



Connective Cities Dialogue Event

Inclusive Cities: Towards an Urban and Social Development for All
7 – 9 May 2018 in Bonn, Germany

Partners of Connective Cities



Content

Preface	1	Peer-to-Peer Advising Sessions	11
Connective Cities – International Community of Practice for Sustainable Urban Development	2	Action Planning and Next Steps	12
Introduction to the Topic	3	Project Idea: Increase accessibility of Bethlehem City's roads, historical paths and religious sites.	12
Local Experiences	5	Project Idea: Garden of Senses	12
The LWL-Action Plan for Inclusion, LWL, Germany	5	Project Idea: Accessibility for older buildings and facilities in Ramallah.	12
Ramallah – A City for All, Palestine Territories	5	Project Idea: Accessibility to basic education for children with disabilities in Suhum, Ghana	13
Culture and Education for All, Leipzig, Germany	6	Project Idea: Design of an exhibition to experience living with a disability	13
Salz & Suppe – a new urban dialogue method, Stuttgart, Germany.	6	Follow-Up Support	14
Incorporating the topic of inclusion on the public agenda, La Paz, Bolivia	7	Field Visits	15
Political and Community Participation through Strategic Development and Investment Plan, Bethlehem, Palestine Territories	8	List of Participating Institutions	16
Changing Attitudes, Changing Lives: Disability From Image to Practice in Ukraine	8		
Making Urban Public Transport Accessible, Bezev e.V., Germany	8		
Inclusive design of local communities through new forms of social planning, Suhum, Ghana	9		
Disability Policy Participation Plan, Bonn, Germany	9		
Communities gaining access to its natural resources, Durban, South Africa	10		
Round Table Barrier-free City, Berlin, Germany	10		

Disclaimer

This is a Connective Cities publication. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Connective Cities partners (German Association of Cities, Engagement Global gGmbH / Service Agency Communities in One World and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH).

Preface

“To leave no one behind” is the guiding principle of the “Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development”. However, municipal politics and society at large often still seem to be blind to all the stumbling blocks in and around public spaces, facilities, buildings and transportation. Barriers also persist in the field of communication, be it, for example, the lack of documents available in plain language or for those with visual impairments. Unnecessary and sometimes hidden barriers deprive our societies, culture, science, economies and municipal life of benefiting from diversity and unleashing the full potential of all individuals, including those with disabilities, be they visually or hearing-impaired,

in a wheelchair, with cognitive or learning difficulties or marked by another disadvantage. This “Dialogue Event” by “Connective Cities” shared knowledge, experience, good practices and ideas for cooperation on this crucial topic.

Inclusion features prominently on the agenda of the Federal City of Bonn, the host of this event. We would like to most cordially thank the City of Bonn and its partners for their brilliant cooperation in preparing and hosting this dialogue so generously.

Silvia Boehmsdorff and Alexander Wagner





Connective Cities – International Community of Practice for Sustainable Urban Development

The “Connective Cities” platform provides opportunities for local practitioners from municipalities across the globe to share their expert knowledge and experiences in four thematic areas: good urban governance, integrated urban development, municipal services and local economic development.

