Gender and Disability Group

About us

The Gender and Disability Group is a working group of the Gender and Development Network (GADN). We bring together professionals from UK-based mainstream and disability-specific organisations and independent consultants along with our connections to networks of disabled people’s organisations (DPOs) around the world.

Gender and Disability

The prevalence of disability among women is higher than among men. The WHO 'World Report on Disability' (2011) estimates that 19% of women and 12% of men have a disability. Women are more likely to develop a disability throughout their life course through, e.g., childbirth, abuse, poor health and poverty. Women with disabilities face exclusion from education and employment and are at higher risk of violence, neglect and poverty than women without disabilities. Gender and disability combine to form some of the most severe forms of marginalisation and discrimination. Experience has shown us that unless disability is specifically included into development programmes and activities, women and girls with disabilities will not benefit from them.

What we do

We offer advice, support and expertise to GADN member organisations that wish or are mandated to be more inclusive of women and girls with disabilities. We:

- Develop capacities
- Share information
- Inform policy and practice
- Develop links between the disability and women’s movements
- Provide advice and support on inclusive programming

Get in touch

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