# ADDC NEWS

**Another disappointing Federal Budget for Australian aid**

This month we were disappointed with the announcement that the Federal Government has again frozen increases to Australia’s aid budget, effectively cutting over $140 million from Australia’s aid program over the next four years. This will bring Australia’s overseas development assistance to just 0.19% of our GNI by 2022, far below the OECD benchmark of 0.7%.

While dedicated funding to disability-inclusive development remains steady, cuts will put pressure across the aid program, and the poorest and most marginalized people – including those with disabilities - are always at risk of being left behind.

ADDC knows that Australia can and must do more to overcome poverty and promote prosperity in our developing country neighbours, and we will continue our advocacy on this.

**ADDC’s Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021 open for review**

ADDC’s multiyear strategic plan is now available here for our members to review and comment by 15 June 2018.

This strategic plan has new emphasis on **building our collective voice** so that we can do more to **increase the accountability** of DFAT and other agencies to their commitments to disability-inclusive development.

This shift reflects the changes in the sector over the past 10 years of ADDC’s existence, and responds to needs and priorities that were voiced through the sectoral consultation that ADDC held earlier in the year.

Over 50 individuals from a wide range of agencies, backgrounds and interests participated in our consultation through interviews, the online survey and email. We were greatly encouraged by the widespread interest and support - thank you to everyone for your time and insight.

# ****IN THE NEWS****

## What should better disability data look like?

This Devex [**in depth article**](https://www.devex.com/news/what-should-better-disability-data-look-like-92769) looks at the importance of adequate data to monitor disability-inclusive development within the Sustainable Development Goals, barriers to obtaining this, and perspective from experts on progress and priorities for internationally comparable disability data. This includes information on the first U.N. Global Flagship Report on Disability and Development, which will be issues later in 2018 and will cover national policies, programs, best practices, and available statistics concerning the status of persons with disabilities in development.
Organizations call on States Parties to increase disability representation within the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

The International Disability Alliance, Women Enabled International, Spanish National Organisation of the Blind (*ONCE*), Spanish Committee of Representatives of Persons with Disabilities  (CERMI), and the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) [call upon](http://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/disability-representation-cedaw) States Parties to promote the representation of women with disabilities within the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW Committee), reaffirming that women and girls with disabilities represent a significant part of the population of all women and that disability representation in treaty bodies must expand beyond the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD Committee). Throughout its 37-year history the CEDAW Committee has yet to include a member who identifies as having a disability, despite the fact that an estimated one in five women worldwide lives with disabilities.

## Australian aid budget freeze leaves our region’s most vulnerable out in the cold

CBM Australia’s press release on the Federal Budget outlines how this year’s Federal Budget has missed opportunity to increase support to people with disabilities in developing countries. “With 30% excised from the aid budget over the last five years, tonight’s budget has set out the Government’s plan to reach new lows for our region’s poorest and most vulnerable people…Right now around the world, women, men, girls and boys with disabilities are being left behind and we have a chance to make a real difference in their lives. People with disabilities often face a cycle of inequality, isolation and exclusion that leads to the most extreme forms of poverty, leaving them most vulnerable,” said Jane Edge, CEO of CBM Australia. Read the [full press release.](https://www.cbm.org.au/media-release/australian-aid-budget2018/)

## Aboriginal people with disabilities and their families need our support

Joseph Archibald [writes](https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/may/10/aboriginal-people-with-disabilities-and-their-families-need-our-support) on the importance of working to include Indigenous populations in NDIS: “Daily our mob lives with the impacts of disability more than any other section of the Australian population: [almost half of our Indigenous population](http://fpdn.org.au/) aged 15 years and over live with disability or a restrictive long-term health condition and experience disability at more than twice the rate of the general Australian population which increases further with the inclusion of psychosocial disability (mental health)… Every day Indigenous families enter the NDIS system and service marketplace, many with little support and knowledge of what to do and where to go… We need culturally appropriate services with sustainable models that can compete in the NDIS open market and be around for our communities for the long term.”

