Transforming Communities for Inclusion (TCI-Global)

Empowering National Movements of Persons with Psychosocial Disabilities Globally
Transforming Communities for Inclusion (TCI) is a global Organization of Persons with Psychosocial Disabilities [an OPD]. TCI forecasts a future in which all human rights and full freedoms of persons with psychosocial disabilities are realized.

Empowered by the extraordinary vision and guidance of the CRPD, TCI’s purpose is to situate ourselves at the center of the cross-disability movements at the national, regional, and global levels, as a way to reclaim our identity, dignity and autonomy, experience our independence and to realize our right to live in the community.

TCI is a post CRPD movement and a membership-based organization and works for the empowerment of organizations of persons with psychosocial disabilities for leading advocacy initiatives at national, sub-regional and global levels. For more than a decade our focus and vision has been to empower OPDs, and dialogue with a variety of stakeholders including civil society organizations, development agencies, UN agencies and governments for the realization of CRPD, specifically Article 19, for realizing the right to independent living and community inclusion. Our key allies in this process have been the cross-disability movement.
Our Programs

TCI has always been about developing our national membership and growth of OPDs of persons with psychosocial disabilities. TCI has supported the development and capacity building of a number of OPDs since inception, across global south regions. TCI has created and tested several program instruments to build the capacity of its national, individual and organizational members. TCI has designed its programs in a way to strengthen the national OPD networks for advocacy, movement building and inclusion in various national policies and programs.
Fellowships and OPD Formations

TCI Fellowships are provided to support members from the Global South countries to build their work at the national level and be of influence within movements and the policy environment. In some countries, there are no organizations for persons with psychosocial disabilities, while in some, TCI members are slowly organizing as groups and young organizations. Mostly OPDs are still confronted in most countries to threats - legal system failures, lack of political will, public opinion bias and prejudices, conventional service provision with its colonial bias, no funding and industry vested interests to name a few. Moreover, the national coalition and cross disability movements do not have adequate representation from the constituency of persons with psychosocial disabilities.

TCI fellowships have been a great medium to build the capacity of the national leaders and their OPDs to carry out stronger advocacy and social innovation in line with the CRPD, and to reframe their overall advocacy at the national level as an “inclusion” movement.
OUR FELLOWS (2018-2023)

Janice Cambri
Philippines

Yeni Rosa Damayanti
Indonesia

Kruawon Tiengtom
Thailand

Waqar Puri
Pakistan

Agus Hasan Hidayat
Indonesia

Sadam Hanjabam
India

Dorothy Nakato Mubezi
Uganda

Samuel Macharia Njorge
Kenya

Chinta Munasinghe
Sri Lanka

Sera Osborne
Fiji

Silvestre Baragan
Colombia

Scan here to read reports of the fellows:
TCI OPD Support Grants and Microgrants

Since 2019, the secretariat has witnessed enormous interest in TCI memberships, and program opportunities to work at the national level for inclusion of people with psychosocial disabilities in development processes. For more than a decade, TCI has mentored and worked with its members focusing on specific thematic areas to lead advocacy initiatives in partnership with various stakeholders including cross disability, civil society organizations and governments for community inclusion and right to live independently in the community.

In some countries, TCI saw the emergence of strong leaders, however, it was not possible for them to sustain their work due to lack of mentorship, and even small amounts of funding was not available to them. Having a core focus on empowering its member OPDs of persons with psychosocial disabilities, in 2019 the secretariat originated an idea of mobilizing OPD support grants and microgrants for its members. It started as the next step of evolution for supporting national advocacy in member countries and also a mechanism to seek financial and technical assistance from TCI secretariat.

The grants are provided to its members based on the policy priority areas identified for
national advocacy. The secretariat also designs various program management and monitoring tools for the member OPDs for building organizational capacity and establishing their governance systems. This process ultimately facilitates fellows and members of TCI, to situate themselves in the cross-disability movements at the national level to begin advocacy, reclaim independence and be included in the community.

TCI has had the privilege to work with its members from various regions through OPD grants and microgrants to support national advocacy projects/initiatives

BAPU TRUST - INDIA

Championing for Inclusive Communities - Kenya

NIDAHAS CHINTHANA SANS
Consumer Action Forum (CAF)

Consumer Action Forum
SriLanka

Perhimpunan Jiwa Sehat Indonesia

Indonesian Mental Health Association - Indonesia

JNGMDP

Japan National Group of Mentally Disabled People, Japan

KOSHISH - Nepal
## OUR WORK AREAS

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Scan here to know more and read reports from member countries on microgrants projects by TCI members:
TCI Country Missions & Sub Regional Meetings

TCI Country Missions are mobilization visits, organized with the aim of identifying, engaging, and working with the movements of persons with psychosocial disabilities in the region. In many countries there is no presence of OPDs of persons with psychosocial disabilities and also the cross-disability movements have not been inclusive of us. In many countries persons with psychosocial disabilities have been confined to mental health laws and mental health service delivery systems.

TCI country missions are a way of bringing persons with psychosocial disabilities together for two consecutive days, empowering their OPDs, and dialoguing with multiple stakeholders. TCI has worked enormously during the country missions in shifting the paradigm from mental health movement to inclusion movement and sanitizing the national movement for our inclusion in the community and participation in development agendas. TCI has organized a number of country missions, out of which some of them were exploratory visits. Exploratory visits are organized to learn about the country situation and make initial contact with OPDs for inclusion of persons with psychosocial disabilities.

