# ADDC BULLETIN May 2019

# ADDC NEWS

## Australian Federal Election

The Liberal-National Coalition was returned to Government on the weekend. We look forward to continuing to work with the Morrison Government to ensure Australian aid maintains and increases its commitment to the rights and needs of people with disabilities globally. Coalition Government aid and disability-inclusion policy has been predominantly founded in the [2017 Foreign White Policy Paper](https://www.fpwhitepaper.gov.au/). Setting out a wide-ranging approach to the coming decade, the paper makes a number of references to disability-inclusive development. It prioritises the inclusion of women and girls and people living with disabilities in its overall focus on poverty reduction and economic participation; commits to promoting the rights of people with disabilities through its term on the UN Human Rights Council (until 2020); and focuses protection efforts on women and girls and people with disabilities in settings of conflict and natural disaster. We hope to see Australian aid investments in these priorities as part of a wider disability inclusion platform that is incorporated into all aspects of Australia aid.

Sustained efforts for inclusion within the Australian aid program was identified in the [2018 Office of Development Effectiveness Evaluation of Development for All](https://dfat.gov.au/aid/how-we-measure-performance/ode/strategic-evaluations/Pages/development-for-all-evaluation.aspx) as the first key enabling factor for strong disability inclusion in programs. We look forward to working with the newly elected Government in continuing these efforts by committing to a third *Development for All* strategy, and in doing so renewing and extending Australian solidarity with people with disabilities around the world.

## ****10 days for 10 years series****

Our *10 days for 10 years* series was released earlier this month celebrating a decade of Australian leadership in disability-inclusive development through the Australian aid program. Over the 10 days the series highlighted the achievements made possible by the Australian aid program's *Development for All* strategies - from [supporting women with disabilities to achieve financial independence](https://www.addc.org.au/home/10-days-for-10-years/day-3-inclusion-at-the-intersection/), to [facilitating access to prosthetics and other devices](https://www.addc.org.au/home/10-days-for-10-years/day-2-beyond-the-mainstream/), to [supporting disabled people's organisations to hold their governments to account on the world stage](https://www.addc.org.au/home/10-days-for-10-years/day-4-disabled-peoples-organisations-leading-change/).

Thank you to all the partners who participated in the campaign: CBM Australia, Motivation Australia, World Vision Australia, International Women's Development Agency, Vanuatu Disability Promotion and Advocacy Association, TEAR Australia, Save the Children, Australian Volunteers International, Water Aid Australia and Good Return.

[Read the articles of the 10 days for 10 years series here.](https://www.addc.org.au/home/10-days-for-10-years/)

## Disability Focal Point network – Join our pilot group

We are developing a Disability Focal Point network of small peer support groups to bring together individuals within Australian aid agencies who are working to create barrier-free and more inclusive workplaces. A pilot peer support group will be established in June 2019. The peer support group will provide a space for participants to discuss strategies and ideas on building organisational inclusion, to share resources and talk about how to overcome challenges and barriers to inclusion.

Interested? We would love to hear from you! [Follow this link for more information and how to register your interest](https://www.addc.org.au/home/areas-of-work/disability-focal-point-network/).

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

## Commitments made at the Global Disability Summit: now available online

The [International Disability Alliance](http://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/) have made available all the government commitments made at the Global Disability Summit available on an accessible portal via their website. The portal enables searches including by stakeholder, theme, or keyword as well as hosting supporting documentation, such as the Charter for Change and the list of supporting stakeholders.

[Access the portal here](http://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/commitments).

## HLPF 2019 Submission Paper by the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities

The Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disability to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development is now available. Titled *Ensuring inclusion and equality for persons with disabilities: education, employment, reducing inequalities, climate change, and peaceful and inclusive societies*, the statement is now an official UN document.

[The HLPF on Sustainable Development](http://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/hlpf2019) is the United Nations platform that follow-ups and reviews the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The HLPF will convene on the 9 to 18 July 2019. The focus on the forum will be SDG 4 Quality Education; SDG 8 Decent work and economic growth; SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities; SDG 13 Climate Action; SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions; SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals.

[Download the submission here.](http://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/sites/default/files/submission_on_behalf_of_the_stakeholder_group_of_persons_with_disabilities_finalfinal.docx)

## Fiji chairs Human Rights Council task force on accessibility for persons with disabilities

The President of the Human Rights Council, Coly Seck, has appointed Fiji’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva, Ambassador Nazhat Shameem Khan, as the Chair of the UN Human Rights Council Task Force on Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities. This appointment as Chair of the Task Force is a testament to Fiji’s strong leadership at the global stage, as a Member of the United Nations Human Rights Council and its important role as the Vice-President of the Council. It also demonstrates the recognition of Fiji’s input into international policy making institutions.

