



Consultancy on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action

Consultancy Description

Location:	Home based
Contract:	Consultancy
Starting date:	September 2022, detailed workplan to be developed with ICVA.

About ICVA

Founded in 1962, ICVA (International Council of Voluntary Agencies) is a global network of over 140 non governmental organisations (NGOs) active in 160 countries, operating at global, regional, national and local levels, whose mission is to make humanitarian action more principled and effective by working collectively and independently to influence policy and practice. ICVA promotes and facilitates effective NGO engagement in the humanitarian sector, with a focus on Forced Migration, Humanitarian Coordination, Humanitarian Financing, and transformative cross-cutting systems-strengthening issues, including climate change, localization, diversity and inclusion.

Background to Consultancy

The adoption of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a blueprint on how States can address the global challenges we face, by providing a reference framework for peace, humanitarian and development actors to work together towards a future where none is left behind and where accountability towards the individuals and the population concerned becomes the norm.

In reality, however, this remains a challenge in many contexts, especially in humanitarian ones, where existing inequalities are in fact further worsened. Solid evidence exists for example on persons with disabilities, who are among the most marginalized people in crisis-affected communities and disproportionately affected by conflict and emergency situations. In disasters, their mortality rate is two to four times higher than that of persons without disabilities.

At the international level, a step forward in addressing inequalities due to disability was undertaken through the adoption of the [Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#) (2006) and the [Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action](#) (2016). A specific commitment was made at the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016, and aimed to develop globally-endorsed system-wide guidelines on how to include persons with disabilities in humanitarian action. The resulting [IASC Guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action](#) were endorsed by the IASC Principals in 2019, after a large consultative process with Member States, Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs), Civil Society Organisations working with persons with disabilities and/or humanitarian action and UN Agencies.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, persons with disabilities were placed at heightened risks as their health, livelihood and overall wellbeing were being disproportionately impacted, in particular in humanitarian contexts. The [Guidance note on how to apply and implement the IASC Guidelines in the COVID-19 response](#), issued in 2020, provided an overview of the risk factors that may put persons with disabilities at heightened risk in the COVID-19 pandemic and response in humanitarian settings and proposing actions to address these risks.



Consultancy Objectives

In line with its [Diversity Policy](#) and building upon the work done so far on the rights of persons with disabilities and their inclusion in humanitarian action, with this consultancy, ICVA aims to contribute to the operationalization and promotion of the Guidelines and Guidance note by

- ensuring the dissemination of the guidelines to NGOs operating in humanitarian settings, with a particular focus on Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs);
- and taking stock of the NGO needs for further tools and capacity support actions.

To support ICVA with the above-mentioned objectives, the consultant is expected to

- support the organization of consultations with NGOs from selected regions to better understand their current practices and priorities;
- hold interviews with ICVA members, OPDs, NGO Fora and other actors on existing knowledge management needs of the sector for an enhanced inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action;
- support the learning and drafting of a summary report analysing and recommending on next steps.

Reporting Lines

The consultant will work in close collaboration and report to ICVA's Associate Policy Officer.

Consultant requirements, competencies and skills:

- Previous experience in working in the humanitarian sector and knowledge of the major current humanitarian policy issues linked to the inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action;
- Relevant expertise and knowledge in disability inclusive humanitarian action;
- Preferred experience in planning and conducting interviews;
- Strong experience in planning, developing and facilitating consultations and webinars;
- Fluent in English with proven writing and communication skills, knowledge of other languages, such as French, Arabic and/or Spanish, is a plus;
- Proven ability to work autonomously and meet agreed deadlines with limited direct oversight.

Note: Throughout the work, the consultant must be registered in accordance with legal requirements in their country of residence and must be able to submit documentation that proves that she/ he is meeting all legal obligations for the consultancy, including full compliance with ICVA regulations including its safeguarding policy.

Applications including cover letter, CV and proposed consultancy rate (daily) should be sent by email to recruitment4@icvanetwork.org

The closing date for applications is 21 August 2022.

ICVA promotes diversity in its recruitment process.

ICVA's selection process includes rigorous background checks and reflects our organisational integrity and commitment to make humanitarian action more principled and effective.