

# ANNEX to Humanity & Inclusion 2017 self-report to WHS commitments

## *Transformation 3G and Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action*

Humanity & Inclusion (HI) works in situations of poverty and exclusion, conflict and disaster. HI works alongside persons with disabilities and vulnerable people to help meet their basic needs, improve their living conditions and promote respect for their dignity and fundamental rights. HI is therefore committed to transformation 3G to include the most vulnerable in crisis settings and actively supports the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action.

The challenges faced in meeting the commitments taken under the Charter are significant. The complexity of current crisis, restricted humanitarian access to affected areas and the implementing methods used (i.e. remote management) often create barriers to ensuring an inclusive humanitarian response. Heavy coordination mechanisms also add a layer of complexity.

The exclusion of persons with disabilities and civil society organizations, including DPO's, in the contextual analysis and planning of humanitarian responses leads to increased protection risks, discrimination and exclusion during emergency responses because the needs, challenges and risks faced by persons with disabilities are not sufficiently considered. Humanitarian systems are challenged to modify responses in order to promote the protection and equitable inclusion of people with disabilities and consider their experiences and capacities.

The lack of disability-disaggregated data is also a significant challenge as it inhibits adequate identification, monitoring and analysis of access to services as well as threats and barriers faced by persons with disabilities in crisis situations. When data is available it is usually either not analysed or shared.

HI has taken a number of actions in 2017 to meet its commitments under the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, a sample of which is listed below.

### **Actions taken at Federal level**

- HI actively promotes the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, in line with IHL and IHRL, in particular the UNCRPD, in partnership with the International Disability Alliance (IDA) and CBM, by generating evidence, building resources and capacity, improving accountability, influencing policies and practices around the topic.
- HI is co-chairing the IASC Task Team set up following the launch of the Charter at the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit to develop Guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, together with IDA and UNICEF. HI is also contributing its technical knowledge through the various work-streams of the Task Team.
- In collaboration with IDA, CBM and other members of IDDC, HI is contributing to establish a capacity building mechanism on Article 11 and inclusive humanitarian action that will foster cooperation, exchange and knowledge among DPOs, humanitarian actors and local stakeholders, in line with the UN CRPD and utilizing agreements and frameworks such as the Charter.

- HI supported the development of Humanitarian Inclusion Standards for older people and people with disabilities as part of the Age and Disability Capacity Programme (ADCAP), and the drafting of a series of UNICEF Guidance on Including Children with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action.
- HI is supporting the revision of humanitarian guidance such as the Sphere Handbook and the Child Protection Minimum Standards, to strengthen rights of persons with disabilities as a cross-cutting theme by allocating technical resources through a secondment and facilitating a working group of experts comprising 16 individuals representing DPOs, NGOs and UN agencies.
- HI is working in partnership with IDA and the Washington Group on Disability Statistics to enhance the availability and use of quality data on persons with disability by humanitarian actors by piloting the Washington Group Set of Disability Questions with INGOs and UN agencies in humanitarian response contexts in Jordan, DRC, and Philippines.
- HI supports discussions around policies and practices on inclusion of persons with disabilities with stakeholders e.g. through the Global Protection Cluster, being focal point on persons with disabilities in the Protection Mainstreaming Task Team; by supporting stakeholders, including ECHO, UN agencies; through capacity building (e.g. to German FFO and NGOs working in humanitarian assistance, together with CBM).
- HI continued its technical support to UNRWA to mainstream disability throughout the agency. As a result in 2017 UNRWA published its Disability Inclusion Guidelines which aim to create a consistent agency-wide understanding of key disability inclusion principles and practices and help agency staff to operationalize commitments under the UNRWA Disability Policy and the CRPD.
- HI is strengthening its own internal inclusion policies and initiated the process of developing an institutional Policy on Disability, Gender and Age (task team, method and time line).

### Examples of actions at country level

HI has dedicated programs, projects and activities to promote inclusive humanitarian action, influencing strategic planning and humanitarian programming. The programs are implemented in different phases of humanitarian action, both supporting host communities, refugees and internally displaced populations.

