

# Unequal climate justice for people with disabilities

Insights and evidence from communities and civil society organisations



**For the estimated 1.3 billion people with disabilities worldwide, of whom 80 per cent live in developing countries where the climate crisis is accelerating, disability inclusive climate action is urgently needed. Disability inclusion in climate action is too often overlooked. This report aims to help bridge that gap.**

# Thank you

BOND is the United Kingdom network for organisations working in international development. The BOND Disability and Development Group (DDG) brings together over 110 UK-based development organisations (both mainstream and disability-specific) to ensure that the rights of people with disabilities are included in the UK development and humanitarian sectors.

The International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) is a grouping of civil society organisations (CSOs) coming together around a common objective to promote inclusive international development and humanitarian action, with a special focus on the full and effective enjoyment of human rights by all people with disabilities.

The BOND DDG and the IDDC Climate Task Groups worked together to deliver this report; both would like to extend thanks to individuals, groups and communities who have generously given their perspectives and experiences to research that contributed to this report.

We are grateful to the 32 organisations that contributed data and insights from their research initiatives and programmes (see [Annex 1](#) for a full list). We are also grateful to Nadège Riche from Commoning and Vera Kowalkowska for contributing to report development, Stephanie Schafrath for overseeing report design and colleagues at Sightsavers for editing the report.

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Finally, we extend our gratitude to the Steering Group representatives for their leadership: Able Child Africa Network; ADD International; CBM UK (Global Disability Inclusion); Humanity & Inclusion; Impel Consultancy; Light for the World; Sightsavers; World Vision.



# Foreword



**Mary Keogh,**  
Chair of International  
Disability and Development  
Consortium

**The climate crisis is no longer a distant threat; it is an urgent reality affecting millions worldwide. However, for the estimated 1.3 billion persons with disabilities—80% of whom reside in developing countries—the impacts are even more profound.**

Climate change exacerbates existing inequalities, creating insurmountable barriers to access, participation, and survival. Yet, too often, disability-inclusive climate action remains an afterthought, despite compelling evidence that persons with disabilities experience heightened risks during climate-related disasters and face systemic exclusion from mitigation and adaptation efforts.

This report is a critical intervention. It seeks to bridge the existing gaps in research, policy, and practice by amplifying the voices of persons with disabilities and shedding light on their lived experiences amid the climate crisis. Drawing on data from 32 organisations across 38 countries in the Global South, the findings offer invaluable insights into the intersecting challenges of disability and climate change. More importantly, they provide clear, actionable recommendations for governments, donors, and climate stakeholders to ensure that climate policies, funding, and responses are inclusive and equitable.

The evidence is irrefutable: persons with disabilities must be at the heart of climate action. Their perspectives, expertise, and leadership are indispensable in shaping sustainable and just solutions. As we move forward, it is imperative that disability inclusion becomes a cornerstone of climate resilience efforts—recognised not as an optional consideration, but as a fundamental right. This report is not just a call to action; it is a roadmap for change. The time to act is now.





**Mark Barrell,  
and Nick Corby,**  
Bond DDG Climate  
Working Group Chairs

**An inclusive and climate-resilient world requires sustainable and equitable solutions that work for all.**

The viewpoints of the most marginalised on how this can be achieved are too often overlooked and left out, including those of persons with disabilities. The evidence of the disproportionate impact the climate crisis on them is clear but there is also emerging evidence on how those living in climate vulnerable situations are adapting and innovating.

This report, commissioned by the Bond Disability and Development Climate Working Group, draws on data from across members and partners globally to bring insight and practical guidance from a disability perspective. It unpacks the approaches needed to break down barriers, as well provide evidence-based recommendations for cooperative action across all sectors to bring about the transformational change needed.

We are hugely grateful for the contributions made by so many to this report and commend it to you as a way ahead.

