

‘Bridging the Gap’ project

What we have done so far

Easy to read version

Easy to read is a way
to make information accessible
so people with intellectual disabilities
and all people can understand it.



What is 'Bridging the Gap'?

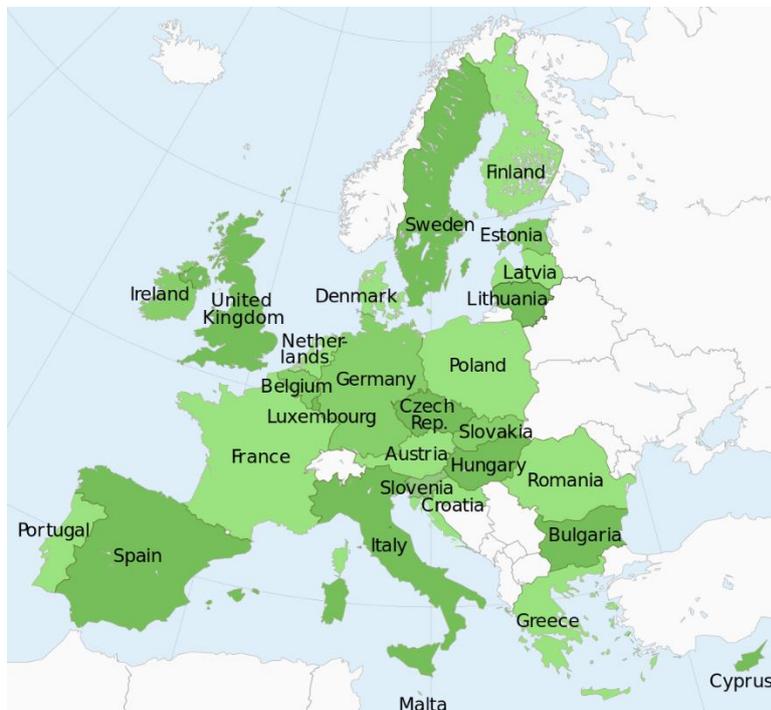
'Bridging the Gap' is a project that tries to make the lives of people with disabilities in poorer countries better.

For example, the project wants to make sure that:

- things and services are accessible so that people with disabilities can use them like other people,
- people with disabilities take part in all things in life like everyone else,
- no one is left behind.



The **European Union** gave the money for this project. The European Union is a group of 28 countries in Europe that came together to make things better for people.



Many European and world organisations work together to make this project happen. Together we want to make things better for people with disabilities who live in poorer countries. For example, countries in South America, Africa and other places.

So 'Bridging the Gap' is a European project, but it mostly tries to help people with disabilities in poorer countries outside Europe.

The project has 2 parts.

The first part of the project is called '**Bridging the Gap 1**'. '**Bridging the Gap 1**' tries to find ways to make the '**Sustainable Development Goals**' happen for the good of people with disabilities.

The '**Sustainable Development Goals**' are goals that are set by many countries to make the world better.



When countries work to make the 'Sustainable Development Goals' happen, they should always keep in mind the '**UN Convention**' and remember to help people with disabilities too.

The '**UN Convention**' is a law that says what rights people with disabilities have and how countries should protect these rights.

'Bridging the Gap 1' wants the Sustainable Development Goals and the UN Convention to happen in the world.

This way all people with disabilities in the world will have better lives and same chances as everyone else.

For this to happen, the voices of people with disabilities and their organisations should be heard.

Nothing should be decided about people with disabilities without them.

This is why we are working together with people with disabilities and their organisations in different countries

like Ethiopia, Jordan, Moldova, Nepal and Paraguay.

This way we learn how things are for them and how we can help to make their lives better.



The second part of the project is called **'Bridging the Gap 2'**.

'Bridging the Gap 2' tries to make things better for people with disabilities in the countries of:

- Burkina Faso
- Ecuador
- Ethiopia
- Paraguay
- Sudan

We want to see things in these countries get better for people with disabilities.

For that to happen, people who make decisions in these countries should work closely with people with disabilities

and help them to have more chances in life.

For example:

- Children with disabilities should have the chance to go to school and learn new things.



- People with disabilities who are sick should have the chance to go the hospital and get well.
- People with disabilities should have the chance to work and live independently.

