



Let's talk about the Sustainable Development Goals!

Proposals to disability stakeholders



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I. Introduction

"Transform our world" is the title given to the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Agenda gathers 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and this paper aims to demonstrate how disabled persons organisations (DPOs) can take ownership of these SDGs and how they can do so.

It is necessary to introduce the SDGs from a disability perspective and to take a look at their implementation in France. It will allow to demonstrate how the SDGs constitute a new common framework for action, as well as the indispensable role of DPOs in achieving them. Some examples can illustrate the need to rethink our practices and alliances, especially since tools are available to go further in this process.

"Making the Sustainable Development Goals attractive, enabling everyone to grasp them in practice, removing the constraints on action: that is what is at stake. I believe in the virtue of concrete examples, sharing of ideas and of good practices. In this way, the interests of the mechanism will be better understood, and the 2030 Agenda more easily adopted".¹

The 17 SDGs :



¹ Alain Capmas " Sustainable development: a collective and social enterprise " Tribune Fonda n°243, September 2019 : <https://fonda.asso.fr/ressources/le-developpement-durable-une-entreprise-collective-et-sociale>

- **Foreword by the European Disability Forum**

The [European Disability Forum](#) (EDF) is an independent regional organisation of persons with disabilities, advocating for the rights of more than 100 million persons with disabilities in Europe. We have been working actively since 2015 to raise awareness about the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the European Union, with our members located all over Europe.

For the first time in the United Nations history, persons with disabilities have been included in a global agreement. The 2030 Agenda specifically recognises that more than 80 per cent of persons with disabilities live in poverty. This reality is also very much present in Europe, where persons with disabilities can face widespread exclusion from all areas of economic, political, social, civil and cultural life, including employment, education and healthcare.

“Nothing about us without us” is the driving force behind the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. “Leaving no one behind” is the motto of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. I am therefore delighted to see our colleagues in France working actively in their own country to ensure persons with disabilities and their representative organisations are also heard and listened to in the national implementation of the SDGs.

I wish you a great success in making sure no French persons with disabilities are left behind!

Yannis Vardakastanis
European Disability Forum President



- **Foreword by the Ministry of Ecological Transition**

In September 2015, 193 UN member states adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It is a fusion of the development agenda and that of the Earth Summits. It is universal, meaning that it applies to all countries, in the North as well as in the South, because we are all "countries in the process of sustainable development". It is an agenda for people, for the planet, for prosperity, for peace and for partnerships. It carries a vision for transforming our world by eradicating poverty and ensuring its transition to sustainable development.

With its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets, this agenda sets a common course and covers all societal issues, including those related to disability. The SDGs give greater impetus and coherence to social and environmental dynamics and to all public policies.

By promoting partnerships, this reference framework and its vocabulary facilitate a common commitment by all stakeholders in our societies: States, national and local elected representatives, companies, academics, local authorities, organisations, citizens, etc. The Agenda 2030 enables all public policies to be driven towards a better understanding of the challenges of sustainable development, with a long-term horizon.

In order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals while meeting national challenges, France has decided to adopt a national strategy. The purpose of the national strategy is to define the important issues and the trajectory for France's implementation of sustainable development, while mobilising concrete actions and engaging all French stakeholders. Through stakeholders, the drafting of the national strategy has thus involved French society in all its diversity. Adopted on 20 September 2019, it includes 6 priorities, the first of which is "*Leave no one behind, and ensure access to fundamental rights and essential services for everyone*". This promise is at the heart of the 2030 Agenda and is aimed in particular at people with disabilities.

All actors in French society have a responsibility to come together and act collectively to meet the challenges facing our country and our planet. It is on this condition that we will build, in practice, a more sustainable model of society that meets the needs of each and every one of us, whatever our abilities.

Like everyone else, people with disabilities should be able to benefit fully from the Sustainable Development Goals. And like everyone else, they also have an active role to play in their implementation. This is also the meaning of SDG 17 on partnerships, which, if they are inclusive, will allow us to collectively achieve the 2030 Agenda.

By developing this booklet, your initiative also responds directly to the priority of lifelong learning and training, which is key to mobilisation, including on sustainable development issues. This is why it is essential that organisations representing people with disabilities

actively take up the local, national, and international compass of the Agenda 2030. I am convinced that this booklet will help them and will give them many keys for reflection and action to carry out the sustainable development objectives together.

Thomas LESUEUR
Commissioner and interministerial Delegate for
Sustainable Development



II. Situating the dual position of persons with disabilities within the SDGs

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted on 25 September 2015 by the United Nations and follows on from the eight Millennium Development Goals for developing countries. 193 countries have committed to eradicating poverty, protecting the planet, and ensuring prosperity. The 2030 Agenda consists of several chapters, the third of which is entitled: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Persons with disabilities have a dual role in the SDGs. On the one hand, they are citizens and actors of change promoted by all the goals, and on the other hand, they are targeted by specific goals making them direct beneficiaries of progress. This is why it is essential that the SDGs are taken into account in their daily lives and by organisations representing them.

- **Persons with disabilities as citizens for change**

The 2030 Agenda is based on international human rights instruments. The goals of the Agenda aim to "achieve human rights for all".² The SDGs in the 2030 Agenda are universal, aimed at ending poverty, reducing inequality, and protecting the planet, through a combination of economic, environmental, and social approaches. There are 17 general goals, specified by 169 targeted objectives and 231 indicators to measure their implementation. They therefore provide a clear political framework for action at regional, national, and international level. All UN member countries are targeted by the SDGs, regardless of their level of development, thus all citizens of the world. The spirit of the Sustainable Development Goals is to "leave no one behind" reflecting the fundamental principle of non-discrimination. Persons with disabilities are therefore equally concerned.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals are



Eradicate poverty in all its forms everywhere in the world



Eliminate hunger, ensuring food security, improving nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture

² A/Res/70/1, para 10 and A/Res/70/1, preamble



Enable all people to live in good health and promoting well-being for all at all ages



Ensure equitable, inclusive, quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all



Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



Ensure access to sustainably managed water and sanitation services for all



Ensure access for all to reliable, sustainable, and modern energy services at affordable cost



Promote sustained, shared and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all



Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialisation that benefits all, and encourage innovation



Reduce inequalities within and between countries



Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable



Establish sustainable consumption and production patterns



Take action to tackle climate change



Preserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development



Preserve and restore terrestrial ecosystems, ensure their sustainable use



Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, ensure access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions



Strengthen the capacity to implement the global partnership for the achievement of the SDGs and revitalise it

These are the overarching goals, each with 6 or 7 targets, as well as indicators. The targets and indicators attached to each SDG can be found in [this document](#) (from page 14). Indeed, in order to measure the achievement of the SDGs, indicators are set up for each target. They ensure that no group of people is left behind. It is a monitoring and review process based on quality, timely and accurate data, including income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migration status and disability.³ In the context of the SDGs in general, persons with disabilities and their representative organisations can be actors. Indeed, they are actors as citizens for all the goals. The relevance of the SDGs is then further argued in that people with disabilities are not only targeted as citizens of the world, but also as beneficiaries of the progress that the goals are aiming.

