# ADDC Bulletin: April 2021 edition

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Welcome to our April edition. You may be aware that the Chair of the Disability Royal Commission, the Hon. Ronald Sackville, has requested the Government to provide an extension of time for the Commission to investigate the violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation experienced by people with disability in Australia, particularly with delays caused by COVID-19. PWD Australia chief, Sebastian Zagarella has stressed that, “the welfare and safety of the disability community depends on the commission having adequate time to conduct these investigations thoroughly." ([reference](https://bit.ly/3ar8rj8)) You can support the call to extend the Disability Royal Commission by completing [this form](https://ourroyalcommission.com.au/). Every gesture of support counts.

Your support for the urgent petition calling to restore and increase funding for disability inclusive development in Australia’s aid program has been encouraging, with just over 4000 people signing the petition. CBM will [present the petition](#Petition) to political leaders ahead of Federal budget in May.

We are always keen to include 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,

Kerryn Clarke

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# ADDC NEWS

ADDC Executive Officer change  
ADDC warmly welcomes Kerryn Clarke back to the role of ADDC Executive Officer this month returning after parental leave. We were fortunate to have Lucy Daniel serve in this role while Kerryn was on leave, having previously worked in this role over Kerryn’s last parental leave period in 2018. On behalf of ADDC, we thank Lucy for her tremendous work over the last year and wish her well in her new role with CBM’s Inclusive Advisory Group as a disability-inclusive development advisor.

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

## CBM calls to restore the budget for people with disabilities

Leading disability-inclusive international development agency, CBM Australia, is calling on the Australian Government to restore the disability allocation within the Australian aid budget, which it cut by 25 percent.

CBM CEO Jane Edge said COVID-19 pandemic has had a catastrophic impact on people with disabilities.

“People with disabilities have lost their jobs disproportionately more than people without disabilities; can’t get enough food to eat or access to health services – much less protect themselves from the virus.

“We are still dismayed by the budget cut at a time when the world’s most vulnerable are being pushed even further to the margins. We must act now and restore the budget.”

CBM is calling for the Government to reverse the cuts and to increase the central disability allocation to a minimum of $14m per annum, representing just 0.35% of Australia’s total aid spend.

Read the [full media release](https://www.cbm.org.au/media-release/cbm-calls-to-restore-the-budget-for-people-with-disabilities/).

## Statement for the Commission on the Status of Women on women and girls with disabilities

Ana Peláez Narváez, representing the European Disability Forum, delivered a statement to the 65th Commission on the Status of Women on the on the right of political participation of women with disabilities.

“Women and girls with disabilities face the impact of discrimination at the intersection of disability and gender. They are disproportionately underrepresented and largely invisible in public decision making. Power imbalances result in fewer opportunities to establish or join organisations, political parties and unions that can represent their experiences and requirements both as persons with disabilities and as girls, youth, women or older women, and mothers and sisters and partners of persons with disabilities.”

“Organizations of women with disabilities around the world are demanding their place and space in all aspects of political participation, from accessible campaigns, debates and voting procedures, to the right to run for election. The empowerment of all women cannot happen without women with disabilities.”

Ana Peláez Narváez is a member of the International Disability Alliance (IDA) and the UN Commission on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Committee and is a woman with a disability.

[Read the full statement or view the video delivery of the full statement](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/statement-csw-2021).

## Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) – Recommendations from the 2021 Asia Pacific Disability Constituency Intervention

In order to address the current challenges experienced by people with disabilities in COVID-19 response and recovery efforts, the Asia Pacific Disability Constituency Intervention has recommended that stakeholders must:

* Ensure meaningful consultation with organizations of persons with disabilities with active participation of persons with disabilities across the project cycle.
* Ensure mainstreaming of disability inclusion beyond COVID-19 response and recovery.
* Establish accountability mechanisms though developing disability disaggregated monitoring and evaluation indicators towards development justice.
* Ensure inclusion of persons with disabilities in livelihood and economic recovery.
* Ensure all local, national and regional publications and materials reflect disability disaggregated data to monitor current and future progresses.

[Read the recommendations](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/apfsd-2021-forum).

# ****NEW RESOURCES****

## ACFID Guidance for the Development of a Disability Inclusion Policy

The main aim of this guidance is to provide practical tips to assist ACFID members to develop and implement a disability inclusion policy. This guidance will help meet your organisation’s obligations under the ACFID Code of Conduct.

