****

**2020 Calendar for Key Events and Days for Disability & International Development**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Month** | **Event**  | **Description** | **Location & website** |
| **January** |
| 1 | UN75 – 2020 and beyond | January 1, 2020 saw the launch of the UN75 initiative - the largest, most inclusive conversation on the role of global cooperation in building a better future for all. The initiative will see the UN spark dialogues throughout 2020 in diverse settings across the world. | <https://www.un.org/en/un75> |
| **February** |
| 3 | GLAD annual meeting  | The Global Action on Disability (GLAD) Network is a coordination body of bilateral and multilateral donors and agencies, the private sector and foundations working to enhance the inclusion of persons with disabilities in international development and humanitarian action.  | Washington DC, U.S.<https://gladnetwork.net/> |
| 17-19 | Australian Aid Conference  | This Conference brings together researchers from across Australia, the Pacific, Asia and beyond who are working on aid and international development policy to share insights, promote collaboration, and help develop the research community.  | Canberra<https://devpolicy.crawford.anu.edu.au/annual-australasian-aid-conference/2020> |
| **March** |
| 9-20 | Commission on the Status of Women | The sixty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women will gather representatives of Member States, UN entities, and ECOSOC-accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from all regions of the world, to accelerate the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, everywhere. | New York, USA<https://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw64-2020> |
| 21 | World Down Syndrome Day | For this Day, Down Syndrome International focuses on the theme "We Decide": All people with Down syndrome should have full participation in decision making about matters relating to, or affecting, their lives. Effective and meaningful participation is a core human rights principle supported embodied in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). | <https://www.un.org/en/observances/down-syndrome-day>  |
| 19-24 | Asia Pacific People’s Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) and Youth Forum for the APFSD | The Forum for civil society (“Peoples Forum”) and Youth Forum provides an opportunity for stakeholder groups to gather and help inform the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. | Bangkok, Thailand <https://www.unescap.org/events/ap-peoples-and-youth-forums-apfsd> |
| 25-27 | Asia Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development (APFSD) | This Forum is an annual and inclusive intergovernmental forum and a regional platform for supporting countries in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.The theme of the 7th APFSD is “Accelerating action and delivery of the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific”. | Bangkok, Thailand <https://www.unescap.org/apfsd/7/> |
| **April** |
| 2 | World Autism Day | This Day highlights the need to help improve the quality of life of those with autism so they can lead full and meaningful lives as an integral part of society. | <https://www.un.org/en/events/autismday/>  |
| 6-8 | Measure What Matters: Data To Leave No One Behind  | This conference will bring together global thinkers and practitioners to showcase the value of gender sensitive data collected at the individual level, highlighting global efforts to close the gender data gap and leave no one behind. | Canberra <http://www.individualdeprivationmeasure.org/> |
| 6-10  | USAID 2020 Global Education Conference | This as an opportunity to build relationships and networks across sectors and countries and share collective knowledge, evidence and experience on progressing education globally. The theme of the conference is "Education Today, Opportunity Tomorrow". | Washington D.C., USA<https://www.edu-links.org/2020GEC>  |
| **May** |
| 21 | Global Accessibility Awareness Day (GAAD) | The purpose of GAAD is to get everyone talking, thinking and learning about digital (web, software, mobile, etc.) access/inclusion and people with different disabilities. | <https://www.globalaccessibilityawarenessday.org/> |
| **June** |
| 10-12  | 13th session of the Conference of States Parties (COSP) | This annual session implements Article 40 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities that stipulates, “The States Parties shall meet regularly in a Conference of States Parties (COSP) in order to consider any matter with regard to the implementation of the present Convention.” | New York, USA<https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/conference-of-states-parties-to-the-convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities-2/cosp13.html> |
| 19-24 | World Blind Union (WBU) General Assembly 2020 | The WBU General Assembly is held every four years and brings together WBU members from across the world to review WBU’s work, elect their international leaders, adopt constitutional amendments and decide on important priorities for the next quadrennial period.  | Madrid, Spain<http://www.worldblindunion.org/English/general-assembly/Pages/default.aspx> |