**Report on people with disabilities living in institutions in Brazil.**

Human Rights Watch have issued a [new report](https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/accessible_document/brazil0518_etr.pdf) documenting the range of abuses against children and adults with disabilities in residential institutions in Brazil. The research is based on direct observations during visits to 10 institutions (known in Brazil as shelters and care homes), as well as 5 inclusive residences for people with disabilities, and over 170 interviews.

# ****NEW**** ****RESOURCES****

## Global Disability Rights

People with disabilities all over the world have endured unequal treatment and discrimination on the basis of having a disability. The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has drawn international attention to how the situation can be acknowledged and redressed through a country’s laws. The Global Disability Rights’ have compiled [this resource on the 10 principles of disability rights](https://www.globaldisabilityrightsnow.org/principles). It is an excellent tool that could be used for training and learning.

# ****EMPLOYMENT and**** ****FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES****

## [Occupational Therapist Trainer](https://www.australianvolunteers.com/opportunities/10545253/), Vietnam

Australian Volunteers Assignment

* Increase the capacity of staff at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Ho Chi Minh City to increase knowledge, proficiency and practice of OT.
* Assist in providing comprehensive clinical practice programs from students.
* Live in the large and bustling Ho Chi Minh City.

*Closing date: 11 June 2018.*

## [Inclusive Education Teacher Trainer](https://www.australianvolunteers.com/opportunities/10539465/), Samoa

Australian Volunteers Assignment

* Support the Ministry of Education, Sport and Culture in Samoa to integrate inclusive education policies and practices into their schools.
* Apply your skills in special education program development and implementation to make formal education opportunities available to all children in Samoa.

*Closing date: 21 June 2018*

## [Physiotherapist Trainer](https://www.australianvolunteers.com/opportunities/10539429/), Tonga

Australian Volunteers Assignment

* Make a difference in the lives of Tongans who have been hospitalized
* Work alongside local staff at Vaiola Hospital to develop their knowledge in physiotherapy, ultimately improving the quality lives for children living with disabilities and their families in Tongatapu.

*Closing date: 21 June 2018*

## [Prosthetist Orthotist Mentor](https://www.australianvolunteers.com/opportunities/10539473/), Samoa

Australian Volunteers Assignment

* Strengthen the work of Samoa National Health Service (NHS).

*Closing date: 21 June 2018*

## [Certified Prosthetist and Orthotist](https://www.australianvolunteers.com/opportunities/10539642/), Nepal

Australian Volunteers Assignment

* Strengthen the capacity of the Prosthetist and Orthotist staff at the National Disabled Fund to improve services of the Rehabilitation Centre.
* Assist in reaching the National Disabled Fund’s goal of ensuring equality in every service to the person with disability.

*Closing date: 21 June 2018*

## [Occupational Therapist](https://www.australianvolunteers.com/opportunities/10535135/), Papua New Guinea

Australian Volunteers Assignment

* Support the vital work of Cheshire Disability Services PNG.
* The key objective of this assignment is to train national staff, mainly Physiotherapist and Field Workers with the aim of up-skilling them with relevant Occupational Therapist skills to be able to carry out assessment, prescribe and administer relevant treatment/rehabilitation interventions especially with disabilities.

*Closing date: 21 June 2018*

# ****CONFERENCES, TRAINING**** ****& EVENTS****

**ACFID Conference**

**Sydney, 30-31 October 2018**

ACFID’s National Conference this year will be built around the theme ‘Human Rights in the 21st Century - People. Planet. Peace’. The theme has been chosen in recognition of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; Australia’s inaugural year as a member of the United Nations Human Rights Council; and to mark the 25th anniversary of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

Members and organisations are invited to [submit Expressions Of Interest](https://acfid.asn.au/news/acfid-invites-members-and-organisations-host-conference-sessionshttps%3A/acfid.asn.au/news/acfid-invites-members-and-organisations-host-conference-sessions) to host conference sessions on this theme.

