# ADDC Bulletin: June 2022 edition

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Welcome to our June edition.

The 15th Conference of Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (COSP CRPD) was held in New York at UN headquarters on 14th-16th June. The Australian government delegation included officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Australia’s candidate for the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Rosemary Kayess, who was [successfully re-elected to the Committee](#RosemaryKayess). There was a visible and active presence of Australian OPDs throughout COSP, with delegations from Disabled People’s Organisations (DPO) Australia, Australian Federation of Disability Organisations (AFDO), First Peoples Disability Network, Queenslanders with Disability, Down Syndrome Association at COSP. The delegation participated in numerous sides events/meetings and official functions – a very busy week! We have included recordings of COSP side events - [see below](#COSPsideEvents).

On the ADDC front, we congratulate [Trevor Carroll on his Queen’s birthday honour](#TrevorOAM) and we welcome Dunkan Yip to the ADDC Executive Committee as representative for ACFID. Dunkan has experience in macroeconomic and social policy and has worked with Federal and State government spheres on these issues. He has also worked with the Black Dog Institute on mental health reform and advocacy. He has very recently joined ACFID’s policy and advocacy team.

If you have resources, reports, campaigns or projects you would like featured in our Bulletin, do contact us. We would love to hear from you.

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

## Congratulations to Trevor Carroll on being awarded an OAM

ADDC is thrilled to share that Trevor Carroll, member of our ADDC Executive Committee, received an Order of Australia Medal OAM this month for his service to and work with people with disabilities. An honour well deserved!

Trevor was at the United Nations during Conference of the State Parties in New York last week representing AFDO.

Trevor works tirelessly to protect and enhance the human rights of people with disabilities. He is CEO of Disability Justice Advocacy, providing advocacy support to people who have ongoing support needs because of disability. He is also Director and Information Officer, World Councillor and Chairperson (Asia Pacific Region) of Disabled People’s International.

He has been an active member of the Executive Committee of the Australian Federation of Disability Organisations (AFDO) having previously held the roles of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Chair of the Board. Trevor represents AFDO, a permanent organisational member, on the ADDC Executive Committee.

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

## Aid sector calls for urgent funding for Sri Lanka to avert humanitarian crisis

ACFID is calling on the Australian Government to urgently boost humanitarian aid towards Sri Lanka, to help address the economic crisis and emerging food security issues. ACFID is expecting the Australian Government to contribute $10 million AUD immediately, which would form a significant portion of the $US47 million target that the United Nations recently set, when it appealed to international donors, to be directed towards essential medicines, safe drinking water, livelihood protection and other measures. This funding is being directed towards programs covering child nutrition, smallholder farms and rural livelihoods in Sri Lanka.

[Read more here](https://acfid.asn.au/media-releases/aid-sector-calls-urgent-funding-sri-lanka-avert-humanitarian-crisis?mc_cid=2db84d2470&mc_eid=8efe41c761).

## 2022 CRPD Committee Elections

On June 14, at the Conference of States Parties to the CRPD, the elections for the CRPD Committee took place to elect 9 of the 18 members of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for the period 2023 to 2026.

With these election results, the CRPD Committee’s composition for the period 2023 will include:

* 11 female members and 7 male members
* 15 members with disabilities and 3 other members
* 6 members from Africa, 3 from Asia-Pacific, 0 from Eastern Europe, 4 from GRULAC and 5 from WEOG

The International Disability Alliance looks forward to continuing its collaboration with the Committee members that have renewed their mandates as well as those newly elected.

Read more about the Committee elections [here](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/blog/2022-crpd-committee-elections).

## Rosemary Kayess re-elected to UN Committee on Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Rosemary Kayess was re-elected to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. A respected lawyer and academic, Ms Kayess' candidacy was strongly supported by the Australian Government and Australian organisations of persons with disabilities.

In her second term, Ms Kayess will advance the Committee's critical work advocating for the human rights of all persons with disabilities. Ms Kayess will promote the rights of women and girls with disabilities; inclusive education; and reasonable accommodations to allow people with disabilities to fully participate in their communities. We congratulate Ms Kayess!

Read the Australian Foreign Minister’s statement on Ms Kayess’ re-election [here](https://www.foreignminister.gov.au/minister/penny-wong/media-release/rosemary-kayess-re-elected-united-nations-committee-rights-persons-disabilities).

## COSP 2022: Why it matters

In 2006, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations. Since then, 14 sessions of the Conference of States Parties (COSP) to the CRPD have been held at United Nations Headquarters, to discuss the situation of persons with disabilities and to advocate for their rights. Jane Waithera, Disability Inclusion Advisor for Light for the World, attended the 15th session (COSP15) from 14 to 16 June 2022. She explains what this event means to her and what it represents for the wider disability and inclusion sector.

Read her reflection [here](https://www.light-for-the-world.org/news/cosp-2022-why-it-matters/).

## Almost one billion children and adults with disabilities and older persons in need of assistive technology denied access

According to a report published by WHO (World Health Organization) and UNICEF (United Nations Children’s Fund) more than 2.5 billion people need one or more assistive products, and one billion are denied access, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, where access can be as low as 3% of the need for these life-changing products. Without access to assistive technology, children with disabilities will continue to miss out on their education, continue to be at a greater risk of child labour and continue to be subjected to stigma and discrimination, undermining their confidence and wellbeing. A survey of 70 countries featured in the report found large gaps in service provision and trained workforce for assistive technology, especially in the domains of cognition, communication, and self-care. It was also found that affordability is a major barrier to access.

The report makes recommendations for concrete action to improve access, including:

Improve access within education, health, and social care systems

* Ensure availability, safety, effectiveness, and affordability of assistive products
* Enlarge, diversify, and improve workforce capacity
* Actively involve users of assistive technology and their families
* Increase public awareness and combat stigma
* Invest in data and evidence-based policy
* Invest in research, innovation, and an enabling ecosystem
* Develop and invest in enabling environments
* Include assistive technology in humanitarian responses
* Provide technical and economic assistance through international cooperation to support national effort

[Read the full article here](https://www.who.int/news/item/16-05-2022-almost-one-billion-children-and-adults-with-disabilities-and-older-persons-in-need-of-assistive-technology-denied-access--according-to-new-report).

[Access the report here](https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/354357).

# ****NEW RESOURCES****

## Launch of the Ripple Project Report: A better world with Australian aid

This report demonstrates the ripple effects of Australian aid across six areas of impact – humanitarian response, gender equality, climate, education, health, disability inclusion, and food security – and highlights the opportunity to create a better, safer and more stable world for everyone with Australian aid.

The report's section on disability inclusion highlights how Australian aid supports people with disability to find their own pathways to empowerment, through education, access to health and rehabilitation services and livelihood assistance. It also ensures disability inclusion is included in emergency response and recovery efforts and in society in general, because when the human rights of persons with disabilities are achieved, everyone benefits from their contribution. Read about Ellena's story of change on disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction in the Solomon Islands.

Access the report [here](https://therippleproject.org.au/).

## Disability Inclusion in national climate commitments and policies

The Disability-Inclusive Climate Action Research Programme at McGill University and the International Disability Alliance released a status report providing a systematic analysis of disability rights in the climate policies of state parties to the Paris Agreement.

They found that only 35 of the 192 States parties to the Paris Agreement refer to persons with disabilities in their NDCs or INDCs. At the domestic level, only 45 states refer to persons with disabilities in their climate adaptation policies, and none appear to refer to persons with disabilities in their climate mitigation policies. They also concluded that even when states refer to disability, they do so in a cursory manner, without including meaningful mechanisms to consult people with disabilities or ensure their rights are respected in climate policies.

[Access the report here](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/content/states-fail-include-persons-disabilities-response-climate-change).

## Inclusive Futures: Disability Confident Employers’ Toolkit

The disability-confident toolkit is grounded in best corporate practice and offers a complete, step by step, roadmap for business leaders, human resource executives and building property managers on how to foster inclusive workspaces.

As an open source toolkit, it can be tailored to fit your industry, workplace and country. Together we can build more inclusive societies for all.

