



Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

2016 - 2025

**A regional framework
to support national government actions on
inclusive development for the rights of
persons with disabilities**

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Acronyms

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| CROP | Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific |
| CRPD | United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities |
| CSO | Civil Society Organisations |
| DPO | Disabled Persons Organisation |
| FDMM | Forum Disability Ministers' Meeting |
| FICs | Forum Island Countries |
| IWGD | Informal Working Group on Disability |
| PFRPD | Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities |
| PFRPDMG | Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Monitoring Group |
| PIFS | Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat |
| PIPSO | Pacific Islands Private Sector Organisation |
| PRSD | Pacific Regional Strategy on Disability 2010 to 2015 |
| PWDs | Persons with Disabilities |
| SDGs | Sustainable Development Goals |
| SPC | Secretariat of the Pacific Community |
| UNCRPD | United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities |
| UNESCAP | United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific |
| UNFPA | United Nations Population Fund |
| UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund |
| UNISDR | United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction |
| UNOHCHR | United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights |
| UPR | Universal Periodic Review |

Foreword



Persons with disabilities constitute one of the most marginalised population groups in Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) countries, continuing to face stigma, discrimination and exclusion, and being disproportionately represented amongst the region's unemployed and poor. Numbers are rising and are expected to continue to rise on account of the impact of the NCD crisis and demographic trends – aging populations. Persons with disabilities represent approximately 15% or more of all national populations.

The Pacific region continues to recognise and address issues facing persons with disabilities. In 2003, PIF Leaders endorsed the UNESCAP 'Biwako millennium framework for action toward an inclusive, barrier-free and rights-based society for all persons with disabilities in Asia and the Pacific, 2003-2012'. In 2009, the first Forum Disability Ministers' Meeting (FDMM), which met in the Cook Islands, endorsed the first regional strategy for persons with disabilities – the Pacific Regional Strategy on Disability: 2010 – 2015 (PRSD).

In 2012, PIF Leaders "commended the excellent work achieved under the PRSD, while recognising that a long-term approach is required to support the rights of persons with disabilities in the Pacific". The 2013 PIF Leaders meeting endorsed the recommendations of the second FDMM held in Papua New Guinea in October 2012, which re-committed to the PRSD and recognised the importance of "...promoting and ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and developing and implementing national policies and legislation consistent with the Convention...". And at the third FDMM held in the Federated States of Micronesia in 2014, Ministers endorsed the zero draft of a successor regional Framework, and requested the PIFS, in collaboration with the PDF, to undertake comprehensive consultations with relevant stakeholders at all levels and in all sectors. Since then, the Secretariat and PDF have undertaken wide consultations with member governments' disability stakeholders, persons

with disabilities and their representative organisations – DPOs, and have worked closely with the IWGD as regional key stakeholders to develop the PFRPD based on experiences with the PRSD.

The new Framework attempts to capture the unique features of the CRPD, as both an instrument of human rights and of social and economic development. This is reflected both in the selection of goals and the formulation of strategies and actions. A key feature of the PFRPD is its practical focus and central role of persons with disabilities through their representative organisations, which remains true to the spirit of the CRPD being 'Nothing about us without us'. This is particularly relevant in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which emphasises the importance of addressing inequalities, discrimination and exclusion, and ensuring that no one is left behind.

For the rights of persons with disabilities to be realised and their social and economic opportunities improved, regional and national partnerships and initiatives are crucial to ensuring this new Framework achieves its vision of an inclusive, barrier-free, and rights-based society for men, women and children with disabilities, which embraces the diversity of all Pacific people.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meg Taylor'.

Dame Meg Taylor
Secretary General

PFRPD – Summary

The Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: 2016 –2025 (PFRPD) follows the Pacific Regional Strategy on Disability: 2010– 2015 (PRSD) which was endorsed by the first Forum Disability Ministers’ Meeting (FDMM) in Cook Islands in 2009 and by PIF Leaders in August 2010. A review of the PRSD highlighted the need to address a number of priorities through a new regional Framework on the rights of persons with disabilities, taking into account the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) as well as a range of other regional and international instruments, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The PFRPD follows the definition of disability as outlined in Article 1 of the CRPD: “disability results from the interaction between persons with impairments and attitudinal and environmental barriers that hinders their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others”. The CRPD promotes a human rights approach to disability and enshrines the social model of disability as the spirit of the Convention. All persons with disabilities are included in this definition – men, women, children, youth and older persons. Women with disabilities are recognised as a particularly vulnerable group and in response to the PIF Leaders call for more focus on the needs of women and girls with disabilities in 2013, their rights are specifically addressed throughout the PFRPD: 2016–2025.

Purpose

The purpose of the PFRPD is to:

- Support Pacific governments to promote, protect and fulfil the rights of persons with disabilities as outlined in the CRPD; and
- Provide a regional modality to strengthen coordination and collaboration in support of national initiatives.

Vision

“An inclusive, barrier-free, and rights-based society for men, women and children with disabilities, which embraces the diversity of all Pacific people.”

Goals, strategies and outcomes

| Goals | Strategies | Outcomes |
|---|---|--|
| Livelihoods 1. Promote livelihood opportunities through inclusive economic development and decent work. *links to SDG 8 and SDG 10 | a. Promote inclusive employment and decent work with reasonable accommodation; b. Promote entrepreneurship for persons with disabilities across the region. | i. Work and employment opportunities in both the public and private sectors are improved for persons with disabilities (CRPD Article 27; Incheon Target 1.B); ii. Persons with disabilities, particularly women with disabilities are included in regional and national private sector organisations; iii. Persons with disabilities (men, women and youth) participate in vocational training and small business training courses (Incheon Target 1.C); iv. More FICs sign and ratify ILO Convention 159 on Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Disabled Persons). |
| Mainstreaming 2. Mainstream the rights of persons with disabilities in development strategies, national and local policies and community services. *Links to SDG 10 and 16 | a. Mainstream human rights of persons with disabilities across all policies, legislation, programmes and services. b. Promote and build awareness of mainstreaming the rights of persons with disabilities; c. Build capacity of all stakeholders to implement disability mainstreaming. d. Ensure that persons with disabilities are actively included in and are able to contribute to national and regional development as equal partners. | i. Regional Organisations develop internal disability policies to ensure that their policies, programmes and budgets include and benefit persons with disabilities and that their monitoring and reporting are disability inclusive; ii. All national sustainable development strategies, policies, programmes, budget and services address disability issues across all sectors including as recommended by international human rights mechanisms such as the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the UPR; iii. Inclusive education policies aligned to the CRPD are developed and implemented and persons with disabilities enjoy equal access to inclusive and quality education and lifelong learning. iv. Persons with disabilities, including women with disabilities, actively participate in the development of new policy, are included in policy and programme reviews and evaluations at both national and regional levels (CRPD Article 29; Incheon Target 2.A); v. Civil society organisations, including churches and faith based organisations, integrate the needs of persons with disabilities into their programmes and services. |
| Leadership and Enabling Environment 3. Develop leadership and an enabling environment for rights-based disability inclusive development *links to SDG 16, 10 | a. Support CRPD training for political and community leaders as well as government ministries; b. Support leadership capacity building through DPOs, especially for women with disabilities. c. Support the development, review, and strengthening of CRPD compliant national policy and legislation. d. Strengthen the representation of persons with disabilities in all relevant decision making bodies and ensure their active involvement in the development and monitoring of any policies and legislation affecting them. | i. Political, civil society, church, faith based organisations, educational, private sector, traditional and women leaders are trained on the CRPD; ii. All Government focal point officers for persons with disabilities are trained on the CRPD; iii. Five Forum Island countries establish parliamentary sub-committees on disabilities; iv. Women with disabilities appointed to leadership positions within government ministries, Private Sector Organisations (PSOs), DPOs and CSOs. v. National law reform processes are undertaken to harmonise national policies and legislation with the CRPD. vi. Regional model legislative provisions are developed to guide national development of CRPD compliant legal frameworks |

