



DISABILITY REFERENCE GROUP

INAUGURAL ANNUAL MEETING

Online Thurs. 19 March 2026 1pm- 4pm CET

Summary

The DRG's annual meeting marked five years of progress building a global network for disability-inclusive humanitarian action, now comprising over 676 members (including 23% OPDs; 22% local/national actors) and formally associated with the IASC as a Community of Practice. Participants reviewed key achievements including regular meetings/newsletters, a resource library, two active working groups (operationalizing guidance; OPD participation/leadership), practical outputs such as online learning modules (with an iData/data module in development), learning exchanges, joint advocacy messaging on the Humanitarian Reset, and collaboration with other humanitarian policy and technical groups (e.g., GBV Pocket Guide annex). The group also highlighted resilience in sustaining collaboration despite sector-wide funding cuts and shifting priorities.

Looking forward, members identified priorities to increase impact beyond the disability inclusion community by strengthening engagement with mainstream humanitarian actors and influencing humanitarian systems and processes, while strengthening meaningful OPD participation in country-level decision-making and improving OPD access to funding. The meeting emphasized leveraging the DRG network to influence wider reform agendas (Humanitarian Reset, UN80, and UNDIS Cycle 2), building a stronger evidence base and advocacy case that disability inclusion is lifesaving, and deepening cross-community collaboration (e.g., with Gender and MHPSS groups).

Discussion with members generated practical recommendations to strengthen member engagement and identify potential roles for the DRG in country-level coordination: create a vetted member directory/country contact lists; introduce onboarding and a buddy system for new members; pilot regional discussions with global read-outs; and make participation more valuable for OPDs through organizational development support and sharing of funding opportunities. For response-level engagement, members advised focusing on DRG's unique value (avoiding duplication of in-country coordination mechanisms), such as by establishing regional/country focal points to rapidly connect OPDs and humanitarian responders, and delivering early-stage briefings at crisis onset to shape inclusive program design before funding and programming decisions are made.

Background

The Disability Reference Group (DRG) brings together over 650 members, including organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), NGOs and UN entities, to work jointly towards strengthening disability inclusion in humanitarian action. This includes humanitarian action to respond to conflict, climate emergencies, large movements of refugees and other crises. Established at Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Weeks (HNPW) in 2020, the DRG provides a forum for local and global actors to exchange learning; formulate joint policy recommendations; and collaborate on practical initiatives to improve how persons with disabilities access humanitarian assistance and participate as actors in humanitarian response.

The DRG has been functioning as a network due to the contributions of many actors, together with the general membership:

Donors:

- Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), provides funding to run and maintain the DRG Secretariat and support operations (2023-2026).
- DG ECHO and Center for Disaster Philanthropy (CDP), funding the process of documenting good and promising practices and three case studies on inclusive humanitarian action (2022- 2024),
- German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), via the 'Leave no one behind project', phases 2- 4 (since 2021 ongoing), supports different work streams, including the development of the DRG learning packages introducing disability-inclusive humanitarian action, and the inclusive Data (iData) module done by work stream 1, at current, all to support the uptake of the IASC Guidelines by operational actors in the field.
- USAID/BHA- 2023-2025- funding for an initiative to strengthen participation and leadership by OPDs in humanitarian action.

Working group leads:

- Working Group 1 co-leads (operationalization of guidance)
 - Laura Masuch, CBM
 - Aline Bazelry, International Rescue Committee (IRC)
 - Pauline Thivillier, Oxfam Novib and IRC (previous working group co-lead)
 - Sophie Allin & Ulrike Last, Humanity & Inclusion (previous working group co-leads)
- Working Group 3 co-leads (participation and leadership by OPDs)
 - Marcie Roth, World Institute on Disability (WID)
 - Maroua Ben Said, International Disability Alliance (IDA)
 - Alradi Abdallah, International Disability Alliance (previous working group co-lead)
 - Kathy Al Ju'beh, CBM-Global (previous working group co-lead)
- Working Group on the stock take of the IASC Guidelines (timebound 2025, 2026):