³ A/Res/70/1, para. 74(g)

- **Persons with disabilities as beneficiaries of progress**

While the Millennium Development Goals did not take disability into consideration, the SDGs fully integrate it. As a human rights matter, disability has become a specific issue for the sustainable development of our societies.⁴ In the 2030 Agenda, persons with disabilities are indeed recognised, especially in the part of the declaration dedicated to them. It is mentioned that 80% of them live in poverty.⁵ In addition, persons with disabilities are explicitly taken into account in the targets of SDGs 4, 8, 10, 11, 17, and implicitly in those of SDGs 1, 3, 5, 6 and 7.⁶ Terms such as 'for all', 'most disadvantaged', 'non-discriminatory', 'equal access' and 'universal access' suggest that persons with disabilities should not be forgotten in the measures developed for the achievement of the SDGs.

Persons with disabilities are explicitly mentioned in targets:

- **SDG 4** (*access to education*) target: equal opportunities and accessibility of schools
- **SDG 8** (*employment*) target: full employment and decent work; equal pay
- **SDG 10** (*reduce inequality*) target: empowerment and inclusion
- **SDG 11** (*sustainable cities and communities*) target: safe, accessible, affordable, and sustainable transport and access to green spaces and safe public places
- **SDG 17** (*partnerships*) target: data collection

Thus, there is a certain importance given to persons with disabilities and the fact that they are explicitly included in the SDGs showcases a strong awareness within the international community. The actions within the framework of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs constitute a unique opportunity to strengthen the implementation of the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the monitoring of its implementation. Indeed, beyond direct references to disability, 14 of the 17 general objectives can be directly linked to the CRPD. It should be noted that the CRPD is a binding legal instrument ratified by a State Party. It must be implemented in our laws, its scope is unlimited in time and space. The 2030 Agenda and its SDGs on the other hand are a political vision for a better world by 2030. They

⁴ "Disability in the blind spot of sustainable development" ID4D, January 2021: <https://ideas4development.org/handicap-angle-mort-developpement/>

⁵ Opinion of the CNCPH on the Sustainable Development Goals and the Agenda 2030: https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/contenu/piece-jointe/2019/04/avis_du_cncph_sur_les_objectifs_du_dvt_durable.pdf

⁶ Details in "Les repères du CFHE - n°2 - Mars 2020" on the SDGs and disability: <http://www.cfhe.org/upload/actualite/C3%A9s/2020/Rep%C3%A8re%202%20ODD.pdf>

provide the impetus for the implementation and monitoring of the Convention but are not legally binding. [This document](#) links fifty targets of the SDGs with the provisions of the CRPD. It demonstrates the extent of the linkages and the place of persons with disabilities in sustainable development. The following is a summary of the links between the SDGs and the CRPD:⁷

SDG	CRPD	SDG	CRPD
Goal 1	All articles	Goal 8	Article 27
Goal 2	Article 28	Goal 9	Articles 9, 20, 21
Goal 3	Article 10, 11, 23, 25, 26	Goal 10	Article 5
Goal 4	Article 24	Goal 11	Articles 9, 11, 19, 29, 30
Goal 5	All articles	Goal 13	Articles 21,25
Goal 6	Article 28	Goal 16	Articles 4, 10, 13, 15, 16, 18, 29
Goal 7	Article 28	Goal 17	Goal 7

The involvement of people with disabilities in the formulation and implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs is therefore a real step forward in their recognition as full citizens. This is in line with the main objective of the disability movement: "Nothing about us without us". Moreover, several of the SDGs are oriented towards the eradication of extreme poverty. Persons with disabilities have unequal economic access to employment, education, and a satisfactory health system. Precariousness is either a factor of disability or an aggravating factor.⁸

The 17 SDGs therefore offer an international instrument to fight against these inequalities and discriminations affecting people with disabilities. All issues are linked to achieve a cleaner, more inclusive, accessible society. It is obvious that disability inclusion should not be considered only as a superficial initiative within companies, for instance. It is absolutely necessary for future sustainability and growth of companies. In general, disability inclusion is crucial for achieving all the SDGs. For example, achieving SDG 10 would not mean one less SDG to tick, but would unlock the talent and potential of a community that can greatly contribute to achieving all the SDGs.⁹ Criticisms are admitted, however this instrument is the one available to the world until 2030. It is currently the best available tool to pursue the transformation of our societies and improve the daily lives of persons with disabilities. Moreover, the new European Commission’s Strategy for the rights of persons with disabilities

⁷ CFHE SDGs [CFHE benchmark sheet](#)

⁸ Ibid

⁹ Caroline Casey "Disability inclusion isn't a tick-box exercise. It's vital to achieving the SDGs" World Economic Forum, October 2020: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/10/disability-inclusion-crucial-to-sustainability-development-goals/>

mentions them several times.¹⁰ This booklet questions where France stands regarding the SDGs, 5 years after adopting them.

¹⁰ <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/3e1e2228-7c97-11eb-9ac9-01aa75ed71a1/language-en> see also the [CFHE benchmark sheet](#) on the Strategy

III. Understanding: general overview regarding SDGs and disability in France

The implementation of the SDGs is not compulsory, it is a voluntary commitment by each UN member state with the support of civil society. France has been one of the main actors for their adoption and has committed to achieving them. Before explaining how DPO's should integrate them into their daily structure, it is necessary to look at the state of the SDGs in France, more than 5 years after their adoption. What is their implementation, which actors are involved, and how is disability included?

- **Figures and COVID-19**

An independent European report on sustainable development was published at the end of 2020.¹¹ France is ninth out of 31 with a score of 73/100. According to the report, it has a good score on SDG 1 "no poverty" and is on track to meet SDGs 8 "decent work and economic growth" and 11 "sustainable cities and communities". Most SDGs are stable, such as SDG 2 "zero hunger" and SDG 12 "responsible consumption and production". It is worth noting that although the official French website of the SDGs displays the figures of this report, it does not report on the SDGs that are scaling back, even though they are very present, such as SDG 5 "gender equality". It should be emphasised that disability was only mentioned once in the European report, and this was in relation to the measures of COVID-19. It raises the question whether these good scores can really be applied to the reality of persons with disabilities. The only report about the SDGs and persons with disabilities is the one published by ANED in February 2019.¹² It is not specific to France but to the European Union and shows that the situation of people with disabilities has mitigated results. If it was not greatly positive in 2019, it is likely to be even less positive in 2020-2021 as a result of the pandemic.

