

Mobility International USA

P.O. Box 10767 • Eugene, Oregon 97440 USA • voice/TDD: 541-343-1284 • Fax: 541-343-6812
e-mail: clewis@miusa.org

October 31, 2008

Dear Mr. Feinberg,

Please find enclosed a narrative report describing activities undertaken by Mobility International USA (MIUSA) for the 3rd quarter of 2008, in fulfillment of the goals of the *Building an Inclusive Development Community* project (Award Number: GEW-A-00-01-00012-00).

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require clarification. We look forward to continuing to work closely with USAID on this exciting project.

Sincerely yours,

Cindy Lewis
Director of Programs
Mobility International USA

Building an Inclusive Development Community: Technical Assistance on Inclusion of People with Disabilities

USAID Cooperative Agreement Award No. GEW-A-00-01-00012-00

**Performance Report
3rd Quarter 2008**

**Submitted by: Cindy Lewis, Director of Programs
Mobility International USA (MIUSA)
132 E. Broadway, Suite 343, Eugene, OR 97401
Tel/tty: 541-343-1284
Email: clewis@miusa.org**

Project goals

To increase participation by people with disabilities, including women and girls, in US-based international development programs as participants, agents, administrators and consultants.

Accomplishments

This quarter MIUSA expanded the Building an Inclusive Development Community (BIDC) project by exploring options for new BIDC target countries, initiating discussions with U.S. DPO collaborators, preparing new project materials, and expanding project staffing. The final results from 2007 grant-funded organizations and their respective projects were posted on the MIUSA website and MIUSA is compiling resources in preparation for launching the Online Resource Center next quarter. MIUSA's 4th International Women's Institute on Leadership and Disability (WILD), supported by non-USAID funding, provided opportunities for BIDC project staff to develop relationships with NGOs, identify potential DPO partners, and build capacity of disabled women leaders in BIDC target countries.

Expanding the BIDC Project

MIUSA began work on a new 24-month grant extension to build on past successes and expand the BIDC project to additional countries. Initial steps to implement the project are currently underway:

- MIUSA met with Rob Horvath and Anne Hayes (DCHA) to identify possible new countries in which to partner with USAID Missions. From this discussion, Missions in Colombia, Armenia and Mali were selected as the strongest candidates for the BIDC project.
- MIUSA conducted research on USAID mission activities in potential BIDC project countries.

- MIUSA held discussions with four U.S. DPO partners, the World Institute on Disability (WID), Mental Disability Rights International (MDRI), Disability Rights Education Defense Fund (DREDF), and the US International Council on Disability (USICD) regarding collaboration on BIDC project activities.
- MIUSA created a work plan and began preparing materials for the small grants competitions to be launched in new BIDC countries.
- MIUSA interviewed a pool of competitive applicants for a Project Specialist for new BIDC project activities.

MIUSA also continued to provide information and resources to BIDC project stakeholders in Guatemala, Ecuador and Albania, by sending relevant materials, resources and funding opportunity announcements via e-mail.

MIUSA's International Development and Disability Website

Small grants

MIUSA posted the final details of 2007 capacity-building grantee organizations and their respective projects and outcomes on the MIUSA website:
<http://www.miusa.org/idd/inclusive-development-projects>

BIDC Online Resource Center

MIUSA reviewed project materials and created a structure for the new online resource center. The online resource center will serve as a source of pragmatic field-to-practice resources to facilitate wider and more effective implementation of inclusive development practices and increase awareness of the USAID Disability Policy.

Capacity-Building for Disabled Women's Organizations

BIDC project staff participated in a MIUSA capacity-building program, funded from non-USAID sources. MIUSA's 4th International Women's Institute on Leadership and Disability exchange program (WILD) brought women with disabilities from around the world to Eugene, Oregon from August 12 - September 2, 2008. Program participants exchanged best practices on employment strategies, built regional and cross-disability networks of support, strengthened leadership skills, and identified concrete action plans for promoting employment of people with disabilities in their countries. Major funders of the WILD program included Wal-Mart and the Mike and Lisa Sygall Scholarship Fund of Mobility International USA.

