Bridging the Gap II (BtG-II)
Learning Spaces (LS) 2018-2019

Webinar N.12 – Social Protection and Livelihood

26th November, 2019 at 2:30 pm CET Brussels Time (English session)

1 – TOPIC
Social Protection and Livelihood.

2 – TARGET AUDIENCES
The webinar cycle is addressed to the three target groups of the project, namely:

1. Development practitioners (for instance: agencies, EU delegations)
2. National institutions of the partner countries of Bridging the Gap II (Burkina Faso, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Paraguay and Sudan)
3. National organisations of persons with disabilities

3 – SESSION’S CONTENT, SEQUENCE AND DURATION
People with disabilities live a number of experiences that frequently reduce their access and/or demand for services: limited resources, discrimination, traditional social norms preventing use of services, visibility, inaccessible programmes etc. Proven links between disability and poverty suggest that development programmes and policies that are not disability-inclusive will leave persons with disabilities behind. Evidence clearly indicates that persons with disabilities are more likely to live in poor households, have limited access to employment opportunities, and have lower education enrolment and attendance rates.

Given the strong linkages between disability and poverty, there has been a growing interest in mainstreaming disability in social protection interventions. Social dimensions of vulnerability can be barriers to accessing secure livelihoods and essential services. In this context, social protection programmes are crucial to improve living standards and access to services, ensuring inclusive and equitable development outcomes. Mainstreaming disability into social protection implies making adjustments in the design and implementation of programmes and policies in order to address the specific vulnerabilities associated with disability.
The right to social protection is enshrined in Article 28 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD) which recognises the “right of persons with disabilities to social protection and to the enjoyment of that right without discrimination on the basis of disability”¹. The Convention, therefore, gives a clear rationale for a disability inclusive social protection policy. It promotes social protection systems inclusive of persons with disabilities able to facilitate active citizenship, social inclusion and community participation. The Convention calls on States parties to ensure that persons with disabilities receive equal access to mainstream social protection programmes and services as well as access to specific programmes and services for disability-related needs and expenses such as support services.

The variety of actions which could promote an enabling environment for persons with disabilities is many and varied, due to the systematic exclusion experienced by them at all levels of society: improving access to education through programmes which promote the inclusion of children with disabilities in mainstream schools (inclusive education); improving access to health services through early intervention programmes and increased provision of rehabilitation services and supportive devices; improving access to employment through skill development and vocational training programmes.

Social protection programmes can play a central role in alleviating and preventing poverty and vulnerability to secure people’s well-being. They can also enhance the employability and economic development of people by creating better opportunities for them. Moreover, social protection can foster social inclusion, participation and improve the enjoyment of rights of persons with disabilities.

Against this background, this webinar aims to discuss why and how States and other stakeholders should ensure the establishment of disability-inclusive social protection systems, in conformity with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

**Sequence of the session**

- **Introduction to the session** 5/10 mins
- **Presentation** 40/50 mins
- **Questions & answers** 30/40 mins – Q&A plenary session – Debate

The webinar will last approximately 1.5 hours.

4 – SUGGESTED READINGS AND LEARNING MATERIAL FOR PARTICIPANTS

- 2017 Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA): “Strengthening Social Protection for Persons with Disabilities in Arab Countries”.
- 2015 International Labour Office & International Disability Alliance: “The technical meeting on inclusive social protection for persons with disabilities”.
- 2012 International Labour organisation (ILO) - Social Protection Floors Recommendation.
- Humanity and Inclusion (HI): “Good Practices for the Economic Inclusion of People with Disabilities in Developing Countries”.
- CBM Disability-Inclusion: Livelihood.
- International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) - Livelihood Resources and Tools.
- Humanity and Inclusion (HI) - Social Inclusion and Employment.
- UNICEF – Social protection and Livelihood.
- Joint statement: Towards inclusive social protection systems supporting the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities.
- Project “Making it Work”.

5 - LEARNING OBJECTIVES (SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES)

This webinar provides knowledge on promoting social protection for inclusion of persons with disabilities. It aims in particular at:

- Taking stock of the on-going efforts done by different stakeholders to promote social protection for inclusion of persons with disabilities and tackle critical related issues.
• Identifying further work to be done and areas for cooperation on research, capacity building and technical assistance.

The webinar training-cycle issues a Certificate of Attendance only those whom will attend at least 75% of the webinars (i.e. 9 out of 12 webinars) and respond to the evaluation survey.

6 – LANGUAGES AND SCHEDULES
The webinar will be conducted in English, French and Spanish in separate sessions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Date and time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Moderator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>26th November 2019 at 2:30 pm CET (Brussels Time)</td>
<td>Alex Cote, Center for Inclusive Policy</td>
<td>Alessia Rogai, BtG-II Knowledge Management and Learning Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>28th November 2019 at 4:00pm CET (Brussels Time)</td>
<td>Stefan Trömel, Senior Disability Specialist ILO</td>
<td>Carmen Serrano, BtG-II Communication Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>29th November 2019 at 11:30 am CET (Brussels time)</td>
<td>Alex Cote, Center for Inclusive Policy</td>
<td>Federico Martire, BtG-II Director</td>
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7 – REGISTRATION
To register to the English session please click here.

Once registered, you will receive a confirmation email with the link to join the session at the specified time and date. Registration is limited to 100 participants on a first come, first served basis.

Participants can use the landline call to join the session:
United Kingdom: +44 330 221 9922
Audio PIN: Shown after joining the webinar
Webinar ID: 895-026-531

You can also join the session through the smartphone or table free application. You can download the application by clicking here.

8 – ACCESSIBILITY
The webinar is live captioned. The link to access the captioning page will be shared together in two reminder emails (respectively 1 day and 1 hour before the session) and in the chat box at the beginning of the webinar.

To improve the visual accessibility of the online training platform GoToWebinar, we recommend to download the smartphone or tablet free application by clicking here.

**9 - WHAT IS BRIDGING THE GAP?**
Bridging the Gap II (BtG-II) is an initiative funded by the European Union coordinated by the International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies (FIIAPP) in partnership with the Spanish Agency for Development Cooperation (AECID), the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (IADC), the European Disability Forum (EDF) and the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC). It aims to contribute to the socio-economic inclusion, equality and non-discrimination of persons with disabilities through more inclusive and accountable institutions and policies.

Bridging the Gap is a targeted thematic response to the requirement to make development cooperation accessible to and inclusive of persons with disabilities, which is an obligation for the European Union (EU) and Member States as parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and which can have a significant impact in improving the social inclusion and promoting the rights of persons with disabilities.

BtG-II supports the mainstreaming of disability in international cooperation and the efforts of five partner countries (Burkina Faso, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Paraguay and Sudan) in planning and implementing inclusive public policies and services.

This project is funded by the EU under the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI), Thematic Programme “Global Public Goods and Challenges” and it is in line with the European Consensus on Development “Our World, Our Dignity, Our Future”.

**Discover more about BtG-II:**
- BtG-II Web site
- BtG-II Facebook page
- BtG-II Twitter page
- BtG-II YouTube channel
- BtG-II on Flickr
All the recordings of the previous webinars are available on our **YouTube Channel**. You can find them in **English**, **French** and **Spanish**.

**For further information, please contact:**
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