[Read more from the Fiji Ministry of Foreign Affairs](http://www.foreignaffairs.gov.fj/about-us/38-press-releases-2018/1267-pr-chairs-the-human-rights-council-task-force-on-accessibility-for-persons-with-disabilities)

## Women with Disabilities and Trafficking - Submission to the UN CEDAW Committee

Women Enabled International with Disability Rights International had made a submission to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women on the trafficking of women and girls in the context of global migration.

‘Women and girls with disabilities are particularly at risk of being trafficked, due to factors related to their gender and disability. These risks are further enhanced for migrating women and for those left behind in the migration process. Despite accounting for almost one-fifth of the world’s population of women, policies and programs aimed at combatting trafficking routinely overlook the specific needs of women with disabilities. This submission focuses on the intersection of trafficking, gender, and disability in the context of migration, both trafficking in women with disabilities and women who become disabled as a result of trafficking…’

[Download the submission here.](https://womenenabled.org/pdfs/WEI%20DRI%20CEDAW%20Trafficking%20and%20Migration%20of%20Women%20with%20Disabilities%20Submission%20Feb%2014,%202019.pdf)

## Automatic speech recognition technology is becoming more common, but need ongoing support

The World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) and the International Federation of Hard of Hearing (IFHOH) have made a joint statement on the use of Automatic Speech Recognition (ARS) with telecommunication relay services (TRS) and also captioning services. Artificial Intelligence (AI) software options are becoming more common these days where it is used as a 'speech to text' tool in the home (e.g.; Alexa and Google home), at work and also for searching information (e.g.; Siri with iPhones). ASR shows promise in having a positive impact on communication and accessibility for deaf and hard of hearing people; however there are strong concerns about ASR being used without human support in the provision of TRS and caption services.

[Read and view the joint statement here.](https://mailchi.mp/wfd.fi/wfd-awards-3416417?e=1e3f219f95)

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

## ****New USICD website launched****

The US International Council on Disabilities have launched their new website, featuring new content, a discussion forum, section on key priorities and advocacy, and a new peer-to-peer fundraising platform with a kickoff campaign to raise funds for the [USICD internship program](https://usicd.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=5caf49583e48187222159a7a3&id=d5f1065dc6&e=948ef239ff).

[Visit the website here.](http://usicd.org/)

# ****OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT****

## Onkyo World Braille Essay Contest

The Onkyo World Braille Essay Contest is a worldwide initiative planned and sponsored by Onkyo Corporation Ltd. and the Braille Mainichi in Japan, and implemented by the World Blind Union-Asia Pacific (WBUAP). The contest promotes Braille literacy and encourage the reading and writing of Braille as well as encourages cultural and social interaction among blind and vision impaired persons. The top 5 entries will be sent to the WBUAP Onkyo Selection Committee for final consideration, and any winning Australian entries will be published in Blind Citizens News.

This is an annual competition has entries are divided into two age groups: persons between the ages of 14 and 25 years; and persons from the age of 26 years upwards.

Essay topics:

1. Having Overcome the Challenges of Blindness, How I Can or Have Contributed to Society.
2. The Significance of Braille in the IT Era and in my daily life.
3. The people or organisations which have helped me on my journey to success.
4. How Music Has Shaped My Life and Changed the Attitude of Society Towards Blindness.

Closing date is **15 June 2019**. [See here for more information.](http://brailleaustralia.org/2019/05/10/2019-onkyo-braille-essay-writing-competition/)

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

## Disability Data Webinar Series

The Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities invites you to join the fourth webinar of the disability data webinar series on gather data on children with disabilities and information about administrative data. Hosted on 22 May at 10-11am New Yok time the webinar will also be recorded for those unable to join at this time.

[For more information and to register visit here.](https://us11.campaign-archive.com/?e=&u=217f78e7ae80e87d647cb61c5&id=520360c2f8)

## **RDI Conference: Leadership for Inclusive Development**

*12-13 July 2019, Melbourne*

The Research for Development Impact (RDI) Network and La Trobe University invite you to join the 7th RDI Conference, exploring the theme Leadership for Inclusive Development. Hosted at La Trobe University’s Bundoora campus in Melbourne on 12-13 June 2019, the Conference will explore what leadership is and what leadership does in the field of international development. This Conference offers international development practitioners, academics, students, consultants and private sector representatives a unique opportunity to hear from thought leaders, interrogate ideas, share practice and explore collaboration across sectors.

