



Data-driven advocacy for inclusive employment and social protection

A learning document

The experiences of organisations of persons with disabilities in Bangladesh and Kenya

What is this document?

Experience of data-driven advocacy towards disability inclusive employment and social protection

Who by?

Organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs)

Where was it done?

Bangladesh and Kenya

When?

2020-2021, during COVID crisis

The Innovation to Inclusion (i2i) learning document records the experiences of OPDs in Bangladesh and Kenya using methods and tools on data-driven advocacy. It explores how data collection formed the cornerstone of their advocacy strategies, the importance of developing relationships between rights holders and duty bearers, and how strategic collaboration was essential to the success of the activities.

This innovative approach involved a step-by-step process with OPDs in both Bangladesh and Kenya to:

- **Develop knowledge and skills.**
- **Identify and gather relevant data.**
- **Use strategic evidence-based planning.**
- **Strengthen the national coalition of OPDs and play to the strengths of each individual member to effectively use data.**





OPDs involved in i2i found that there were **12 specific learning points** that other OPDs implementing advocacy activities could benefit from. Some of the key learnings here were:

- **Educate rights-holders and meaningfully engage them in the whole process.**
- **Sensitisation of duty bearers using data is an essential first step in the process leading to changes.**
- **Data helps build credibility, which can lead to stronger relationships and greater impact.**
- **Data helps target key weak or ineffective policies and provisions.**
- **Greater recognition by duty bearers of the support OPDs can give them to develop, implement and monitor concrete [shared] commitments.**
- **Individual advocacy actions should not be seen as an end point, but as a starting point to build a movement towards change.**



There were also **six key learning points** for other stakeholders in their planning and supporting activities (including government departments, International and national non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and donors). Some of the key learning here were:

- **Build the development of data gathering processes and tools into any advocacy strategy.**
- **Ensure process indicators are included in monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning (MEAL) plans for advocacy activities.**
- **Plan for 'shocks' in the co-creation, planning and implementation stages of any advocacy programme of activities.**



Download the full learning document

www.leonardcheshire.org/i2i-dpo-learning

i2i (Innovation to Inclusion), led by Leonard Cheshire, is a diverse consortium of partner organisations in Bangladesh and Kenya funded under the UK Aid Connect mechanism of the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).

The i2i programme of activities specifically focused on the implementation of **Article 27** and **Article 28** of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Using Leonard Cheshire's Disability Inclusion Tracker, OPDs trialed an innovative approach, implementing evidence-based, data-driven advocacy and meaningful engagement in national accountability and/or monitoring processes.



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