The WILD delegation included disability community leaders with diverse experience and disabilities from 24 countries, including Albania, Ecuador, Guatemala, and Indonesia, BIDC target countries. Other countries represented included Argentina, Australia, Brazil, China, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Kenya, Lebanon, Macedonia, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru,

Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. WILD delegates represented government sectors, private businesses and Disabled Peoples' Organizations. They contributed expertise in the fields of law, policy, business, education, vocational training, rehabilitation, agriculture and journalism. Delegates were selected based on their leadership experience and innovative approaches to employment of people with disabilities.

Among the highlights of the WILD program was the Gender, Disability and Development Institute (GDDI), a four-day retreat to focus specifically on inclusive development, coordinated by BIDD project staff. During GDDI, disabled women leaders engaged in discussions and activities with more than 20 professionals representing DPOs, international organizations and US-based NGOs, including the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID), Rotary International, the International Labor Organization (ILO), Trickle Up Program, Mercy Corps, InterAction, World Vision Canada, Pact International, the Global Fund for Women, Interplast, Handicap International, Rehabilitation International and Whirlwind Wheelchair International. Delegates and development professionals created collaborative plans to include women and girls with disabilities in all levels of the development process. NGO participants with diverse expertise in disaster relief, education, employment, microcredit, and health, developed face-to-face relationships with disabled women in countries where they have projects underway.

The WILD program was successful in introducing women with disabilities who are grassroots leaders to international employment and disability professionals, and in expanding knowledge and ideas for inclusive employment policy and practices. MIUSA continues to communicate with WILD delegates and development agency representatives to learn about the progress of their projects and how they are impacting communities.

WILD delegates from BIDD partner countries included:

Albania:

Anisa Proda, representing the Youth Council for Blind People and the Albanian Association for Blind People

Ecuador:

Jacqueline Patricia Lema Rosero, representing the Universidad Tecnica De Ambato

Guatemala:

Aura Reina Gomez representing Wal-Mart Centroamérica

Indonesia:

Mimi Lusli representing Helen Keller International

(Detailed profiles of all WILD delegates are attached.)

Activities planned through 2008

In the next quarter, MIUSA will:

- Hire a Project Specialist
- Set new dates and conduct a field visit to Indonesia
- Approach USAID Mission staff in target countries with invitation to participate in the BIDC project
- Identify key in-country stakeholders, including Mission staff, local DPOs and implementing partners, and begin planning for field visits in new BIDC countries.
- Launch the Online Resource Center
- Prepare new small grants application materials

Conclusion

We are pleased to continue working with USAID to plan and implement intensive technical assistance to USAID Missions, USAID grantee organizations and contractors, and disabled peoples' organizations in selected countries. Thank you once again to USAID for support and cooperation to make this important work possible.

Mobility International USA's
4th International
Women's Institute on Leadership and Disability (WILD)
August 12 – September 2, 2008

DELEGATE PROFILES

Anahi Guedes de Mello, Brazil

National Council of Independent Living Centers

Ms. Anahi Guedes de Mello volunteers for the National Council of Independent Living Centers. She is currently a student at the Federal University of Santa Catarina pursuing a degree in social sciences. She plans to continue her studies to the doctoral level in Social Anthropology and conduct research on violence against women with disabilities. Ms. Guedes de Mello also aims to apply her academic and activist background in the field of social entrepreneurship. She aspires to launch a training center for captioning technologists, and to establish a feminist NGO with other women with disabilities. Ms. Guedes de Mello is Deaf.

Angela Marin, Peru

Asociacion de Tecnologia y Discapacidad (ATECNODIS)

Association of Technology and Disability

Ms. Angela Marin serves as the Project Coordinator for ATECNODIS, which provides training programs to people with visual disabilities to use information and communication technologies through computer adapted programs. These trainings increase opportunities for men and women with disabilities to participate in education, entertainment and employment. Ms. Marin is also a professional Spanish/English interpreter. She aspires to work for an international organization, coordinating disability-related projects in Latin America. She states: "I would develop project ideas and policies for improving the quality of life for people with disabilities, especially women, in all countries throughout the region". Ms. Marin is blind.

