



ASIA PACIFIC
DOWN SYNDROME
FEDERATION



April 2022

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PRESIDENT SPEAK



Hope all of you are doing well. This year the World Down Syndrome Day celebrations across the region have been less virtual and more physical. It is wonderful to come out and celebrate this day with our dear ones. Two years of staying indoors and celebrating OUR DAY virtually has made this year's event more memorable.

A noteworthy fact is that more of our members have shared the happenings in their country with us. It is heart-warming to see the number of activities that countries have organized for World Down syndrome Day. APDSF is proud to share that we, as a team presented our self-advocates and speakers at the prestigious United Nations. Organized in association with the Permanent Mission of India at the United Nations Offices in Geneva, this event was well attended and can also be viewed on YouTube - <https://youtu.be/wkvMYqPCys4>.

Our self-advocates made us proud by speaking about how important inclusion is for all of us. I am happy to see that our self-advocates are now able to express themselves in our bid to achieve our final goal – Inclusion.

Now that most of us are out of lockdown, let us start doing more in creating a world without differences for Persons with Down syndrome.

N. Ramachandran

President – Asia Pacific Down Syndrome Federation

APDSF CELEBRATES WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY AT THE UNITED NATIONS

The Asia Pacific Down Syndrome Federation has been celebrating World Down Syndrome Day at the United Nations office at Geneva from 2018 onwards. In 2019 also we attended the event along with our self-advocates and representatives from a few countries including Mongolia.

We had several events planned for 2020. However, due to the global lockdown and subsequent impact of the Corona outbreak, the event was called off by the UN itself. In 2021, we had a virtual meeting where self-advocates, parents and caregivers all discussed and provided their points of view about the situation.

This year, APDSF in association with the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations Office in Geneva organized the virtual WDSO Celebrations over Zoom. Representatives from across the region – Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, India, Australia, New Zealand, UAE, Hong Kong, Maldives and UK – all presented the situation in their country. Self advocates spoke about their aspirations and how they wished the world would be for them to lead inclusive lives.

The meeting began with a prayer song by a self-advocate from India.

Her Excellency, Ms. Tatiana Valovaya, Director General of the United Nations Office in Geneva shared her thoughts with us vide a video recording.

Mr. N. Ramachandran, President – APDSF welcomed the chief guest, Mr. Indra Mani Pandey – the Ambassador of the Permanent Mission of India to the UN at Geneva and other dignitaries for this virtual event. His Excellency, the ambassador in his address spoke about the Indian Government's thrust on Inclusion of persons with Disability into the mainstream which is what we as a community are aspiring for.

The topics covered were diverse - from life shared with their siblings to the care of the aging population of persons with Down syndrome. Speakers also spoke about the situation in their countries and the changes that they were trying to bring about.

Secretary General of the APDSF – Mr. Ashish Bhengra proposed the vote of thanks to conclude this informative and inspiring event.

AUSTRALIA

This year on World Down Syndrome Day Down Syndrome Australia (DSA) officially launched the Right to Work project, which supports people with Down syndrome to build their skills to be job ready and helps connect employers to new job seekers looking for work in open employment.

People with Down syndrome want to work for the same reasons as everyone else – so that they can be independent, contribute to society, earn their own money, learn new skills, meet new people, and feel valued.

As part of the Right to Work project, DSA shared employment stories from across the country throughout March across all of their digital channels.

From working in an office to working in the great outdoors, DSA highlighted employees in a range of different jobs to show that everyone with Down syndrome can contribute to their community and bring benefits to a business and the team.

DSA also held a photographic exhibition at the Canberra Centre in the nation's capital city, which displayed large prints of ACT members in their workplaces with quotes about why they love their jobs. The exhibition was seen by thousands of people over the week and was a huge success.



BANGLADESH

Down Syndrome Society of Bangladesh (DSSB), being the national representative member organization of Down Syndrome International-UK, along with the Department of Communication Disorders, University of Dhaka jointly had an announcement to take the opportunity to come together to observe the World Down Syndrome Day on 21st March, 2022 and this year it took place in the Social Science Faculty Auditorium, at University of Dhaka for creating a massive

awareness on Down Syndrome Issues.

Background of the Campaign:

World Down Syndrome Day (WDSD), 21 March, is a global awareness day which has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012. Down Syndrome (DSi) encourages friends and colleagues from all over the world to choose their own activities and events on WDSD to help raise awareness of what Down syndrome is, what it means to have Down syndrome, and how people with Down syndrome play a vital role in our lives and communities. (For more information please visit-

<https://www.worlddownsyndromeday2.org/>)

Down syndrome is not a birth defect. It is, rather, a blessing. Children born with the condition have



Join us...
World Down Syndrome Day

2022

21 March, 2022

#InclusionMeans...

একীভূত সমাজ ব্যবস্থা
অংশগ্রহণে বাড়ায় আস্থা

Venue: Muzaffar Ahmed Chowdhury Auditorium
University of Dhaka

Down Syndrome Society of Bangladesh-এর অভিজ্ঞা জাতীয় পর্যায়ে ডাউন সিনড্রোম বৈশিষ্ট্যসম্পন্ন শিশু ও ব্যক্তিদের সামাজিক মর্যাদা, গ্রহণযোগ্যতা, অধিকার প্রতিষ্ঠা শিক্ষা, স্বাস্থ্য ও কর্মসংস্থানের সুযোগ সৃষ্টির লক্ষ্যে একটি জোরালো কণ্ঠস্বর...