- Humanity & Inclusion, lead
- IASC Secretariat, co-lead

- Working Group on the Global Disability Summit (2025):
 - Oliver Wieggers, CBM
 - Waqar Puri, TCI Global
 - Kirstin Lange, UNICEF

- Community of Practice on coordination in countries (2025):
 - Reem Khan & Laurène Collin, Humanity & Inclusion

Co-chairs:

- Gordon Rattray, International Disability Alliance
- Ulrike Last, Humanity & Inclusion
- Nurten Yilmaz and Kirstin Lange, UNICEF
- Sophie Allin, Humanity & Inclusion (interim Co-Chair 2025/2026)
- Elham Youssefian, International Disability Alliance (previous co-chair)
- Alradi Abdallah, International Disability Alliance (previous co-chair)
- Christian Modino Hok, CBM-Global (previous co-chair)

Objectives

This annual meeting reflected on 5 years of the DRG and identified strategic priorities in the context of the humanitarian reset. Since its establishment, the DRG has gained Interagency Standing Committee (IASC) association as a Community of Practice; and substantially expanded its membership, with over 20% of its membership now consisting of local and national actors and close to 25% consisting of OPDs. In 2026, the DRG will be conducting a stocktake of implementation of the IASC Guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, to identify progress made and remaining gaps on disability inclusion. This annual meeting therefore represented a key moment for the DRG membership to come together as a collective and co-create a way forward at this challenging time.

PART ONE- LOOKING BACK

Journey of the DRG

DRG co-chairs provided an overview of the key milestones and achievements of the DRG, including:

- Grown to 676 members, 23% of which are OPDs and 22% of which are local and national actors
- Conducting monthly meetings and producing monthly newsletters by and for all members
- Establishment of dedicated webpage with resource library
- 2 active working groups:
 - Operationalization of guidance for disability inclusive humanitarian action
 - Participation and leadership by OPDs in humanitarian action
- 2 additional workstreams (led by co-chairs)
 - Integration of disability inclusion in global humanitarian systems
 - Strengthening coordination on disability inclusion in countries
- Organized the first in a series of meetings with OPDs to exchange on the Humanitarian Reset, jointly with UN OCHA, and produced a [summary report](#) (2026)
- Launched a stocktake of the IASC Guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, jointly with the IASC Secretariat. To identify good practices and ongoing gaps and challenges (2026)
- Conducted survey of members and produced [report](#) on the impact of funding cuts and policy shifts on disability inclusive humanitarian action (2025)
- Development and dissemination of [Key messages](#) on disability inclusion in the humanitarian reset (2025)
- Held a regional capacity sharing workshop for OPDs and humanitarian actors in East Africa (2025)
- Establishment of time bound community of practice on coordination of disability inclusive humanitarian action, and production of [toolkit](#) and [learning papers](#) (2025)
- Production of [GBV Pocket Guide annex](#) (2024/25) together with the GBV Guidelines Group
- Development of [Operational definition of local and national OPDs](#) (2024) to strengthen monitoring of OPD participation in humanitarian coordination
- Documenting & disseminating [good and promising practices](#) and [three case studies](#) on inclusive humanitarian action (2022- 2024),
- Development & dissemination of the [DRG learning packages introducing disability-inclusive humanitarian action](#), and at current, the inclusive Data (iData) module to support the uptake of the IASC Guidelines by operational actors in the field.
- Drafted and circulated [Key messages for Global Disability Summits](#) through dedicated time-bound working groups (2025 and 2022)
- Organized events regularly at the Conference of States Parties to the CRPD (CoSP), Global Disability Summits and Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Weeks (HNPW)
- Regular engagement with donors and with the IASC system

Working Group 1 co-leads presented an overview of the achievements of and challenges faced by working group 1 (operationalization of guidance):

