# ADDC Bulletin: December 2020 edition

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Welcome to the last edition of our bulletin for 2020. We are leaving this year with a bang, recently celebrating [International Day of People with Disabilities,](#IDPD) joining so many others to share our vision for a #BetterWorldForAll and seeing the Conference of State Parties of the Convention of the Rights of People with Disabilities (CRPD) [gather online](#COSP) to engender action on the CRPD and the 2030 agenda. Though hope is in the air, we acknowledge and reflect on the challenges of this year – a year like no other – where our entire globe has been indelibly impacted by COVID-19. For many of those living with disabilities, this pandemic has been and continues to be catastrophic and will only increase the inequality between those with and without disabilities. As we begin to consider how to recovery and rebuild a post-COVID world, we must do all we can to address these systemic inequalities and ensure no one is left behind.

Our team will be taking a break over December and January – but we will have our first edition of our 2021 bulletin in your inboxes in late February. Until then, have a healthy, safe and peaceful time enjoying the company of loved ones.

On behalf of ADDC, we thank you for supporting our bulletin, for your continued membership and for your contribution to making this world more inclusive.

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# ADDC NEWS

## 2020 highlights

ADDC is proud to recount some of our key achievements in progressing disability inclusive development as we look back on this year.

In late January, ADDC Executive Committee members met in person in Melbourne to plan and strategise for the year ahead. In addition, Committee members met with key DFAT representatives as part of the **consultations** on the development of a new Australian Government international development policy and the consultations regarding DFAT’s future approach to disability inclusion. ADDC and CBM Australia also brought together key leaders from the disability rights movement from the Asia-Pacific region to meet with DFAT representatives as part of the ongoing consultations to develop a new international development policy.

In March-April, we gathered the **latest news and resources** on COVID-19 and disability in our Bulletin, to equip you with the latest information on this emerging global phenomenon.

ACFID and ADDC **hosted a** [**webinar**](https://www.addc.org.au/covid-19-and-disability-lessons-learned-so-far/), ‘Disability-inclusive Practice & Research: COVID-19 & Beyond’ in June, where leaders from key organisations reflected on the work that had been realised to ensure people with disabilities can access their human rights during the pandemic. They discussed how learnings from current responses to the pandemic could be used to improve disability inclusion in future health crises. This webinar also launched the Research for Development Impact (RDI) Network’s eagerly awaited guidance, *Research for All: Making Research Inclusive of People with Disabilities*.

July saw the advent of the **#EndCOVIDForAll campaign** – where ADDC linked arms with ACFID, Campaign for Australian Aid, Micah Challenge and others in the sector to encourage the Australian Government to provide vital support to vulnerable nations during this COVID crisis. As part of this campaign, ADDC highlighted that people with disability are amongst the most vulnerable in developing nations during this pandemic. The campaign saw a groundswell of support from more than 160 organisations and 25,000 individuals. The campaign welcomed the almost $1.3 billion announced by the Australian Government to assist both the Pacific and South East Asia during this pandemic.

Preparations were well on their way in September for an **online consultation** on “Gender Equality, Diversity and Social Inclusion” (GEDSI), run by ADDC and ACFID in early October. This consultation arose in response to many parts of the sector increasingly moving towards a GEDSI approach to inclusion. This opportunity created space for collaboration on an initial draft set of recommendations for a systemic approach to inclusion across DFAT’s development program.

The much-anticipated Federal budget was handed down in October, which saw alarming **cuts to the disability inclusion budget**. ADDC put out a [media release](https://www.addc.org.au/media-release-addc-responds-to-dfat-disability-budget-cuts/) in response, seeking an explanation on the cuts, including whether the cuts to the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s (DFAT) resources to support disability inclusive programming. ADDC is still in the throes of advocating for adequate allocation of funding to disability inclusion in DFAT’s COVID response and development work, and the upcoming Federal Budget.

