

Including Disability in Development Cooperation: Experiences of collaboration between Governments, NGOs and Disabled People Organizations

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Italian Development Cooperation Disability Action Plan

Mina Lomuscio

Disability focal point

Directorate General for Development Cooperation
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

Disability

More than one billion people (around 15% of the world's population) experience some form of disability, with more 80% of them living in developing countries

World Report on Disability
2011



Italian Development Cooperation and the CRPD – Art. 32

Since its foundation in 1987 the Italian Development Cooperation, inspired by an inclusive approach, has included disability in its initiatives

Art. 32 of the CRPD envisages a role for the development actors to assist State Parties in the implementation of the treaty, in partnership with international and regional organizations and civil society

In cooperation with civil society the Italian Cooperation approved its first Guidelines on Disability in 2010 and in 2011 began working on its first Disability Action Plan, adopted in 2013



Italy signed the Convention in 2007 and ratified it with its Optional Protocol in 2009

THE ITALIAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION DISABILITY ACTION PLAN

The Disability Action Plan is the result of an inclusive process of intense consultations with civil society (Italian Network on Disability and Development – *RIDS/Rete Italiana Disabilità e Sviluppo*), DPOs, Government institutions, academia and research centres

It lays its foundation on 5 pillars:

1. Policies and strategies: National disability policy planning and monitoring tools
2. Inclusive project planning & design
3. Accessible and usable environments, goods and services
4. Humanitarian aid and emergency situations including persons with disabilities
5. Making the most of the experiences and best practices developed by civil society organisations and the private sector in the area of disability



Results: Raising awareness

The Action Plan puts special emphasis on knowledge and information sharing, as well as awareness in carrying out specific programs, as necessary conditions to implement far-reaching and long-lasting changes

Awareness-raising on disability among the MoFA personnel and partners - In 2015: seminars and workshops in Palestine, Tunisia and Mozambique



Results: The National Observatory

on the status of persons with disabilities

- Established in 2009
- Chaired by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies
- Involves all the main stakeholders for the fulfilment of the Convention's monitoring mechanisms

The contents of the “Italian Development Disability Action Plan” have been incorporated in a Biennial Program of Action for the promotion of the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities (approved by Decree of the President of the Italian Republic in October 2013)

Results: Emergency and humanitarian aid working group

Art. 11 of the CRPD puts emphasis on mainstreaming the needs of persons with disabilities into the humanitarian responses of Member States, as they are too often ignored in such contexts

During the Italian Presidency of the EU, the protection of persons with disabilities in conflict and emergency situations has been a priority subject of the programme of the Council Working Group on Humanitarian Aid (COHAFA)

Humanitarian Aid and Disability - Vademecum 2015

How to identify, formulate and implement humanitarian projects, considering the specific needs of persons with sensorial, intellectual and physical disabilities



Results: Inclusive Education working group

**The role of school is beyond just that of learning:
an inclusive education is an effective instrument
for building a better society**

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Reference document to integrate inclusive education, in the broader perspective of social inclusion. This document consists of two parts:

- ☐ social and pedagogical principles of inclusive education
- ☐ tool for planning, managing and evaluating of project proposals based on inclusive principles



Results: Accessibility working group

“...ensure to persons with disabilities access, on an equal basis with others, to the physical environment, transportation, information and communications...”
(art. 9 CRPD)

GUIDELINES FOR ACCESSIBILITY OF BUILDINGS

financed by DGDC



"if touched, it should be accessible"

