

AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report

Planning and reporting on Interest Network activities designed to fulfil their purpose.
(See the [AAIDD Interest Networks Leadership Manual](#) for the purpose of the Interest Networks.

Interest Network:	International
Lead Contact Person(s): Renata Ticha, Hatice Uyanik	
Next Scheduled Election & Leadership Position(s) that will be Open for Nomination: Vice-Chair	
2025-2026 Report For the year that just ended (July 1-June 30), indicate objectives met, activities completed, and funds used. Following the lively discussion at the 2025 AAIDD pre-conference session on <i>Mentoring Students and Scholars in Disability Related Fields in an International Context</i> , we reconnected on a webinar in December 2025 to discuss issues and priorities for people with IDD in an international context. The discussion included the following topics: self-determination and rights, transition approaches across countries, pilot global health survey by Special Olympics, SIS and person-centered planning in Iceland. At the end of the webinar, we also asked members for future topics that IIN could address. The topics that came up in the discussion were: CRPD, inclusive research practice in a global context, and transition in an international context. We also discussed whether we could work with the editors of the IDD, AJIDD and Inclusion journals and pull together a special issue of articles highlighting an international context for people with IDD. This year's IIN conference scholarship awardee was Yu Shiuan Sun for a presentation titled <i>Between Isolation and Resilience: Autism Care in Matsu Islands Community</i> .	
2026-2027 Plan: Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Strategies For the coming year (July 1-June 30), describe the planned objectives, activities, and proposed expenditure of funds. This upcoming year, we would like to propose a special issue of articles highlighting an international context for people with IDD pulled from across AAIDD journals. Given the circumstances in which many people with disabilities and their families are finding themselves due to human-made and nature-made emergencies, we are planning to conduct a webinar on the topic of <i>Climate, Heat, and Emergency Readiness for People with IDD: International Lessons and Low-Cost Actions</i> . We will collaborate with other interest networks, including SECP and Health & Wellness. We will conduct a follow-up webinar to revisit the topics outlined last year and see if the priorities have changed or are still in line with the IIN member interests. Based on that, we will identify a topic on which to develop a presentation for AAIDD conference and/or another webinar.	

Due July 31, 2026