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Disaster Risk Management</p> <p>4. Include persons with disabilities in climate change adaptation measures and disaster risk management plans and policies.</p> <p>*links to SDG 11 and 13</p> | <p>a. Promote the development of regional guidelines for disability inclusive disaster risk management plans;</p> <p>b. Promote awareness of disability inclusive climate change resilience programmes and disaster risk management plans.</p> | <p>i. All national climate change adaptation strategies and disaster risk management plans, and legal frameworks specifically address the needs of persons with disabilities, especially women, children and older persons (CRPD Article 11 ; Incheon Target 7.A);</p> <p>ii. Post-disaster needs and sectoral assessments conducted in the region are inclusive of persons with disabilities (Incheon Target 7.B);</p> |
| <p>Evidence</p> <p>5. Strengthen disability research, statistics and analysis.</p> <p>*links to SDG 17</p> | <p>a. Promote regional and national awareness of the need to strengthen and expand the disability evidence base;</p> <p>b. Promote the use of disability data.</p> | <p>i. Continued regional support is provided to develop national census questionnaires that include questions on disability that meet the standards of the 'Washington Group' or similar internationally recognised data collection tools (CRPD Article 31; Incheon Target 8.A);</p> <p>ii. Pacific island countries publish monographs on disability drawing on national survey and census data;</p> <p>iii. DPOs in partnership with Disability Focal Points, regional and national educational institutions and research organisations design one piece of substantive research in the region every three years and seek funding to undertake and publish the research;</p> <p>iv. National and regional research priorities identified;</p> <p>v. Database of disability research is compiled by national government focal point officers for persons with disabilities in partnership with national DPOs and shared with PIFS, SPC, PDF and other regional disability stakeholders;</p> <p>vi. Disability research is used to inform new policy development, policy reviews, evaluations and service provision.</p> |

Introduction

Issues facing persons with disabilities are urgent development issues as persons with disabilities represent an estimated 15% of national populations. Where governments practise Inclusive development, they also make a significant contribution to poverty reduction and sustainable economic development, therefore, an economically and socially sustainable society requires an inclusive approach. The dismantling of barriers that exclude persons with disabilities is a responsibility carried by all in society.

The realisation of human rights empowers people to make decisions about their own lives. Persons with disabilities, through their representative organisations across the Pacific and supported by disability focal points, civil society and development partner stakeholders, have agreed on a set of relevant and achievable priority goals over ten years to promote and implement the rights of persons with disabilities in the Pacific in accordance with the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

Background

This Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: 2016 – 2025 (PFRPD) follows the Pacific Regional Strategy on Disability 2010 – 2015 (PRSD), which was endorsed by the first Forum Disability Ministers' Meeting (FDMM) in October 2009 in the Cook Islands and by PIF Leaders in August 2010.

At the 2012 PIF meeting, Leaders "commended the excellent work achieved under the Pacific Regional Strategy on Disability, while recognising that a long-term approach is required to support the rights of people with disability in the Pacific." The 2013 PIF meeting endorsed the recommendations of the second FDMM held in Papua New Guinea in October 2012, which re-committed

to the PRSD and recognised the importance of "promoting and ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and developing and implementing national policies and legislation consistent with the Convention."

The PFRPD carries this mandate forward and draws on the recommendations made in the 2014 Review of the PRSD. Key findings of the review were as follows:

- There is a need to further strengthen leadership on disability in the Pacific;
- The protection of human rights of persons with disabilities has been enhanced through CRPD ratification and policy development but policy and legislative reform require attention;
- Strengthened coordination at the national and regional level has been accomplished, but there is an ongoing need for further coordination;
- There is an increased awareness of the human rights of persons with disabilities, but greater commitment is required to mainstream disability as a development concern;
- Knowledge and understanding of disability inclusive development needs strengthening and capacity building is key for all stakeholders across all sectors at all levels;
- Increased resources from development partners have been delivered to persons with disabilities through Disabled Persons Organisations (DPOs);
- Few governments are demonstrating budgetary commitments to support disability inclusive policies and programmes; and
- There is limited data to measure

progress of the realisation of the human rights of persons with disabilities.

A zero draft of the PFRPD was presented and endorsed at the Third FDMM in the Federated States of Micronesia in October 2014. The meeting tasked the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) together with the Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) to consult widely on the draft with regional stakeholders.

Stakeholders consulted were of the view that the PRSD was too wide-ranging, resulting in scarce resources being thinly spread. There was a resounding call for a mechanism to assist the translation of commitments into actions and one that focuses on a limited and more achievable number of priority goals designed to improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities in the Pacific.

Key global and regional mandates

The CRPD was adopted by the UN in December 2006 and came into force in May 2008. The Convention, which is legally binding, provides a comprehensive framework for the realisation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities. It is also a tool for disability inclusive development. To date, ten PIF countries have ratified the CRPD: Australia, Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. A further five have signed with the intention to ratify: Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and Tonga.

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted at a world summit of leaders in September 2015, also provide a broad framework (not legally binding) within which the human rights of persons with disabilities can be addressed. Of the 169 targets across the 17 Goals of the SDGs, seven targets

make an explicit reference to persons with disabilities. However, all Goals and targets are applicable to persons with disabilities because of their universality and the overarching principle of “leave no one behind.”(High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, 2016). Target 10.3 includes the elimination of discriminatory laws, policies and practices and the promotion of appropriate legislation, policies and actions to reduce inequalities of outcomes and ensure equal opportunity.

At the regional level, the most significant commitment made by PIF Countries in recent years to uphold the rights of persons with disabilities was the UNESCAP 2012 Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific (Incheon Strategy). This strategy has 10 interrelated Goals (see Table 1 below) and 27 targets, all of which are time bound for accelerating implementation. The Strategy is based on the principles of the CRPD.

The PRSD which ended in 2015, took a rights-based approach based on the CRPD. The framework was designed to facilitate and support a Pacific approach to progressing rights and disability inclusive development in Forum Island Countries (FICs) by providing relevant and achievable guidelines to support national efforts. The PFRPD, its successor, also takes a rights based approach.

Recognising the commitments made by many Pacific governments to the CRPD, the SDGs as well as to the Incheon Strategy, the PFRPD provides an opportunity to combine these global and regional commitments within a Pacific context and agree on a set of regional priorities for addressing the human rights of persons with disabilities. The linkages between the CRPD, the Incheon Strategy, the SDGs and the PFRPD are summarised at Annex 1.

Structure of the PFRPD

The PFRPD is comprised of a Vision, Goals, Strategies and Outcomes. An Implementation framework at Annex 2, outlines Actions for each Goal as well as implementation and coordination partnerships and means of verification. Monitoring of implementation will be largely undertaken through reporting

arrangements by the Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP) and the Health and Population Working Group through the PFRPD monitoring sub group (PFRPDMG). A Learning and change framework at Annex 3 links the Goals, Strategies and Outcomes with learning objectives and expected changes arising from the implementation of the PFRPD.

Purpose

The purpose of the PFRPD is to:

- Support Pacific governments to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities as outlined in the CRPD; and
- Provide a regional modality to strengthen coordination and collaboration in support of national initiatives.

Definitions and principles

The CRPD states in the preamble that “disability is an evolving concept and that disability results from the interaction between persons with impairments and attitudinal and environmental barriers that hinders their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.”

Article 1 defines Persons with disabilities to “include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others”

The principles of the PFRPD are based on the eight general principles articulated in the CRPD and two additional principles that are pertinent to the Pacific region:

- Respect for inherent dignity, individual autonomy including the freedom to make one’s own choices and independence of persons;
- Non-discrimination;
- Full and effective participation and inclusion in society;

Goal

1. Reduce poverty and enhance work and employment prospects;
2. Promote participation in political processes and in decision-making;
3. Enhance access to the physical environment, public transportation, knowledge, information and communication;
4. Strengthen social protection;
5. Expand early intervention and education of children with disabilities;
6. Ensure gender equality and women’s empowerment;
7. Ensure disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction and management;
8. Improve the reliability and comparability of disability data;
9. Accelerate the ratification and implementation of the CRPD and the harmonisation of national legislation with the Convention;
10. Advance sub regional, regional and interregional cooperation.

- Respect for difference and acceptance of person with disability as part of human diversity and humanity;
- Equality of opportunity;
- Accessibility;
- Equality between men and women;
- Respect for the evolving capacities of children with disabilities and respect for the right of children with disabilities to preserve their identities;
- Respect for the dignity and value of youth as well as older persons with disabilities;
- Respect for traditional and community-based values of Pacific cultures that respect the rights of persons with disabilities.

An overview of the policy's Vision and Goals and their inter-connectedness, is provided in Figure 1:



Fig 1: Vision and Goals

Vision

“An inclusive, barrier-free, and rights-based society for men, women and children with disabilities, which embraces the diversity of all Pacific people.”

Rationale

The Vision describes the long term desired change in the Pacific once all the goals are achieved.

This Vision follows the PRSD Vision although places greater emphasis on “who”! This Framework addresses the needs of all persons with disabilities, including men, women, youth and older persons and children.

Throughout the Pacific region, in both urban and rural communities, women and girls with disabilities face multiple and compounding forms of discrimination. They are targets of discrimination not only because of their disability, but also their gender. Wherever discrimination occurs, women often experience further prejudice, based on common assumptions and widely held beliefs about their status and capacity both as females and as persons with disabilities. (Stubbs and Tawake, 2009). The UN Population Fund (UNFPA) in 2013, has noted women and girls with disabilities

are two to three times more likely to be victims of physical and sexual abuse than those without disabilities. This abuse can happen in the family, the community or in institutions where the perpetrators can be either patients or care givers.