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

## Technical brief: Key principles and recommendations for inclusive cash and voucher assistance in Ukraine

CBM Global Disability Inclusion together with the European Disability Forum developed a technical brief to provide general guidance for humanitarian agencies operating in Ukraine on implementing Disability Inclusive Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA). It aims to ensure that disability is mainstreamed within the CVA intervention and in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), International Humanitarian Law and Humanitarian Principles. The technical brief outlines following considerations:

Strategic considerations:

* Ensure that CVA reaches all persons with disabilities, including all who were not able to evacuate
* Link humanitarian CVA efforts to social protection schemes
* Support persons with disabilities in institutions

Programmatic considerations:

* Ensure identification and registration of persons with disabilities
* Design and adapt delivery modalities to ensure persons with disabilities can access cash and markets by identifying barriers and enablers
* Consider a realistic Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) for persons with disabilities and diverse transfer value
* Monitor inclusive cash outcomes through CVA and adjust approaches as necessary
* Engage persons with disabilities and their representative groups throughout the CVA program cycle

[Access the brief here](https://www.edf-feph.org/publications/key-principles-and-recommendations-for-inclusive-cash-and-voucher-assistance-in-ukraine/).

## Brief report: OPD engagement in humanitarian action

CBM Global released a new report “Engaging OPD in humanitarian response: reflection from CBM Global’s COVID-19 response in Bangladesh, Indonesia and Nepal”. The report presents CBM Global experience and learnings engaging and working with Organizations of People with Disabilities (OPDs) in the initial response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The document provides the sector with learnings and reflections on the approaches that can be adopted for meaningful participation of OPDs at various stages of humanitarian intervention. It also provides examples on how humanitarian actors can work and engage with OPDs in identifying gaps and needs to strengthen inclusion of people with disability across its policies, processes, and programs.

[Access the report here](https://cbm-global.org/news/new-brief-report-on-opd-engagement-in-humanitarian-action).

## Factsheet: Accessible documents for persons with vision impairments and persons with low vision in Iraq

International Organization for Migration (IOM) Iraq continues to strengthen their approach to improve access and inclusion of persons with disabilities across its programming. This factsheet was developed following a small rapid consultation with persons with vision impairments and persons with low vision in Iraq in 2021. It aims to inform IOM Iraq and implementing partners, on country-specific information on screen reading software use in Iraq, Braille use in Iraq, creating digitally accessible documents for people who use screen readers in Iraq, and accessible communication.

[Access the document here](https://iraq.iom.int/resources/fact-sheet-accessible-documents-persons-vision-impairments-and-persons-low-vision-iraq).

# Webinar recordings

## United Nations 15th Conference of States Parties (COSP) to the CRPD Side Events 2022:

## ["Call for Action" for States Parties to Promote Digital Accessibility Skills](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O-2kgxSzmlE)

## [Assistive Technology: what we know now](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pLH9QFR4TyE) (June 13)

* [**1st Meeting of COSP**](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1b/k1bx9hx8hh) (June 14)
* [**2nd Meeting of COSP- Building inclusive and participatory societies in the COVID context and beyond** (](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1f/k1fib1yg7n)June 14)
* [**Indigenous persons with disabilities – challenges and opportunities posed by environmental change**](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k16/k16nlbvqnk) (June 14)
* [**Roundtable 1- Innovation and technology advancing disability rights**](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k14/k14sxv70x8) (June 15)
* [**Roundtable 2 - Economic empowerment and entrepreneurship of persons with disabilities**](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k14/k14m4mzzei) (June 15)
* [**Women with Disabilities Leading Climate Action**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h5fcUgtHh5w) (June 15)
* [**Roundtable 3 - Participation of persons with disabilities in climate action, disaster risk reduction and resilience against natural disasters**](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1h/k1hac7bmu8) (June 16)
* [**Interactive dialogue with the United Nations system on the implementation of the Convention**](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1j/k1jn0jjri3) (June 16)

## [The role of sport and cultural life in building inclusive and participatory societies for persons with disabilities in the post COVID-19 context](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k12/k12rrtgpmv) (June 15)

## [Disability Inclusion in the Health Sector](https://media.un.org/en/asset/k17/k17qydd7cw) (June 16)

* [**Economic empowerment for persons with disabilities**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtETZ0_8Uuw) (June 17)

## [Including Perspectives of Mental Well-being & Psychosocial Disabilities in Disaster Risk Reduction & Humanitarian Action](https://voiceofyouth.jp/cosp2022) (June 17)

