



**Inclusive Futures**

Promoting disability inclusion



**UKaid**  
from the British people

# Information about people with disabilities and climate change



**Easy read booklet Issue**



# Who we are



We are Social Development Direct.



We give advice to people working on **International Development** on how to include all people, such as women and people with disabilities

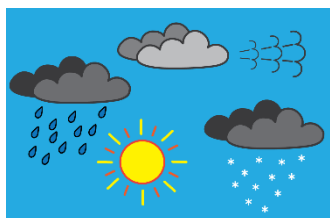


## **International Development**

supports people around the world who do not have enough access to the things they need.



We work with other groups to run the Disability Inclusion Helpdesk.



This booklet is part of the **8<sup>th</sup> Helpdesk Evidence Digest**. It focuses on people with disabilities and **climate change**.

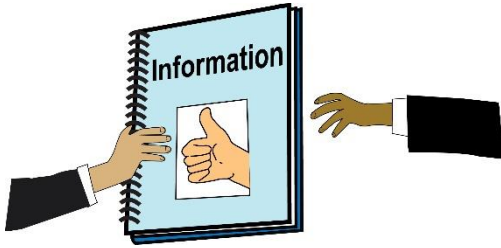


Please look at the full report for links to documents or for more information.



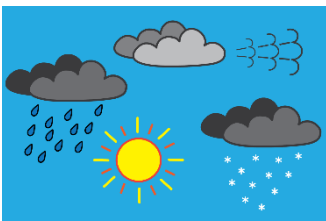
Sometimes we need to use new or difficult words. These words are in bold. There is a list of what they mean at the end of the report

# Discussion about including people with disabilities in climate action



IPCC is an organisation that collects information on **climate change** and share it with people who make decisions.

They said we need to quickly make changes to the way we live to stop the worst effects of climate change.



Climate change can cause changes in weather meaning more fires or floods.



People with disabilities are more likely to feel the bad effects of climate change.



People with disabilities are often not included in talks about what to do about climate change.



There is a meeting to talk about climate change taking place in Glasgow called **COP26**. People from all over the world will go to it.



The IPCC said people with disabilities in discussions should take part in these talks.



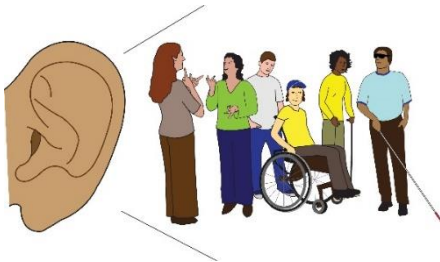
Recently two people from UCL and a person from CBM Global talked about including people with disabilities in talks on **climate change**.



UCL is a university, and CBM Global is an organisation that works with people with disabilities.



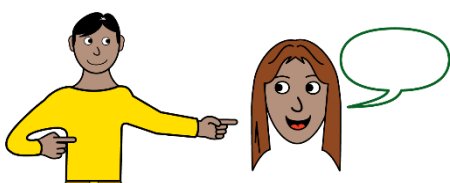
They talked about how it is important to include people with disabilities in meetings like **COP26** and in the future.



It is important for people who make decisions to learn from people with disabilities about how climate change affects them.



International organisations and banks should make sure there is money for including people with disabilities in projects.



Organisations should work with the people and governments going to **COP26** to listen to people with disabilities.

# Evidence and guidance on how to include people with disabilities in talks about climate change



The Global Action on Disability (GLAD) network wrote a report about the importance of including people with disabilities in stopping **climate change**.



Many organisations have plans to act on climate change, but most of them did not include **organisations of people with disabilities** or give them money.



A report to the UNHCR explained that people with disabilities have the rights to be included in climate change talks.



An organisation called CBM said there are four areas to think about to include people with disabilities in plans to stop climate change.

These four areas are:



1. Make sure information is accessible for people with disabilities.



2. Include organisations of people with disabilities and people with disabilities when making a project on **climate change**.