Down Syndrome International, UK-এর বাংলাদেশের প্রতিনিধি সদস্য হিসেবে Down Syndrome Society of Bangladesh সকলকে World Down Syndrome Day-2022 উদ্‌যাপন করতে আহবান জানাচ্ছে।



unique talents that are not acknowledged. In order to raise public awareness on Down syndrome, Down syndrome Society of Bangladesh observed the World Down Syndrome Day on 21st March, 2022 for the 9th consecutive times in Bangladesh.



In 2022, we called the attention from all the concerns to come together to make a single global voice for our wonderful people who born with Down syndrome. The theme of the World Down Syndrome Day-2022 is “**#InclusionMeans**” emphasizing on inclusion for persons with Down syndrome in the mainstream development of the country. Whatever we do, we hope together that we will create a very loud single global voice advocating for the rights, inclusion and well-being of people with Down syndrome on 21 March.

Contribution from Meghna Group of Industries: We are truly grateful to Meghna Group of Industries for their kind support to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day-2022.

1. Production of T-Shirts with Fresh Logo: Meghna Industries supported Down syndrome Society of to produce 500 T-shirts on the occasion of World syndrome day. The T-shirts promoted the WDSD a well manner.



Group of
Bangladesh
Down
campaign in

2. In-kind Support of Fresh Mineral Water: MGI bottle of Fresh drinking water (330 ml) to Down Society of Bangladesh the occasion of World Syndrome Day 2022. These water bottles have been participants during the WDSD celebration event at Dhaka. The participants, and children and adults syndrome thanked MGI for the kind support to in colorful manner.



donated 500
Syndrome
Down
served to
University of
with Down
observe the day

Cultural Program:

Excellent stage performance was organized by the children and adult with Down syndrome. Please visit the link to watch unique Ramp Show

<https://www.facebook.com/DSSocietyBangladesh/videos/309294031338278>

Opening Dance was performed by children with Down syndrome to welcome the guests. Please watch the amazing dance performance:

<https://www.facebook.com/DSSocietyBangladesh/videos/1210563869476030>



Unwrapping Magazine 'The Down Syndrome Voice'

On the occasion of the celebration of World Down Syndrome Day-2022, the 5th issue of 'The Down Syndrome Voice' has been published to raise the single global voice for the inclusion of people with Down syndrome.



Contribution from Sightsavers: We are truly grateful to Sightsavers for their kind support to 2022. Sightsavers

celebrate World Down Syndrome Day-supported Down syndrome Society of Bangladesh to prepare 1000 gift bags on the occasion of World Down syndrome day. The bags promoted the WDSD campaign.



Other Significant Event

Talk Show: A talk show was organized by Down Syndrome Society of Bangladesh on 21st March. The theme of the talk show was 'Down syndrome and Social Inclusion'. The event was wholly dedicated in line with the slogan of the campaign: #Inclusion Means. The aim of the special talk show was to create awareness on Down syndrome and social inclusion.

Printing & Electronic Media Coverage: The World Down Syndrome Day Campaign was covered with high importance and emphasis by prominent News Channels of Bangladesh. National TV Channel I, Bangla Vision, RTV, News24 and ATN bangla telecasted event news on 21st March. Print media and online news agencies also published news on the event. These are:

- Daily Prothom Alo
- Bangladesh Post
- Daily Somoyer Alo
- Daily Alokito Somoy
- News24 Online
- Campustimes.press



Snapshot of Electronic Media Coverage



CHINA

PART1 : West Lake Tours with Up for Down's

In August 2012, "Up for Down's" held the first Down Syndrome Summer Camp in Hangzhou, China. The management committee of the National Park of West Lake, the cruise company and the tour bus company organized three activities, including a tour of the zoo, a cruise and a tour bus around the West Lake.

The official website of the West Lake also posted a special report for us. Down Syndrome families from all over the country received a lot of love from them.



2012, The banner wrote West Lake welcomed Down Syndrome families

On March 21, 2022, the WDSD, the West Lake management Committee invited us to the West Lake again. Totally 31 people (including Down Syndrome families and volunteers) participated in the event.

We tried online live events for the first time, those who cannot participate in the event can also join us.



Some pictures during the event.





After the tour, Fuyuan Qizhi (A non-governmental organization established by the Deputy Director of the Down Syndrome Committee) organized some sports, including climbing, walking, drumming and passing flowers(a Chinese traditional activity), to **welcome the Asian Para Games**, and the lunch was also sponsored by them.



PART2 : WDSD organized by southern DS parent organization

On March 19, 2022, more than 30 people from Nantong Non-profit organization, Nantong Wushan Tourism Development Co., Ltd. and Nantong Computer Chamber of Commerce held an event about participation, equality, sharing, and inclusion.



Some Down Syndrome people were trained to be tour guides of Langshan Mountain.





With the encouragement of the masters of Langshan Guangjiao Temple , they pasted the sign of " Caution Steps "



PART3 : WDSD organized by northern DS parent organization

Parents organized Down Syndrome children to record videos to share their thinking about WDSD theme : Inclusion means.