Indeed, the pandemic has had a significant impact on the implementation of the SDGs, making it difficult to achieve them. It has reinforced the logic behind the creation of the SDGs as "*social determinants of health, such as food insecurity, low education, disability, poverty, unemployment, housing instability, insecure land rights, and declining incomes, are each addressed by different SDGs.*"¹³ The 2020 Barometer for Sustainable Solutions demonstrates the urgency of implementing the transformations illustrated by the SDGs. If such transformation had been operationalised, countries' ability to control the health crisis would have been a lot more effective. Moreover, the third SDG, "good health and well-being", has

¹¹ Europe Sustainable Report 2020 - Meeting the SDGs in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic", Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), December 2020

¹² ANED - Academic Network of European Disability Experts "EU SDG Indicators and Persons with disabilities - Final report" Stefanos Grammenos, February 2019

¹³ Jerroo Billimoria & Kristine Pearson Founding members of Catalyst 2030 in the "2020 Barometer of Sustainable Solutions" Convergences, 4th edition, December 2020

been neglected, including in France, even though it calls among other things, for strengthening national and global health risk management capacities.¹⁴ The consequences of the pandemic and the weak implementation of the SDGs are important for the most vulnerable individuals such as persons with disabilities.

The 2020 Barometer of Sustainable Solutions shows that the 2030 Agenda is *"still not on the media, political and citizen's agenda. Only 9% of French people say they are familiar with the SDGs. This lack of awareness probably reflects the lack of political support for the SDGs by opinion leaders, primarily governments."*¹⁵ This lack of political support is demonstrated by the recent publication of Focus, showing that the Presidential institution has only mentioned the SDGs 37 times since 2017 in its official communications.¹⁶ Few ministries in general mention them, only those of the Ecological Transition, Foreign Affairs and Economy and Finance have really referred to them. The Barometer denounces the lack of interest in the Agenda 2030 on the part of politicians and the media, which have given little coverage to the SDG's in the last five years. However, state actors did try and grasp the SDGs, particularly since 2018.

- **State actors**

All the SDGs are linked, and IDDRI denounces the reality of national governance systems, which assign those responsible for implementing the SDGs to ministries linked to the environment, even though they are cross-cutting issues.¹⁷ France is no exception, since the delegation for sustainable development dedicated to the coordination of the 2030 Agenda is attached to the Ministry of Ecological Transition.¹⁸ Although it is mandated by the Prime Minister, in conjunction with the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, it does not take away its environmental character. This delegation leads a network of senior officials for sustainable development, present in each ministry in order to implement the 2030 Agenda.¹⁹ Currently, the interministerial delegate for sustainable development is Thomas Lesueur, his predecessor

¹⁴ Guillaume Lafortune, Director SDSN in "Baromètre 2020 des solutions durables" Convergences, 4th edition, December 2020

¹⁵ "2020 Barometer of Sustainable Solutions" Convergences, 4th edition, December 2020

¹⁶ https://focus2030.org/ODD-quel-portage-politique-par-les-ministeres-en-France?var_mode=calcul

¹⁷ Julie Vaillé and Laura Brimont "Faire des ODD un levier d'action politique, pour les pays européens et pour la France" IDDRI Policy Brief No. 2, May 2016: "This risk of assimilating sustainable development to the sole issue of climate change, which would deprive the SDGs of their main focus, is materialised by the institutional support of national sustainable development strategies. For half of the EU Member States, the ministry in charge of the environment is responsible for steering the strategies. The cross-cutting nature of the SDGs and the need to strengthen policy coherence call into question the relevance of this choice. In this respect, we can cite the example of Finland, where one of the first decisions related to the SDGs was to transfer responsibility for them from the Minister of the Environment to the Head of Government. This shows the importance of not confining the SDGs to an additional sectoral discussion, but placing them at the heart of a transversal vision of what society wants to become. »

¹⁸ Croatia has just created a new Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development which is therefore dedicated to the SDGs

¹⁹ Monnoyer-Smith, Laurence, and Vanessa Lorioux "The implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in France: monitoring indicators and financing" *Annales des Mines - Responsabilité et environnement*, vol. 88, no. 4, 2017

was Laurence Monnoyer-Smith. The latter is also Commissioner General for Sustainable Development at the Ministry of Ecological Transition. While the Commissioner General's office focuses on the environment and climate, the delegation for sustainable development is dedicated to the coordination of the 2030 Agenda as a whole within the ministry. The 2030 Agenda in France is therefore led by the Ministry of Ecological Transition.

The Inter-ministerial Committee on International Cooperation and Development (CICID) sets the main orientations of France's development policy. A national strategy was produced after its launch in 2018 (i.e. already 3 years after the adoption of the SDGs).²⁰ This national strategy constitutes the national strategy for the implementation of the SDGs, in place since September 2019.

The national strategy for the implementation of
the SDGs

Six main orientations

- Just transition
- Low carbon society
- Promotion of education
- Health
- Citizen participation

In addition to the environmental dimension, international cooperation seems to be the prism through which France perceives the SDGs.²¹ In addition to the CICID, there is the National Council for Development and International Solidarity (CNDSI) and the National Council for Ecological Transition (CNTE). These would be the two privileged consultation forums for the implementation of the SDGs insofar, as they involve civil society, however, the Interministerial Committee on Disability and the National Council for disability (CNCPH) do not seem to be involved according to an opinion of the CNCPH.²² As a side note, there is a Ministerial Delegation for Accessibility (DMA), which can possibly contribute to MDG 11 "sustainable cities and communities" linked with disability.

Each year, the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development takes place, allowing a global review of national progress on the SDGs to be made. On these occasions, France conducted a voluntary national review in 2016, as well as mid-reports in 2018 and 2019. The

²⁰ <https://www.agenda-2030.fr/feuille-de-route-de-la-France-pour-l-Agenda-2030>

²¹ Indeed, in December 2020, the Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs (JY Le Drian) presented a draft programming law on solidarity development and the fight against global inequalities: <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangere-de-la-france/developpement/une-nouvelle-ambition-pour-la-politique-de-developpement-francaise/>

²² Opinion of the CNCPH on the Sustainable Development Goals and the Agenda 2030: https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/contenu/piece-jointe/2019/04/avis_du_cncph_sur_les_objectifs_du_dvt_durable.pdf

diversity of the SDGs means that each year the forum targets six SDGs, and France reports on all six of them. The most recent one dates back from 2019,²³ one of the main focuses of the mid-report was on 'empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equity', yet in the entire report, disability was only mentioned once in relation to inclusive schooling.

While real political efforts have recently been made to integrate the SDGs, there are still gaps for their full political consideration especially in relation to disability matters.²⁴ Nevertheless, there are local actions with regard to SDGs which deserve to be highlighted. Also, in July 2020 a constitutional bill was suggested by more than 35 deputies to the National Assembly, aiming at integrating the SDGs into the legislative decision-making process.²⁵ This initiative is important because it could strongly include the SDGs the French legislative and political landscape.²⁶

- **Non-state actors**

Many national non-state actors are actively involved in implementing, raising awareness, and researching around the SDGs in France. Most of them are organisations, however some are companies and sometimes partner up with the State. Whatever their status, they are absolutely essential today if we are to achieve the SDGs in 2030. Indeed, they offer new tools, approaches, and criticise the current management of the implementation of the SDGs. Some, such as B&L Evolution, focus on the actions of companies and the French business world with studies and practical guides on the SDGs. In addition, Global Compact France is the official relay of the United Nations Global Compact, focusing on issues related to the social and solidarity-based economy and sustainable development.