- In South Sudan HI has collaborated with IOM to conduct a participatory assessment in order to understand the living conditions, barriers and facilitators of access to services experienced by people with disabilities living in Bentui Protection of Civilians Site. The assessment data will be used to identify key actions and solutions to improve the living conditions and equal participation and access for people with disabilities and other groups at risk of discrimination/exclusion.
- In DRC, HI has partnered with Kinshasa protection cluster and the Humanitarian Pooled Fund (HPF) to improve access to HPF funded projects to the most vulnerable people. Specifically, HI has provided technical support to the HPF team to better identify key standards and actions that promote inclusive humanitarian action within submitted proposals. HPF field staff have been sensitized and provided with the appropriate tools to monitor the inclusiveness of HPF funded projects.
- In Syria HI is working to promote the access of people with disabilities to essential health services, through support to health coordination mechanisms, health structures and health responders. Health structures and health responders are provided with technical assistance, based on initial assessments in order to better include people with disabilities within their relief action.
- HI is part of the Syria Resilience consortium. Technical support is provided to five livelihood actors (IRC, NRC, MC, DRC, Care) in order to promote age, gender and disability inclusive resilience programming. Sensitization and tailored training is provided to consortium partners, awareness raising sessions are conducted in communities and personalized social support is provided to people with disabilities, benefitting from consortia interventions. Through accessibility work on livelihood infrastructures (such as markets and training centers), people with disabilities are better accommodated.

- In Yemen, HI is providing support to two consortia funded by DFID, implementing humanitarian protection, nutrition, WASH and health services. All consortia partners are trained on inclusive humanitarian programming, key strategic and programmatic tools are revised in order to integrate disability, age, gender and other mainstreaming elements as cross-cutting issues. A programmatic assessment and tailored action plan and support will be provided to all consortia partners. Additional barriers analyses are conducted among several sectors of humanitarian intervention through secondary data collection, in order to identify factors of discrimination and good practices.
- In Jordan, HI continues to co-chair the national Disability Task Force (DTF) alongside UNHCR; in Zaatari camp HI supports a camp-level Age and Disability Task Force. HI has also provided technical support to several actors to mainstream disability, age and gender, such as coaching for NRC, IMC, and Relief International to include children with disabilities in their centre-based protection and informal education activities in Azraq camp.
- In Lebanon, HI collaborated with UNICEF to provide technical support to their partners to implement more inclusive WASH services, accessible for persons with disabilities. Participative assessments were conducted together with communities and representative groups to identify challenges and good practices of inclusion among eight WASH actors. Tailored technical support was provided to increase accessibility of the offices, sanitation facilities, and distributions points, promote inclusive recruitment processes and community engagement through WASH committees and community consultations.
- HI and IMMAP are conducting a disability and education assessment among Syrian refugees in camp and host communities in Jordan, and informal tented settlements (ITS) settings in Lebanon. The assessment aims to increase understanding of the level of access and barriers to basic and specialized services among Syrian refugees with and without disabilities, with a particular focus on inclusive education, and provide recommendations on prioritized inclusive actions at community, national, and regional levels.
- In Kakuma and Dabaab camps in Kenya, HI has empowered refugees with disabilities through community-based rehabilitation committees and collaborated with mainstream humanitarian actors to ensure increased access to protection, health and rehabilitation services. Together they have also established awareness, response and prevention mechanisms for protection and gender-based violence issues towards persons with disabilities.
- In Myanmar HI supported DRC and the CCCM cluster to undertake an assessment to understand the situation of children, youth and adults with disabilities within Muslim Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps in Sittwe, central Rakhine State. Prior to the assessment, all 18 enumerators and 6 team leaders received a two-day training from HI.
- In Philippines HI conducted a training of humanitarian responders to Marawi crisis on accessible humanitarian assistance, access to services and disability data collection.
- In the frame of an emergency nutrition project in Ethiopia, HI is supporting Action Against Hunger to ensure that all their nutritional services in Nguenyiel and Pugnido camps are inclusive of children with disabilities.

HI is involved in DRR to strengthen innovative and traditional early warning system to make sure people with disabilities will be reached, but also mobile data collection before, during and after disasters to know exactly which populations are at higher risks than others.

- In Ethiopia HI partnered with Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Ethiopian Catholic Church Social and Development Coordination Office of Harrar, and Catholic Organization for Relief & Development Aid to ensure inclusion of persons with disabilities in community-based DRR committees supported through a 3-year resilience project.
- In Pakistan, HI is combining approaches to inclusive DRR and inclusive livelihoods promotion to build resilience of persons with disabilities, for example, through facilitating their participation in Village Disaster Management Committees alongside personalized social support.