

# Organize inclusive hygiene promotion sessions (COVID-19 response)

*Suggestions and recommendations for HI's field programs*



## **a. Invitations and visibility**

- Make sure that persons with disabilities are informed of the session, date and place
- If possible advertise the session on social media

## **b. The location**

- Choose a location easy to reach also for persons with mobility impairments or visual impairments (no uneven road, with holes and obstacles); if relevant, close to accessible transportation;
- Ensure that the rooms is fully accessible for persons with physical impairments: no steps at the entrance or accessible ramp in place, doors wide at least 90cm



- Make sure that close to the room there is an accessible toilet / latrine
- Ensure that the room is properly cleaned before and after the session;
- Provide an accessible handwashing station or a hand sanitizer inside the room or just outside it, making sure that everyone cleans their hands before getting in the room and after touching or manipulating objects
- Ensure that the place is well signposted and easy to identify: information panel close to the entrance, direction panels from the nearest main road and/or public transportation.
- Make sure that in the room there is enough space for persons on wheelchairs to circulate and approach the podium; keep the first rows of seats reserved for people with impairments (visual or hearing)
- Make sure that the podium itself is accessible for speakers with disabilities (if relevant)
- For external spaces, make sure there is a roof or a shelter to protect participants, and that the level of noise allows participants with hearing impairments to understand what is said

### **c. Transportation to and from the venue**

- Make sure that persons with disabilities can reach the venue and, if not, identify possible solutions (use HI car to collect some of them, arrange taxis, etc.)

### **d. The session**

- Make sure the minimum distance between participants is ensured and that the rooms is well aerated; make sure that people do not touch one another
- Keep the number of participants limited (max 10 or less, according to local instructions) for hygienic reasons and also so that everyone can hear properly and will feel free to express him/herself and ask questions;
- If materials are used for the session, make sure that they are accessible to all (printed materials, presentations, etc.). Refer to the dedicated HI guidelines *“Produce accessible sensitization materials (COVID-19 response)”*
- make sure that an inclusion focal point is available to provide specific clarifications to people in need
- make sure that a sign language interpreter is available
- provide loudspeakers and microphones
- make sure that the speaker uses a simple and clear language, that they speak slowly, and that they describe orally anything visual that they show to the audience
- If possible, during the session show people what they have to do and how (i.e. how to wash their hands properly)
- Ask everybody to always introduce themselves before talking
- Pens and paper always available on tables to facilitate communications with deaf people
- Provide accessible leaflets at the end of the session including the main information and indications