



Transforming Communities for Inclusion (TCI) Mission in East Africa Ethiopia | Kenya | Uganda

About TCI

Transforming Communities for Inclusion (TCI) is a **post-CRPD** movement of persons with psychosocial disabilities and its cross-disability supporters. It is a **membership-based** global OPD (Organization of persons with disabilities) with a presence in over 40 countries spread across various sub regions of South Asia, SEA, Pacific, East Asia, MENA region, East Africa and West Africa. TCI also has a small set of members from the US, Europe, Australia and Canada. The seeds of our movement on “Inclusion” were sown 10 years back when a handful of us came together to discuss about creating an advocacy platform for us in Asia in Pune (2012). We recently celebrated our 10 years journey and adoption of our first formal board. As TCI, we envision the full inclusion and effective participation of all persons with psychosocial disabilities, users and survivors of psychiatry, mad persons, persons with intersectional and neurodiverse identities, and all persons who self-identify as a person facing high restriction of participation and exclusion due to attributions of ‘mental disorders’. TCI has sustained its focus on the Right to live independently in the community and be included (Article 19 of the CRPD). The Bali Declaration was created at Bali plenary with participation of 21 countries and over 75 participants. It became a landmark event and a rallying point of TCI, and continued to influence the global discourse on the inclusion of persons with psychosocial disabilities.

TCI’s Mission East Africa

In the recent years, TCI, being the largest voice of persons with psychosocial disabilities, has witnessed a growing interest of organizations of persons with psychosocial disabilities and individuals to join TCI as members from the African countries. Acknowledging and humbled by this interest, TCI has been working relentlessly to mobilize with persons with psychosocial disabilities and their organizations and movements in Africa. TCI members from Africa have been engaged in various TCI works for instance conducting and organizing Deinstitutionalization consultations, representation in High Level policy circles, speakers, moderators and organizers of thematic webinars, OPD formation through fellowships and working TCI microgrants etc.

Towards these efforts of mobilizing and strengthening movements of persons with psychosocial disabilities in the African nations, **TCI, with the support of its members, UNSAI, TRIUMPH, RDDF and CCI and in partnership with IDA, DRF and ADF** are exhilarated to hold a series of events across 3 countries in East Africa. The overall objectives of the program/s are as follows:

- Sharpen advocacy skills of persons with psychosocial disabilities within the larger aim of inclusion within disability inclusive development in the East African region.
- To make an impact on the sub-regional policy makers and influencers in the East Africa region, particularly the cross disability alliances and coalitions working in the sub-region.

- To engage the key stakeholders to propel the inclusion of persons with psychosocial disabilities within policies and programs in the region.

Schedule of events

I) Events in Ethiopia

East Africa Sub regional meeting (TCI members) [Date: July 25-26, 2022; Venue: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia]

TCI Sub Regional meetings are usually organized for three days. During the first two days, TCI engages with its members from different countries to learn about movements of persons with psychosocial disabilities in the region, chalk out priorities for advocacy initiatives in the region, involvement of members in TCI programs, and conduct capacity building activities. For the current East African sub regional meeting, we are inviting participants from Rwanda, Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, Tanzania and Ethiopia (possibly).

Multi stakeholder meeting [Date: July 27, 2022; Venue: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia]

On the 3rd day, TCI organises a country level multi stakeholder meeting to mobilize with different key stakeholders possibly including TCI members, cross disability leaders from the region, policy makers, NGOs, INGOs, UN agencies etc. The TCI multi stakeholders are a way to ensure constructive dialogue and engagement between persons with psychosocial disabilities and various stakeholders. We (people with psychosocial disabilities) are mostly left out during important discussions at the national level as well as at the regional levels and we take this opportunity to engage with all kinds of stakeholders in conversations about our Inclusion in the decision making processes.

These meetings in Ethiopia will be followed by **Country Missions in Kenya and Uganda**. Country Missions are organized with the aim of identifying, engaging and working with movements of persons of psychosocial disabilities and key holders in the region.

II) Events in Kenya

Country Mission [Dates: August 2-3, 2022; Venue: Nairobi, Kenya]

Multi stakeholder meeting [Date: August 4, 2022; Venue: Nairobi, Kenya]

III) Events in Uganda

Country Mission: Uganda [Date: August 6-7, 2022; Venue: Kampala, Uganda]

Multi stakeholder meeting [Date: August 8, 2022; Venue: Kampala, Uganda]

In partnership with:

