

## Guest Editorial - DCID: A New Era

Dear Reader,

You are reading a very special edition of the DCID Journal. A lot has changed since the last issue and will probably continue to change in subsequent editions.

This journal is the last in a long series of publications under the stimulating and professional management of Maya Thomas. It is also the first issue (of hopefully again a long series) under the management of the new Editor-in-Chief Huib Cornielje. Fortunately, the support to the editor in chief remains in the trusted hands of Ms. Vardini, our journal manager in India.

With Maya Thomas stepping back and Huib Cornielje taking over, things will change. For example, one of these differences has become visible in the composition of the editorial board. A significant number of members of the former team of dedicated professionals is using this moment to end their contributions. Fortunately, Huib has managed to fill up the vacancies with new experts, eager to give their support for ongoing improvement of the quality of the articles and the added value of the journal.

Secondly, this is the final issue being published under the banner of "VU University Amsterdam". The next issue will hopefully be hosted by Ubiquity Press, an open access publisher of peer-reviewed scientific journals, books and data. I would like to thank both the VU Amsterdam as well as the loyal team of editors who made it possible for the journal to prove its added value over the years.

The DCID Journal is an important medium to disseminate knowledge in the field of disability, enablement and social inclusion. This concerns a broad spectrum of subjects: from human rights and an open society to health care and rehabilitation services, education, vocational training and livelihood and, ultimately, social inclusion.

The Liliane Foundation has been requested to invest in DCID. After 40 years of contributing to the field of disability and development, the Liliane Foundation is still vigorous and committed to contributing to a world that is open to everyone and in which children with disabilities in poor resource areas can develop and use all their talents. Together with local organizations in Africa, Asia and Latin America, we contribute to make children stronger and their environment more accessible.

Furthermore, we support the development of networks of professional organizations, equipped to provide state-of-the-art rehabilitation services, rooted in the WHO ICF-model. In addition, the Liliane Inclusion Network participates in inclusive community development that optimizes the social inclusion of people with disabilities.

If there is one thing that we believe in, it is the talents and strength that lies in everyone. Collectively, we can learn from each other and work towards a better, inclusive future for all. I trust this vision is reflected in the articles published in the DCID journal too. The journal has always been freely accessible and thus open to academics, practitioners, policy makers and all that are interested and wish to be educated on disability, CBR and inclusive development. I would like to take this opportunity to again invite all of you to enlighten us with engaging and provocative input from your field of studies and practice.

Finally, I want to Thank Maya Thomas for her dedicated and passionate leadership and her inexhaustible support for increasing the quality of life and social inclusion of children and adults with disabilities, living in low and middle-income countries. Although these are big shoes to fill, I am convinced that with Huib, we have found an experienced, enthusiastic and worthy successor. I look forward to interesting insights, contributions and discussions!

**Steven Berdenis van Berlekom**

Executive Director

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