

Disability equity and Australia as a partner of choice in the Pacific

CBM Australia and Australian Disability and Development Consortium, 28 June 2024

Summary of recommendations

Disability Equity – A key priority for the Pacific region

1. The Australian Government should deliver on its commitment at the Global Disability Summit 2022 to support the scoping study of the *Disability Equity Regional Funding Facility* (DERFF) and commit further multi-year funding to enable the DERFF to deliver strategic coordination and accelerate disability equity across the Pacific region through development efforts.
2. The Australian Government should further bolster Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) governments' commitment to implementing the *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (CRPD) alongside the *2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent* by:
 - a. Supporting partner governments to improve public finance management and budget reporting to allow disability-focused expenditure analysis and outcome reporting. This would cover aspects such as disaggregation of data, thematic reporting, and disability-related indicators within their budget documents. It would include supporting ministries and local authorities to develop costed plans to make their services and programs disability inclusive.
 - b. Expanding investment in training of national government disability focal points delivered in partnership with Organisations of People with Disabilities (OPDs) on topics including: Understanding and implementing the CRPD, disaggregated data collection and analysis, disability inclusive budgeting, meaningful consultation with OPDs in decision making on public resource allocations, and disability inclusive disaster risk reduction and climate change adaption.
 - c. Supporting the convening of PICTs leaders, particularly Disability Ministers and focal points, to reinvigorate momentum in the region on disability-related efforts beyond the current *Pacific Framework on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (PFPRD), which concludes in 2025, and in light of the focus on disability equity in Pillar Two of the Implementation Plan for the *2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent*.

Australia's engagement in the Pacific

3. Allocate \$12million over four years from 2024-25 to resource catalytic improvements in disability-specific services, to be absorbed by the *Disability Equity Regional Funding Facility* when it is operational, including:

- a. Providing appropriate, quality and affordable assistive technology across the region, working in partnership with Pacific disability-led organisations and services. Given the large scale of need, this would be in addition to current commitments to assistive technology in the Pacific
 - b. Recognising the extensive lack of support services in the Pacific region, commission:
 - i. A regional situational analysis identifying what support services across the Pacific currently exist and what is needed to enable daily living and inclusion for people with disabilities; and to provide recommendations to deliver the concrete, systemic changes required to progress this sector.
 - ii. Three to four pilot programs that are scalable to implement the recommendations of the regional analysis and support the development of identified support services.
- 4.** Ensure Australia’s forthcoming International Disability Equity and Rights strategy (IDEARS) is a key enabler of Australia’s maintaining its position as a values-based partner of choice in the region by being:
- a. Ambitious in establishing a requirement that all in-country investments over \$3m must have a disability equity objective.
 - b. Accountable in including a target that 80 per cent of all development programs effectively address disability equity.
 - c. Resourced by including an increase to the central disability allocation, now called Disability Inclusive Development Fund, to \$20m per year and increases thereafter in line with overall budget increases to support delivery on disability equity commitments across the development program and provide core support to OPDs.
- 5.** Ensure that all infrastructure investments in the Pacific incorporate non-discrimination and accessibility requirements, including with regard to the utilisation of Universal Design Principles in all investments.

Climate change mitigation and adaptation responses in the Pacific

- 6.** Ensure that climate change policies, plans and strategies include:
- a. Analysis of the impact of climate change on people with disabilities including those experiencing intersecting forms of marginalisation.
 - b. Implementation measures that specifically target people with disabilities.
 - c. The involvement of people with disabilities in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of climate interventions.
 - d. The ability to monitor implementation toward disability-inclusive climate action in performance assessment.
- This should include:
- a. An audit of existing policies, plans and strategies to identify gaps and support the strengthening of approaches to disability-inclusive climate action, and
 - b. Inclusion of these considerations in the development of DFAT’s Climate Change Action Strategy settings beyond 2025.
- 7.** Bring a focus on disability equity and rights to key multilateral finance mechanisms in which Australia collaborates, including but not limited to the Green Climate Fund, the Loss and Damage Fund, and the Pacific Resilience Facility, to ensure that disability considerations are embedded into any international climate finance portfolios. This should include ensuring that:
- a. People with disabilities are specifically identified as a priority group.
 - b. Disability equity analysis is required in funding application, program design and evaluation.