- 25 members, 21 of whom are active

- Production of 19 in-depth case studies of good and promising practices, through a participatory selection process
- Development of Online learning materials (7 modules- introduction to disability; introduction to the IASC Guidelines; accessibility, universal design and reasonable accommodation; inclusive project cycle; situating disability inclusion in the wider humanitarian landscape; introducing the must-do actions and the twin track approach; inclusive accountability to affected populations)
- (Under development) new training module on collection and use of data on persons with disabilities
- Regular learning exchanges on identified priority topics
 - Disability inclusive MHPSS
 - Locally led protection analysis
 - Inclusive humanitarian response for people with hearing impairments
 - Humanitarian standards, accountability, localization (upcoming)
 - Inclusive HNRP experiences (upcoming)

Working Group 3 co-leads (represented by Gordon Rattray) presented an overview of the achievements of and challenges faced by working group 3 (participation and leadership by OPDs):

- Exchanges between OPDs and humanitarian actors on priority topics:
 - Impact of armed conflict on persons with disabilities
 - Inclusive and resilient humanitarian response (Sahel and Haiti)
 - Consultation on ICRC guide on working with OPDs
- Challenges:
 - Participation fluctuated significantly, sometimes limiting opportunity for engagement
 - More time needed to build deeper follow up recommendations.
 - Constraints in funding for accessibility
- Opportunities:
 - Created opportunities for South – South learning
 - Provided a forum for generating joint recommendations from OPDs
 - Initial insights collected for 2026 planning

Taking Stock

Members were invited to reflect on the key highlights of collaboration in the DRG, challenges the group has overcome together and challenges remaining:

Highlights of collaboration

- Strong value is placed on the people and relationships in the DRG- members can easily connect, ask questions, and access expertise across the network.
- The DRG helps keep the perspectives of persons with disabilities visible in higher-level humanitarian coordination spaces.

- Despite funding cuts and being largely voluntary, the group is still functioning and producing concrete outputs (e.g., iData module; learning exchanges).
- Members see real benefit in knowledge exchange across agencies (e.g., cross-agency learning on tools and approaches).

Challenges the DRG has overcome

- Continued collaboration and outputs despite a wider funding crisis and cuts that reduce participation capacity.
- Navigating shifting priorities while maintaining an active community (workstreams, monthly engagement) and maintaining visibility of the disability inclusion agenda in a humanitarian system under significant pressure.

Challenges remaining / priorities going forward

- Move beyond “preaching to the choir”: DRG discussions often involve those already committed to disability inclusion; need stronger engagement by mainstream humanitarian actors. For example, stronger system-wide engagement with OCHA, other UN agencies, and large INGOs—not only through training/advocacy, but by working with them to change internal processes: templates, SOPs, and data collection tools (with DRG/local OPD support).
- OPD participation in country level decision-making processes remains weak: policies may exist, but implementation often fails because OPDs are not consistently at the table where programs are designed and decisions made. The current localization agenda is an important opportunity for strengthening OPD leadership but currently risks creating more barriers.
- Barriers for OPDs to access direct funding persist, including inaccessible due diligence requirements. Need to make funding processes more accessible and workable for smaller/local OPDs.
- Maintaining participation and institutional knowledge under funding constraints is a significant challenge—especially ensuring disability expertise remains represented within larger mainstream organizations.
- Opportunity to feed into UN Disability Inclusion Strategy, cycle 2: stronger emphasis emerging on data and programming; need better links with OPDs on the ground for consultation, data, and program design across UN entities.
- Important to strengthen real participation by local OPDs in the DRG: despite large membership, participation is uneven; barriers include intimidation by “big system” spaces and limited time/connectivity. Proposed approaches: more personal outreach (e.g., short invitation videos from peers), regional OPD meet-ups, more in-person events, and practical capacity building (including support on due diligence/funding applications).
- Opportunities for cross-group coordination, as an IASC associated entity: explore joint work with Gender and MHPSS Reference Groups—especially given shared concerns on prioritization, funding impacts, and influencing coordination mechanisms.

PART TWO- LOOKING FORWARD

DRG Work plan 2026-27

Part two of the annual meeting started with a presentation of the draft DRG work plan for the coming period (see annex 1). Members were invited to provide feedback. No feedback was received during the meeting and the draft work plan will be shared with members for feedback by email.

