion, Germany introduced the OECD DAC Marker on *Inclusion and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities*.

German development cooperation supports the governments of partner countries worldwide in building capacities for implementing, monitoring and reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals (see example here: [Supporting Namibia with the 2030 Agenda - giz.de](https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/137664.html). Civil society and organisations representing marginalised groups are invited to participate in the consultation processes. OPDs in the partner countries receive technical and financial support from German development cooperation to advocate for their rights into national and international processes.

In 2023, the United Nations called upon the heads of state and government to contribute concrete suggestions for a “rescue plan for humanity and the planet” at that year’s SDG Summit. The Federal Government responded to this call and presented twelve key contributions in New York.

The measures suggested by the Federal Government cover a range of aspects of sustainability policy. Among others, these include promoting social justice and inclusion of people with disabilities around the world.

In this line, Germany is co-hosting the 3rd Global Disability Summit (GDS) 2025 in Berlin together with Jordan and the International Disability Alliance. The momentum of the GDS 2025 is used to strengthen the rights of persons with disabilities and the systematic involvement of OPDs in the context of the UN CRPD and the 2030 Agenda. As host of the event in Berlin, Germany has taken on a special responsibility to advance the topic of disability inclusion in international development policy. We can only play this role credibly internationally if we anchor disability inclusion more firmly in our national development policy than before.

In the run-up to the GDS 2025, Germany is supporting OPDs at international, regional and national level in conducting consultation processes on thematic priorities for the implementation of the rights of persons with disabilities. During the preparation of the GDS 2025, Germany is supporting a global disability inclusion report to improve the global and national data situation on disability.

German development cooperation together with other partners will launch a Global Initiative to address the inclusion of persons with disabilities and their resilience in cities in post-crisis situations. As part of the commitment mechanism of GDS 2025, actors are to be encouraged to make ambitious voluntary commitments to the inclusion of persons with disabilities through their legal obligations under the UN CRPD.

Further, German development cooperation invites civil society including OPDs to regular meetings to discuss key aspects of the inclusion of persons with disabilities in German development cooperation, including aspects of strengthening the implementation of the UN CRPD, the 2030 Agenda and the preparation of the GDS 2025.

Germany has a sustainability strategy that is updated and published every four years. In addition to all federal ministries, civil society, including OPDs, are involved in this process as well as in monitoring (data collection) and reporting on the achievement of the SDGs. With SDG mapping, the intended contribution to the SDGs for all German development cooperation projects is recorded, transmitted to the OECD and published.