# ADDC Bulletin: August 2020 edition

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Dear ADDC Bulletin subscribers,

Welcome to our August edition. As the world continues to grapple with how to navigate the spread of COVID-19, we are reminded of the importance to *leave no one behind* in this crisis. The [Disability Royal Commission](https://disability.royalcommission.gov.au/) has unfortunately [heard cases](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-08-18/disability-royal-commission-to-shed-light-coronavirus-pandemic/12568436) where people with disabilities have been left alone without support during this time. The commission has also heard there had been a sharp increase in violence against women with a disability during the pandemic. In the context of government response plans to COVID-19, Damien Griffiths from the [First People's Disability Network](https://fpdn.org.au/) has [said](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-08-20/disability-sector-left-vulnerable-by-coronavirus-commission/12576918?fbclid=IwAR316K-__AaWpKbBsk45R4yfPwfIhPFNIVPA1CVBvJ0ID62kh9hNVJCJINg) that, “the Aboriginal COVID health plan, which was done in partnership between national Aboriginal community health organisations and the Department of Health — despite being some 40 pages long — made no mention of disability."

There is clearly much work ahead to ensure that COVID-19 response plans here and around the world are inclusive of people with disability. One step you can take today to support people with disability in developing countries during this crisis is to join the [#EndCOVIDForAll](#EndCovidForAll) campaign – sign up [here](https://www.endcovidforall.com/).

Key domestic and international organisations for people with disabilities continue to keep their COVID-19 resource hubs regularly updated - have a look at the [May](https://www.addc.org.au/file/addc-bulletin-may-2020-edition/) edition of our bulletin for the relevant links. Consider sharing our Bulletin with your networks to keep them updated with key developments in disability inclusion.

In solidarity,

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# ADDC News

## Executive Committee support #EndCovidForAll campaign

Over the past month, members of our Executive Committee joined activists, influencers and thousands of fellow Australians in showing their support for the [#EndCovidForAll campaign](https://www.endcovidforall.com/). The campaign was created by [ACFID](https://acfid.asn.au/), [Campaign for Australian Aid](https://australianaid.org/) and [Micah Challenge](http://www.micahaustralia.org/) to encourage the Australian Government to provide much-needed support to our vulnerable neighbours.

To date, over 22 thousand have joined this campaign with [162 organisations](https://www.endcovidforall.com/whos-with-us/) including ADDC adding their weight to the cause. There is still time to join this movement– sign up [here](https://www.endcovidforall.com/)!

The campaign has welcomed the Prime Minister’s commitment to early access to the Oxford vaccine (if successful) for Australia and countries in our Pacific family, as well as partners in Southeast Asia (see the Prime Minister’s media release on this [here](https://www.pm.gov.au/media/new-deal-secures-potential-covid-19-vaccine-every-australian)). The campaign is continuing to highlight the need for a pledge of additional funding to enable vulnerable countries respond to and recover from the effects of COVID-19.

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

## Pacific Disability Forum Board election and annual meeting

The Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) has elected the following individuals to their governing Board:

* Co-Chairperson – Ms. Villaney Remengesau, Omekesang, Palau
* Board Member – Ms. Samantha French, PWD Australia
* Board Member – Ms. Melita Delaibau, Fiji Association of the Deaf
* Board Member – Mr. Ofeina Leka, Tonga National Visual Impairment Association
* Board Member – Mr. Teweiariki Teaero, Te Toa Matoa, Kiribati

ADDC congratulates their appointment to the Board. The newly elected Board held its annual meeting from 3rd to the 6th August virtually. Read more about the meeting [here](http://www.pacificdisability.org/Home/Pacific-Disability-Forum-Governing-Board-Convenes.aspx).

## Pacific DPO Fund is under review

The Pacific DPO Fund is a funding stream aiming to “improve the lives of persons with disability by supporting the organisational development and project work of Pacific Disabled Persons Organisations (DPOs).” The Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) has managed and administered the Pacific DPO Fund since 2009 through the generous funding assistance of the Governments of Australia and New Zealand as well as Australia-Pacific Islands Disability Support (APIDS). For more information on this funding arrangement, please see the [Pacific DPO Fund Guidelines](http://www.pacificdisability.org/Members/Funding.aspx).

In February 2020, ten years since its first funding round, the DPO Fund Committee with the endorsement of the PDF Board commissioned a review of the Fund. An initial survey was conducted with stakeholders in June 2020 seeking input to help refine the focus and scope of the review. Forty three (43) people completed the survey from across the Pacific and across stakeholder groups, including representatives from diverse disability groups, gender, ages and urban and rural areas. Fifty one percent (51%) of respondents represented the DPO Community.