For them, inclusion means love, warm, hugs, smiles, being brave to be yourself, being together with each other, having the same life, integrating into the societies, growing up happily, and better integrating into the whole world.



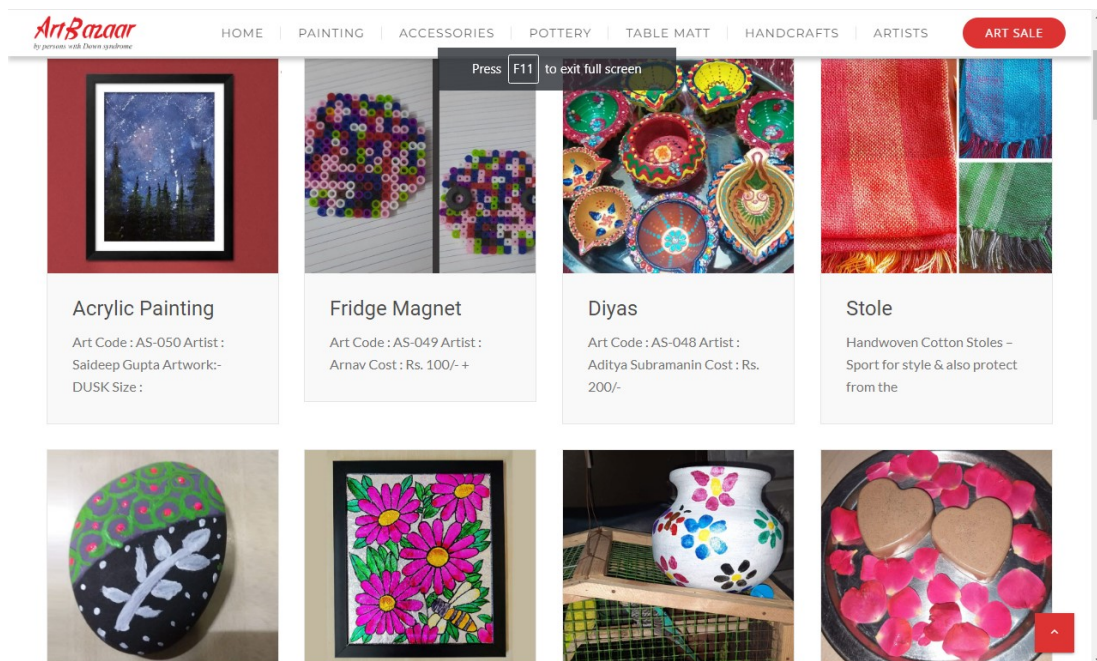


INDIA

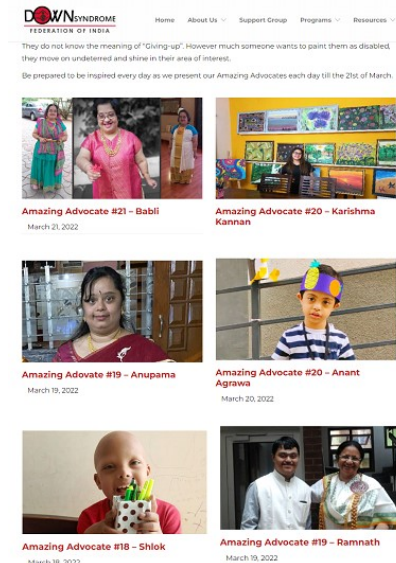
While 2021 was all about lockdowns and all the events took place virtually in the confines of homes, 2022 was an invitation to be a physical part of the activities. India celebrated Down syndrome in style as each state celebrated it in their own unique way.

Art Sale – DSFI organized an online Art Exhibition of craft and art work done by our self-advocates. It was to bring to the fore their talents and creativity. The sale was a success with a lot of paintings being sold and some even asking for more such exhibitions.

You can take a look at the art work here - <https://art.downsyndrome.in/art-sale/>



Amazing Advocates Series : From March 1 to March 21, we showcased 21 self-advocates who through their hard work and never-say-die spirit, proved their mettle. However much someone wants to paint them as disabled, they move on undeterred and shine in their area of interest.



Read about them - <https://downsyndrome.in/amazing-advocates/>

Talent Shows: Talent shows were organized across the country in various locations to showcase talents of our self-advocates . It was a revelation to see them all at their best. They proved once again that they can compete with anybody at all if given the chance.



Cyclothon – The Capital City saw a cyclothon organized by the Delhi chapter in association with the organizers of a Pediatric Conference – Pedicon.



Pedicon 2022 – DSFI along with the Delhi chapter was also a part of the Pedicon Pediatric conference where we were given a stall and prominent placements to spread awareness. The doctors were highly motivational and appreciated the efforts of our self-advocates.



A video of our self-advocates and their achievements was also launched at the event. - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BckRWNg6luQ&t=6s>

In order to spread awareness, Paypal through their CSR arm Strive also ran a WDSD quiz. Tangent India did a WDSD special with dances, songs and fun activities for our self-advocates.

Amity Institute of Rehabilitation Sciences - AIRS organized a 2 day seminar on “Best Practices of Education and Support Services for Independent Living of Persons with Down Syndrome” in association with the Asia Pacific Down Syndrome Federation. It was a 2-day conference with speakers from across the globe sharing their thoughts.

The World Down syndrome Day 2022 was a celebration of the human spirit and the love and affection that Persons with Down syndrome share. Their positive vibes gave the event a whole new sheen.

