**International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD), 3 December 2017**

**Theme for IDPD 2017: “Transformation towards sustainable and resilient society for all”**

[Learn more about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and disability](https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/about-us/sustainable-development-goals-sdgs-and-disability.html)

**Background:**

The annual observance of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly resolution 47/3 in 1992. It aims to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society and development, and to increase awareness of on the situation of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life.

Building on many decades of UN’s work in the field of disability,  the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, adopted in 2006, has further advanced the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other international development frameworks, such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, the New Urban Agenda, and  the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development.

The theme for this year’s IDPD is **“Transformation towards sustainable and resilient society for all”.**

The 2030 Agenda pledges to “leave no one behind”. Persons with disabilities, as both beneficiaries and agents of change, can fast track the process towards inclusive and sustainable development and promote resilient society for all, including in the context of disaster risk reduction and humanitarian action, and urban development. Governments, persons with disabilities and their representative organisations, academic institutions and the private sector need to work as a “team” to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**Events at UN Headquarters**

**FRIDAY, 1 DECEMBER**

Events for the 2017 IDPD celebration at UN Headquarters in New York City will be organised by the [Department of Economic and Social Affairs](https://www.un.org/development/desa/en/) (DESA) on 1 December 2017, in collaboration with Member States, the UN system, academic institutions, civil society, disabled persons organizations, and the private sector.

**How you can commemorate IDPD 2017 in your local community**

**Include**: Observance of the Day provides opportunities for collaborative and inclusive events by all stakeholders – Governments, the UN system, civil society and organizations of persons with disabilities – to focus on issues related to the inclusion of persons with disabilities in society and development, both as beneficiaries and agents of change.
**Organize**: Hold forums, public discussions and information campaigns in support of the themes of IDPD 2015 to discuss and share ways of including and empowering persons of all abilities to develop and be fully included in their local communities.
**Celebrate**: Plan and organize performances everywhere to celebrate the contributions made by persons with disabilities as agents of change in the communities in which they live. Celebrate persons with disabilities by creating opportunities to help realize their potential, be it through music, sport, academia or interpersonal skills.
**Take Action:** A major focus of the Day is practical action to realize the objectives of the Day for persons with disabilities and their communities. So, highlight best practices and think about making recommendations to your local political leaders, businesses, academic institutions, cultural centers and others. Work to ensure that your activity leaves a legacy and brings about lasting change.

**Events from around the world**

Everyone are welcome to organize their own events to celebrate the International Day to raise awareness and to promote the rights and perspectives of persons with disabilities around the world.

Share with us the IDPD 2017 in your community for posting the information and link to your event on the UN Enable website by emailing us at enable@un.org (max. 50 words).