## Two years on: A reflection on achievements and forthcoming plans of disability reference group

The Reference Group on inclusion of persons with disabilities in Humanitarian Action was officially introduced during the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Weeks (HNPW) 2020. After two years of growing and transformation, the group is now well-recognized among humanitarian organizations and actors of persons with disabilities as a reference point. The event features some of the major achievements and ongoing projects of the group. The event elaborated on introduction to the modules developed to enhance disability inclusion knowledge for humanitarian actors, reviewed existing mechanisms within the humanitarian systems for technical support to countries and opportunities for strengthening disability inclusion and project supported by USAID funding to enhance engagement of organizations of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action.

[Access the video recording here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GMO_OcBAh9o).

## Inclusion AOCC Framing Session: Inclusion, a qualitative imperative for humanitarian action (May 11, 2022)

The session explored the progress made over the last years towards more inclusive humanitarian action, but also of remaining gaps and challenges. These remain numerous and require further advocacy, action, and engagement to capitalize on inclusion efforts and ongoing progress. For example, a major challenge is the lack of implementation of existing commitments and guidelines. Existing vulnerabilities may be exacerbated by intersecting aspects of diversity such as race, age, gender, disability, or status, particularly in COVID and displacement situations. All this is compounded by unhelpful assumptions regarding inclusion as an option rather than as a life-saving core element of humanitarian action, as well as by unconscious bias regarding the roles and capacities of certain groups of individuals who remain at the margins of humanitarian action. This session allowed a discussion on concrete proposals to move from policy and good intentions to practice with the aim of improving the overall quality of the response provided by different humanitarian actors.

[Access the recording here](https://youtu.be/ord-IaOWRPg).

## Climate Charter: Inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities (May 12, 2022)

This session took stock of the fact that persons with disabilities are disproportionately impacted by climate crisis and face more challenges to adapt to those impacts. At the same time, measures taken to adapt with climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions are often designed without considering their impact on rights and access for persons with disabilities and may lead to further exclusion and discrimination. Recognizing the urgency of climate change as a humanitarian crisis as well as their key role in climate mitigation, humanitarian organizations have introduced the Climate and Environment Charter to unify their commitments in this regard. However, the Charter only mentions persons with disabilities among different groups facing higher risk, without elaborating how their rights and inclusion should be guaranteed through implementation of the Charter.

The speakers at this event discussed ways to ensure that the implementation of the Climate and Environmental Charter is inclusive of persons with disabilities. The event also aimed to discuss how persons with disabilities and their organizations as well as projects focusing on disability-inclusive humanitarian action can contribute to the implementation of the Charter.

[Access the recording here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WbzgFdlUKag&t=1s).

## Leaving no one behind: Recommendations for inclusive and impartial humanitarian action

The Humanitarian Policy Group at ODI hosted this event to share key recommendations from a three-year research project entitled [Falling through cracks: inclusion and exclusion in humanitarian action](https://odi.org/en/about/our-work/falling-through-the-cracks-inclusion-and-exclusion-in-humanitarian-action/). The humanitarian sector continues to struggle to be inclusive to the specific needs of groups while responding during a crisis and have trouble in applying for more holistic and flexible approach to people’s needs. Understanding of inclusion and exclusion in crisis rarely accounts for the full complexity and intersecting factors that can lead to an individual’s exclusion in crisis settings, leading to entire population groups being left behind. Despite on-going efforts, ensuring humanitarian responses are inclusive remains a challenge. The briefing session launched the publication of a report and a policy brief to propose a way forward and improve inclusion in humanitarian action and ensure inclusive, effective and impartial humanitarian responses that leave no one behind. This session is a continuation of the [final inclusion sessions from the HNPW 2021 which focused on identifying an inclusion strategy and roadmap](https://odi.org/en/publications/inclusion-strategy-and-roadmap-outcomes-from-the-inclusion-priority-topic-at-the-2021-humanitarian-networks-and-partnerships-week/).

The briefing session included present recommendations based on HPG’s three-year research on inclusion and exclusion in humanitarian action. It discussed how the inclusion agenda could be reframed and actions taken to improve humanitarian policy and practice to ensure inclusive, effective, and impartial humanitarian responses that leave no one behind. And framed discussions on the inclusion area of common concern at the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week.

