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Press release

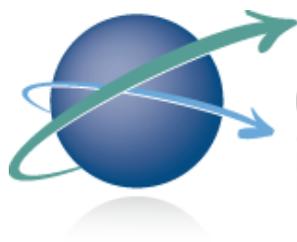
## Online Resource Centre for Applied Disability Research

Following the recognition as a non-profit organisation, FIRAH (International Foundation for Applied Research on Disability) announces the opening of its Resource Centre, coordinated by FIRAH. This Resource Centre acts as an Interactive platform for sharing and exchanging knowledge from applied research, and is available on [www.firah.org/centre-ressources](http://www.firah.org/centre-ressources).



« This foundation is ambitious. The Resource Centre aims to contribute to enhancing the value of applied research and knowledge development, by working in synergy with worldwide stakeholders active in the field of disability and applied research. »

Axel Kahn, Chairman and founder of the FIRAH



**CENTRE RESSOURCES**

Partage de connaissances concernant  
la recherche appliquée sur le handicap

- Resource Centre: What is it about?

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It is an **interactive space for sharing knowledge** to promote applied disability research, which is available (from FIRAH's website) on [www.firah.org/centre-ressources](http://www.firah.org/centre-ressources).

This Resource Centre will also organize meetings and seminars.

- What purpose does it serve?

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It serves to **strengthen links between researchers and field workers**<sup>1</sup>, in order to improve social participation and quality of life of people with disabilities, using the knowledge obtained from applied research.

To do so, three areas are proposed:

- "The projects incubator": fosters the setting up of collaborative projects between stakeholders in the field and researchers, by offering methodologies, directories, support organisations...
- "understanding to take action": educates stakeholders in the field and researchers about new concepts and approaches to disability through:
  - an information and training area on the United Nations Convention, the ICF (International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health) and the DCP (Disability Creation Process)
  - various Disability awareness-raising tools for multiple audiences, including children
- "research valorisation": offers outcomes of applied research, by providing the user with a documentary database that provides research findings, and its means of implementation

It is following these three paths that everybody's interest will be met. For example:

- **A researcher** will be able to disseminate a research project that has been achieved.
- **A researcher and a field stakeholder** will have the opportunity to exchange ideas, to set up one / several project (s) together through an international network
- **An NGO and a research centre** will find research support organisations
- **An NGO** will be able to find information to improve the support it provides, as well as professional practices and / or seek evidence to strengthen its advocacy

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- <sup>1</sup>Stakeholders in the field: Persons with disabilities, their families and Disabled People Organisations. Any Human Rights organisation that works with persons with disabilities. Service providers and other organisations working with persons with disabilities. Service providers and other organisations working in the mainstream field that are required to meet the needs of persons with disabilities such as architects, teachers, companies industries etc.. Local, national and international decision makers. The general public.

- **A journalist** will be able to know about applied disability research
- **A person with disability and his/her family** will be knowledgeable on updated progress of applied research on a topic of direct concern to them, and assert their expectations and needs for research
- What processes does it serve?

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It supports applied research promoting a **personalized support of quality** (including assistive technologies) and fostering an **inclusive environment** complying with the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

**It covers all topics, all disabilities and all geographic regions.**

- Who is involved?

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Many people are involved: they are mainly members, partners and people interested in applied disability research on disability, willing to participate in project development and to draw on the research findings, but also people with disabilities themselves and their families, who can become members and invest in such projects.

- How to get involved in the Resource Centre from now on?

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Means of action are numerous! Announce the opening of the Resource Centre in your networks, register as a member, send applied research projects, become a partner of the project...

- For more information

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Link to the Ressource Centre :

**[www.firah.org/centre-ressources](http://www.firah.org/centre-ressources)**

The resource Center is supported by the FIRAH's three founding members...



... and:

