States Parties' Progress in Implementing the CRPD for ICT Accessibility
As Evaluated by Civil Society

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Round Table: "Technology, digitalization and information and communications technologies for the empowerment and inclusion of persons with disabilities"

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Discussion Agenda

- What are the barriers that may negatively affect access by persons with disabilities to technology, digitalization and ICT? What good examples are there of initiatives to promote this access?

- What can be done by governments, United Nations agencies and private actors to promote access by persons with disabilities to technology, digitalization and ICT, and how can they work together to this end?
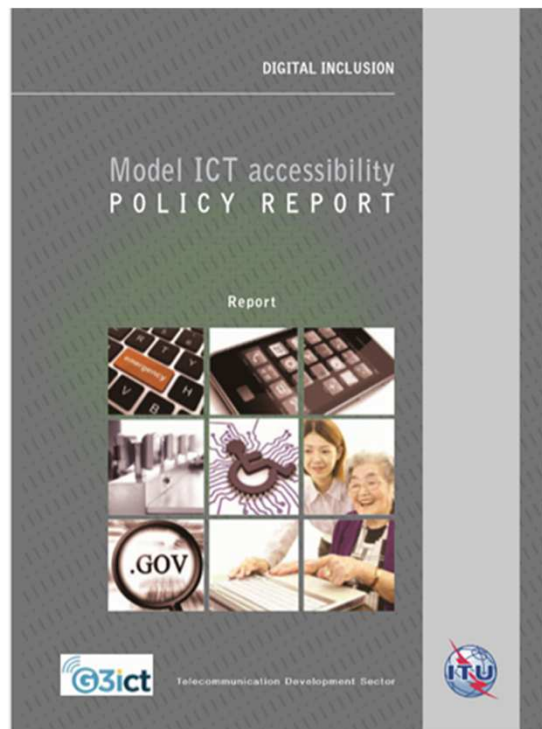
Measuring progress via the G3ict DARE Index (Digital Accessibility Rights Evaluation Index)

- **A method for States Parties and in-country advocates to benchmark essential steps in implementing digital accessibility policies and programs**

- **Global Outreach:** 121 Countries Surveyed; 89% of the World Population

- **Framework consistent with Human Rights monitoring:**

  - Country commitments
  - Country capacity to implement
  - Country actual implementation and outcomes

- **Our Experts**: Persons with Disabilities, advocates, researchers, and community leaders identified in partnership with Disabled People's International (DPI), RIADIS and other advocacy organizations.
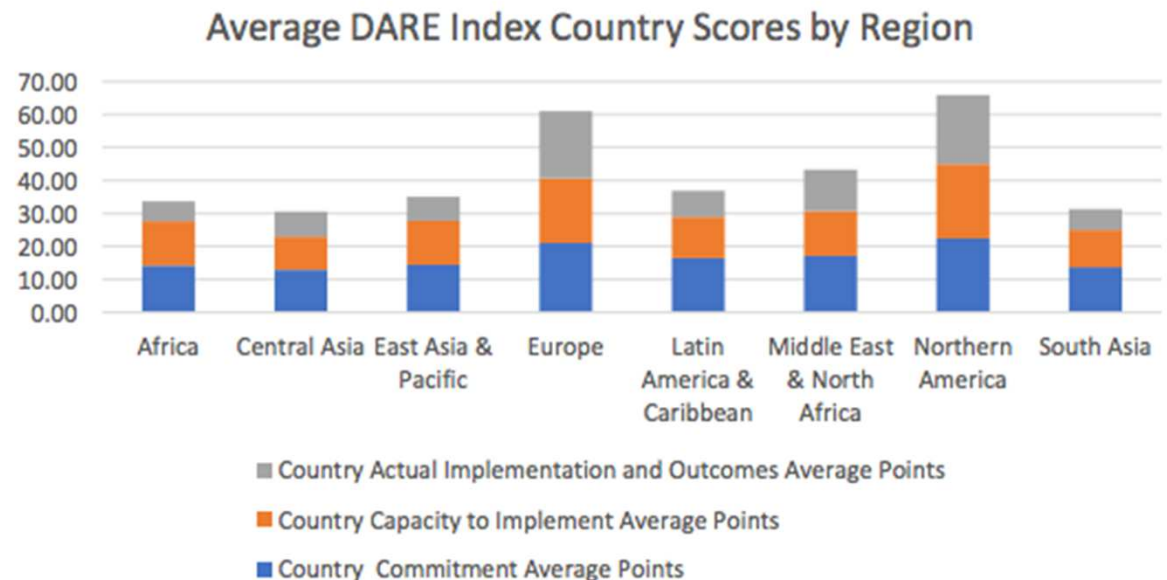
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DARE Index Variables