[Access the video recording here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J-Lf_0F4QII).

## Importance on Inclusion in protection work

The humanitarian situation in the world is becoming worse, with millions of people in multiple protracted crises in Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Central Sahel, Syria and Yemen suffering from violence, stigma, discrimination, and unequal access to basic services and living conditions. The majority of today’s protracted crises can be characterized as protection crises, with over 82.4 million people presently forcibly displaced by conflicts, persecution, violence, and human rights violations. The entire humanitarian community agrees that to properly tackle the massive humanitarian needs, we must be able to target the most vulnerable individuals and communities that require humanitarian support. To achieve that, we must be truly inclusive and able to reach people who are the most affected by crises, and fully consult the diverse groups of vulnerable individuals and communities and be cognizant of their diverse needs.

However, in reality and despite best intentions, the challenges to ensure full inclusivity of all disadvantaged individuals and groups to access humanitarian and other services continue. Some of the reasons for this include stigma and discrimination in the communities themselves, insufficient humanitarian capacities and understanding of the diverse needs of the communities, lack of sufficient vulnerability data and contextual analysis, limited funding, complex coordination challenges and other issues. This session explored ways of strengthening the inclusion in the humanitarian action in the context of existing challenges. Specifically, it examined the opportunities and challenges for inclusion in humanitarian action, using experience in protection monitoring work in different protracted crises.

[Access the recording here](https://youtu.be/ijZS9CZnjIw).

[Access the background document here](https://vosocc.unocha.org/GetFile.aspx?xml=7099mNSNuyt2ObIjn0rASVQuOcrk99i1yNbKXSwpylU9vDMx_B_l1.html&tid=7099&laid=1&ows=1LDVgf9xxxslashOiXefxxxslash54DkMXfNFFFoTlOTg1).

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

## Call for papers and panels: Australasian AID Conference 2022

The call for papers and panels for the 2022 Australasian AID Conference (AAC2022) is now open. The conference is multidisciplinary in nature and examines topics related to aid and international development (the AID in the conference acronym). Abstracts and panel proposals from academics and practitioners are welcomed.

Find out more [here](https://devpolicy.crawford.anu.edu.au/annual-australasian-aid-conference/2022/call-papers-and-panels?mc_cid=2db84d2470&mc_eid=8efe41c761).

## Call for papers: Disability under condition of war and displacement

Editors of the journal, *Disability and International Development,* published in German and English, invite researchers and experts to contribute to an issue on disability under condition of war and displacement.

The journal contributes to the development of the discussion on social and development policy, intercultural and educational issues in connection with the inclusion of people with disabilities in the Global South.

The deadline for submissions is 31 July 2022. Find out more [here](https://www.bezev.de/de/institut-fuer-inklusive-entwicklung/zeitschrift/).

## Survey: Needs snapshot on Ukrainians' in and out of Ukraine

Save the Children are currently collecting data on the situation in Ukraine as well as amongst refugees who have left Ukraine. They are seeking help to share the survey among networks and organizations that are active either in Ukraine or in countries where Ukrainians have moved to or directly to people in Ukraine or on the move. The survey is available in Ukrainian, Russian and English and can be filled in online.

[Access the survey here](https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/tM9ofY7M).

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

## Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on DRR

UNDRR | September 19-22, 2022

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER HERE](https://www.undrr.org/event/asia-pacific-ministerial-conference-disaster-risk-reduction-apmcdrr-2022).

## ACFID National Conference 2022: Healthy Planet, Healthy Communities- Acting with evidence, equity, and inclusion for a resilient future

## ACFID | October 26-27, 2022

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER HERE](https://acfid.asn.au/content/conference-2022).

## Australasian AID Conference 2022

## Development Policy Centre | November 28-30, 2022

[LEARN MORE HERE](https://devpolicy.crawford.anu.edu.au/annual-australasian-aid-conference/2022).

**OPPORTUNITIES**

**Consultant**

IDA and UNHCR | Apply by July 10, 2022

[LEARN MORE & APPLY HERE](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/content/opportunities)

# 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. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and future. 45 per cent of Aboriginal 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. Aboriginal 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.