October also saw the launch of our **IDPD activity toolkit,** an initiative aimed at engaging the development sector to think through and plan how to mark IDPD within organisations, to celebrate disability and raise awareness within organisations about disability inclusion. It included ideas for activities, tips for who to get involved, and guidance on engaging speakers with disabilities.

In November, DFAT confirmed that their ground-breaking ***Development for All: Strategy for strengthening disability inclusion in Australia’s aid program 2015 – 2020*** will be **extended for an additional year**, in 2021. This will allow time for DFAT to thoroughly consult stakeholders ahead of developing the next disability inclusive development strategy for 2022 and beyond.

On 17 November, ACFID, World Vision Australia and ADDC **hosted a** [**webinar**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H0PWRuK_rd8) on ‘Building transformative relationships with DPOs.’Our very own ADDC Chair, Alexandra Gartrell (World Vision Australia) moderated the event. Over 50 attendees heard from speakers, Yeni Rosa Damayanti (Indonesian Mental Health Association (IMHA)), Ipul Powaseu (PNG), Sally Baker (DID consultant) and Julie Smith (CBM Australia).

Lastly, we launched our **IDPD resource kit,** designed to help the international development sector to mark International Day of People with Disabilities (IDPD) across online platforms on 3 December. We were so pleased to see many of you join us in taking the action for a #BetterWorldForAll on IDPD, casting a vision of a more inclusive world for people with disabilities.

## International Day of People with Disabilities: 3 December

There was a tangible buzz in the air this year as we celebrated International day of People with Disabilities. The positive atmosphere for a #BetterWorldForAll was set by a wonderful, diverse group of people with disabilities from around the world in CBM Australia’s new [video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rsStksLCcS8&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2oHIOWM23tLQ-qUuYYy351pBiLtRivWmKiQ7AYDEO9ruq7wv121DVvZ3g) for this year’s IDPD (audio description of the video is available [here](https://bit.ly/2I2HUh0)). If you haven’t seen the video yet, we encourage you to take the time to lean in and listen to the message and sentiment conveyed within.

We were so encouraged to see dozens of individuals and agencies put our [activity toolkit](https://www.addc.org.au/file/international-day-activity-toolkit/) and [resource kit](https://www.addc.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/ADDC-IDPD-Resource-Kit-2020-FixedLinks.docx) to good use, by celebrating IDPD through taking our #BetterWorldForAll social media action. As you can see, our ADDC Executive Committee members had big dreams when we undertook the action as a group! A search of the hashtag #BetterWorldForAll will show you the wonderful resources and posts that were shared on the day – thank you to all who took part.

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

## Reach the furthest behind first: People with disabilities must be prioritized in accessing COVID-19 vaccinations

People with disabilities have experienced exclusion, discrimination and neglect during the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The International Disability Alliance (IDA), on behalf of persons with disabilities and their organizations, calls upon governments, UN agencies and the private sector to take immediate measures that prioritize persons with disability in accessing the COVID-19 vaccination as well as accessible information through informed consent.

Find out about the measures proposed and read the full article [here](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/sites/default/files/ida_recommendations_on_accessing_covid-19_vaccinations_final_01.12.20.pdf).

## WBU statement on International Day of Persons with Disabilities (3 December 2020)

The World Blind Union (WBU) joined many others to observe the International Day of Persons with Disabilities under the theme “Building back better, toward a disability inclusive, accessible and sustainable post COVID-19 world”.

“As the world grapples with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, many decisions by policy-makers have failed to take into consideration the rights of persons with disabilities enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS).” This is evident in WBU’s recent report, *COVID-19, Amplifying Voices: Our Lives, Our Say*.

The WBU calls for the effective collaboration with representative organizations of persons with disabilities, governments, communities, civil society, UN and other international agencies, and the private sector to collectively strive to build and sustain a better, more inclusive post-COVID world.

Access the WBU’s report [here](https://worldblindunion.org/blog/news/wbu-global-report-r-covid-19-amplifying-voices-our-lives-our-say/).