Please visit our website www.downsyndrome.in for more information.

INDONESIA

Greetings from POTADS INDONESIA!

First of all, we would like to say Happy World Down Syndrome Day 2022 to all respective countries.

Indonesia Inklusi, Down Syndrome Berkarya (make better inclusion environment in Indonesia, so people with down syndrome can achieve the best performance) was our theme for WDSD 2022 in Indonesia.

There were events that we conducted to celebrate WDSD from the beginning of March 2022, such as :

1. Webinar about Congenital Heart Diseases and Obesity in People with Down Syndrome, collaboration with Indonesian Pediatric Society (IDAI)

<https://youtu.be/QI5FoFyGIGo>



2. Ear screening, cleaning and examination for total 479 children with down syndrome from all over Indonesia. This event involved PIK POTADS in 10 cities in Indonesia, in collaboration with Indonesian EHC Committees (PGPKT)



3. Down Syndrome Got Talent Season 2

More than 200 children and person with down syndrome participated in this event by showing their talents. Hastag :#DSGTSEASON2

<https://www.instagram.com/tv/Cbo2HF7AC6S/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>



4. Video Competition : Home Stimulation for Toddler with Down Syndrome

#lombastimulasipotads2022



5. Make Down Syndrome's Dreams Come True

#wujudkanimpianpotads

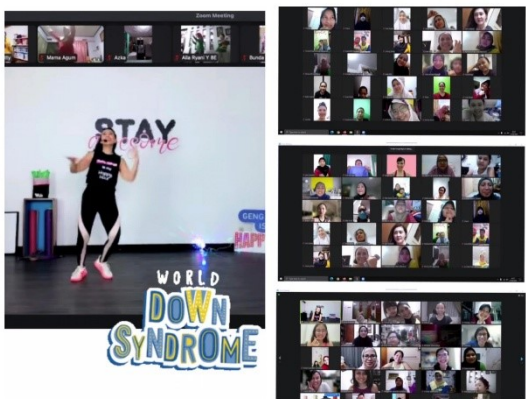
<https://youtu.be/DAjEewqiFg0>

6. Charity Bazaar

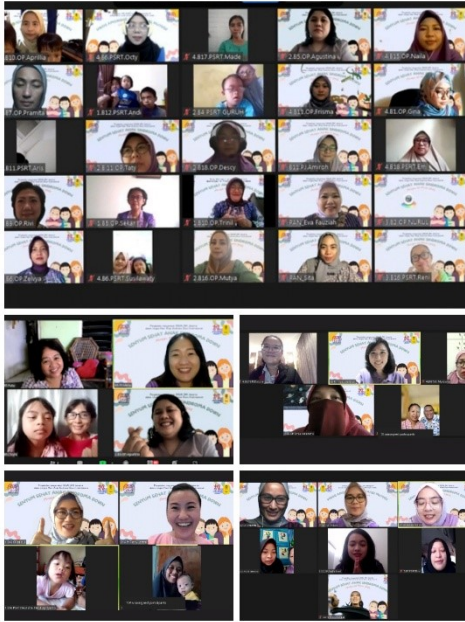
7. Fashion Show by people with down syndrome and public figure, in collaboration with Carys Cares



8. Virtual Exercise, Cardiotoning POTADS x GengGobyos, for members and public.



9. Webinar about dental and oral health, and virtual consultation, in collaboration with Indonesian Pediatric Dentistry Association (IDGAI) DKI Jakarta



10. Celebration of World Down Syndrome Day and 6th Trisomy Awareness Bash 2022. Collaboration between POTADS and Cordlife Indonesia on 27th March 2022, in Neo Soho Mall, Jakarta.



We were really excited because this was the first event we celebrated in open public after 2 years of pandemic.

At this event included :

- press conference about WDSD and down syndrome in general
- Talk show about talents, eye health for people with down syndrome, and non invasive pre natal screening
- Performances by people with down syndrome : dancing, keyboard, djimbe, karate
- Performances by artists/public figure

All activities in this event were carried out with health protocols.

With this series of event, we hope that public can see and understand that people with down syndrome are the same as others in generals, they can do a lot of activities, they can have good performances, and they should have more opportunities for their future.

Let's make better inclusion environment, so people with down syndrome can achieve the best performance.

POTADS INDONESIA

www.potads.or.id

<https://instagram.com/potads>

JAPAN

APDSF e-News for March, World Down Syndrome Day 2022 in Japan by JDSS

We celebrated World Down Syndrome Day 2022 in Japan. <https://jdss.or.jp/wdsd2022/>

Many events were held across Japan.

① Sports events to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day 2022!

Some sports events were held in many prefectures in Japan.

One of them is as follows. (the photo attached)

"World Down Syndrome Day Memorial Event" at Komazawa Olympic park athletics stadium sponsored by Japan Association of Athletics Federations for the Intellectually Disabled (JIDAF)

Date: 2022/3/21 From 09:00 to 17:00

All athletics Friendly Competitions

Sprint (Foot race) Event: 60m / 100m / 200m / Long jump / Relay (standing / wheelchair)

② "Survey on the living conditions of people with Down syndrome and the subjective well-being of parents living with them"

Every year, JDS adopts an appeal from JDS to realize a society where people with Down Syndrome can live more comfortably at the "World Down Syndrome Day" commemorative event on March 21st. JDS held the kick-off rally.

