

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



Inclusion
International



Message from the President

Sue Swenson



The COVID-19 global pandemic has changed the way we work.

The inequalities that people with intellectual disabilities already faced were made worse. We were left out of the government responses that were designed to help people in a crisis.

I am proud of how our network rose up, came together and changed our work plans in order to defend our human rights and make sure we were included and protected!

Our members across the world quickly created valuable resources so we brought these all together and shared them across the network so that countries could learn from each other's experiences.

We held 17 webinars to discuss different areas of life affected by the pandemic in detail. Our findings are presented in our **COVID-19 Impact Report**.

Our network also came together online throughout the year at our **General Assembly, Global Self-Advocacy Summit** and **Family Summit**. During these events we welcomed three new council members, strengthened our network by electing a self-advocate Vice-president, and celebrated our 60th anniversary.

Through our 'Listen, Include, Respect' work, we consulted with nearly 1,500 people to develop international guidelines for inclusive participation. We worked with our members around the world to develop a new programme called 'Families taking action for inclusion' to support family leadership, and released a report in partnership with the global organisation 'Development Initiatives' on inclusion of people in international development and humanitarian aid.

Our network's voice was very loud at the 13th conference of states parties (COSP). Our President and Vice-president addressed the main conference, we co-hosted five side events, our members were involved in 11 other side events, and we engaged with almost 200,000 people on social media.

2021 will bring new challenges. Our network will find different ways to work, and our priorities and strategies may change. But our goal will remain the same – we *will* advance inclusion for people with intellectual disabilities worldwide.

If you would like to be updated about this work as it happens and find out how to get involved, join our mailing list [here](#).

Sue Swenson

Who we are and what we stand for

Inclusion International is the international network of people with intellectual disabilities and their families. Together we advocate for the rights and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities worldwide.

For over 50 years Inclusion International has been committed to the promotion of these human rights.

Our organisation now represents over 200 member federations in 115 countries throughout five regions, including the Middle East and North Africa, Europe, Africa, the Americas, and Asia Pacific.

Our members are trying to promote and help put the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) into action. We want to create a world where people with an intellectual disability and their families can take part in community life, just like everybody else.



As an international network we believe that in order to achieve real inclusion society must:

- ✓ support people with intellectual disabilities to have control over their lives and to make their own choices and decisions
- ✓ accept people with intellectual disabilities as equal members of their family and community
- ✓ remove the barriers that prevent people with intellectual disabilities from taking part in all aspects of life
- ✓ provide full access to mainstream services and systems like education and healthcare
- ✓ remove all spaces where people with intellectual disabilities are kept apart and alone from other people
- ✓ celebrate diversity and equality as the key to building stronger and better communities for ALL.

Delivering our strategic plan 2016-2020

Global Advocacy

We provide a global voice for people with intellectual disabilities and families in places where decisions are made (e.g. UN, governments, etc.).

Support to members

We provide tools, resources, and direct one-on-one support through our programmes to help our members do their work in their countries.

Networking

We provide opportunities for members to learn, share and collaborate with each other.



Strategic Priorities

Our priorities for 2016-2020 want to make sure:

Inclusive education

Learners with intellectual disabilities have access to inclusive quality education.

Inclusion in the community

People with intellectual disabilities live and are included in their communities.

Supported decision making

People with intellectual disabilities have access to support to make decisions, and have their decisions respected.

Inclusive development

The 2030 agenda – and other mainstream global development agendas – have specific commitments and measurable benchmarks for people with disabilities.

Leaders for inclusion

People with intellectual disabilities and their families are at the core of our movement, and the unique support needs for people with intellectual disabilities and their families are woven throughout our efforts.

Global advocacy

In 2020, our advocacy work was strongly influenced by the pandemic.

At a global level we aimed to make sure that people with intellectual disabilities and their families were included in all high-level discussions and decisions.

Our main achievements in our priority areas were:



Inclusive Education

- Held a side-event at the Conference of States Parties on “[Inclusive education a key driver for empowering persons with disabilities](#)”
- Hosted a discussion on ‘How we can use the Global Education Monitoring Report (GEMR) 2020 to promote Inclusive Education’, ‘[Inclusive Education: Before, during and after COVID-19](#)’ and ‘[Accelerating Accessibility: Designing Inclusive materials for Online Learning following the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)’ during our COVID-19 webinar series.