Other non-state actors are think tanks for the promotion and research of sustainable development, the most important of which are IDDRI and the 4D Association. The Comité 21, holds its importance in the French SDG scheme, as a think tank as well as a "do tank". It seeks to establish an effective partnership between public authorities, the private sector and civil society and is notably recognised for its awareness-raising actions through the 'SDG's Tour de France ' as well as the development of practical guides for their implementation. La Fonda is also a very active organisation with regard to the SDGs. Many other actors exist such as the CERRD (sustainable development resource centre), Forus, La Meth'ODD, Concord. These civil society actors are useful because they point out strategic and political appreciation.²⁷ They

²³ "France's progress report on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda - 2019" [Point étape 2019 ODD France p.pdf \(agenda-2030.fr\)](#)

²⁴ <https://wecf-france.org/les-objectifs-de-developpement-durable-4-ans-apres-un-premier-bilan-mitige/>

²⁵ https://www.assemblee-nationale.fr/dyn/15/textes/l15b3075_proposition-loicf Barometer 2020: "As a legislative body and a check on government action, Parliament has a key role to play in increasing the political weight of the SDGs. In France, we could, for example, imagine that the SDGs be integrated into the nomenclature of the LOLF.

²⁶ It was supported in particular by PA Raphan, who wishes to "make the SDGs our compass for the future".

²⁷ In addition, "In Switzerland, civil society is planning on creating an SDGs Watch, a mechanism that would monitor the progress of the SDGs, and the drafting of a shadow report" in Barometer 2020

are also important because they organise events on the SDGs such as thematic seminars, which provide an opportunity to highlight disability issues.²⁸

- **The urgent need for a genuine consideration of the SDGs**

*"The strategic use of the SDGs will only be guaranteed if they are integrated into the legislative process and if they are the subject of high-level political support."*²⁹ The latter does not yet seem to be the case in France, even if some very recent initiatives are moving in this direction. Although the SDGs are not an official priority, they are nonetheless progressing informally through policies that influence them. For example, if the calculation of the French disability allowance is changed accordingly to current demands, this could improve SDG 1 "no poverty" and SDG 3 "good health and well-being".³⁰ A better consideration of disability must be done in general and with regard to the implementation of the SDGs.³¹

There is only a decade left for France and the world to achieve the SDGs. While their progress has been slowed down by the pandemic, it can be an impulse to their effective implementation. Furthermore, the financial feasibility of the SDGs and the EU and French recovery plans provide the best opportunity for this next decade to achieve the SDGs.³² Elyx Foundation has produced an excellent diagram displaying the French recovery plan through the SDGs compass.³³ These transformative goals, coupled with mid- and long-term planning, appropriate budgetary frameworks, and societal legitimacy, could enable the achievement of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda. Organisations play a crucial role in achieving it. Persons with disabilities and their representative organisations can contribute greatly and have a strong interest in doing so as they are targeted by the goals.

²⁸ The majority of these events are listed in the Agenda at the end of each monthly ODDyssey newsletter

²⁹ Julie Vaillé and Laura Brimont "Making the SDGs a lever for political action, for European countries and for France" IDDRI Policy Brief n°2, May 2016

³⁰ <https://www.previsima.fr/actualite/la-defenseure-des-droits-se-positionne-en-faveur-dune-individualisation-de-lallocation-aux-adultes-handicapes-aah.html>

³¹ See the CNCPH opinion on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Agenda 2030

³² Barometer 2020: "The European Union, at the end of a marathon 5-day summit in Brussels, managed to agree on a European recovery plan of 750 billion euros, part of which will come from the creation of a common debt, unimaginable just a few months ago. France, for its part, has announced its €100 billion recovery plan, one third of which is for ecological recovery, and another third for social recovery. The signals are strong. But are they ambitious enough to achieve the 2030 Agenda?"

³³ https://elyx.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/ACTION-BOX_FR.pdf on page 10

IV. Seizing the SDGs as a new common framework for local and global action

Criticism and distrust are expressed explicitly or are embedded in the 'consciousness' of some organisations. For this reason, the SDGs are not fully anchored in the collective consciousness because they are either not sufficiently known or are deliberately dismissed. Indeed, some are suspicious of the concepts coming from the UN, the complexity of the SDGs and lack of means. The aim of this document is to defuse these misgivings in order to explain that these goals are not a new constraint but a new framework for action, to go further than current practices.³⁴ Indeed, the SDGs are not only a new common roadmap but also a new space for advocacy and visibility. It is therefore an opportunity for persons with disabilities and their representative organisations to ensure and improve the reality of their rights.

- **A new common action plan**

*"The interest of the SDGs is to come back to transversality. We are coming out of a period where the emphasis was rather exclusively on biodiversity and energy efficiency, whereas sustainable development cannot be subject to overly compartmentalised approaches."*³⁵

Indeed, the SDGs make it possible to highlight the cross-cutting nature of the issues and the interweaving of the environmental, social, and economic dimensions.³⁶ The SDGs are a common framework for the planet, populations, prosperity, peace, and partnerships. All the issues are linked, particularly those of social justice and of climate battle: one cannot be achieved without the other. It is necessary to reconcile the two. In addition, persons with disabilities are also concerned by environmental issues as they are *"particularly exposed to the impacts of climate change, such as migration flows, natural disasters and food insecurity"*.³⁷ They have the power to take ownership of these environmental issues. The SDGs should be used to strengthen their quality of life but also their power to act and thus to obtrude their issues on the human rights scene by grasping the social, economic, and environmental pillar.

³⁴ "Ownership of the SDGs by French non-state actors" Comité 21, 2018

<https://fonda.asso.fr/system/files/fichiers/Rapport-couv-preface-synthese.pdf>

³⁵ "SDGs: levers for strategic partnerships" Tribune Fonda N°238, June 2018: <https://fonda.asso.fr/ressources/odd-leviers-pour-des-partenariats-strategiques>

³⁶ Alain Capmas " Sustainable development: a collective and social enterprise " Tribune Fonda n°243, September 2019 : <https://fonda.asso.fr/ressources/le-developpement-durable-une-entreprise-collective-et-sociale>

³⁷ Constant Calvo, "Disability as a key objective of sustainable development" THE HR and CSR Management BLOG, December 2017: <http://blog.adhere-rh.com/handicap-enjeu-du-developpement-durable/>

The SDGs and their numerous targets are therefore an action plan allowing to connect all actors: civil society, governments, local authorities, private sector. In addition, the SDGs are relevant as a mobilisation tool for local development projects. For example, they allow elected officials to have a common thread, bringing together requests into one goal.³⁸ Although it is difficult to distinguish between what has been driven by the SDGs and traditional actions, the advantage of these goals is that they bring "*legitimacy to the transformation*".³⁹

Any organisation can include its work in this dimension: it is a new common language, a new map on a local and global scale. It is an opportunity to adapt and rethink our socio-economic model. A coordinated response is necessary, as the pandemic has shown. The SDGs are therefore an opportunity for all stakeholders to take up the common map which necessarily include the field of disability. Indeed, all issues are linked to achieve a cleaner, more inclusive, and accessible society. The various stakeholders in sustainable development must improve the situation of people with disabilities in order to achieve all SDGs. The tool is not perfect, but it is ambitious, and it is the one available until 2030. It is therefore currently the best existing instrument to pursue the transformation of our societies. Until 2030, the SDGs constitute a unique platform to fight discrimination and social exclusion.

