



Joint statement of the International Disability Alliance ([IDA](#)) and International Disability and Development Consortium ([IDDC](#)) delivered during the substantive informal session on “Private Finance” (November 13) of the Preparatory Process for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.

In relation to private international capital flows, IDA IDDC have 2 main recommendations to be considered during the FfD negotiations and the drafting of the outcome document:

1. Para 20 in the Monterrey Consensus states that Foreign direct investment (FDI) is particularly important for its potential to “create jobs and boost overall productivity”. **FDI must create improvements in employment and livelihoods prospects for persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups** rather than further disadvantaging these populations. Failure to employ people with disabilities costs money: A 2009 ILO study estimated that cost of excluding persons with disabilities from the labor force was 1-7% of GDP in 10 LMICs.¹ Therefore the impact of FDI on persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups should be **monitored and assessed** to ensure that it has a positive impact.

Let’s keep in mind that quality of FDI is more important than the quantity.

2. Public and private partnerships (PPPs) present a number of challenges and should be approached cautiously. PPPs should only be considered if other less expensive and risky financing options are not available. In many cases PPPs are the selected mechanisms to implement **infrastructure projects**. PPPs should only be chosen when **accessibility** is guaranteed. PPP contracts must be designed to ensure that services and infrastructures are available for all from the start. **Accessibility** means avoiding the creation of barriers that will prevent universal access and in case of building infrastructures, will be expensive to dismantle later.

“Spend accessibly and save money”.

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¹ Backup, S. *The price of exclusion: the economic consequences of excluding people with disabilities from the world of work*. Geneva: International Labour Office, 2009.