**Fixing NDIS National Conference (Fulfilling the Promise to Revolutionise Disability Services)**

**Melbourne, Australia 3-4 September 2018**
The [**Campaign to Reform NDIS**](http://www.civilsociety.org.au/NDISReform.htm) and its package of [**15 reform measures**](http://www.civilsociety.org.au/NDISReforms.htm) have arisen from the deliberations of people with disabilities, families and friends, support organisations, researchers and policy makers over the past two years, facilitated by Civil Society Australia. The Campaign has set itself the goal of influencing elected representatives in the Federal Parliament to commit to reforming NDIS before the current structure and culture of the scheme become entrenched.

This Conference on 3-4 September will seek broad input into the NDIS reform process. It will present papers and workshops on current practices and proposed improvements or alternatives to them. It seeks additional reform proposals, and invites campaign ideas for building broad public support for transformational change. People with disabilities, families, friends, support organisations, community groups, services, policy makers and elected representatives are invited to contribute to this people-driven process to ensure NDIS delivers on the promise to Revolutionise Disability Services.

For more information write to Liz Stewart info@civilsociety.org.au

[**XVIII World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf**](http://www.wfdcongress2019.org)

**Paris, France, 23-27th July 2019**

The official languages of the congress are International Sign Language, French Sign Language, English and French.

The congress program will cover six main topics:

* Sign Language and Deaf Studies
* Deaf Education
* International Cooperation and Development
* Technology and Accessibility
* Health
* Employment

[**WFMH International Trauma Summit 2018**](http://www.mhinnovation.net/forums/news-events/wfmh-international-trauma-summit-2018)

**Houston, Texas, USA. 28-30 November 2018**

The world is continuing to experience almost constant waves of violence, disasters and human rights catastrophes. Trauma and its potentially long-lasting effects are becoming major mental health crises in our world. Those who survive may never get the immediate help they need and deserve; leaving their mental health compromised, and there are few services to assist them in their long term recovery.

To bring more attention to this issue and the ever-growing need for care for victims of trauma, we have created a platform for all levels of professionals, activists and trauma survivors to gather and discuss ways governments, United Nations System Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) can address this global crisis. We believe bringing all of these voices together to develop polices, there could be a united focus on the effect of trauma, which would encourage prompt intervention to minimize the extent of trauma induced disability and mental health concerns. This would enable people to live an optimal life and can interrupt the cycle of abuse and trauma.

# ****NEWSLETTER********S FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS****

## [DRD Vietnam Newsletter April 2018](http://www.drdvietnam.org/images/baiviet/An%20Pham/2018.04.Newsletter.pdf)

Disability Research and Capacity Development (DRD) was established in 2005. DRD functions as a non-governmental and non-profit organization and is operated by and for people with disabilities. DRD works alongside the community to create support models that promote the rights of people living with disabilities.

Highlights in this issue:

* Launch of legal counsel services for people with disabilities
* Training course for communicators
* Assessment of Bus stop
* A teacher, “a bright crescent moon”, realises her dream upon her return to Vietnam after her PhD degree in Australia.

# ABOUT US

**ADDC** is an Australian, international network focusing attention, expertise and action on disability issues in developing countries; building on a human rights platform for disability advocacy.
To join ADDC (membership is free) or find out more, please visit www.addc.org.au

 **This bulletin** aims to provide information on Disability Inclusive Development across organisations working to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities both here in Australia and across the world. Generic disability and domestic information will be included in our Bulletins when possible as part of our commitment to disability advocacy and strengthening partnerships; however, our focus remains on disability and development issues.

**Disclaimer:** The ADDC Bulletin is a compilation of other organisations’ articles and material. While every effort is made to validate content ADDC does not endorse all opinions and views contacted within the Bulletin.