Closing Institutions

- Held a side-event at the Conference of States Parties on “[Parent and family leadership in preventing institutionalization of children with disabilities: promising practices from countries in transition](#)”
- Hosted a discussion on ‘[Deinstitutionalisation: before, during and after COVID-19](#)’ during our COVID-19 series.



Valued Equally

- Held a side-event at the Conference of States Parties on “[Inclusion and Exclusion in International Development: People with Intellectual Disabilities in ODA](#)”
- Contributed to the high-level political forum submission of the stakeholder groups of people with disabilities to make sure that people with intellectual disabilities and their families are included in global disability action plans.
- Organised 10 consultations with people with intellectual disabilities to contribute to the United Nations Development Programme political participation guidelines.
- Published a report on the inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities in international development and humanitarian aid.
- Contributed to the high-level political forum submission of the stakeholder groups of people with disabilities.



Real Jobs

- Held side-events at the Conference of States Parties on “[Foundations as catalysts to promote inclusive employment models](#)” and “[Disability & Business: Initiatives in Inclusive Corporate Leadership](#)”
- Hosted a discussion on ‘[Inclusive Employment: Before, During and After COVID-19](#)’ during our COVID-19 webinar series.



Inclusive Communities

- Held a side-event at the Conference of States Parties on “[Listen, Include, Respect — The International Guidelines for Inclusive Participation](#)”
- Were involved in the preparation process of the day of general discussion on the rights of the child and alternative care.
- Hosted a discussion on ‘[Including People with High Support Needs in COVID-19 Responses](#)’ and ‘[Supporting Families and People with Intellectual Disabilities to Protect their Mental Health during the Pandemic](#)’ during our COVID-19 webinar series.



Supporting Families

- Held a side-event at the Conference of States Parties on “[People with intellectual disabilities and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic: Challenges and good practices](#)”
- Hosted a discussion on ‘[Supporting Families and People with Intellectual Disabilities to Protect their Mental Health during the Pandemic](#)’ and ‘[Supporting families during the coronavirus crisis](#)’ during our COVID-19 webinar series.



At a national level, we supported our members in their advocacy work.

Support to members

Catalyst for Inclusive Education

The Catalyst empowers people with intellectual disabilities and their families to advocate and meaningfully participate in system-change, in the design of inclusive education, and in the monitoring of laws, policies, strategies and services.

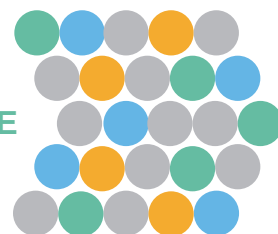
The programme aims to:

1. Develop and strengthen members' common understanding of inclusive education, and help them to advocate for and meaningfully participate in systems change
2. Develop a set of advocacy tools to support members' advocacy work at all levels
3. Enhance collaboration among Inclusion International members and strengthen the voice of the regional networks
4. Support members with technical implementation of inclusive education in their countries
5. Collect, create and share information, knowledge, learning and resources on inclusive education among members.

In 2020, we:

- ✓ Created a work plan for 2020-2022, setting out how the Catalyst will assist our members with initiatives that build on larger education reform efforts.
- ✓ Collected responses from our members about which messages from the 2020 Global Education Monitoring report are most important to their work and the future of inclusive education to promote the report and explain its applications.
- ✓ Hosted a COSP-13 side-event to highlight the catalytic effect that the 2020 GEM Report has had on advocacy efforts of persons with disabilities towards achieving inclusive education at national and community level.

CATALYST
FOR INCLUSIVE
EDUCATION



Empower Us



Empower Us supports our members to develop self-advocacy leadership around the world. Empower Us work is led by people with intellectual disabilities who are self-advocates.

The programme aims to:

1. Give advice and support on self-advocacy and inclusion to Inclusion International members.
2. Train and share resources and bring people together to share their knowledge and experiences.
3. Give advice and support to self-advocates, their families and supporters and the organisations they work with.

In 2020, we:

- ✓ Led training in Uganda, Nigeria and Bangladesh as part of the Inclusion Works project. Self-advocates were trained on human rights, the CRPD and advocacy.
- ✓ Continued to meet and support one another throughout the pandemic.
- ✓ Led TWO self-advocacy webinars as part of our COVID-19 series. Self-advocates talked about the challenges the pandemic had brought and shared their advocacy work on COVID-19.
- ✓ Ensured that self-advocates voices and experiences were heard at regional and international levels, for example at the United Nations Conference of State Parties on the CPRD.



