

Global Partnership for Disability and Development

GPDD Monthly Newsletter

Washington, DC

May 2009

In this issue of the GPDD Newsletter:

- **GPDD Project Updates**
 - Inclusive Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP) Demonstration Project*
 - Inclusive Disaster and Emergency Management Research Project*
 - Community of Practice on Women with Disabilities and Inclusive Development*
- **Who's Who in Disability & Development**
- **Events**

GPDD Project Updates

Inclusive Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP) Demonstration Project in Mozambique

June-July Mission

GPDD, under the leadership of Consultant, Rosangela Berman Bieler, is planning a series of Inclusive PRSP Capacity Building meetings and events in Mozambique during June and July, 2009. The aim of the mission is to strengthen alliances among local and international stakeholders, finalize a need assessment to include the interior of Mozambique, and start a reflection process on entry points for the 2010 PRS.

A Workshop on Building a Disability Alliance for Inclusive Poverty Reduction Strategies will be held in Maputo in December. The Workshop will encourage local DPOs to delve into concepts, methods, and good practices necessary for nurturing an atmosphere for inclusive PRS.

Local Consultants

A Request for Expressions of Interest was made for consultant firms to manage logistics, operations and planning for the abovementioned Capacity Building Workshop and associated events. In addition, local consultant, Rogerio Manjate was hired to assist in designing and implementing activities related to the PRSP Demonstration Project.

Inclusive Disaster and Emergency Management – Experiences and Practices in Bangladesh, Indonesia, and the United States of America

The GPDD Disaster Research Team, lead by senior consultant Asha Hans, has developed a draft framework for research and reporting, beginning with an in depth literature review. Research parameters are expanding to incorporate disaster management issues experienced during Hurricane Ike and the impact of the 2004 Asian Tsunami, to allow for comparative research of the Java and Tsunami experiences from the perspective of people with disabilities.

Community of Practice on Women with Disabilities and Inclusive Development

Community Moderators Ola Abu Al-Ghaib, founder of Stars of Hope Society of Palestine, and Mijoo Kim, Director of the Women with Disabilities, Arts, and Culture Network of Seoul, Korea, have initiated the community development and planning process, with support from the GPDD Secretariat.

Who's Who in Disability and Development

Rosangela Berman Bieler – Lead Consultant, GPDD Inclusive Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP) Demonstration Project. A Brazilian journalist, publisher, and disability rights advocate, Rosangela has lead initiatives to promote the rights of people with disabilities and supported the collaborative effort that created the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Rosangela was a champion of the independent living movement that began in the 1980s and founded and currently heads the Inter-American Institute on Disability and Inclusive Development, an organization created to promote socio-economic and political empowerment and participation in Latin American, the Caribbean and in Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa. She also applies her skills consulting for the UN, The World Bank, UNICEF and ILO, and serves as an expert on inclusive development. Rosangela holds a Master's Degree in the social inclusion of people with disabilities.

The GPDD Welcomes Three New Members

Swedish Organisations of Disabled Persons International Aid Association (SHIA) is a non-profit organization that was formed in 1981 during the United Nations International Year of Disabled Persons and is comprised of 28 Swedish organizations of persons with disabilities actively involved in international development cooperation. SHIA's projects focus on supporting the work of people with disabilities in promoting increased rights, equality and inclusion. SHIA stands for Solidarity. Human Rights. Inclusion. Accessibility. (www.shia.se)

VSArts: Vision of an inclusive community. Strength through shared resources. Artistic expression that unites us all. VSArts was in an international nonprofit organization founded in 1974, by Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith, to create a society where all people with disabilities learn through, participate in and enjoy the arts. Positioned at the unique cross-section of arts, education, and disability, VSArts is committed to driving change and promoting inclusion in all areas of society, inspired by four basic principles: (1) Every young person with a disability deserves to access high quality arts learning experiences, (2) All artists in schools and art educators should be prepared to include students with disabilities in their instruction, (3) All children, youth, and adults with disabilities should have complete access to cultural facilities and activities, and (4) all individuals with disabilities who aspire to careers in the arts should have the opportunity to develop appropriate skills. (www.vsarts.org)

The Melbourne Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) was established in August 2007 to lead and support the development of livable communities in Victoria, Australia. The Office of Disabilities, the first of its kind, was established with a mandate to put disability on the agenda across the Victorian government. Its specific aims include encouraging and influencing government policy and activities to improve the outcomes for people with disabilities, decreasing barriers to participation in communities, and advancing the vision and goals of the Victorian State Disability Plan 2002-2012 and the mandate of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act of 2006, as well as promoting the eight guiding principles of the UN CRDP. (www.dpcd.vic.gov.au)

Events

I-Board Members BMZ & GTZ Visit Washington, DC

In April, the GPDD Secretariat welcomed I-Board Members Michaela Passlick, of the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and Andreas Pruisken of the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) in Washington, DC, for the following events:

Welcome Dinner hosted by the GPDD Secretariat to introduce Ms. Passlick & Mr. Pruisken to local partners and encourage networking among representatives of the World Bank, USAID, Handicap International, the Inter-American Development Bank, Gallaudet University faculty and students, USCID, and other local organizations.

A Brown Bag Lunch at World Bank Headquarters, hosted by the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), introduced the use of the CRPD as a framework for poverty reduction and the challenges and opportunities that it presents for bi-lateral development cooperation.

Collaborative Meeting at the GPDD Secretariat for informal discussion on the current GPDD framework and activities, as well potential future activities.

Civil Society Policy Forum at the World Bank & International Monetary Fund

The GPDD Secretariat, in collaboration with the World Bank's Disability and Development Team, hosted a panel on "Disability and Inclusive Development: Issues, Strategies, Policies and Practices" on April 24th, as part of the 2009 CSO Forum. The panel was part of a broader dialog on Development Programs and Policies and Vulnerable Groups and highlighted strategies for mainstreaming disabilities in the areas of prevention, rehabilitation, and inclusion. Executive Director of Disabled Peoples' International (DPI), Mary Ennis, participated as an expert speaker on the panel, which was chaired by GPDD Executive Director, Maria Reina.

"A World of Solutions: Innovations for People with Disabilities" at the Inter-American Development Bank

GPDD Member Inter-American Development Bank launched a call for proposals to improve the inclusion of people with disabilities in education and in the labor market through innovation and technology. The program also includes a problem-solution matchmaking competition. The use of interactive applications will allow organizations of people with disabilities and individuals to submit problems and rank them according to their relevance. Scientists and innovators of all areas will be invited to participate in the competition offering solutions to the prioritized problems. The IDB will finance the development of the best ideas. The GPDD is collaborating with this initiative and participated in the launch ceremony at the IDB headquarters on 7 May.

Save the Date: 2009 GPDD Membership Meeting

The Second Annual GPDD Membership Meeting will take place in Turin, Italy, from 14 - 17 October, 2009.