Closing March, JDS made a report on the "Survey on the Living Conditions of People with Down Syndrome and the Subjective Happiness of Parents Living Together", which has been under investigation for this year.

- Sunday, March 27, 13: 30-14: 30 on the Live video distribution of report announcements on YouTube

- Presenter: Hiroshi Tamai, JDS Representative Director

フレンドリー交流イベント 2022年3月21日（世界ダウン症の日） 14時半～15時半（小雨決行） 駒沢陸上競技場にて

主催：日本知的障がい者陸上競技連盟
共催：東京陸上競技協会 日本パラ陸上競技連盟 日本デフ陸上競技協会
ゲスト



阿部けん太

ダウン症のイケメンタレント
日本デフ陸上競技協会顧問



今井絵理子

参議院議員



川内雄輝選手

あいおいニッセイ同和損保保険所属



後藤佑季

元NHK-BS東京バラエティリポーター



小林祐梨子

日本パラ陸上競技連盟理事



増田明美

東京陸上競技協会会長
日本パラ陸上競技連盟会長
日本知的障がい者陸上競技連盟会長



21番目の染色体が3本あることから3月21日は国際で定めた啓発デー。詳しくは
<https://jds.or.jp/wdsd2022/>

参加条件 オール陸上競技フレンドリー記録会の参加者（家族）及びスポンサー

かけっこ好きの人！体験したい人！障がいのあるなしに関係なく集合！

初心者かけっこ教室コース

★歩きから走りにつながる動きづくり
＜スペシャルコーチ＞
ヤマダホールディングス
陸上競技部



★世界ダウン症の日を記念して
ダウン症のチャレンジャーも招待！

体験コース

★光スタート30m（デフ体験）



★レーサー試乗



★フレームランニング試乗（新種目）



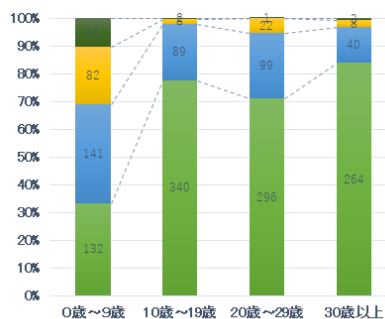
詳細につきましては、今後各団体のHPにてご確認下さい。

Contents of the Survey

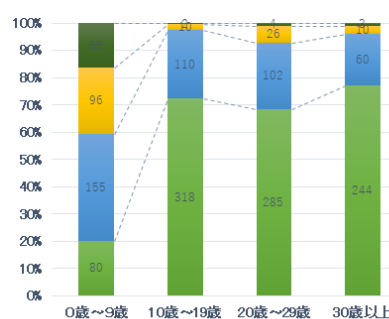
- I-1. Family structure
- I-2. Residential area
 - (1) Place of residence at birth
 - (2) Experience of moving
 - (3) Current place of residence
- I-3. Economic situation
 - (1) Current annual income
 - (2) Current residence
- I-4. Health status
 - << Children / persons with Down syndrome, fathers, mothers >>
 - (1) Hospitalization history for the past 10 years
 - (2) Current health status
- II-1. Age of the person
- II-2. Gender of the person
- II-3. Educational measures for the person
- II-4. Grade of nursing notebook
- II-5. Current daytime activities
- II-6. Current life
- II-7. Changes for one year
- II-8. Adult condition (dementia-related)
 - (1) Suspicion of dementia
 - (2) Anxiety about dementia
 - (3) Symptoms suspected of dementia
 - (4) Contact
 - (5) Consultation destination
 - (6) Problems
 - (7) What is needed in the future
- III. Empathy (multidimensional empathy scale)
 - 《Father, mother》
- IV. Mental resilience (mental resilience scale)
 - 《Father, mother》
- V. Subjective well-being (subjective well-being scale)
 - 《Father, mother》
- VI. Encouragement resources and stressors
 - 《Father, mother》
- VII. Free description

JDSN Degree of independence by age group

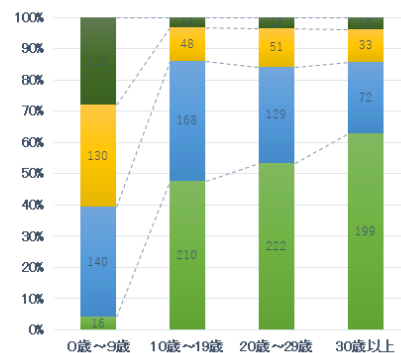
Meals (by age group)



Putting on and taking off clothes (by age group)



Bathing (by age group)



I can't do it myself Need some help I need a lot of help I can do it almost

MONGOLIA

Highlights of the Mongolian Down Syndrome Association's many outreach activities to the public and its members on the occasion of World Down Syndrome Day.





Celebration

The Mongolian Down Syndrome Association organized the World Down Syndrome Day open to all members in the Shangri-La Ulaanbaatar event hall under the “**For good friends, the number of**



chromosomes is unimportant” on the 20th of March. This day is a day to spread awareness about Down Syndrome, to involve people with Down Syndrome equally at all levels of society, and to recognize the importance of everyone's participation in living a happy, meaningful, and purposeful life.