[Visit the conference website for more information.](http://www.rdiconference2019.org.au/)

Asia-Pacific Community-Based Inclusive Development Congress 2019  
*2nd-3rd July 2019 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia*The theme of 4th Asia-Pacific Community-Based Inclusive Development (CBID) Congress 2019 is *Sustainable Social Development and Economic Growth through Community-based Inclusive Development*. The conference aims to exchange knowledge on good practice on the economic empowerment of persons with disabilities.

The Congress will be the regional platform to exchange lessons learned and good practices on the economic empowerment of persons with disabilities in order to break the cycle of poverty towards sustainable social development and economic growth through Community-Based Inclusive Development (CBID). It will also strengthen collaboration among representatives from governments, leaders with disabilities, Disabled Peoples’ Organizations (DPOs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), International Non-Government Organizations (INGOs), youth groups and service providers from Asia-Pacific countries.

[More information in the link here.](http://www.apcbid2019.mn/)

## XVIII World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf

*23-27 July 2019, Paris, France*The Congress theme, ***Sign Language Rights for All*** highlights that full enjoyment of linguistic rights is vital in facilitating the full inclusion of the Deaf Community within society. The congress program will cover six main topics: Sign Language and Deaf Studies, Deaf Education, International Cooperation and Development, Technology and Accessibility, Health, Employment.  
  
[Follow this link for more information on the Congress](https://www.wfdcongress2019.org/).

## Call for Papers - South Pacific Educators in Vision Impairment 2020 Conference

*12-15 January 2020, Adelaide, South Australia*

Under the theme of *Creating a Clear Vision for the Future*, submission of abstract for an oral presentation, workshop or poster presentation addressing the Conference theme are now open.

Closing date for abstracts: 23 June 2019. [For more information follow this link.](https://www.spevi.net/conference/)

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

[**Current Vacancies at the Fred Hollows Foundation**](https://www.hollows.org/au/careers/current-vacancies)

The Fred Hollows foundation have the following positions available:

Country Manager – Indonesia (Jakarta, Indonesia)  
Applications Close: 24th June 2019

Operations Manager - Public Affairs (Sydney, Australia)  
Applications Close: 10th June 2019

Campaigns and Community Advocacy Manager (Sydney, Australia)  
Applications Close: 3rd June, 2019

Direct Marketing Acquisition Specialist (Sydney, Australia)  
Applications Close: 3rd June, 2019

Communications Coordinator (Sydney, Australia)  
Applications Close: 27th May, 2019

For more information on each opportunity and how to apply, please go to the [website](https://www.hollows.org/au/careers/current-vacancies)

[**Assignments with EWB**](https://www.ewb.org.au/getinvolved/volunteer/volunteeroverseas/avp-may2019#EOIs) **in Cambodia**

Engineers Without Borders (EWB) Australia is seeking Expressions of Interest for the following possible future international volunteer assignments in Cambodia.

**Mechanical, Electrical or Product Development Mentor - CAMBODIA (12+ months)**  
Support the design and testing of new humanitarian appropriate technologies in Cambodia. These technologies aim to address community needs, in the areas of WASH, built environment, energy or disability inclusion, through scalable, market-based solutions.  Experience with human-centred design principles and workshop facilitation will be required.

**Accessible Product Development Mentor - CAMBODIA (12+ months)**  
We're seeking interest from Mechanical or Product Development Engineers or Product Designers or Occupational Therapists to work with EWB and our partner(s) in Cambodia to help refine, test and implement of one or more mechanical technologies aimed at improving people with disabilities' access to agricultural livelihoods.

For any enquiries regarding overseas placements, please email [international@ewb.org.au](mailto:international@ewb.org.au)

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

## [Source E-Bulletin on Disability and Inclusion from Humanity & Inclusion Spring (Northern) 2019](https://asksource.info/node/72290)

In this issue is a selection of 25 resources recently added to the Source collection on Disability and Inclusion. To search the full collection, visit [www.asksource.info](http://www.asksource.info)

[**UN DESA Voice May 2019:**](https://www.un.org/development/desa/undesavoice/2019/05)

Science, technology and innovation, Protecting the rights of indigenous peoples, Vital role of forests

# 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.  
  
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