

Annual Report 2020



Looking back

2020 was a year filled with unexpected - and at times overwhelming - events. We have all felt the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures taken in response. The impact on persons with disabilities worldwide is immense. The COVID crisis will continue to influence the work of DCDD and our partners in 2021. We commend all who have made contributions to a more inclusive society in spite of these challenges. Those who did not give up. Those who were creative to find ways to make COVID responses inclusive for persons with disabilities. We commend you and encourage you to continue!

At DCDD, we lobby for inclusion and we share knowledge, we strengthen and motivate one another. That was the case when DCDD started 20 years ago, and it still is. Our 20th anniversary event in November marked this. During the 20 years of DCDD's existence there was passion, there were hurdles to be taken, there was togetherness since we were all striving for the same goals. One of the speakers at the event, Nidhi Goyal, mentioned it very clearly: inclusion is not optional! And that is what has driven us in the past 20 years, in 2020, and in the years to come!

I would like to thank you, our participants for your commitment, action and participation. I would like to thank all others involved in our events or in any other way. And special thanks go to our team Lieke and Kim, with valuable support by Hanneke and Gerlinde, who made us feel that we are so well guided with knowledge, enthusiasm, lobby and organisation skills and much more. Thanks a lot!

Gerrit de Vries
DCDD Chair

Lobby

In 2020, we followed up on commitments made by Minister Kaag when we met with her in September 2019: to enhance disability inclusion in humanitarian aid and education programmes.

The Ministry of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation was involved in several of our events this year and we have established a more **regular dialogue** on the progress being made. Just as last year, the Minister has sent an update via a [letter to Parliament](#) on the ways in which the Dutch government supports disability inclusion internationally.

In addition, DCDD and several of its participants (The Leprosy Mission, SeeYou Foundation, Liliane Foundation) got their [proposals](#) for **Power of Voices** approved by the Ministry. This is not only a major achievement, but also a great step forward in our collaboration with the Ministry. For the coming five years, this provides a unique springboard for even more learning and exchange on disability inclusion. We are excited that inclusion has increasingly gained ground on the political agenda and within the sector!

We are Able! Consortium

For the next five years, DCDD will be part of the [We Are Able! consortium](#) led by ZOA, which is one of the Power of Voices partnerships with the Ministry. We look forward to contributing to the achievement of SDG 2 - ending hunger for all.



Learning Conference

The year got off to a great start with the 'Voices for Inclusion' [conference](#), in collaboration with the Liliane Foundation, Voice, and the African Studies Centre. The inspiring stories from partners and exchanges between various marginalised groups generated a lot of enthusiasm for inclusion. Kitty van der Heijden, the DG International Cooperation, enthusiastically received two publications with research outcomes on effective advocacy for inclusion.



Learning sessions

We organised **three learning sessions**. The [first workshop](#) was in collaboration with the Dutch Relief Alliance and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), about the new international guidelines for disability inclusive humanitarian aid. The [second workshop](#) was organised with Tunafasi, on how to achieve disability inclusion in the fragile context of DRC. The [third workshop](#) was an online webinar on 'disability data & monitoring' (with 85 participants!), together with Partos. For all sessions we had an international expert as a guest speaker and several DCDD participants shared their practical expertise.

20 years of DCDD

We closed the year with a festive celebration of DCDD's **20th anniversary!** That's 20 years of steps we've taken together in order to prioritise the rights and needs of people with disabilities in low-income countries! Missed it or would you like to see it again? We published an article about the event [here](#) (a link to the recording is included).

Opening statement by Minister Kaag, the Dutch Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation:



DCDD also took this opportunity to reflect on the history of disability inclusion within the development sector, together with historian Paul van Trigt, in [Vice Versa](#).



Coronavirus

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, we published and regularly updated [an overview](#) of **practical tools for a disability inclusive COVID-response**. It contains links to key recommendations, sign language videos, easy-read documents, and other practical tools.

Guidance notes

We prepared **two guidance notes**: on inclusive humanitarian aid and disability data and monitoring. These 'quick guides' contain basic information, practical tips and (links to) tools for practitioners who want to know how and where to start with disability inclusion in their programmes. Both guidelines will be published in 2021.

Research internships

DCDD had **two interns** who both successfully completed their thesis in the area of disability inclusion. One study investigated the barriers [asylum seekers with disabilities](#) face when they enter The Netherlands. The other thesis was about effective communication to promote disability inclusion (available on request).

Linking

Small Grants projects

Four DCDD participants (Dorcas, Tunafasi, Liliane Foundation and SOFT tulip) successfully completed their projects with DCDD's **Small Grants 2019-2020**, and thereby had a positive impact on disability inclusion in [Egypt](#), [Ukraine](#), [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#) and [The Netherlands](#).

Partnerships

DCDD has participated actively in the Leave No One Behind Platform (Partos The Spindle), strengthened its collaboration with several universities (e.g. internships) and coordinated its efforts with various advocacy

networks for effective collaboration on our lobby and learning agendas.

Participants

In 2020, we had **four new experts** joining the DCDD network! DCDD held its two General Assemblies, in April and November, which were both online for the very first time. We had very fruitful discussions and relevant input for our lobby strategy, current projects and plans.

DCDD is working together with Wilde Ganzen on new forms of collaboration with **private initiatives**, such as joint learning events. From 2021 onwards, private initiatives can become participants for €125 per year. We are looking forward to enhancing this collaboration in the coming years.

The new **brochure and video** that we developed in 2020, will help us to mobilize increasing support!

Organisation

DCDD was coordinated by Lieke Scheewe (0,4 fte) and Kim Brands (0,4 fte) together with two interns / volunteers. The Board and coordinators of DCDD came together online 6 times for a Board meeting.



Lieke Scheewe
Coordinator & Policy Advisor



Kim Brands
Junior Lobby & Network
Coordinator

Budget & expenses 2020

Income

Contribution core participants	57.575
Contribution other participants	14.250
Own contribution (result 2019)	28.775
Total	100.600

Expenses

Employees	57.150
Activities, events & publications	43.450
Total	100.600

For a more in-depth overview of the expenses of 2020, please see DCDDs Financial Statement of 2020.

Plans for 2021: The future is inclusive

- In 2021 there will be new elections, which means that DCDD's focus will be on influencing the new government plans for development cooperation, to ensure the principle of 'leave no one behind';
- We will be facilitating knowledge sharing on specific themes, including education, humanitarian aid, food security and SRHR;
- Active collaboration with the Dutch development sector through the 'We are Able!' Consortium.

Want to know more about the Annual Plan 2021? Send us an email at dcdd@dcdd.nl

Dutch Coalition on Disability and Development

the platform for lobby, linking and learning on disability inclusive development