Anisa Proda, Albania

Youth Council for Blind People

Ms. Anisa Proda is a staff person of the Youth Council for Blind People and a member of the Albanian Association for Blind People. She has led several workshops on employment issues for people who are blind. She participates regularly in Beyond Barriers, an organization to support the rights of people with disabilities. She volunteers with International Volunteer Work, giving lessons in new Braille techniques for students with disabilities. Ms. Proda is currently pursuing a degree in political science. She aspires to work in political journalism, and eventually seek election as a Member of Parliament. She states, "I think I am ready to take responsibility and fight for the rights of people with disabilities." Ms. Proda is blind.

Aura Verónica Rivera García, El Salvador
Wal-Mart Centroamérica

Ms. Aura Verónica Rivera García is a financial coordinator for Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. As a woman leader with a disability, she encourages people with disabilities to prepare themselves through education. She also ensures that people with disabilities are recognized for their work and motivates them through internal promotions. She aspires to be the manager of a new store and states, "I have helped people with disabilities to move forward, to have confidence in themselves, and to show that they can successfully perform their responsibilities. I feel they are my family." Ms. Rivera García has a physical disability due to polio.

Blandina Happiness Sembu, Tanzania
Independent Television (ITV)

Ms. Blandina Happiness Sembu is a television presenter of women's issues for Independent Television (ITV), a media organization. She uses her position to raise public awareness by presenting regularly on disability-related topics such as the practice of hiding children with disabilities. Before joining ITV, she chaired the Women with Disabilities Committee in the national Federation of Organizations of People with Disabilities. Ms. Sembu has conducted trainings on business skills and entrepreneurship for women with disabilities, and has attended trainings and conferences in Sweden, Ethiopia and South Africa. Ms. Sembu has an amputation of the arm.

Dulamsuren Jigjid, Mongolia
Secretary of Business Incubator Center, Mongolian National Federation of Disabled People's Organizations

Ms. Dulamsuren Jigjid is the Secretary for the Business Incubator Center of the Mongolian National Federation of Disabled People's Organizations. She has also worked with the Mongolian Deaf People's Federation of Arts and Culture, organizing concerts and other cultural events, as well as the Mongolian Youth Federation and the Mongolian Deaf Youth Federation. Ms. Jigjid aspires to manage an information technology center for people with disabilities. She is currently studying at the University of Arts and Culture to be an Art Manager. Ms. Jigjid is Deaf.

Florence Obi, Nigeria
We-Can Nigeria

Ms. Florence Obi is the Director of Programs for We-Can Nigeria, South-South Zone. She is responsible for counseling women with disabilities, providing advocacy services, implementing awareness campaigns through the media, lobbying for passage of disability laws and designing programs for economic empowerment. She also serves as a government advisor on the coordinating committee for "Partnership Opportunity for Women's Economic Realization" (POWER), a project of the Ministry of Women's Affairs. Ms. Obi aspires to

establish programs similar to We-Can Nigeria throughout West Africa. Ms. Obi has epilepsy and a learning disability.

Ghin Chu Pua, Malaysia

Beautiful Gate Foundation for the Disabled

Ms. Ghin Chu Pua is the Care and Employment Coordinator for the Beautiful Gate Foundation for the Disabled. She is responsible for liaising with job agencies and human resource departments to locate career opportunities for people with disabilities. She aspires to create a career and rehabilitation center for disabled people in rural areas. Ms. Pua states, "I will implement and apply the things that I learn from the [WILD] program with the hope that the women in my country will be treated with equal opportunity to be the leaders of tomorrow." Ms. Pua is also a talented table tennis player, representing Malaysia in many international competitions. Ms. Pua has a physical disability and uses a wheelchair.