In our celebration:

Ministry of Labor and Social protection
Ms. A.Ariunzaya, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to Mongolia Mr. Krzysztof Bojko, and other official persons.

Who participated:

More than 200 children and young people with Down Syndrome were represented by their families, as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations and international organizations supporting our association.

Project

Within the framework of the "ALL OPPORTUNITIES" project, which aims develop people with intellectual disabilities through sports and introduce them to the public, children adults with intellectual disabilities from southern 4 provinces and eastern 3 provinces, their parents, guardians, doctors, teachers, and social workers, successfully participated in the training, consultations, medical examinations, sports festivals involving local authorities and volunteer children and youth.



to
and
and





MYANMAR

We wish you all to be healthy and happy on World Down Syndrome Day 2022. Although we can't meet each other during the pandemic time and world crisis, we always offer our best wishes and prayers for all the Ds families across the globe.

In 2022, the situation in Myanmar is really unexpected and we are suffering many difficulties and crisis. Because of the political turmoil and crisis in the country, we are not able to celebrate big events. However, we do realize that most of the persons with Down syndrome have been anxious and tired during this time. Therefore, MDSA arranged the "Art competition and Create Together Art Program" with the objective of shaping the "Feeling of Happiness" by honoring the WDSD 2022. In that event, 34 persons with Down syndrome participated and revealed their happiness not only individually but also with the group. Under the performance of our program, they get their imaginary fun moments for a while. To share the moment of happiness and give a message, MDSA organized the photo story and uploaded it on the social media post by adding a meaningful message to reveal their feelings.

This will be small but our activity can make them happy and release their stress for a while. Life is not easy but we have to survive by sharing and caring for each other especially for our DS families. We hope that you can feel us by reading our story and looking at our photos. We wish we could be happy and celebrate the WDSD with all the countries together when the time comes.





NEPAL

This year, the theme for World Down Syndrome Day (WDSD) is '#InclusionMeans'. It highlights the importance of collective understanding and global conversation about Down Syndrome, which will empower people around the world to advocate for full inclusion in society for people with Down syndrome

WDSD 2022 celebrated in Nepal with lots of energy and enthusiasm to bring awareness in society saying " WE CAN DO ANYTHING BELIEVE IN US AND INCLUDE "

Parents of children with DS , people with DS various disability organizations and government representatives rallied from the CENTRAL ZOO through the streets of Lalitpur raising awareness about the Genetic Disorder

Down Syndrome .Many people asked what Down syndrome is?

Few days after the WDSD celebrations

there were many calls from various districts of Nepal to President DSSHA- Nepal for information on how to care for their children with DS and make them independent and responsible citizens in latter life.

The pictures of the amazing children with Down syndrome seem to challenge all across the world saying

“Having Down syndrome means nothing to me, I’m special like everyone else. I do not let people judge me for having Down syndrome. The important thing is how I feel about myself. On the inside, I feel beautiful.”





NEW ZEALAND

This year, Covid 19 restrictions have again stopped Down syndrome groups around the country from hosting their usual WDSD celebrations, so the New Zealand Down Syndrome Association organised a mega-online community event, [The Big Connect](#), hosted on World Down Syndrome Day which included a who's-who from the disability sector.



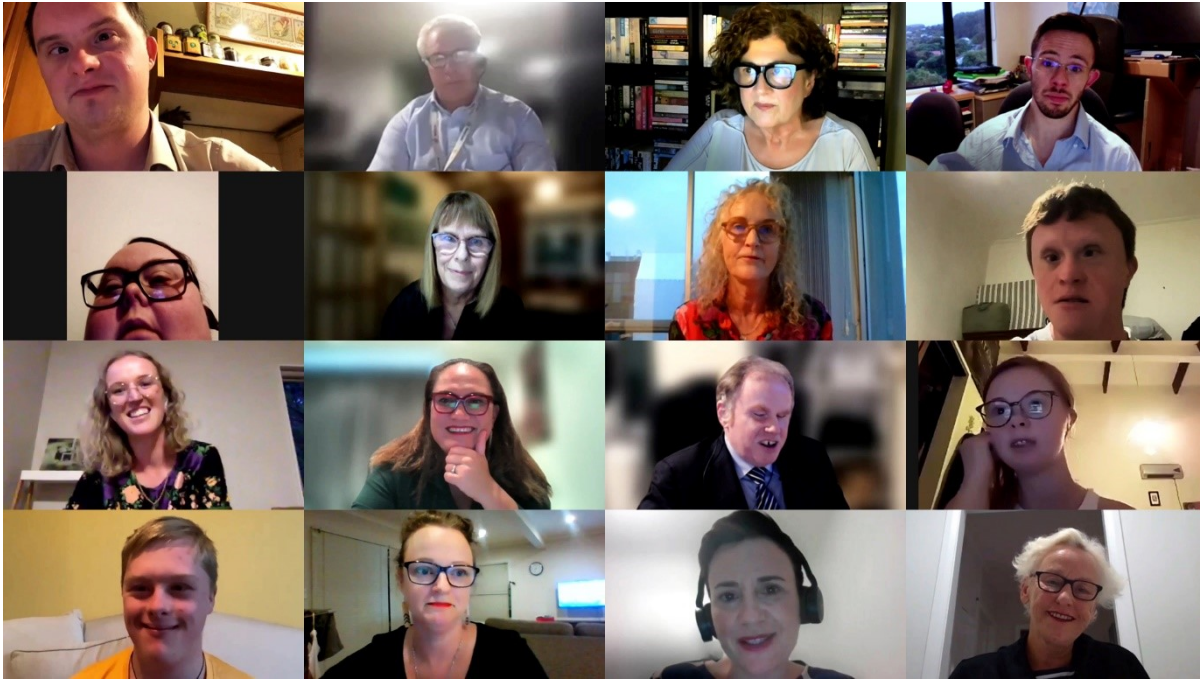
The Big Connect was opened by the Minister for Disability Issues, the Honourable Carmel Sepuloni, before she handed the stage to the President of Down Syndrome International, Bridget Snedden, and Paula Tesoriero, the Disability Rights Commissioner.