Read the full statement [here](https://worldblindunion.org/blog/news/wbu-statement-on-international-day-of-persons-with-disabilities-3-december-2020/).

## CRPD Committee Elections: Gender Parity Achieved

The Conference of States Parties (COSP) to the CRPD was held on 30th November, 2020. During the elections for the CRPD Committee, 9 of the 18 members were elected for the period of 2021-2024. A month ago, Gqual Campaign, International Disability Alliance and the International Disability and Development Consortium called for gender parity in their joint statement. The election achieved gender parity as the State Parties electing five women and three men.

Read more [here](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/blog/crpd-committee-elections-gender-parity-achieved).

## NEW RESOURCES:

## Increasingly consulted, but not yet participating: IDA Global Survey Report on Participation of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities

IDA has published its first-ever global survey led by Organizations of Persons with Disabilties (OPDs) on their participation in decision-making processes of governments, the UN system and funding agencies. The global survey is part of a strategy to hold decision-makers accountable for their commitments to Article 4.3 and 32 of the CRPD.

The report evaluates the depth, quality, scope and relevance of OPDs’ participation in development programs and policies and provides recommendations.

Access the report [here](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/blog/increasingly-consulted-not-yet-participating-ida-global-survey-report-participation).

## Inclusion International Report: Excluded from the Excluded: People with Intellectual Disabilities in (and out of) Official Development Assistance

Inclusion International, in partnership with Development Initiatives, has released a new publication on inclusion of people in international development and humanitarian aid. The report looks into inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities and their OPDs in international development and aid, and examines whether or not Official Development Assistance (ODA) project methodologies are inclusive and compliant with the CRPD.

The report reveal that people with intellectual disabilities are excluded from international development and aid based on the OECD’s data on ODA, even though funders and governments have made commitments to leave no one behind.

The report finds:

* People with intellectual disabilities were not included in 99.98% of ODA funding from 2014-2018
* 36% of the ODA projects that included people with intellectual disabilities in 2018 violated the CRPD, contributing to segregation and other human rights violations
* Only 2% of aid relevant to people with intellectual disabilities and their families was delivered through OPDs.

Access the report [here](https://inclusion-international.org/excluded-from-the-excluded-people-with-intellectual-disabilities-in-and-out-of-official-development-assistance/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Our%20Global%20Network%20in%20Action&utm_content=Our%20Global%20Network%20in%20Action+CID_c57c9ce031f71e84123931d804af43a9&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Read%20more).

## Report: Inclusion of People with Disability and Older People in Humanitarian Response

This report, comprised of two gap analyses, is the first piece of work where evidence on the inclusion of people with disability and older people across humanitarian response was reviewed systematically. It aims to understand the evidence base on inclusion, seeking to contribute to more effective and inclusive responses, and to prioritise innovation.

The first gap analysis presents findings from an academic literature review and grey literature review. The second gap analysis provides insights from individuals working in humanitarian response, disability and older age inclusion.

The report looks at how the agenda of inclusion for people with disability and older people was established. It also identifies seven areas where there are key gaps and opportunities presenting the potential for innovation in research and practice. It also considers which standards and guidance inform humanitarian practice and the challenges associated with putting them into practice.

This report was commissioned by Enhancing Learning and Research for Humanitarian Assistance (ELRHA), led by the Nossal Institute for Global Health (University of Melbourne) and supported by Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund’s (ASB) Office for Indonesia and the Philippines.

Find out more and access the report [here](http://globalaccessibilitynews.com/2020/11/24/gap-analysis-inclusion-of-persons-with-disability-and-older-persons-in-humanitarian-response-beyond-the-evidence/).

## World Federation of the Deafblind launches initial Global Report

The World Federation of the Deafblind has launched an initial report on the situation and rights of persons with deafblindness. Based on research, the report seeks to initiate dialogue between international disability rights and development stakeholders. The research conducted is the largest population-based analysis of persons with deafblindness to date.