TUNISIA

CENTRE DE L'UNION REGIONALE DES AVEUGLES DE GAFSA



OECD/DAC categories working group

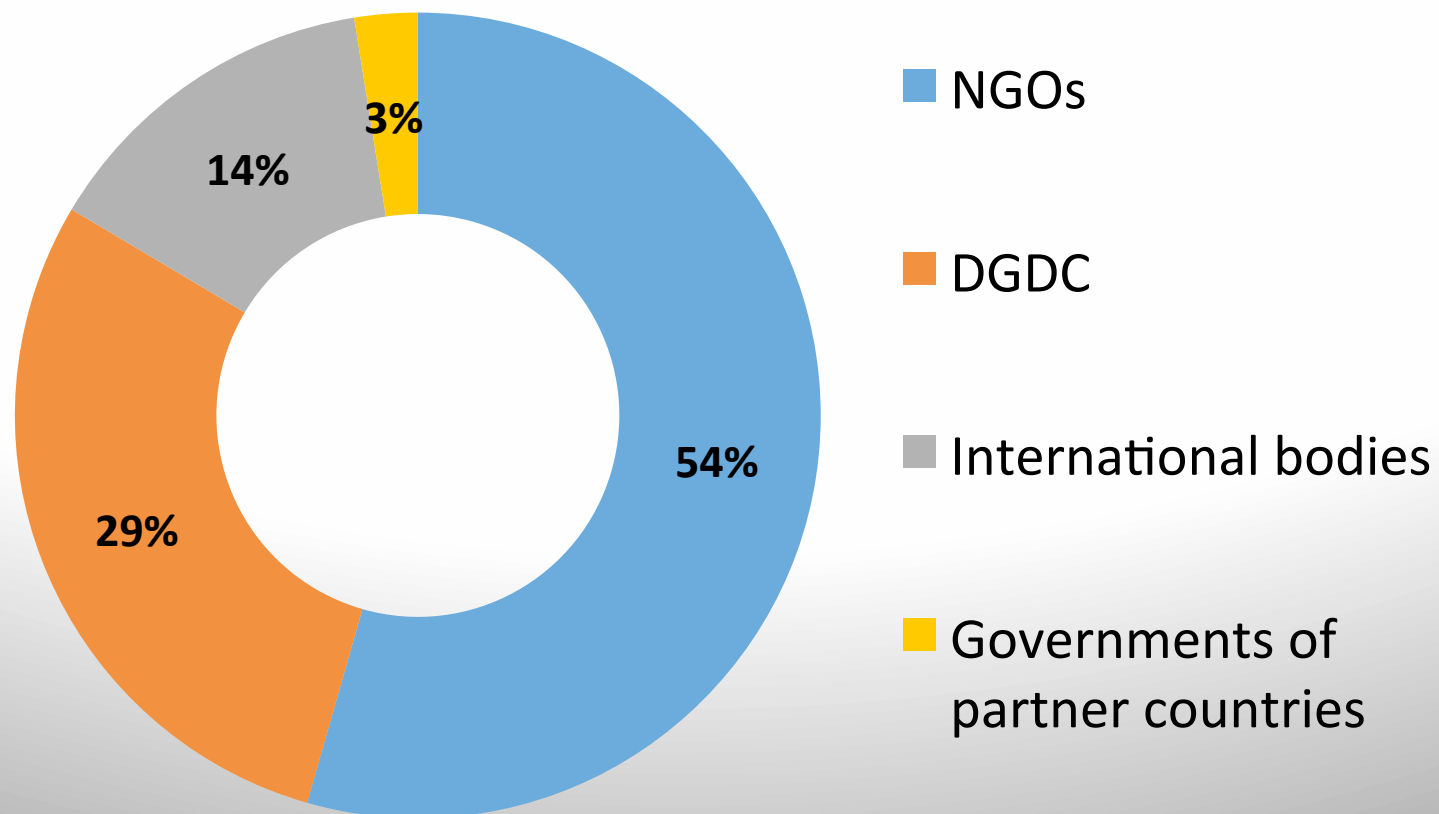
Current international systems for data collection and classification do not pay sufficient attention to persons with disabilities

In view of mainstreaming disability, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs set up a working group with representatives of civil society

The working group is considering a technical proposal aimed at integrating a self-standing disability marker into the OECD-DAC list

