Inclusion is not an ‘all-or-nothing’ matter. Depending on your context, and on the development issues you deal with, the degree of disability inclusion required will vary.

**How to determine the degree of inclusion required for your project – an assessment scale**

Here we propose an assessment scale, illustrated by examples. This will support you in determining what degree of disability inclusion is required for any given project. The scale goes from 1 (low degree of inclusion required) to 3 (high level of disability inclusion required). For each degree of disability inclusion, you will find indicators which tell which level is appropriate and examples of specific sectors.

In general, for strategies and projects which are developed to reduce poverty and to improve the well-being of groups of a population, the perspectives of persons with disabilities need to be included. They are part of each target group: women, children, target populations of HIV&AIDS and health programmes etc.

**Degree 1 – Low degree of disability inclusion required**

**When?**
- For projects that do not target people or intend to improve living conditions
- For projects that support related institutions.

**Examples of concerned sectors:**
- Veterinary services
- Regional economic integration
- Anti-corruption
- Tax administration, taxpayer’s management and effective exchange of information
- Anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing, etc.
Degree 2 – Medium degree of disability inclusion required

When?
- For projects that address the wellbeing of all people (i.e. the whole population or subgroup in the area)
- For projects that focus on essential/basic services
- For projects supporting institutions that implement the types of project mentioned above.
- For any of the identified problems/strategies that have a direct or indirect impact on persons with disabilities, their living conditions or prevention of disability.

Examples of concerned sectors:
- Private sector development
- Sustainable land management
- Climate change
- Disaster risk reduction
- Research, science and technology
- Territorial development, etc.
Degree 3 – High degree of disability inclusion required

When?

▸ For projects that involve social, health and education sector components
▸ For projects concerned with discrimination and human rights
▸ For projects with an identified subgroup of persons with disabilities in the target group
▸ For projects that contain a specific disability component in addition to more general activities
▸ For projects supporting institutions aiming at implementing one of the types of project mentioned above.

Examples of concerned sectors:

▸ Health, including HIV and AIDS
▸ Education
▸ Social sector and housing
▸ Urban development including transport
▸ Water and sanitation
▸ Democratisation and human rights
▸ Information and communication technologies
▸ Social cohesion and employment
▸ Energy
▸ Food security
▸ Governance
▸ Conflict prevention.
Low level of disability inclusion

- Projects do not target persons

Medium level of disability inclusion

- Projects targeting general population.
- Projects with an impact on persons with disabilities.
- Projects focusing on essential services.

High level of disability inclusion required

- Projects involving health, education and social sectors.
- Projects focusing on discrimination and human rights.
- Projects with an identified sub-group of persons with disabilities.
Disability specific projects

Here we are primarily discussing the inclusion of a disability perspective in development projects in general (sometimes called ‘mainstreaming’). Another approach is to ‘disability specific’ projects. Disability specific projects are designed specifically to empower persons with disabilities.

When are disability specific approaches used?

▸ For projects that specifically focus on the concerns of persons with disabilities
▸ For projects supporting institutions that implement these types of projects.

Examples of concerned sectors and activities:

▸ Projects to enhance the capacity/the empowerment of disabled people’s organisations
▸ Projects developed to create equitable access to health/education/habilitation/rehabilitation for persons with disabilities.