Listen Include Respect

We are working with Down Syndrome International to create **global guidelines** for organisations on inclusive participation. Inclusive participation is when people with intellectual disabilities are included and can take part in the work and decision making of organisations.

The programme aims to:

1. Help people with intellectual disabilities to be included and can take part in the work and decision-making of organisations.
2. Inform organisations and provide practical guidance on how to work inclusively.
3. Create an advocacy tool that explains reasonable accommodations and support to self-advocates, their families and supporters and the organisations they work with.

In 2020, we:

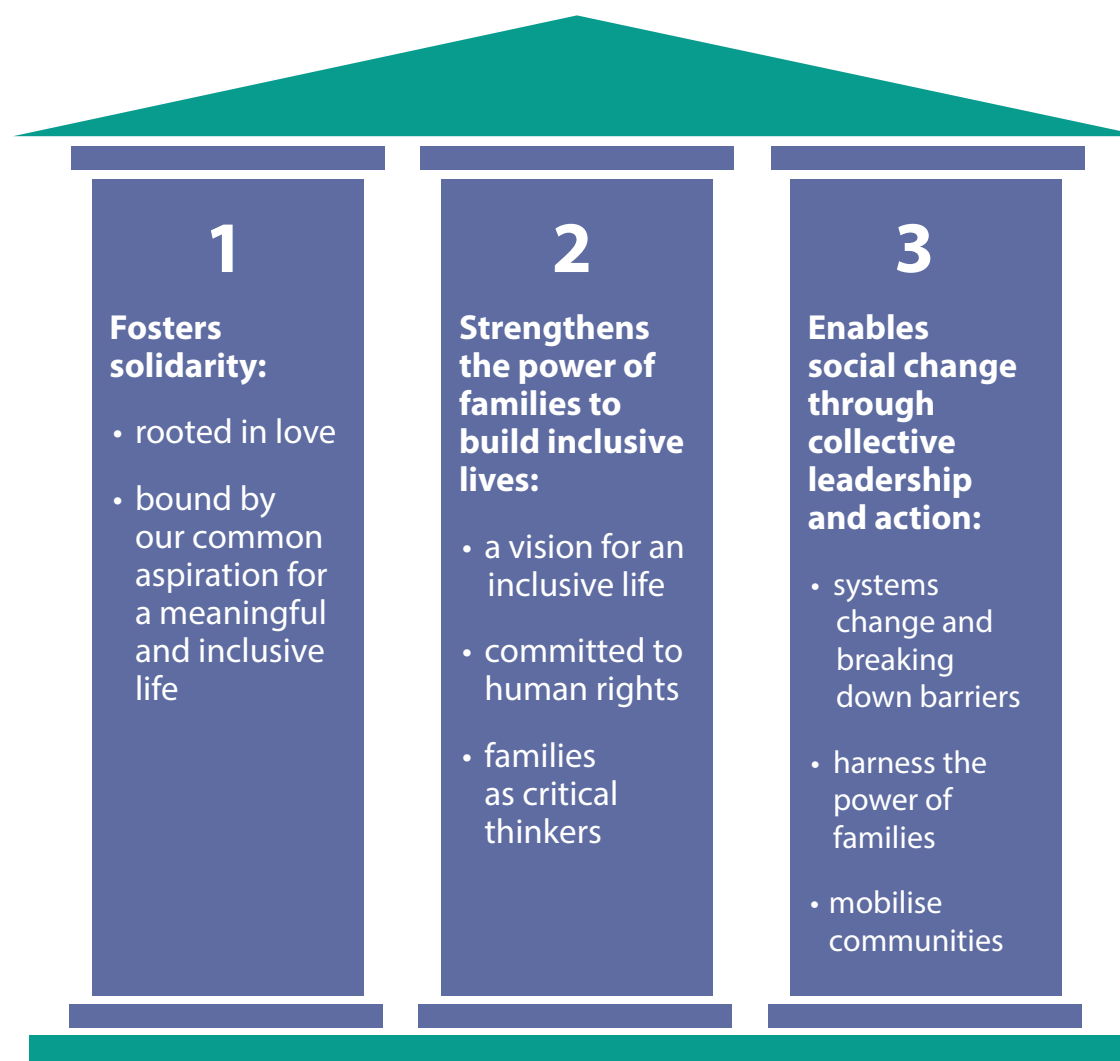
- ✓ Developed an inclusive consultation process to develop the guidelines.
- ✓ Shared a global survey with our members and ran consultations in 25 countries, hearing from over 1,500 people about the barriers to being included.
- ✓ Drafted the guidelines.
- ✓ Hosted a side event at the Conference of States parties to explain why these guidelines are important and how UN Agencies can adapt their work to make it inclusive of people with intellectual disabilities.



