



UNPRPD MPTF: Fourth Funding Call 2020

Terms of Reference



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UNPRPD MPTF

The United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Multi-Partner Trust MPTF (UNPRPD MPTF) is a unique partnership that brings together UN entities, governments, organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), and broader civil society to advance the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and disability inclusive Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the country level around the world. It was established in 2011 to foster collaboration between its members and support their work disability inclusion through UN joint programming. Since 2012, UNPRPD MPTF has supported over 49 joint UN programs in 39 countries across regions, mobilizing over \$40 million USD.

The UN entities participating in UNPRPD MPTF include:

- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- Office of the High Commissioner for Human rights (OHCHR)
- United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)
- United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)
- World Health Organization (WHO)

Other members of UNPRPD MPTF include the International Disability Alliance (IDA) and the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC).

More information on UNPRPD MPTF can be found at www.unprpd.org.

UNPRPD MPTF’s Strategic Operational Framework

UNPRPD MPTF’s Strategic Operational Framework (SOF) 2020-2025 marks a shift from reactive to more proactive, results-oriented programming to drive implementation of the CRPD and disability inclusive SDGs with the meaningful participation of OPDs. This will be achieved by encouraging and supporting countries to develop and reform policies, plans, budgets, programs, and services to comply with the CRPD and SDGs by applying both disability-specific and disability-mainstreamed interventions through a multi-stakeholder approach. A critical new element of the SOF is a focus on the essential preconditions to disability inclusion. These are the foundational aspects that are indispensable in addressing the requirements of persons with disabilities across all sectors, such as accessibility, access to disability support services, protection from discrimination, and more. For more details on the preconditions to disability inclusion, see UNPRPD MPTF briefing - [The preconditions necessary to ensure disability inclusion](#) (Annex 2).

Theory of Change

UNPRPD MPTF’s overarching vision is for the rights of persons with disabilities to be respected, protected, and fulfilled and for all persons with disabilities to fully participate in society. To contribute to this, its mission is to support countries to accelerate the implementation of the CRPD and disability inclusive SDGs for all persons with disabilities with the full involvement of OPDs. To achieve its mission, UNPRPD MPTF’s principal outcome is to support countries to develop and implement policies, plans, budgets, programs,

and services with the meaningful participation of OPDs in line with their CRPD obligations and commitments to the SDGs. This will be applied through a twin-track approach, i.e., a combination of targeted disability-specific and disability-mainstreamed interventions.

UNPRPD MPTF's principal outcome is further broken down into three key interventions or immediate outcomes:

- National Stakeholders are equipped with the knowledge and practical tools for disability inclusive policies and systems and how these work in practice
- Gaps in achieving the essential preconditions to CRPD implementation are addressed, focusing on support to countries to develop CRPD-compliant laws, policies, and service delivery systems
- National development plans and monitoring processes include disability mainstreaming and the requirements of persons with disabilities in order to achieve the SDGs.

These intermediate outcomes are operationalized through three strategic approaches:

1. ***Catalytic funding for national and multi-country joint programming on disability inclusion***, which can be further broken down into three funding streams:
 - a. *Country-level joint programs to accelerate CRPD implementation*: Nationally owned, joint programs on national priorities to advance systemic reforms on the essential preconditions for CRPD implementation through a multi-sectoral response
 - b. *Disability inclusive national development planning and monitoring*: Dedicated resources to support country level implementation of the SDGs to increase disability inclusion and the commitment to leave no one behind through the UN's collective response and planning systems
 - c. *Multi-country joint programs to pilot CRPD implementation tools*: Multi-country joint programs to pilot and refine knowledge management tools that provide concrete guidance on workable solutions for CRPD implementation, focusing on the preconditions to disability inclusion with the added value of gathering learning across countries
2. ***Knowledge management and lessons learned***: Drawing on programmatic experience, systems, and tools that capture knowledge and evidence on CRPD implementation methods, approaches, and practices on systemic structural interventions at country level to address gaps in technical knowledge on the essential preconditions for CRPD implementation and program delivery
3. ***Context-relevant capacity building to support inclusive systems and policies***: Targeted capacity building to address gaps in UNPRPD MPTF joint programs, secure a unified understanding of the CRPD and disability inclusive SDGs, translate the CRPD and SDGs into practical implementation, and address challenges in program implementation.