Workshopping further DRG growth

Members moved into facilitated group discussions on specific topics to delve more deeply into workplan implementation

Group 1- Improving mechanisms for engagement by members

- Create clearer ways for members to find and connect with each other: develop a member directory / country listing (who works where, with contact details) so members can proactively connect at country level.
 - Consider a light vetting/verification approach (as per other networks) so people feel confident contacts are legitimate, especially for OPDs.
- Strengthen engagement of local/national OPDs
 - Key barriers include limited staff/time, connectivity constraints, and language/translation needs.
 - Provide options for offline-accessible resources/platforms (tools that can be downloaded/used with low connectivity).
 - Ensure resources are translated or language-accessible for local OPDs.
 - Clarify and improve the “value proposition” for OPDs (how do OPDs benefit from participating?)
 - Adjust topics/activities to be more directly useful for OPDs, not only a space where experts share tools with each other.
 - Complement technical webinars with organizational development/institution-building support for OPDs. Explore advocating for or enabling more flexible funding that supports OPD institutional strengthening (not only project delivery).
 - Important to recognize also the need to strengthen global disability leadership
- Increase support for new members.
 - Introduce structured onboarding (such as onboarding sessions) and peer support for new members.
 - Establish a low-burden buddy/mentorship system (simple sign-up form with matching handled by a volunteer DRG member)
- Pilot regional meetings/discussions.
 - Build in dedicated time in global meetings for regional read-outs so issues flow back to the whole network and regions don't become isolated.

- Use incentives/recognition to motivate engagement. E.g., consider recognition of donors that directly support OPDs; recognition OPDs role globally and in their countries/ regions.
- Test different days/times for DRG meetings (current mid-week scheduling may clash with heavy meeting days).
 - Run a member survey on preferred timing.
- Use the DRG network to share funding opportunities/open calls and connect unfunded applications to potential donors.

Group 1- Coordinating at response level

- Past DRG practice of convening meetings for each new scale-up sometimes duplicated existing in-country coordination/working groups; the group should focus on where it can uniquely add value rather than replicate country mechanisms.
- A recurring need remains: OPDs asking DRG to connect them to responders in-country—a gap DRG can help fill if mechanisms are improved.
- Use the proposed directory (see above) and focal points to enable rapid, practical connections
 - Establish regional and/or country DRG focal points/contact persons who can:
 - orient humanitarian responders on who to reach out to,
 - link OPDs with humanitarian actors and relevant coordination spaces,
- Offer very early-stage briefings/webinars for humanitarian actors at the outset of a crisis on how to engage OPDs and design inclusive responses—before funding/program choices are made.

Group 2- Strengthening policy influence and aligning with the humanitarian reset

- Link disability inclusion to broader humanitarian reform agendas
 - Connect disability-inclusive humanitarian action to the UN80 reform process and the Humanitarian Reset- ensure these reform processes remain open to both NGOs and UN agencies, and proactively define how disability-focused actors can contribute
 - Advocate for formalizing OPD participation in humanitarian country teams and clusters
- Strengthen public policy guidance for disability-inclusive crisis response
 - There is limited guidance on integrating disability into public policy responses to humanitarian crises, especially across the humanitarian–peace–development (HPD) nexus. Guidelines need to be written for policymakers (language/format that fits policy processes) to facilitate stronger government ownership so inclusion is reflected in national/local policy and practice.
- Position disability inclusion as an enabler within humanitarian action
 - Entry points suggested: country pooled funds, cluster system integration.
 - Engage more strategically with the EU / DG ECHO, including identifying entry points in Humanitarian Implementation Plans (HIPs).