We also try to bring together organisations of people with disabilities and other organisations who work to make things better in these countries.

Together we can work better than each of us alone.

What have we done so far?

In the first part of the project '**Bridging the Gap 1**':

✓ **We met people with disabilities and people who work to make things better for people with disabilities in the countries of:**

- Ethiopia
- Paraguay
- Moldova
- Jordan
- Nepal

Together we talked about how the UN Convention can happen in these countries for the good of people with disabilities.

✓ **We talked about the Sustainable Development Goals and how important they are for people with disabilities.**

Each of the Sustainable Development Goals concern people with disabilities and can make a difference in their life.

We tried to make this clear to people who work to make the Sustainable Development Goals happen.

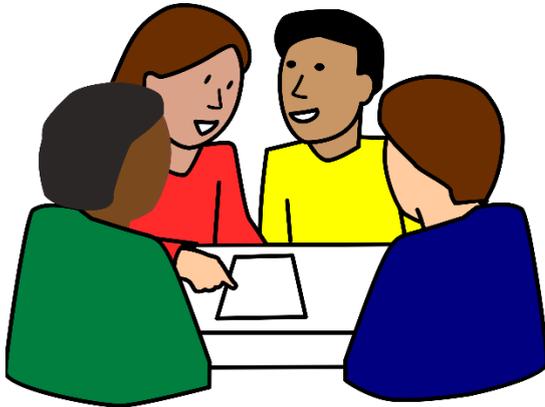
We explained to them how they can make the Sustainable Development Goals happen for the good of people with disabilities too.



✓ **We went to many meetings and talked about our project.**

We tried to make sure that people understand what our project is about

and how important it is for people with disabilities.
We spoke about our work to leave no one behind.



In the second part of the project **‘Bridging the Gap 2’**,
we had many meetings in the countries of:

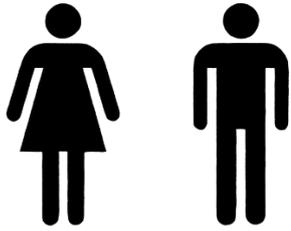
- Burkina Faso
- Ecuador
- Ethiopia
- Paraguay
- Sudan

We brought together people with disabilities
and people who work to make things better in these countries.

For example:

- ✓ **We made sure everyone understands how important it is to make things better for people with disabilities in these countries.**
For example, things should be accessible for people with disabilities so they can use them and take part in the community like everyone else.
- ✓ **We met other people and organisations that want to make a difference in the world.**
For example, we worked with people who support women’s rights and try to make sure that women have equal chances as men. We talked about the rights of women with disabilities too. Their voices also need to be heard.

Equality



✓ **We reached out to people and organisations who work in these countries.**

We talked about how things are for people with disabilities and what can be done to make things better.

We also spoke about

how the UN Convention and the Sustainable Development Goals can happen in these countries.

We shared examples and learnt from each other.

✓ **We worked to make sure that the voices of people with disabilities are heard.**

People with disabilities and their organisations

should take part in all decisions that concern their lives.

No decision should be made without them.

For this to happen,

people with disabilities should be informed about their rights

and have the chance to take part in the community

like other people.

Things may be harder for women with disabilities.

They are often left out.

With our project, we try to make sure

that the voices of all women with disabilities are heard

and that their rights are respected.

✓ **We brought together people with disabilities from different countries.**

They shared their experiences and learnt from each other.



- ✓ **We also had important meetings in other places, like Geneva and New York, and many people took part.**
- ✓ **We used every opportunity to talk about the project and our work.**
For example, we sent important news about our project to many people by email.
We made a website with information and news about the project.
We share news and keep in contact with people on social media, like Facebook and Twitter.

We will keep on working closely with organisations and people with disabilities to make our goals come true.
We want to make things better for people with disabilities and **leave no one behind!**

More information

You can find more information about the project on our website by clicking here:
<https://bridgingthegap-project.eu/>

You can also follow our news:

- on Facebook by clicking here:
www.facebook.com/BridgingtheGapEUproject
- on Twitter by clicking here:
https://twitter.com/BtG_project



If you have any questions,
you can send us an email at: info@bridgingthegap-project.eu