The guidance also shares examples of how diverse member agencies have gone about developing and implementing a disability inclusion policy. It is expected this will assist organisations to informally benchmark their own journey and promote continuous improvement. This will also help inform organisations who are wanting to improve their disability inclusive development practices and/or are seeking DFAT Accreditation.

Download guidance in [PDF](https://bit.ly/3dwYC4X) and [Word](https://bit.ly/32r6Gh9).

## Report: Climate Change: This Century’s Defining Issue

The need for a disability-inclusive approach to climate change is at a now or never moment, according to a new CBM Global report.

*Climate Change: This Century’s Defining Issue* by Mary Keogh, CBM Global’s Disability Inclusive Development Director, and Maria Paula Acuna Gonzalez, looks at the impact of climate change from four perspectives: personal, programmes, policy and political.

The report highlights a lack of inclusion, representation and investment in people with disabilities in relation to climate change. It also cites positive examples of progress, for example how organisations representing persons with disabilities in the Pacific and Latin America are engaging in climate change.

Recommendations in the report set out key actions to ensure that people with disabilities and their representative organisations are not left behind in the global, national and local movements advancing climate justice.

[Download the report](http://cbm-global.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/CBM-Global-Climate-Change-Report.pdf).

## Evidence summary: CBM Australia and Nossal Institute for Global Health: Experiences of people with disabilities during COVID-19 in Asia and the Pacific (Updated March 2021)

This review presents a synthesis of the evidence of the health, economic and social impact of COVID-19 on people with disabilities in low and middle-income countries, with a focus on Asia and the Pacific. It provides an update to the evidence summary published July 2020.

[Download the evidence summary](https://did4all.com.au/resources/Updated_Evidence_Summary_March21_FINAL.pdf).

[Download the Infographic](https://did4all.com.au/resources/infographic_final.pdf).

## Report: Human Right Report 2021: Impact of COVID-19 on Persons with Disabilities

This report explores the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on persons with disabilities across Europe in 2020 stressing that the European Union (EU) and European countries have failed to include people with disabilities in their response to the pandemic within the EU and globally. This report illustrates how most governments failed their legal obligations towards people with disabilities. It shows how the different phases of the pandemic impacted people with disabilities. It also outlines what immediate and strong advocacy led by persons with disabilities and their representative organisations has compelled many governments to take actions to ensure the rights of people with disabilities.

[Download the report](https://www.edf-feph.org/human-rights-report-2021-covid19/).

## Toolkit: IDA/IDDC Toolkit for National COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign for Persons with Disabilities

The International Disability Alliance (IDA) and International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) have developed a toolkit to support organizations of persons with disabilities, their allies and partners to run a more successful advocacy toward prioritization, inclusivity and accessibility of vaccination processes for persons with disabilities,

Download the toolkit in [PDF](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/sites/default/files/national_vaccination_campaign_-_english.pdf) and [Word](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/sites/default/files/national_vaccination_campaign_-_english.docx).

## Toolkit: EDF Toolkit on Inclusion of Refugees and Migrants with Disabilities

This toolkit aims to inform community members and partners, in particular organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), about the perspective of migrants and refugees with disabilities and how they can be included in their work. It provides good practices on how to include the voice of migrants and refugees with disabilities in the work of OPDs. This is a document which is regularly updated.

This toolkit was developed by the European Disability Forum (EDF) in 2020 to include refugees with disabilities in the work carried out by their partners.

[Access the toolkit](https://www.edf-feph.org/publications/refugees-and-migrants-with-disabilities/).

## Report: Persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in Iraq: Barriers, challenges and priorities

This report shares the unique perspectives of people with disabilities in Iraq and aims to improve the understanding of the barriers experienced by them. Despite having one of the largest populations of person with disabilities in the world, there has been little consultation to date between people with disabilities and their representative groups by the government and humanitarian and development agencies. This report bridges that gap through sharing barriers, challenges and priorities of people with disabilities, based on interviews conducted with representatives, organizations of persons with disabilities and governorates in Iraq.

[Access the report in English](https://iraq.iom.int/publications/persons-disabilities-and-their-representative-organizations-iraq-barriers-challenges).