This framework or reading grid, is an opportunity to enhance the quality of life of people with disabilities. It is also an opportunity to empower them through a common map with joint debate platforms. Using it would provide a new advocacy space.

- **A new space for advocacy and visibility**

The SDGs have a mobilising virtue. They are an excellent opportunity to raise awareness and support disability-related needs in society, in a stakeholder-driven way. The space for advocacy will therefore be strengthened. Furthermore, the SDGs increase the legitimacy of organisations to bring sensitive or neglected issues to the attention of governments. They encourage the consideration of the most marginalised populations, notably thanks to the key concept of the SDGs, which is leaving no one behind, drawing attention to those social groups that include people with disabilities.⁴⁰ This is why some organisations are developing campaigns and advocacy tools around the SDGs.⁴¹ This is a clear demonstration of empowerment and a new visibility for people with disabilities at different levels. These exchanges can be done through common platforms specific to the SDGs.

³⁸ Alexandre Touzet in "ODD: levers for strategic partnerships" Tribune Fonda N°238, June 2018:

<https://fonda.asso.fr/ressources/odd-leviers-pour-des-partenariats-strategiques>

³⁹ "Ownership of the SDGs by French non-state actors" Comité 21, 2018 <https://fonda.asso.fr/system/files/fichiers/Rapport-couv-preface-synthese.pdf>

⁴⁰ François-Xavier Dupret "The role of local civil society organisations in monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Agenda" Brennpunkt, Issue 302, June 2018: <https://www.brennpunkt.lu/article/le-role-des-organisations-de-la-societe-civile-locales-pour-le-suivi-de-la-mise-en-oeuvre-de-lagenda-2030/>

⁴¹ Ibid: "For example OXFAM Kenya has developed a campaign around tax justice around SDG 10 as an advocacy tool. Womankind has developed an advocacy booklet for women's rights around SDG 5.

In addition, the High-Level Forums organised by the UN agencies allow civil society in the field of disability to express themselves. The larger and more visible this group is, the better the consideration will be. In this case, there is the forum at the European regional level, where civil society finds its place through a mechanism in which several groups are represented, including persons with disabilities.⁴² Then there is the global forum where the voice of people with disabilities is carried by the Stakeholder Group of persons with disabilities. There is still progress to be made in making these forums accessible, which is the point of allowing the demands of people with disabilities to be heard. Finally, many events take place in France and it is essentially there that French DPO's have a role to play in order to make the voice of disabled persons heard. For instance, the Comité 21 is carrying out an SDG Tour de France among other events where all actors have the opportunity to exchange. Civil society also has an important role to play in the elaboration of the voluntary national reviews. People with disabilities are not mentioned, or very little, which shows the need to engage in order to make their needs known.

Voluntary National Reviews (NVR)

It is a national monitoring report of the 2030 Agenda. Each year, countries can volunteer, and the UN sets a few SDGs to be reviewed.

France conducted one VNR in 2016 and two mid-reports in 2018 and 2019. It can be observed that persons with disabilities are poorly mentioned, so organisations can encourage the State to take them truly into consideration and to include civil society more in this review in order to be closer to reality.

The SDG's are "*an opportunity to use dynamic, proactive advocacy, deliberately relaying the voice of people with disabilities and thus supporting their desire for autonomy and self-determination, citizenship as an essential condition for their full participation*".⁴³ The importance for the associative movement to seize this framework in order to structure its advocacy is crucial. The desirable extension of organisations in the field of disability and in the social health care sectors to environmental and sustainable development organisations is essential to respond to the limits of their development.⁴⁴

Mobilisation is now necessary since public measures are not met at present, and it is for this reason that individually and collectively everyone must start to take part. If organisations integrate and own this reading grid by using it, the SDGs will gradually be standardised. Civil society can play a significant, if not indispensable role in this standardisation. At different

⁴² Constituency of persons with disabilities

⁴³ <http://www.cfhe.org/upload/actualite/C3%A9s/2018/CFHE%20-%20Livret%20Droits%20de%20l'Homme%201.pdf>

⁴⁴ "Ownership of the SDGs by French non-state actors" Comité 21, 2018 <https://fonda.asso.fr/system/files/fichiers/Rapport-couv-preface-synthese.pdf>

scales, this will include persons with disabilities in all policies, be them related or not to sustainable development.

V. Realising the indispensable role of civil society in achieving the SDGs

In view of the lack of results over the last five years, it is clear that the SDGs can only be achieved if civil society, including organisations representing people with disabilities and their relatives, integrate them into their practices. Indeed, in addition to having a new space for advocacy, organisations fulfil missions that are already in line with the SDGs. Organisations in the field of disability could, through their missions, contribute to the achievement of the SDGs for several reasons. This is what is put forward by La Fonda, in some articles, whose arguments are used below.²

- **Explicitly including the SDGs in our missions**

Local organisations do not share a common framework even though they are part of the dynamics aimed by the SDGs. Organisations in the field of disability are already integrating some of the SDGs without knowing it, mainly those of the social pillar, which are already anchored in their reality. The idea to make this known, to integrate the organisation's missions in the framework of the SDGs to make them explicitly appear. In that way, the issue of disability takes the prominent place it should have when it comes to improving society.

Today, public policies alone are no longer sufficient to drive this change:

"The new matrix of collective action is associativity: it is the social link and the pooling of resources that henceforth condition the sustainability of economic activities and the effectiveness of public policies, all the institutional forms (in the broadest sense) that enable knowledge, activities and capacities for action to be pooled for a project⁴⁵.

⁴⁵ Nils Pedersen "Faire Ensemble 2030: mobilising French civil society for the SDGs" La Fonda, February 2021: <https://fonda.asso.fr/ressources/faire-ensemble-2030-mobiliser-la-societe-civile-francaise-pour-les-odd-contribution-au>

Furthermore, organisations, because of their legitimacy, can contribute significantly to a better visibility and ownership of the SDGs by the population.

Zoom figures on organisations in France (la Fonda)

- **1.5 million** organisations
- **22 million** volunteers
- **1,850,000** employees (7% total employment)
- Non-profit sector generates **€113 billion** in resources

Social health care organisations management

- Almost all emergency shelters
- 1 in 10 hospital beds
- Three quarters of private socio health care accommodation

Organisations are close to the ground, listening to emerging needs. They have acquired knowledge and a unique legitimacy in solving social and environmental problems. This is added to their role in the pandemic in terms of food aid, medical and social continuity, and schooling. This crisis has reaffirmed the value of non-market human action as being essential to our society. It has shown that a country without an organised and recognised civil society is powerless. The achievement of the SDGs therefore depends on the full integration of associative actors. However, it is not a question of being a temporary substitute for public policies. It is a question of using the legitimacy of organisations to provide new solutions to major social and environmental challenges. Moreover, organisations have certain powers thanks to their legitimacy and their activities. Using them would allow us to move further towards the societal ideal targeted by the SDGs.

- **The powers of organisations in the field of disability**

First of all, organisations in general and in particular in the field of disability have the power to communicate and raise awareness. Indeed, they ensure the social link and the continuity of a non-profit economy that the country and sustainable development need. Thanks to organisations, societal changes have already been possible.⁴⁶ More specifically, in the case of the SDGs, organisations can greatly contribute to informing volunteers, users, employees and beneficiaries of the existence and importance of the SDGs. Through this information sharing,

⁴⁶ Mickaël Landemaine " Associations, key players in sustainable development " Tribune Fonda N°237, March 2018 : <https://fonda.asso.fr/ressources/les-associations-acteurs-incontournables-du-developpement-durable>

and even training, they can help to integrate the SDGs into the consciousness of everyone, including persons with disabilities.

Through their experience in the field and their knowledge, they have acquired the legitimacy and human proximity necessary for the integration of the SDGs. Indeed, the weight of organisations in France is considerable since one out of three French people benefits from them or is a volunteer. For DPO's, this is an opportunity to enable the participation of persons with disabilities in the implementation of the SDGs.

Among the powers of organisation is advocacy, which is of central importance when it comes to the rights of people with disabilities and the improvement of society. In addition, as mentioned above, organisations can play a role in the elaboration of voluntary national reviews by pushing States to include civil society in their elaboration so that they are closer to reality.

Finally, organisations are themselves consumers and producers, and they make choices that can contribute to sustainable development, regardless of their mission. The goals of sustainable development are in essence ambitious, involving profound changes in management, practices, and behaviour. They require the understanding, support, and mobilisation of all. Persons with disabilities and their organisations are at the heart of these changes, both because of the new skills and expertise they have to develop, and because of the suggestions or criticisms they can make thanks to their knowledge.⁴⁷

- **An opportunity to clarify data**

It is difficult to make progress, to drive public policies without detailed statistical data to support the need for change.⁴⁸ With regard to the SDGs, it is the INSEE at the French national level along with the National Council for Statistical Information (CNIS) which has been entrusted with the French version of the indicators for monitoring the SDGs.⁴⁹ It is EUROSTAT which carries out the monitoring of the indicators at the European level.⁵⁰ Nevertheless, difficulties remain with regard to statistical data, thus preventing the measurement and monitoring the progress of the SDGs.⁵¹ Although indicators have been put in place since 2018

⁴⁷ Fanny Picard, Agnès Rambaud "Mobilisation des équipes pour le développement durable" Comité 21, March 2009:

https://www.desenjeuxetdeshommes.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Mobilisation_des_%C3%A9quipes_guide_EH_Comit%C3%A9-21_2009.pdf

⁴⁸ Shaida Badiée, Johannes Jütting "Why data funding is more important than ever" Apolitical, December 2020:

https://apolitical.co/fr/solution_article/pourquoi-le-financement-des-donnees-est-plus-important-que-jamais

⁴⁹ <https://www.cnis.fr/instances/groupe-de-travail-declinaison-francaise-des-indicateurs-des-objectifs-de-developpement-durable/>

⁵⁰ <https://www.insee.fr/fr/statistiques/2654964> and <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/fr/web/sdi/key-findings>

⁵¹ <https://www.expertisefrance.fr/actualite?id=738340#:~:text=Les%20objectifs%20de%20d%C3%A9veloppement%20durable,d%C3%A9fi%20en%20mati%C3%A8re%20de%20statistiques.&text=Si%20les%20169%20cibles%20traduisent,au%20regard%20de%20ces%20cibles.>

in France based on the model recommended by the SDGs, they are not yet sufficiently disaggregated, which is problematic for persons with disabilities.

The mobilisation of civil society in the field of disability in favour of the SDGs would therefore also allow changes for collecting statistical data.⁵² Indeed, the SDGs are based on indicators which is, in addition to all the other reasons listed, an opportunity to work for the disaggregation of statistical data on persons with disabilities. Decisions need to be based on data, it is not possible to have long-term development policies if data is not generated. However, this is done internally by each organisation, company, institution, and country. Civil society can therefore be an example and influence other actors. In this respect, SDG 17, by promoting partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society, offers an ideal framework for associative actors to be fully involved in the Agenda.

⁵² Salome Wanjiku Kimata "How communities can fill data gaps on people with disabilities", SDG Knowledge Hub, November 2020: <https://sdg.iisd.org/commentary/guest-articles/how-communities-can-fill-data-gaps-on-people-with-disabilities/>

VI. Rethinking practices and alliances: some examples

SDG 17 promotes alliances, which is an ideal framework for being part of the SDGs, especially for civil society.

*"The SDG agenda lays the challenge of redistributive growth that reduces poverty and inequality simultaneously and is compatible with the environment. We will have to find points of convergence between all actors to achieve this change. SDG 17 raises the question of better coherence and transversality in public policies as well as better collaboration with non-state actors. It also represents a challenge for all of us, non-governmental, private for-profit, or other actors, to find points of convergence. The challenge is to create a majority of movement so that this Agenda 2030 becomes a common language and draws a political perspective in 15 years towards which we must all move. [...] French associations should mobilise more. More than just being a force for advocacy on the SDGs, everyone will have to question their practices and get out of their immediate environment to build alliances. »*⁵³

To this end, many alliances have been created in France, notably under the impetus of La Fonda, the Comité 21, and private companies. Nevertheless, few of them are related to the field of disability. It is therefore interesting to present the practices and alliances that have emerged in France, as well as those that are not directly related to disability. It is also necessary to observe international practices. These different scales make it possible to show that it is possible to review our own practices in relation to the SDGs, including as a stakeholder in the field of disability. The Rameau research institute recently obtained the support of the government by being mandated for a ministerial mission "Accelerating strategic alliances between organisations, companies and communities" in the name of SDG 17. The report was published in May 2020 and confirms how essential it is to form alliances and partnerships for concerted action, as advocated by IDDRI.⁵⁴

⁵³ "SDGs: levers for strategic partnerships" Tribune Fonda N°238, June 2018: <https://fonda.asso.fr/ressources/odd-leviers-pour-des-partenariats-strategiques>

⁵⁴ Maria Alejandra Riaño, Damien Barchiche "Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: preconditions and opportunities for the post-Covid-19 crisis" IDDRI, May 2020

- **Good practice in French organisations**

In order to illustrate the above, two French experiences related to the SDGs can be mentioned:

➤ **APF France handicap in northern France**

The organisation at the national level decided to develop a strategy around the SDGs⁵⁵.