- c. People with disabilities are supported to meaningfully participate across all elements of fund management, decision making, program delivery and evaluation.
 - d. Ensuring progress is tracked on furthering integration of disability within these and any future funding mechanisms.
- 8.** Allocate funding to support technical capacity development and program delivery, where appropriate, of OPDs on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, where this is identified as a priority by those organisations. This funding should encompass core funding, funds for training and capacity.

People to people links and partnership with the Pacific disability movement

- 9.** The Australian Government should deliver ACFID’s recommendation 17 to support the strengthening of a vibrant and diverse civil society across the Pacific, with specific support for OPDs and other underrepresented groups. The Government should:
- a. Aligned with a localisation approach, invest in the advisory capacity of regional, national and local OPDs and Pacific disability experts to support better partnership and development outcomes.
 - b. Partner with OPDs to support the planning and delivery of development programming.
 - c. Promote best practice in OPD consultation that is driven by disability equity, including promoting internally in DFAT as well as externally the consultation process that was undertaken to inform the forthcoming IDEARS.
 - d. Systematically invest in leadership and capacity development across the Indo-Pacific disability movement, including through:
 - i. Establishing the Indo-Pacific Disability Equity Leadership Program
 - ii. Intentionally focussing on OPD strengthening initiatives to identify and nurture future leaders.
 - iii. Supporting the development of technical policy knowledge and advocacy skills on thematic issues, based on priorities identified by OPDs.
 - e. Further support leadership development across the Pacific disability movement by increasing the focus on people with disabilities within the Australia Awards Fellowship, with scholarships offered at all levels, including Diploma, Master’s Degree, and PhD.

Introduction

CBM Australia and Australian Disability and Development Consortium (ADDC) welcome the opportunity to make a submission to the *Inquiry into Australia’s response to the priorities of Pacific Island countries and the Pacific region*. The Australian Government has been a champion of and global leader in disability-inclusive development for more than a decade. Key investments within the development cooperation program have supported this role, returning significant results compared to the level of expense. CBM and ADDC welcome the commitment to disability equity as a core area of action within Australia’s *International Development Policy*. Bold and resourced commitments within the forthcoming *International Disability Equity and Rights Strategy* (IDEARS) will be foundational in seeing this commitment translated to action across, and beyond, Australia’s international development efforts.

Advancing disability inclusion, and now more broadly disability equity, has been a distinct characteristic of Australia’s international development program over the last 15 years, with significant progress being made over that time. Including people with disabilities in development investments not only upholds Australia’s values-based and strategic

commitments, it also maximises value through increasing the effectiveness of programs. Effective programs target the most marginalised populations, support the establishment and realisation of rights broadly and are sustainable through support to local civil society to shift and transform systems.ⁱ

However, Australia's investment in this key area of focus for development has declined over time, with overall spending on disability inclusion in the development program reducing by 40% between 2009-10 and 2021-22ⁱⁱ, with a resulting decline in the substance and impact of program delivery. The *2022-2023 Performance of Australian Development Cooperation* report identified that only 50 per cent of Australia's international development programming 'performed satisfactorily on addressing disability equity in implementation' (a decline from the prior year outcome of 56 per cent), with the Minister for International Development and the Pacific acknowledging that Australia 'need(s) to lift our disability equity results.'ⁱⁱⁱ

At the same time, other development actors are identifying disability equity as an important area of social impact and development effectiveness, when considering how to support resilient communities. The People's Republic of China has recently proposed the creation of a new UN agency focused on people with disabilities. We understand this to be part of a broader recognition by the Government of China of disability inclusion as a priority in international human rights engagement. In 2023, the United States of America's Agency for International Development (USAID) opened the USAID/Pacific Islands Mission in Fiji and released a strong consultant draft for its new disability inclusion policy.^{iv}

As IDEARS is finalised, the Australian Government has an opportunity to be bold in its commitment to advancing disability equity through our international development and human rights efforts as well as broader international engagements such as trade and migration. A consistent and meaningful contribution toward disability equity and rights in our region would also ensure that activities in one area reinforce rather than undermine approaches in another. This would further establish Australia as the partner of choice in the Pacific, in advancing disability equity and rights and beyond.