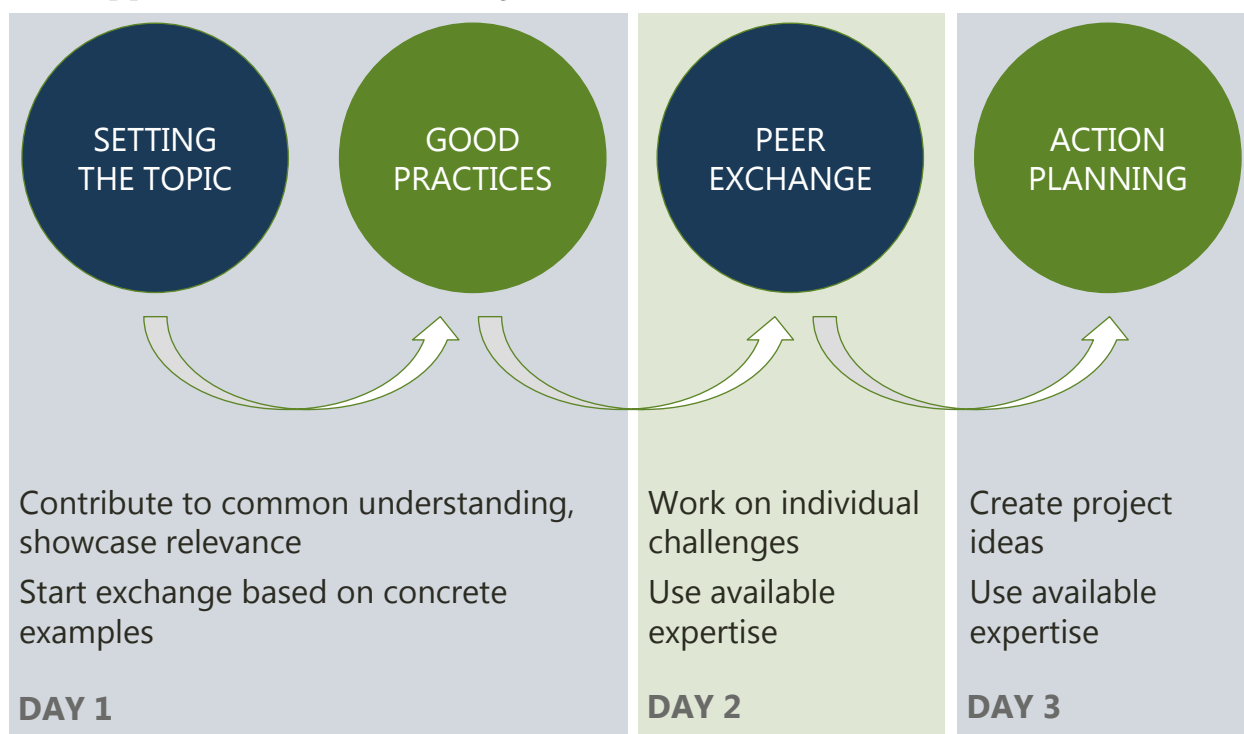
By organising dialogue formats in different parts of the world, “Connective Cities” facilitates multi-stakeholder exchange, peer-to-peer learning and networking opportunities among urban practitioners from local administrations, municipal companies, the private sector, academia and civil society. “Connective Cities” dialogue formats create an environment stimulating innovative ideas and strategies to solve local challenges. In many cases, the discussions lead to longer-term, practical change

processes among the participating cities which are further supported through local project workshops, study tours, expert assignments and virtual discussion fora. The project is jointly carried out by the “German Association of Cities” (Deutscher Städtetag), the “Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit” (GIZ) and the “Service Agency Communities in One World of Engagement Global”, and funded by the “German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development” (BMZ).

For more information, including the “Connective Cities” good practice and expert databases, please visit:
www.connective-cities.net



Workshop phases of Connective Cities dialogue events





Introduction to the Topic

Reception by Bonn's Mayor Gabriele Klingmüller

Inclusive cities: towards an urban and social development for all

Never before in history has inclusion been perceived as a topic so central to municipal politics and planning. With the “UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities” (UN-CRPD, 2006) the international community has committed itself to promoting inclusion and active participation of persons with disabilities (PwD) within the framework of its human rights system. UN-CRPD provides an internationally shared value base, language and terminology.

The “Agenda 2030’s” guiding principle is to leave no one behind and makes several instrumental references to inclusion; the outcomes of the “UN Habitat Conferences”, in particular the “New Urban Agenda”, underline municipal responsibilities in this regard.

In their keynote Helle Deertz and Alexander Hobinka of “Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit” (GIZ) pointed out that German development cooperation has highlighted inclusion in a variety of strategy papers and by establishing the “GIZ-Sector Programme Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities”. About 80% of all human beings with disabilities live in developing countries. One in five of the poorest people in the Global South have to cope with a disability. Those living in poverty are at a higher risk of permanent impairment. For one, malnourishment, deficient health services and lacking education result in higher rates of disabilities, for two, violent conflicts leave many impaired. In addition, people with handicaps are affected by poverty particularly often,

as it is more difficult for them to benefit from education, earn their living and cope with the additional expenses caused by impairment.

The GIZ Sector programme seeks to mainstream the issue of dealing with disability in all SDGs. This responds to the fact that impairments have impacts on all sectors, be they education, health services, social security or poverty eradication.

Given this interdependence of poverty and disability management on structural and individual levels, it is the access to facilities and services in urban areas which can contribute substantially to ending this vicious circle. Municipalities therefore carry extra responsibilities to provide general interest public goods and services such as sustainable livelihoods, safe and affordable housing, as well as basic services such as water and sanitation, electricity, transportation and mobility, health services and so on.

Accessibility to municipal services for all also depends on information on how to actually use them. Therefore communication and information services need to be barrier-free. Readability is not only a matter of type-size but also of plain language reaching out to all.