Below is a summary of the Review Framework, which is currently in its final stages of consultation.

**Relevance:** The review will look at whether the Pacific DPO Fund remains important to stakeholders in our region and still plays a unique role in supporting the priorities of Pacific DPOs, PDF, the disability movement in the Pacific and the Fund’s donors/development partners.

**Impact:** The review will look for stories where the Pacific DPO Fund has contributed to improvements in the lives of persons with disabilities and on the sustainability of DPOs. Stakeholders requested that they want to hear examples of where the fund has benefited persons with disabilities and their DPOs in local/rural areas, so we will aim to draw out such stories where they exist.

**Effectiveness:** The review will look at whether and how the Pacific DPO Fund has met its objectives in achieving organisational development and in achieving DPO project work. It will also look for ways to improve this in the future. We will explore the successes of Pacific DPO Fund governance and management and ways these can be improved. The review will also explore, more specifically, what the Fund could do to be more accessible to local DPOs, women with disabilities, marginalised groups in the disability movement and DPOs who may not have accessed the Fund yet.

**Efficiency:** The review will look at the links between the resources put into the Pacific DPO Fund and the Fund’s achievements and impact. This includes looking at what is working and ways to improve the financial, human, time, and information/communication resources of the Fund.

The PDF Secretariat, on behalf of the Pacific DPO Fund Committee as well as the governing Board of PDF, thank those who have participated in the review so far. A final report is expected later this year.

For further information about the review process, please contact Christina Parasyn, Independent Consultant leading the review, on her email at [cparasyn@gmail.com](mailto:cparasyn@gmail.com?subject=Pacific%20DPO%20Fund%20review).

## Disability Rights Monitor Calls for End to Police Violence

The seven organizations coordinating the COVID-19 Disability Rights Monitor (DRM), including the Disability Rights Fund/Disability Rights Advocacy Fund, express collective alarm about increasing police violence against people with disabilities now in the context of the pandemic. They are calling on governments around the world to take urgent steps to prevent these acts of brutality.

The DRM has collected data on government measures concerning people with disabilities during the pandemic through a global survey. Collected data has shown that persons with disabilities are particularly vulnerable to various forms of exploitation, violence, and abuse in countries with curfews and strong police or military presence. People with disabilities in France, Kenya, the Philippines, Serbia, and Uganda have been harassed, abused and in the most extreme case killed, by police forces during the pandemic. As a result, respondents with disabilities from around the world reported that they are living in fear of the police.

“Governments must fulfill their obligations under international law, particularly the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), and take immediate steps to avoid further harm to persons with disabilities by police and security forces.”

Read the full press release [here](https://disabilityrightsfund.org/disability-rights-monitor-statement-on-police-violence/).

## Coronavirus ‘starkly’ exposes vulnerability of persons with disabilities

The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities convened on 17th August 2020, and heard that the COVID-19 pandemic has “starkly exposed” the heightened vulnerability and risks to persons with disabilities.

In the first online session for the Committee, Ibrahim Salama, Head of the Human Rights Treaties Branch in the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) lauded the Committee, which, despite significant challenges posed by the virus, have done “extraordinary work” to implement their mandate.

Read the news article [here](https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/08/1070372).

## Virtual meeting of the 23rd session of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The Committee of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) is currently running its 23rd session (17 August – 4 September).

All meetings have been or will be held virtually due to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. During this session, the Committee will hold private meetings with relevant stakeholders to discuss several issues concerning persons with disabilities instead of the usual constructive dialogues with Member States.

The CRPD Committee opened its 23rd session with the International Disability Alliance (IDA) Chair, Ms Ana Lucia Arellano, delivering a [statement](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2fCRPD%2fOCR%2f23%2f31814&Lang=en) on behalf of IDA.

The 23rd session was previously scheduled for March 2020 and was postponed due to the COVID-19 situation.

Access the documents from the 23rd session [here](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/SessionDetails1.aspx?SessionID=1376&Lang=en).

# ****FEATURED RESOURCES****

## Documents: Access to eyeglasses and prostheses in low and middle income countries

The Assisted Technology 2030 Programme and ATscale, the Global Partnership for Assistive Technology, have released the following analyses:

* Product Narrative: Prostheses - A Market Landscape and Strategic Approach to Increasing Access to Prosthetic Devices and Related Services in Low and Middle Income Countries, and
* Product Narrative: Eyeglasses - A Market Landscape and Strategic Approach to Increasing Access to Eyeglasses in Low and Middle Income Countries.