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# Acronyms

ADD International	Action on Disability and Development
ANDY	Action Network for the Disabled
Asodifimco	Asociacion de Personas con Discapacidad Física de Cochabamba
BVIPSI	Blind and Visually Impaired People of Solomon Islands
COP	Conference of Parties (to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
CSO	Civil society organisation
DDG	Disability and Development Group (of BOND)
DRM	Disaster risk management
DRR	Disaster risk reduction
DRRM	Disaster risk reduction and management
EDF	European Disability Forum
GBV	Gender-based violence
GRAVIS	Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti
HI	Humanity and inclusion
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IDA	International Disability Alliance
IDDC	International Disability and Development Consortium
IFES	International Foundation for Electoral Systems
IGA	Income-generating activity
ILO	International Labour Organization
INGO	International non-governmental organisation
IPPC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LIPA	Lyakirema Initiative for Persons with Albinism
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NbS	Nature-based solution
NDC	Nationally determined contribution
OPD	Organisation of people with disabilities
OSF	Open Society Foundation
SDD	Social Development Direct
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNPRPD	United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WHO	World Health Organization
WOW	Work and Opportunities for Women

# Executive summary

For the estimated 1.3 billion people with disabilities worldwide, of whom 80 per cent live in developing countries where the climate crisis is accelerating, disability inclusive climate action is urgently needed. Disability inclusion in climate action is too often overlooked. This report aims to help bridge that gap.

By harnessing and unpacking data already gathered by the disability community and civil society organisations, this report offers deeper understanding and insights of the diverse experiences of people with disabilities in the context of the climate crisis; while also providing actionable recommendations. Insights provided in this report can be used by governments, donors and others involved in the response to the climate crisis to enhance climate justice.

## Evidence

Data and insights analysed in this report came from responses to a survey from 24 organisations, which were complemented by a desk review of 23 other resources, presenting research findings and programme experiences. This evidence base represents the input of 32 organisations from more than 38 countries across the ‘Global South’.

## Impact

Overwhelmingly, the data provides evidence that the climate crisis is worsening existing inequalities. People with disabilities have been negatively impacted by the climate crisis, which is also exacerbating barriers and challenges that already exist. During climate-related disasters, heightened risk is experienced by these groups due to widespread inaccessibility to infrastructure, transportation, early warning systems and emergency procedures.

The impacts of the climate crisis affect every aspect of daily life for people with disabilities, as well as their families, households and communities. This includes **lack of nutritious food and safe water, physical and mental health provision, access to education and adequate housing, alongside appropriate standards of living and social protection systems**. All are critical for strengthening economic stability and climate resilience, but governments continually fail to recognise, adequately accommodate and consider people with disabilities in their climate change responses to secure these basic needs.

## Insights

The data shows that tailoring solutions to both geographic and climate conditions, as well as considering the social, economic and demographic characteristics of local residents (including people with disabilities), will ensure lasting, impactful mitigation measures, adaptation and nature-based solutions. People with disabilities benefit from programmes to protect, restore or preserve their living environment, when recognised among the targeted local communities, and alongside other wider societal groups.

**The value of participation and localisation efforts to prioritise context- and community-led solutions cannot be overstated.**

## Essential components

To realise disability inclusion, five essential, but often-neglected, areas must be addressed:



**Quantitative and qualitative data:** Qualitative data exists but robust quantitative data is scarce, often lacking depth and disaggregation to fully capture the barriers, risks and impacts that people with disabilities face.



**Accessibility and reasonable accommodation:** Access to physical infrastructure, transportation, information and communication is lacking and requires vast improvement.



**Sensitisation and capacity strengthening of disability organisations:** Greater value and emphasis is needed in joint learning and strengthening of knowledge and capacity of OPDs and disability activists, together with all stakeholders engaged in climate action and response.



**Collaboration, partnership and participation of people with disabilities:** The contributing role of people with disabilities and their inherent and specific knowledge is rarely acknowledged or valued. This must change.



**Governance, budget and advocacy:** Recognition as rights-holders and agents of change, alongside access to funding, is required as existing international and national climate policies frequently overlook the rights, participation and inclusion of people with disabilities.

## Conclusions

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**Mitigation measures and adaptation efforts are more effective** if they are developed and locally led with the involvement of all key social groups, including people with disabilities.

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**Investment is required** in strengthening both the knowledge of OPDs and formal partnerships that include OPDs in programme delivery, broader climate policy dialogues, strategic planning and budgetary processes.

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**Climate financing** could be transformational by using disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) as an entry point to integrate disability rights into climate justice funding and programmes.

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**Evidence and research gaps** on disability and the climate crisis persist, including equitable access to energy, the experiences of, and the long-term impacts on, people with disabilities in all their diversity.