Inclusion is a cross-cutting task within the city administration, a fact that has already become apparent during the interdepartmental preparation of the dialogue platform, said Bonn's Mayor Gabriele Klingmüller in an address at a reception for the participants of the “Connective Cities’ Dialogue Event”.



Prof. Dr. Schädler of the Centre for Planning and Evaluation of Social Services (ZPE) at University of Siegen

When it comes to inclusion in real life, the gap between theory and practice is a growing concern, as is the lack of knowledge, largely owed to the fact that persons with disabilities are often not considered as experts by their own virtue.

In order to transfer UN-CRPD norms into action the involvement of many stakeholders is instrumental, said Professor Dr. Johannes Schädler of the “Centre for Planning and Evaluation of Social Services” (ZPE) at “University of Siegen” in his keynote. The local political level is closest to the citizens and often open for democratic participation.

“In municipalities within the same country, with the same overall developmental path, different policies and degrees of local inclusiveness in implementing the convention can be observed”, he said, so there was “room for politically shaping local situations”. His credo: “Think glocal – learn glocal – act glocal” – and consider the potential of inter-municipal experience by putting inclusion on the local agenda.

Operationalising UN-CRPD for local planning was most effective, *“if the convention is seized upon by civil rights activists who build ‘local coalitions for change’ that dedicate themselves to getting the UN-CRPD principles implemented”.*

Networking and affiliation is about integration and inclusion, the best way to counter exclusion and discrimination.

This is why participation is at the core of addressing issues related to disability. Inclusion thrives in open, tolerant and caring societies and can only be successful if as many people as possible recognise how much inclusion enriches daily life for everyone. Therefore it is urgent to change perceptions and attitudes towards impairments and PwD in particular – too often a Person with a Disability is regarded as a problem, whereas in reality it is the environment which poses the challenge, one participant remarked. While barrier-free municipalities remain a core demand in the Global North and South alike, what is needed in the very first place is barrier-free thinking.

ZPE-Manual “Planning Inclusive Communities”
Funded by NRW government,
EU Conference 2014:
www.inkluplan.uni-siegen.de



Bonn's Mayor Reinhard Limbach welcomes the participants

“An inclusive city is a place where everyone, regardless of their economic means, gender, ethnicity, disability, age or religion, is enabled and empowered to fully participate in the social, economic, cultural and political opportunities that cities have to offer. Inclusive environments consider people’s diversity and break down unnecessary barriers and exclusions in a manner that benefits all.”

Global Network on Disability Inclusion and Accessible Urban Development, 2017



Group work

Local Experiences

The LWL-Action Plan for Inclusion, LWL, Germany

The principle of self-determination of German municipalities brings along many responsibilities. To share some of them regional associations such as the “Landschaftsverband Westfalen-Lippe” (LWL) offer support in shouldering a couple of duties – especially when it comes to the issue of inclusion; for example not each municipality can afford special schools or hospitals.

Dealing with disabilities is considered to be a cross-cutting issue at LWL.

LWL mainly works on action plans to implement the UN Convention and the “Inclusive Action Plan” of the Federal Land Northrhine-Westfalia (2012), closely cooperating with social associations and disability organisations on various thematic fields. The LWL launched its action plan on inclusion in 2014 providing control and management tools for the political governance and the public management of LWL regarding inclusive activities. Periodic progress reports, published in plain language, too, help to align the strategy on inclusion.

Ramallah – A City for All, Palestine Territories

Ramallah sees itself as a city of diversity, where all people are accepted. Still, it has been suffering from a lack of PwD-inclusion. Accessibility in particular poses challenges in the rapidly growing city. Achieving inclusion is seen as an ongoing task which is the responsibility of all people. Institutionalisation is being aimed at for more effectiveness. Therefore the municipality hired an employee with a disability to highlight the challenges and needs of PwD. The more inclusion is being worked upon, the more needs are being discovered. Regulations call for every new building or reconstruction initiative to guarantee accessibility for PwD. To identify concrete issues the city holds meetings with the community before starting a new project.

PwD-sensitive rehabilitation of all public premises is starting with the municipality building. Meanwhile, the level of accessibility of public facilities, such as streets, parks, and libraries, has been improved.

In addition a recreational complex including a paralympic centre was built taking accessibility standards for PwD into account. However, economic factors are limiting timely

and comprehensive implementation of inclusion projects all over the city. Furthermore, the city has already started using intermunicipal cooperation in order to improve the city's strategies towards inclusion: e.g. the project "Garden of Senses" is a result of Ramallah's cooperation with the city of Bonn.

Culture and Education for All, Leipzig, Germany

In Leipzig some local communities enjoy socio-cultural centres that offer cultural experiences and opportunities to practice arts for all. About 44,000 people take part in events and courses at Haus Steinstraße, a historic villa. The building is under monumental protection and thus not allowed to undergo conversion to become completely barrier-free. In order to get fully barrier-free premises, the inclusive project "Culture and education for all" seeks to move the established centre to another place – into a district where there are still few opportunities for community life.

www.haus-steinstrasse.de
www.youtube.com/watch?v=pf3RpKSz5Qw



Project "A City within a City"

Haus Steinstraße is known for its inclusive children's school holiday simulation game "City within a City". Here, for two weeks primary school children plan and build the city of their dreams within an open space, consisting of huts and other wooden structures; adults only serve as their assistants. The young participants elect their city's officials, among them the mayor. Throughout its 13 years of existence the project has continuously moved to become barrier-free and inclusive. Leipzig's disability organisation offers advice in this regard. Children can test their city on barriers with wheelchairs and simulation glasses and experience the change of perspective personally.

A group of municipal inclusion experts of Leipzig's sister city Addis Ababa is meanwhile adapting the concept for Ethiopia; a first test was run with huge success. Leipzig's partner city Kiev is also planning to adapt the game.

The concept was inspired by ideas from Bonn's NGO "Abenteuer Lernen e.V." (see: chapter field visits).

Salz & Suppe – a new urban dialogue method, Stuttgart, Germany

In calling for proposals on "Living together in the city" Stuttgart ventured on an experimental mode for inclusive participation. The concept behind "Salz & Suppe" (salt and soup) is as simple as it is appealing: by supporting better social cohesion, energies are being unleashed for urban development through and by citizens themselves. Urban developers wanted to provide occasions that catch on all citizens. So they opted for a low-threshold access, realised through small groups and a private atmosphere, and by offering additional benefits, furthering constructive togetherness. A strong framework set-up with facilitation and timetables provided sound organisational backing.

Nine mixed cooking groups were formed, covering all districts with six participants each, including people from diverse backgrounds, young and old, migrants, PwD and so on. Following a joint event, the groups met four times during one month at their homes, cooking, dining, discussing and developing ideas together in the spirit of an active neighbourhood. The groups then re-convened jointly, presented and evaluated their ideas. As a result, reservations and prejudices were dismantled as people that had been strangers before got to know each other. Creative ideas surfaced while those taking part enjoyed themselves as they removed barriers between "participants" and "practitioners".

The ideas were presented in the municipal council and served as a basis for social urban development planning. The concept raised great interest among the local population. Many more people registered than had been anticipated.



Discussing the experience of La Paz

Incorporating the topic of inclusion on the public agenda, La Paz, Bolivia

When Bolivia ratified the UN-CPRD and promulgated related national legislation in 2012, La Paz did not have specific regulations on inclusion and accessibility yet.

As a first step the municipality chose a person with a disability to introduce the issue to La Paz. Afterwards the “Citizen Council of People with Disabilities in La Paz” was established. It strives to provide equal opportunities for all by eliminating all sorts of barriers, be they based in habits or in structures. The council took an active role in elaborating the first “Municipal Law for People with Disabilities” and related regulations. The law establishes specific tasks for the city government regarding transportation, communication, adaptations related to urban planning, labour inclusion, health, sports, culture and entertainment among others. Many measures have already been rolled out, such as providing more inclusive

municipal transportation, route markings for the blind and traffic lights with sound, as well as a park and gym for people with disabilities, just to name a few. Generating awareness in the government of the city is key for allocating more resources for inclusion and increasing accessibility in all areas. The objective is to make inclusion a transversal issue with coordinated efforts and well-integrated programmes all over the city.

Political and Community Participation through Strategic Development and Investment Plan, Bethlehem, Palestine Territories

The Municipality of Bethlehem drew up a “Strategic Development and Investment Plan” (SDIP) for 2018 to 2021. According to the “Ministry of Local Governance’s” development planning guide, 30% of participants in the SDIP-committees need to be local civil society representatives, including organisations of marginalised groups such as PwD. Working with mainstream and social media, awareness was increased to motivate PwD to participate actively.



Presenting the good practice from Bethlehem

As a result of the new SDIP Bethlehem is moving towards increasing accessibility of buildings and facilities, e.g. parks, public toilets, bus stations and the old market. Public areas, among them 15 streets, are to be rehabilitated. Not only PwD are benefiting from such improvements; they are beneficial for parents with prams and the elderly, among others. Accessibility of private commercial buildings also needs to be improved. Licensing new buildings involves checks on accessibility now. However, providing easier access to old buildings is challenging, for example when it comes to historical staircases at pilgrim sites.

