



Transforming Communities for Inclusion (TCI)



A group photo of TCI members after the adoption of "TCI Asia and Pacific Bali Declaration" during a plenary meeting held in Bali in 2018

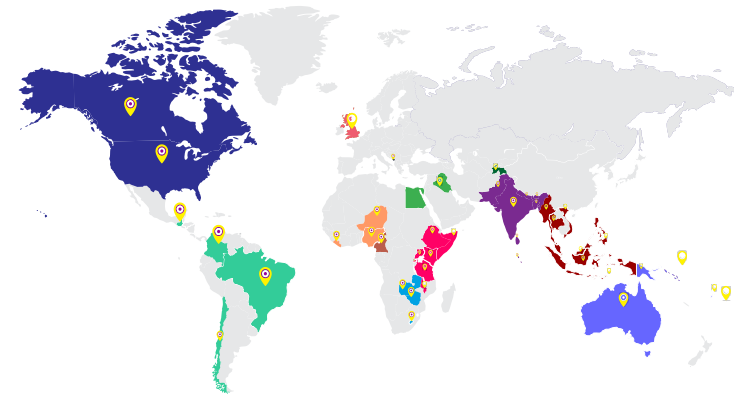
TCI is a global organization of **Persons with Psychosocial Disabilities** [an OPD]. TCI forecasts a **future** in which all **human rights** and **full freedoms** of persons with **psychosocial disabilities** are realized.

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 **dignity** and **autonomy**, experience our **independence** and to realize our **right to live** in the **community**.

Our Identity

Based on our common experience of exclusion from mainstream society, our movement of persons with psychosocial disabilities is inclusive of - people who identify as persons with intersectional and neurodiverse identities, autistic persons, users and survivors of psychiatry, 'mad' persons, persons deemed to be of 'unsound mind', etc. The movement is not about having a 'diagnosis' but about having an identity as a person with a disability.

TCI Membership Map



South Asia

- 🇬🇧 Bangladesh
- 🇧🇹 Bhutan
- 🇮🇳 India
- 🇲🇻 Maldives
- 🇳🇵 Nepal
- 🇵🇰 Pakistan
- 🇱🇰 Sri Lanka

Central Asia

- 🇹🇯 Tajikistan

Pacific

- 🇦🇺 Australia
- 🇫🇯 Fiji
- 🇵🇬 Papua New Guinea
- 🇸🇯 Solomon Islands
- 🇹🇴 Tonga

West Africa

- 🇱🇮 Liberia
- 🇳🇪 Niger
- 🇳🇮 Nigeria

Central Africa

- 🇨🇲 Cameroon

North America

- 🇨🇦 Canada
- 🇺🇸 USA

East Europe

- 🇲🇪 Montenegro

United Kingdom

- 🇬🇧 England

South East Asia

- 🇮🇩 Indonesia
- 🇲🇾 Malaysia
- 🇲🇲 Myanmar
- 🇵🇭 Philippines
- 🇸🇬 Singapore
- 🇹🇭 Thailand
- 🇹🇱 Timor Leste
- 🇻🇳 Vietnam

East Africa

- 🇪🇹 Ethiopia
- 🇰🇪 Kenya
- 🇲🇼 Malawi
- 🇷🇼 Rwanda
- 🇸🇴 Somalia
- 🇹🇼 Tanzania
- 🇺🇬 Uganda

Southern Africa

- 🇱🇸 Lesotho
- 🇿🇲 Zambia
- 🇿🇼 Zimbabwe

Central America

- 🇧🇷 Brazil
- 🇨🇱 Chile
- 🇨🇴 Colombia
- 🇬🇹 Guatemala

MENA

- 🇪🇬 Egypt
- 🇮🇶 Iraq

Our Membership

TCI offers 2 types of Memberships:

1 Individual Membership

A person with a psychosocial disability may apply as an individual member to TCI, in case no national OPD of persons with psychosocial disabilities are available in their country.



2 Organizational Membership

Organizations of persons with psychosocial disabilities, cross disability organizations, friends, and allies who support OPDs of persons with psychosocial disabilities can apply.



There is no subscription fee for joining the TCI membership. We are in continuous contact with our members, sharing information, advocacy news, opportunities, etc.

From TCI Asia to TCI Global

With support of the Bapu Trust for Research on Mind & Discourse, India, and the International Disability Alliance, a group of people with psychosocial disabilities and cross disability supporters from Asia organized a workshop on 'Transforming Communities for Inclusion - Asia' in 2013. This group decided to be identified as persons with psychosocial disabilities, considering this identity to be more inclusive and diversified. The focus of the movement was defined as 'transforming communities for our inclusion'. The group adopted the 'dialogue method' as a working methodology, promoting peaceful means of achieving advocacy ends.

The alliance was named as Transforming Communities for Inclusion (TCI Asia) in 2014 in Bangkok, with the agreement of members from over 15 countries from Asia. TCI Asia became TCI Asia Pacific in 2018 during the Bali Plenary, which was attended by people from 21 countries from Asia and Pacific. The group adopted the 'Bali Declaration', using it as a manifesto for guiding advocacy initiatives nationally. In December of 2020, considering our unique positioning as an 'inclusion movement' and our increasing role in global advocacy, TCI Asia Pacific decided to become TCI, a global organization of persons with psychosocial disabilities.



A group photo of TCI core members during the TCI General Assembly held in Bangkok, in April 2022

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, regional and global level. For more than a decade our focus and vision has been to empower OPDs, and dialogue with a variety of stakeholders including civil society organization, development 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 has been the cross disability movement.