The inclusive transition of APF France handicap's service offer is broken down into 4 strategic goals:

- Co-constructing the inclusive transition with people with disabilities and on a rights-based approach
- Set up a flexible social health care offer to allow a gradation of responses
- Strengthen the capacity of APF France handicap to act for the development of an inclusive environment, relying in particular on the movement (delegations, national bodies)
- Innovate to continuously adapt to expectations and needs

The organisation at the regional level of northern France has responded to this strategy from 2016 by incorporating them in its action plans and particularly through its companies. It decided to adopt a genuine Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) approach directly linked to the SDGs. It turns out that the region also wanted to improve its sustainable development with a programme of the 3rd industrial revolution supported by the northern France Regional Council. APF France Handicap northern France has therefore been involved in this revolution from the start: the organisations' expertise strengthens the inclusive dynamics of the regional approach, with the support of the region in its transformation projects. The organisation has conducted statistical surveys to assess gaps and improve the system. This diagnosis is necessary in order to adapt the service offer in line with the organisation's project, based on the CSR approach.

More than 70 regional initiatives have emerged from this process, thus contributing to the implementation of the SDGs. These actions are directly linked to disability and, by drawing on many of the SDGs, contribute to change in a logic of inclusion and deinstitutionalisation. The aim is to accelerate progress towards a more inclusive society. Here are some of them:

⁵⁵ <https://www.apf-francehandicap.org/page-de-contenu/europe-et-international-34009>

- *RIVES Residence (Résidence Intergénérationnel de Vie Eco citoyenne et Solidaire/Intergenerational residency for eco citizenship and united life)*

It is an inclusive housing, with 74 social housing including 19 for elderlies or persons with disabilities, promoting peaceful coexistence. It allows access to a chosen adapted home and eases participating in citizen life. It results from a multistake partnership with Lille city council, CCAS, Génération&Culture, APF, ASRL, SIA Habitat. It contributes to SDG 1, 9, 10, 11, 17.

- *Le Dispositif Emploi Accompagné Nord (DEA) – Northern Support Employment Scheme*

It is a scheme which eases access to employment, access to rights and care, supports smoothness in one's life path and builds inclusive employment. It brings together a large consortium of partners. It gives the right for persons with disabilities to be supported in their carrier. It contributes to SDG's 1, 4, 8, 10, 17.

- *TechLab d'APF France handicap*

Is a centre of Disability and New technologies expertise, to ease access to digital for PWD in order to support them in their daily lives. It promotes access to rights and health care. This centre evaluates the potential of new technologies and products which have abilities to compensate a disability or sensorial deficit. It aims at making as many people as possible aware of those technologies by informing and training helpers and beneficiaries. It supports the emergence of an inclusive society by collaborating with researchers and industrials to make sure the needs of PWD are included from the design stage. It aims to be the preferred contact from any person or entity looking for innovative accessibility solutions or looking to deepen their knowledge of digital use for PWD. This initiative contributes to SDG 3, 9, 10, 17.

- *Fight against food waste at Les Salines residency*

The catering team along with the users put actions to reduce waste, favour short circuits in an environmental concern. This initiative contributes to SDGs 2 and 12.

- *Adult pole of Valenciennes*

Training and raising awareness for the use of compost in the facility's garden, contributing to SDG 12.

- *Shared garden at the Nœux-les-Mines residency*

Fight against isolation, exchange of knowledge and allow supported beneficiaries to participate in the neighbourhood's life contributing to SDGs 3 and 12.

- *Build a turbine project at the Espace residency*

To be autonomous in a clean energy by building almost entirely the wind turbine by the residents themselves with participatory funding. This initiative contributes to SDGs 7, 9, 11 and 12.

- *"Au paradis des fringues" second-hand clothes shop by the Oise delegation*

This second-hand shop sells clothes for adults and children at low cost once a week thanks to donations and volunteers, contributing to SDG 8 and 12.

- *Insect farm at the ESAT in Calais*

The aim is to change eating habits in line with food norms, as new work area for persons with disabilities. It is a partnership with an urban farm aiming at integrating insect proteins sustainably into our food diet. It contributes to SDGs 2, 3, 8, 12 and 17.

Other initiatives exist, taken by and for persons with disabilities. This practice can be replicated regardless of the size, importance, and even financial resources of an organisation: every effort counts. It demonstrates in particular the importance of joining forces with our communities.

➤ **SoliFoodWaste**

On a smaller scale, the SoliFoodWaste (SFW) project was recently launched.⁵⁶ On the basis of the SDGs, the action also sought to have an impact on the 3 pillars (social, environmental, economic) while initially starting from the social pillar through a mission to support people with disabilities. In addition, this project consists of bringing together social and solidarity economy actors and disability solidarity actors. The goal is to highlight the challenges of sustainable development with those of the circular economy and social purpose where people with disabilities have their place. SoliFoodWaste is the result of two fundamental issues in Europe: food waste and employment of disabled persons. The idea is to reuse food surpluses and transform them through the work of disabled persons. The project is funded by a European programme and numerous partnerships.

The social and environmental situation in France is as follows: 500,000 disabled people are unemployed, and 2.3 million tonnes of bread/fruit/vegetables are thrown away every year. SFW consists of reducing waste, maintaining, and creating jobs, redistributing profits to disability and environmental NGOs, short circuit collections and zero pollution production.

⁵⁶ <https://life-solifoodwaste.eu/fr/>

Unsold bread, fruit and vegetables are processed and resold. For the moment, the orders are for cookies, but in 2024 other products will be offered such as biscuits, jams, and soups. These are intended to be sold in bulk, in short circuits and even in collective catering. In 2020, the first anti-waste and solidarity shop opened in Nantes with the sale of gourmet recipes, meetings, and anti-waste cooking classes.

- **Other good practices**

- **Local authorities and the private sector**

Report on the sustainable development of the city of Besançon

Some local authorities are making a real effort to integrate the SDGs into their activities, or rather to align their activities with the SDGs. For example, the city of Besançon in France published an annual report on sustainable development.⁵⁷

This report focuses on various aspects and takes into account many initiatives related to disability. It shows that organisations can encourage local authorities to include disability in sustainable development, and that a report on sustainable development without disability is incomplete. However, so far, French national or other local reports insufficiently mention disability. It is by encouraging local authorities that civil society will gradually succeed in standardising the inclusion of disability in sustainable development. As explained above, this is an opportunity awaiting to be seized. If sustainable development has not been the priority in the field of disability until now, this general subject has every interest in being seized by our stakeholders for the simple reason that sustainable development is becoming more and more important. Among the new generations, it is a popular issue, and it should therefore be the subject of more and more public policies. It is crucial to take it up at all levels, starting with the local level, in order to make disability a common issue in society. If it is not well taken into account in the framework of sustainable development policies, it will not be taken into account in policies in general. Furthermore, the example of APF France handicap presented earlier reinforces the idea that alliances with local authorities is of paramount importance, mutual support being necessary between local authorities and associations.