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**Mainstreaming disability** in vocational education and on-the-job training for green jobs and climate-smart agriculture successfully addresses skills shortages and helps to counter stigma and/or exclusion experienced by people with disabilities.

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## Recommendations:

Coordinated action is needed to ensure the health, economic and social impacts of the climate crisis on people with disabilities are addressed, and that their demands are used to move towards equitable climate action.

To strengthen disability inclusion in climate action, and to help prevent inequalities experienced by people with disabilities from deepening, the DDG and IDDC call to governments, donors, INGOs and all climate stakeholders is to:

1

Bridge the data gap to identify, address and report inequities experienced by people with disabilities and prioritise advancing disability inclusion across all climate action and responses.

2

Accelerate climate financing that includes a focus on disability inclusion and is accessible to disability organisations.

3

Prioritise people with disabilities in climate responses and long-term planning, implementation and budgeting.

4

Strengthen partnerships and coordination mechanisms to increase the engagement of people with disabilities and/or their representative organisations in climate responses.







# 1. Introduction

With global warming reaching +1.5°C above pre-industrial temperatures, hundreds of millions of people are likely to face extreme weather events and fall into extreme poverty<sup>1</sup>.

Crises are typically felt unevenly, and the climate crisis is not an exception. An estimated 1.3 billion people (16 per cent of the world's population) have disabilities; 80 per cent live in developing countries<sup>2</sup>, where the climate crisis is accelerating<sup>3</sup>. Given the high concentration of people with disabilities in regions most affected by the climate crisis, they are among those most at risk from the escalating impacts of the climate crisis, to catastrophic effect.

As this report highlights, people with disabilities have been disproportionately affected by the climate crisis and remain overlooked by official responses. The climate crisis is compounding and amplifying the pervasive and long-standing inequalities that first prompted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the commitment to 'leave no one behind'.

Data is at the forefront of climate action. Governments have used data to monitor climate change, inform what responses are needed and gauge whether policies are working. Yet, people with disabilities are broadly absent from the official data used to inform government decision-making. Their absence from official data is not unique to climate data; people with

disabilities have been inadvertently or purposefully excluded from official data for diverse, complex and varied reasons (including weak civil registration systems, exclusionary survey methodologies and community-level stigma)<sup>4</sup>. Inequities and disparities are further hidden and obscured when data is not disaggregated to reveal the situations and needs of different population groups, including those with disabilities.

Civil society organisations (CSOs) collect qualitative and quantitative data with communities, using the data to demand or drive positive change. This 'non-official data' collected by communities and/or CSOs includes, but is not limited to, programmatic data, mixed methods research, human stories, quotes and case studies. There is enormous potential for this data to complement and enhance official data: addressing data gaps; capturing deviations from national averages; and better depicting the full impact of the climate crisis on people with disabilities.

The BOND Disability and Development Group (DDG) and the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) Climate Action Task Group have compiled data generated by member organisations and their partners on disability-inclusive climate action. This joint effort seeks to draw upon work undertaken by DDG and IDDC member organisations (and their partners), harnessing the potential of this

<sup>1</sup> IPCC, 2023

<sup>2</sup> WHO, 2023

<sup>3</sup> Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

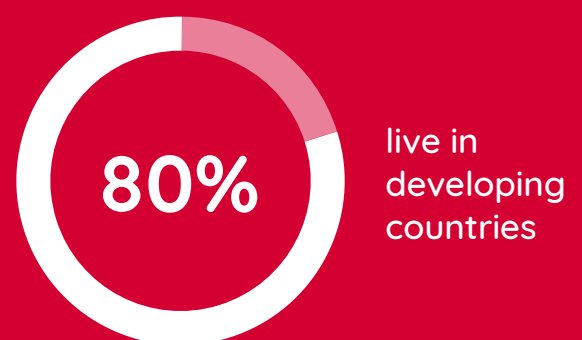
<sup>4</sup> BVIPSI, 2023; CBM Global, 2023a; EDF, 2021 (DRRM focus); ZPHCA; CBM UK, 2023b

community and CSO data to gain a deeper understanding and share insights of the diverse experiences of those with disabilities in the context of the climate crisis.

This report is not intended to provide a comprehensive picture of the impact of the climate crisis on people with disabilities; instead, the focus is on using insights from community and CSO data to: evidence some of the impact the climate crisis is having; provide examples of how to strengthen disability inclusion in mitigation and adaptation efforts; and spotlight cross-cutting issues critical to inclusive climate action.