We then continued with an intriguing panel of high-profile experts and advocates who discussed issues around human rights, education, employment, sports and arts.

You can watch this event on the NZDSA website [https://nzdsa.org.nz/the-](https://nzdsa.org.nz/the-big-connect/)

[big-connect/](https://nzdsa.org.nz/the-big-connect/)

The panel speakers



The NZDSA also was involved in print, radio and television interviews to promote World Down Syndrome Day and to raise awareness about inclusion.



Zandra Vaccarino and Lily Harper after their breakfast TV interview.

The NZDSA also supported APDSF event hosted at the UN Office in Geneva. Andrew Oswin, a member of STRIVE, the NZDSA's self-advocacy leadership and advisory group shared his ideas for a better world.



The NZDSA also launched a new digital resource Down and Spectrum Disorder. A Dual diagnosis. This resource will shortly be available via our website www.nzdsa.org.nz

We were pleased to see more schools getting involved in WDSD celebrations by hosting Rock Your Socks events.

Our regional groups also hosted a range of social media campaigns to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day.

It was a day of celebration in New Zealand.

PAKISTAN

Pakistan Down Syndrome Association organized 4 activities on World Down Syndrome Day 2022.

1. One Morning Show of 30 minutes in Sindhi Language at Times News Sindhi Channel
2. One Morning Show in Urdu Channel of 15 Minutes at Express News
3. One Day Awareness session on Importance of Day.
4. Press Conference at Karachi Press Club to make aware public about importance of the Day.
The Press Conference is attached & News channel links are given below:
Times News Sindhi Channel: <https://youtu.be/k-rrvVgwySE>
Express News: <https://youtu.be/AJwYnluptNc>



Pakistan urged to recognize Down Syndrome as Disability: Abid Lashari

KARACHI: Pakistan Down Syndrome Association (PD-SA), DEWA Academy, APHA Karachi conducted Press Conference to highlight the importance of the 21st World Down Syndrome Day 2022 is observed under theme "#InclusionMeans". On this day, people with Down syndrome and those who live and work with them throughout the world



March World Down Syndrome Day 2022. Mr. Abid Lashari President/CEO Pakistan Down Syndrome Association (PD-SA), Mr. Rizwan Lodhi Director DEWA Academy, Mr. Nishat Ahmed General Secretary APHA and others said during press conference that World Down Syndrome Day (WDSD) is observed on 21st March in the World. The

organize and participate in activities and events to raise public awareness and create a single global voice for advocating for the rights, inclusion and well being of people with Down syndrome. Mr. Abid Lashari told that Down syndrome is a chromosomal disorder caused by an error in cell division that results in an extra 21st chromosome.

SINGAPORE

Down Syndrome Association (Singapore) (DSA) commemorated World Down Syndrome Day (WDSD) in a hybrid format for the second consecutive year. In its 17th edition, the 'live' event was co-hosted by our very own persons with Down syndrome, Grace Gan and June Lin, together with volunteer Brynner Jananto. We were privileged to have Mr. Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for Social and Family Development and Second Minister for Health grace the event at our DSA Centre @ Bishan Junction 8.

The theme for this year's WDSD centers around the question of "What Does #Inclusion Means?", emphasizing the importance of the collective effort from the community to advocate for full inclusion in society for people with Down syndrome and for everyone.

June Lin shares, *"I have my hopes, dreams and aspirations and I want to be accepted for who I am. We all have our unique challenges and needs but if we are supported, encouraged, and nurtured, we too can achieve our full potential."*

Together with our caregivers and online viewers, all were treated to a Drum Performance, a scented soap-making session, and a mini-forum featuring self-advocates from the 'Our Lives, Our Voices' (OLOV), a self-advocacy program by DSA and Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore (MINDS). During the forum, self-advocates shared what inclusion means to them and their hopes for the community. It was encouraging to see so many of you tuning in and engaging with us through the live chat during the show.

In a show of support for WDSD 2022, Tanglin Mall organised an art exhibition to showcase the artistic talents of our members. Six pieces of artwork created by DSA artists were displayed around the mall.

Through the effort and support of all our donors, sponsors, members, and volunteers, funds raised through this event will support three of our life-changing programs at DSA, namely Early Start Family Program, Independent Living & Training Centre, and Talent Enhancement Fund!





SRI LANKA

We had a plan to conduct an art therapy programme in the Central Province. However, we were compelled to cancel it due to the following reasons.

1. Situation with the COVID-19 pandemic was not favorable for gatherings. Authorities from the Department of Health did not grant permission to implement any social gatherings
2. The parents were also not in favor of bringing the children even for the initial awareness programme.