Persons with disabilities, especially women with disabilities, must be given the opportunity to actively contribute to decision making in the community, developing national and regional policy and implementing development programmes as equal partners.

The CRPD in Article 6.1 states that “States Parties recognize that women and girls with disabilities are subject to multiple discrimination, and in this regard shall take measures to ensure the full and equal enjoyment by them of all human rights and fundamental freedoms.” The PFRPD seeks to ensure that the rights of women and girls with disabilities are incorporated into all aspects of the Framework.

Persons with psycho-social and intellectual disabilities are also a particularly vulnerable group who are more likely to be excluded because of their disabilities. The Pacific Youth Development Framework is one of the few regional strategies that has improvement of mental health as a particular outcome. (SPC, Pacific Youth Development Framework, page 13)

Persons with disabilities not only have a right to voice their concerns and to complain if their rights are not upheld, but they also have unique insights into their disability and, according to Article 4.3 of the CRPD, are best placed to guide and strengthen the development and implementation of policies and legislation to ensure that their rights are upheld.

Article 8 of the CRPD calls for governments to “raise awareness throughout society” and to foster “respect for the rights of persons with disabilities.”

Goals

Goal 1: Livelihoods

Promote livelihood opportunities through inclusive economic development and decent work

Rationale

Economic development should be inclusive, and no group of people, such as persons with disabilities, should be left out. Inclusive development values and incorporates the contributions of all stakeholders, especially marginalised and vulnerable groups. It also seeks to ensure that the benefits of development are equitably shared.

Employment is an area where persons with disabilities experience significant discrimination and marginalisation. This is reflected in their much higher unemployment rates, their exclusion from the open labour market, their lower wages, and their greater susceptibility to poverty.

A 2012 UNESCAP action research project found that amongst persons with disabilities, those with hearing impairments and psychosocial disabilities are the least likely to obtain employment. Women are also disadvantaged. The research noted that they are often provided unpaid labour or frequently work under the worst conditions and for less pay. Women with disabilities face multiple forms of discrimination due to their being female, disabled and poor (UNESCAP, Disability, Livelihood and Poverty in Asia and the Pacific, page 6).

Economic exclusion not only pushes persons with disabilities into poverty, but also limits their effective participation and decision making, including access to important social services and increases the overall economic burden on governments. The research states that

“Having a person with a disability in a household increases the incidence of household and individual income poverty. Likewise, household poverty is more likely to limit the access that persons with disabilities have to basic services, education and financial support. ... The gap between having an income and being able to meet livelihood needs is magnified in the case of persons with disabilities who have to support dependents.” (Ibid)

Article 27 of the CRPD upholds the right to work on an equal basis with others, including the right to earn a living from a freely chosen and accessible workplace on the open market. States are required to take appropriate measures, including through legislation, to prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability in all aspects of employment and to protect the equal rights of persons with disabilities to just and decent working conditions, including equal pay, vocational training, and reasonable accommodation in the workplace. Reasonable accommodation, an important concept enshrined in the Convention, entails an obligation to make tailor made adjustments to the social or physical environment,

including the workplace, in order to accommodate the particular needs of a person with disability.

Persons must be actively empowered and given every opportunity to obtain decent work to contribute to their own livelihoods as well as the livelihoods of their families and communities. “Promoting the inclusion of people with disabilities in the world of work is not only a matter of rights and social justice but also contributes to sustainable growth and development.” A 2009 ILO study found that economic losses related to the exclusion of persons with disabilities from the labour force are large and measurable, ranging from between 3 and 7 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Article 28 of the CRPD also calls for governments to recognise the right of persons with disabilities to “an adequate standard of living for themselves and their families” and “to safeguard and promote the realization of this right without discrimination on the basis of disability.” Opportunities for both entrepreneurship and employment and decent work can help to improve the economic status and livelihoods of persons with disabilities. This can be better achieved by removing barriers to employment, including discriminatory law and inaccessible workplaces, and promoting private sector initiatives in support of entrepreneurial activities by persons with disabilities.

Strategies

- a. Promote inclusive employment and decent work with reasonable accommodation;
- b. Promote entrepreneurship for persons with disabilities across the region.

Outcomes

- i. Work and employment opportunities in both the public and private sectors are improved for persons with disabilities.(CRPD Article 27; Incheon Target 1.B);
- ii. Persons with disabilities, particularly women with disabilities, are included in regional and national

private sector organisations;

- iii. Persons with disabilities (men, women and youth) participate in vocational training and small business training courses (Incheon Target 1.C);
- iv. More FICs sign and ratify ILO Convention 159 on Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Disabled Persons).

Goal 2: Mainstreaming

Mainstream the rights of persons with disabilities in development strategies, national and local policies and community services.

Rationale

Mainstreaming is critical to achieving disability inclusive development. It refers to the process by which governments, civil society and other stakeholders ensure that disability is an integral part of the development process. In other words, mainstreaming is about bringing a disability lens and the perspective of persons with disabilities into all elements of development rather than setting them apart and addressing 'disability' as a separate concern. Practically this means all policies, programmes and services specifically make provision for and address the needs and rights of persons with disabilities. Therefore, governments need to ensure that persons with disabilities enjoy equal recognition before the law (CRPD Article 12) and have access, on an equal basis with others, to justice (CRPD Article 13), education (CRPD Article 24), health (CRPD Article 25), work and employment (CRPD Article 27) and social protection (CRPD Article 28). Article 29 of the CRPD refers to participation in political and public life for persons with disabilities in all levels of government.

The Preamble to the CRPD emphasises "the importance of mainstreaming disability issues as an integral part of relevant strategies of sustainable development" and considers that "persons with disabilities should have the opportunity to be actively involved in decision-making processes about policies and programmes, including those directly concerning them." Article

4.3 makes it a duty for governments to "closely consult with and actively involve persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities, through their representative organizations" when developing and implementing legislation and policies to implement the CRPD, and in other decision-making processes concerning issues relating to persons with disabilities. As the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development has recognised in 2016, "bringing persons with disabilities explicitly into mainstream development discourse will ... enable the world to realize that there is immense untapped potential to transform the world into a better place for all people." (High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, 2016).

When mainstreaming disability into policies, programmes and services, it is important that women are explicitly identified. This is to ensure that they have equal access to development opportunities, representation in government decision making, and sexual and reproductive health services, and that their special vulnerabilities to intersectional discrimination including all forms of violence are addressed.

Mainstreaming should take place at all levels and across all sectors starting with National Development Strategies. It provides an opportunity to integrate the accepted recommendations of international human rights mechanisms such as the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) into national development plans, strategies, legislation and programmes.

Inclusive education is a core component of disability mainstreaming and provides the key to building an inclusive society. Education also provides the

best foundation for future livelihoods. Persons with disabilities with good literacy and numeracy skills and formal schooling as well as post-secondary education and training are more likely to gain meaningful employment and secure livelihoods.

Children with disabilities make up at least one third of all children who do not attend school. It has been estimated that globally up to 90% of children with disability in developing countries do not attend school (UNESCO, 2015). A far larger number of students with disabilities drop out of primary school because of various barriers and do not progress to secondary and tertiary education. The CRPD requires state parties to ensure an inclusive education system at all levels and lifelong learning. This means that persons with disabilities must have access to an inclusive, quality and free primary education, and secondary and post-secondary education on an equal basis with others, in the communities in which they live. (CRPD Article 24). The reviewed Pacific Education Development Framework also highlights the importance of disability inclusive education.

In 2012, the report of the Secretary General of the UN, on Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda: towards 2015 and beyond, to the Commission for Social Development, highlighted the lack of stakeholder capacity as a key obstacle to mainstreaming disability in development. Mainstreaming, therefore, also requires a focus on capacity development.

Target 2.A and 2.B of the Incheon Strategy can also be applied to this goal.

Strategies

- a. Mainstream human rights of persons with disabilities across all policies, legislation, programmes and services;
- b. Promote and build awareness of mainstreaming the rights of persons with disabilities;
- c. Build capacity of all stakeholders to implement disability mainstreaming;
- d. Ensure that persons with disabilities are actively included in and are able to contribute to national and regional development as equal partners.

Outcomes

- i. Regional Organisations develop internal disability policies to ensure that their policies, programmes and budgets include and benefit persons with disabilities and that their monitoring and reporting are disability inclusive;
- ii. All national sustainable development strategies, policies, programmes, budget and services address disability issues across all sectors, including as recommended by international human rights mechanisms such as the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the UPR;
- iii. Inclusive education policies aligned to the CRPD are developed and implemented and persons with disabilities enjoy equal access to inclusive and quality education and lifelong learning;
- iv. Persons with disabilities, including women with disabilities, actively participate in the development of new policy and are included in policy and programme reviews and evaluations at both national and regional levels (CRPD Article 29; Incheon Target 2.A);
- v. Civil society organisations (CSOs), including, churches and faith based organisations, integrate the needs of persons with disabilities into their programmes and services.

