# ADDC Bulletin: March 2021 edition

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Welcome to our March edition. We send this today as the *#EndCOVIDForAll* campaign launches a new video to remind us that the pandemic won’t be over for any of us until it is over for all of us. This campaign is relying on all of our voices to urge the Government to scale up efforts to end the pandemic by ensuring vaccine access for the world’s poorest, strengthen health systems in our region, and combat starvation in affected countries. Please [watch and share this video](#SharetheVideo) to get this vital message out as widely as possible.

We have used Vision Australia’s [Document Accessibility Toolbar](https://bit.ly/2OXZR3b) to help ensure the Word version of this bulletin is accessible. Free to download, the DAT is a dedicated accessibility ribbon menu for Microsoft Word that makes it quicker and easier to create accessible documents. Using this toolbar will improve the accessibility of Word documents to ensure everyone has equal access to information.

We are always on the hunt for any helpful news items/resources on disability inclusive development, so reach out to us if you have anything relevant in mind.

On behalf of ADDC, we thank you for being with us on this journey to a more inclusive world,

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# ****ADDC NEWS****

## Restore the Budget petition

In October last year, the Australian Government made the gut-wrenching decision to cut the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s central disability allocation by 25%. These cuts come at a time when COVID-19 has [*catastrophically*](https://covid-drm.org/en/statements/covid-19-disability-rights-monitor-report-highlights-catastrophic-global-failure-to-protect-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities) impacted the lives of people with disabilities. Early this month, we launched an [online petition](file:///\\CBMI.ORG.AU\CBM\Main\CBM\PublicEngagement\2021%20ADDC\2021%20Comms\Bulletins\ADDC%20Bulletin%20March%202021\bit.ly\37QbaRS) alongside key sector organisations, calling on the Australian Government to restore and increase this central disability allocation. We have been energized by the overwhelming response to this petition. Join us in creating a #BetterWorldForAll by signing and sharing this petition.

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

## Share the 'Pandemic Generation' video

The team at *End Covid For All* have created this impactful [video](https://fb.watch/4sMo-O3D8G/) calling on the Australian Government to step up efforts to help #EndCOVIDforAll by:

1. Scaling up our efforts to end the pandemic

2. Strengthening health systems in our region

3. Stopping famine

Your help is needed to get this message out by sharing this video far and wide on [Facebook](https://fb.watch/4sMo-O3D8G/) and Twitter. Together, we can make a difference in bringing this crucial issue to the attention of our political decision makers.

## Persons with Disability and COVID-19 vaccination

COVID-19 vaccines are currently in the process of being rolled out around the world. Concerns have been raised on the accessibility of the vaccination for persons with disabilities. The disability movement has legitimate questions surrounding the prioritization of persons with disabilities and their support networks’ accessibility to the vaccination and the process and the provision of vaccinations based on free and informed consent of all persons with disabilities.

The International Disability Alliance together with International Disability and Development Consortium, have initiated advocacy at global, regional and national levels to ensure prioritization, inclusion and accessibility of persons with disabilities to vaccinations. They also call for inclusive data collection and data dissemination where data collected on vaccination programs must be disaggregated by age, sex and disability and must be shared in accessible formats.

Download [IDA and IDDC key recommendations on COVID-19 vaccinations.](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/access-to-covid19-vaccination)

# ****NEW RESOURCES****

## Policy Brief: Front row for the most vulnerable

This brief from *Light for the World* calls on all state governments, Ministries of Health and relevant policymakers to be inclusive and accessible in the planning, awareness-raising and distribution phase of national vaccination plans. It suggests considering four elements for equitable and inclusive COVID-19 vaccination strategy: affordability, availability, accessibility and awareness.

Access the [“Front row for the most vulnerable” policy brief](https://www.light-for-the-world.org/front-row-most-vulnerable-call-equitable-and-inclusive-covid-19-vaccination-roll-outs).

## Infographic: The Legal Recognition of National Sign Language

The World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) has prepared an infographic compiling legislation from countries that have recognized Deaf people’s rights, illustrating the various legal frameworks countries have adopted to recognize Deaf people’s linguistic and cultural rights.

This infographic aims to share progress on Deaf people’s rights from around the world and seeks to motivate countries to continue to advocate for legal recognition of their Sign Language and to strengthen existing policies related to Sign Language.

Access the [Legal Recognition of National Sign Languages infographic](http://wfdeaf.org/news/the-legal-recognition-of-national-sign-languages/).

## OHCHR Report: Participation in physical activity and sport under Article 30, CRPD

This report by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) contains an overview of obligations under Article 30(5) of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) relating to the participation of people with disabilities in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport on an equal basis with others.

This report contains guidance to States on how to adopt a human-rights approach to develop inclusive and disability-specific physical activity and sports, and recommendations to assist States in implementing their obligations under international human rights law.