These documents are the third and fourth in a series of in-depth analyses that identify key barriers and promising market interventions across the value-chain, stretching from research and development to production and procurement, all the way through to supporting service delivery at the user and healthcare worker levels.

Access both documents [here](https://atscale2030.org/product-narratives).

## Interview transcript: Moving Beyond Psychiatric Diagnosis

In this interview, Dr Aftab and Dr Johnstone discuss why ‘formulation’ and ’narrative’ are better than psychiatric diagnosis, offering a helpful perspective for CRPD advocates who are interested in getting away from the medical model of disability including the medical model of mental health.

Read the interview [here](https://www.psychiatrictimes.com/view/moving-beyond-psychiatric-diagnosis-lucy-johnstone-psyd).

## Opinion: How to ethically involve children with disabilities in research

The authors of this article propose that more research activities with children with disabilities are urgently needed, and that conventional and existing ethical practices used with children should be further developed to embrace disability inclusion.

Read the blog [here](https://www.ids.ac.uk/opinions/how-to-ethically-involve-children-with-disabilities-in-research/?mc_cid=d5380288db&mc_eid=8d704038d4).

## Report: Towards a Disability-Smart World: Global Disability Inclusion Strategy

This study of more than 100 large global brands is the first to consider how businesses are serving the needs of people with disabilities at a global and local level and how to share best practice. The study draws on evidence and case studies from the experience of organisations including Shell, Unilever, HSBC, Accenture and Microsoft.

Read the report [here](https://businessdisabilityforum.org.uk/knowledge-hub/resources/towards-a-disability-smart-world-global-disability-inclusion-strategy-report/).

## Webinar: The Principles of Ethical Disability-inclusive Development Research

The recording of the Principles of Disability-inclusive Development workshop is now on ACFID’s YouTube channel. Watch the video [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8mh-t2y5emc&feature=youtu.be&mc_cid=d5380288db&mc_eid=8d704038d4). Read the transcript [here](https://rdinetwork.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=fbe41073efe267439b5e8ac0c&id=fac56e3eeb&e=8d704038d4).

This workshop sets out the fundamental principles and ethical considerations of disability-inclusive development (DID) research. This includes an overview of the rights-based approach to disability, and its guidance in shaping development.

## COVID-19 RESOURCES

## CBM Australia and Water for Women (June 2020) Disability inclusion and COVID-19: Guidance for WASH delivery

This guidance note sets out key principles, considerations and actions that water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) policymakers and programmers can apply to ensure that people with disabilities are included in WASH sector responses to COVID-19. It recommends key disability inclusion actions relevant to all WASH and COVID-19 interventions, as well as specific actions to be applied in relation to temporary/rapid WASH responses; behaviour change communications; community-level interventions; WASH in institutional settings; and WASH sector coordination.

Access the guidance note [here](https://www.waterforwomenfund.org/en/learning-and-resources/resources/KL/WfW-CBM-Guidance-Note_COVID-19-WASH-Disability-Inclusion_FINAL.pdf).

## Webinar recordings:

## Webinar: Left behind? Women with disabilities during COVID-19

The European Disability Forum organised this webinar to discuss the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on women and girls with disabilities suffering from violence. It also highlights the issues of this group to ensure they are not left behind during and after this pandemic.

Watch the webinar recording on this [webpage](http://edf-feph.org/webinar-left-behind-women-disabilities-during-covid-19http:/edf-feph.org/webinar-left-behind-women-disabilities-during-covid-19).

## Webinar: Challenges in inclusive volunteering under COVID-19

The main objectives of this webinar were to explore the topic of disability and inclusive volunteering, to provide recommendations based on the participants’ research and experiences, to know more about the challenges volunteering implies under the COVID-19 pandemic.

Watch the webinar recording on this [webpage](http://www.edf-feph.org/webinar-vivid-t-challenges-inclusive-volunteering-under-covid-19#overlay-context=).

## Webinar: Equity and Accessibility in Times of Pandemic: Building “Cities For All” Post-COVID19

This webinar discussed the challenges and opportunities for local governments after the COVID-19 pandemic. It focussed on the launch of the “Recommendations for Empowering Local Governments in the context of an Inclusive Pandemic Response” that offers local governments recommendations for formulating and implementing action plans that are in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals, the New Urban Agenda, and the World Health Organization’s Age-friendly Cities and Communities Initiative.

It also presented the results from the Global Survey on Inclusive and Accessible Pandemic Response, developed in coordination with the World Bank, which gathers insights on globally comparative data on how local municipal COVID-19 responses influences the lives of persons with disabilities and older persons.