Goal 3: Leadership and Enabling Environment

Develop leadership and an enabling environment for rights-based disability inclusive development.

Rationale

If inclusive development and mainstreaming are to be effective, strong leadership in these areas must be encouraged and supported. Effective leaders, including church, educational, traditional, civil society, community, private sector and DPO leaders, who can champion the rights of persons with disabilities as expressed through the CRPD, are essential to promoting a culture of inclusion and an enabling environment where plans, policies and programmes address the rights of persons with disabilities. Leadership development must include senior officers in sectoral and central ministries as key stakeholders and persons with disabilities themselves should be promoted into leadership positions as they are best placed to advocate for their needs. Article 19 of the CRPD refers to persons with disabilities' "full inclusion and participation in the community." Political and community leaders also need to understand their obligations under the CRPD to address the realisation of human rights for persons with disabilities.

Leadership also comes through institutions, particularly Parliament and committees of Parliament. Persons with disabilities can seek the support of their local Member of Parliament, or Congress to gain access to Parliament committees, especially select committees, to voice their concerns on issues affecting them. At the third FDMM in 2014, Ministers agreed to advocate for the establishment

of parliamentary sub-committees on disability at the country level and develop a regional initiative supporting parliamentary committees on disability. Parliamentary committees, or select committees, can inquire into the status or issues surrounding certain community concerns. A parliamentary sub-committee on the status of persons with disabilities could inquire into the extent to which the articles of the CRPD are being upheld.

Women with disabilities should be encouraged to take leadership roles as their voice is the least heard, they generally have fewer leadership opportunities and tend to be under-represented in national and provincial government. Article 6 of the CRPD refers to "full development, advancement and empowerment of women."

The PRSD Tracking Report, as at July 2014, concluded that "very few persons with disabilities in the Pacific Region are in decision-making positions, at any level, and their lack of empowerment is reflected in almost every aspect of their lives" (page 5). Through strong leadership and active engagement of persons with disabilities as well as through their promotion, persons with disabilities can be empowered. Also, legal frameworks provide opportunities to mandate representation on decision making bodies at all levels and across all sectors.

Enabling institutional frameworks are essential to protecting and promoting disability rights and inclusion. Legal frameworks provide a foundation for promoting and protecting rights: they can define legal rights, stipulate the obligations of national governments and citizens, and establish governance mechanisms for implementation, enforcement and monitoring including

procedures to deal with rights violations. Legal frameworks can also regulate accessibility to the physical, social, economic and cultural environment, as well as to services, information and communication.

Pacific countries that have ratified the CRPD have to fulfil certain legal obligations to implement, in their domestic law, all rights recognised in the Convention. They are required to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability by any person, organisation or private enterprise, to amend or abolish any existing laws, regulations, customs and practices that are discriminatory, and to guarantee to persons with disabilities equal and effective legal protection against discrimination on all grounds (CRPD, Articles 4 & 5).

The development of CRPD aligned legal frameworks is consistent with several key global and regional instruments and commitments including the Incheon Strategy, whose Target 9.B. calls for the harmonisation of national legislation with the Convention, and the post-2015 development agenda, in particular Goal 10.3, which highlights the need to eliminate discriminatory laws and to promote appropriate legislation in order to ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome. Goal 16.B also calls for non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development to be promoted and enforced in the context of creating peaceful and inclusive societies.

Strategies

- a. Support CRPD training for political and community leaders as well as government ministries;
- b. Support leadership capacity building through DPOs, particularly for women with disabilities;
- c. Support the development, review, and strengthening of CRPD compliant national policy and legislation;
- d. Strengthen the representation of persons with disabilities in all relevant decision making

bodies and ensure their active involvement in the development and monitoring of any policies and legislation affecting them.

Outcomes

- i. Political, civil society, church, faith based organisations, educational, private sector, traditional and women leaders are trained on the CRPD;
- ii. All Government focal point officers for persons with disabilities are trained on the CRPD;
- iii. Five FICs establish parliamentary

sub-committees on disabilities;

- iv. Women with disabilities appointed to leadership positions within government ministries, PSOs, DPOs and CSOs;
- v. National law reform processes are undertaken to harmonise national policies and legislation with the CRPD;
- vi. Regional model legislative provisions are developed to guide national development of CRPD compliant legal frameworks.

Goal 4: Disaster Risk Management

Include persons with disabilities in climate change adaptation measures and disaster risk management plans and policies.

Rationale

Most Pacific communities are vulnerable to natural hazards and disasters, particularly cyclones, tsunamis, and earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. Very few communities have well equipped disaster response capabilities and rely instead on whole-of-community mobilisation. Physical remoteness makes Pacific communities and persons with disabilities living in such communities particularly vulnerable. Recent experience of coastal and remote rural villages in Fiji, Vanuatu, Samoa, Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia and the Solomon Islands have demonstrated the importance of having disaster management plans that address the needs of the most vulnerable in their communities, including persons with disabilities particularly women, children and older persons. Atoll countries are especially vulnerable given their limited land areas and limited options to escape the impacts of sea level rise and other natural hazards. All aspects of the disaster management cycle (mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery)

must address the needs of persons with disabilities.

All FICs are highly vulnerable to climate change. Climate change is already affecting livelihoods through droughts and threats to food and potable water security (especially in the atoll countries). Coastal communities and low lying urban communities are also threatened through sea level rise and increased likelihood of severe tropical storms and cyclones. Article 11 of the CRPD refers to the need to ensure the protection and safety of persons with disabilities during situations of risk, including humanitarian emergencies and natural disasters. Goal 7 of the Incheon Strategy in turn calls for disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction and management, recognising that persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups face a higher risk of death, injury and additional impairments on account of their exclusion from disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes.

The UN's Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030, notes that “governments should engage with relevant stakeholders including women, children and youth, persons with disabilities, poor people ... [and] older people in the design and implementation of policies, plans and standards ... disaster risk reduction requires an all-of-society

engagement and partnership. It also requires empowerment and inclusive, accessible and non-discriminatory participation“(Paragraphs 7 and 19(d)). The Sendai Framework also notes that “empowering women and persons with disabilities to publicly lead and promote gender equitable and universally accessible response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction approaches is key. “(Paragraph 32). The outcome of the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit and the ‘Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action’ provide useful guidelines to support deliberate life-saving actions and ensure the protection, safety and respect for the dignity of persons with disabilities in situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies.

Post-disaster needs assessments should ensure that persons with disabilities are included, not only in recognition of their needs but also as members of assessment teams. For example, following Cyclone Winston in Fiji in February 2016, local DPOs were involved in assessing the needs of persons with disabilities in the affected communities. The PDF is advising a number of countries on disability inclusive disaster risk management planning.

Strategies

- a. Promote the development of regional guidelines for disability inclusive disaster risk management plans ;
- b. Promote awareness of disability inclusive climate change resilience

programmes and disaster risk management plans.

Outcomes

- i. All national climate change adaptation strategies, disaster risk management plans, and legal frameworks specifically address the

needs of persons with disabilities, especially women, children and older persons (CRPD Article 11 ; Incheon Target 7.A);

- ii. Post-disaster needs and sectoral assessments conducted in the region are inclusive of persons with disabilities (Incheon Target 7.B);

Goal 5: Evidence

Strengthen disability research, statistics and analysis.

Rationale

The mainstreaming of issues concerning persons with disabilities in policies and programmes is supported and strengthened by a strong evidence base. There is a need to undertake a wider variety of qualitative and quantitative research to ensure that mainstreaming is well supported and policies and programmes accurately reflect the needs and aspirations of persons with disabilities.

Statistics can be improved by ensuring that national household census questionnaires and other national surveys, such as Household Income and Expenditure Surveys and Demographic Health Surveys, include questions on disabilities. The 'Washington Group on Disability Statistics' (Washington Group) has developed a short set of standard questions for national census surveys with the main objective of promoting and coordinating international cooperation on disability measures suitable for censuses and national surveys. The aim is to provide

basic information on disability which is comparable throughout the world. A number of FICs have adopted the Washington Group of questions on disability for their national census surveys and ongoing support is being provided by development partners with other governments in the region.

Article 31 of the CRPD refers to the undertaking of governments to "collect appropriate information, including statistical and research data, to enable them to formulate and implement policies to give effect to the present Convention." Similarly, the Incheon Strategy (Goal 8) has highlighted the need to enhance data collection (including baseline data) to support the realisation of the rights of persons with disabilities.

Sex disaggregated disability data from statistics and social research is needed to develop evidence-based policies and plans, to justify budget allocations on disability programmes, to monitor implementation of disability initiatives and to evaluate the impact of policies to ensure that the quality of life for persons with disabilities is improving and their rights realised, particularly that of women and girls with disabilities.

Every government that has ratified the CRPD should undertake, in partnership with DPOs, regular monitoring and reporting of implementation to measure change, gather quantitative and qualitative data from persons with disabilities and compile a national database of evidence to inform future policy initiatives.

Special efforts need to be made to ensure that all research data is disaggregated, as required under Article 31.2 of the CRPD, to ensure that persons with disabilities, in particular women are fully counted and that their concerns are fully recognised in the data and analysis.

The 2012 UNESCAP study found that an "emerging trend in disability research recognises that the research process itself can give voice to persons with disabilities, building community understanding of the issues faced by persons with disabilities and their families, and feed information upwards to influence policy making." (Disability, Poverty and Livelihood in Asia and the Pacific, UNESCAP, 2012).

It is widely recognised that there is a need for more research to be undertaken on disabilities in the Pacific.

Strategies

- a. Promote regional and national awareness of the need to strengthen and expand the disability evidence base;
- b. Promote the use of disability data.

Outcomes

- i. Continued regional support is provided to develop national census questionnaires that include questions on disability that meet the standards of the 'Washington Group' or similar internationally

- ii. Pacific island countries publish monographs on disability drawing on national survey and census data;
- iii. DPOs in partnership with Disability Focal Points, regional and national educational institutions and research organisations design one piece of substantive research in the region every three years and seek funding to undertake and publish the research;

- iv. National and regional research priorities identified;
- v. Database of disability research is compiled by national government focal point officers for persons with disabilities in partnership with national DPOs and shared with PIFS, SPC, PDF and other regional disability stakeholders;
- vi. Disability research is used to inform new policy development, policy reviews, evaluations and service provision.

Administration of the PFRPD

The informal working group on disability (IWGD) of the CROP Health and Population Working Group has been the key regional modality through which the Pacific Islands Forum developed the PRSD: 2010–2015, monitored its progress, provided a regional coordination mechanism and contributed to formulating a response to the mid-term review of the PRSD. In order to strengthen ownership and ensure that actions remain relevant to the region, it is recommended the CROP Health and Population Working Group establish a Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Monitoring Group (PFRPDMG) which would comprise selected representatives of the Health and Population Working Group (i.e. those CROP Health and Population IWGD members who have participated in recent years).

A list and description of the roles of stakeholders in regional disability inclusive development is at Annex 4.

Given the central importance of engaging persons with disabilities in the private sector to improve their employment and entrepreneurship opportunities and also the focus on disability inclusive disaster risk management and response, the PFRPDMG should also include the Pacific Islands Private Sector Organisation (PIPSO) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR).

The purpose of the PFRPDMG will be to:

- a. Monitor implementation of the PFRPD throughout the region;
- b. Advise and support member organisations of CROP to mainstream disability across all programmes and policies;
- c. Support Pacific island governments to implement and report on the CRPD;
- d. Report on progress on implementation of the PFRPD to the annual CROP Heads meeting, to Forum Ministerial and officials meetings and PIF Leaders;
- e. Collate, Share and disseminate experience of implementation of international and regional commitments on disability;
- f. Gather and disseminate information on international and regional funding modalities for support of disability policies and programmes at regional and national levels; and
- g. Examine innovative ways in which development partners and donors can prioritise disabilities in their bi-lateral and multi-lateral programmes with FICs.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

An 'Implementation framework' and 'Learning and change framework' are attached (Annex 2 and Annex 3).

The implementation framework outlines actions and identifies implementation responsibilities and coordination opportunities.

The learning and change framework is provided for evaluation purposes and identifies where learning and change can be monitored. The focus of the 'expected change' areas is on either capacity building, changes in people's lives and/or contribution to realisation of rights as expressed through the articles of the CRPD. Therefore, learning can be addressed through asking whether capacity has been developed, whether the lives of persons with disabilities have been improved, and whether the articles of the CRPD have been upheld.

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Annex 1

| Annex 1: Linkages between CRPD, Incheon Strategy, SDGs and the PFRPD | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CRPD | Incheon Strategy | SDGs | PFRPD |
| Article 8: Awareness raising; Article 27: Work and employment; Article 28 - Adequate standard of living and social protection. | Goal 1 Reduce poverty and enhance work and employment prospects. Goal 4: Strengthen social protection. | Goal 1: End poverty; Goal 8: Decent work and economic growth. Goal 10: Reduced inequality. | Goal 1: Promote Livelihood opportunities through inclusive economic development and decent work |
| Article 9: Accessibility; Article 13: Justice; Article 24: Education; Article 25: Health; Article 27: Work Article 28: Social protection | Goal 3: Enhance access to the physical environment, public transportation, knowledge, information and communication Goal 5: Expand early intervention and education of children with disabilities | Goal 3: Good health and wellbeing Goal 4: Quality education. Goal 10 : Reduced Inequalities Goal 11 Sustainable cities and communities. Goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions | Goal 2: Mainstream the rights of persons with disabilities in development strategies, national and local policies and community services. |
| Article 4: General obligations Article 29: Participation in political and public life. | Goal 2: Promote participation in political processes and in decision-making. Goal 9: Accelerate the ratification and implementation of the CRPD and the harmonisation of national legislation with the Convention. | Goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions. Goal 10: Reduced inequalities. | Goal 3: Develop leadership and an enabling environments for in rights-based disability inclusive development.. |
| Article 11: Situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies. | Goal 7: Ensure disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction and management. | Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities Goal 13: Climate action. | Goal 4: Include persons with disabilities in climate change adaptation measures and disaster risk management plans and policies. |
| Article 31: Statistics and data collection; Article 33: National implementation and monitoring. | Goal 8: Improve the reliability and comparability of disability data. | Goal 17: Partnerships for the goals. (data, monitoring and accountability) | Goal 5 Strengthen disability research, statistics and analysis. |
| Article 6: Women with disabilities. | Goal 6: Ensure gender equality and women's empowerment. | Goal 5: Gender equality. | Goals 1-5 |

Annex 2: Implementation Framework

| Livelihoods | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| 1. Promote livelihood opportunities through inclusive economic development and decent work. | | | | |
| Strategies | Outcomes | Actions | Implementing partners & coordination | Means of verification |
| <p>a. Promote inclusive employment and decent work with reasonable accommodation;</p> <p>b. Promote entrepreneurship for persons with disabilities across the region.</p> | <p>i. Work and employment opportunities in both the public and private sectors are improved for persons with disabilities. (CRPD Article 27; Incheon Target 1.B);</p> <p>ii. Persons with disabilities, particularly women with disabilities, are included in regional and national private sector organisations;</p> <p>iii. Persons with disabilities (men, women and youth) participate in vocational training and small business training courses (Incheon Target 1.C);</p> <p>iv. More FICs sign and ratify ILO Convention 159 on Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Disabled Persons).</p> | <p>i. PIPSO with CROP PFRPDMG develop regional vocational training, decent work and livelihood strategies for persons with disabilities, particularly for women with disabilities;</p> <p>ii. National governments in partnership with national private sector organisations and DPOs develop 'affirmative action programmes' (Employee hiring and promotion policy that takes a proactive approach to removing prejudices against recruiting and promoting persons with disabilities) for the employment of persons with disabilities;</p> <p>iii. PIPSO with CROP PFRPDMG promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities, particularly women with disabilities, in national private sector organisations and business/employment and entrepreneurship training opportunities;</p> <p>iv. Assist Regional Organisations and PIPSO to make their built environments and their meetings accessible and to ensure that persons with disabilities and / or their representative organisations are strategically and appropriately consulted and included;</p> <p>v. Pacific Forum promotes signing of ILO Convention 159 on Vocational and Rehabilitation Employment (Disabled Persons).</p> | <p>PIPISO & PRDRFMG collaborate with CYP, SPC (Youth Development Framework) and Pacific Leadership Program; PDF in collaboration with ILO, PIFS, UNESCAP and PIPSO develop model 'affirmative action guidelines for the employment of persons with disabilities'.</p> | <p>National employment statistics;</p> <p>National private sector organisations and DPO reporting;</p> <p>CROP reporting;</p> <p>PIFS reporting.</p> |

| Mainstreaming | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| 2. Mainstream the rights of persons with disabilities in development strategies, national and local policies and community services. | | | | |
| Strategies | Outcomes | Actions | Implementing partners & coordination | Means of verification |
| <p>a. Mainstream human rights of persons with disabilities across all policies, legislation, programmes and services;</p> <p>b. Promote and build awareness of mainstreaming the rights of persons with disabilities;</p> <p>c. Build capacity of all stakeholders to implement disability mainstreaming;</p> <p>d. Ensure that persons with disabilities are actively included in and are able to contribute to national and regional development as equal partners.</p> | <p>i. Regional organisations develop internal disability policies to ensure that their policies, programmes and budgets include and benefit persons with disabilities and that their monitoring and reporting are disability inclusive;</p> <p>ii. All national sustainable development strategies, policies, programmes, budget and services address disability issues across all sectors, including as recommended by international human rights mechanisms such as the Committee on the rights of Persons with Disabilities and the UPR;</p> <p>iii. Inclusive education policies aligned to the CRPD are developed and implemented and persons with disabilities enjoy equal access to inclusive and quality education and lifelong learning;</p> <p>iv. Persons with disabilities, including women with disabilities, actively participate in the development of new policy and are included in policy and programme reviews and evaluations at both national and regional levels (CRPD Article 29; Incheon Target 2.A);</p> <p>v. CSOs, including, churches and faith based organisations, to integrate the needs of persons with disabilities into their programmes and services.</p> | <p>i. PDF, PIFS and development partners develop regional guidelines on 'mainstreaming disability's in policy and programmes for all stakeholders including regional organisations, national governments, private sector organisations and CSOs;</p> <p>ii. PDF/PIFS with stakeholders Implement capacity building programmes on mainstreaming for regional organisations, national; government officers and DPOs;</p> <p>iii. PIFS, SPC and UNESCO and development partners to support governments and their Education Ministries to develop inclusive education policies consistent with the commitments made in recent Forum Education Ministers meetings;</p> <p>iv. Mainstreaming of children with disabilities and young persons with disabilities through all stages of education and post-secondary education and training;</p> <p>v. National governments establish lead ministries for disability coordination mechanisms across key central government ministries and where possible provincial, local and city administrations;</p> <p>vi. National government focal point officers for persons with disabilities support DPOs to contribute to national policy development within government ministries;</p> <p>vii. Regional Organisations ensure that their policies, programmes and budgets mainstream persons with disabilities and their monitoring and reporting is disability inclusive;</p> <p>viii. Mainstreaming should be piloted in two FICs that wish to participate. A stocktake or situational analysis will be needed prior to undertaking mainstreaming in order to ascertain the status and needs of each country. Lessons learned will benefit future mainstreaming.</p> <p>ix. PIFS, PDF and members of the PFRPDMG to use every opportunity in stakeholder forums at all levels, nationally, regionally and internationally to present PFRPD and create disability inclusive development awareness.</p> | <p>PDF in collaboration with PIFS and regional stakeholders (including SPC and UN agencies) develop 'mainstreaming guidelines' and roll out guidelines across the region in association with a training programme on mainstreaming;</p> <p>PIFS and PDF support national disability focal point officers;</p> <p>National government planning Ministries, PIFS and SPC discuss and agree mainstreaming approaches for meeting of national planning officers and national sustainable development strategies.</p> | <p>Survey of national sustainable development strategies and policies by PIFS;</p> <p>CROP reporting National Reports</p> <p>Regional Meeting /workshop reports</p> |

| Leadership and Enabling Environment | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| 3. Develop leadership and an enabling environment for rights-based disability inclusive development. | | | | |
| Strategies | Outcomes | Actions | Implementing partners & coordination | Means of verification |
| <p>a. Support CRPD training for political and community leaders as well as government ministries;</p> <p>b. Support leadership capacity building through DPOs especially for women with disabilities;</p> <p>c. Support the development, review, and strengthening of CRPD compliant national policy and legislation;</p> <p>d. Strengthen the representation of persons with disabilities in all relevant decision making bodies and ensure their active involvement in the development and monitoring of any policies and legislation affecting them.</p> | <p>i. Political, civil society, church, faith based organisations, educational, private sector, traditional and women leaders are trained on the CRPD;</p> <p>ii. All Government focal point officers for persons with disabilities are trained on the CRPD;</p> <p>iii. Five FICs establish parliamentary sub-committees on disabilities;</p> <p>iv. Women with disabilities appointed to leadership positions within government ministries, PSOs, DPOs and CSOs;</p> <p>v. National law reform processes are undertaken to harmonise national policies and legislation with the CRPD;</p> <p>vi. Regional model legislative provisions are developed to guide national development of CRPD compliant legal frameworks.</p> | <p>i. Undertake a targeted communication campaign to improve leaders understanding of disability inclusive development and their obligations to implement the Articles of the CRPD in those countries which have ratified the CRPD;</p> <p>ii. DPOs promote the efforts of strong and effective disability champions by showcasing their efforts and impacts at strategic forums;</p> <p>iii. PICS establish parliamentary sub-committees on disability;</p> <p>iv. Regional organisations in partnership with national training stakeholders build and/or strengthen the capacity of DPO leadership and promote women with disabilities into leadership positions;</p> <p>v. National laws and policies are comprehensively reviewed by PICS for harmonisation with the CRPD;</p> <p>vi. Promote and support the development of accountability mechanisms requiring disability analysis and actions for all new legislations, budgets, policy and programs and reporting on progress;</p> <p>vii. Regional model legislation is developed to guide national processes of reviewing and drafting CRPD compliant legislation.</p> | <p>SPC/RRRT, PDF, PIFS and OHCHR, UNESCAP review regional training on the CRPD, identify gaps and agree on ongoing training programme on the CRPD targeting political, community and DPO leaders;</p> <p>PIFS, SPC and PDF support PICs commitment made at the 3rd FDMM to form parliamentary sub-committees on disability;</p> <p>PIFS and SPC develop regional guidelines for parliamentary sub-committees on disability;</p> <p>PIFS, UNESCAP and PDF support development by national governments of CRPD compliant legislation, including legislative and policy reviews;</p> <p>PIFS and UNESCAP, in consultation with national stakeholders, PDF, and other partners, develop draft regional model legislation.</p> | <p>CROP and DPO reporting; DPO reporting; PDF survey of DPO leadership; National Policies; National legislative reviews & draft Bills; Draft regional model legislative provisions.</p> |

| Disaster Risk Management | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| 4. Include persons with disabilities in climate change adaptation measures and disaster risk management plans and policies. | | | | |
| Strategies | Outcomes | Actions | Implementing partners & coordination | Means of verification |
| <p>a. Promote the development of regional guidelines for disability inclusive disaster risk management plans;</p> <p>b. Promote awareness of disability inclusive climate change resilience programmes and disaster risk management plans.</p> | <p>i. All national climate change adaptation strategies and disaster risk management plans, and legal frameworks specifically address the needs of persons with disabilities, especially women, children and older persons (CRPD Article 11; Incheon Strategy Target 7.A);</p> <p>ii. Post-disaster needs and sectoral assessments conducted in the region are inclusive of persons with disabilities (Incheon Target 7.B);</p> | <p>i. Regional disability inclusive community-based disaster risk management guidelines developed for atoll, outer island, coastal, inland rural and urban communities;</p> <p>ii. Governments develop or review climate change adaptation and risk management plans that include persons with disabilities and take special account of the needs of women, older persons and children with disabilities;</p> <p>iii. Governments encourage and support every community as well as city, local and provincial governments to develop disaster management plans that specifically address the needs of persons with disabilities;</p> <p>iv. Build awareness within the disability community nationally and regionally on climate resilience programme and disaster risk management planning.</p> | <p>PDF in collaboration with SPC and UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) support the development of inclusive disaster risk management plans;</p> <p>Environment/Climate Change Ministries in collaboration with DPOs to address climate resilience strategies and disaster risk management planning;</p> <p>PDF in collaboration with SPC and UNISDR develop model programmes for communities on awareness of climate change resilience measures and disaster risk management planning.</p> | <p>PDF reporting;</p> <p>National government reporting with responsible national agency or Ministry</p> |

| Evidence | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| 1. Strengthen disability research, statistics and analysis. | | | | |
| Strategies | Outcomes | Actions | Implementing partners & Coordination | Means of verification |
| <p>a. Raise regional and national awareness of the need to strengthen and expand the disability evidence base;</p> <p>b. Promote the use of disability data.</p> | <p>i. Continued regional support is provided to develop national census questionnaires that include questions on disability that meet the standards of the 'Washington Group' or similar internationally recognised data collection tools (CRPD Article 31; Incheon Target 8.A);</p> <p>ii. FICs publish monographs on disability drawing on national survey and census data;</p> <p>iii. DPOs in partnership with disability focal points, regional and national educational institutions and research organisations design one piece of substantive research in the region every three years and seek funding to undertake and publish the research;</p> <p>iv. National and regional research priorities identified;</p> <p>v. Database of disability research is compiled by national government focal point officers for persons with disabilities in partnership with national DPOs and shared with PIFS, SPC, PDF and other regional disability stakeholders;</p> <p>vi. Disability research is used to inform new policy development, policy reviews, evaluations and service provision</p> | <p>i. 'Washington Group' or other similar, internationally recognised, questions on disability in national census questionnaires promoted with PICS;</p> <p>ii. Support for publication of census monographs, including disability monographs;</p> <p>iii. Promote research into disabilities in the Pacific and advocate that persons with disabilities, especially women with disabilities, are always fully included;</p> <p>iv. Identify and prioritise relevant areas for further research;</p> <p>v. compile a list of disability-related research completed or underway in the Pacific and make this available on an accessible electronic database;</p> <p>vi. National focal point officers together with DPOs promote the dissemination of national research findings to stakeholders.</p> | <p>SPC in collaboration with UNFPA and PIFS support inclusion of Washington Group or other similar internationally recognised questions on disability in national census surveys and publication of national monographs on disability drawing on census results; CROP PFRPDMG develop research priorities on disability; PIFS Disability Coordination Officer monitors and catalogues past and current research on disability (includes in the next issue of regional tracking report on disability).</p> | <p>PDF and DPO reporting; National Statistics Offices reporting Database</p> |

Annex 3: Learning and change framework

| Goal and Strategies | Outcomes | Regional and national learning objectives | Expected Change |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p>Livelihoods</p> <p>1. Promote livelihood opportunities through disability inclusive economic development and decent work.</p> <p>a. Promote inclusive employment and decent work with reasonable accommodation.</p> <p>b. Promote entrepreneurship for persons with disabilities across the region.</p> | <p>i. Work and employment opportunities in both the public and private sectors are improved for persons with disabilities (CRPD Article 27; Incheon Target 1.B);</p> <p>ii. Persons with disabilities, particularly women with disabilities, included in regional and national private sector organisations;</p> <p>iii. Persons with disabilities (men, women and youth) participate in vocational training and small business training courses (Incheon Target 1C);</p> <p>iv. More FICs sign and ratify ILO Convention 159 on Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Disabled Persons).</p> | <p>i. Experience shared on engaging persons with disabilities in TVET and livelihood programmes, particularly targeting women with disabilities;</p> <p>ii. Regional and national forums convened for sharing of NPSO and government experience on affirmative action and employment for persons with disabilities;</p> <p>iii. Common and strong understanding amongst FICs of the human rights of persons with disabilities with respect to 'decent work' opportunities.</p> | <p>Persons with disabilities have improved livelihood opportunities.</p> <p>Significant contribution to realisation of CRPD Articles 8, 27 and 28.</p> |
| <p>Mainstreaming</p> <p>2. Mainstream the rights of persons with disabilities in development strategies, national and local policies and community services.</p> <p>a. Mainstream human rights of persons with disabilities across all policies, legislation, programmes and services;</p> <p>b. Promote and build awareness of mainstreaming the rights of persons with disabilities;</p> <p>c. Build capacity of stakeholders to implement disability mainstreaming.</p> <p>d. Ensure that persons with disabilities are actively included in and are able to contribute to national and regional development as equal partners.</p> | <p>i. Regional organisations develop internal disability policies to ensure that their policies, programmes and budgets include and benefit persons with disabilities and that their monitoring and reporting are disability inclusive;</p> <p>ii. All national sustainable development strategies, policies, programmes, budget and services address disability issues across all sectors, including as recommended by international human rights mechanisms such as the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the UPR;</p> <p>iii. Inclusive education policies aligned to the CRPD are developed and implemented and persons with disabilities enjoy equal access to inclusive and quality education and lifelong learning;</p> <p>iv. Persons with disabilities, including women with disabilities, actively participate in the development of new policy and are included in policy and programme reviews and evaluations at both national and regional levels (CRPD Article 29; Incheon Target 2.A);</p> <p>v. CSOs, including churches and faith based organisations, to integrate the needs of persons with disabilities into their programmes and services.</p> | <p>i. Common understanding amongst regional organisations, development partners and FICs of 'mainstreaming' of the human rights of persons with disabilities;</p> <p>ii. Sufficient capacity within FICs to promote mainstreaming to national government agencies, provincial, local, city and community leaders;</p> <p>iii. Capacity within DPOs, especially amongst women with disabilities to contribute to policy and programme processes regionally and nationally.</p> | <p>Persons with disabilities' lives are improved through mainstreaming of policies, programmes and services.</p> <p>Significant contribution to realisation of CRPD Articles 9, 13, 24, 25, 27 and 28.</p> |

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| <p>Leadership and Enabling Environment</p> <p>3. Develop leadership and an enabling environment for rights-based disability inclusive development.</p> <p>a. Support CRPD training for political and community leaders as well as government ministries;</p> <p>b. Support leadership capacity building through DPOs especially for women with disabilities;</p> <p>c. Support the development, review, and strengthening of CRPD compliant national policy and legislation;</p> <p>d. Strengthen the representation of persons with disabilities in all relevant decision making bodies and ensure their active involvement in the development and monitoring of any policies and legislation affecting them.</p> | <p>i. Political, civil society, church, faith based organisations, educational, private sector, traditional and women leaders are trained on the CRPD;</p> <p>ii. All Government focal point officers for persons with disabilities are trained on the CRPD;</p> <p>iii. Five FICs establish parliamentary sub-committees on disabilities;</p> <p>iv. Women with disabilities appointed to leadership positions within government ministries, PSOs, DPOs and CSOs;</p> <p>v. National law reform processes are undertaken to harmonise national policies and legislation with the CRPD;</p> <p>vi. Regional model legislative provisions are developed to guide national development of CRPD compliant legal frameworks.</p> | <p>i. Increased capacity to deliver training on CRPD to regional organisations, development partners and FIC policy and programme managers;</p> <p>ii. Recognition by political and community leaders of the need to address the articles of the CRPD;</p> <p>iii. Political leadership and commitment to establish parliamentary sub-committees on disability;</p> <p>iv. Willingness and capacity amongst women with disabilities to take on leadership roles.</p> <p>v. Increased national capacity to develop CRPD compliant policies and laws.</p> <p>vi. Process of developing regional model law promotes south south learning and cooperation.</p> | <p>Capacity strengthened on understanding of the human rights of persons with disabilities as expressed through the CRPD;</p> <p>Significant contribution to realisation of CRPD Article 29. Enhanced CRPD compliant policy and legal frameworks. Regional model legislative guidelines available to FICs; Significant contribution to realisation of CRPD Articles 4 & 5.</p> |
| <p>Disaster Risk Management</p> <p>4. Include persons with disabilities in climate change adaptation measures and disaster risk management plans and policies.</p> <p>a. Promote the development of regional guidelines for disability inclusive disaster risk management plans;</p> <p>b. Promote awareness of disability inclusive climate change resilience programmes and disaster risk management plans.</p> | <p>i. All national climate change adaptation strategies and disaster risk management plans and legal frameworks specifically address the needs of persons with disabilities, especially women, children and older persons (CRPD Article 11; Incheon Strategy Target 7.A);</p> <p>ii. Post-disaster needs and sectoral assessments conducted in the region are inclusive of persons with disabilities (Incheon Target 7.B).</p> | <p>i. Experience shared on disaster risk management planning as well as post-disaster needs assessments and the inclusion of persons with disabilities;</p> <p>ii. Willingness and capacity to build disaster risk planning capacity amongst city local and provincial administrations as well as community leaders;</p> <p>iii. Common awareness programmes developed within the region on climate resilience and disaster risk management planning that are accessible to persons with disabilities.</p> | <p>Capacity strengthened on the inclusion of persons with disabilities in climate change adaptation measures and disaster risk management planning;</p> <p>Significant contribution to realisation of CRPD Article 11.</p> |

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| <p>Evidence</p> <p>5. Strengthen disability research, statistics and analysis.</p> <p>a. Raise regional and national awareness on the need to strengthen and expand the disability evidence base;</p> <p>b. Promotion of the use disability data.</p> | <p>I. Continued regional support is provided to develop national census questionnaires that include questions on disability that meet the standards of the 'Washington Group' or similar internationally recognised data collection tools (CRPD Article 31; Incheon Target 8.A);</p> <p>II. FICs publish monographs on disability drawing on national survey and census data;</p> <p>III. DPOs in partnership with disability focal points, regional and national educational institutions and research organisations design one piece of substantive research in the region every three years and seek funding to undertake and publish the research;</p> <p>IV. National and regional research priorities identified;</p> <p>V. Database of disability research is compiled by national government focal point officers for persons with disabilities in partnership with national DPOs and shared with PIFS, SPC, PDF and other regional disability stakeholders;</p> <p>VI. Disability research is used to inform new policy development, policy reviews, evaluations and service provision</p> | <p>i. Experience shared on census questionnaire design and utilisation of Washington Group standard questions on disability;</p> <p>ii. Effective use of disability data to inform policy, programmes and services;</p> <p>iii. Research programme agreed amongst regional stakeholders and supporting funds received;</p> <p>iv. Research involving persons with disabilities, particularly women with disabilities, which utilizes a range of methods.</p> | <p>Capacity strengthened to generate and utilise disability research data;</p> <p>Significant contribution to realisation of CRPD Articles 31 and 33.</p> |
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Annex 4: Stakeholders in regional disability inclusive development

The following is a brief outline of key regional stakeholders (also members of the Informal Working Group on Disability) and their disability inclusive development mandates.