I. Disability equity – A key priority for the Pacific region

Australia has been a key partner with Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) governments and Pacific civil society movements in efforts to elevate disability equity as a cross-cutting issue across the region. As the Pacific disability movement has grown over the past two decades, supported significantly by Australian aid, PICTs governments have also committed to a number of regional and international instruments to cement their commitment to disability equity. The *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (CRPD) has been almost universally signed across the Pacific.^v The *Pacific Framework on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (PFPRD), committed to by PICTs governments in 2016, supports national government actions on inclusive development for the rights of people with disabilities. A growing number of the PICTs have national policies and implementation plans to make the commitments of the CRPD a lived reality for their population. The *2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent* (2050 Strategy) demonstrates PICTs governments' commitment to ensuring human rights and equity for all across their region.^{vi} The 2050 Strategy Implementation Plan identifies disability equity as a cross cutting area for regional collective action, with particular focus in Pillar Two.

Although there has been considerable progress in the Pacific region on disability equity, including with significant partnership with the Australian Government, there is still a long

journey ahead to see disability equity a lived reality for people with disabilities across the region. Attitudinal and environmental barriers continue to impede people with disabilities from accessing productive employment, quality education, social protection, health care and other essential services. Negative social norms and perceptions result in widespread discrimination based on disability. Recent and emerging issues, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the impacts of climate change including increasing humanitarian emergencies, and the increased pace of digital transformation, further exacerbate the marginalisation of people with disabilities.

The challenge is significant but not insurmountable. Continued investment and partnership with people with disabilities, national governments, other civil society entities and the private sector can together build an inclusive and sustainable Pacific. And Australia can be the partner of choice to the Pacific in doing so. In its submission to inform the development of Australia's new IDEARS, the Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) identified key priorities around addressing the preconditions for inclusion; supporting equitable and rights-based allocation of resources; monitoring and evaluation that ensures equity rather than mere inclusion; equity for underrepresented groups and those facing intersectional discrimination; and rights-based OPD engagement and organisational strengthening.^{vii}

PDF has been proactive in identifying ways in which development actors can maximise efforts towards these priorities through their proposed *Disability Equity Regional Funding Facility* (DERFF). The DERFF is envisioned to be a multi-donor platform, with co-contributions from PICTS. The DERFF will enable well-coordinated and strategic investment to support and equip regional and national stakeholders to systemically plan, build and implement initiatives that provide people with disabilities across the region access to the preconditions for inclusion and other services essential to their participation and inclusion.

We welcomed Australia's initial commitment at the Global Disability Summit 2022 to fund 'a scoping study into establishing a regional body of key partners to enhance and coordinate support for increased inclusion of persons with disabilities in development and humanitarian action.'^{viii} This study would inform the design of the DERFF as well as Australia's on-going support. However, this commitment is yet to be realised with the result that, some two years later, the proposal for the DERFF and the potential it has to unlock catalytic progress for people with disabilities in the Pacific, continues to remain unrealised.

The *Pacific Framework on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (PFPRD) comes to an end in 2025. Now is a critical time to reinvigorate momentum in the region on disability related efforts. A refreshed framework is needed to fit into the current and future regional context, including under the commitments to disability equity in the Implementation Plan of the 2050 Strategy. Australia played a key role in supporting PICTS, particularly Disability Ministers and focal points, to convene and collaborate on disability inclusion, including as part of the developing the current PRPRD. An opportunity exists to reestablish this form of support to enable the identification and development of a new decade of Pacific priorities with regard to disability equity.

Recommendation 1: The Australian Government should deliver on its commitment at the Global Disability Summit 2022 to support the scoping study of the Disability Equity Regional Funding Facility (DERFF) and commit further multi-year funding to enable the DERFF to deliver strategic coordination and accelerate disability equity across the Pacific region through development efforts.

Recommendation 2: The Australian Government should further bolster Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) governments' commitment to implementing the *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)* alongside *the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent* by:

- a.** Supporting partner governments to improve public finance management and budget reporting to allow disability-focused expenditure analysis and outcome reporting. This would cover aspects such as disaggregation of data, thematic reporting, and disability-related indicators within their budget documents. It would include supporting ministries and local authorities to develop costed plans to make their services and programs disability inclusive.
- b.** Expanded investment in training of national government disability focal points delivered in partnership with Organisations of People with Disabilities (OPDs) on topics including: Understanding and implementing the CRPD, disaggregated data collection and analysis, disability inclusive budgeting, meaningful consultation with OPDs in decision making on public resource allocations, and disability inclusive disaster risk reduction and climate change adaption.
- c.** Supporting the convening of PICTs leaders, particularly Disability Ministers and focal points, to reinvigorate momentum in the region on disability-related efforts beyond the current *Pacific Framework on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PFPRD)*, which concludes in 2025, and in light of the focus on disability equity in Pillar Two of the Implementation Plan for the *2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent*.

II. Australia's engagement in the Pacific

Progress is being made on disability inclusion, equity and rights in the Pacific, with strong leadership from the Pacific disability movement, and with historic support from the Australian Government. Though, as discussed, the resourcing of Australia's delivery on disability equity throughout development efforts has declined significantly over the past decade. Looking ahead, a twin track approach to disability inclusion is a central pillar of the 2050 Strategy Implementation Plan and forms one of the cross-cutting regional collective actions.^{vii} Australia has an opportunity with the forthcoming IDEARS to bolster our desired position as a partner of choice in the region by reinforcing and expanding upon disability equity as a key characteristic of our development program and international engagement more broadly. This is particularly important at this time, when people with disabilities in the region risk falling yet further behind and where other actors are looking to come to the region, potentially without the strong foundations of authentic partnership and locally led action that guides Australia's development efforts.

In its submission to inform the development of Australia's new IDEARS, PDF identified that success has come where disability has been explicitly targeted as an area requiring specialised attention, technical advice and investment. There has also been success where a twin track approach was consistently applied, integrating disability equity within programming and engagements at the national and regional level. PDF further identified Australia's regional leadership and investment as a key priority for further advances on disability equity and rights in the Pacific. In a region of constant contest, this steer and PDF's broader submission to IDEARS are a helpful roadmap for Australia to be a partner of choice.

The Implementation Plan for the 2050 Strategy calls for a regional procurement facility for assistive technology for people with disabilities. Access to assistive technology is a necessary precondition for disability equity and inclusion, and it is preserved as a right in Article 20 of the CRPD. Together with rehabilitation, it improves participation and productivity of people with disabilities, reduces stigma, and is integral to quality and accessible healthcare.^{ix}

Australia has played a positive role in assistive technology in the Pacific, including by funding the World Health Organization Assistive Technology Procurement Study and, most recently, committing \$8m over 4 years to support screening and access to assistance technology for children across the Pacific, to be delivered by ATscale. This commitment is welcome but falls short of the catalytic investment needed to unlock access to essential assistive technology for people with disabilities across the region. The time is now right to work with other actors to drive meaningful progress on assistive technology in the Pacific region.

In line with the Special Rapporteur's report on reimagining services, support services are essential in directly enabling people with disabilities to engage with the community with equal choices to others. To be appropriate and effective, services must involve the leadership of people with disabilities in their design and be culturally appropriate.^x Particular importance should be placed on service redesign for different cohorts, such as people with psychosocial disabilities and young people. IDEARS represent a key opportunity for Australia to respond to the call from the Pacific Disability Forum to take strategic action to improve access to community-based support services including personal assistance, sign language interpreters, mobility support, supported decision making and housing support.^{xi}

Recommendation 3: Allocate \$12million over four years from 2024-25 to resource catalytic improvements in disability-specific services, to be absorbed by the Disability Equity Regional Funding Facility when it is operational, including:

- a. Providing appropriate, quality and affordable assistive technology across the region, working in partnership with Pacific disability-led organisations and services. Given the large scale of need, this would be in addition to current commitments to assistive technology in the Pacific
- b. Recognising the extensive lack of support services in the Pacific region, commission:
 - i. A regional situational analysis identifying what support services across the Pacific currently exist and what is needed to enable daily living and inclusion for people with disabilities, and provide recommendations to deliver the concrete, systemic changes required to progress this sector.
 - ii. Three to four pilot programs that are scalable to implement the recommendations of the regional analysis and support the development of identified support services.

Recommendation 4: Ensure Australia’s forthcoming International Disability Equity and Rights strategy (IDEARS) is a key enabler of Australia’s maintaining its position as a values-based partner of choice in the region by being:

- a. Ambitious in establishing a requirement that all in-country investments over \$3m must have a disability equity objective.
- b. Accountable in including a target that 80 per cent of all development programs effectively address disability equity.
- c. Resourced by including an increase to the central disability allocation, now called Disability Inclusive Development Fund, to \$20m per year and increases thereafter in line with overall budget increases to support delivery on disability equity commitments across the development program and provide core support to OPDs.

Recommendation 5: Ensure that all infrastructure investments in the Pacific incorporate non-discrimination and accessibility requirements, including with regard to the utilisation of Universal Design Principles in all investments.

III. Climate change mitigation and adaptation responses in the Pacific

People with disabilities are the largest and most complex group at risk of climate change, which is amplifying the risks and exclusion that people with disabilities already experience daily, while also introducing new risks and creating new barriers. Research undertaken by PDF catalogues these findings in the report *Disability and Climate Change in the Pacific*.^{ix} Despite this, people with disabilities are almost entirely invisible in local, national and international climate policy^x and in the negotiation processes of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Climate change is already negatively impacting people with disabilities across the Pacific in the areas of agriculture and fishing, food security, access to water, and health and exacerbating existing barriers people with disabilities face in securing livelihoods and ensuring household food security^{xi}.

The increasing frequency and intensity of sudden onset disasters across the Pacific, such as tropical storms, pose particular risk for people with disabilities who are more likely to be left out of disaster risk management planning and implementation. Arising from pervasive exclusion from disaster preparation and response efforts, people with disabilities are up to four times more likely to die or be injured during disaster event.

The ADDC and CBM Australia endorse the recommendations on climate change mitigation and adaptation responses in the Pacific put forward by ACFID in its submission to this inquiry. We further make the following recommendations.

Recommendation 6: Ensure that climate change policies, plans and strategies include:

- a. Analysis of the impact of climate change on people with disabilities including those with intersecting forms of marginalisation.
- b. Implementation measures that specifically target people with disabilities.
- c. The involvement of people with disabilities in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of climate interventions.
- d. The ability to monitor implementation toward disability-inclusive climate action in performance assessment.

This should include:

- a. An audit of existing policies, plans and strategies to identify gaps and support the strengthening of approaches to disability-inclusive climate action, and
- b. Inclusion of these considerations in the development of DFAT's Climate Change Action Strategy settings beyond 2025.

Recommendation 7: Bring a focus on disability equity and rights to key multilateral finance mechanisms in which Australia collaborates, including but not limited to the Green Climate Fund, the Loss and Damage Fund and the Pacific Resilience Facility, to ensure that disability considerations are embedded into any international climate finance portfolios. This should include ensuring that:

- a. People with disabilities are specifically identified as a priority group.
- b. Disability inclusion and equity analysis is required in funding application, program design and evaluation.
- c. People with disabilities are supported to meaningfully participate across all elements of fund management, decision making, program delivery and evaluation.
- d. Progress is tracked on furthering integration of disability within these and any future funding mechanisms.

