



## Action on Disability and Development

*Working with disabled people for positive change*



Campaigning for electoral rights, Burkina Faso

## DFID PPA reporting matrix

Year 1 – 2005

## Executive Summary

ADD continues its work in providing rights-based support for disabled people from the individual level to the international forum. The formation of grassroots and self-help groups (SHGs) continue in virtually all ADD country programmes, whether they are provided directly by ADD staff, or by disabled people's organisations (DPOs) who are now independent of ADD country programme funding. There is a culture of burgeoning inclusion, where ADD's aim is to create independence for individuals and the group(s) to which they belong. The Burkina Faso country programme for instance has shown particularly well the process of ensuring sustainability of DPOs, through addressing issues of conflict resolution, support in writing fundraising proposals, project and financial management and accompaniment strategies.

The Uganda, Ghana, Cambodia and Bangladesh country programmes have made significant progress into new districts. Growth into new geographical areas is extremely important for the inclusion of disabled people nationally, but it must be remembered that this growth must be sustainable before ADD can move into other areas. A geographical area must be maintained by local DPOs before ADD is able to expand into new districts, and this has been done effectively this year by the Bangladesh and Cambodia programmes, where local DPOs have taken responsibility for the continued support and development of other disabled people's groups.

The formation of federations and representative DPOs is important for the individual disabled person, to ensure that local governments and INGOs address her/his concerns. Growth in this area has been seen in each ADD country programme, and the formation of national DPOs is increasingly important for programmes. Bangladesh has seen great improvement, with a national disabled people's federation recently formed, but also a national disabled women's council that has quickly gathered momentum in outreach and impact. Sudan has had a great deal of input into national disability legislation, as well as cross-disability support as evidenced by the national impairment groups supporting one another to receive equal national-level registration. Ghana passed a Disability Bill.

The independence of these national bodies is part of the growth that ADD aims to encourage, and in Uganda the fact that ADD Uganda works together with NUDIPU, the national disability federation, shows that ADD can suit the needs of a country's political climate and provide flexible support by continued coordination with the disability movement. This kind of activity is a result of a long-standing affiliation with the national DPO and shows the benefit of ADD's strategy to empower DPOs at a national level.

Internationally, focus on the Millennium Development Goals has increased in importance and activity, and ADD programmes have included these goals into their plans. Since these goals fit squarely into the concerns of disabled people, DPOs have tried to ensure that disabled people are included in the campaigns for the achievement of these goals. Each country programme is actively addressing at least two and tangentially all of the MDGs in their work, since inclusion issues are central when addressing education, children, women, HIV/AIDS and poverty reduction.

Inclusion at the international level has been addressed by ADD UK in its contacts with international agencies, notably BOND, DFID and others. INGOs are looking at important issues of inclusion, not only at external policy level but also within their internal staffing. ADD has helped other INGOs to examine how they might better include disabled people in their own organisations.

Ultimately, an international UN convention is required to support disabled people's human rights, and ADD has been involved in this work not only through its UK office, but also through its Uganda and Bangladesh programmes from where we have supported participants to attend the Ad Hoc meetings at the UN.



**Outcome 1: A strong, vibrant disability movement in at least 8 of the 12 countries in which ADD works**

*Outcome 1.1:*  
democratic,  
representative  
and sustainable  
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organisations  
with  
demonstrated  
capacity to plan,  
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review their work

In **Bangladesh**, 578 self-help groups of disabled people have been formed as a cumulative result of ADD's work at the local level, while 96 federations have been formed at union and district levels. Following ADD's exit strategies, Bogra and Magura districts were phased out during 2005 because they now have the capacity to run independently. However, ADD started programmes of direct work in two new districts during the year, Sirajgange and Rangpur. A major achievement was the formal registration of The National Grassroots Disability Federation under the Company Act of Bangladesh.

Disabled women have now organized into 57 disabled women's councils, with the specific objectives of promoting disabled women's rights and gender related issues. With ADD's support, they have also undertaken extensive preliminary work including several consultations with stakeholders and consultants to form a National Disabled Women's Council, which is soon to be formalised. ADD supported 43 DPOs to run their advocacy campaigns and membership development. Eleven union federations received funding from the Social Welfare Council and 4 DPOs received funds from the government's National Disability Development Foundation. ADD provided extensive training to the leaders and members of DPOs to build their capacity in leadership, group management, financial management, training of trainers, monitoring, HIV/AIDS, gender, development journalism and advocacy.