The country missions are put together only when there is an invitation by a local OPD, emerging
voices of emerging voices of people with psychosocial disabilities, or a support agency for capacity building and national mobilization. These missions have been really helpful for our movement towards identifying emerging leaders, formation of national OPDs, providing mentorship and strengthening national advocacy engagements with stakeholders.
During the country mission in Nepal, KOSHISH and TCI developed on a Kathmandu Declaration for inclusion of persons with psychosocial disabilities in Nepal.
TCI, as a global movement has witnessed huge interest of OPDs of persons with psychosocial disabilities and self-advocates to be part of this unique movement. Since 2012, TCI has been working rigorously to mobilize with national leaders and organization of persons with psychosocial disabilities. TCI built a strategy of mobilizing key national leaders and organizing Sub Regional meetings. The ideation of this strategy was to move into various Sub-Regions of the world and strengthen a rights-based movement of persons with psychosocial disabilities, and to support national leaders to work with peers in their own subregions.

During TCI sub regional meetings, leaders of our constituency gather together for two consecutive days and engage in various discussions and discourses highlighting the present state in their countries. During the convenings the discussions also focus on the need to create inclusive communities and sharpen advocacy skills within the larger aim of inclusion within development. These sessions also aid in making an impact on policy makers and influencers in the region to propel the inclusion of persons with psychosocial disabilities within policies and programs.
**SUB REGIONAL CONVENINGS**

South Asia sub regional meeting, Nepal - representation from Nepal, Pakistan, India, Maldives, Bhutan and Sri Lanka

South Asia sub regional follow-up meeting, virtual - representation from Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Maldives

East Africa sub regional meeting, Addis Ababa - representation from Rwanda, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia and Malawi
TCI Multistakeholder Meetings

TCI has witnessed exclusion of persons with psychosocial disabilities in various disability related policy discussions. Article (4.3) of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is held sacrosanct in the disability movements worldwide, on the full and effective participation of all persons with disabilities. However, persons with psychosocial disabilities continue to be marginalized, ignored, and their voices are unheard in national and global policy circles. Moreover, people with psychosocial disabilities are confined to mental health-fiction of human rights pushing us back to just being subject to health care and closed-door institutions.

To counter this, TCI has a policy of organizing multistakeholder meetings on the third day of every country mission, sub regional and plenary convenings as a concluding event. TCI multi stakeholder meetings have been a really successful means to ensure a constructive dialogue and engagement between persons with psychosocial disabilities (TCI members) and development actors. Stakeholders are invited from different sectors including leaders from the cross-disability movements, governments, policy makers, NGOs, INGOs, and UN agencies. TCI members and persons with psychosocial disabilities take this opportunity to converse with all kinds of stakeholders for our Inclusion in the decision making and development processes.
TCI Plenary Meetings

TCI Secretariat has a practice of also organizing plenary meetings with TCI members. The plenary provides an opportunity to showcase achievements, share and learn, invite and educate new members, establish co-operations with the cross-disability movement and other supporters; take key organizational decisions and finally, bring out important advocacy issues until the next plenary.

Typically, TCI plenary meetings are focused on,

- Learning sessions on CRPD, specifically discussing the GC on article 19
- Building a peer community, vision of the movement and advocacy strategies
- Dialogues on organizational capacity development
- Sharing strategic partnerships with multi stakeholders
- Sharing best practices on community inclusion from various member countries
- Strategizing for inclusion in the Disability & development processes

TCI secretariat along with its founding members plan for plenary meetings after rigorous discussions and dialogues to build on the scope and canvas of the plenary meetings.
TCI Plenary Meeting – Bangkok

TCI Global, in 2014, as TCI Asia, organized its first plenary meeting for its members from Asia and South East Asia members. Around 25 persons with psychosocial disabilities were together during the first plenary meeting to discuss, learn and share about their vision on inclusion of persons with psychosocial disabilities. The meeting was also attended by many new members, specifically from Pakistan, Vietnam and Taiwan to learn about the CRPD and TCI movement. The objective of the meeting was to bring together leaders from member countries and build their capacity to contribute as an inclusion movement and advocate for community inclusion and independent living of persons with psychosocial disabilities. During the meeting TCI members also participated in the UNESCAP side event on Incheon Strategy, discussed ideas for next plenary meetings, and shared actions to be taken after returning back to home countries.
TCI Global, in 2018, as TCI Asia Pacific organized a plenary meeting attended by members from 21 countries from the Asia Pacific region. The Bali plenary meeting was encapsulated to focus on the inclusion of persons with psychosocial disabilities within Disability & Development. Housing, work and employment, social protection, intersectional discrimination and discrimination within health care were highlighted as priority areas for sharing of experiences and information between members. Globalizing psychiatry through the Global Mental Health Movement and its variants, was considered as a concern, however, it was felt that expanding the scope and canvas of advocacy to disability inclusive development would be more useful strategy for national groups to share and take forward.

During the plenary meeting a “Bali Declaration” was adopted and was one of the major outcomes of the convening.

Scan here to access the Bali declaration translated in different languages by TCI members: