# ADDC Bulletin: May 2023 edition

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Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter. ADDC welcomes the Australian Government’s commitment to disability inclusive development in the Federal Budget released this month however more is needed to fully realise disability equity across the aid program. Keep reading below to see our full comment on this.

This week the key stakeholders in the humanitarian aid sector will be meeting at the United Nations Headquarters in New York for the Sendai Framework or Disaster Risk Reduction Mid-Term Review. This is an opportunity for stakeholders to discuss and analysis the progress of the implementation of the Framework. We will be watching keenly to see progress made on disability inclusion within that implementation and the gaps that still exist. Under the 15-year agreement, the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities was established to support persons with disabilities, their representative organizations and other relevant stakeholders to engage in the Sendai Framework and monitoring processes. See below for the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities position paper for this meeting.

The 16th session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (COSP16) will take place from June 13 to 15 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. This year's conference promises to be a pivotal gathering of global leaders, activists, and advocates, dedicated to advancing the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities on a worldwide scale. Stay tuned to our social media on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/addcnews), [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/australian-disability-and-development-consortium/) and [Facebook](https://facebook.com/addcnews) where we will be bringing you the latest developments on this year’s COSP. Get ready to delve into the key themes, important discussions, and significant outcomes of COSP16 as we embark on a journey to a #MoreInclusiveWorld together.

Kerryn Clarke

Executive Officer

kclarke@addc.org.au

Linda Munoz

Support Officer

lmunoz@addc.org.au

# ****ADDC NEWS****

## Budget reaffirms commitment to people with disabilities in region but funding remains flat

Australian Disability and Development Consortium (ADDC) acknowledges the continued commitment to disability inclusive development in the Federal Budget however more is needed to fully realise disability equity across the aid program.

The Budget maintained the central disability allocation at $12.9M for the coming financial year, representing funding that was restored in the October 2022 budget and reflects the government’s commitment to disability inclusion.

ADDC welcomes new ODA funding for building DFAT capability with investment of $36.8 million over the next four years. To realise commitment to disability inclusive aid delivery across the aid program, technical expertise in this area needs to be prioritised.

But given growing inequalities faced by people with #disabilities amongst the poorest communities across our region and Australia’s renewed commitment to disability equity, we needed to see this budget line increased to at least $14.4M in this Budget and then annually in line with Gross National Income.

[Read our full comment here](https://www.addc.org.au/addc-response-to-federal-budget-2023/?fbclid=IwAR0d9Gj8lZREvQ5bmbzO6GIqHC7cHGlrql2eAG-pIE5QVYdRq2QRWV4LwZo).

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

## ACFID’s Budget Analysis

ACFID has released their analysis of the Federal Budget as it relates to Australia’s international development program.

While the Budget for FY2023-24 contains only modest immediate measures aimed at boosting ODA, ACFID recognises the Government is devoted to sequenced increases of 2.5 percent per year over the longer term from 2026-27 onwards.

ACFID also recognises and appreciates funding to increase DFAT’s development capability. This, in combination with the forthcoming new development policy, will form a framework for how overall development can be rebuilt in an appropriate way for the future.

Jump into the analysis to read all about the highlights of the aid budget, the increases and decreases from previous and the questions they still have.

[Access the analysis here](https://acfid.asn.au/acfid-2023-24-federal-budget-analysis/).

## Disaster preparedness for people with disabilities

A workshop was conducted by the Pacific Disability Forum for disaster preparedness for people with disabilities. The workshop explored advocating for the rights of persons with disabilities, capacity building and prepared them for pre and post disaster events. The program also focused on the capacity of the persons with disability and how to advocate for them to be able to work with other agencies at national level.

[Access the full article from Cook Island News here](https://www.cookislandsnews.com/uncategorised/internal/national/local/disaster-preparedness-for-people-with-disabilities/?fbclid=IwAR0NC4qwNACCBFZ_ooMoKPo5s3nc0kUBZ4ySQCfgapFB_Pvp1c7uLSi6BUg).

# ****NEW RESOURCES****

## Disability Data Advocacy workshops for OPDs

Drawing in part on the [Disability Data Advocacy Toolkit](https://cbm-global.org/resource/disability-data-advocacy-toolkit), workshop materials have been developed to introduce the basic concepts and skills on disability data to OPDs and their members and to support applying these in the local context.

The workshop allows participants to identify sources of disability data and the best approaches for data collection and analysis, review and research available local data, advocate for data collection and investment in better data and how to use data to support evidence-based advocacy.

These workshop materials were developed with the support of [UNFPA Asia and the Pacific](https://asiapacific.unfpa.org/), in collaboration with the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities, the [International Disability Alliance](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/), the Centre for Inclusive Policy and national and regional organizations of persons with disabilities, including the ASEAN Disability Forum and Pacific Disability Forum.

[Access the workshop here](https://cbm-global.org/news/disability-data-advocacy-workshop-for-opds).

## Disability Data Advocacy Toolkit

This toolkit aims to contribute to the growing global dialogue on the importance of data on people with disabilities, specifically to provide some basic knowledge on data collection, analysis and use of data for evidence-based advocacy.

[Access the toolkit here.](https://cbm-global.org/resource/disability-data-advocacy-toolkit)

## Stakeholder Group Position Paper on the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 is at its mid-term. To foster implementation of the Sendai Framework, UNDRR will convene a high-level meeting at the United Nations Headquarters in New York in May 2023 where a political declaration portraying the current status and outlining the way forward for the next seven years will be adopted.

This paper provides a summary of the current status of disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction (DRR) and shares some recommendations to be considered in the Mid-Term Review political declaration.

This paper has been developed as a collaborative effort by Stakeholders Group of Persons with Disabilities Thematic Group on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Action.

[Access the paper here](https://t.co/zvykyq4DKB).

