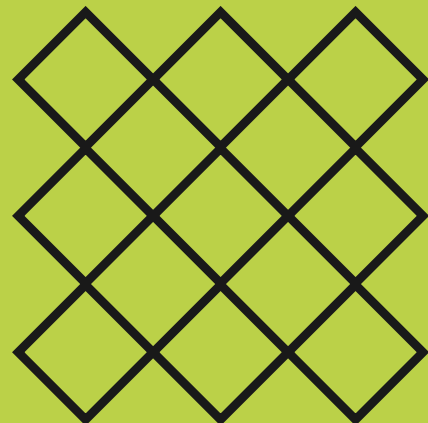
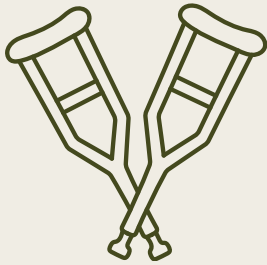




Easy to Read

A Global Toolkit for Advancing Persons with Disabilities in Peacebuilding



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This Toolkit

This toolkit shows what organizations of persons with disabilities and peacebuilding focused organizations can do to partner and ensure that persons with disabilities play a meaningful role in building and sustaining peace.



What the Words Mean



Human Rights-Based Approach means making sure that people with disabilities are treated fairly and equally, and their rights are respected in everything. This includes being able to make their own choices and be heard in decisions that affect them.



Intersectionality means that people can face different types of unfair treatment at the same time because of things like their gender, race, disability, age or religion. It helps us understand that someone's experiences are shaped by many parts of who they are.



Peacebuilding means working to stop violence before, during or after conflict, and it involves all people in order to build a safe, fair and lasting peace in communities or countries.



United Nations Security Council Resolution 2475 calls for the participation and leadership of persons with disabilities in peace processes.

The Basic Ideas



Partnership between peacebuilding organizations of persons with disabilities is critically important to advance inclusive peace processes.



Partnerships should be made to prevent conflict, to respond to conflict and to recover from conflict.



Partnership is not only about inclusion, but shifting power. This is why it is critical that persons with disabilities share their lived experiences and expertise to strengthen a whole-of-society approach.

How to Partner to Prevent Conflict

Organizations of persons with disabilities and peacebuilding organizations can work together to:



Understand what the problem of the conflict is,

Identify who is involved,

Analyze the causes of the conflict,

Listen to how people are feeling,

Look at what helps or hurts peace, and

Think about what could happen next.



Organizations of persons with disabilities and peacebuilding organizations can work together to:



Find and support new leaders with disabilities in leadership and stopping conflict before it starts,

Create spaces to learn how to prevent conflict together, and



Cover costs for persons with disabilities to participate in peacebuilding activities, such as community dialogue sessions or participating in community arts or culture events focused on promoting peace.

Organizations of persons with disabilities and peacebuilding organizations can work together to:



Change or improve laws and rules so that people with disabilities are included in preventing conflict,



Create early warning systems to spot signs of conflict early,



Train local people so they are ready to respond and help keep peace,

Collect disability-specific data, and

Raise awareness about the important role people with disabilities play in preventing conflict through creating peace education programs together or holding community dialogues.

How to Partner to Respond to Conflict

Organizations of persons with disabilities and peacebuilding organizations can work together to:



Offer joint trainings to help people learn how to respond to conflict, including online, radio and SMS alert support,



Teach people how to mediate and negotiate for peace, in order to speak up for their needs and their communities' needs,



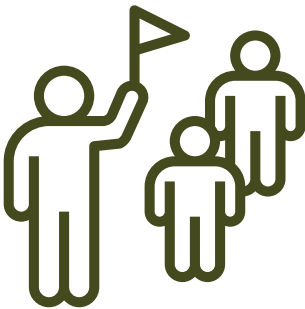
Create protection teams that work together in displacement camps and shelters or who make sure persons with disabilities can safely evacuate, and

Make changes to shelters, bathrooms and health areas to ensure they are accessible.

Organizations of persons with disabilities and peacebuilding organizations can work together to:



Monitor how people are treated during conflict and in camps,



Create easy-to-use ways to report abuse or neglect and train people to respond with care and respect, and



Strengthen and reinforce community response in case the conflict escalates.

How to Partner After Conflict Stops

Organizations of persons with disabilities and peacebuilding organizations can work together to help persons with disabilities access:



Jobs and income opportunities,

Inclusive and quality education,

Justice and reparations, including money, services or help to repair the harm people have experienced, and



Recovery support, physical and mental healthcare and peer support groups.

Organizations of persons with disabilities and peacebuilding organizations can work together to:



Change systems and laws to be more fair and inclusive,

Join national talks and truth-telling processes,

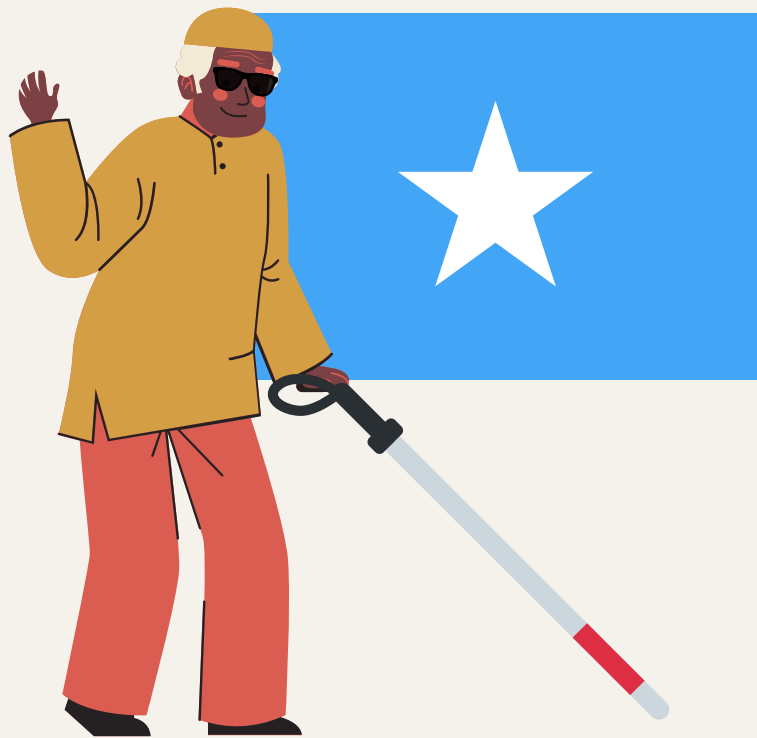


Create and carry out community surveys on attitudes and opinions about disabilities, and

Hold memorials or events that remember people with disabilities or disability-movements.

Storytelling

In Puntland, Somalia, there was a respected elder who was blind. Even though he could not see, his voice and wisdom were strong.



When there was conflict between clans, people asked him to help. He became a peace mediator, someone who helps different groups talk and find solutions.

The elder was trusted by everyone.
People said:



**He listens
to all sides.**

**He does not
take sides or
show favoritism.**

**His blindness
means he sees
with his heart
and mind.**

Because he is a person who is blind, people believed he was more fair and neutral. They felt safe speaking with him.

Thanks to his efforts, the clans began to talk, listen, and understand each other again. His work helped bring peace.



This story shows that:

People with disabilities can be strong leaders in peace work. When given a chance, they can bring communities together. True leadership comes from trust, wisdom, and care, not just physical ability.



Credits

This toolkit has been written, designed and produced by the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers, the Abilis Foundation, and Finn Church Aid. July 2025.

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