Families Taking Action For Inclusion

Inclusion International was created by families. Families and people with intellectual disabilities are at the heart of our movement. In June 2018 our members agreed to develop 'Families taking action for inclusion'; a family leadership programme to support and strengthen advocacy for inclusion.

There are three pillars of our global family movement for inclusion:



In 2020:

- ✓ In December 2020, we hosted a virtual global family summit. 200 participants from 40 countries joined together to help strengthen our global family movement for inclusion and launch this programme.
- ✓ A Facebook group was established for families to connect, network and share. Moving forward, we plan to build web-based platforms to facilitate opportunities for understanding and meeting the needs of families.

If you know a family member of a person with an intellectual disability, please invite them to contact us for opportunities to get involved!









Inclusion Works

The 'Inclusion Works' project, funded by UK aid, aims to make employment more accessible to people with disabilities in Kenya, Uganda, Nigeria, and Bangladesh.



We are working together with 10 other global organisations, plus six of our member organisations:

-  Society for the Education and Inclusion of the Disabled (SEID)
-  Down Syndrome Society Bangladesh (DSSB)
-  Kenya Association of the Intellectually Handicapped (KAIH)
-  Down Syndrome Foundation Nigeria (DSFN)
-  Ugandan Parents of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (UPPID)
-  Inclusion Uganda



In 2020, we focused on talking to self-advocates about their right to employment. We:

- ✓ Led 'Empower Us' self-advocacy training in Bangladesh, Uganda and Nigeria, training a total of 47 self-advocates. The training focused on Article 27 of the CRPD, with self-advocates making plans for how to advocate for inclusive employment in their communities.
- ✓ Worked with '**Development Initiatives**' (one of the partner organisations on Inclusion Works) to carry out research on inclusion in development and humanitarian aid work.



Our report '**Excluded from the Excluded**' found that **people with intellectual disabilities are excluded from 99.98% of official development assistance (ODA) funding.**

While COVID-19 prevented our work with employers from beginning as planned, we changed our focus to support other organisations who are part of the project to make their activities more inclusive of people with intellectual disabilities.

During 2021, our work on the Inclusion Works project will focus on supporting our members in Kenya, Uganda, Nigeria and Bangladesh to train and work with employers on creating more inclusive workplaces.

Networking: our global network in action

AMERICAS

Luis Gabriel Villareal Peralta, self-advocate representative for the Americas, *Colombia*

Gabriela Martinez, representative for the Americas, *Argentina*

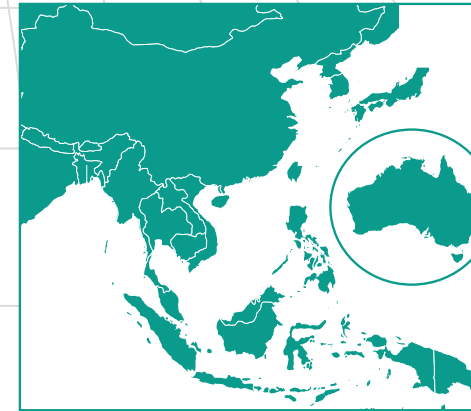
- American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR)
- The Arc of the United States
- Asdown Colombia
- Asociación Azul
- Asociación de Padres
- Asociación Nicaragüense para la Integración Comunitaria (ASNIC)
- Community Living Toronto
- Confederación Mexicana de Organizaciones en favor de las Personas con Discapacidad Intelectual (CONFE)
- Corbrook
- Federação Nacional das Apaes (Fenapaes)
- Federación Nacional de Madres y Padres de Personas con Discapacidad Intelectual (FEPAPDEM)
- Fundacion Descubreme
- Fundación Down Bolivia
- Fundación Saraki
- Fundación Visibilia
- Inclusion Alberta
- Inclusion Canada
- Instituto Jo Clemente
- JAID – The Jamaican Association on Intellectual Disabilities
- Keystone Human Services
- Light 4 Learning
- LiveWorkPlay
- People First of Canada
- ProEdu Educación Inclusiva en Calidad
- Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE)
- Senderos del Sembrador
- SOCIEDAD PERUANA DE SINDROME DE DOWN
- Special Olympics Latin America
- Therap Services
- Tutores y Voluntarios de personas con discapacidad
- YAI