1. **Legal and policy foundations** as recommended by the ITU-G3ict ICT Accessibility Model Policy report
2. **Capacity to implement** evaluated by presence of **Key success factors** identified in the ITU-G3ict ICT Accessibility Model Policy report
3. **Outcomes** measured by degrees consistent with CRPD notion of **progressive implementation in the 10 key areas** of ICT accessibility as per the DPI–IDA–G3ict 2016 Call for Action at United Nations
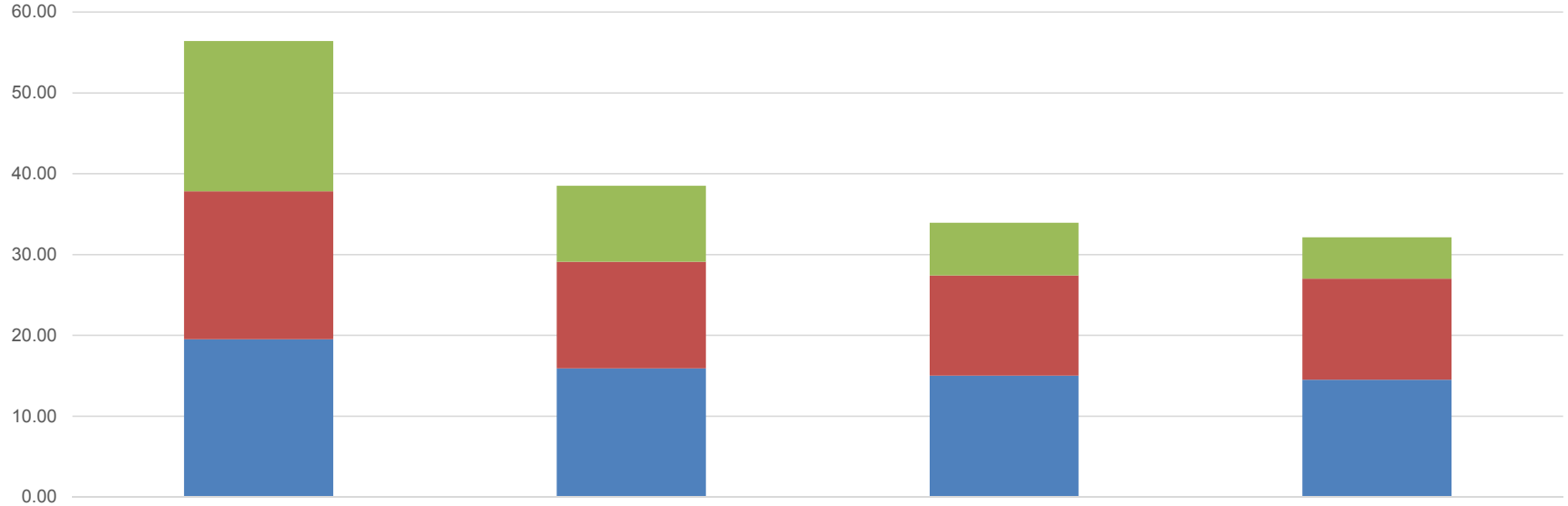
Capacity to implement and actual outcomes lag far behind country commitments

- Capacity to implement scores are lower than commitment scores while levels of implementation and outcomes vary significantly.

- The Middle East and North Africa scores are the next best after Northern America and Europe due to the good performance of Oman, Qatar, Israel and Egypt.

- Countries commitments and capacity to implement scores are less influenced by levels of income than outcomes .