Access the key message from the report in [English](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Cm-qoOFHgo), [Arabic](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWBFImYteag) and [Kurdish](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2WpKtKMqmdM).

## Guideline Report: WHO Assistive Product Specifications and how to use them

This report is the first ever global guide for priority assistive products published by the World Health Organisation. It includes 26 assistive products specifications (APS). APS describe the minimum quality requirements for products to meet the needs of the people they assist. It also provides a guide to the procurement of assistive technology, setting out the procurement process in detail, including key steps and good practices for use by teams working in less resourced settings.

[Access the guideline report](https://www.motivation.org.au/resources/publications/who-assistive-products-specifications/).

## Report: Global Disability Summit +2 years: Progress on implementation of commitments

The Global Disability Summit (GDS) launched its report, “GDS +2 years: Progress on implementation of commitments” online on March 25, 2021. The report provides crucial information on the progress made by stakeholders, numerous examples and case studies indicating the breadth of the work towards which the GDS process has contributed. GDS hopes that all stakeholders as well as others will be inspired to strengthen their resolve around disability inclusion.

[Access the report](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/events/gds2-years-report-launching-march-25).

# Recordings

## Rights, Sports and Disability

This podcast episode explores the implications of a new report of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to the Human Rights Council (HRC), bringing together experts, academics and practitioners, who discuss the rights of persons with disabilities to participation in sport under the Article 30 of the UN Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

[Access the podcast](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/rights-sport-and-disability/id1521679094?i=1000516477560).

## Building Back Safer- Inclusively: Women and Girls with Disabilities Partnering on Solutions to Violence in COVID and Beyond (24 March)

**Based on their experiences, panelists share their insights and recommendations to ensure an equitable post-pandemic world for women and girls.** This online event was hosted by the Disability Rights Advocacy Fund, Disability Rights Fund, Global Resilience Fund for **Girls and Young Womxn at Purposeful, Women Enabled International, and the HI-Making It Work Gender and Disability Project.**

[Access the video recording](https://www.facebook.com/disabilityrightsfund/videos/274329304245900)**.**

## Access to Justice at the Intersection of Disability and Older Age: A Moderated Discussion (30 March)

This webinar is a moderated discussion between the UN Independent Expert on the Enjoyment of all Human Rights by Older Persons and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This event explores barriers to the right of older persons to access to justice, commonalities with the experience of persons with disabilities and where those experiences may diverge. The main perspective comes from international law, rather than national or regional human rights mechanisms.

[Access the video recording](http://webtv.un.org/watch/access-to-justice-at-the-intersection-of-disability-and-older-age-a-moderated-discussion-oewg11-ageing-side-event/6245457289001).

## Ramping up representation: promoting the participation of youth with disabilities in pandemic recovery efforts (April 6)

This webinar highlights the impact of the pandemic on youth and other underrepresented groups of people with disabilities, and offers the perspective of youth on inclusive approaches to COVID-19 recovery efforts. It explores themes of intersectionality and identifies the synergies between various mechanisms and systems of the UN with Civil Society Organisations that foster inclusion and leadership of youth with disabilities. It also highlights information sharing and engagement with wider disability and youth mainstream movements.

[Access the webinar](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=urW0HTDj1lA).

## Share ‘n’ learn session series: 2nd Anniversary Celebration of the Inclusive Education Initiative (IEI)

This recording series explores themes that emerged through research conducted under IEI’s trust fund such as disability inclusive teaching, remote learning for children with disabilities during COVID-19 school closures, the importance of applying a social inclusion lens to disability inclusive education, and financing trends in disability inclusive education. The webinar provides rich information from experts in the field and delivers quality discussion from key stakeholders in the sector.

[Access the video recordings and summary notes](https://www.inclusive-education-initiative.org/events/share-n-learn-session-series-second-anniversary-celebration-inclusive-education-initiative).

## 24th session of the UNCRPD Committee

The UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) ended its 24th session on 1 April. The session held its first online constructive dialogue, renewed its bureau and held a Day of General Discussion on Article 27 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (work and employment) in the lead up to preparing and adopting a general comment.