Jagoda Risteska, Republic of Macedonia

STILM - Association for People with Disability

Ms. Jagoda Risteska is a member of STILM, the Association for People with Disabilities in Macedonia. She has served in various positions, including the financial board, the administrative board, the project for cultural manifestation, and as the representative for people with muscular dystrophy. She holds a degree in Management from the Economics Faculty in Skopje, Macedonia. Ms. Risteska aspires to work for an NGO assisting people with disabilities with education, employment, and independent living. She states, "I think that during our lives, we should give our best to make this world better." Ms. Risteska has muscular dystrophy.

Janeth Marlene Chavez Magaña, El Salvador

ACOGIPRI

Ms. Chavez Magaña serves as the Secretary of the Administrative Board for ACOGIPRI, an organization that aims to reform existing laws and support the creation of new laws for the benefit of the disabled community. She represents her organization on the Consultative Board of People with Disabilities of the Alcaldia of San Salvador. She has organized a forum with government institutions and NGOs to discuss health issues of women with disabilities. She is currently studying English at the American School in El Salvador and learning Salvadoran Sign Language. She states, "My dream is to work for a Disabled People's Organization to support women with disabilities in areas of self-esteem building, education, independent living skills, reproductive and sexual health, recreation, employment, and, above all, in laws on human rights." Ms. Chavez Magaña has a spinal cord injury and uses a wheelchair.

Jaqueline Lema Rosero, Ecuador

Universidad Tecnica De Ambato

Ms. Jaqueline Lema Rosero is an administrator at the university where she is responsible for inclusive education for students with disabilities. She manages the scholarship program for students with disabilities and oversees the accessibility of the university library for students with visual disabilities. Ms. Lema Rosero also facilitates workshops in music and handicrafts for people with disabilities through the National Council of People with Disabilities (CONADIS). She aspires to create and direct a training center that would offer seminars to prepare women with disabilities with job skills. Ms. Lema Rosero states, "WILD is an opportunity to strengthen my leadership as a woman with disability. I am optimistic that my projects will improve with the skills that I acquire through the WILD program." Ms. Rosero is blind.

Josephine Kalunda Kakoma, Kenya
Kenya National Deaf Women Peace Network

Ms. Josephine Kalunda Kakoma is the Coordinating Secretary for the Kenya National Deaf Women Peace Network. She is responsible for networking with government and non-governmental organizations, and serves as a board member of Women Challenged to Challenge, a nonprofit organization that advocates for rights of women with disabilities in Kenya. Ms. Kakoma has worked extensively in the areas of civic education and HIV/AIDS education. She hopes to gain leadership skills to train other members of her organization and increase membership. She states, "I will write grants to organize workshops for women with disabilities so that I can pass on the skills and information I learn." Ms. Kakoma is Deaf.

Katharine Annear, Australia
The Autism Association of South Australia

Ms. Katharine Annear is a Registered Counselor, Development Educator, and a Consultant and Advisor in Autism Spectrum Disorders. She is responsible for counseling clients, facilitating support groups, and training parents, teachers, police, and support staff. She serves on the Minister's Disability Advisory Council for the South Australian Government and the Board of Management of Autism SA. She is a co-convenor of the Australian Autistic's Network for Self Advocates and a committee member of A4 - Autism Asperger Advocacy Australia. She ran for state parliament in 2006, as a candidate for the Dignity for Disabled party. She aspires to develop a transitional residential community and vocational college for young women on the Autism Spectrum and their peers. She is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Disability Studies. She describes herself as, "passionate about rights; my own and everyone else's." Ms. Annear has Asperger's syndrome and myoclonic dystonia.

Loania Pérez, Costa Rica
Fundación El Portavoz

Ms. Pérez is the Co-founder of El Portavoz, which was originally established as a newspaper that offered information for the disabled community. It later expanded to include the foundation Fundaporvoz. Her current projects include

the creation of a "Market of Employment for People with Disabilities" to give businesses access to a database of people with disabilities that seek work and vice versa for contracting and job applications. Fundaporvoz also provides counseling on legal rights. Her other projects include youth leadership development and promoting the use of service dogs for wheelchair users. Ms. Pérez states, "[The WILD program] will be a great benefit to me personally as well as professionally. I am sure that this will give me the tools to develop new projects." Ms. Pérez has transverse myelitis. She uses a wheelchair and a service dog.