- Consider identifying/strengthening a global lead agency to ensure disability inclusion is systematically embedded.
- Leverage donor members of the DRG to disseminate messaging to other donors
- Explore what enabling services the DRG/members can pool to make broadly available across the humanitarian community.
- Build a stronger advocacy case: disability inclusion as lifesaving
 - Need for a more strategic advocacy approach backed by evidence to demonstrate disability inclusion as lifesaving, essential, and non-optional in humanitarian action.
- Improve OPD access to funding: consortia and partnership models
 - Donor reality: limited appetite to reduce administrative/compliance requirements in humanitarian funding means that OPDs may need to join or form consortia to access funding more effectively.
 - Donors often find it difficult to fund OPDs directly- reinforcing the need to both strengthen OPD capacity and promote more equitable partnership models.
- Shift from consultation to coordination engagement at local level
 - Core challenge is translating global disability policy commitments into local implementation.
 - OPDs must be engaged in a genuine way from the beginning (co-design), not after humanitarian plans are developed. Conduct structured OPD capacity assessments followed by targeted capacity strengthening to meet operational, compliance, and accountability expectations and support equal partnership in design/implementation/policy influence.
- Use climate change and broader inclusion agendas to strengthen disability advocacy
 - Leverage the climate agenda to increase attention to disability inclusion and identify funding/policy entry points across related sectors.
 - Emphasize intersectionality (gender, age) in framing; linking disability to broader inclusion agendas may gain more traction than stand-alone messaging.

Key actions/ priorities going forward

Based on discussions in the meeting, the following actions are identified as concrete next steps for the DRG to pursue:

No/ low cost and short term

- Co-chairs to translate funding priorities into proposal to share with donors.
- DRG members to review and provide feedback to draft workplan.
- Explore interest among DRG members to pilot a buddy system for new members.
- Pilot introduction of a basic onboarding session for new members, to be designed in consultation with existing members.

- Dedicate at least 1 monthly meeting to discussion on funding for local and national OPDs, to identify concrete actions for the DRG to pursue.
- Discuss with key actors (including OCHA) the feasibility of and most effective options for providing briefings on disability inclusion at the very early onset of new emergencies.

Fundraising priorities

- **Secure core resources for secretariat support, accessibility and reasonable accommodation (top priority).**
- Establishment of a member directory to facilitate country level engagement.
- Explore interest among DRG members to identify regional focal points and develop TOR (including to make connections between OPDs and humanitarian actors and to facilitate regional dialogues). Fundraising for accessibility and reasonable accommodation as a minimum.
- Produce an issues brief (or similar) on disability inclusion in the Humanitarian Reset and/ or other reform processes, providing an evidence base for disability inclusion as lifesaving and as an enabler for humanitarian response, and focusing on OPD engagement in humanitarian coordination processes.

Medium- longer term (funding dependent)

- Secure funding for a comprehensive approach to strengthen OPD engagement in humanitarian coordination in countries, including capacity strengthening.
- Identify potential pooled services the DRG may be able to offer across the humanitarian system (e.g., technical surge advice, training).

Annex 1- DRG work plan 2026-27



DISABILITY REFERENCE GROUP – IASC Community of Practice Work Plan January 2026- December 2027

Principles and process

- The workplan reflects/is aligned with the TORs of the DRG as well as system-wide priorities and opportunities
- The workplan is a living document that will evolve over time and will be revised periodically based on needs and opportunities. The workplan will be reviewed in DRG meetings every quarter
- The workplan is owned by the whole DRG membership
- The workplan will be the basis for resource mobilization efforts and external DRG communications

Cross cutting priorities across all work streams

- Foster participation and leadership by OPDs (both a dedicated work stream and a cross cutting priority)
- Reflect intersectionality, including consideration of gender and age
- Ensure more marginalized and at-risk groups with disabilities are included (including people with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities)

Mechanisms for coordination

- In order to promote effective coordination across all workstreams of the DRG, co-chairs will convene regular coordination meetings, including:
 - Update meeting between DRG co-chairs and working group leads for each work stream at least three times per year
 - Coordination meeting between DRG co-chairs and all working group leads at least three times per year

Work stream 1: Operationalize the *IASC Guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action* and other relevant guidelines and

frameworks for disability inclusive humanitarian action through technical support for implementation

Objectives

This work stream will support the implementation of global guidance on disability inclusive humanitarian action (including the IASC Guidelines), through adapting and developing tools and operational guidance and building the capacity of humanitarian actors, and through providing a platform for learning exchange and sharing good practice. This work stream has an operational focus, aiming to affect change at field level.

