

Who We Are

The World Blind Union (WBU) is the global organisation representing the estimated 161 Million people worldwide who are blind or partially sighted.

Our members are organizations of and for the blind in some 190 countries and international organizations working in the field of vision impairment.

We work through six Regions, located in Africa, Asia, Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin America and North America & the Caribbean. We are governed by an Officers Board comprised of 6 internationally elected Officers and the six Regional Presidents as well as an Executive Committee.

World Blind Union



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Changing What it Means to be Blind

Our Vision

A community where people who are blind or partially sighted are empowered to participate on an equal basis in any aspect of life they choose

WBU Office

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Our Work 2009–2012

Our Purpose

To facilitate achievement of our short and long term visions by building on our progress in our three vision ladders of: representation, capacity building and information sharing.

Representation

Promoting full participation and equal opportunities for blind and partially sighted persons in all aspects of social, economic, political and cultural life

- Working towards a world accessible to blind and partially sighted persons
- Representing blind and partially sighted persons at the United Nations and UN Agencies
- Advocating for human rights of blind and partially sighted persons.

Capacity Building

Strengthening the capabilities and capacity of the WBU regional structures and member organisations

- Improving employment opportunities for blind and partially sighted persons
- Developing the capacity of our members
- Supporting our target populations for full inclusion
- Strengthening of World Braille Council
- Supporting our members to implement the CRPD at the National level.

Information Sharing

Serving as an international information and resource centre on matters in respect of blind and partially sighted persons

- Developing a Resource Repository for members including website

- Developing international partnerships and collaboration
- Developing the capacity to include our various language communities within the work of the WBU.

An Effective Organization

Ensuring the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of the WBU

- Working to expand the membership
- Maintaining the membership
- Coordinating the development of and reviewing WBU Policies and Position Papers
- Overseeing WBU financial resources
- Developing and implementing the Funding Strategy
- Monitoring the effectiveness of the WBU operations to support its work.