Increased participation has influenced policy-makers towards more social accountability in general and has opened windows of opportunities with regard to inclusion.

Changing Attitudes, Changing Lives: Disability From Image to Practice in Ukraine

There are more than three million persons with disabilities in Ukraine, and the armed conflict in the Donbass area means their numbers are still rising. 80% of PwD do not find a chance to earn their livelihood. While the private sector is obliged to offer opportunities to PwD – a 4% rate of employment is mandatory-, reality speaks a different language. Neglecting PwD is historically rooted: in Soviet times the handicapped did not fit into the frame of an allegedly unblemished communist world. Therefore the “One Philosophy Group” launched the movement “HAS TO BE SO” in order to boost the social integration of people with disabilities through improved employment options.

With three studies “One Philosophy Group” explored general attitudes towards PwD and inclusion. The studies found that employers are little sensitised yet, despite the considerable extra opportunities inclusive thinking brings along. In fact diversity is a driving factor for success and this is doubly true in the world of business, where flexibility goes along with improved performance. Thus ill-informed assumptions, pre-conceived images, impressions and prejudices towards PwD need to be replaced by realistic expectations, positive anticipation and curiosity in order to make social responsibility and inclusion a common trend. Among the means to change perceptions “One Philosophy Group” initiated activities such as the “Inclusive Weekend” in Kiev in cooperation with UNDP and the national association of people with disabilities in Ukraine. Here 20 restaurants, five museums, a movie theatre chain and thousands of Kiev citizens joined hands to transform public facilities into accessible ones.

Making Urban Public Transport Accessible, Bezev e.V., Germany

All over the world the issues of poverty and disability are linked and thus need to be considered in development initiatives. At the same time global urbanisation needs sustainable solutions. This is particularly obvious when it comes to public transport and its need for universal accessibility. In fact this is a precondition for equal participation of persons with disabilities in social, economic, political and cultural life. But not only PwD profit from easily accessible mobility options – everyone benefits.

If the requirements of accessibility are considered right from the beginning when planning a project, the costs to implement them are only about one percent. This is why the “GIZ Sustainable Urban Transport Project” supports urban planners in making transport more accessible.

For successful accessibility the whole mobility chain needs to be considered; be it station platforms, operational services, design of vehicles or the intermodal management.

Accessibility is a cross-cutting issue. While extra expenses are required, a clear understanding of the economic benefits is helpful. Increasing public awareness, capacity building and introducing legislation are first steps to making transport accessible, which is to be followed by the definition of standards and drafting action plans with wide public participation, as each city needs specific solutions in its particular local context.



Presenting the good practice from Bonn

Inclusive design of local communities through new forms of social planning, Suhum, Ghana

PwD in Ghana are at risk of discrimination, based on negative cultural beliefs and practices. They tend to be over-represented among the poor due to low expectations towards their true capabilities and often inadequate education: almost a third of PwD have never been to school. Therefore, Suhum Municipality was chosen for piloting inclusive education in Ghana.

Moreover, an ongoing project is developing guidelines and a toolbox on inclusive community planning in an effort to implement the “Persons with Disability Act” (2006), as well as the UN-CPRD and improve the deliverance of the social protection policy by engaging government and non-government actors. Stakeholders identified pressing issues. Currently most of the assistance for PwD is delivered by informal networks like family and friends. There is need for more institutionalised support on various levels. As a start, the information flow from service providers is to be improved. For example, in Suhum Municipality many of those with hearing impairment cannot communicate in sign language. Accessibility, too, poses challenges. This is not only regarding buildings, it is also because of the open drainage system that jeopardises safe movement for those with disabilities.

Disability Policy Participation Plan, Bonn, Germany

The Federal City of Bonn launched the “Disability Policy Participation Plan” in 2009, based on the principles of self-determination and participation of PwD. Civil society and local politics were also invited to share the participatory procedure for recommendations in seven thematic focus groups reflecting all areas of life. Each working group featured 110 participants. Public dialogue events were held in the districts of the city resulting in the mission statement “Bonn inklusiv” with visions, recommendations and time frames for all fields of action.

The steering group, half of which is made up of PwD-representatives, is supposed to continue working. However, it is challenging to sustain civil society engagement. The plan, available in plain language and updated continuously, was successfully anchored in the administration. Political bodies are regularly informed on news as lighthouse projects provide new impulses.

Communities gaining access to its natural resources, Durban, South Africa

Durban's Silverglen is a park area which had turned into a no-go area starting 2013 – a place notoriously known for violent crime and murder.