3. Make sure local and international policies include people with disabilities.



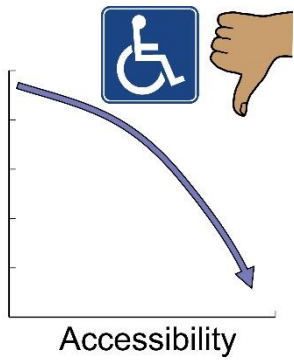
4. Making sure political leaders include people with disabilities in their talks about climate change.



UN Women and Stockholm Environment Institute looked at how climate change effects women and people with disabilities in Asia and the Pacific.



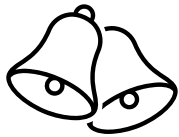
They discovered that lots of projects do not include people with disabilities, women, girls, and different genders because they do not have enough money and do not know enough about how to include them.



A report from the London School of Economics and Practical Action found that when organisations develop ways to warn people that a disaster is about to happen, they do not usually think about how to include people with disabilities.



UNHCR, IDMC, and the International Disability Alliance wrote a factsheet about what happens to people with disabilities who might have to leave their homes because of **climate change**.



A village in the Philippines used bells and flags to warn the people with disabilities when disasters were about to happen.



The Grantham Institute said that climate change has a negative impact on mental health especially on people with disabilities.



The Work and Opportunities for Women helpdesk said people with disabilities and women should be included in jobs that help the environment. These jobs need more people with the right skills.

# Guidelines for including OPDs and people with disabilities in climate change talks



The Bond Disability and Development Group and Climate Action Network UK released a paper on including people with disability in UK climate action.

The report had 7 recommendations for the UK government. They are:

1. Make sure people with disabilities are included in climate action.

2. Think about people with disabilities locally and internationally.

3. Make sure people with disabilities are involved in talks and making decisions.

4. Make sure that money is spent on work that includes people with disabilities.







5. Make sure plans to stop **climate change** include people with disabilities.



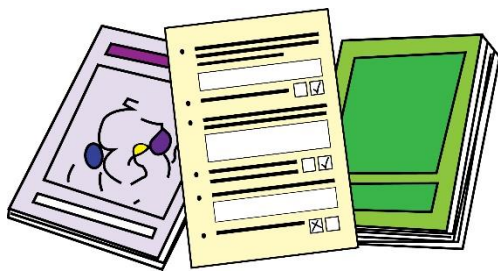
6. Make sure that all climate change events and information is accessible for people with disabilities



7. Help people with disabilities get environmentally friendly jobs.



The International Labour Organisation (ILO) wrote a report about how to make sure people with disabilities are included in jobs to help the environment.

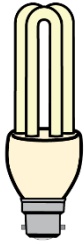


In 2019, three organisations called CBM International, Humanity and Inclusion, and the International Disability Alliance gave lots of examples of how to best include people with disabilities in humanitarian work.



The European Disability Forum (EDF) and CBM Global made a video on how climate change impacts people with disabilities and how to best include them in climate action.

# Learning about climate change and including people with disabilities



The Africa Clean Energy (ACE) Programme aims to give people with disabilities and women in Africa access to **clean energy** .



They found that it was more difficult for people with disabilities to access electricity so they had to use candles and fires.



Oxfam in Vanuatu found that disaster response was better when community meetings about disasters included women and people with disabilities.



People were more likely to listen to warnings and more likely to help people with disabilities get to safe places.

## Disability Inclusion Policy News



IDA is campaigning for:

1. People with disabilities to be included in action on **climate change**, specifically in water,

sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programmes

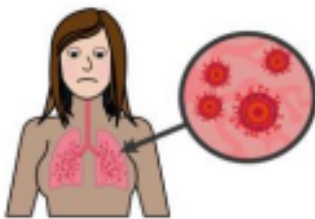


2. Governments should know how older people and people with disabilities are affected by **climate change**.

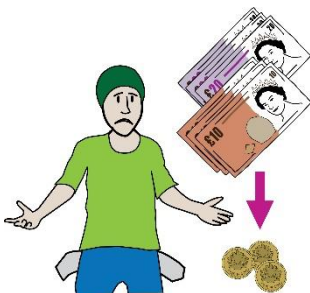
3. Governments and other organisations should find out what the barriers are for including people with disabilities in climate change projects and work on removing them.



