

Deafblind International (DbI)



Strategic Plan

June 2015 – August 2019

Deafblind International

Who We Are

We are an international not-for-profit membership organization focused on the needs of individuals who are deafblind, their families and the professionals who provide services. We have a constitution and are managed by a volunteer Board from around the globe. We are focused on bringing together individuals and organizations to share information such that they can develop and provide quality services in the regions of the world from which they come.

Our Vision

To be the international association which promotes the awareness and knowledge of deafblindness as a unique disability and to influence for appropriate services for people who are deafblind around the world.

Our Purpose

To support professionals (such as educators, administrators, researchers, medical specialists, etc.), families and people who are deafblind to raise awareness of deafblindness. Central to our work is to support the sharing of knowledge and the development of services to enable a good quality of life for children and adults of all ages who are deafblind.

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Background:

Deafblind International's strategic plan is a working document that runs on a four-year cycle that is concurrent with the term of the election of our officers. The plan and progress to date are formally reviewed twice per year, once by the ManCom and once by both the ManCom and the Board at the Annual General Meeting.

Consultation with the members of the board at the end of our previous term as well as with the present board at our first meeting following the most recent election of officers in May 2015 resulted in the identification of three main priority areas. Those areas of priority and the associated primary goal are as follows:

Priority # 1 - Diversity

Goal: Dbl will create a climate of diversity throughout all aspects of our operation.

Priority # 2 – Social Media

Goal: Dbl will ascertain the needs and invest in the technology and training required to enhance our ability to share knowledge and to use social media to connect with our members and the global community.

Priority # 3 – Networks

Goal: Dbl will support our Networks to develop competencies, share specialist knowledge and strengthen connections.

Progress Legend: **May 2015 to August 2016**, **September 2016 to September 2017**,
October 2017 to XXXXX 2018, **XXXXX 2018 to August 2019**

Priority # 1 - Diversity

Goal: Dbl will create a climate of diversity throughout all aspects of our operation.

Outcomes	Tasks to Reach Outcome	Lead Personnel or Committee	Budget Allotment Required	Status/Progress	
				Date	Details
1. Membership will include representation from regions of the world not presently well represented particularly in Asia and Africa	Create a map/visual with present members & locations	Secretariat			
	Appoint a Diversity Officer to ManCom	ManCom		Oct 2015	Dennis Lolli has accepted the position
	Develop a Diversity Officer description and role	Secretariat & Diversity Officer		Feb 2016	Complete & Approved
2. Conference guidelines will reflect increased diversity	Update sections related to the composition of committee members & presenters				
3. Sponsorship guidelines will reflect increased diversity	Update guidelines to reflect increased diversity				

<p>4. A Dbl Multi-year Diversity Plan will be developed</p>	<p>Diversity Officer will submit a draft report with recommendations to ManCom</p>			<p>Apr 2016</p>	<p>Draft plan was distributed to ManCom</p>
<p>5. An under-represented region will be identified and an individual from that region supported by Dbl to attend and participate in Board Meetings up to and including August 2019</p>	<p>A specific region or country will be identified Guidelines for the role, responsibilities and logistics of the position will be developed 1 or 2 individuals from that region or country will be invited to participate on the board</p>				
<p>6. An increased number of Dbl promotional materials and articles translated into other languages</p>	<p>Collaboration with individuals and /or member organizations to translate Review articles into other languages will be pursued</p>	<p>Stan</p>		<p>May 2016</p>	<p>Modified Review in Russian was distributed</p>
<p>7.</p>					

Priority # 2 – Social Media & Technology

Goal: Dbl will ascertain the needs and invest in the technology and training required to enhance our ability to share knowledge and to use social media to connect with our members and the global community.

Outcomes	Tasks to Reach Outcome	Lead Personnel or Committee	Budget Allotment Required	Status/Progress	
				Date	Details
1. A list will be created of volunteer board members who identify areas of expertise and willingness to address content specific questions or comments that come to the Dbl via social media.	Lead an information session and follow-up discussion at the August board meeting to recruit volunteers	Stan			
2. Board members will become engaged and increasingly comfortable with the process of using social media to benefit Dbl	Survey board members on their thoughts and experiences with social media	Gill, Bronte, Matthew			
	A training session to be facilitated at the August 2016 board meeting	Frank			
3. Access to portions of Dbl events will be made available through the use of technology	Pilot access to August 2016 Annual General Meeting through the use of Skype and/or Face Time				
4.					

Priority # 3 –Networks

Goal: Dbl will support our Networks to develop competencies, share specialist knowledge and strengthen connections.

Outcomes	Tasks to Reach Outcome	Lead Personnel or Committee	Budget	Status/Progress	
				Date	Details
1. Network Leads will develop stronger connections	Appoint a Network Officer to ManCom	ManCom	0	Oct 2015	Henriette Hermann has accepted the position
	Develop a Network Officer Description & Role	Secretariat & Network Officer		Feb 2016	Complete & Approved
2. Networks will determine their potential technology needs during the next four years	Survey the Networks as to there anticipated technology needs				
	Network leads will receive information and training on uploading to the website	Henriette			
3. Acquire a Dbl YouTube channel for the purpose of sharing informative field related videos					
4. Links to external webinars & videos will be added to our website					
5.					

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