Ensuring Equality
to Leave No One Behind
Experience in empowering persons with disabilities through multi-stakeholder engagement and inclusion

Reena Lee
Secretary General
Korean Disability Forum
Disability Rights are Human Rights

- The rights of persons with disabilities are not special rights but the same rights of everyone applied equally

1 in 8 people is a persons with disabilities

- One billion people, or 15% of the world's population, experience some form of disability, and disability prevalence is higher for developing countries.
- Prevalence of persons with disabilities differs from 25% to 1%
- In the Asia & Pacific region, only 30% of all persons with disabilities have enough income for self-support.
- 80% of persons with disabilities live in developing countries and experience poverty
- 90% of persons with disabilities experience disability after birth through accident or illness
• Large differences in poverty rates between persons with disabilities and the overall population.
Persons with disabilities are 2 to 6 times less likely to be employed.
Disability & Impairment

- **Medical model of disability**
  - Defines a disability as a problem and seek a cure
  - Perceive disability as an individual problem

- **Social model of disability**
  - Recognizes disability is an evolving concept and that disability results from the interaction between persons with impairments and attitudinal and environmental barriers that hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.
  - Preamble (e), UN CRPD
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

• UN CRPD, adopted in 2006
  - An International human rights treaty that is the youngest treaty out of 9 UN treaties
  - Adopted by UN General Assembly on 13th December in 2006
  - Came into force on 3rd May 2008, following ratification by the 20th State Party
  - To date, 177 countries have ratified the CRPD (Oct. 2, 2019)
  - CRPD reaffirms that all persons with disabilities must enjoy all human rights and fundamental freedom. It clarifies that all persons with disabilities have the right to participate in civil, political, economic, social and cultural life of the community just as anyone else. The CRPD clearly stipulates what public and private authorities must do to ensure and promote the full enjoyment of these rights by all people with disabilities.
MDGs didn’t include persons with disabilities

SDGs, includes persons with disabilities

- 11 instance of explicit references to persons with disabilities
- Declaration
  1. Human rights (paragraph 19)
  2. Vulnerable groups (paragraph 23)
  3. Education (paragraph 25)
- Sustainable Development Goals and targets
  4, 5. Goal 4: education – 2 References
  6. Goal 8: employment – 1 Reference
  7. Goal 10: reducing inequalities – 1 Reference
  8, 9. Goal 11: inclusive cities – 2 References
  10. Goal 17: means of implementation, data – 1 Reference
- Follow-up and review
  11. Data disaggregation (paragraph 74, g)
Disability is included in the following GOALS:

1. Guaranteeing equal and accessible education by building inclusive learning environments and providing the needed assistance for persons with disabilities.

2. Promoting inclusive economic growth, full and productive employment allowing persons with disabilities to fully access the job market.

Korean Disability Forum
Emphasizing the social, economic and political inclusion of persons with disabilities

10

Creating accessible cities and water resources, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems, providing universal access to safe, inclusive, accessible and green public spaces

11
Underlining the importance of data collection and monitoring of the SDGs, emphasis on disability disaggregated data

11x “Persons with disabilities” or “disability” are specifically mentioned in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

6x Persons in vulnerable situations are specifically mentioned in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
Disability & SDGs

- Goals and targets referencing vulnerable groups should include persons with disabilities.
- Goals and targets referencing ‘for all’ or ‘all women and men’ are also implicitly applicable for persons with disabilities.
- Even without any such references, all Goals and targets should be applicable to persons with disabilities by simple virtue of the universality, which applies to all, and the overarching principle of “leave no one behind.”
• **Experience of Multi-stakeholders engagement**
  - Korean Disability Community get on-board as one of the last groups in 2016
  - Join in Korean Civil Society Network on SDGs and raise awareness on disability issues in the work of mainstream CSOs, including children, education, environment, etc.
Experience in the national process on SDGs
- In 2018, the Ministry of Environment, the designated Ministry on SDGs, established the K-MGoS, composed of 14 groups, in order to develop Korean SDGs targets and indicators.
- The Korean disability community participated in the working group of persons with disabilities in May 2018.
Multi-stakeholders engagement

• Making K-SDGs disability-inclusive

- The very first draft of the Working Group reduced disability references down to only 5 instances, including indicators

- The Korean disability community worked together to review the draft goals and indicators and made suggestions

- 1st version of K-SDGs was made in 2018. However, there was insufficient time to review thoroughly, as disability is a cross-cutting issue which is relevant to most of goals

- The Ministry of Environment has been holding an on-going forum for thorough consultation throughout this year
Multi-stakeholders engagement

Experience of Multi-stakeholders engagement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference to Disabilities</th>
<th>UN SDGs</th>
<th>Draft of K-SDGs June 2018</th>
<th>1st Ver. K-SDGs Dec. 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goals</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicators</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consultation on establishment of SDGs Forum to ensure the involvement of CSOs throughout the entire process of monitoring and implementing of the SDGs

Contribution Report by CSOs
- Reporting disability-related issues and activities for solving problems, in coalition with Korean Civil Society Network on SDGs, from 2017
Multi-stakeholders engagement

- **Look into disparities between groups**
  - Are we all aware that persons with disabilities can be exempted from national minimum wage by law?
  - Despite enormous improvement in primary education in developing countries in recent years, which reaches 97~98%, the ration for students with disabilities still remains in single digits

- **Mainstreaming disability**
  - Disability issues are NOT a matter of Welfare
  - In order to make an inclusive society, the disability rights perspectives should be enshrined in a national general development plan, not only in a ‘Special’ plan