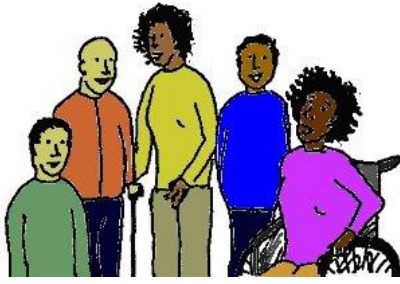
## Evidence and Guidance on disability inclusion



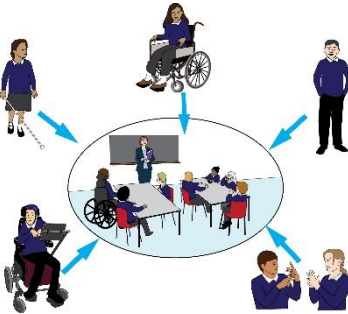
The Inclusion Works Programme did research on the impact of the **COVID-19 pandemic** on people with disabilities in Bangladesh, Nigeria, Kenya, and Uganda.



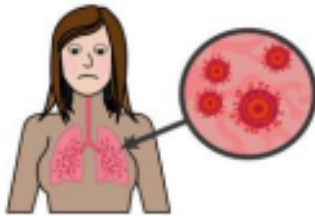
The research found that across all those countries the impact was very negative. People lost their jobs and they lost money.



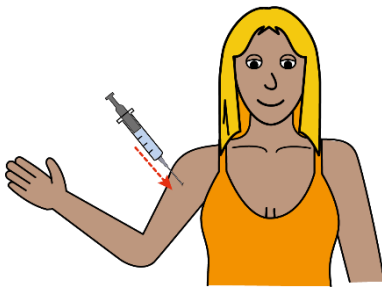
Leonard Cheshire, a group that works with people with disabilities, did research on the impact of the **COVID-19 pandemic** on young people with disabilities in India, Indonesia, Kenya, South Sudan, and Zambia.



The report found that young people with disabilities were not included in education, healthcare, or work.



UNESCO released a policy document that promotes a disability inclusive response to the **COVID-19 pandemic**.



The IDA wrote guidance for groups and governments to make the **COVID-19** vaccine more accessible to people with disabilities.



ADD International wrote a research paper to help stop violence against women and girls with disabilities in Cambodia.



The Human Rights Council talked about violence against women and girls with disabilities. Many of

them experience sexual violence before the age of 18.



The Global Education Summit planned an event that discussed giving more money to disability inclusive education.

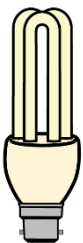


The summit brought together many different people and groups representing financial groups and young people with disabilities.



The World Food Programme (WFP) found that families where at least one person has a disability are less likely to have enough food compared to other families.

## What do these words mean?



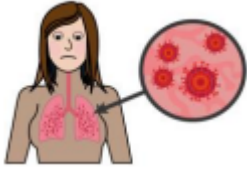
**Clean Energy** is a source of energy that does not cause pollution. This includes energy made from the sun or wind power.



**Climate Change** means that the world is getting warmer because of pollution from the way we use fuels for electricity, heating and transport.



**COP26** is a meeting about climate change held by the UN in Glasgow for all the countries in the world. It happens every year.

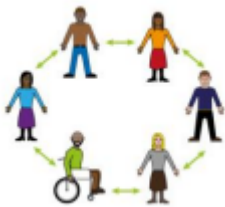


**COVID-19** is a virus that has made lots of people around the world ill.



### **International Development**

supports people around the world who do not have enough access to the things they need



**Organisations of people with disabilities** work in countries around the world and support people with disabilities to live good lives.

# Contact us



If you want to talk to us send an email to this address  
**enquiries@disabilityinclusion.org.uk**

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**People  
First**



Images used in this document come from the People First (Self Advocacy) Picture Bank

DISUAL

Disability Inclusion Helpdesk, October 2021

Evidence digest focus issue: Climate Change and Disability Inclusion

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The full version of this document is called **Evidence Digest: Climate Change and Disability Inclusion**