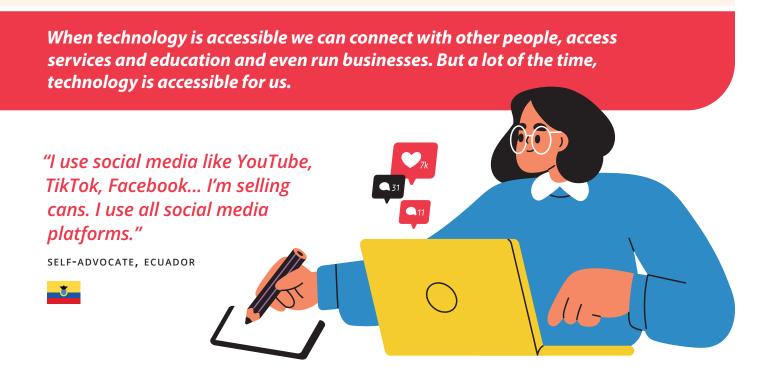**BIG ISSUES IN OUR LIVES**

What Needs to Change

*What **Technology** looks like for People with Intellectual Disabilities*

Our Experience with Technology

Technology can give people with intellectual disabilities more opportunities to be included and independent.

We can use assistive technology tools like communication apps, screen readers and adapted keyboards to find and share information. Some of us also use mobility devices like electric wheelchairs to help us to move around. Some people like to use AI to explain and break down information.

When technology is accessible we can connect with other people, access services and education and even run businesses. But a lot of the time, technology is accessible for us.

"I use social media like YouTube, TikTok, Facebook... I'm selling cans. I use all social media platforms."

SELF-ADVOCATE, ECUADOR

Our Rights

- Technology can help us to access our rights, like our right to accessible information, employment and education.
- Because technology is an important tool to help us to be a part of our communities, governments should make sure that it is accessible.

Big Problems We Face

Cost of Technology

- We don't get support to pay for technology
- Helpful apps or services are expensive
- Many of us aren't allowed to make decisions about our own money

Internet Access

- Many of us live in rural areas, where there is poor or no connection
- Many services need online access, so if we don't have connection we are excluded

Support and Accessibility

- When we are excluded from education, we don't learn to use technology
- Lots of information is not easy to understand, so we need support to access it
- People think if we have technology we don't need support
- Our support people don't know how to use assistive technology

"Technology is crucial and has helped me significantly. Having cerebral palsy, the wheelchair's control system makes mobility easier for me."

SELF-ADVOCATE,
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Inclusion international

Accessible Technology Looks Like...

- We have good internet access
- We have access to assistive technology
- Our supporters can help us to use technology
- We can get support online and in-person

What Needs To Change

What Governments Can Do
- Support Access to Technology
  - *Help us pay for technology*
  - *Include assistive technology in disability benefits*
  - *Ensure rural areas have good internet access*
  - *Make online services accessible*

What Service Providers Can Do
- Support people with intellectual disabilities to lead training about technology
- Train staff on how to support people to use technology
- Make sure people have support online and in-person

What Others Can Do
- Support organisations of people with disabilities to be a part of designing assistive technology

"Almost half of the people with disabilities we're working with don't have a computer, smartphone or tablet... Most of the people we are working with are from rural areas, where the internet connection is not as strong as in the cities."

SELF-ADVOCATE, MOLDOVA

"I think that it's getting easier to have some assistance. But there are still support things out there that people need to do in person. Technology doesn't always work."

SELF-ADVOCATE, UNITED STATES

People with intellectual disabilities around the world want <u>accessible technology with accessible costs</u>. We want support to understand how to use technology.