Find out more and access the report [here](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/wfdb-global-report).

## Report: The Case for Investing in Assistive Technology

In this new report, ATscale describes the enormous gains that access to assistive technology (AT) can have in health, for the community and the economy. The figures are dramatic: investment in the provision of four assistive products - hearing aids, prostheses, eyeglasses, and wheelchairs - will result in a return on investment of 9:1.

Access the report [here](https://atscale2030.org/s/Case_for_Investing_in_AT_a11y.pdf).

## Toolkit for disability-confident employers

Inclusive Futures has launched a toolkit developed from lessons learned from large corporations such as Unilever, to foster inclusive practices and remove barriers that prevent employers from hiring people with disability.

The toolkit offers a complete, systematic roadmap for business leaders, human resources managers and others working to create and foster more inclusive workspaces. The document is open source and can be tailored to a particular industry, workplace and country.

Access the toolkit [here](https://inclusivefutures.org/disability-confident-employers-toolkit/).

## COVID-19 RESOURCES

## Journal article: Disability-inclusive responses to COVID-19: Lessons learnt from research on social protection in LMIC

This article draws on research on disability, poverty and social protection in low and middle-income countries (LMIC). It explores how social protection and other initiatives may help to mitigate the economic impacts of the pandemic considering the needs of people with disabilities, with recommendations for disability-inclusive actions in design and implementation.

Access the journal article [here](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7455235/).

## Summary report on considering disability and ageing in COVID-19 hygiene promotion programs

This report by Hygiene Hub indicates that people with disabilities and elderly people are more likely to be infected with COVID-19, leading to experiencing severe illness needing hospitalization, intensive care and ventilation.

The report highlights the direct and secondary consequences of COVID-19 on people with disabilities, general information about disability, ageing and WASH access and specific barriers people with disabilities and the elderly population can come across in relation to hand washing. It also describes ways to make COVID-19 hygiene programs and promotions more inclusive.

The report suggests the need to adopt the twin-track approach of mainstreaming and targeting, including ideas on implementation and monitoring and evaluation in WASH programs. It recommends that organizations use the “COVID-19 Inclusive WASH Checklist” developed by reviewing and merging existing human rights frameworks and inclusive WASH checklists.

Access the report [here.](https://resources.hygienehub.info/en/articles/4097594-summary-report-on-considering-disability-in-covid-19-hygiene-programmes)

Access the COVID-19 Inclusive WASH Checklist [here](https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/centres-projects-groups/penda#resources)

## Reports: People with Intellectual Disabilities at higher risk from COVID-19

According to two reports published recently, people with intellectual disabilities are more likely to die compared to other people if they have COVID-19.

A report from Public Health England (PHE) found death rates 30 times higher in people with intellectual disability during the first wave. A new analysis by Fair Health in Collaboration with the West Health Institute and Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine found that people with intellectual disabilities and developmental disorders who contract COVID-19 are 3 times more likely to die than infected people without such disabilities.

COVID-19 has intensified the issues people with intellectual disabilities face and has made existing exclusion more evident. During the pandemic, people with intellectual disabilities found themselves excluded from education, losing access to their supports, unable to access information and financial implications.

Read the full article on these findings and access these reports [here](https://inclusion-international.org/21493-2/).

## UN DESA feature: Disability and COVID-19

This piece featured in UN DESA’s December issue explores five things you need to know about living with a disability during COVID-19. Over one billion people living with disability have been and continue to bedisproportionately affected by this pandemic.

Read the piece [here](https://www.un.org/development/desa/undesavoice/feature/2020/12#50559) and watch the video [here](https://youtu.be/OELGwOHmg_Q).

## Webinar recordings:

## UN webinar: 13th session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The 13th session of the Conference of States Parties (COSP) to the CRPD is one of the largest and most important global forums on disability. COSP was held virtually this year from November 30-December 3, 2020.