A municipal team initiated a process with the local community to turn the park into a nature reserve and make it a safe and accessible space for all members of society once more. Durban features area-based management teams looking holistically at all issues in a given district in order to facilitate integration and implement the “Municipal Systems Act”. The Act promises to uplift universal access to essential services for all.

Community participation is considered essential in reaching this goal, and there is a strong policy of including people who might otherwise be marginalised, among others by disability. Following an integrative approach, which also included policing measures, an action plan has been implemented in close consultation with all stakeholders.

As a result the park and lake have become a safe and attractive biodiversity reserve, inviting recreational activities.

Security guards, guides and water sport staff are provided to ensure visitors' safety and to take care of their special needs.

Additional efforts to improve access routes and ablution facilities for persons with disabilities are underway.

Presenting the good practice from Durban

Round Table Barrier-free City, Berlin, Germany

When Berlin applied for the Olympics and Paralympics in the 1990s, accessibility became an important issue on the city's agenda. Since 1996 every senate department has a working group for and with persons with disabilities leading to increased awareness across all departments.

An action plan on how to implement the UN Convention was worked out. Eventually a round table was set up in 2013 to achieve a barrier-free city. Besides two design manuals on accessibility of public buildings and spaces, lighthouse projects were developed, e.g. the barrier-free tourist service chain. From arrival to departure, barriers are being removed, whether it's in the areas of accommodation, food and drink, sightseeing and shopping, entertainment and culture, leisure and sports, or service and assistance.

In general, inclusive urban development is considered to be a top priority. Berlin first initiated and took the chair of the “Eurocities Working Group” “Barrier-free City for All” in 2010, bringing together a network of stakeholders. Here new ideas and solutions are being exchanged at the European level to support the European Commission in implementing the “European Disability Strategy 2010 – 2020”.





During the peer-to-peer session

Peer-to-Peer Advising Sessions

In structured peer-to-peer advice sessions practitioners found suggestions for challenges they face in their work. Issues raised concerned questions like how to

- move from good intentions about inclusion to real-life implementation
- include PwD in all strategic municipal plans, esp. with regard to accessibility
- address inclusion rights, mobility and public transport
- mainstream inclusion as a topic in society and politics
- enhance accessibility in historic buildings
- activate meaningful participation of persons with learning or cognitive impairments.

Peers suggested to

- name focal points on inclusion in each municipal department
- boost theoretical and practical capacity building on inclusion matters (such as city tours) presented by PwD as experts
- seek consultation from and form alliances with self-organisations of PwD
- look for good practices and success stories elsewhere and adapt them to local needs
- identify politicians willing to push for inclusion matters
- aim at mass mobilisation for an inclusive society

- make use of the instrument of shadow reporting according to UN-CRPD, done by disability organisations / NGOs
- graphically record discussions at meetings to assist persons with learning difficulties and cognitive impairment to follow the event and be able to participate better
- run competitions, e.g. for students of architecture, to find solutions esp. in the field of making buildings more inclusive
- do not be fixed on “**disability**” – rather look at “**this ability**” of PwD: the person is never the problem, it is the environment that needs to be adapted



During the peer-to-peer session



Action Planning and Next Steps

During the final phase of the “Connective Cities’ Dialogue Event” municipal practitioners drafted concrete project ideas to be put into action.

Project: Increase accessibility of Bethlehem City’s roads, historical paths and religious sites

Both tourists and inhabitants would benefit greatly from better accessibility in Bethlehem. Sites like the venerated cave under the nave of the “Church of the Nativity” pose particular problems, while other locations are also a matter of concern. Twin cities like Cologne will be contacted to look at criteria for road accessibility under the angle of tourism development. Mutual study tours will provide insights and opportunities to share experiences through experts.

Project: Garden of Senses

Ramallah and Bonn intend to jointly create an inclusive space in Ramallah in form of a garden for experiencing nature through different senses. The project also seeks to change perceptions towards inclusion, impairments and PwD.

Participation will be a guiding element, as will be attracting publicity to make the gardens popular and put inclusion into minds and onto agendas.

Project: Accessibility for older buildings and facilities in Ramallah

The older existing buildings and structures are, the less accessibility had been a matter of concern during their construction. Rehabilitating such facilities requires extra efforts. The project seeks to develop regulations and secure financial resources. An advocacy campaign is to highlight the need to promote accessibility.



