Accessibility and Technology: Overcoming Barriers

Tim Unwin
Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in ICT4D
28th January 2020 at Ramada Hotel, Islamabad

https://ict4d.org.uk  http://unwin.wordpress.com
Education office in Ghana

WHO IS DISABLED?

IF YOU FAIL TO SEE THE POTENTIALS IN THE PERSON BUT SEE ONLY THE PERSON’S DISABILITY, THEN WHO IS BLIND?

IF YOU CANNOT HEAR YOUR BROTHER’S CRY FOR HELP AND JUSTICE, THEN WHO IS DEAF?

IF YOU CANNOT STAND UP FOR THE RIGHT OF ALL PEOPLE, THEN WHO IS THE CRIPPLE?

IF YOU CANNOT HAVE THE PATIENCE, THE TOLERANCE AND UNDERSTANDING FOR INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES, THEN WHO IS MENTALLY-HANDICAPPED?

YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IS THE BIGGEST HANDICAP

CHANGE YOUR ATTITUDE

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Framework

  - Rights based
- Global agencies
  - ITU, UNESCO, G3ICT
- National policies
  - Varying in quality
  - Often not implemented
- National Civil society
  - Often fragmented
  - Competitive for limited resources

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Overcoming barriers and failures

• Understand from perspective of people with disabilities
  – Nothing about us without us
• Responsibilities alongside “rights”
• Collaboration not competition
• Greater emphasis on inclusion, rather than just assistive technologies
• Sharing good practicies: INIT and UNESCO Chair in ICT4D
  – 5 country study
Technical Session – IV
Accessibility and Technology: Overcoming Barriers

0930 - 1100
Opening Remarks by Prof. Tim Unwin
50 Years of Struggle by Prof. Abdul Mannan
Importance of Technology for PWDs by Prof. Shahid Ahmed Memon
Inclusion is not on your fingertips: Opti Key by Julius Sweetland
Open Floor Discussion

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