

AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report: 2022

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.)

Interest Network:	International
Lead Contact Person:	
Alice Bacherini (alice.bacherini@studenti.unipg.it)	
Hatice Uyanik (hatice.uy@gmail.com)	

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:

Bacherini, A. & Uyanik, H. (2022, June 13-16). *Spreading technology and internet access for individuals with IDD across the globe* [Poster presentation]. American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) 146th Annual Meeting, Jacksonville, FL, United States.

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

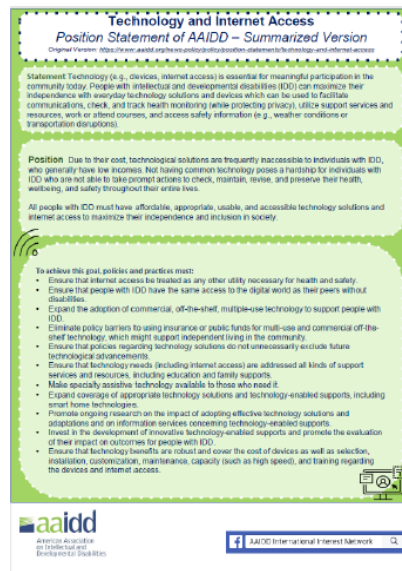
Technology provides means to access information and resources to ease the everyday function of society. It is essential for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) to access technology and reliable internet to be active citizens in society and have meaningful, inclusive experiences 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



PROCEDURE

1. IIN members taskforce from three countries summarized the Position in plain English, to increase the reach by public and non-academic individuals as the target audience.
2. Translating assistance for the agreed-upon statement into different languages was requested from the IIN members via an online form.
3. Guidelines for syntactic (e.g., clarity and plain-language usage) and semantic translation were prepared by the current IIN co-chairs and shared with the IIN members with a Google Doc file.
4. IIN current co-chairs provide extended support via email for the agreed translator members.

OUTCOMES

13 different language translations realized by IIN members



TASK FORCE GROUP MEMBERS (THANK YOU! 😊) (ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

- Czech (Czech Republic):** Jan Šiška; Renáta Tichá
- Dutch (Belgium):** Marco Lombardi; Ilse Goethals
- French (Canada):** Diane Morin; Claire Robitaille; Yves Lachapelle
- German (Germany):** Frank Loebler; Manja Buchenau
- Icelandic (Iceland):** Guðný Stefánsdóttir; Þórunna Halldórsdóttir
- Italian (Italy):** Alice Bacherini; Monica Pozzi
- Korean (South Korea):** Chung Eun Lee
- Portuguese (Portugal):** Christina Simões; Beatriz Simões
- Russian (Russia):** Elena Morgacheva; Larissa Perepelitsa
- Spanish (Spain):** Lucía Morán; Laura E. Gómez; Patricia Solís
- Traditional Chinese (Taiwan):** Caya Chiou; I-Ting Hwang
- Turkish (Turkey):** Hatice Uyanik; Deniz A. Söğüt; Atilla Cavkaytar; Bekir F. Meral
- Ukrainian (Ukraine):** Maryna Profatylo



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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,

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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:
 - Advocacy <https://www.aaid.org/news-policy/policy/position-statements/advocacystatement>
 - Addressing the Causes and Effects of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities <https://www.aaid.org/news-policy/policy/position-statements/addressing-the-causes-and-effects-of-intellectual-and-developmental-disabilities>
 - Anti-Racism Joint Statement <https://www.aaid.org/news-policy/policy/position-statements/anti-racism-joint-statement>
 - Human and Civil Rights <https://www.aaid.org/news-policy/policy/position-statements/human-and-civil-rights>

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.