IV. Strengthening people to people links and partnerships

The Australian Government has the opportunity to support people-to-people links and partnerships with an already vibrant Pacific civil society, strengthening Australia's position as a partner of choice in the region. People with disabilities, and the national and regional OPDs that represent their interests, are an indispensable part of that picture. Australia can do more to support OPDs, champion their role in civil society, remove barriers to effective consultation, and work together to increase their capacity to drive improvements across the development program through their partnership and advisory capacity. A systematic approach to investment with a focus on leadership and capacity development will be important to achieving this.

Ongoing, longstanding partnerships with OPDs are crucial for building organisational capacity and fostering strong relationships. Australia has been a key partner in OPD capacity building for two decades, including supporting pioneers of the disability movement to develop PDF into the leading advocate for the rights of people with the disabilities in the Pacific. After a period of investing into OPD capacity-building, it is important to turn the corner and embrace the expertise of OPDs, a number of which have reached a level of localised, independent expertise that exceeds that of the Australian Government.

OPDs frequently face barriers when working in partnership with development organisations, governments, and donors. Surveys on the state of OPD consultation have demonstrated a need for government and development organisations to improve their OPD consultation practices and move from tokenism to meaningful participation and equity^{xii}. OPDs have also indicated that consultation may only occur very late in program planning, placing additional burdens on OPDs and people with disabilities. This tokenism is often rooted in a power dynamic that exists between governments or NGOs and their partner OPDs. A focus on best practice OPD consultation in policy development, and promotion of best practice consultation in programming can do much to address this. OPDs should be respected as equal partners, and partnerships with OPDs should be learning opportunities for both parties.

Australia should establish an OPD Movement Building Initiative that brings together numerous existing and new areas of investment from the Disability Inclusive Development Fund. The initiative should have clear strategic intent; include significantly expanded resources to increase areas of existing investment and enable new areas; and include a mechanism for coordination and complementarity between delivery partners. This framing would support increased provision of auxiliary support to enable brokering with and between OPDs and development programs.

Systematically supporting OPDs to increase their own advisory capacity can help to improve partnerships for better development outcomes. One promising model to address this is CBM's Advisory Capacity Development and Exchange (ACE) Fellowship, which uses training, mentoring, peer learning and personalised goal-setting to support fellows from across the Asia-Pacific to develop their inclusion advisory skills. This increased capacity to provide inclusion advice benefits participants, OPDs, and the beneficiaries of their advice such as UN agencies, Development Banks, INGOs and bilateral donors. Furthermore, OPDs should be supported to increase their capacity to consult on the intersectionality of disability with other important thematic areas such as gender, climate, DRR and more.

Establishment of an Indo-Pacific Disability Equity Leadership Program would be an important means of systematically investing in leadership and capacity development across the disability movement. This should be a substantial annual leadership development program for emerging disability leaders that includes specific streams for women with disabilities and marginalised groups such as people with psychosocial and intellectual disabilities and those who are deafblind.

The Australia Awards initiative has had a positive impact on people-to-people links, with Award recipients developing connections with Australian educational institutions, communities, and civil society before returning home with new networks and capacity. Australia should further support leadership development across the Pacific disability movement by increasing the focus on people with disabilities within the Australian Awards Fellowship, with scholarships offered at all levels, including Diploma, Master's Degree, and PhD.

Australia should also ensure OPDs and people with disabilities have a role in broader efforts to increase people-to-people links and cultural exchanges. Micah Australia's Pacific Australia Emerging Leaders Summit is one example of a program providing opportunities for OPDs to engage directly with Australian citizens, civil society and politicians.

Recommendation 9: The Australian Government should deliver ACFID's recommendation 17 to support the strengthening of a vibrant and diverse civil society across the Pacific, with specific support for OPDs and other underrepresented groups. The Government should:

- a. Aligned with a localisation approach, invest in the advisory capacity of regional, national and local OPDs and Pacific disability experts to support better partnership and development outcomes.
- b. Partner with OPDs in the planning and delivery of development programming.