Cross-Cutting Approaches

Three cross-cutting approaches are intrinsically applied across all of UNPRPD MPTF's work, including its structures, programs, and processes:

- ***Enabling full and effective participation of persons with disabilities through their representative organizations*** – UNPRPD MPTF recognizes the central importance of effective and meaningful participation and consultation with persons with disabilities, which is integrated into UNPRPD MPTF's governance and program structures; program planning, implementation, and monitoring processes; multi-stakeholder training and technical assistance activities; and review of UNPRPD MPTF's outputs and tools
- ***Ensuring the inclusion of marginalized and underrepresented groups of persons with disabilities*** – UNPRPD MPTF promotes and supports the inclusion of persons with certain types of disabilities who may experience even greater marginalization and persons with disabilities who face

intersectional discrimination due to disability and other intersecting identities or characteristics to ensure representation in policies, programs, and services, as well as civil society engagement, including OPDs

- *Addressing gender inequality and advancing the rights of women and girls with disabilities* – UNPRPD MPTF takes a multi-pronged, transformative approach to address intersectional discrimination faced by women with disabilities through gender mainstreaming, gender-specific targeted interventions, and the empowerment and participation of women and girls with disabilities.

For more details on UNPRPD MPTF's cross-cutting approaches, see briefing – [UNPRPD MPTF Briefing on Cross-Cutting Approaches](#) (Annex 3). For UNPRPD MPTF's full [Strategic Operational Framework 2020-2025](#), see (Annex 4).

Focus of the Fourth Funding Call

Reforms for CRPD and SDG Implementation

The CRPD continues to drive discourse on disability inclusive development, and despite progress in the number of States that are monitoring and reporting on their progress in implementing the CRPD, countries struggle to transform the CRPD into concrete policies, systems, and services that uphold the rights of persons with disabilities. Furthermore, with the implementation of the SDGs underway, it is urgent that States and their implementation partners deliver on their SDG commitments through CRPD-compliant interventions. Proposals under this call should focus attention on the Funding Objectives outlined in the below section: 1) to advance CRPD implementation at the country level by focusing on the essential preconditions for disability inclusion across sectors, translating these into concrete policies, programs, and/or services which lead to systemic changes through a cohesive, inter-sectoral approach, and 2) to improve and increase the implementation of disability inclusive SDGs at the country level by providing fundamental support to the UN's collective response to the SDGs – including UNCTs, governments, OPDs, and civil society – to address national priorities and gaps concerning persons with disabilities in their national planning to advance the SDGs.

Country Level Focus through a Multi-Stakeholder Approach

UNPRPD MPTF is committed to the value of national ownership. Hence, all programming under this Call for Proposals will be both demand-driven (i.e., reinforcing progressive local dynamics) and country-specific (i.e., responding to the particular strategic opportunities, priorities, and needs of each national context). Given the multi-stakeholder nature of disability inclusion, effective platforms for joint programming involving the government and organization of persons with disabilities are critical for coordinating and leveraging the comparative advantages of multiple stakeholder groups. Meaningful participation of OPDs in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of UNPRPD MPTF joint programs under this call remains a cornerstone.

COVID-19 Response and Recovery

The global and socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 crisis demonstrated the gaps and failures in systems, structures, and services, as well as decision-making processes concerning persons with disabilities. The effects of this crisis will continue to evolve over the coming years, as health and education systems, social structures and networks, livelihoods, social protection systems, and economies will be

affected in the long-term. Without concerted action to include persons with disabilities into COVID-19 response and recovery plans, the pre-existing marginalization, discrimination, and exclusion of persons with disabilities will widen. UNCTs are strongly encouraged to focus on disability mainstreaming in COVID-19 response and recovery plans and implementation strategies as a cross-cutting theme in proposals for UNPRPD MPTF joint programs under this call if this is a strategic national priority.

Funding Objectives

Proposals under this call are expected to demonstrate the ability to achieve the following two objectives.

Objective One

Advance CRPD implementation at the country level by focusing on the essential preconditions for disability inclusion across sectors, translating these into concrete policies, programs, and/or services which lead to systemic changes through a cohesive, inter-sectoral approach.

Potential processes and structures to be targeted may include legislative and policy frameworks, the monitoring and accountability systems of governmental or non-governmental bodies, administrative systems, protection systems, data and evidence gathering systems, service delivery systems, and opportunities and processes for consulting and coordinating with persons with disabilities. A core aspect will include the use and scale up of UNPRPD MPTF knowledge management tools. In addition, capacity building will also be a central component to ensure the success of joint programs.

Examples include but are not limited to the following:

1. **Support the development of financial planning** to ensure the allocation of adequate resources to support (i) the enforcement of laws protecting the rights of persons with disabilities; (ii) the implementation of national disability inclusive policies and plans¹; and (iii) the delivery of essential services including support services to persons with disabilities
2. **Establish a policy framework to ensure that persons with disabilities have access to assistive technologies and support services** that are available, accessible, adequate, and affordable, and provided under a community-based approach
3. **Mainstream the rights of girls and young women with disabilities** in sexual and reproductive health and rights, as well as strategies and action plans on gender-based violence (GBV) and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) to ensure that all information, goods, and services are accessible and age-, gender- and disability-sensitive
4. **Encourage and support the effective, independent monitoring by national human rights institutions or other independent bodies** of all public and private facilities and programs providing social services to persons with disabilities
5. **Develop national disability inclusive indicators** to assess adequately the impact of all policies and programs on all persons with disabilities

¹ Both disability specific and mainstream.

6. **Improve existing disability determination**, eligibility criteria, and targeting mechanisms to prevent direct and indirect discrimination
7. **Establish formal consultative mechanisms** to ensure the active involvement and participation of persons with disabilities, including women with disabilities and their representative organizations, in all processes of legal harmonization with CRPD and in national implementation and monitoring mechanisms
8. **Support legal capacity reforms**, including increasing capacities of State authorities, judges, notaries, service providers, persons with disabilities, and other relevant actors
9. **Improve data collection systems**, including statistical and research data disaggregated by sex, age, and disability, for persons with disabilities across services and programs, documenting harmful practices and barriers to full participation of persons with disabilities.

Objective Two

Improve and increase the implementation of disability inclusive SDGs at the country level by providing fundamental support to the UN's collective response to the SDGs – including UNCTs, governments, OPDs, and civil society – to address national priorities and gaps concerning persons with disabilities in their national planning to advance the SDGs.

This will contribute to turning the collective promise to leave no one behind into tangible action, specifically for persons with disabilities. It is crucial that these processes for SDG implementation accelerate progress towards CRPD obligations at the country level, equipping stakeholders with the willingness and ability to adopt disability inclusion across SDG planning activities.

Some of the processes that may be targeted under this funding stream include the Common Country Analysis (CCA); the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), including planning, monitoring, and resource mobilization; Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs) and Humanitarian Needs Overviews (HNOs); SDG monitoring mechanisms; and targeted policy reforms to accelerate SDG implementation.

Examples include but are not limited to the following:

1. **Include disability mainstreaming within national development processes** and plans, including the CCA and UNSDCF, e.g., results framework, inclusive budgeting, consultations with OPDs, etc.
2. **Engage with OPDs** in planning processes and monitoring mechanisms, e.g. COVID-19 socioeconomic plans and humanitarian response plans
3. **Develop disability inclusive socio-economic and recovery planning** and implementation
4. **Align existing development plans** and implementation strategies to ensure they are CRPD compliant and inclusive of all persons with disabilities
5. **Support capacity building of policymakers** and other relevant stakeholders to support the formulation of disability inclusive planning, implementation, and monitoring of SDGs

6. **Ensure multi-stakeholder partnerships and mechanisms** that support the realization of the SDGs integrate disability inclusion into structures, processes, and outcomes
7. **Ensure indicators to monitor SDGs progress** are sensitive to persons with disabilities and data collected is disaggregated by disability.