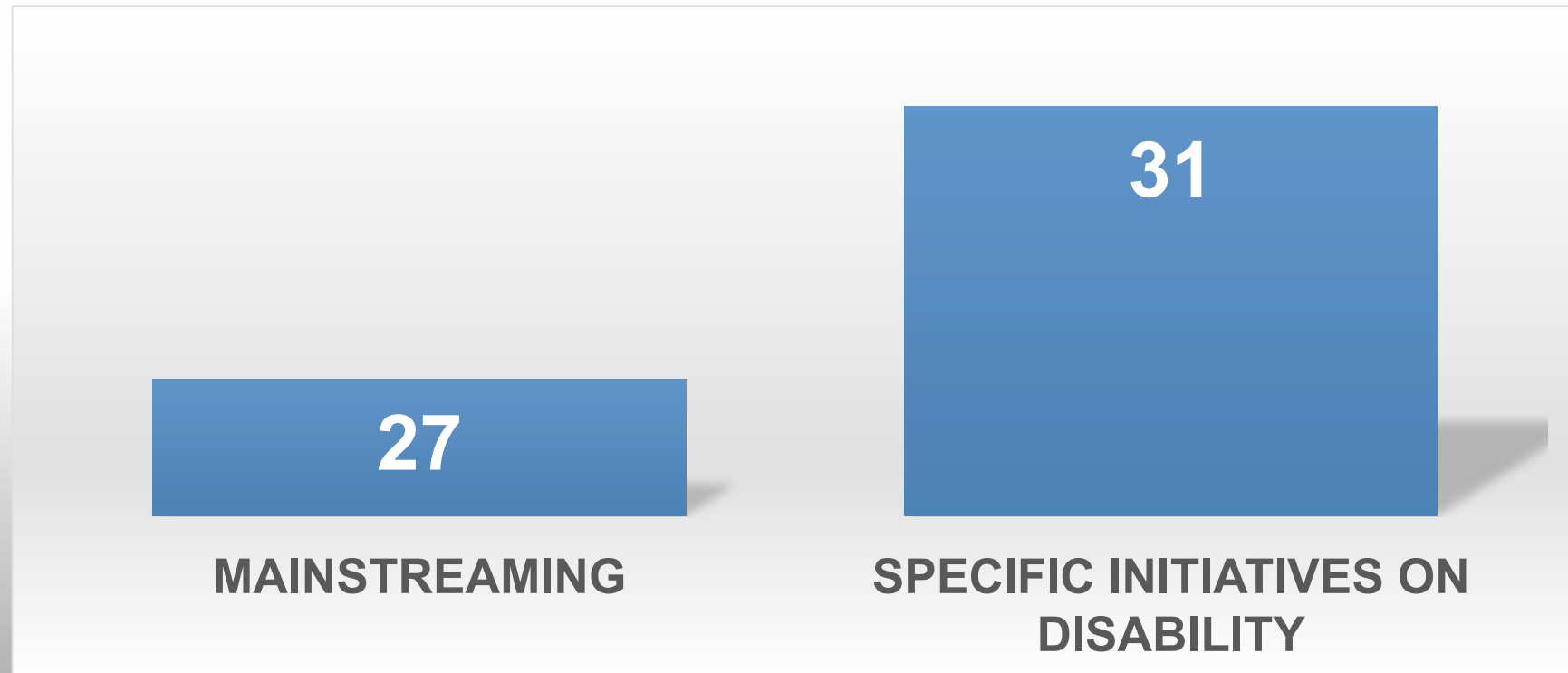
Result: Collection and analysis of data 2009-2014 working group