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

Since 2005, the Forum Secretariat has had a key role in coordinating regional disability activities, including the PRSD. This included convening three meetings for Forum Disability Ministers, convening regular capacity building opportunities for national disability focal points, and providing technical assistance to FICs. It is anticipated that these roles will continue for the implementation of the new framework, in addition to coordinating with partners on support requested by FICs, and tracking and reporting on progress of the PFRPD. This is reflective of the role of PIFS, as guardian of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism, in “robustly championing with the donor community improved coordination, alignment, ownership and harmonisation, and a greater results focus, on behalf of its whole membership. The Forum should build on its gains from the Forum Compact to become an engine of debate, a champion of good practice, an advocate of reform, a setter of norms and standards, and a source of practical advice and support to its members, as a knowledge hub, in the field of improved development effectiveness in the Pacific” (Pacific Plan Review).

Depending on resourcing, technical assistance could continue through south-south cooperation (e.g. previous cooperation between Cook Islands and Solomon Islands), peer support and sharing of information to enhance Pacific regionalism.

Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)

The SPC Regional Rights Resource Team (RRRT) undertakes training in its member countries and territories on human rights, including the CRPD. Disability is also part of the work of other SPC divisions. For example, the Health Division is actively engaged in preventing non-communicable diseases, a major cause of disabilities. The Statistics for Development Division has started working with countries and partners on improving disability statistics. The Gender Section increasingly involves women with disabilities in its work. SPC coordinates the Pacific Youth Strategy, which is inclusive of youth with disabilities.

University of the South Pacific (USP)

The USP has a Disability Inclusion Policy, which sets a framework for ensuring inclusiveness in tertiary education and for making reasonable accommodation for students with disabilities. USP has established a Disability Resource Centre and it offers courses on inclusive education. USP has the potential to be a significant research partner on disability issues in the Pacific in its different disciplines.

Pacific Disability Forum (PDF)

The PDF is a regional peak body that works in partnership with DPOs in the Pacific region. PDF supports the establishment and strengthening of DPOs at country level to better enable them to advocate for the rights and defend the dignity of persons with disabilities, recognising their many needs based on culture, gender and other factors. Its purpose is to ‘promote and facilitate regional cooperation on disability related concerns for the

benefit of people with disabilities’. PDF also advocates for the rights and full inclusion of persons with disabilities to Pacific Island governments, UN agencies and other non-government organisations in the Pacific.

UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

The UNESCAP has had a strong focus on disability for over 20 years and was the initiator of the Biwako Millennium Framework and its successor, the Incheon Strategy. In the Pacific, UNESCAP has provided technical assistance to numerous FICs, particularly in developing and reviewing national disability policies. In this regard, it has worked closely with PIFS and PDF. ESCAP also supports Pacific countries with CRPD ratification and provides advisory services and technical assistance in collaboration with PIFS to harmonise domestic legislation with the CRPD.

UN Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)

Protecting the rights of children with disabilities is an integral part of UNICEF's programming since the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which is the first international treaty to explicitly recognise the rights of children with disabilities. With the passing of the CRPD, UNICEF's disability work has gained momentum.

UNICEF places great importance on partnerships and collaborative relationships as an essential means of achieving better results for every child. They are committed to working with governments, UN partners, CSOs, DPOs, academia, and the private sector to implement disability inclusive programmes and policies, and

advocate for the rights for all children. UNICEF advocates for mainstreaming approaches aimed at including children with and without disabilities together in equally supportive environments. UNICEF incorporates attention to their issues across the life cycle, including early intervention, family and community support.

In the Pacific, UNICEF has a strong focus on improving data and statistics on children and adults with disabilities by supporting countries to incorporate disability modules into national household surveys and strengthening the analysis and dissemination of disability data. Another priority area is early identification and detection of children with developmental delays and supporting the development of appropriate education services.

World Health Organisation (WHO)

The WHO Disability and Rehabilitation Programme provides support to national governments, civil society and regional organisations. The Programme focuses on integrating disability into health systems, strengthening initiatives, technical advice and capacity development for rehabilitation, assistive devices and community-based rehabilitation, and support for improved disability data. An initial focus has been Community-based rehabilitation (CBR) and collaborative approaches with PIFS and PDF have been employed to expand and improve CBR in the region. The WHO has worked closely with both Ministries of Health and Ministries of Social Affairs to initiate or strengthen CBR and, where necessary, closely support programme management and development. This approach will continue with further focus on increasing access to health, rehabilitation and responding to the increase in disability as a result of non-communicable diseases.

International Labour Organisation (ILO)

The ILO advocates for Decent Work, guided by the International Labour Standards, which aims to make the social and economic development process more inclusive and thus contribute to sustainable growth. ILO Convention 159 on Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Disabled Persons) specifies the key policy areas that member countries should promote in providing persons with disabilities access to equal employment opportunities. ILO has the capacity in terms of technical tools to provide technical assistance for supporting self-employment for persons with disabilities and has a proposed initiative of 'Entrepreneurs with Disabilities'.

UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

The OHCHR has been an active partner in efforts towards ratification and implementation of CRPD. OHCHR works to actively promote the CRPD throughout the Pacific region, including through implementation of UPR recommendations. OHCHR also supports the implementation of the CRPD through various publications, including the Handbook for Parliamentarians on the CRPD, which was published in partnership with ESCAP, and the Monitoring the CRPD: Guidance for Human Rights Monitors. OHCHR provides technical expertise to ensure that disability is mainstreamed in all areas of work, including non-discrimination work and disaster preparedness and response.

UN Women

The UN Women Markets for Change projects in Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu have been actively promoting the need for gender inclusive and disability accessible designed public market places in all of its 20 market project sites. The projects seek to ensure that all physical infrastructure improvements to existing market buildings and any new development plans for the market project sites will address disability accessibility. The projects have strong focus on disability accessibility to public market facilities and amenities and continue to work closely with national and local governments, together with PDF, to contribute towards improving accessibility for persons with disabilities to public market places.

UN Women created the Pacific Regional EAW Facility Fund to support organisations and actions to eliminate violence against women. Through this project, UN Women has provided assistance to two organisations, Te Toa Matoa (Kiribati) and PDF, which are addressing violence faced by women with disabilities. In the latter, UN Women has been working with other key stakeholders in the production of a toolkit addressing violence against women groups and women and girls with disabilities that was completed in 2015.

Government of Australia

The Government of Australia has been a key donor of disability initiatives in the Pacific under its 'Development for All' (DIA) strategy. The Government of Australia seeks to ensure that its aid investments include persons with disabilities, recognising that the DIA strategy is good development practice—contributing to poverty reduction and economic growth and creating better development

outcomes for all. Australia seeks to support the participation of persons with disabilities in economic, social and political life to reduce poverty, increase economic growth and enhance democratic governance. Specifically, Australia will work with partners to tackle the stigma that surrounds disability, which can be one of the largest barriers to full participation in community and economic life. They commit to promoting disability-inclusive education, helping remove physical barriers through investments in infrastructure, and enabling persons with disabilities to access services. Australia will continue to support DPOs in developing countries, which play a vital role in giving persons with disabilities a voice.

Pacific Islands Private Sector Organisation (PIPSO)

The Pacific Islands Private Sector Organisation (PIPSO) is the premier private sector representative body in the Pacific Islands region. Its members are comprised of the national private sector organisations of the 14 Forum Pacific Island Countries and American Samoa. It is mandated to advocate the interests of the private sector at the regional level and participate and contribute to the policy development and strategies for private sector development. PIPSO works with regional organisations and donor agencies to strengthen the capacity of its members through consultation, training, mentoring, technical support and funding to enable them to dialogue with their governments on a level playing field.

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)

UNISDR was established in 1999 mandated by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution (56/195), to serve as the focal point in the United Nations system and regional organisations and activities in socio economic and humanitarian fields. It is an organisational unit of the UN secretariat and is led by the UN Special Representative of Secretary General for Disaster Risk Reduction (SRSG). The sub-regional office for the Pacific was established in 2008 to support 17 UN Member States and territories of the Pacific Sub-Region to build the resilience to disasters and implement the current global Sendai framework for disaster risk reduction endorsed by Pacific nations in the United Nations General Assembly in 2015.



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