In **Cambodia**, 2,636 disabled people from 237 different villages have now formed self-help groups (SHGs). While working with them, ADD staff devised a methodology for SHG formation to ensure a rights-based approach to development. The achievements of ADD's work are not only about including more people, but also breaking barriers to isolation and recognising the opportunities that exist for disabled members to develop themselves. Provincial coverage of ADD Cambodia has increased from 2 to 8 provinces; district coverage from 6 to 14 districts; commune coverage from 14 to 31 communes; and village coverage from 148 to 237 villages. ADD Cambodia's point of engagement is now with federations made up of SHGs at commune and district levels. All these partners now have governance procedures in place including: financial and staff policies, a constitution and a management structure lead by a governing body who represent varied impairment interests. Four SHGs have demonstrated their ability to generate income and manage funds and obtained support from outside sources, including the Social Funds of Cambodia, NGOs and their communities. Federations have produced clear, achievable plans and reports. Their 2006 annual plans are SMART and easy to monitor, and have been registered with Ministry of Interior.

*Outcome 1.1 contd:*  
democratic, representative and sustainable disabled people's organisations with demonstrated capacity to plan, manage, fundraise and review their work

In order to ensure more effective transfer of competences to partner DPOs in **Burkina Faso**, ADD's West Africa programme there reviewed and developed its accompaniment tools and provided group development support to 20 grassroots DPOs and 6 provincial networks (Bougouriba, Ioba, Poni, Comoé, Kenedougou, Ouagadougou); communication, leadership, group dynamics and conflict resolution for 6 grassroots DPOs (APHMC, ARDS, Deeri, Hèrè Yoro, Nongta, Bambalbè Faa Taa) and 3 provincial networks to help identify and discuss their leadership and group dynamics to improve their conflict resolutions and organisational functioning; planning and fundraising for 6 provincial networks (Bougouriba, Ouagadougou, Poni, Ioba, Kenedougou, Comoé) and support to 11 grassroots DPOs to finalize their strategic plans, update their 2005 operational targets and arrange their activities. As a result, their strategic planning capacities have been improved, enabling them to develop the implementation of their activities. Additionally, 3 provincial networks (Comoé, Kenedougou, Ouagadougou) and 2 grassroots DPOs were supported when writing fundraising proposals for potential financial and technical partners (FAED, PAMER, Programme Jeunes et Vie Associative, BACB, Caisse Populaire and ACCEDES). The projects submitted covered key objective areas including logistical support for their office, vocational training, economic projects, education, mobility appliances, and the promotion of disability rights.

Elsewhere in West Africa, the three northern regions of **Ghana** where ADD currently concentrates its work, DPOs have developed a sense of organisational direction with the development of action plans and budgets for running their groups. Resource persons and DPOs now produce quality reports, capturing relevant and usable information. Following the development of advocacy plans and the formation of advocacy committees, DPOs have set the stage for promoting the rights of disabled people in all districts and regions. DPOs successfully raised funds to an incredible Cedis1,243,108,000, equivalent to £77,700, representing 255% of the funding from ADD. The national federation in Accra - GFD - won a two-year funding bid totaling £80,000 from DFID's Rights and Voice Initiative (RAVI).

Training and accompaniment in gender analysis and the formation of disabled women's advocacy committees have brought about an enormous level of confidence among disabled women in Ghana, opening their eyes to the various injustices that they have experienced in their daily lives. Furthermore, DPO executive committee members and resource centre steering committee members are now able to use gender analysis at all stages of planning activities, and now make their plans gender sensitive.

ADD West Africa closed its **Mali** office in mid-2005, but continued to support DPOs in Mali from the ADD office located in Burkina Faso, which is now a regional office. This management change did not impact on-going support to partners in Mali, which included supporting: 10 DPOs (Sunjata Ton, Amaldeme, Amassourd and UMAV Segou, Amaldeme – Sikasso, FERAPH Segou, AMHL Bamako, ASHP, FHS, Yeelen) in group development; 11 DPOs in organisational

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diagnosis, each association being enabled to conduct its self-evaluation before running these accompaniment sessions; 15 DPOs supported on strategic planning and/or fundraising processes for them to better understand the need to analyse their situations, identify their strengths and weaknesses and respectively improve them; and 14 DPOs including 8 DPOs from Segou were supported in planning and self evaluation. In addition, trial sessions in fundraising and resource mobilisation and management took place, which helped identify some potential local partners including the Protestant and Catholic missions, AMUPI and the other Muslim associations, the state services, the regional assembly, the district councils and others. Institutional support was also provided to 2 DPOs for their office rent and to 27 DPOs for their running costs.