Access [Part 1](http://webtv.un.org/meetings-events/human-rights-treaty-bodies/watch/consideration-of-estonia-522nd-meeting-24th-session-committee-on-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities/6239817614001), [Part 2](http://webtv.un.org/meetings-events/human-rights-treaty-bodies/watch/consideration-of-estonia-contd-533rd-meeting-24th-session-committee-on-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities/6240791736001/?term=) and [Part 3](http://webtv.un.org/meetings-events/human-rights-treaty-bodies/watch/consideration-of-estonia-contd-part-2-533rd-meeting-24th-session-committee-on-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities/6241332099001/?term=) of the recordings of the Committee.

Access the [statements delivered during the session](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/SessionDetails1.aspx?SessionID=1378&Lang=en).

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

## Australian Engagement on International Climate Change Conference (COP26)

In the lead up to the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP26) in November 2021, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade will hold a series of stakeholder information and discussion sessions. These are intended for those with an interest in engaging on international climate change issues.

The sessions are designed to provide practical information on the UNFCCC COP26 and to inform our approach to climate change negotiations and the action agenda.

The Department is committed to encouraging diverse representation. If you have accessibility requirements for attending online events, please send them an [email](mailto:UNFCCC_COP26@dfat.gov.au).

Register your interest for these online events by completing this [Registration Form](https://www.dfat.gov.au/node/150917).

## Survey: Child and Youth Consultation | UN Day of General Discussion on Children’s Rights and Alternative Care

This survey aims to gather children and young people’s views and ideas on their rights, and their experiences of alternative care. The findings will be written into a report, and shared with the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child for their Day of General Discussion (DGD), taking place in September 2021. The survey is aimed at children under 18 and young people from age 18-25.

[Access the survey.](https://changemakersforchildren.community/form/dgd-on-alternative-care)

## Survey: Disability research in Australia

This survey is open to anyone with an interest in disability research in Australia. Participants are asked to answer questions about their priorities for disability research in Australia, and how they use their research.

[Access the survey](https://sydney.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0PSsAJPPUDA284u).

## Survey: G3ict Policy Center Survey for Inclusive Workplace of the future

The survey is conducted by G3ict and Steelcase to create a blueprint for Inclusive Workplaces of the future. It seeks to challenge the current practices in workplaces and provide a blueprint for stakeholders with valuable insights for designing and implementing inclusive and safe workplace across different dimensions of diversity with a focus on persons with disabilities.

[Access the survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WQR6NK8).

## Survey: Use, access to and perception of impact of OHCHR publications

The UN Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) produces a wide range of publications with the aim to share information, provide practical guidance and stimulate debate on various aspects of human rights promotion and protection. The OHCHR contracted an external evaluation team to carry out the impact assessment of its publication. The views and opinions will help develop an impactful and superior publication.

The survey will take 15-20 minutes and is to be completed by 30 April 2021.

[Access the survey](https://tccolumbia.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3yLFPkO3GS6585U).

# ****UPCOMING EVENTS****

## 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)

## 2021 Virtual Aid Budget Breakfast

Development Policy Centre | May 12

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](https://anu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wbvGTJCISCih6b6jYPuOLg)

## Online regional consultations with persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in Asia Pacific

UN OHCHR | May 12

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CONSULTATIONS](https://www.ohchr.https:/www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/CRPD/InformativeNoteStakeholders_AsiaPacificConsultation.docxorg/en/hrbodies/crpd/pages/crpdindex.aspx)

## Reimagining the Future of Development webinar

ACFID | Save the date - May 27

## World Blindness Summit

World Blind Union | June 28-30

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/Pages/Discussion2020.aspx)

## 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)

## Day of the General Discussion on Children’s Rights and Alternative Care

UN OHCHR | September 16-17

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/Pages/Discussion2020.aspx)

## Deafblind Africa Conference

Deafblind International Dbl | May 12-14, 2022

[LEARN MORE](https://www.deafblindinternational.org/african-conference-great-progress-despite-pandemic/)

# ****OPPORTUNITIES****

## Disability Inclusion – Policy Advocacy and Community Engagement: EOI

CBM Australia | Melbourne or remotely

[LEARN MORE & APPLY](https://www.cbm.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Policy-Advocacy-Community-Engagement-EOI-advert.pdf)

## COSP14: NGO accreditation for next year now open

Apply by May 3

[LEARN MORE](http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/COP/cosp_ngo_accreditation.doc)

# 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.