



Side Event: Disability Rights in Broader Social Movements

#CommitToChange
#GDS2022

Strengthening cross-movement solidarity
and collective action to dismantle ableism

16 February 2022

5pm IST/
12.30 pm CET/
2.30 pm EAT

Online, Zoom
link in caption

The session will have
Communication Access
Real time Translation
(CART) and translations
in International Sign.

crea



Disability rights in broader social movements. Strengthening cross-movement solidarity and collective action to dismantle ableism

Organizers: CREA, Women Spaces Africa, Revival Disability India

Date: 16 February 2022 / 12.30 CET

English Cart and ISL interpretation will be provided

Registration link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BUiuPFVVSMMWqcliwtifwbA

Concept note

Disability is a cross-cutting human rights issue. Disability is a feminist issue, it is a climate change issue, it is an anti-racism issue, it is a class issue, it is a reproductive justice issue, it is a sexual rights issue and it is essential to decolonisation. Disability and anti-ableism must be understood as part of intersectional human rights movement building and cross-movement action. In a similar vein, disability rights issues such as legal capacity, ending forced treatments and building support systems to live independently need to be taken up by broader human rights movements.

Social movements are mobilizing to combat structural exclusion and demand social change towards a more just and inclusive world. We can observe efforts to create and

maintain cross-movement spaces that would center disability within social movements. Cross-movement organizing plays an important role in building more cohesive intersectional advocacy, tackling neglected issues, broadening the demands for social change, and building inclusive cross-movement coalitions to tackle the growing inequalities and shrinking civic spaces.

To this end, organizations of women with disabilities are leading powerful actions for change and demanding their priorities be addressed within human rights struggles. Working at the intersection of disability, gender and sexuality, persons with disabilities are building cross-movement relationships in an effort to foster collective understanding, build resilience and create more inclusive and accessible intersectional spaces for dialogue. They are working to advance sexual and reproductive rights of persons with disabilities, end sexual and gender-based violence, address sexual and gender diversity, and build feminist leadership of persons with disabilities.

This panel will bring together feminist activists with disabilities working within and between rights movements to share their cross-movement work to prioritise disability rights and work collectively to tackle ableism. Panelists will share their strategies for successful cross-movement collaboration, what has worked to build a collective understanding around disability rights, gender and sexuality and how they have convened inclusive spaces where diverse activists and constituencies worked together to build common ground on neglected issues.

Panelists will share examples of cross-movement spaces for dialogue on disability, sexuality and gender such as CREA's Disability Sexuality and Rights Online Institute bringing together activists, scholars, artists and practitioners working in different sectors to study and learn at these intersections and build cross-movement connections. Speakers will also address work being done at faultlines between movements such as disability, SRHR, and sexual and gender diversity. We will also tackle legal capacity as a crosscutting issue.