

Disability Hub Steering Committee

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Disability Hub Steering Committee

- To ensure that the Disability Hub adopts the social model of disability.
- To promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities in mainstream services, policies, and procedures.
- To ensure people with disabilities and marginalized groups' perspectives are included on issues related to disability and inclusion.
- To recommend action plans and strategies that support equal access to services.
- To advance equity-minded practices and procedures that meet the diverse needs of people with disabilities.
- To promote and improve understanding of disability issues that affect and restrict people with disabilities from accessing services.
- To bring about positive change through inclusive approaches by all those concerned interdependently.

2. Goals and Objectives

The goals of the Disability Hub Steering Committee

- Contribute to knowledge production on disability studies in the region through research.
- Create a knowledge hub on disability issues to enable the analysis and rethinking of existing approaches, including the discourse on disability as well as practice and policy.
- Analyze the discourses and policy on disability.
- Offer a strong, informed voice that can inform the disability agenda in Lebanon and the Mena region
- Build strong partnerships/relationships with local and international government and non-government disability organizations, UN agencies, and disability/ inclusive activists and advocates.
- Promote and enhance the interests, perspectives, knowledge, and judgment of marginalized groups, including people with disabilities.
- Ensure people with disabilities are included and encouraged to be involved in decision-making and problem solving on all aspects of disability issues.
- Improve the procedures, processes, and communication with people with disabilities to make services accessible for all people, including people with disabilities.

The objectives will be addressed in different dimensions related to disability such as human rights, ethics, social and physical environment, including attitudinal barriers, participation (political, economic, educational, health, diverse communication, and media).

3. Characteristics and Qualifications

The Disability Hub Steering committee members should,

- Be part of the Disability Hub- Centre for Lebanese Studies network.
- Possess extensive knowledge and experience on disability rights, disability discrimination laws and policies, and UN Conventions for the rights of people with disabilities.
- Adopt the social model of disability and the inclusive approach and notion.

4. Advisory Role

The Disability Hub Steering committee members will:

- Advice on planning and development of the Disability Hub services and procedures.
- Advice on how the views and opinions of people with disabilities are represented and advanced.
- Advice on disability matters relating to policy and strategic development.

5. Responsibilities

Disability Hub Steering Committee members are required to:

- Commit themselves to attend Disability Hub Steering committee meetings.
- Provide information and feedback on their respective key areas regarding the work of the Disability Hub strategies.
- Assist with the promotion of issues affecting people with disabilities to the community.
- Propose inclusive plans and forward-focused solutions.

6. Membership and Meetings

Members will commit to :

- The Disability Hub steering committee, consisting of five members, will share their strategy and activities with different local and international disability governmental and non-governmental organizations to inform the Disability Hub research, work, and action plans.
- Meetings are held monthly or as required and will average to 6 to 8 meetings annually.
- Meetings with members and partners of the Steering Hub will be held quarterly or four times per year to work on aspects of strategy and identified projects.