Our Work & Advocacy

Redefining our Entry Point



TCI has changed the entry point to our inclusion: from 'right to health, inclusive of mental health' to 'right to all human rights, leading to full inclusion'. TCI, along with its

members advocates with all stakeholders and policy influencers to think and practice Inclusion. Several stakeholders are noticing a change and a nuance in entering the debate around inclusion, from a social, human rights paradigm.

Article 19, Independent living and Community Inclusion

The Bali Declaration evidences the fact that Inclusion is not only a vision or a value but, an emerging **Community of Practice**, led by persons with psychosocial disabilities. With our implementing members and partners, grassroots initiatives on community support systems were developed which were genuinely 'transforming communities for inclusion'. TCI also learned by applying CRPD principles to an old mental health program in Pune (by Bapu Trust), India, steering the program towards full CRPD compliance. TCI has been conducting online events and member exchange visits with members running support programs to promote the understanding of community inclusion and to encourage knowledge sharing on best practices across the regions.



Living Association, Thailand has set up two training centers for organic vegetable farming in urban small spaces, a group photo of their gardening program

De-institutionalization

Deinstitutionalization has been a priority for TCI and remains a core thematic of advocacy at national, regional and global levels. TCI engaged as an active partner to the 'Global Coalition on Deinstitutionalization' to support the Working Group of the CRPD committee, in developing a detailed guidelines for deinstitutionalization, which was recently officially adopted by the CRPD committee. TCI pursued the agenda of deinstitutionalization by participating in international webinars, co-organizing panels and events on the topic during high-level policy events such as the Civil Society Forum, COSP 15, etc. TCI has also been working with its members and wider networks to put deinstitutionalization on the agenda of the State and OPDs.

Access to Justice and Legal Capacity

One of our movements' biggest challenges has been tackling the issue of legal barriers, especially the legal incapacity laws that rob us of our 'personhood'. It is quite clear, with 15 years of the CRPD, that, unless legal incapacity laws leave national legislations, and there is true harmonization with the CRPD, we will be left behind in a big way. TCI, along with its members, has been advocating for and working towards repealing all discriminatory laws and legislation in our member regions.

National Engagement with Members through Program Opportunities

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 dozens 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.

TCI works on national OPD formation and movement building through its fellowships program

TCI provides OPD support grants and micro grants to its national members for organizational capacity building and leading advocacy initiatives at the national level.

TCI mobilizes with national members by organizing country missions and Sub Regional meetings followed by multi-stakeholder meetings to dialogue with various stakeholders for our inclusion.



A group photo taken after a TCI Sub Regional meeting held in Kathmandu in 2019



A group photo of TCI Members from Africa and Asia during the TCI East Africa Sub Regional meeting held in Addis Ababa, in 2022

TCI Youth:

TCI, in partnership with Indonesian Mental Health Association (IMHA) and supported by International Disability Alliance (IDA) embarked on an initiative to form a youth platform for young people with psychosocial disabilities during a post GDS workshop organized in Jakarta in October, 2022. TCI has established this platform to mobilize young people with psychosocial disabilities in the Global South countries to call

out their issues to the governments, and other stakeholders such as technical support organizations, cross disability organizations, and UN agencies for recognition of the issues of youth with psychosocial disabilities and their full and effective participation in the development processes.

Our Presence in UN Human Rights Mechanisms and Global Forums

TCI has been very visible in engaging the UN human rights mechanisms, treaty bodies, initiatives by the OHCHR, its special procedures offices and several initiatives by the various UN agencies to unify their disability strategies to make it inclusive. TCI contributed to consultations of the Human Rights Council relating to their mental health and human rights resolutions, de-institutionalization guidelines, days of general discussion, SR reports, thematic studies etc. Political participation, gender and DRR have held special interest for TCI in various UN initiatives. At the national level, TCI has facilitated multi stakeholder engagement of our members in GDS, COSP, etc. other than actively engaging UN regional and national bodies in our dialogue processes. The 'Bali Declaration' became a rallying point of TCI and continued to influence the global discourse on the inclusion of persons with psychosocial disabilities.

TCI #WhatWENeed Campaign

To challenge and correct the medical oppression on us, every year, the #WhatWENeed campaign has focused on issues of topical interest at the time. Other than the issue of stopping the normative violence against us, inclusion in the SDGs, questions of our identity, political participation, support system, de-institutionalization and various themes related to our community inclusion have been featured in the campaign by our members, partners and allies. The campaign gives a platform for our members to present their work and advocacy to a wider and global audience.

Honouring a Legacy and Seeking Redress


TCI is inspired by the strong history and legacy of the movements of users and survivors of psychiatry, ex-patients' liberation movements and mad pride movements which have existed since the 1960s. We pay our homage to the martyrs who gave their lives to expose the atrocities done to us, in the

name of 'care'. Truth be told, we are a historically violated group and victims: We await responses from governments and professional lobbies to establish truth commissions to expose the historical violations done upon our peoples around the world through 'mental health care' and to start a reparations process.


 **Our Board Members**



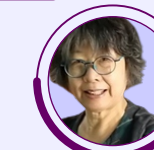
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Vice President




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Treasurer




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Secretary




Ammihud Joseph
Board Member


 **Our Secretariat**



Bhargavi Davar
Executive Director



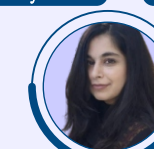
Richa Sharma-Dhamorikar
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