Download the [Report on physical activity and sports under article 30 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Disability/Pages/Physical-activity-sports.aspx).

## Briefing paper: Disability, Disaster and Displacement

This paper is a step towards bridging the knowledge gap on data on people with disabilities affected by humanitarian disasters. It summarizes the current state of knowledge on how people with disabilities are being disproportionately affected in disaster settings and explains why better data on the experiences of internally displaced people with disabilities is crucial for responses that are more inclusive.

It emphasizes the key role of people with disabilities in improving disaster planning, risk management and data collection on displacement and highlights examples of tools and promising practices to guide humanitarian actors.

Access the [Disability, Disaster and Displacement briefing paper](https://www.internal-displacement.org/publications/disability-disasters-and-displacement). This paper was authored by the [Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre](https://www.internal-displacement.org/).

## WHO Report: World Report on Hearing

The *World Report on Hearing* was developed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) as a means of providing guidance for Member states to integrate ear and hearing care into their national health plans.

This Report was developed in collaboration with experts and stakeholders in the field of ear and hearing care who provided strategic direction and ensured that it reflected a range of cultural contexts and approaches to hearing care. The report is global in its reach while keeping a special focus on low- and middle-income countries, where the number of people with hearing loss is not matched by the availability of services and resources.

Access the [World Report on Hearing](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/world-report-on-hearing).

## Research article: A Preliminary Analysis of the UNPRPD programme within the CRPD and SDGs context

This research article provides a preliminary snapshot of the proposed priorities approved by the United Nations programme designated to support the progressive realisation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) outlined by specific Convention Articles of the CRPD and, more broadly, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The analysis presents an outlook at the distribution of rights identified in the initial project proposals and accepted by the UNPRPD, establishing baseline priorities and needs and identifies the issues that need to be addressed to ensure advancement of all rights outlined in the CRPD and equitable achievements of the SDGs.

Access the “[Disability Inclusion and Global Development – A Preliminary Analysis” research article](https://dcidj.org/articles/abstract/397/).

# Webinar recordings

## Virtual Meeting of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics: 22-24 September 2020

The virtual meeting of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics discussed COVID-19 and disability, updates on workgroups, efforts on establishing regional entities, accomplishments and next steps for action.

The group also launched its [website](https://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/) containing useful resources such as disaggregation of disability data and SDGs. The Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities was invited to present on the importance of data collection on COVID-19 and people with disabilities.

Access the [video recording for Day 1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=88LjM1_jMsc), [video recording for Day 2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rOkBeKVC3AI), and the [video recording for Day 3](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FALz5RdWJts).

## Overcoming the Digital Divide to Ensure Disability Inclusiveness: 11 February 2021

This event held by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)’s Division for Inclusive Social Development focused on using digital technologies as a driving force for the inclusion of people with disabilities. It aimed to create a dialogue on how digital technologies can advance the rights of persons with disabilities at the national and international level.

Participants shared their success and challenges of different technologies that can be used to support and enable people with disabilities. The deliberations also elaborated on the impact of COVID-19 on people with disabilities as it has widened the gap of basic accessibility to modern world, overcoming the digital divide, the role of UN and its family, multilateral organizations increase access to digital solutions, and the next steps for disability inclusion in this space.

Access the ["Overcoming the Digital Divide to Ensure Disability Inclusiveness" online event](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LF55H_GMiGs). This event was part of the 59th Session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD59).

## Online Global Dialogue: Digital Inclusion for All: 16 February 2021

A digital divide still exists between more and less connected countries, communities and people. Closing the digital divide by enabling people all across the world to have access and be able to use digital technologies is necessary, however, it remains a challenge that needs to be addressed by the global community to achieve the SDGs by 2030.

In view of this pressing issue, the UNDESA’s Division for Inclusive Social Development and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) organised an online global dialogue on “Digital Inclusion for all”.

Learn more and access the recording of [*Digital Inclusion For All* online event.](https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/2021/02/online-global-dialogue-on-digital-inclusion-for-all/)

## Webinar: Organizations of Persons with Disabilities and Data Experiences: 24 February 2021

The Stakeholders Group of Persons with Disabilities hosted this webinar featuring panelists, Jose Viera (Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities and World Blind Union), Sally Nduta (United Disabled Persons of Kenya) and Bethany Brown (International Disability Alliance). The presenters discussed the disability data advocacy toolkit and the role of organization of persons with disabilities, shared findings and lessons learned from the Disability Rights Monitor COVID-19 survey, and experiences from organizations of persons with disabilities and data advocacy efforts in Kenya.

Access the [“Organizations of Persons with Disabilities and Data Experiences” webinar transcript](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/disability-data-webinar).

