Iain Levine

Iain Levine first encountered the discrimination faced by people with disabilities when he was 17 and working in a hospital for children with disabilities in Jerusalem, Israel. Since those days, he has spent more than 35 years in international humanitarian and human rights work from the streets of Calcutta in India to refugee camps in Sudan, conflict-affected communities in Mozambique and the rebel-controlled areas of South Sudan.

In the 1990s, Iain shifted to the human rights world with Amnesty International as its UN representative before moving to Human Rights Watch as its head of programs for 16 years.

At Human Rights Watch, Iain helped to create its disability rights program, establishing the first program of its kind at a mainstream international human rights organization and saw its growth and development as a real force for the protection of disability rights, working closely with DPOs in many parts of the world.