ITU-D Open Public Workshop

"Strategic management of ICT Accessibility for an Inclusive Digital Transformation"

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Accessibility requirements are transversal

Everyone is in scope of regulations, and everyone benefits when we do Accessibility well

Employees

Public sector

Entities with Public participation Banks, Hospitals, Government bodies, Transport, TV, Service sector...

Private companies

Compliance:
Non-Discrimination
at work laws

Directive (EU) 2016/2102 Accessibility of websites & mobile Apps of public sector bodies WAD (2102) Section 508 (1998)

ADA (1990) ACA (2019) EAA (2022) EEA: Diretive (EU)
2019/882 Accessibility
requirements for products
and services

Regional & Local Action Plans, Laws & Regulations on Disability & Accessibility

Industry specific Accessibility Laws & Regulations (Broadcast, Banking, Travel...)

National Action Plans Laws & Regulations on Disability & Accessibility (To implement CPRD)

UN CPRD (Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities)



Focus on othe EU Directives referencing Accessibility

- **Digital Markets Act** ("gatekeepers": Amazon, Apple, Google, Meta, Booking, Alibaba, etc.): reference to the EAA and the Audiovisual Media Services Directive (Directive (EU) 2018/1808), but not to the CRPD...
- Artificial Intelligence Directive: includes obligation for high-risk AI to mandatory accessibility requirements.



...and other critical ones that don't

- **Digital Services Act:** no mandatory accessibility obligations for digital services but voluntary "codes of conduct" for providers.
- The (Ammended) Payment Service Providers Directive (PSD2): sets security requirements for bank operations (payments, access to accounts online or via apps), i.e. Strong Customer Authentication (SCA) requiring two authentication factors may pose challenges:
 - be difficult to understand or be executed by individuals with impairments,
 e.g. QR code-based functionalities, required SCA actions taking too long for people with cognitive impairments, etc.
 - performing the SCA process requires in most cases possession of a smartpho



Meanwhile, the EAA:

- Applies to the following services:
 - electronic communications services (except for certain transmission services);
 - services providing access to audio-visual media services;
 - websites; mobile device-based services including mobile applications; electronic tickets and electronic ticketing services, etc.
 - interactive self-service terminals for all passenger transport services;
 - consumer banking services; and ecommerce services.
- Estalishes that "providers of consumer banking services and e-commerce services have additional obligations which include providing consumers with "dentification methods, electronic signatures, and payment services which are perceivable, operable, understandable and robust"
- ...but neither the DSA nor the PSD2 makes any reference to the EEA



What are the key challenges and opportunities in fostering a culture of digital inclusivity within organizations?

How can these challenges be effectively addressed through strategic planning and implementation?

Challenges in Awareness and Training

- One challenge lies in raising awareness and providing comprehensive training on digital inclusivity.
- Organizations can address this by developing tailored training programs, fostering a culture of empathy, and ensuring that employees understand the importance of digital inclusivity.



Opportunities in Innovation and Collaboration

- Embracing digital inclusivity presents opportunities for innovation and collaboration.
- Organizations can leverage these opportunities by:
 - creating cross-functional teams dedicated to accessibility,
 - fostering a culture of knowledge-sharing, and
 - encouraging employees to contribute to accessibility initiatives.



Strategic Planning for Inclusivity

- Strategic planning plays a crucial role in addressing challenges and leveraging opportunities.
- To foster a culture where digital inclusivity is seen as a strategic imperative rather than an afterthought, organizations should:
 - develop clear accessibility roadmaps,
 - establish measurable goals, and
 - integrate inclusivity into their core values, thus.



Questions?

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