The overarching theme for this year was, “A decade of action and delivery for inclusive sustainable development: implementing the CRPD and the 2030 Agenda for all persons with disabilities.” The cross-cutting theme was “strengthening capacity-building to fully implement the CRPD and the SDGs for persons with disabilities, in particular women and girls with disabilities. The sub-themes for the roundtable discussions focused on the following:

* On December 1, “Disability and business: realizing the right to work in open, inclusive and accessible environments for person with disabilities” (Access the video [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Sjwmiv4oE4&feature=youtu.be)).
* On December 1, “Addressing the rights and need of older persons with disabilities: ageing and demographic trends” (Access the video [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SNmekw-Axo8&feature=youtu.be)).
* On December 3, “Promoting inclusive environments for the full implementation of the CRPD” (Access the video [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=26jcB6sv5v0&feature=youtu.be)).

Access the video of the opening session [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kxoBsCb47s&feature=emb_logo).

For more information and background documents on the sub-themes, click [here](https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/conference-of-states-parties-to-the-convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities-2/cosp13.html)

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

## Survey: Research in Disability and Climate Justice

Individuals working in organizations for disability and climate are invited to participate in this 10 minute online survey. This survey seeks to identify how organizations working with people with disabilities address issues of climate justice and how climate-focused organizations address disability issues.

This is a collaborative project between the Open Society Foundations (OSF) and UCL Institute of Epidemiology and Healthcare. OSF is funding this research, and plan to publish a report in early 2021. This research has been reviewed and approved by the UCL Ethics Committee. This is a voluntary, online survey.

If you are part of an organization for disability, access the survey in [English](https://opinio.ucl.ac.uk/s?s=70179), [Portuguese](https://opinio.ucl.ac.uk/s?s=70179&lang=pt), [Spanish](https://opinio.ucl.ac.uk/s?s=70191&lang=es) and [French](https://opinio.ucl.ac.uk/s?s=70179&lang=fr).

If you are part of an organization for climate justice, access the survey in [English,](https://opinio.ucl.ac.uk/s?s=70191) [Portuguese](https://opinio.ucl.ac.uk/s?s=70191&lang=pt), [Spanish](https://opinio.ucl.ac.uk/s?s=70191&lang=es) and [French](https://opinio.ucl.ac.uk/s?s=70191&lang=fr).

# ****OPPORTUNITIES****

## Safeguarding Manager

CBM Global | Based in any CBM Global program location | Full-time

[APPLY BY 20 DECEMBER](https://www.cbmuk.org.uk/who-we-are/work-for-us/) 2020

## Field Communications Officer

CBM Global | In a Country Office location in Africa | Full-time\fixed contract until 31 December 2021

[APPLY BY 4 JANUARY 2021](https://www.cbmuk.org.uk/who-we-are/work-for-us/)

## Youth Activist Series (YAS)

Plan International Australia | Sydney & Melbourne

[APPLY BY EARLY JANUARY](https://www.plan.org.au/you-can-help/youth-activist-series-yas/?fbclid=IwAR2zoc6a0EE2PazqqDgyr2MB5Df_51LxVD2BYSynGUorLS0iKjMvowxCQZM) 2021

## Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Advisor

IDA | Full-time | 1 year contract (possible extension)

[APPLY BY 7 JANUARY 2021](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/content/opportunities?fbclid=IwAR2WU3SYo_tGJi1Os7CcznzLlMpvfvoAfPBFiFlGggogeMo4RX9Tm_K80qM)

## Internship opportunities (multiple roles available)

Perkins School for the Blind | Full-time & part-time | Work remotely | 3 months

[APPLY HERE](https://psfbapp.vistahrms.com/application/login/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f)

# 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.

**The aim of this Bulletin is** 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.

To join ADDC (membership is free) or find out more, please visit www.addc.org.au.  
  
**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 contained within bulletins.

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