| 29-2 July  | Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction | This is a biennial conference that serves as a forum for addressing challenges to implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (Sendai Framework) in the Asia-Pacific Region. Australia will co-host, with the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR). | Brisbane<https://www.unisdr.org/conference/2020/apmcdrr/home> |
| **July** |
| 7-16  | High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) | The HLPF is the United Nations central platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, providing for the full and effective participation of all States Members of the United Nations and States members of specialized agencies. | New York, USA<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2020> |
| 28-30 | 3rd CBR/CBID World Congress | This Congress continues to build on the progress made in earlier congresses focusing on shaping the future of disability services and inclusive development actions globally for individuals with different disabilities. | Entebbe, Uganda<https://cbrglobalnetwork.org/> |
| 6-9 | Australian Asian Studies Conference | This biennial Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA) conference is the largest gathering of experts working on Asia in the southern hemisphere. The conference theme will be “Future Asias.” | Melbourne<http://asaa.asn.au/conference/>  |
| **August** |
| 24 | Disability Innovation Summit | This Summit will look at the global potential of the disability innovation movement, from products and services, to thinking and research. It is an opportunity to bring together global experts and emerging talent to explore the future of disability innovation and its potential to change lives around the world. | Tokyo, Japan<https://www.disabilityinnovationsummit.com/> |
| 24-25 | National Disability Summit | This Summit will continue the discussion and review the progress and initiatives in supporting people with disability and their families to maximise independence and participation by creating greater choice within Australia. | Melbourne<https://www.informa.com.au/event/conference/national-disability-summit/>  |
| **September** |
| 21 | United Nations General Assembly | All 193 Member States of the Organization are represented in the General Assembly - one of the six main organs of the UN - to discuss and work together on a wide array of international issues covered by the Charter of the United Nations, such as development, peace and security, international law, etc. Every year in September, all the Members meet in this unique forum for the General Assembly session.United Nations will mark its 75th anniversary with a one-day high-level meeting of the UN General Assembly on the theme, ‘The Future We Want, the UN We Need: Reaffirming our Collective Commitment to Multilateralism’. | New York, USA<https://www.un.org/en/ga/> |
| 23 | International Day of Sign Languages | This Day raises awareness of the importance of sign language in the full realization of the human rights of people who are deaf. | <https://www.un.org/en/events/signlanguagesday/> |
| TBA | Washington Group on Disability Statistics (WG) Annual Meeting | 20th Annual Meeting of WG. The WG is a UN city group constituted to address the need for cross-nationally comparable population based measures of disability.  | <http://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/> |
| **October** |
| 8 | World Sight Day  | This Day is to focus global attention on blindness and vision impairment. | <https://www.iapb.org/advocacy/world-sight-day/> |
| 10 | World Mental Health Day  | The Day provides an opportunity for all stakeholders working on mental health issues to talk about their work and what more needs to be done to make mental health care a reality for people worldwide. | <https://www.who.int/mental_health/world-mental-health-day/en/> |
| 27-28 | ACFID National Conference | ACFIDs National Conference provides a platform for NGOs to connect with those that can provide access to insights and actionable strategies to assist with their organisations’ sustainable development agenda.  | Sydney<https://conference.acfid.asn.au/>  |
| **November** |
| 25 | International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women | This Day is to raise awareness that women around the world are subject to rape, domestic violence and other forms of violence and to highlight the scale and true nature of violence against women. | <https://www.un.org/en/events/endviolenceday/>  |
| **December** |
| 3 | International Day of Persons with Disabilities | This Day aims to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society and development, and to increase awareness of the situation of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life. | <https://www.un.org/en/observances/day-of-persons-with-disabilities> |
| 3 | Planned release of Australian DFAT’s new disability inclusion policy | DFAT has indicated that, informed by consultations throughout 2020 with various stakeholders, they plan to publically release their next disability inclusion policy with the current *Development for All* strategy concluding at the end of 2020. |  |