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

## Call for Papers: Special Issue "Measuring Disability and Disability Inclusive Development

Guest editors of the *International Journal for Public Research and Environmental Health* invite researchers globally to contribute any papers describing and critically evaluating methods used to assess disability-inclusive development, or describing results from such research.

Submissions are welcome across all development sectors, including health, rehabilitation, education, employment, WASH, disasters (including COVID-19), and social protection. Submissions that document research related to disability-inclusion as a process and/or as an outcome are encouraged.

Learn more about the [call for papers on this Special Issue of the *International Journal for Public Research and Environmental Health*](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/ijerph/special_issues/disability_develop)*.*

## Call for Input: Survey on Development of Consultation Process/Guidelines for Participation of OPDs

This survey is part of an IASC Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Disability and Inclusion Working Group initiative to develop a structured and accessible consultation process and guidelines for the active participation of Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) in the development and review of MHPSS resources, ensuring inclusiveness and accessibility. The survey seeks input on existing accessibility, inclusion barriers to meaningful participation and measures required to strengthen consultation process.

Access the [survey on Development of Structured and Accessible Consultation Process and Guidelines for the Active Participation of OPDs](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeODhcn8OevVT2chrrJiSKrzIFhXNolG_6PamCODeNuMJZAqg/viewform).

## Call for Input: Interest in Training on Deaf Leadership in Disaster Risk Management

As climate change-related disasters increase, the field of disaster risk and management needs Deaf practitioners prepared to lead needs assessment, community capacity building, policy development and other areas of disaster preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery.

The aim of this survey is to gather information about the potential interest of Deaf students and professionals’ in undertaking university training on “Deaf Leadership in Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Preparedness” as part of Gallaudet University’s International Development MA Program.

Access the [survey on Training on Deaf Leadership in Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Preparedness](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3686THW).

# ****UPCOMING EVENTS****

## General Discussion on the Right of Persons with Disabilities to Work and Employment

UN OHCHR | March 22-24

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRPD/Pages/GeneralDiscussions.aspx)

## Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development

UN ESCAP | March 23-26

LEARN MORE & REGISTER

## Arab Forum for Sustainable Development

UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia | March 29-31

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](https://www.unescwa.org/event/arab-forum-sustainable-development-2021)

## The Early Connections Virtual Conference

Perkins School for the Blind | May 1

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](https://www.perkins.org/get-involved/events/early-connections?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Early%20Connections%20Conference%202021%20-%20Save%20the%20Date&utm_content=Early%20Connections%20Conference%202021%20-%20Save%20the%20Date%20CID_c8e4bc4b8cba4224ce3c99c6e9d29867&utm_source=Perkins%20Message&utm_term=Early%20Connections%20Conference%20In%20This%20Together)

## Pathways through disruption: RDI Conference 2021

RDI Network | June 30-July 2

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](https://rdiconference2021.org.au/)

## Voluntary National Reviews for the High Level Political Forum

UN SDG Knowledge Platform | July 6–15

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2021)

# ****OPPORTUNITIES****

## Disability Support Officer (Voluntary)

Australian Volunteers Program | Remote working & contract role | Apply by March 24

[LEARN MORE & APPLY](https://www.ethicaljobs.com.au/members/avi/disability-support-officer-voluntary-federated-states-of-micronesia/?categories=13,33&page=5)

## Director, Engagement and Effectiveness Team

ACFID | Flexible work options & 12 month role | Apply by March 26

[LEARN MORE & APPLY](https://acfid.asn.au/get-involved/acfid-jobs?mc_cid=9b798db1d7&mc_eid=e340c40581)

## Expression of Interest for consultancy services

UN World Food Program | Apply by March 29

[LEARN MORE & APPLY](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ungm.org%2FPublic%2FNotice%2F123976&data=04%7C01%7Cmaria.teresa.lago.lao%40undp.org%7Cda817bf603d1486553f108d8e8694935%7Cb3e5db5e2944483799f57488ace54319%7C0%7C0%7C637514886241100280%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=7RzhCNONTbSN3ZkqF8ml%2FhcndQHC3qNAL10Qfyr3O5U%3D&reserved=0)

# 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 our [website](http://www.addc.org.au).

This bulletin aims to provide information on Disability Inclusive Development across organizations 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.

**Acknowledgment of Country:**ADDC recognises the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the first inhabitants of the nation and the traditional custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work. We acknowledge their resilience, contributions and connection to land, culture and water, and we pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and future. 45 per cent of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians live with a disability or a long-term, restricting health condition. They are 2.1 times more likely to live with a disability than non-Aboriginal Australians, and 5 times more likely to experience a mental health condition. First Nations people with disabilities participate in cultural activities at the same rates as those without disabilities. We pay our respects to their enduring spirit and inclusivity.

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