Learn more about this online event and access the webinar recording on this [webpage](https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/news/news/building-cities-for-all.html).

## Webinar: When Rhetoric Meets Reality: Digital Accessibility, Persons with Disabilities, and COVID-19

This webinar brought together digital accessibility experts and people with disabilities to discuss the digital accessibility outlook beyond COVID-19, aiming to share and offer a variety of ideas from different disabilities and different parts of the world.

Watch the webinar recording on this [webpage](https://livestream.com/internetsociety/gaad2020/videos/206653447).

# ****YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED****

## Call for abstracts: Hierarchies of Disability Human Rights, new edited volume

Contributions are sought to a volume on 'Hierarchies of Disability Human Rights' part of the *Interdisciplinary Disability Studies Book Series* to be published by Routledge Press.

The editors of this volume are open to a diversity of contributions, which could include letters, testimonials, interviews, and oral histories; creative representations of experience, such as poetry or images; civil society reports; as well as traditional research articles.

Editors are particularly interested in contributions from non-academics, especially self-advocates and persons marginalized by higher education, as well as non-Western academics.

The deadline for contributions is 31 August 2020.

You can find out more about this call for abstracts [here](https://networks.h-net.org/node/73374/announcements/6262337/call-abstracts-hierarchies-disability-human-rights-new-edited).

## Call for abstracts: Pacific Islands Health Research Symposium (25-27 November 2020)

This conference is calling for abstracts under the theme of “Health Security in the Pacific: Lessons from the Pandemic Experience”. This conference will attract researchers, academics, policy makers, practitioners and anyone who has interest in sharing lessons learnt during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Submission of abstracts are requested by Wednesday, 30 September 2020. For more information and submission guidelines, see the conference [website](https://www.fnu.ac.fj/). Register for the conference [here.](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe3J0G7aD-w57U6FoqQ_HQTu0-lutPp3bWHS9DvimI9-ICcuA/viewform)

## Call for contributions: UNESCO “Story for Development” project

UNESCO invites people with disabilities to share their stories about what factors enable and support their empowerment on their recently launched “Story for Development” online platform.

This platform aims to mainstream a shift of perspective on disability-issues, demonstrating that removing barriers to participation can enable persons with disabilities to achieve their potential and contribute to development.

The stories collected will create a repository of case studies and data from persons with disabilities to inform policy and encourage community action. The platform has a forum tool, promoting the creation of an online community of collaboration identifying common barriers and facilitators for inclusion.

“Story for Development” was created by UNESCO and supported by the Nippon Foundation.

Access “Story for Development” [here](https://story4development.org/).

## Call for nominations: UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize 2020-2021

Nominations are now open for the UNESCO/Emir Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.

The aim of the Prize is to reward the outstanding contributions of individuals and organizations that promote inclusion and the enhancement of the lives of persons with disabilities in society through the effective, innovative and inclusive application of digital solutions, including an immediate response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Learn more about the prize and on how to nominate for the prize [here](https://en.unesco.org/news/call-nominations-2020-2021-unescoemir-jaber-al-ahmad-al-jaber-al-sabah-prize-digital).

## Survey: People with Disabilities and Disasters

Are you a person with disability living in Asia or the Pacific (including Australia and New Zealand)? Please consider participating in this 10 minute online survey aiming to better understand how disasters impact you.

This online survey is anonymous and aims to understand whether and how people with disabilities in Asia and the Pacific are involved in disaster risk reduction, and what factors can help or hinder. There is opportunity to share your biggest concerns and recommendations in relation to disasters.

The survey has been funded by the Australian Government. The responses will be used to develop recommendations to give to people who implement disaster risk reduction projects in Asia and the Pacific.

The survey is available in the following languages: English, Easy Read English version, Auslan, Bengali, Chinese, French, Hindi, Indonesian, International sign language version, Nepali, PNG Pidgin, Punjabi, Tagalog, Thai, Urdu.

Survey landing page [here.](https://www.cbm.org.au/do-you-identify-as-a-person-with-a-disability/)

## Survey: UN75 2020 and beyond

The UN has commissioned this survey to inform global priorities now and going forward.

Take the opportunity in this survey to inform the UN of the need to prioritise the rights of people with disabilities globally.

Complete the survey [here](https://un75.online/).

## Survey: Built environment professions

A student undertaking a dissertation research project at the University of Sheffield seeks people with a disability to complete a survey on their experience within the built environment professions.