Lydia Chipimo, Zambia

Sign Language Advocacy and Development Awareness Institute

Ms. Lydia Chipimo is the Assistant Director of the Sign Language Advocacy and Development Awareness Institute. She promotes the teaching of sign language to people who are hearing, hard of hearing, and who are Deaf. Her organization provides training on sign language for health care providers and educational organizations. She also organizes and conducts HIV awareness seminars in sign language, to increase HIV awareness and prevention efforts in the Deaf community, and with other sign language users. Ms. Chipimo has attended international conferences on disability issues in Uganda and throughout the commonwealth. She aspires to establish a school for Deaf students to provide primary and secondary education in sign language, and a foundation to promote the use of sign language in education. Ms. Chipimo is Deaf.

Maggie Dacasin, Phillipines

FARAD Cooperative of People with Disabilities

Ms. Maggie Dacasin is the Board of Director's Chairperson for the FARAD Cooperative of the Disabled, an organization that provides support and employment for people with disabilities. As the chairperson, she is responsible for the cooperative, and establishing employment and microcredit projects. She has a particular interest in identifying microcredit opportunities for women with disabilities to start their own businesses. She aspires to establish her own organization for women with disabilities. She states, "I would like to start a livelihood for my female disabled members and work with them for a lifetime. I do believe that by being together, we can somehow help each other." Ms. Dacasin has a physical disability due to polio and uses a wheelchair.

Mimi Lusli, Indonesia

Helen Keller International, Indonesia Programme

Ms. Mimi Lusli is an Inclusive Education Specialist Trainer for Helen Keller International. She manages inclusive education programs for the city of Jakarta, and is establishing programs in three provinces. She is a founder of Mitra Netra, an organization dedicated to improving education and employment opportunities for people who are blind. She volunteers for the Indonesian Association of Women with Disabilities contributing managerial and policy-setting skills. She serves as an Advisor to the Board of Disability Study Centre of

Social and Policy Department of the University of Indonesia, Jakarta. She states, "I will work hard to become a role model for girls and women with disabilities, motivating them to face family challenges, and provide training to improve their capacities and skill to be themselves, both individually and socially." Ms. Lusli is blind.

Noelle Tyan, Lebanon

Lebanese Universities League for the Blind

Ms. Noelle Tyan is the Founder and Vice-President of the Lebanese Universities League for the Blind where she lobbies for the rights of people who are blind. She also chairs the Women's Committee. She has organized capacity-building workshops for women who are blind, training them on computer and employment skills. She has attended conferences on disability issues in Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, and Jordan. Ms. Tyan works for the Ministry of Finance, in the Department of Revenue. She aspires to achieve the position of Chief of Department, a leadership position where she can address employment discrimination. She states, "I'll try to motivate more disabled women to work on themselves, and learn to be future leaders." Ms. Tyan is blind.

Olga Montúfar Contreras, Mexico

Fundación paso a paso A.C. (Step by Step Foundation)

Ms. Olga Montúfar Contreras is the President of the Step by Step Foundation. She currently hosts the Paso a Paso Radio program which raises public awareness on disability rights. She was recognized for her outstanding work with the National Prize of Altruism in 2006. She also serves as the president of the Rotary Club of San Christopher. Ms. Montúfar Contreras has worked extensively with indigenous populations in Mexico. She aspires to create a cooperative that would support people with disabilities in achieving their professional and economic goals and improve their quality of life. She describes her motivation for participating in the WILD program, "I need international relationships because the needs [of people with disabilities] are so great and diverse. An international agency can only enhance our work and ideas by sharing successful experiences from other countries." Ms. Montúfar Contreras has a physical disability due to polio and uses crutches.

Olivia Nakato, Uganda

If Child Help

Ms. Olivia Nakato is an attorney for If Child Help in Uganda. She is head policy officer for Ethics, Prevention, and Human Rights. She also provides free legal research and counseling for Legal Action for Persons with Disabilities. She co-founded the Ugandan Brain Injury Project, and currently chairs the project steering committee. Ms. Nakato describes her goals, "My dream job is a position that would enable me to speak out and advocate for recognition of the rights of persons with disabilities in all spheres of life to policy makers and all influential national, regional and international agencies." She has studied

disability issues and disability sport at Egmont Højskolen in Denmark. Ms. Nakato has cerebral palsy.

