



Disability Inclusion Task Team



Accessibility Checklist

Rationale

Persons with disabilities are the largest minority group in the world, representing an estimated 16 percent of the world's population, or approximately 1.3 billion people. About 80 percent are of working age. They are a diverse, heterogenous population that face discrimination and barriers that makes it more challenging for them to access equal opportunities¹.

Mainstreaming disability inclusion means a consistent and systematic approach to disability inclusion in all areas of operations and programming. Physical accessibility is built around the principle of an unbroken chain of movement, inside and outside of buildings and structures. It is highlighted by the concept, “Reach” considering the movement in the outdoor environment and reaching the buildings, “Enter, Exiting” and evacuating buildings, “Circulate” concerning the movement within a building and “Use” focusing on individual rooms and facilities. For this reason, this checklist has been prepared to easily guide accessibility and disability inclusion efforts in our daily work.

¹ ICT & Digital Accessibility for the BOS, 2021.

Key terminology and definitions

Accessibility: The degree to which both the built environment and information can be used or accessed by as wide a group of people as possible. Accessibility is a precondition for persons with disabilities to live independently and participate fully and equally in society. Without access to the physical environment, to transportation, to information and communication, including information and communications technologies and systems, and to other facilities and services open or provided to the public, persons with disabilities would not have equal opportunities for participation in their respective societies².

Assistive technology: Any information and communications technology, product, device, equipment, and related service used to maintain, increase, or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with specific needs or disabilities³.

² General Comment No. 2 - Article 9: Accessibility.

³ ICT & Digital Accessibility for the BOS, 2021.

Inclusive Design: Design that considers the full range of human diversity with respect to ability, language, culture, gender, age and other forms of human difference⁴.

Persons with disabilities: Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others⁵.

Reasonable accommodation: Necessary and appropriate modification and adjustments not imposing a disproportionate or undue burden, where needed in a particular case, to ensure to persons with disabilities the enjoyment or exercise on an equal basis with others of all human rights and fundamental freedoms⁶.

Universal design: The design of products, environments, programmes and services to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design⁷.

⁴ [What is inclusive design?](#), Inclusive Design Research Center, OCAD University.

⁵ CRPD, Article 1 – Purpose.

⁶ CRPD, Article 2 – Definitions.

⁷ CRPD, Article 2 – Definitions.

Standards and actions around implementing each thematic issue

Key Accessibility Considerations for Venues

How to Reach

- ✓ The venue is well-known for the community.
- ✓ The venue is reachable via public transportation.
- ✓ The location of the venue is easy to identify by beneficiaries.
- ✓ If the venue is not on a ground floor, is it equipped with an elevator.

How to Enter

- ✓ The entrance of the venue is at ground level.
- ✓ If not at ground level, the entrance of the venue is equipped with smooth slope ramp.
- ✓ The entrance or doorway is wide enough to accommodate a wheelchair user.
- ✓ Other entrance inside the building can accommodate a wheelchair user.



Disability Inclusion Task Team



- ✓ Entrance to the elevator is wide enough to accommodate a wheelchair user.
- ✓ Entrances to toilet facilities can accommodate a wheelchair user.

How to Circulate

- ✓ Corridors are wide enough to accommodate wheelchair users.
- ✓ Activity or event rooms and halls are spacious enough to allow wheelchair users to move freely.
- ✓ Toilet facilities are wide enough to allow a wheelchair user to use freely and independently.
- ✓ The venue is wide enough to allow wheelchair users to move around freely between the different facilities inside the venue.

How to Use

- ✓ The venue is equipped with signs indicating the different activities carried out inside the venue.
- ✓ The venue is equipped with sign indicating the different rooms and halls utilized for the different activities and events.



Disability Inclusion Task Team



- ✓ Information is provided in different format (verbal, written, videos, sign language).
- ✓ Information about activities is communicated through different communication channels (social media, written, verbal, communication apps).
- ✓ Information about activities or events is shared via Organizations of Persons with Disabilities and disability representatives on a regular basis.
- ✓ Handouts are provided in different formats (word, pdf, ppt).
- ✓ Sign language Interpreters are available to support events and trainings where possible.

Useful resources, links, and guidance on disability inclusion

- [UN Disability Inclusion Strategy - Putting Words into Action, UNSSC Blueline Course \(only available for UN staff\)](#)
- [United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy](#)
- [UN Training Package on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#)

Useful resources, links, and guidance

- [ESCAP Internal Guideline on Accessible Conferences and Meetings](#)



Disability Inclusion Task Team



- [Building Performance Manual for the Design and Construction of UN Common Premises Office Buildings](#)
- [UNICEF: Accessibility Toolkit](#)
- [Making Schools Accessible to Children with Disabilities](#)
- [Accessibility levels for UNICEF facilities](#)
- [Physical Accessibility Making UN Premises & Facilities Accessible through the Business Operations Strategy \(BOS\) 2.0](#)
- [Disability in the Workplace: Company Practices](#)
- [UNICEF Technical Cards for Accessible Construction](#)
- [UNSDG's Disability Inclusion Knowledge Management Portal and Guide on Consulting Organisations of Persons with Disabilities](#)
- [UNSDG Business Operations YouTube Channel with previous webinar recordings](#)
- [\(808\) Accessibility in Commercial Buildings –YouTube](#)
- [\(808\) The Accessible City: Raul Krauthausen at TEDxHamburg –YouTube](#)
- [\(808\) Cities are for everyone - Creating a barrier-free world – YouTube](#)
- [ADA Design Standards for Accessible Design](#)