EUROPE

Sara Pickard, self-advocate representative for Europe, *UK*

Jyrki Pinomaa, representative for Europe, *Finland*

- AKIM Israel
- Bridge of Hope
- Bulgarian Association for persons with Intellectual Disability (BAPID)
- Hep Hep Hurra e.
- Inclusion Czech Republic
- Inclusion Finland (FDUV)
- Inclusion Ireland
- Inclusive Practices
- INSIEME
- Kehitysvammaisten Tukiliitto ry (KVTL)
- Landssamtökin Proskahjálp
- Leap Ireland
- Lebenshilfe
- Lebenshilfe Österreich
- LEV-DENMARK
- Midlands Mencap
- Norsk Forbund for Utviklingshemmede (NFU)
- Plena Inclusion
- Zdrúženie na pomoc ľuďom s mentálnym postihnutím v SR
- Zveza Sožitje



ASIA PACIFIC

David Corner, self-advocate representative for Asia Pacific, *New Zealand*

Trish Grant, representative for Asia Pacific, *New Zealand*

- All Means All
- Arts Project Australia
- China Disabled Persons' Federation (CDPF)
- Children and Young People with Disability Australia (CYDA)
- Chosen Power
- Down Syndrome Society of Bangladesh
- Fu Hong Society
- IHC
- Inclusion Australia
- Inclusion Beijing
- New Inclusion Japan
- Parent Association of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (PAPID)
- Parent Federation of Person with Intellectual Disabilities (PFPID)
- PARIVAAR
- People First New Zealand
- Society for Education and Inclusion of Disabled (SEID)
- Starting with Julius
- Therap Bangladesh
- United Voice
- Victorian Advocacy League for Individuals with Disability (VALID)
- Western Australia Individualised Services (WAIS)

AFRICA

Auberon Jeleel Odoom, representative for Africa, *Ghana*

Mark Mapemba, self-advocate representative for Africa, *Malawi*

- Association des Parents et Amis des Personnes Encéphalopathes (APAPE)
- Association Mozambican of Children with Disabilities (ACRIDEME)
- Collectif Tubakunde
- Down Syndrome Foundation Nigeria
- Down syndrome South Africa
- Disabled Children's Action Group (DICAG)
- Fikir – Ethiopian National Association on Intellectual Disability (FENAID)
- Inclusive Education Global Foundation
- Inclusion Ghana
- Inclusion Mauritius (APIEM)
- Inclusion Uganda
- Intellectual Disability Association of Lesotho (IDAL)
- Kenya Association of Intellectually Handicapped (KAIH)
- La Chrysalide
- Sierra Leone Autistic Society
- The Namibia Association of Children with Disabilities (NACD)
- Tanzania Association for the Mentally Handicapped (TAMH)
- Uganda Parents of persons with intellectual disabilities (UPPID)
- UPHLS Rwanda
- ZACALD Zambia
- Zanzibar Association for People with Developmental Disabilities (ZAPDD)
- Zimbabwe Parents of Handicapped Children Association (ZPHCA)



MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Sheikha Jameela Al-Qasimi, representative for Middle East and North Africa, *United Arab Emirates*

Chaica Sultan Saqr Al Qassimi, self-advocate representative for Middle East and North Africa, *United Arab Emirates*

- Al-Amal for Development and Social Care
- The Alexandria Self Advocacy Resource Group
- Help Center
- Kuwait Society for the Handicapped (KSH)
- Lebanese Association for Self-advocacy (LASA)
- Rehabilitation Institute for Autism and related communication disorder (RIA)
- Sharjah City for Humanitarian Services (SCHS)

Connecting our members

2020 General Assembly

On 9 and 10 November we held our **2020 General Assembly** online, in two different timezones. 135 participants from 45 countries joined for a discussion moderated by our President, Sue Swenson, and hosted on the virtual platform. During this meeting we presented the work of our organisation, by showing this short video animation and giving an overview of our work during the COVID-19 pandemic. We also reviewed the progress we have made since the resolutions made at our 2018 General Assembly.

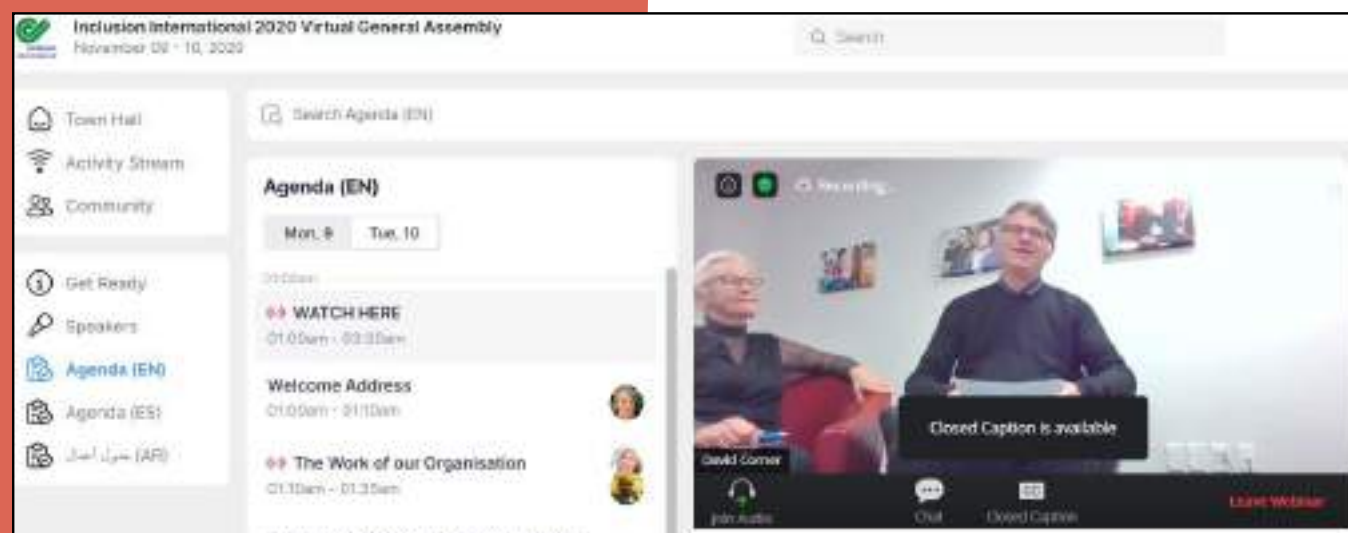


Global Family Summit

On December 8, 2020, Inclusion International hosted a virtual **Global Family Summit**. The two-hour Summit ran twice to cover multiple time zones and translation into Spanish and Arabic was provided. 200 participants from 40 countries registered to participate in the Summits.

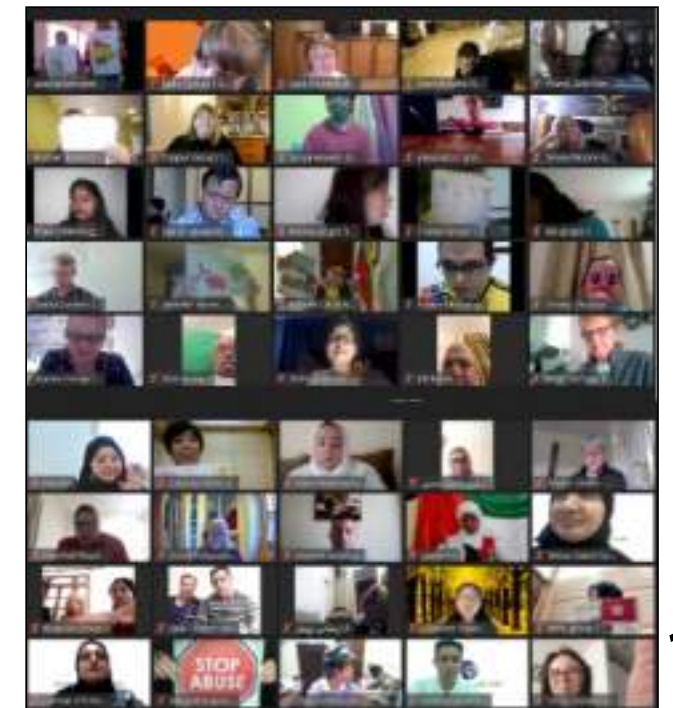
The purpose of the Summit was to help strengthen our global family movement for inclusion and the goal was to:

- ✓ Connect as a global movement of families
- ✓ Excite and inspire each other about building inclusive lives
- ✓ Learn from each other



Global Self-Advocacy Summit

We held a virtual **Global Self-Advocacy summit** with the theme of self-advocacy successes in December. 250 people from 40 countries came together to hear self-advocate leaders speak about their work including CRPD committee member Sir Robert Martin.



Treasurer's Report and Financials

SUMMARY FINANCIALS

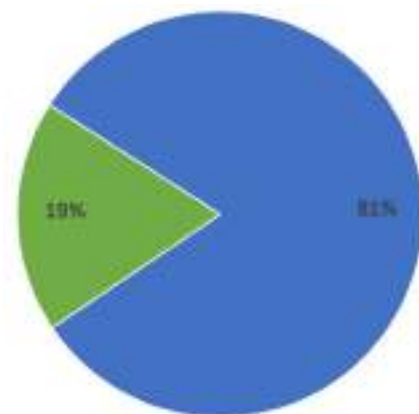
The complete audited trustee reports and financial statements for 2020 and 2019 are available on our website <https://inclusion-international.org/annual-accounts/>

FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

All figures in USD

Financial Activities for the years ending 31/12/2019 and 31/12/2020 are summarised as follows:

INCOME 2020

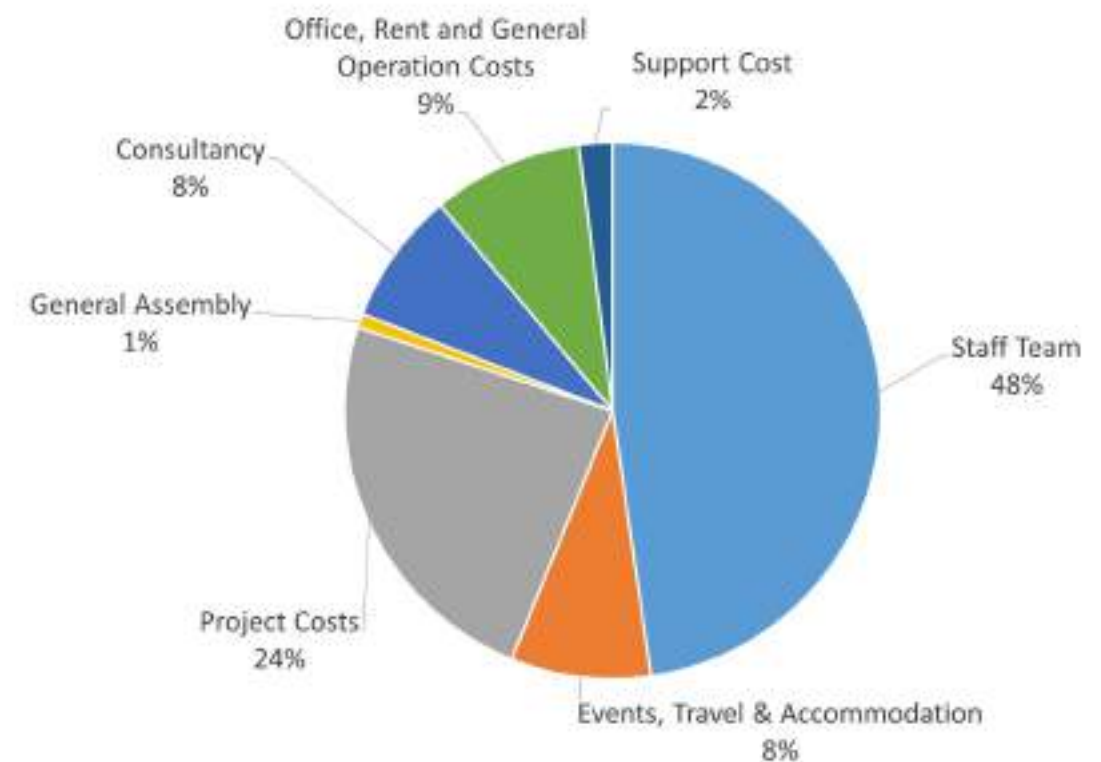


■ Membership Income & Donations
■ Grants

	2020	2019
Income		
Membership Income & Donations	159,276	203,649
Grants	701,879	1,237,232
World Congress Investment	67	539
Total Income	861,222	1,441,420
Total Expenses	1,011,448	1,125,661
Net Incoming/(outgoing) resources	(150,226)	315,759
Funds at 31 st December	642,350	783,081