Rasanjali Priyadarshani Wadduwa Pathirage, Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka Foundation for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled (SLFRD)

Ms. Rasanjali Priyadarshani Wadduwa Pathirage is the Assistant Secretary for SLFRD, and a Training Coordinator for Disability Organizations Joint Front (DOJF). Her responsibilities include administration, project planning, and training, with a special emphasis on sports programs. Ms. Wadduwa Pathirage is a recognized leader throughout Asia and the Pacific. In 2005 and 2006, she traveled to Tokyo, Japan, where she participated in the 7th Duskin Leadership Training Programme for Persons with Disabilities, and the World Bank Conference on Development Economics. She is also a talented athlete and won the silver medal in javelin at the 2002 Far East and South Pacific Games Federation for the Disabled (FESPIC) in South Korea. Ms. Wadduwa Pathirage has an amputation of the leg and uses prosthesis.

Reina Angelica Gomez Gomez, Guatemala

Wal-Mart Centroamérica

Ms. Reina Angelica Gomez Gomez is an Assistant Coordinator for at Wal-Mart Stores, Inc . She is responsible for generating ideas to increase sales, conducting polls to ensure quality customer service and communicating with collaborators to work as a team. She has been recognized for her attitude, service and ability to lead. As a private sector employee she has had the opportunity to raise awareness throughout her company of the benefits of employing women with disabilities. She is working to obtain a higher managerial position. She hopes to continue developing her leadership skills through the WILD program. Ms. Gomez has a physical disability.

Saira Qadir, Pakistan

Rehabilitation Center for the Physically Disabled

Ms. Saira Qadir is the Assistant Director of the Rehabilitation Center for the Physically Disabled in Peshawar, Pakistan. She has established livelihood programs for women and girls with disabilities, providing training, equipment, and employment opportunities at local businesses. She successfully persuaded government officials to take active measures towards improved accessibility and a barrier-free environment. She aspires to expand and develop the organization so it can earn global recognition for its community-based rehabilitation efforts. In 2006, Ms. Qadir was awarded the Fatima Jinnah Medal by the president of Pakistan for her work in helping earthquake victims and people with disabilities. As a student, she was recognized for her work in organizing famine-relief efforts. Ms. Qadir has a physical disability due to polio and uses a wheelchair.

Verónica Andrea Vanadía, Argentina

Centro Cultural España Córdoba and Acceso Ya

Ms. Veronica Andrea Vanadia works for the Centro Cultural España Córdoba. She is responsible for designing and implementing projects, communications, organizing cultural events, and managing the organization's economic resources. One of her current projects is coordinating and developing an area of education. Ms. Vanadia volunteers for Acceso Ya, an organization which aims to improve accessibility for people with disabilities in her community. She often brings together her roles in these two organizations. She has organized cultural events and urban campaigns, in which art has been used to raise awareness on the issue of accessibility in the community. In addition, she was responsible for making the Cultural Center accessible for people with disabilities and successfully budgeted for the construction of a ramp. Ms. Vanadia also plays table tennis competitively and is the only woman of in her category that competes at the national level. Ms. Vanadia has a spinal cord injury and uses a wheelchair.

Xingxing Wang, China

Save the Children, China Programme

Ms. Xingxing Wang is the Protection and Welfare Officer for Save the Children China Programme. She is responsible for coordination and communication with local partners, program offices and government departments. She provides leadership and vocational training for girls with disabilities in her programs. She has successfully replicated Save the Children programs for disabled children and youth throughout different areas of China. Previously, she edited the journal of the Shanxi *Politics and Law Institute for Administrators*. Ms. Wang states, "My ambition is to be an experienced social worker for the rights of the person with disabilities, and dedicate myself to improving the lives of people with disabilities". Ms. Wang has cerebral palsy.