Mechanism for delivery

This work stream is coordinated by a dedicated working group, led by Aline Bazerly, International Rescue Committee; and Laura Masuch, CBM-International

Key priorities

- Developing and piloting a learning module/ product on the collection and use of disability data in humanitarian contexts, to support humanitarian actors to implement existing guidance and standards;
- Organize regular learning exchanges led by WS1 members, based on pre-identified priority topics, e.g. Disability-Inclusive Cash and Voucher Assistance (iCVA), meaningful OPD participation in the humanitarian system/ HNRP processes, Disability-inclusive advocacy and policy;
- Look for opportunities for joint advocacy events led by WS1 members, with a focus on promoting the disability-data learning module in mainstream events;

Cross-cutting considerations: WS1 will be looking at improving collaboration and identification of synergies between the different workstream, especially with WS3 co-leads and members.

Work stream 2: Mainstream inclusion of persons with disabilities across global processes, including priority areas of the IASC

Objectives

The scope of workstream 2 is to engage with and influence global humanitarian mechanisms and processes to support the meaningful integration of disability inclusion. This workstream is contributing to existing policy, strategy, guidance and tools development processes in the humanitarian system. Priority areas of engagement have been selected based on their system-wide relevance; potential impact at global and country level; and value-add of DRG engagement, in order to maximize impact. Due to the nature of this work stream, in addition to the priorities set out below it is also important that this work stream is responsive to any emerging opportunities to contribute to broader processes and further embed disability inclusion into key humanitarian processes.

Mechanism for delivery

This work stream will be led by co-chairs, with support from focal points where identified. Focal points will help determine, in consultation with DRG co-chairs, the most effective mechanism for facilitating DRG engagement. This may include establishment of time-bound working groups, delivery of information/ consultation sessions and/ or linking identified DRG members with relevant expertise/ knowledge with external processes.

Key priorities:

- Integrate disability inclusion in IASC processes and products
 - Where possible, contribute to conversations on how disability inclusion can be explicitly reflected in discussions and decision making in IASC processes. This includes sharing key messages in advance of relevant IASC meetings
 - Review relevant new IASC products, such as tools and guidance
 - Convene or participate in regular exchanges with other associated entities (Gender Reference Group, MHPSS Reference Group) to formulate joint messaging and identify other opportunities for collaboration
- Coordinate a stock take of the IASC Guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, to identify progress made and remains gaps and challenges. Establish a time-bound advisory group to oversee the stock take and engage a consultant to support the work
- Produce a report on the impact of funding cuts and policy shifts on the capacity of DRG members to deliver disability inclusive humanitarian action
- Convene a dialogue with local and national OPDs on the Humanitarian Reset, with a view to identifying key actions needed to facilitate their participation in Reset-related decision making processes in countries. Use the outcomes from this dialogue as a basis for influencing localization efforts under the Humanitarian Reset
- Conduct a review of the impact of the Humanitarian Reset on disability inclusion in humanitarian action

Work stream 3: Support participation and leadership by OPDs in humanitarian action

Objectives

The overall goal of workstream 3 is to increase participation and leadership of OPDs in humanitarian action and to increase opportunities for partnerships between humanitarian actors and OPDs.

Workstream 3 will work towards this goal by enabling dialogue between OPDs and humanitarian to exchange experience and learning and co-create concrete recommendations for advancing disability inclusive humanitarian action.

Mechanism for delivery

This work stream is coordinated by a dedicated working group, led by Maroua Ben Said, International Disability Alliance; and Marcie Roth, World Institute on Disability

The workstream proposes to convene one meeting approximately every six weeks.

Topics will be:

- OPD-driven
- Aligned with localization and the humanitarian reset
- Selected based on strategic relevance and emerging opportunities
- Designed to maximise impact per engagement

Critical topics for bi-monthly or quarterly meetings will be agreed in advance to facilitate structured dialogue between OPDs and humanitarian actors.