During the action planning session

Project: Accessibility to basic education for children with disabilities in Suhum, Ghana

Children with disabilities in Suhum do not benefit fully from basic education yet. Accessibility to schoolrooms, the layout of classrooms and furniture, lighting situation as well as transportation to schools are just some of the physical and logistical obstacles to be addressed. In addition, teaching methods and learning materials also require attention. Inspiration from good practice in other countries and strong stakeholder involvement will help to bring about a needs assessment and develop project proposals.

Project: Design of an exhibition to experience living with a disability

Society at large tends to be blind when it comes to barriers PwD are confronted with in their daily lives. The idea behind this Ukrainian proposal is: first-hand experiences sensitise for the need to change ignorant practices and thus promote inclusion. Good practices exist and synergies are to be created by cooperation with city partnerships such as Kiev-Leipzig. Partnerships of all kind are regarded as instrumental in realising this project.

Follow-Up Support

“Connective Cities” can assist and help to provide support for projects of the participants, e.g. by

- providing access to information, virtual networking and knowledge exchange through its website www.connective-cities.net. It includes a good practice database, among others,
- linking experts from “Connective Cities” expert pool with interested municipalities and realise expert missions, study tours, training sessions, local practitioners’ / project workshops, webinars and virtual networking,
- sharing information on funding opportunities and facilitating contact with funding institutions.

“The Service Agency Communities in One World of Engagement Global” provides a variety of funding opportunities for cooperation projects between German and international municipalities. German partners can apply for different instruments of support.

Please register to receive the Connectives Cities’ newsletter at



www.connective-cities.net/en/media-centre/newsletter



<https://skew.engagement-global.de/our-offers.html>

Info-telephone (from Germany only):
0800 188 7 188



Participants discussing

Field Visits

An inclusive city tour helped to explore the city of Bonn from the angles of diversity and inclusion – from the birthplace of Beethoven, the composer turned deaf, to a city hall originally optimised for cars instead of people's access. For example, considering inclusiveness at tram stations makes travelling more comfortable for all passengers, not only for those with wheelchairs or prams. An activist of “Behinderten-Gemeinschaft Bonn e.V.,” the association of the disability community in Bonn, recounted how he helped Bonn bus users experience mounting the bus in a wheelchair or with visual impairment. He explained how he and apprentices rebuild a tram for more inclusiveness – which became a model for redesigning tramcars.

The participants visited the NGO “Abenteuer Lernen e.V.,” which can be translated into “adventure learning”. It cooperates with a network of disability organisations.

The NGO was founded in 2004 to promote education for sustainable development with an innovative approach. Activities focus on science experiments and artisanal crafts-making, based on the fact that children and human beings in general like to interact with their environment and experience things themselves. It does not matter where one comes from or which particular talents or abilities she or he has. Following the “Agenda 2030” it is natural that education for sustainable development is inclusive by default. Diversity in the individuals participating fosters innovative approaches and stunning results and educates towards becoming open personalities that take over responsibility for society, and our planet – future inclusive.

Typically “Abenteuer Lernen” presented their work practically: the participants were invited to make their own personal experiences during experiments.