	2020	2019
Assets		
Debtors (money we owe)	36,376	291,070
Cash in the Bank	676,482	550,880
Less Liabilities and Funds		
Creditors (money we owe to other people)	(70,508)	(58,869)
Net Assets	642,350	783,081
Funds		
Restricted Funds (for programmes and projects)	379,101	596,301
Designated Funds	114,190	52,190
Unrestricted Funds	149,059	134,590
Total	642,350	783,081

EXPENSES/EXPENDITURES 2020



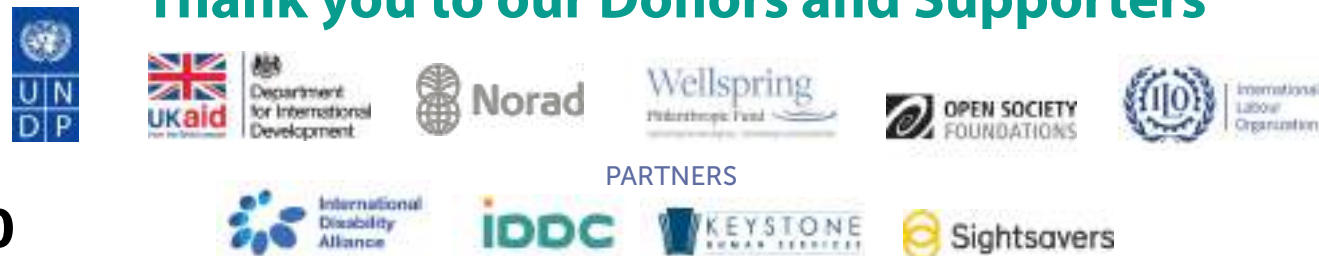
Current Projects



A very special thanks to our individual members for their treasured support:

- Anna Aizer
- Rimpi Arora
- Angela AuCoin
- Rochelle Baxter
- Richard Bennett
- Amy Brooks
- Stacey Burnard
- Barbara Cain
- John Collett
- Joann Douziech
- Channel Dunn
- Tim Gadd
- Kristen Glodmansour
- Gail Godwin
- Stephanie Gotlib
- Genevieve Haines
- Fauzia Haji
- Kannan Hariharan
- Laurie Harkin
- Barbro Henriksson
- Rebecca Irvine
- Catriona Johnson
- Hariharan Kannan
- Klaus Lachwitz
- Serena Lowe
- Christine Magee
- Rachel Malone
- Pierre Marcantonio
- Patrick Mcgee
- Jon Mewett
- Jose Rafael
- Miranda Carla O'Neill
- Mary Clare Schuh
- Narinder Singh
- Susan Steinhauer
- Sue Swenson
- Shea Tanis
- Kerry Taylor-Johnson
- Kim Thériault
- David Towell
- Brie Wexle
- Pamela Zotynia

Thank you to our Donors and Supporters



We would like to thank all our members and partners for their collaboration and support. Together, we can build a global society where everyone is included.



Our team

www.inclusion-international.org

OFFICERS



Sue Swenson
President



Klaus Lachwitz
Past-President



Tim Gadd
Treasurer and
Secretary General




Nagase Osamu
Co-opted Officer




Mark Mapemba
Co-opted Officer

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES


 **Sheikha Jameela Al-Qasimi:** representative for Middle East and North Africa, United Arab Emirates


 **Chaica Sultan Saqr Al Qassimi:** self-advocate representative for Middle East and North Africa, United Arab Emirates

 **Elena dal Bó:** representative for the Americas, Argentina


 **David Corner:** self-advocate representative for Asia Pacific, New Zealand


 **Trish Grant:** representative for Asia Pacific, New Zealand

 **Fauzia Haji:** co-opted representative for Africa, Zanzibar

 **Mark Mapemba:** self-advocate representative for Africa, Malawi

 **Auberon Jeleel Odoom:** representative for Africa, Ghana

 **Luis Gabriel Villareal Peralta:** self-advocate representative for the Americas, Colombia

 **Sara Pickard:** self-advocate representative for Europe, United Kingdom

 **Jyrki Pinomaa:** representative for Europe, Finland

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