At the same time, the economic crises prevailing in the country agitated society. There is a shortage in the supply of fuel in the country, and due to rising inflation, prices of essential items have increased. There are anti-government protests throughout the country. The only program that we are actively engaged in right now is the counseling program. We are in the process of publishing a series of small booklets for parents.

Now there is a need for fund raising for the future programs. But we cannot do any thing until the present situation in the country improves .

THAILAND

The Rainbow Room Celebrated World Down Syndrome Day 2022 with Stunning Art Exhibition Honouring Artists with Special Needs

Bangkok, Thailand - The Rainbow Room Foundation, Thailand's first special needs awareness centre, in collaboration with Art Connection, Bangkok Art and Cultural Center and Nobel Development, launched a collection of wet plate collodion ambrotype photos of 10 artists with special needs by Nico Sepe, a Filipino photographer as the grand opening of an exhibition titled "Co-Labs: The Collaboration" with Lady Sirikittiya Jensen (the niece of King Rama 10), recently presiding over the event to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day and Autism Awareness Day 2022

"Co-Labs: The Collaboration" is a part of Language of The Soul - and inclusive art exhibition series - featuring three parts collaboration. First, the collaboration of 10 artists with special needs with Nico Sepe in a powerful 19th century process of photography exhibition. It was described by Mr. Sepe, the photographer, as a reflection of "Beauty, without vanity!".

The second part of the exhibition showcased a woven art piece titled "Corfu Panda" from the collaboration between Mook Ploenchan Vinyarat, Thailand's renown textile artist/designer, and Krailas Sakuldist, a weaving artist with Down Syndrome. The third part is an installation titled "Imperfection Is Perfection. A Beautiful Perspective of Life" by Wichulada Panthanuvong, an artist activist who creates her artworks from waste. She was inspired by the poems of Raccoon Kang Diew, a poet with Autism.

The exhibition is aimed to recognise and celebrate the potential of artists with special needs in Thailand.





UAE

EDSA Activities During the WDSD 2022

Coinciding with the association's celebration of the World Down Syndrome Day

In cooperation with the Special Olympics UAE

Emirates Down Syndrome Association organized the 13th Emirates Down Syndrome Bocce Tournament 2022 at Expo 2020 Dubai



With a great success and wide participation of 55 male and female players from 13 centers and clubs across the country, Emirates Down Syndrome Association (EDSA) in cooperation with the Special Olympics UAE concluded 13th edition of Emirates Down Syndrome Bocce Tournament 2022 at Expo 2020 Dubai.

Dr. Manal Jaroor, EDSA Chairperson, and on behalf of EDSA Board members, people with Down syndrome and their families, expressed her deepest gratitude and appreciation to the Special Olympics UAE, represented by His Excellency Talal Al Hashemi, National Director of the Special Olympics UAE, and praised their distinguished partnership with the association, which is a clear reflection of the vision and directives of wise leadership to empower, promote participation and fully include people of determination in public life, culture and sports.

Jaroor said: The tournament was even more special this year, as it was held at Expo 2020 Dubai, where the world meets to create a better tomorrow, it was a great opportunity for people with Down syndrome to demonstrate their talent and abilities in the presence of the whole world.

In collaboration with Emirates Down Syndrome Association, the UAE's most recognizable landmark, Burj Khalifa, lightened up in Blue and Yellow

People with Down syndrome, their families, advocates, and specialists enjoyed the amazing look of Burj Khalifa lightened up in Blue and Yellow.



This came in the celebration of the Emirates Down Syndrome Association of the World Down Syndrome Day, which falls on March 21 every year.

In addition, people with Down syndrome, had an amazing time and experienced the magic of Dubai Aquarium and enjoyed exciting activities at

KidZania Dubai at the same day Sunday 21st March.

Dr. Manal Jaroor, EDSA chairperson, praised the strategic partnership with Emaar, and highlighted the great impact of such event on the social awareness about people with Down syndrome, locally and globally.

*Watch Burj Khalifa WDSD Projection using the link:

https://www.instagram.com/reel/CbXweStALal/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link



EDSA participation during the 11th World Down Syndrome Day Virtual Conference organized by the United Nations

Emirates Down Syndrome Association participated actively during the 11th World Down Syndrome Day Virtual Conference that was organized by the United Nations. Dr. Manal Jaroor, EDSA chairperson, presented about health inclusion in UAE, and the national policies to ensure accessibility of an optimum healthcare services for all people.

In addition, the self-advocate Mr. Omar Alshami, spoke about his journey, the challenges he faced and his aspirations and recommendations on how to fully include people with Down syndrome in the society.



EDSA launched an awareness campaign on its social media platforms

Emirates Down Syndrome Association published 21 awareness videos through its social media platforms on the occasion of the World Down Syndrome Day 2022, where parents and specialists from across the MENA region spoke about the most important topics concerning people with Down syndrome.

Recycled Robots Training Session

Emirates
Bank,

NBD
EDSA



organized “Do-It-Yourself Recycled Robot” training session at the association headquarters in Dubai.

People with Down Syndrome enjoyed creating robots made out of recyclable or non-biodegradable waste from home. Emirates NBD Bank volunteer team assisted the participants in making the robots as well as programming the robot kit.