www.abenteuerlernen.org
www.inklusion-lebendig-machen.de



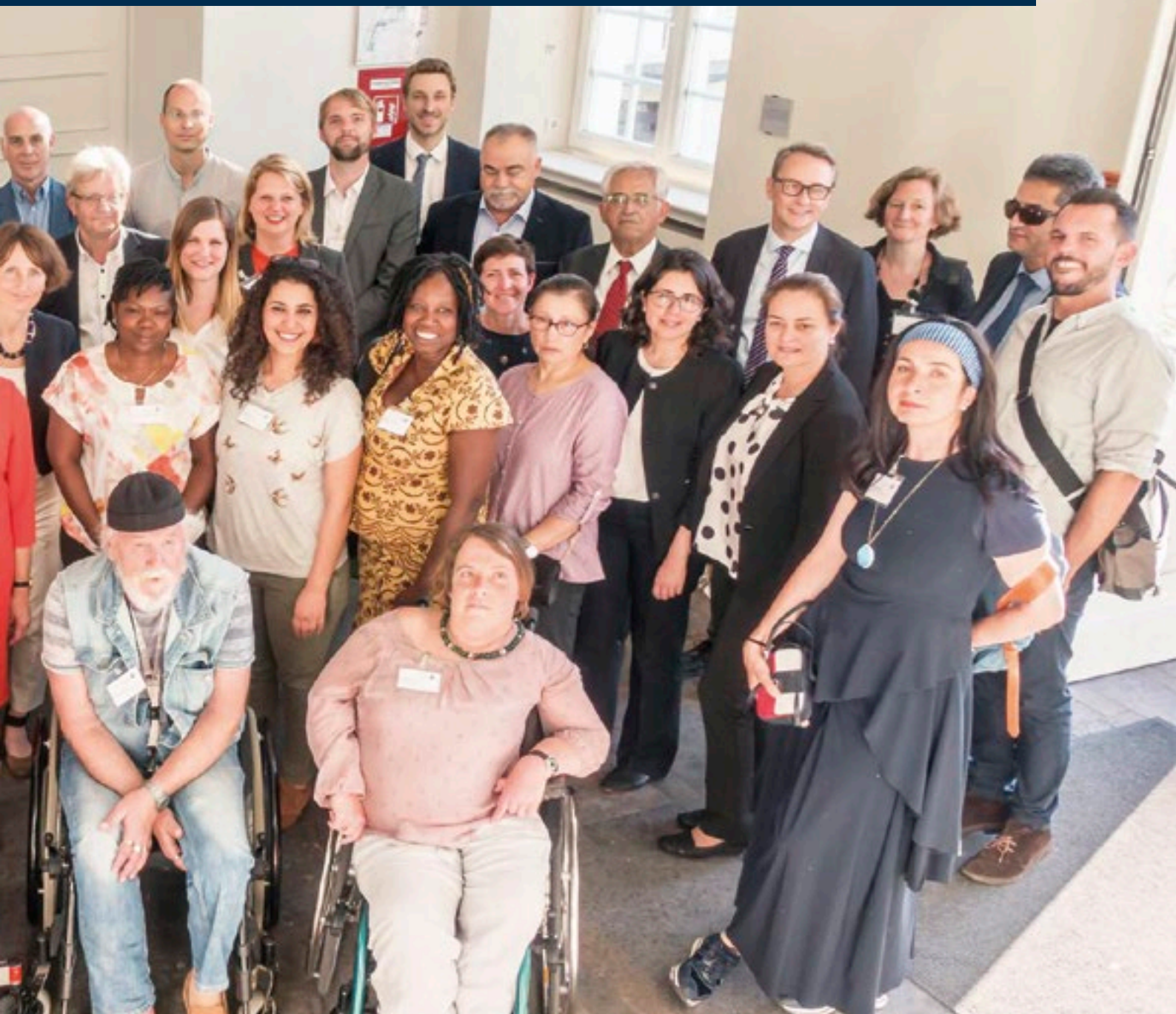
During the field visit

List of Participating Institutions

- Behinderten-Gemeinschaft Bonn e.V., Germany
- Behinderung und Entwicklungszusammenarbeit e.V. (Bezev e.V.), Germany
- City of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- City of Berlin, Germany
- City of Bethlehem, Palestinian Territories
- City of Bonn, Germany
- City of Durban, South Africa
- City of La Paz, Bolivia
- City of Loja, Ecuador



- City of Ramallah, Palestinian Territories
- City of Stuttgart, Germany
- City of Suhum, Ghana
- Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Germany
- Haus Steinstraße e.V., Germany
- Landschaftsverband Westfalen-Lippe, Germany
- Moldova Association of the Blind, Republic of Moldova
- One Philosophy Group / Kiev, Ukraine
- University of Siegen, Germany



Published by
Connective Cities
International Community of Practice for Sustainable Urban Development
info@connective-cities.net
www.connective-cities.net

Connective Cities is a joint project of
Association of German Cities
Gereonstraße 18 – 32, 50670 Cologne | Germany
Project Contact: Alice Balbo | alice.balbo@engagement-global.de

Engagement Global gGmbH / Service Agency
Communities in One World
Tulpenfeld 7, 53113 Bonn | Germany
Project Contact: Alexander Wagner | alexander.wagner@engagement-global.de

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 40, 53113 Bonn | Germany
Project Contact: Dr. Manfred Poppe | manfred.poppe@giz.de

Author
Sabine Hammer

Editorial Review
Silvia Boehmsdorff, Alice Balbo, Miriam Gill, Benjamin Jeromin, Sina Webber

Design and Layout
punkt4.eu

Photo Credits
Connective Cities

October 2018

Commissioned by
German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

BMZ Bonn Office
Dahlmannstraße 4
53113 Bonn | Germany
Phone: +49 (0) 228 99 535-0
Fax: +49 (0) 228 99 535-3500

BMZ Berlin Office
Stresemannstraße 94
10963 Berlin | Germany
Phone: +49 (0) 30 18 535-0
Fax: +49 (0) 30 18 535-2501

poststelle@bmz.bund.de
www.bmz.de
