

Module 1: Course Overview

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1.1 Who is WID?

- The World Institute on Disability is a disability policy, research, and consulting non-profit organization located in Berkeley, CA and Washington, DC. WID's vision is a world where people with disabilities live fully integrated lives economically and socially.
- Background
 - For over 35 years the World Institute on Disability has been dedicated to examining the cutting-edge issues faced by people with disabilities on a local and global scale. WID's mission has been built on a foundation of civil rights activism that its founders Ed Roberts, Judy Heumann, and Joan Leon embodied when they established this organization in 1983. The world that WID envisioned was one in which people with disabilities could lead fully integrated lives, void of barriers and institutionalized obstacles.
 - Today, WID's current team of professionals, activists, and policymakers believes in this mission more than ever and we are always expanding our scope of knowledge to address the needs, wants, and opportunities of our changing world. Our policy and educational work centers around inclusion and universal design, and we are dedicated to the fight for equality. WID's work addresses the diverse needs of the disability community for creative and innovative accommodations and solutions.
 - WID's Board of Directors has committed to expanding our internal and external focused efforts toward inclusion of multiple-marginalized communities, which are all too often left out of policy and practice conversations.
 - WID's mission in communities and nations worldwide is to eliminate barriers to full social integration and increase employment, economic security, and health care for persons with disabilities. WID creates innovative programs and tools; conducts research, public education, training, and advocacy campaigns; and provides technical assistance.
- WID is focused on the following initiatives:
 - WID E3 - WID E3 is a disability empowerment model and set of resources created to provide valuable tools to job-seekers with disabilities to promote entrance into the workforce. The model is divided into three focuses to offer comprehensive information about career and savings integrity. These are the Employment, Economic, and Disability Benefit Empowerment programs. <https://wid.org/wid-e3/>
 - Disaster Preparation and Resilience - Environmental research is the foundation for WID's climate change initiative New Earth Disability (NED). The primary concern of

this project is to identify challenges for the disability community posed by climate change and establish the best responses to these issues. NED works to educate the public and involve various stakeholders to ensure concrete resources for people with disabilities as natural disasters and environmental change persists.

<https://wid.org/2018/09/25/ned/>

- International Development and Capacity Building - The New Leaders Fellowship Initiative is a program built on WID's role as a host organization for fellows from the Mandela Washington Fellowship, the flagship program of the Young African Leadership Initiative (YALI). WID facilitates opportunities to share best practices, to start dialogues about common issues around disability, and to view the bigger picture of disability worldwide.
- DPO Leadership and Management Training is a worldwide capacity building initiative to facilitate the growth and prevalence of Disabled Persons Organizations through knowledge transfer and education in advocacy, development and funding. The International project works with NGOs providing essential services in developing and conflict-ridden countries to build policies and practices into NGO services that include individuals with disabilities. <https://wid.org/world/>

1.2 Why WID International?

- Since 1992, WID has designed and implemented more than 20 international collaborative projects providing training and technical assistance on strengthening the capacity of Disabled People's Organizations (DPOs) and the skills of disabled men, women and youth leaders in conflict and post-conflict countries. WID has learned how to adapt and implement training activities based on lessons learned from previous WID projects, disability leaders from other countries and from current international best practices knowledge, skills, methodologies and models in very complex political environments.

1.3 WID's International Leadership Certification Program

- WID's research identifies the disconnect between advocacy network and capacity building and empowerment solutions. To better equip Disabled Peoples' Organizations (DPOs) to drive global disability inclusion, WID developed and designed a ***DPO leadership certification curriculum*** that includes the following courses:
 - Introduction to Nonprofits
 - Strategic Planning
 - Leading in Context
 - Resource and fund development
 - Integrated marketing and communications
 - Grant-writing skills
 - Financial management and budget
 - Special events planning
 - And more

- Participants in WID’s DPO Leadership Training Certification Program curriculum can also access:
 - Experienced consultants and trainers
 - Gap analysis and environmental scan
 - Inclusive development policies
 - Employment and economic empowerment solutions
 - Conflict management and tension reduction support
 - Fellowship programming
 - Modern delivery platforms
- By creating this new curriculum and training program, WID is connecting the global DPO network to new skills and tools to enhance community inclusion and independent living for more individuals with disabilities worldwide.

1.4 WID’s International Reach

- With over 25 years of related international experience, WID also aids DPOs and countries with a variety of traditional support and capacity building services as described below.
 - Provides technical assistance and training to help nations remove barriers and build more inclusive policies, economies, and public education campaigns.
 - Assists in building International fellowships that learn new practices and implement them back in their home countries
 - Young African Leadership Initiative
 - Community Solutions Program
 - Provides recommendations on the inclusion of people with disabilities in the peace-building process, as showcased in the United States Institute on Peace White Paper jointly published in August 2014.
 - Learn more about WID International by visiting our website at: <https://wid.org/world/>

1.5 Contact WID

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