Implementing Agency 2009-2014

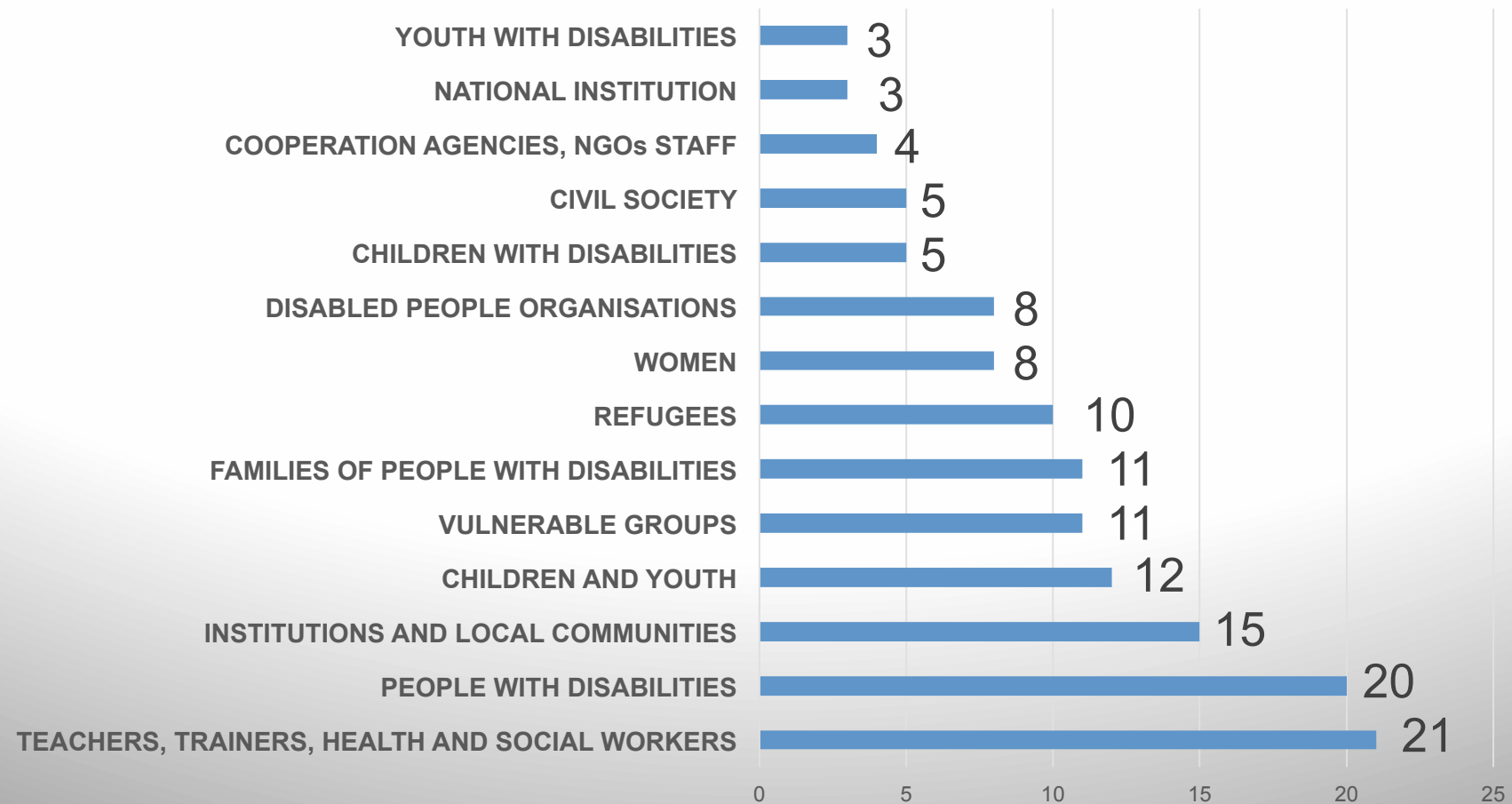


Result: Twin track approach and mainstreaming

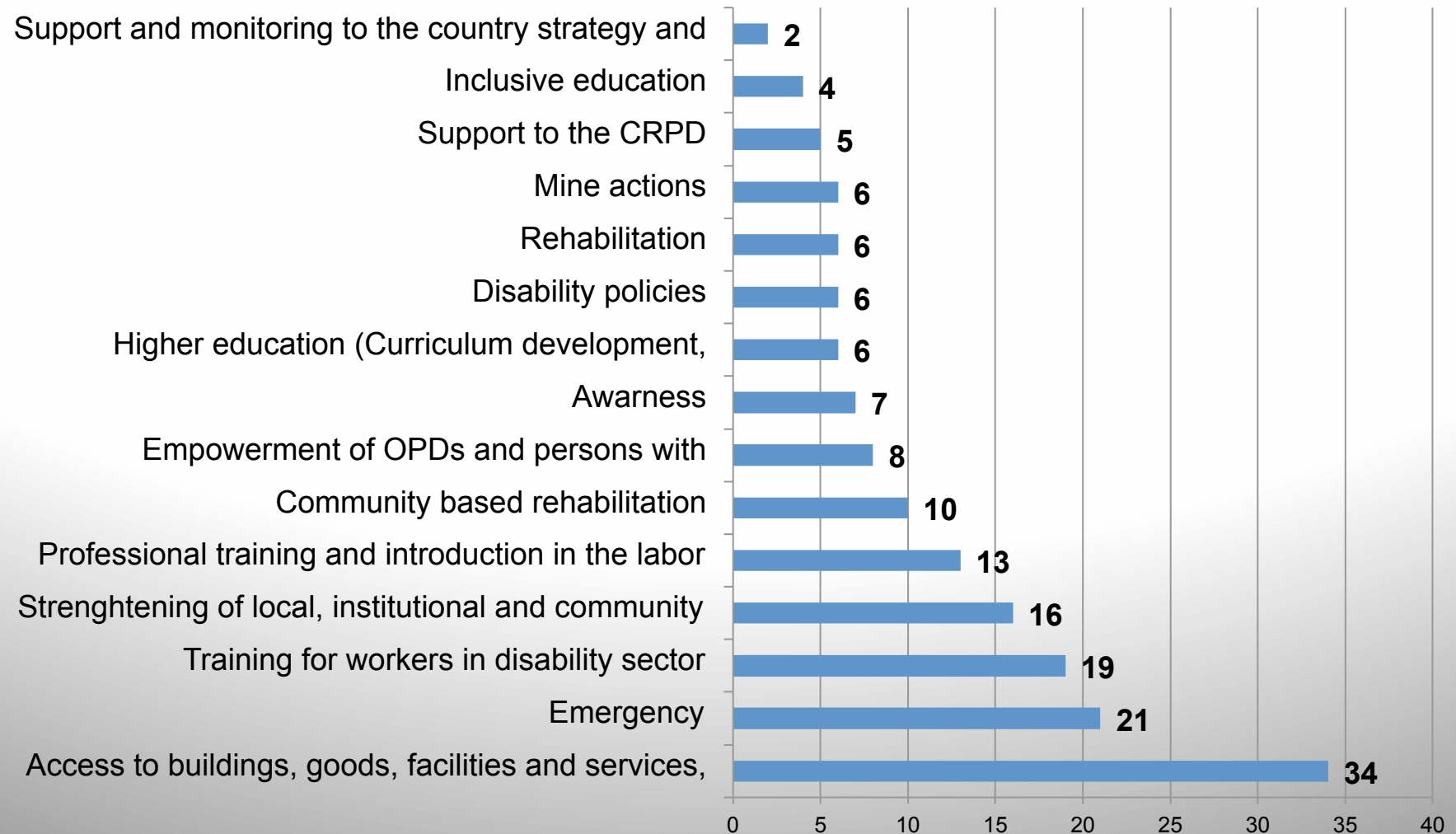
2009-2014 - Total number of initiatives mapped: 58



Result: Initiatives - Typology of Beneficiaries



Result: Typology of Project Activities



Initiatives

Tunisia: Support to the implementation of the CRPD

Sudan: Promotion and protection of the rights of orphans with disabilities in Khartoum city

Project Infoeas: Cooperate to include – AIFO-RIDS

Palestine: Project POSIT Developing the system of primary care

Palestine: Project START UP PALESTINE

Mainstreaming disability in African National policies in the framework of UNCRPD – UN/DESA

Jordan: 100 Feet towards Peace – Emergency - ICU NGO

- National Action Plan
- Children with disabilities
- Awareness and training
- Capacity building
- Accessibility
- Mainstreaming
- Employment
- Physiotherapy and psychosocial support

Results: Promoting a national and international debate

26 May - Brussel 2014

Conference “Presenting the Italian Development Cooperation Disability Action Plan: sharing good national practices, overcoming challenges at EU level”

9-11 June - New York 2015

8th session of the “Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities” - Italy Vice-President

18 November - Rome 2015

International Conference «Including persons with disabilities in Development Cooperation »

Thank you for your attention

Mina Lomuscio

Mina.lomuscio@esteri.it