Proposals should incorporate all UNPRPD MPTF’s Cross-Cutting Approaches, and proposals that focus thematically on UNPRPD MPTF’s Cross-Cutting Approaches will be given priority.

Grant Amounts and Duration

UNPRPD MPTF anticipates funding up to 15 countries with overall budgets averaging between \$700,000 - \$900,000 USD per country.

Of this amount, a first tranche of \$100,000 USD will be allocated for Situational Analysis and Full Proposal development².

A second tranche will be allocated for the program implementation. Within the program implementation budget, 85%-90% of the program implementation budget will be used for Objective One and 10-15% will be allocated to activities under Objective Two.

Indirect costs of the Participating Organizations recovered through program support costs will be 7%.

Programs are expected to run for 24 months.

A breakdown of the budget is illustrated in the table below.

1 st Tranche	
Situational Analysis and Full Proposal development	\$100,000
2 nd Tranche	
Program implementation budget	\$600,000- 800,000
Objective One	85-90% of program budget
Objective Two	10-15% of program budget
Overall budget total per country	\$700,000 - \$900,000

² Detailed guidance and methodology on how to develop the Situational Analysis and design the program will be provided to the selected countries.

Details of the Application and Selection Processes

Application Process

Resident Coordinators (RCs) are invited to submit one Expression of Interest per country by email to unprpd.fund.calls@undp.org with copy to Ola.abualghaib@undp.org. Receipt of the submission will be acknowledged. The application process will involve the two following steps:

Step 1 - Expression of Interest

Using UNPRPD MPTF's template (Annex 1), UN Country Teams (UNCTs) will complete an Expression of Interest (EOI), under the oversight of the RC. The EOIs should be accompanied by a letter of endorsement each from the government and the national organization of persons with disabilities. If these letters of endorsement cannot be attached, a valid justification must be provided.

The purpose of the EOI is to provide basic, contextual information on the country as well as to gain insight on the priority areas for potential programs and of interest to program partners. UNCTs will not need to provide concrete program objectives or activities at this stage. However, UNCTs must specify which UN entity will receive the first tranche of the funds \$100,000 USD necessary to complete the Situational Analysis and development of the Full Proposal³.

Country selection will be evaluated based on a review of the EOIs. UNCTs will have eight weeks to complete the EOI.

Step 2 - Situational Analysis and Full Proposal

Shortlisted countries will conduct a Situational Analysis through a multi-stakeholder process, using UNPRPD MPTF's template and with support from UNPRPD MPTF's Technical Secretariat. The purpose of the Situational Analysis is to conduct a comprehensive review of the national context. Through this process, UNCTs and program partners should engage in active dialogue on the contextual factors affecting CRPD and SDG implementation and the preconditions to disability inclusion in order to ensure that programs are based on the national needs and respond to national challenges. The Situational Analysis will inform UNCTs in the development of the Full Proposal.

Once countries have completed the Situational Analysis, they will use the UNPRPD MPTF template to complete the Full Proposal. This will outline the proposed program objectives, activities, outputs, and outcomes for both Objectives One and Two, as well as the structure and nature of the multi-stakeholder partnership that will drive the program. In addition, the Full Proposal will include a complete budget of the program as well as details of co-funding, if relevant. Finally, countries are expected to organize an induction workshop with all partners to establish an agreement on targets, roles, and timelines as well as to receive basic training on the CRPD.

UNCTs will have 4 months to complete the Situational Analysis, carry out the induction workshop, and develop the Full Proposal.

³ Countries selected will need to fill in a detailed budget for the first tranche of funds alongside the program signature page.

Eligibility

UNPRPD MPTF funds UN Country Teams (UNCTs) through a multi-stakeholder, joint programming approach and does not accept applications from civil society organizations, private sector, or governments. UNPRPD MPTF prioritizes low income countries.

