



Taking part in local development: a guide for inclusion



Irish Aid
An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha
Department of Foreign Affairs

Inclusion
international



Sightsavers



What is inclusive local development?

Inclusive local development is when people with disabilities are involved in activities and participate in important decisions locally just like everyone else.

This means that you must be included and involved by your local council and organizations in order to participate in important projects happening where you live.

These projects could involve access to water, the construction of a new school, or access to healthcare services, for example.

Your local council and organizations should consider how to include you from the very beginning.



How will your government or organizations try to include you in their work?

Local councils and organizations must ensure that people with intellectual disabilities are included and involved from the very beginning.

This means they will want to hear what you think!

When they plan new projects, they follow certain steps. They must ensure that people with intellectual disabilities participate at every step.

At these different stages, you may be asked for your opinion.

What is the local council doing?	How can I be part of it?
<p>Thinking about what they need to change.</p> <p>This step is sometimes called “diagnostics.”</p> <p>Diagnostic means the problems we have identified.</p>	<p>They will try to talk to people to figure out what the big problems are.</p> <p>You can tell them what you think the big issues are and what things they can do to include you better.</p>
<p>Thinking about what to do differently.</p> <p>This step is sometimes called “analysis.”</p> <p>Analysis means what we think of the problem.</p>	<p>People with disabilities will have shared different problems that the council should fix.</p> <p>Now, they need to come up with ideas for how to fix them.</p> <p>If you have ideas for how to solve the problem, you can share your ideas.</p>
<p>Planning the work.</p> <p>This step is sometimes called “design.”</p> <p>Design means what we have to do.</p>	<p>Now they will make a plan for the work they will do.</p> <p>You can give your advice for what actions they should do to solve the problem.</p>

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<p>Making sure the changes are working.</p> <p>This step is sometimes called “monitoring.”</p> <p>Monitoring means that we check on the progress of the work.</p>	<p>Once they have started doing the work, they need to check to see if things are going well.</p> <p>You can take part in this - they will need lots of people to say what they think about if the work is going well or what could be done better.</p>
<p>Looking back and seeing if the work went well.</p> <p>This step is sometimes called “evaluation.”</p> <p>Evaluation means checking what worked well.</p>	<p>This happens at the end of the work.</p> <p>Everyone talks about what went well and what could be better next time.</p> <p>If there is something that didn’t work for you, you can say it.</p> <p>You can give your ideas about what to change next time.</p>



How can I get involved?

You can join an organisation that is run by people with disabilities. These are called organisations of people with disabilities.

If you are part of an organisation, you can work with them on inclusive development projects.

Some things that you might do are:

- Talking about what things are like for you
- Sharing your opinion
- Looking at information and giving feedback
- Getting to know new people

You can also participate in organisations to give them advice about how to include you better.

When you are part of their work, you can help make them better:

- By telling them to use plain and easy to understand words in all the information they share
- By making sure the tools they use to do their work are easy for you to understand so you can be among the decision makers of the organisation
- By making sure they always ask people with intellectual disabilities what they think
- By ensuring that all members of the organization and staff are aware of the rights of people with disabilities in general, and those with intellectual disabilities in particular



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