**PRESS RELEASE**

**The International Conference:**

**Including Disability in Development Cooperation:**

**Experiences of collaboration between Governments, NGOs and DPOs**

**will be held on November 18th 2015 | 09:00 – 17:00**

**at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation**

**Piazzale della Farnesina, 1 - Rome**

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Indeed, at European level, the interest and the awareness on the importance of including persons with disabilities into cooperation are increasing in development and emergency initiatives, both at mainstreaming level and for specific projects addressing disability.

The event is jointly promoted by RIDS (the Italian network on Disability and Develoment) and the Directorate-General for Cooperation and Development, within the framework of the INFOEAS project “Cooperate to Include”. The Conference is addressed to all representatives of public authorities and civil society that are working on **the issue of including the dimension of disability into development programmes** **and policies**. Its aim is to offer an opportunity to work together and to exchange appropriate practices, stressing the added value offered by the synergy between Cooperation agencies, Institutions, NGOs and Disabled People Organizations.

The conference will have an Italian, European and international sight with the interventions of some of the most important people currently involved in inclusive development issues. Some speakers that have already confirmed their presence are: Daniela Bas (Director of UNDESA), Alicia Martin Diaz (Development and Cooperation – DEVCO – Europaid), Facundo Chavez Penillas (Human Rights and Disability Advisor by UN High Commissioner for Human Rights) as well as representatives of some Cooperation agencies from other European countries and the main DPOs and NGOS active in this field.

*Conference admission is free of charge. The conference will be in Italian and English.*

*Accessibility for people with reduced mobility is guaranteed.*

*In order to ensure full participation, please inform us of any other accessibility needs.*

*To register, please send the registration form at:* *includingdisability@aifo.it**.*

***Deadline November 12th 2015****.*

Here after a Draft Programme.

**DRAFT PROGRAMME:**

**h 8.30 – 9.00**

**Participants Registration**

**h 9.00 – 9.30**

**Welcoming and official opening of the conference**

**h 9.30 – 11.00 FIRST SESSION**

**The Italian, European and international commitment on inclusive development**

**h. 11.00 – 11.20 Coffee break**

**h. 11.20 – 13.00 SECOND SESSION**

**The role of DPOs in inclusive development projects: empowerment and participation**

**h. 13.00 – 14.00 Lunch break**

**h. 14.00 – 15.30 THIRD SESSION**

**The inclusion of disability into emergency projects**

**h. 15.30 – 16.45 FOURTH SESSION**

**Monitoring tools for inclusive development**

**h. 16.45 – 17.00**

**Conclusions**