In **Sudan**, the general assemblies of the national unions of the deaf and of the physically disabled showed that the impact of ADD Sudan's work has spread far beyond the current six states where ADD's principal partners are based. DPO membership has increased over the past 5 years from 6,026 in 1999 to 24,309 in 2004, and then in 2005 it grew to 25,275 due to the increased effectiveness of DPOs reaching more disabled people with improved activities. Moreover the pressure from state and national DPOs, particularly the Sudanese National Union of the Blind, forced the government to register two new national DPOs, The Sudanese National Union of the Deaf and The Sudanese National Union of Physically Handicapped. ADD Sudan also supported the establishment of a DPO run by people of short stature, a first for Sudan and for ADD.

Some DPOs have established direct working relationships with INGOs, an important part of ADD's methodology for DPO independence. In Kassala, Plan Sudan, ACORD, ITDG, IRC, Ockenden and the Netherlands Embassy are all working regularly and directly with Sudanese DPOs, while in Gedarif, ITDG, Canada Fund, French Embassy, Ockenden and NOVIB, all have direct agreements with local DPOs. A similar story is found in Mayo and Nyala where TLM, WFP, Canada Fund are all supporting DPOs with plans to increase their support in 2006. Even governmental departments are increasing their contributions to DPOs, for example the Zakat Chamber and Development Foundation's support of the mobility workshop in Kassala and health insurance for the blind. The 25 DPOs given financial assistance by ADD Sudan were able to produce progress reports (quarterly, bi-annual and annual), financial reports, strategic plans, annual plans, short-term initiatives, and funding applications. DPOs produced satisfactory accounts and reports meeting the deadlines and financial criteria for funding as required by ADD and other donors.

ADD **Uganda** expanded into four new districts: Kabale, Moyo, Sironko and Masindi, in consultation with NUDIPU, the national federation of disabled people. Direct coverage by ADD Uganda was found in 21 districts, and at national level, all 11 national DPOs were supported. ADD Uganda helped to provide training programmes in leadership, lobbying and advocacy, fundraising and resource mobilization. Development of the village outreach programme continued in 3 districts, with 105 volunteers trained and equipped with bicycles to undertake their work. Support was extended for the

<p><i>Outcome 1.1</i> <i>contd:</i> democratic, representative and sustainable disabled people's organisations with demonstrated capacity to plan, manage, fundraise and review their work</p>	<p>first time to three national DPOs: Blind But Able, the Deaf/Blind Association and the Uganda Parents Association of Children with Learning Difficulties (UPACLED). ADD also provided support for general assemblies to 5 district unions; training in fundraising and resource mobilisation to 4 district unions; strategic planning training to 6 district unions; training in leadership and conflict management for 4 district unions; funding the direct operations of 13 district unions, 9 national DPOs, 3 deaf associations, 11 blind people's groups and 9 disabled women's groups; and basic leadership and management, basic financial management and bookkeeping training for the development workers and chairmen of the 21 districts.</p> <p>Partners who secured non-ADD funding reflected capacity building efforts in ADD Zambia. For example, ZAFOD, the national federation of disabled people, successfully negotiated the funding of some of its affiliates' HIV/AIDS programmes. This enabled members to access training and information on the prevention of the spread of HIV/AIDS, how to access relevant health services, advice on living with HIV/AIDS, and mitigating its impact. Some groups received support for their income generating projects. Both the national federation of the deaf and the national federation of the disabled received financial support for their activities from other donors while the women's association ZNADWO received a grant from Japan for income generating activities.</p>
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*Outcome 1.2:* disabled people's organisations with the capacity to campaign for the rights of all disabled people at local, regional and national levels.

In **Bangladesh** a major achievement followed training on human rights and Bangladeshi law. DPO campaigning and lobbying activities became enormously effective on issues of violation to disabled people, especially disabled women. ADD Bangladesh, along with DPO partners, handled 67 incidences of violence against disabled women during the year. In recognition of the specialist legal services required, ADD Bangladesh set up networks between lawyers and district bar associations so that three legal aid committees were formed to assist in cases of violence.

As a result of a workshop organized by the National Grassroots Disability Federation (NGDF) inviting the State Minister for Transport and Chairmen of both BRTA and BRTC (the Bangladesh Road and Transport Authority and Corporation respectively), transport services were made available to disabled people nationwide at half the normal rate, and an allocation of reserved seating was made on buses. They are also considering a request to make it legal for disabled people to apply for a driving licence.