Survey responses will inform a dissertation that is looking to investigate the personal experience of the survey participants. The work is a critical analysis of architectural education and practice through the personal experiences of practitioners and students with disabilities.

The work looks at the lack of representation for people with a disability within built environment professions, and aims to discuss the potential advantages of designing with a disability through personal narratives.

Take part in the survey by clicking on this [link](https://forms.gle/LqiGDuonJJZtS7hRA). Responses to online survey questions will be kept anonymously.

## Survey: Barriers to mobility technology

A Masters Research candidate studying Disability, Design and Innovation at University College London (UCL) seeks participants to undertake a survey on investigating barriers to delivering powered mobility technology in low and middle-income countries with a focus on children with physical disabilities. Those from the following groups are encouraged to participate:

• Parents, guardians or carers of children with complex needs;

• Care support workers for children with complex needs;

• Volunteers and respite carers for children with complex needs;

• People from disability organisations with specialist expertise in the area;

• Professionals working in powered mobility for disabled children.

The survey takes around 20 minutes to complete and responses to online survey questions will be kept anonymously.

Learn more and take part in the survey by clicking on this [link](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=_oivH5ipW0yTySEKEdmlwobvOljh90dNlD04SHIPdMBUMEtVMVRBVFlWMlRQWllVVDI1Uk82Ukc3Ny4u).

# ****UPCOMING EVENTS****

## Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum (APrIGF): Subtheme on “Digital Inclusion, Gender Equality and Diversity”

APRIGF | 27–30 September 2020

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](http://2020.aprigf.asia/)

# ****OPPORTUNITIES****

## Vacancy: Consultant evaluating implementation of law on persons with disabilities

UNDP Vietnam | Work from home

[APPLY BY 31 AUGUST](https://procurement-notices.undp.org/view_notice.cfm?notice_id=69250)

## Vacancy: Consultant on technical finalization of “Accessibility Toolkit”

UNICEF | New York, United States

[APPLY BY 3 SEPTEMBER](https://www.unicef.org/about/employ/?job=533905)

## Special Grants Call: COVID-19

Commonwealth Foundation Grants Programme

[OPENS ON 1 SEPTEMBER 2020](http://commonwealthfoundation.com/grants/)

## Grants Call: Civil society advocacy and response to the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on women and girls

UN Women Asia and the Pacific

[CLOSES ON 11 SEPTEMBER 2020](https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/about-us/procurement)

## Call for Proposals: Strengthen and support Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to design, implement and monitor programming on ending violence against women and girls

UN Women Asia and the Pacific

[CLOSES ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2020](https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/about-us/procurement)

# ****NEWSLETTERS FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS****

## Global Accessibility News, Issue 7, 28th July 2020

In this issue:

* United Kingdom: Disabled People’s Organisations (DPOs) Forum Set to Launch
* New Research Reveals Strategies for Global Disability Inclusion
* Australia: New Report Illustrates Experiences of COVID-19 for Women with Disabilities
* Seeking International Volunteers | Join an IAAP Taskforce

Access the issue [here](https://mailchi.mp/f06f4ea7ed74/g3ict-global-accessibility-news-july-853812?e=0679276aa0).

## Polio News, July 2020

In this issue:

* Polio in the news
* Protecting against polio & COVID-19
* Stopping cVDPV outbreaks in Somalia
* Eye on eradication
* Rotary women leading the way

Access the issue [here](https://mailchi.mp/who.int/polio-news-2020july?e=15a7a0dd26)

## UN DESA Voice, August 2020

In this issue:

* “No one is safe, until everyone is”
* A day to recognize the resilience of indigenous peoples
* Young people take action for global change
* COVID-19 cannot defeat the 2030 Agenda

Access the issue [here.](https://www.un.org/development/desa/undesavoice/2020/08)

## WBU Bulletin, July 2020

In this issue:

* United Kingdom: Disabled People’s Organisations (DPOs) Forum set to launch
* The experience of persons with disabilities with COVID-19
* CNIB Foundation offers free educational manual
* COVID-19 end-discrimination campaign
* UN policy brief on a disability-inclusive response to COVID-19
* WBU CEO's speech on commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the UN
* WBU scholarships available
* WBU webinar on implementation of sustainable development goals in Kenya

Access the issue [here](http://www.worldblindunion.org/English/resources/publications/Documents/E-Bulletin-%20July%202020-EN.docx).

# 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.

**Acknowledgment of Country:**ADDC acknowledges that we are situated on the ancestral lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nations and pay respects to the traditional custodians and their Elders past, present and emerging.