Key priorities

1-Women with Disabilities in Humanitarian Leadership

Strengthening leadership, participation, and representation of women with disabilities within:

- OPDs
- Humanitarian coordination bodies
- Committees and platforms
- Consultations and monitoring mechanisms

This includes advancing dialogue on how humanitarian systems can better integrate gender-disability intersectionality within localization processes.

2- Inclusion & Protection in Humanitarian Action

Making visible — and addressing — the consequences of the invisibility of women with disabilities in humanitarian responses, particularly regarding:

- Equitable access to services
- Violence prevention and GBV response
- Protection frameworks
- Integration of disability rights in response planning

3- Knowledge & Evidence Strengthening

Exploration of how evidence can strengthen OPD visibility and engagement in humanitarian mechanisms

- The workstream will primarily prioritize learning, exchange, and knowledge-sharing, rather than systematically producing advocacy products.
- Based on demand and capacity, facilitate consultation with OPDs on new humanitarian policy, strategy and tools.

Work stream 4: Strengthen coordination mechanisms for disability inclusion in countries

Objectives

This work stream aims to provide a global platform to support structures in place at country level to coordinate disability inclusion in humanitarian action. These often take the form of working groups bringing together local OPDs, NGOs and UN entities to work together on strengthening disability inclusion in the response.

Mechanism for delivery

This work stream will be led by co-chairs, with a view to acquiring resources to put in place more sustained mechanisms for delivering on key priorities, such as a dedicated community of practice.

Key priorities:

- Disseminate key learning from discussions in the community of practice for country level coordination on disability inclusion, for dissemination among disability and humanitarian networks
- Develop a resource repository for country level mechanisms for coordination on disability inclusion in humanitarian response
- Establish an ongoing community of practice to bring together members of country level mechanisms for coordination on disability inclusion, for joint learning and exchange
- Advance disability inclusion in the Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC), including through engagement with relevant actors

Role of DRG co-chairs

The role of DRG co-chairs is to provide leadership and support to delivery of the DRG workplan, including through:

- Promoting coordination between working group leads/ focal points and identifying synergies across the work plan
- Organizing monthly DRG meetings, including to identify topics of interest to members and engaging speakers. Facilitating a space in monthly meetings for members to exchange views and share experiences
- Convening an annual meeting to take stock of progress made and agree on strategic priorities for the Group
- Managing quality assurance of DRG products, including review of products that will be branded with the DRG logo
- Designing and maintaining mechanisms for meaningful and active participation by DRG members. This may include maintaining a menu of options for member contributions, establishing regional sub-networks, depending on consultation with members
- Ensuring that the DRG website is maintained as a space for sharing of resources and for connecting DRG members
- Ensuring that the monthly DRG newsletter is developed and disseminated as a product for information share among disability and humanitarian actors
- Organizing events and other communications to advance the mandate of the DRG
- Leading ongoing engagement with members states and donors, including by participating in meetings of the Geneva-based Group of Friends on disability

inclusive humanitarian action, and through timely and proactive outreach to key donors

- Keep member states informed of developments regarding disability inclusive humanitarian action
- Explore opportunities for engagement on shared policy concerns/ commitments
- Identify any fundraising opportunities to support DRG activities
- Coordinating DRG participation at Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week (HNPW) and other humanitarian forums to sensitize humanitarian actors on disability inclusion and resources available to support their work
- Coordinating DRG participation at Conference of States Parties (CoSP) to the CRPD and other disability rights- related events to sensitize states, OPDs and disability- focused organizations on the situation of persons with disabilities in humanitarian contexts and engage these actors in promoting the rights of persons with disabilities affected by humanitarian emergencies
- Strategic communication with other actors in the humanitarian system to ensure that the DRG work plan can be implemented effectively and is connected with broader system- wide processes
- Arranging opportunities for engagement with other networks to promote cross learning and exchange. This may include exchanges to share experience with networks such as climate actors and emergency responders
- Disseminating existing DRG resources, such as the definition of local and national OPDs and the GBV Pocket Guide annex on disability inclusion. Developing new tools and resources only in response to clear demand and when resources allow- in this case new resources will normally be developed by an existing or new/ time-bound working group