

Response to public consultation on Danish Eastern Neighbourhood Programme January 2027 – December 2031

Disability inclusion is highlighted as a prioritised area in the Denmark's Strategy for Development Cooperation. However, there is no mentioning of disability inclusion in the draft programme.

Disabled People's Organisations Denmark would suggest that as a minimum, inclusion of persons with disabilities is mentioned as part of the list of vulnerable groups to be targeted and as an important part of HRBA.

Disability inclusion should preferably be mainstreamed in all projects and activities under the programme, while also considering targeted activities for this group.

It could also be considered to include references to the situation of persons with disabilities in the context description of the countries in the region. E.g. that persons with disabilities are among those most impoverished and with low level of labour market inclusion (in Moldova and Ukraine less than 20% of persons with disabilities are employed compared to 60 % in Denmark, why there is a huge potential in improved labour market inclusion).

In Ukraine, there has been a significant rise in persons with disabilities since the start of the full-scale war (increase of 700,000 persons, so the figure is now 3,5 mil persons with disabilities in Ukraine), and the number is rising with still more veterans acquiring a disability during service.

Best regards,

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