Easy Read

Funding your OPD

Easy Read booklet

UK International Development
Partnership | Progress | Prosperity

Global Disability Innovation Hub

AT2030

Who we are

Global Disability Innovation Hub

We are the **GDI Hub**.

This means the Global Disability Innovation Hub.

We want to help **OPDs** do their important work making things fairer for disabled people.

So we are sharing advice from OPD around the world.

We hope this will help you get money for your OPD.

We call this money **funding**.

What does OPD and DPO mean?

OPD means Organisations of Persons with Disabilities.
DPO means Disabled People's Organisation.

Both are groups led by disabled people. They work for a fairer world for disabled people.
In this booklet we say OPD for both.

A OPD must be mostly run by disabled people.
Sometimes disabled people need help from supporters to run it.

If supporters help run the OPD, the OPD must still put disabled people first.

Why is it hard to get funding?

Many OPD only get small amounts of money at a time.

This means they find it hard to keep projects going and to keep staff.

These problems must be fixed.

Then disabled people can take part in community life around the world.

Funding works well when OPD:

- are involved at the start of projects
- get the funding directly
- choose what to spend funding on

- have projects that last a few years
- have easy ways to report work
- have strong, trusting partnerships.

Run your OPD well

Funders want information about your OPD. So you need good **governance**.

Governance means how a OPD is run.
Good governance for a OPD means:

- clear goals and job roles
- leaders who bring different skills
- leaders who are happy to take part

- keeping information tidy
- good ways to report on projects, money, and problems
- a plan for keeping the OPD safe and for when things go wrong.

Think about what funders want

Funders like it when OPD:

- send well written reports on time

- check with them before changing the project or how money is spent.

You can help with governance on these websites:

- WESOFOD Capacity Assessment Tool
- UDPK Capacity Assessment Report
- FEAPD Capacity Assessment Tool.

Use good data

Data means **information**.
You can use data to show funders your work is important and needs funding.

You can get disability data from:

- Disability Data Hub
- Global Disability Legislation Index
- AT2030 Insights Portal

You can also share stories from people who use a service or know what a problem is like from their own life.

We call these **lived experiences.**
For example, stories from people your OPD helps.

Be confident

Be confident when you apply for funding.
It is always better to try than not.

OPD have a lot of lived experience and good connections with local communities. These things are important for funders.

You might not always get the funding you apply for.
But do not give up.

Every time you apply it means more funders learn about your OPD.
This can lead to funding next time.

Make your OPD stand out

It is important for people to see and hear about your work. You can:

- Use newsletters, photos, websites, and social media.

- Add people's stories to your reports to help readers understand. For example, before and after stories.

- Invite funders to your offices.
- Write thank you letters to funders.
- Tell funders how you share news about your project.

- Go to local community meetings.
- Join networks of people doing similar work.

  Add OPDs to GDI Hub's OPD map.

Say why your OPD is special

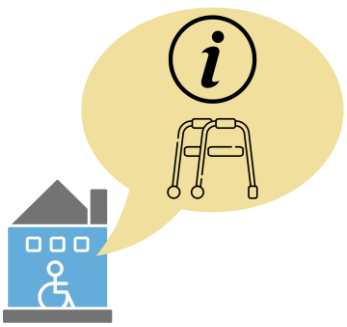
Tell people why your OPD is special.

This could be:

- the type of people you work with
- the area where you work
- what you know.

Say exactly who you work with.

For example, disabled women, young people, or people in the countryside.



Say exactly what your OPD is good at and why.

Focus on 1 or 2 things, not everything.

Join networks for OPDs

Networks can connect you with other OPDs.

They can also help by

- sharing information and skills
- helping you work with governments
- telling people about your work
- helping you connect with funders.

Some worldwide networks are:

- CIVICUS
- International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC)

Some regional OPD networks are:

- African Disability Forum
- ASEAN Disability Forum
- Pacific Disability Forum

Work with funders and other OPD

Look for other OPD and partners that have the same goals as you.

Working with other OPD can help:

- share skills and knowledge
- build trust and work together well
- show you are partners, not just organisations asking for money.

Build good relationships with your funders. They like to hear what you are doing, not just when you need money. Send updates about your project.

Inclusive Futures
Promoting disability inclusion

You can look at Inclusive Future's report. It tells you what different funders want to fund.

Think about different funding

Lots of OPDs find it hard to get funding to pay for running the OPD.

There are other ways to get money:

- Local fundraising

- Start a local business to support your OPD, like a training centre

- Look for funding from foundations. This is normally more flexible.

- Look for funding to pay for running the OPD, keeping staff, supporting people to take part in your work.

What you can do with little money

OPD can still do important work with not much money.

You can share:

- skills

- information

- and lived experience.

EWDNA's Disability Inclusion Tool

helps you explain inclusion to funders.

How to contact us

For more information, you can email

- Rebecca Joskow
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- Or Pollyana Wardrop
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Or go to our website
https://at2030.org

AT2030

This is part of the AT2030 program at University College London.
Paid for by the UK government.

Thank you to

ADF	ASEAN Disability Forum
BVIPSI	Blind and Visually Impaired People of Solomon Islands
EWDNA	Ethiopian Women with Disabilities National Association
FEAPD	Federation of Ethiopian Associations of Persons with Disabilities
NONDO	Northern Nomadic Disabled Persons Organization, Kenya
TUSPO	Tanzania Users and Survivors of Psychiatry Organization
UDPK	United Disabled Persons of Kenya
WESOFOD-SL	Welfare Society for the Disabled Sierra Leone