⁵⁷ <https://www.besancon.fr/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Rapport-DD-2019.pdf>

- *Companies : Orange*

The private sector is also seeking to include sustainable development and disability in their strategy, such as Orange which is a phone company.⁵⁸ Partnerships are also taking place between the private sector, the public sector and civil society. However, one must be careful about 'SDG washing'.⁵⁹

➤ **International**

In Nairobi, Kenya Breweries Limited has partnered with Sightsavers, an international NGO that provides expertise and networks to support disability engagement, inclusive recruitment, and legal compliance.⁶⁰ The company is committed to a CSR approach to the inclusion of persons with disabilities through employee training and the development of strategic partnerships (agricultural contracts, registered suppliers). The aim is to break down discriminatory barriers.

In Nigeria, a project of blind and visually impaired 'SDG ambassadors' is being conducted for training in schools.⁶¹ Their role is to interact with legislators, government, public policy makers, the media, and the public. This is the result of a partnership between Hope For the Blind, Kaduna Nigeria Medical Association since 2019.

In Bolivia, the University of Jaen in Santa Cruz de la Sierra conducted a project to identify barriers in policies for students with disabilities.⁶² The project lasted 18 months in partnership with professors and organisations. The results are numerous: the creation of a committee representing students with disabilities within the university, a protocol of attention, awareness raising, improvement of the training offer with regard to accessibility and inclusive education, creation of an informative document on accessibility, collection of statistical data.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Kadiwaku Family Foundation has formed a partnership with organisations in the field of disability and the Ministry of Social Affairs.⁶³ The aim is to train people with disabilities for entrepreneurship, to open a business or to become employees, in seven training centres.

Many initiatives exist, these are the ones that have the most visibility. Although other practices explicitly linked to the SDGs exist in the field of disability, the list is not very long. These different scales show that it is possible to review one's own practices, our relationship with the SDGs, including as a disability stakeholder. This is possible and also necessary in view of the benefits that the SDGs can bring to the issues defended. It is obvious that there is a global lack of practices related to the SDGs in the field of disability. More practices in this sense should be encouraged. To this end, some tools are available to disability stakeholders.

⁵⁸ <https://www.orange.com/fr/newsroom/communiqués/2020/orange-sensibilise-au-handicap-et-poursuit-son-engagement-pour-une>

⁵⁹ In that the SDGs are used in communication for the sake of a better image, without being a vehicle for change

⁶⁰ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/partnership/?p=36765>

⁶¹ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/partnership/?p=35132>

⁶² <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/partnership/?p=29858>

⁶³ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/partnership/?p=32459>

VII. Rely on available tools

These tools can help answer the following questions: How to convince internally? What management and strategy to adopt? Which actors should be involved? How to measure results? How to raise awareness?

Useful documents

[List of SDGs and their targets](#)

[Guide to integrating the SDGs into local development plans](#)

(In French) By the International Organisation of the Francophonie. This guide is intended for civil society organisations and other actors such as local authorities.

[Educational tools to raise awareness on the SDGs](#)

Lists several free and paid games to raise awareness of the SDGs (in French)

[The rights of persons with disabilities and the SDGs](#)

Matrix explaining the links between the SDGs and the CRPD.

[Are governments building the capacity of civil society to ensure the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda?](#)

Analysis of the 2019 ENVs to assess the activities of national governments (in French)

Useful websites

[Website of the Ministry of Ecological Transition - Agenda 2030](#)

The latter reports on sustainable development news in France, notably via a monthly newsletter, the ODDyssey. Each of the SDGs has a 'where France stands' section, listing recent texts adopted and contributions from non-state actors.

[La Fonda website](#)

[Comité 21 website](#)

Useful platforms

[Solifoodwaste Network](#)

It is a network that aims to become a space for discussion between socially and environmentally committed actors and to inspire them. 4 tools available: directory to find partners; blog to present initiatives, projects and activities; forum to exchange; source of documentation.

[Platform on SDGs good practices](#)

VIII. Conclusion

Persons with disabilities hold a double place in the SDGs: on the one hand, they are involved as individuals by all the SDGs and on the other hand, they are beneficiaries of targets specifically aimed at them. It is therefore urgent that organisations of persons with disabilities and their relatives mobilise to integrate these SDGs in their actions. Indeed, all issues are linked, whether they are social, environmental, or economic. There is no social justice without a climate battle. DPOs have every interest in seizing this new common framework for action to bring forward the demands of people with disabilities and their families and thus strive for a better society. They have new platforms to make themselves heard and to expose their demands in new spaces in connection with other actors, new allies. In this respect, organisations have full legitimacy through their powers of awareness-raising, training, and proximity. They influence collective consciousness as the weight of organisations in France is considerable. They can greatly contribute to the domestication and standardisation of the SDGs in France, which is not currently the case.

Although these goals can be criticised for being too ambitious and complex, they nevertheless remain the framework for joint action by the various actors worldwide by 2030. It would be a pity not to seize them. DPOs have the capacity to act at their level within a global and universal framework. The SDGs highlight the interconnectedness of our systems and the intersectionality of humanity: they will not be achieved without the full consideration of persons with disabilities.

IV. Glossary

Sustainable development: development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Gro Harlem Brundtland, Norwegian Prime Minister, 1987)

Millennium Development Goals: 8 goals approved by governments at the United Nations in September 2000. They aim to improve human well-being by reducing poverty, hunger, child, and maternal mortality, ensuring education for all. By controlling epidemics and diseases, abolishing gender discrimination, ensuring sustainable development and building partnerships.

Think tank: a private think tank that produces studies on social issues for decision-makers.

Do tank: a circle of people who are more or less experts in the field, who decide to work together, with a purpose not only oriented towards the production of ideas, principles, theories, or opinions as in the case of think tanks, but rather dedicated to the production of actions or even objects.

Social justice: political and moral principle aiming at equal rights, collective solidarity allowing a fair and equitable distribution of material or symbolic wealth among the different members of society.

Disaggregated data: looking more closely at a set of outcomes to highlight problems that belong to individual sub-groups of outcomes.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR): the consideration by companies, on a voluntary and sometimes legal basis, of environmental, social, economic, and ethical issues in their activities.

Circular economy: an economic system of exchange and production which, at all stages of the life cycle of products (goods and services), aims to increase the efficiency of resource use and reduce the impact on the environment while increasing the well-being of individuals.



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