Average DARE Index Country Scores by Region

■ Country Actual Implementation and Outcomes Average Points
■ Country Capacity to Implement Average Points
■ Country Commitment Average Points

Levels of Economic Development Influence Results

Average DARE Index Country Scores by Levels of Economic Development

1 - Countries Commitments – Key gaps are inclusion of ICTS in definitions of accessibility and inclusion of persons with disabilities in Universal Service Obligation

COUNTRY COMMITMENTS	GLOBAL AVERAGE % OF COUNTRIES WITH LAW/REGULATION/POLICY IN PLACE
CRPD RATIFICATION	93%
GENERAL LAW PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES	84%
REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION DEFINED	63%
DEFINITION OF ACCESSIBILITY INCLUDES ICTS	49%
UNIVERSAL SERVICE OBLIGATION INCLUDES PWDS	35%
COUNTRY COMMITMENTS GLOBAL AVERAGE IN PERCENTAGE	65%

2 - Countries Capacity to Implement – Barriers include lack of involvement of persons with disabilities in policy making, insufficient standardization and availability of accessibility training

COUNTRY CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT	GLOBAL AVERAGE OF COUNTRIES WITH KEY IMPLEMENTATION RESOURCES OR PROCESSES
GOVERNMENT AGENCY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES	84%
GOVERNMENT AGENCY FOR ICT	99%
PROCESS TO INVOLVE PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN POLICY MAKING ON ICT ACCESSIBILITY	23%
PARTICIPATION IN STANDARD DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS	40%
ICT ACCESSIBILITY COURSES AVAILABLE AT MAJOR UNIVERSITIES IN THE COUNTRY	37%
COUNTRY CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT GLOBAL PROGRESS AVERAGE IN PERCENTAGE	57%

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3 - Country Actual Outcomes - Most Advanced Sectors Globally Measured by Policies in Process of Implementation

- Across the board, levels of implementation are very low - 60% of countries do not have any policy in place for implementation of ICT accessibility.

- Of the 38.1% countries in the process of implementing policies at various stages,19.1% are at a minimum level of implementation such as pilot projects and 16.4% are at a partial level of implementation only, with limited impact

- However, only 2.5% report that they have a policy but that it's not implemented which implies that countries do try to implement ICT accessibility policies once they are adopted.

Global sectors in decreasing order of progress

1.	TV	48%
2.	Web	45%
3.	Inclusive ICTs in education	44%
4.	E-books	40%
5.	Enabling ICTs for employment	39%
6.	e-Government and Smart Cities	35%
7.	ATs and ICTs for independent living	34%
8.	Promotion of internet usage	33%
9.	Mobile	32%
10.	Public procurement	31%

Note: measured as % countries in the process of implementing policies at various stages

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Key Steps for Discussion

1. **Legislation, regulation and policies by States Parties reflecting the dispositions of the CRPD are essential to:**

    *   Cause key national stakeholders to implement the CRPD

    *   Provide specific guidance as to what's required

    *   Allow Persons with Disabilities to advocate for their digital accessiblity rights

    *   Create a level playing field among private sector actors in a market economy

2. **Capacity to implement can be greatly enhanced by the participation of persons with disabilities in policy development and monitoring, training in accessiblity and adoption of international accessiblity standards.**

3. **Solutions exist, hence lack of focus on implementation directly infringes on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.**

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Case Study: Sugamya Pustakalaya, India

India 's first and largest collection of accessible books, developed via a partnership between Indian Government, private industry and NGOs.

URL:

www.sugamyapustakalaya.in/

http://library.daisyindia.org

- Accessible content platform provided by industry (TCS), Content uploaded by Daisy Forum of India and partners, accessible content provided by publishers, in accordance with Indian Copyright law.

- Indian Copyright Law amendment to include disability fair use happened alongside negotiations for the Marrakesh Treaty in 2012, to which India was the first ratifying country.

- Hope to see more effects of Marrakesh Treaty going forward with more international books becoming available.

- WIPO's support to the Treaty and its implementation for making books available is invaluable.

Thank you for your attention!

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Appendix – G3ict DARE index – Additional Information

DARE Index Scoring and Benchmarking Method

- A simple method to benchmark progress and identify opportunities by indexing **20 key variables** for each country:
  - **5 for country commitments**
  - **5 for country capacity to implement**
  - **10 for country outcomes (guided scoring evaluation)**
- With each of the 20 variables counted for 5 points for a maximum of 100 points for each country
- Allowing countries to compare their progress with benchmarks and peers results in essential areas

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DARE Index Guided Evaluation Scores

- 0 = No policy or program
- 1 = Policy or program but with no implementation
- 2 = Policy or program with minimum implementation
  Pilot applications or limited scope
- 3 = Policy or program with partial implementation
  Deployment program proceeding, but still limited impact
- 4 = Policy or program with substantial implementation
  Deployment program in place with more than 50% implementation
- 5 = Policy or program with complete implementation

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121 Country Dashboards Published for Transparency and Benchmarking on the G3ict Web Site