

Annual Report 2025 – Accessible Summary

A Year of Strong Results

In 2025, Abilis Foundation continued to support organisations of persons with disabilities in Africa, Asia and Ukraine. Through project funding, capacity-building and advocacy, persons with disabilities strengthened their organisations, promoted their rights and increased their participation in society.

The year marked the final year of Abilis's 2022–2025 programme period. Despite conflict, political instability and other challenges in several programme countries, organisations of persons with disabilities continued to create positive change in their communities.

2025 at a Glance

- 132 new projects approved
- 174 projects completed
- €1.45 million in grant funding
- 18,485 direct project participants
- 84% of new projects advanced the rights of women and girls with disabilities
- 10 programme countries supported by Abilis

Strengthening Organisations of Persons with Disabilities

Strong organisations are essential for protecting and advancing disability rights.

In 2025, all completed projects helped strengthen organisations of persons with disabilities. Organisations improved their skills in leadership, project management, advocacy and cooperation with public authorities. Across programme countries, disability organisations played a greater role in promoting rights and influencing decision-making.

Many organisations also contributed to monitoring the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and participated in national advocacy processes.

Advancing Disability Inclusion

All completed projects promoted disability inclusion and equal participation.

Projects raised awareness of disability rights, reduced discrimination and strengthened dialogue between organisations of persons with disabilities and public authorities. Country programmes supported policy discussions and advocacy efforts that aimed to create more inclusive communities and institutions.

An external evaluation completed during the year confirmed that the programme successfully reached diverse disability organisations, including grassroots organisations that often have limited access to funding opportunities.

Women and Girls with Disabilities

The rights of women and girls with disabilities remained a key priority throughout the year.

In 84% of new projects, advancing the rights and status of women and girls with disabilities was identified as a primary or secondary objective. Projects supported women-led organisations, peer support

groups and initiatives that promoted participation, leadership and economic empowerment.

Many projects also addressed sexual and reproductive health and rights, safeguarding and gender equality. Women and girls with disabilities increasingly participated as leaders, advocates and decision-makers in their communities.

Livelihoods and Economic Empowerment

Economic independence helps persons with disabilities participate fully in society.

Approximately 45% of completed projects supported livelihoods and economic opportunities. Activities included vocational training, entrepreneurship support and income-generating initiatives.

Participants gained skills, improved their earning opportunities and strengthened their economic independence.

Special attention was given to supporting women and girls with disabilities, who often face additional barriers to employment and economic participation.

Building Resilience in Times of Crisis

Persons with disabilities are often among those most affected by disasters, humanitarian crises and conflict.

In 2025, Abilis supported disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction initiatives in Myanmar and Nepal. Nine new disaster risk reduction projects were launched, and fourteen organisations received training on disability-inclusive preparedness and emergency response.

Support also continued in challenging environments, including Myanmar and Ukraine, where organisations of persons with

disabilities worked to promote inclusion and support their communities during ongoing crises.

Highlights from Programme Countries

Ethiopia strengthened grassroots organisations and women-led disability organisations through training, mentoring and project support.

Mozambique expanded disability inclusion and advocacy activities while increasing the participation of persons with disabilities in community development.

Myanmar combined disability rights work with resilience-building and humanitarian support in a complex operating environment.

Nepal promoted disability rights, livelihoods and policy dialogue, contributing to increased engagement between disability organisations and public authorities.

Tajikistan strengthened local disability organisations and supported advocacy, livelihoods and women's participation.

Tanzania focused on economic empowerment, leadership development and opportunities for women with disabilities.

Uganda strengthened grassroots organisations through grants, capacity-building and monitoring support.

Ukraine supported persons with disabilities, internally displaced persons and veterans through local disability organisations working in challenging humanitarian circumstances.

Vietnam strengthened disability organisations, supported livelihoods and promoted sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Looking Ahead

The results of 2025 show the importance of local leadership and the active participation of persons with disabilities in development and decision-making. Across programme countries, organisations of persons with disabilities continued to strengthen their communities, advocate for their rights and promote more inclusive societies.

As a new programme period begins, Abilis Foundation remains committed to supporting organisations of persons with disabilities and advancing disability rights around the world.

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