Each proposal will be required to focus on one country and proposals need to be submitted jointly by at least two participating UN organizations (PUNOs) field offices who are members of UNPRPD MPTF.

The proposal should reflect consultation with relevant stakeholders throughout the process, and OPDs must be meaningfully involved throughout the program design, implementation, and monitoring phases of programs.

Proposals must keep within the budget and timeframe requirements, and all templates must be completed by the indicated deadlines.

Countries that have already received funds from UNPRPD under previous funding rounds can submit an EOI only if the first or second phase of their ongoing UNPRPD programme ends before February 28th2021. Countries that have received additional funding for COVID 19 response and recovery will be able to apply as long as they ensure the EOI reflects and aligns with activities covered by these additional funds.

Proposals at all steps that do not meet the eligibility criteria will be automatically disqualified.

Selection

Selection Process

EOIs will be assessed by a group of independent technical experts⁴, who will make recommendations on 15 countries to be funded. The UNPRPD MPTF Management Committee (MC) will validate the recommendations of the technical experts and may make suggestions to shortlisted countries for the next step. Each country that is shortlisted is required to submit the Situational Analysis and the Full Proposal by the deadline. The 2nd transfer of funds will be subject to a final quality check of the Full Proposal by the independent technical experts and validation by the MC.

Selection Criteria

For the EOI, the criteria for shortlisting countries will be based on:

- Compliance with eligibility criteria
- Geographic diversity and regional balance with preference given to low-income countries
- Contextual relevance, e.g., opportunities to implement reforms, political will, potential for long term impact, ongoing development processes, etc.
- Relevance of opportunities and the UNCT's ability to tap into them
- Potential to influence or collaborate with other funding initiatives
- Commitment to a multi-stakeholder approach
- Relevance of priority areas identified

The Full Proposal will need to meet the following criteria:

- Aligns with UNPRPD's Strategic Operational Framework 2020-2025

⁴ The technical experts will be identified on agreed criteria by the UNPRPD MPTF Management Committee.

- Derives from the Situational Analysis, i.e., based on the needs of the country with consideration of contextual factors
- Drives CRPD and SDG implementation, ensuring compliance with CRPD
- Focuses on systemic reforms of specific preconditions to disability inclusion
- Adopts a collaborative, multi-sectoral approach; compartmentalisation of program activities should be avoided
- Reflects UNPRPD MPTF's Cross-Cutting Approaches, including demonstration of persons with disabilities playing a central role in decision-making processes, ensuring the representation of underrepresented groups of persons with disabilities, and advancing the rights of women and girls with disabilities
- Proposes a logical and cohesive program with clear objectives, activities, outputs, and outcomes
- Ensures an effective monitoring and evaluation mechanism to distil and share learning for UNPRPD MPTF knowledge management activities as well as overall impact
- Demonstrates organizational capacity to deliver the program (and if gaps are sufficiently covered through capacity building activities)
- Demonstrates good value for money
- Fits within the budget and timeline for this round of funding and budget is tailored to country context

UNPRPD will NOT fund the following:

- The direct provision of services, e.g., assistive devices, educational services, or rehabilitation services
- Acquisition of land or buildings or reconstruction or renovation of physical spaces
- Equipment costs, such as computers, vehicles, etc.
- Grants for filling a 'funding gap' for fulfilling the mandates of UN entities
- Re-granting activities
- Scholarships
- Infrastructure work
- Travel to countries outside of the target country unless it is part of capacity building
- Regional activities, unless it is part of UNPRPD MPTF knowledge management programs

Timeframe

Activity	Start Date	Due Date
Expression of Interest	3 rd of August 2020	30 th September 2020
Situational Analysis, Full Proposal, Induction workshop	25 th October 2020	20 th February 2021
Implementation of program	15 th March 2021	15 th February 2023

Technical Assistance during the Application Process

The UNPRPD MPTF Technical Secretariat (TS) will provide technical assistance to UNCTs during each step. TS can be contacted at unprpd.fund.calls@undp.org.