Despite the absence of a national disability federation in **Burkina Faso**, there is a trend among DPOs to federate around common interests and to undertake joint advocacy actions. This methodology resulted in setting up an election monitoring committee and the formation of several networks of DPOs from different backgrounds addressing common interests such as the networks for HIV/AIDS control, election monitoring, and inclusive education. ADD's accompaniment during the process of drawing up strategic advocacy plans helped the Burkina Faso networks to have improved targeted advocacy actions towards sustainable changes. Five provincial networks are compiling or have completed and begun implementing their advocacy plans.

As a result of the DPOs' continued awareness-raising activities, advocacy campaigns and one-off as well as targeted advocacy actions, there are some positive responses from community members and authorities. The Independent Electoral Commission (CNI) has committed itself to accessible voting for disabled people by focussing on a number of issues such as removing barriers affecting visually impaired people, the physical accessibility of voting stations and providing accessible information for people with hearing impairments. The CNI intends to recommend the amendment of the constitution as well as the electoral code. As a result of their campaign for the inclusion of the needs of disabled children in the mainstream educational system meanwhile, some local authorities have started building ramps in schools and public places such town halls.

Advocacy campaigns in **Ghana** yielded a number of results, notably the interest of the public and the media in the passage of the Disability Bill. Celebrations of the International Day of the Disabled generated discussions on disability issues culminating in the Minister of Manpower Development and Employment declaring the year 2006 as "Year of Action on Disability". As a result of DPOs producing and hosting weekly radio programmes in various local languages and the use of theatre for development, DPOs have become more visible and are being invited to public discussions,

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functions and workshops. Work on mainstreaming disability within the work of other agencies as well as in government programmes is gaining some ground. Examples include the Government of Ghana and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Decent Work Pilot; the allocation of 5% of District Administration funds for DPOs' self development; other NGOs such as Action Aid, World Vision, Send Foundation, ISODEC, and others showing a better understanding of disability issues; and the Ministry of Manpower Development and Employment and CDD promoting and advocating for the passage of the Disability Act.

The **Malian** national federation identified the social protection of disabled people as its main advocacy theme for the year and its adoption into law. To support this initiative, meetings were held between AMJH (the association of disabled lawyers) and ADD on the implementation of the latter's project to identify the problems and needs of disabled people, write a report on their conclusions and after its validation by the disability movement, submit the findings to the authorities— an ongoing piece of work. The ADD programme also supported DPOs with their engagement with the regional network of NGOs in order to influence its members to be inclusive of disabled people. ADD's participation in the "Jeunesse et Développement" network on vulnerable children helped to promote the inclusion of disabled children in their programme. As a result, this programme funded five projects for disabled children. Other INGOs, including the Swiss Cooperation, PASAOP, DRPFEF and one delegation of UNICEF have learned about the situation of disabled people in general and the conditions of disabled women and children in particular and have taken relevant steps to help resolve the issues. The projects Kénéya Ciwara de Sida III and the Centre d'Ecoute et education Kenedougou Solidarité were also influenced to include disabled people in their various programmes.

At state and national levels in **Sudan**, DPOs organized and participated in many seminars and debates targeting government and communities for the inclusion and participation of disabled people in governmental directives and policies regarding poverty reduction. Disabled people have demanded that the government take a closer look at the yet to be ratified Disability Act of 2004 because the article in the Interim Constitution (approved in July 2005) is limited to people disabled through war. The draft Disability Act though takes a wider view, and DPOs are putting pressure on the government to submit this act to Parliament for endorsement so that its terminology and guidelines are included in the Interim Constitution that will govern the country during the six-year transitional period, and thereby set a precedent for Sudan's permanent Constitution.

During the 2005 general election in **Tanzania**, disabled people were positively involved in the processes. Blind people voted independently for the first time using tactile ballot guides, and while this exercise took place only in Dar -es - Salaam as a pilot area, it was a positive start for disabled people accessing their right to vote. The remarkable thing is not that blind people voted but that the Electoral Commission realized the importance of involving disabled people in the whole process. A task force committee was formed to oversee better inclusion of disabled people in future. In the

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education sector meanwhile there was improvement, as seen in the increased number of children with disabilities enrolling in primary schools as compared to previous years. It has also become easier to find accurate data from ward executive officers on school-age children with disabilities, making it easier to track children not in school and to address obstacles. On the important issue of poverty reduction, there were on-going efforts under the National Strategy for Economic Growth and Reduction of Poverty (NSGRP) 2005 – 2010, known as 'MKUKUTA'. A network was formed to coordinate disability organizations' engagement and to make sure DPOs are not excluded from the process.