- c. Promote best practice in OPD consultation that is driven by disability equity, including promoting internally in DFAT as well as externally the consultation process undertaken to inform forthcoming IDEARS.
- d. Systematically invest in leadership and capacity development across the Indo-Pacific disability movement, including through:
 - i. Establishing the Indo-Pacific Disability Equity Leadership Program
 - ii. Intentionally focussing on OPD strengthening initiatives to identify and nurture future leaders.
 - iii. Supporting the development of technical policy knowledge and advocacy skills on thematic issues, based on priorities identified by OPDs.
- e. Further support leadership development across the Pacific disability movement by increasing the focus on people with disabilities within the Australia Awards Fellowship, with scholarships offered at all levels, including Diploma, Master's Degree, and PhD.

About ADDC and CBM Australia

The Australian Disability and Development Consortium is an Australian based, international network focusing attention, expertise and actions on disability in the majority world, building on a human rights platform for disability advocacy. ADDC brings people together to inspire, influence and support all international development actors in Australia to embrace and deliver disability inclusive development. ADDC is made up of over 500 members from Australian OPDs, aid agencies, managing contractors, academia as well as individuals.

CBM Australia is a Christian international development agency, committed to ending the cycle of poverty and disability. In 2022, CBM Australia worked across 42 countries in the Pacific, Asia and Africa. It worked with 67 OPDs and influenced 30 organisations to be more disability inclusive.

CBM Australia is proud to have a partnership with DFAT as part of the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) and is a member of the Australian Council for International Development. CBM's Inclusion Advisory Group has also been DFAT's technical partner on disability inclusion since 2010 under successive partnership agreements.

Contact: Conor Costello, Head of Policy and Advocacy, ccostello@cbm.org.au

-
- ⁱ United Nations (2015), *Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, https://sdgs.un.org/sites/default/files/publications/21252030_Agenda_for_Sustainable_Development_web.pdf.
- ⁱⁱ CBM Australia (2023) *Re-establishing DFAT's leadership on disability equity and rights* <https://www.cbm.org.au/resource/re-establishing-dfats-leadership-on-disability-equity-and-rights>
- ⁱⁱⁱ DFAT (2024) *Performance of Australian Development Cooperation Report 2022–23*, <https://www.dfat.gov.au/publications/development/performance-of-australian-development-cooperation-report-2022-2023>
- ^{iv} USAID (2023) *Nothing Without Us: USAID Disability Policy* <https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/2023-11/Unified-Disability-Policy-DRAFT-7.pdf>
- ^v All Pacific Island governments are a party to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, apart from Tonga.
- ^{vi} PIF (2022) *2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent*, <https://forumsec.org/2050>
- ^{vii} Pacific Disability Forum (2024) Submission to the Australian Government on the International Disability Equity and Rights strategy, https://pacificdisability.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Pacific-Disability-Forum_IDEARS-Submission_FINAL_Jan-10_2024.pdf
- ^{viii} Australia's commitments at the Global Disability Summit 2022, <https://idata.tools/gds/portal>.
- ^{ix} Pacific Disability Forum (2022), *Disability and Climate Change in the Pacific*, June 2022, <https://pacificdisability.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/PDF-Final-Report-on-Climate-Change-and-Persons-with-Disabilities.pdf>
- ^x DICARP and IDA (2022), *Status Report on Disability Inclusion in National Climate Commitments and Policies*, https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/sites/default/files/drcc_status_report_english_0.pdf.
- ^{xi} Pacific Disability Forum (2022), *Disability and Climate Change in the Pacific: Findings from Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu*
- ^{xii} International Disability Alliance (2022), *Not just ticking the disability box? Meaningful OPD participation and the risk of tokenism*, https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/sites/default/files/ida_global_survey_2022_final.pdf. See also IDA (2020), *Increasingly Consulted but not yet Participating*, https://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/sites/default/files/ida_global_survey_complete_report_final.pdf