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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lead Contact Person:</th>
<th>International</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alice Bacherini (<a href="mailto:alice.bacherini@studenti.unipg.it">alice.bacherini@studenti.unipg.it</a>)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hatice Uyanik (<a href="mailto:hatice.uy@gmail.com">hatice.uy@gmail.com</a>)</td>
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**Annual Report**

For the year that just ended (July 1-June 30), indicate objectives met, activities completed, and funds used.

**Past project (2022):**

The group initiative of this year “Spreading technology and internet access for individuals with IDD across the globe” was presented at the poster presentation session on June 14th 2022 of the AAIDD Annual Meeting:


**SPREADING TECHNOLOGY AND INTERNET ACCESS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH IDD ACROSS THE GLOBE**

**AAIDD International Interest Network**

Alice Bacherini, MA, University of Perugia
Hatice Uyanik, MA, University of Kansas

**BACKGROUND**

Technology provides means to access information and resources to ease the everyday function of society. It is essential for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) to access technology and reliable internet to be active citizens in society and have meaningful, inclusive experiences in daily life. Therefore, AAIDD adopted the Technology and Internet Access Position (2020) in English to provide guidelines for policy and practices to align with this perspective.

**OBJECTIVES**

Although the Position summarizes essential aspects, the structure might be challenging to access and comprehend by diverse populations, including people with IDD, individuals with diverse backgrounds, and non-English speakers.

- The AAIDD International Interest Network is committed to making this Position accessible across countries, cultures, and languages.
- Extend the Position’s reach to a global audience by providing translations in multiple languages.

**TASK FORCE GROUP MEMBERS (THANK YOU! ©) (ALPHABETICAL ORDER)**

- Czech (Czech Republic): Jan Štika, Renata Tichá
- Dutch (Belgium): Marco Lombardi, Bie Goethals
- French (Canada): Diane Morein; Claire Robitaille; Yves Lachapelle
- German (Germany): Frank Lohrbeck; Manja Bachmair
- Greek (Ireland): Gudny Stofanosdottir; Pórania Haldorsdottí
- Italian (Italy): Alice Bacherini; Monica Pozzi
- Korean (South Korea): Cheong Eun Lee
- Portuguese (Portugal): Christina Simões; Beatriz Simões
- Russian (Russia): Elena Morgacheva; Larissa Perespolitsa
- Spanish (Spain): Lucia Morán; Laura E. Gómez; Patricia Solís
- Traditional Chinese (Taiwan): Caya Chiu; I Ting Huang
- Turkish (Turkey): Hatice Uyanik; Deniz A. Söğüt; Aiblla Cakvatyar; Bekir F. Meral
- Ukrainian (Ukraine): Maryna Prostylo
The co-chairs would like to thank members who contributed to this project. If other members would like to join the project, providing their translations, they can contact the International IN co-chairs (i.e., Alice, Hatice) who will give instructions anytime.

A virtual pre-conference session was held on June 27th 2022 to discuss the conference theme “Dismantling Systemic Barriers: Re-envisioning Equity and Inclusion” from an international perspective. Specifically, the goal of this meeting was to provide AAIDD international scholars and those interested in international research with an opportunity to share and discuss new and innovative research, policy, and practice to dismantle systematic barriers to promote equity and inclusion across the globe. The discussion points were the followings:
- How inclusive research has been conducted in your country?
- How are ableism, racism, and other forms of discrimination defined and perceived in your country?
- What can we do to re-envision the role of research, policy, and practice in the next century of efforts to advance equity and inclusion across the globe?

**Funds:**
The awards were given through International IN this year. One includes in-person attendance award with stipend, and the other one includes honoraria mention for the virtual attendance. The selection process was done by blind-review of both chairs and their mutual approval of the abstracts that are accepted by the AAIDD prior the review of the chairs. Also, chairs removed their personal abstracts voluntarily for the ethical behavior and avoid any possible conflict-of-interest. The awardee were:
- International scholar who attended the AAIDD Annual Meeting 2022 in-person (stipend + honoraria: $ 600): Chung eun Lee, Chonnam National University (South Korea), “Parent Support Groups for Transition-aged Students with IDD: A Participatory Action Research” (concurrent session).
- International scholar who attended only the virtual venue of the meeting (honoraria only): Geraldine Bowland, University College Dublin (United Kingdom), “Connecting locally: The role of adult siblings in supporting the social inclusion in neighborhoods” (issue brief).

**Interest network business meeting:**
Other than the co-chairs, three other international members participated at the in-person business meeting of the group June 15th, 2022. Past and next year’s projects were discussed, as well as possible way to involve new people in the group.

**Annual Plan: Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Strategies**
*For the coming year (July 1-June 30), describe the planned objectives, activities, and proposed expenditure of funds.*

**Future projects:**
Given the successful group projects that we have in the past, the International IN will continue to work on understanding different IDD systems across the world.

(1) The ideas for the next year’s project are the followings:
- Overview of IDD advocacy in your own country (e.g., strategies to advocate for people with IDD,
AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report: 2022

presence and power of associations on IDD advocacy and self-advocacy in making changes in the policies for people with IDD, eventual barriers and opportunities, collaboration between different stakeholders–people with IDD, professionals, associations, legal entities, etc.)

- Overview of the ethical guidelines to include people with IDD in research in your country (e.g., relevant laws and/or guidelines, examples of studies which involved people with IDD and the procedure that they used)

- Overview of the technology and internet access resources for people with IDD in your own country (e.g., guidelines, available resources and/or useful instruments for different aspects of daily life, barriers and opportunities)

- Translation of one of the following joint position statements:

In September 2022 members will be reached out via email and the International IN Facebook group and invited to complete a brief survey to express their preference and availability to participate in the project, then findings will be summarized, and a poster proposal will be submitted for the AAIDD Annual Meeting 2023.

(2) New international scholars will be recruited among the participants of the Annual Meeting 2022.

(3) Continue to partner with SECP interest network to support Interest Network Liaison.

**Proposed expenditure of funds:**

If enough funds will be available, the co-chairs would like to sponsor a scholarship for the next year’s AAIDD Annual Meeting (i.e., $ 600). As this past year, the co-chairs will review the abstract proposals independently and will choose the best one using the Scoring Rubric for AAIDD Conference Proposals and consistent with the following criteria: (a) be a non-US citizen who is a student or early career professionals (under three years), (b) has a poster/oral presentation accepted for the annual meeting, and (c) has confirmed registration for the conference.