In **Uganda** ADD organised media campaigns and dialogue with the general public through live talk show/phone-in programmes on Uganda television (UTV). Some of the topical issues discussed included: sign language as medium of communication; employment of disabled people for national development; road safety and equal enjoyment of public transport by the disabled; mental health; access to safe water and sanitation by the disabled; bringing epilepsy out of the shadows; deafblind people in Uganda; and access to education by disabled children. Following the launch of the research report on the "*Challenges faced by People with Disabilities (PwDs) in Utilizing HIV/AIDS Communication and Related Health Services in Uganda*" a standing committee on HIV/AIDS was established to spearhead activities on HIV/AIDS among the national DPOs. The committee has so far enabled the DPOs to participate in the National HIV/AIDS activities such as the 4<sup>th</sup> National AIDS Conference and the *Get on Board* Campaign to make poverty history.

After much effort in terms of capacity building, ADD's **Zambia** partners were finally able to come together and prepare a chapter on disability for inclusion into the National Development Plan - NDP. This was after a lengthy dialogue with the Ministry of Finance and National Development and support from the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services. The NDP has included a chapter on disability for the first time ever. It is hoped that this recognition will pave the way for the inclusion of disability into other national programmes.

The campaign for the inclusion of disability issues into the draft Constitution has been on-going for the last two years and was successfully concluded with the submission of a document by DPOs representing disabled people outlining the kind of constitution they would like to have. The review process was affected by some controversial issues to do with the presidency, elections and proportional representation, causing its adoption to be delayed but indications so far are that the disability issues being advocated for by the Disability Movement may not be as controversial. Finally, ADD's support of the involvement of disabled people's organizations in electoral processes has resulted in many advocated issues being included in the draft Electoral Act. However, the process encountered similar problems as the Constitution Review and since these processes are so closely related, a delay in its adoption is also expected.

## Outcome 2: Progress towards inclusive international development policy and practice

*Outcome 2.1:*  
Governments and international development organisations demonstrate an understanding of disability policy issues and incorporate these into relevant policy documents and guidelines

In **Bangladesh** the PRSP was finalised, approved by the government and subsequently submitted to the World Bank, following extensive input from DPOs, facilitated by ADD. As a result, it shows numerous adjustments towards a better rights-based understanding of disability and has been reflected also in the national budget 2005-2006, when the Bangladesh Government allocated Tk.25 crore (approximately £2.3 million) for its micro-credit programme for disabled people and introduced a new scheme of disability allowances for 104,000 severely disabled people.

The **Sudanese** Government produced an interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) with the support and assistance of the World Bank and UNDP. However, disabled people were disappointed that they were not specifically included in the document, but mentioned only as a 'vulnerable group'. Support to the disability movement in challenging this situation as well as activities addressing the struggle at both national and state levels to have specific needs addressed and included the implementation of the PRSP strategy are a key part of ADD Sudan's plans over the next five years.

The **ADD UK-based Influence Programme** has continued to be active, with the surge in profile for international issues in Britain following publicity from the Asian tsunami, Pakistan earthquake and more positively the **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY** campaign. ADD encouraged its individual supporters to become involved, as well as working through the BOND Disability and Development Working Group – chaired by an ADD member of staff - to try and ensure disability awareness becomes part of the poverty debate. The results are difficult to judge since the focus of most poverty reduction work is still largely *not* inclusive, but efforts continue. More positively, ADD took an active part in the development of DFID's new policy paper on social exclusion, which now contains a more sensitive approach to inclusion. Links with other INGOs have resulted in positive developments, with interesting discussions underway with World Vision and Send a Cow, for instance, on mainstreaming disability in their programmes.

The UK office encouraged and facilitated engagement with the African Commission, with a view to ensuring that disabled people's situations were understood and included. Partners received funding to attend meetings in Africa, and a UK member of staff participated in a number of events here but overall, impact was limited.

ADD contributed to the UN Convention on disabled people's rights negotiation process by liaising with other NGOs and the disability movement. The ADD Uganda country representative is a human rights lawyer by training and has previously served at the UN for the Ugandan Government and so was ideally placed to be involved in the Ad Hoc meetings in New York. This is a lengthy and intricate process, but – if approved and ratified – stands to be a landmark in the fight for the recognition of disabled people's rights.