# INSTRUCTIONS

# Call for Nominations of Innovative Policies and Practices:

# Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction

### This document is available in alternate formats.

### Deadline to submit nominations: July 21, 2014

The 2014 Report of the Zero Project revealed “dispiriting results on emergency issues.” In recognition of this fact, GAATES in collaboration with the Zero Project is looking for innovative practices and policies that relate to Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DiDRR). These practices and policies will be presented at the 2015 Conference in Vienna alongside practices and policies pertaining to the Zero Project’s streams on Independent Living and Political Participation.

While recognizing the collaborative partnership of the Zero Project, GAATES is fully responsible for the DiDRR stream, including the preparation and distribution of the nomination form, the review and research of the nominations, and the development and presentation of the results report. GAATES will be using the Zero Project processes, evaluation system, reporting protocols and communication tools.

#### What do the Zero Project and GAATES mean by Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction?

**Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DiDRR)** seeks toreduce the risk of injury and loss of life of persons with disabilities resulting from natural and man-made events such as earthquakes, floods, fires, droughts, and wars through, disaster and emergency preparedness, and post-disaster management. While DiDRR takes into consideration the needs of the whole community, it is particularly concerned with persons with disabilities and their families. Research shows that persons with disabilities are particularly vulnerable during emergencies, fires and disasters in part because they are overlooked in the planning and response phases. Their vulnerability limits the resilience of the entire community. DiDRR is addressed in Article 11 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which stipulates that States Parties shall take “all necessary measures to ensure the protection and safety of persons with disabilities in situations of risk, including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and the occurrence of natural disasters.”

Therefore the Zero Project and GAATES are seeking examples of practices and policies on:

1. **Early Warning and Communication**
   * Accessible dissemination of alerts and messages;
   * Accessible communication tools;
2. **Planning and Preparedness**

* Emergency and disaster planning that is inclusive of people with disabilities;
* Personal preparedness of people with disabilities and their personal support networks;

1. **Emergency Services**
   * Access to emergency & community services;
   * Training of emergency services personnel;
2. **Evacuation and Sheltering**
   * Inclusive evacuation systems;
   * Individual fire evacuation plans;
   * Disability-inclusive sheltering;
   * Accessible transportation;
3. **Post Disaster**
   * Foreign aid and accessibility;
   * Accessible rebuilding;
4. **Fire Safety**
   * Individual fire evacuation plans;
   * Communications strategies;
   * Visual signals and accessible egress routes;
   * Fire prevention.

#### What can be nominated?

* **Innovative Practices:** an operational project or an organization with legal entity.
* **Innovative Policies:** a law, regulation, standard, action plan, programme, etc., issued by governments, parliaments or public administration at all governance levels.

All nominated practices or policies have to be already implemented (at least 18 months) and their impact should by proven by facts and figures. They can be local, national, regional or international in nature.

Nominations will **not be taken** into consideration that are

* based only on ideas;
* without a comprehensible strategy;
* pure scientific research projects without work “on the ground”;
* pure publicity or advertising campaigns;
* focused mainly on accessibility or employment (see explanation above).

#### Who can nominate a practice or policy?

Everyone can nominate a practice or a policy, including experts from the academic, public, private, and non-profit sector. Self-nominations are possible as well. Please note, however, that laws, regulations or public policies cannot be nominated by the responsible government, parliament, or administration.

#### What are the evaluation criteria?

* **Innovation**: By inventing, securing support for, and implementing more effective solutions (processes, services, products, ways of doing things), the practice or policy is a real improvement for the life of persons with disabilities targeted (e.g. by contributing to the exercise of human rights by persons with disabilities; by directly involving persons with disabilities; by focusing on the specific needs of vulnerable groups such as people with intellectual disabilities, people with mental health conditions, women, children, elderly, those living in poverty; by establishing new partnerships or collaborations, etc.).
* **Outcome, Impact and effectiveness:** The benefit that the practice or policy contributes to society (proven by facts and figures, testimonials, media coverage, awards, and others).
* **Transferability, Scalability and Cost-efficiency**: The possibility to multiply, enlarge, copy, or transfer the practice or policy (e.g. productive or effective in relation to its cost, low spending, cheaper than existing solutions).

##### Why should you nominate a practice or policy?

* If selected, the nomination will be included as “Innovative Policy 2015” or “Innovative Practice 2015” in the Zero Project Report and Website. Their nominators will be invited to be part of the Zero Project expert network.
* Representatives of the most outstanding Innovative Policies and Practices will be invited to present at the Zero Project Conference in February 2015, at which more than 350 decision makers from around the world, representatives from the United Nations and other international organizations, the European Union, academics, parliamentarians, leading NGOs and foundations will participate.

#### What happens after the nomination?

* All nominators will be informed whether their nominated practice or policy has been shortlisted and also whether it has been finally selected.
* All shortlisted projects will be contacted by the Zero Project Team for further research.

# **PLEASE CLICK ON THE LINK TO FILL IN YOUR NOMINATION FORM**

# **OR GO TO** [www.zeroproject.org/downloads](http://www.zeroproject.org/downloads)

# **OR** [www.gaates.org/zeroproject2015](http://www.gaates.org/zeroproject2015)

### What is the Zero Project?

The Zero Project – For a World without Barriers ([www.zeroproject.org](http://www.zeroproject.org/)), officially launched in 2011 by the Essl Foundation ([www.esslfoundation.org](http://www.esslfoundation.org/)), advocates the rights of persons with disabilities internationally. With its global outreach, the Zero Project monitors the national implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and highlights innovative practices and policies. The project is organised in partnership with the World Future Council ([www.worldfuturecouncil.org](http://www.worldfuturecouncil.org/)) and the European Foundation Centre ([www.efc.be](http://www.efc.be/" \t "_blank" \o "Link zur Website European Foundation Centre)).

### What is GAATES?

The Global Alliance on Accessible Technologies and Environments (GAATES) is the leading international not-for-profit organization that brings together individuals and organizations dedicated to promoting accessibility of electronic and communication technologies and accessibility of the built environment. GAATES' mission is to promote the understanding and implementation of accessibility of the sustainable built, social and virtual environments, including architectural, infrastructural design, transportation systems, habitat, and electronic information and communication technologies so that everyone, including people with disabilities and older persons are able to fully participate and contribute to society.

### Partners of the Zero Project

In 2015, the Zero Project is partnering with (in alphabetic order, and more partners are expected to join in soon):

* Disabled People´s International (DPI),
* European Coalition for Community Living (ECCL),
* European Network for Independent Living (ENIL),
* Global Alliance on Accessible Technologies and Environments (GAATES),
* Human Rights Watch (HRW),
* Independent Living Institute (ILI),
* International Disability Alliance (IDA),
* International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES),
* International Telecommunication Union (ITU),
* Latin American Network of Non-Governmental Organizations of Persons with Disabilities and their Families (RIADIS),
* Lebenshilfe Österreich,
* Light for the World Austria,
* Unicredit-Bank Austria is a sponsoring partner of the Zero Project.

### Contact

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