



**Joint statement of the International Disability Alliance ([IDA](#)) and International Disability and Development Consortium ([IDDC](#)) for the substantive informal session on 'Learning from Partnerships' (December 12) of the Preparatory Process for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.**

- The effect of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) on persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups should be monitored and assessed to ensure that it has a positive impact. An initiative on responsible financing standards should be developed by the UN, pulling together and strengthening the various existing initiatives and proposals, to help ensure that standards are properly implemented.<sup>1</sup>

An initiative on responsible financing standards should consider the following points:

- Para 20 of 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. The quality of FDI is more important than the quantity.
  - Failure to employ people with disabilities costs money: a 2009 ILO study estimated that the cost of excluding persons with disabilities from the labor force was 1-7% of GDP in 10 LMICs.<sup>2</sup>
- Public and private partnerships (PPPs) present a number of challenges and should be approached very cautiously. PPPs should be considered only 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 be chosen only when accessibility is guaranteed. PPP contracts must be designed to ensure that services and infrastructures are available to all from the start.

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<sup>1</sup> AFRODAD, EURODAD, JSAPMDD, LATINDAD, TWN, *UN Financing for Development negotiations: What Outcomes should be agreed in Addis Ababa in 2015?*, November 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Buckup, S., *The price of exclusion: the economic consequences of excluding people with disabilities from the world of work*. Geneva: International Labour Office, 2009.