## Position Paper on Research and Teaching of National Sign Languages

This position paper, issued by the WFD (World Federation of the Deaf), addresses a concern raised by Ordinary Members regarding hearing individuals taking the lead in teaching sign languages and conducting research on national sign languages, excluding deaf people from active participation in these activities pertaining to their own languages. This position paper emphasizes that such exclusion is deemed unacceptable and goes against the principles of best practices in working with minority language communities. By providing an English text version and an International Sign version, the WFD aims to offer a comprehensive guide that highlights the significance of deaf-led teaching and research efforts concerning national sign languages.

[Access the position paper here](http://wfdeaf.org/news/position-paper-on-the-primacy-of-deaf-people-in-the-development-and-teaching-of-national-sign-languages/).

## Guidance Note: Qualitative Assessment Approaches for the Protection of Children with Disabilities within Humanitarian Contexts

This guidance note explored how to use qualitative methods to create more robust assessment processes to ensure more effective programming and services for children with disabilities. Children with disabilities are vulnerable in humanitarian settings, they don’t receive access to the services and protection they need. Additionally, there is no specialized intervention for children with disabilities. The note provides practices for engaging children with disabilities and includes tools that can be used to fit the needs of the assessment process. It also addresses the need to consider cross-sectoral responses (WASH, education, health, nutrition etc.)

[Access the guidance note here](https://alliancecpha.org/en/protection-children-disabilities-within-humanitarian-contexts).

## The situation of persons with disabilities in the context of the war of aggression by Russia against Ukraine

This report documents many violations of human rights and humanitarian law occurring in Ukraine and is based on interviews with persons with disabilities and representatives of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs). This report focuses on the voices of persons with disabilities themselves, through extensive personal testimony from persons with disabilities and some of their representative organizations with the aim of encouraging more disability inclusive rights protection and humanitarian response. It highlights the critical role of organizations of persons with disabilities in the context of armed conflict.

[Access the report here](https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/documents/idaukrainereport-pdf).

## Closing the data gap on children with disabilities: The case for data harmonization and partnerships

An estimated 240 million children have some form of disability. Sadly, many of these children continue to be left behind. This, despite near-universal ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the call for action embedded in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the principle of inclusivity set by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The lack of high-quality data on children with disabilities and the environmental barriers they face hinders the development of policies and programmes that could give these children the specific support they need. When absent from official statistics, children with disabilities are politically and socially ‘invisible’. They remain marginalized and exposed to violations of their human rights.

[Read more in this UN World Data Forum blog piece](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/undataforum/blog/closing-data-gap-on-children-with-disabilities/).

# WEBINAR RECORDINGS

## Maximizing the use and value of Disability Data and Data Partnerships for Inclusive Development

This UN World Data Forum webinar discussed on multi-stakeholder data partnership's role in fostering and strengthening disability data, recognizing OPD and OPD led citizen generated data efforts and the need to be used to complement official statistics to measure the SDGs for persons with disabilities, and that inclusive data partnership can effectively include persons with disabilities in data value chain.

[Access the full webinar here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68FlMzR6k7s).

## Contain This: The Latest in Global Health Security - Progressing health equity for persons with disabilities

Darryl Barrett from WHO, and Villaney Remengesau, who is the co-chair of the Pacific Disability Forum feature in this two part series on health equity for people with disabilities.

In Part One, Darryl Barrett discusses:

* The significance of the WHO Global Report on Health Equity for Persons with Disabilities.
* The contributing factors that lead to health inequities for people with disability.
* Intersectionality and the compounding discrimination that women and girls with disability are more likely to face.
* How we should consider moving forward to improve health outcomes and equity for persons with disabilities.

[Listen to Part One here](https://www.buzzsprout.com/620797/12687278-progressing-health-equity-for-persons-with-disabilities-darryl-barrett-who-part-1).

To complement Part One of this series, in this second episode Villaney brings her lived experience of disability to the discussion around health equity for persons with disabilities, having worked in the health sector in Palau for 10 years. In this episode, Villaney discusses:

* The barriers faced by people with disabilities in accessing health care.
* The importance of ensuring people with disabilities are engaged in health programs.
* Her key recommendations for how development partners working in health can ensure they integrate disability inclusion into their programmes.

[Listen to Part Two here](https://www.buzzsprout.com/620797/12833230-progressing-health-equity-for-persons-with-disabilities-villaney-remengesau-pacific-disability-forum-part-2).

You can also access the WHO Global Report on Health Equity for Persons with Disabilities, December 2022 [here](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240063600).

## Unlocking Potential: The Transforming Power of Assistive Technology

**According to the WHO, nearly a third of the world’s population requires at least one form of assistive technology. Despite this, there is a massive inequality gap leaving many without access to the assistive technology they need. Pascal Bijleveld presents the first ever TEDx talk on assistive technology where he shares about access to safe, effective, and affordable assistive technology as a human right, and what each of us can do to push for a more equitable and inclusive world.**

**Pascal Bijleveld joined ATscale as its first CEO in November 2021.**

[Watch this TEDx Talk here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_6lREGibolc)**.**

# ****OPPORTUNITIES****

## Introduction to Digital Accessibility eLearning

Vision Australia | Self-paced e-course

[LEARN MORE HERE](https://learningstore.visionaustralia.org/product?catalog=1677636525SzZ62).

## Safeguarding Manager

## CBM Global Disability Inclusion | Apply by 23 May 2023

[LEARN MORE HERE.](https://reliefweb.int/job/3960660/safeguarding-manager)

## Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Specialist

## Australia-Pacific Partnerships Platform | Apply by 30 May 2023

[LEARN MORE HERE](https://acfid.asn.au/job/monitoring-evaluation-and-learning-mel-specialist/).

# 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 recognizes 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.