This report is intended to motivate climate action that is inclusive of people with disabilities; it reflects a shared belief of DDG and IDDC member organisations (and their partners) of the need to amplify the rights and voices of people with disabilities and their representative organisations to foster meaningful change towards disability-inclusive climate action.

**16%** of the world's population have disabilities



## 2. Report methodology

The evidence presented in this report is taken from community and CSO data captured in September and October 2024, using two data collection methodologies:

- An **online survey** sent to DDG and IDDC members (and their partners) to gather available data and insights they had generated or helped generate, regarding people with disabilities and the climate crisis. Thirty-seven survey responses from 24 organisations were received. See [Annex 1](#) for a full list of contributing organisations.
- A **desk review** of 23 resources containing relevant community and CSO data, including published reports, evaluations, case studies and blogs. See [Annex 2](#) for the full list of resources reviewed.

The data and insights shared by DDG and IDDC members (and their partners) provide evidence from more than 38 countries across the ‘Global South’, predominantly in Eastern and Southern Africa; South and Southeast Asia; Pacific; Western Africa; South America and the Middle East. Two research studies examined disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) and climate action in policies across Europe and Central Asia. Some research studies also referenced countries in the ‘Global North’ (for example, Australia and Ireland). The analysis presented in this report draws on data and insights from all these countries.

The data and insights used for this report stem from research and programmes dating back to the 1980s; most research initiatives and programmes were conducted in the 2010s (seven in total) and the 2020s (33 in total). Some of the research initiatives and programmes that provided data and insights for this report remained active in October 2024. In total, 57% of the reported initiatives are research-focused; the remaining 43% are programme-based.

Most (95%) of the research initiatives and programmes that provided data and insights reported collecting data disaggregated by disability and at least one other identity factor. The identity factors (other than disability) most frequently disaggregated were gender (87%) and age (75%). Other identity factors included geographic location (55%); socio-economic status (42%); ethnic origin, but not self-identification as an Indigenous Person (27%); migration status (15%); sexual orientation (10%); religion (7%); and caste or social class (5%).

Thematically, the research initiatives and programmes that provided data and insights for this report focused mostly on DRRM, social protection and health and food security. Programmes were especially geared more towards DRRM.

## 2.1. Limitations

The time available for data collection and the methods used to reach respondents may have limited contributions received for this report. Most of the studies are not representative of the experiences of all people with disabilities in all their diversity, although the insights provide a body of evidence from which key themes can be inferred. While some geographical diversity is clear the data does not comprehensively cover all contexts.

The purpose of this report is to present an overview and recommendations from data from CSOs with the context of climate and disability. This approach has validity as this is data which is usually less visible and the data and insights used demonstrate the richness of community and CSO data. However, it is also important to acknowledge that several limitations arise from this approach. Most substantially, no assessment of the validity or methodology of the materials submitted was conducted and the analysis is therefore subject to the survey respondents' knowledge and the quality of the original studies and analysis. Additionally, there is a strong self-selection bias with respondents choosing whether to respond and which projects and pieces of research to submit for the paper. Finally, the data received from CSOs has not been complemented with significant secondary literature. As such, the findings and recommendations of this paper should be read as indicative and as supporting the developing body of evidence in this area.

The impact of the climate crisis is ongoing, meaning that insights and evidence drawn from the data collected provide only a limited snapshot of the current impact of the climate crisis. Longer-term impacts of the climate crisis might only become apparent in years to come.

The climate crisis is not impacting those with disabilities in isolation; it is not possible to identify issues that are the result only of the climate crisis, and other drivers are highly likely to contribute to the issues highlighted in this report.



### 3. Reported impact of the climate crisis on people with disabilities

The research initiatives and programmes commonly show that people with disabilities have been negatively impacted by the climate crisis, and that they already experience severely limited access to and exclusion from resources and services. Data and insights received indicate the climate crisis is exacerbating these existing barriers and also indicate strong similarities across continents and cultures in terms of the experiences of people with disabilities<sup>5</sup>.

All research initiatives and programmes that provided data and insights analysed for this report provide clear evidence that the climate crisis impacts all aspects of daily life for those with disabilities (including their families, households and communities). This includes:



#### **Lack of nutritious food and safe water:**

Disruptions to agricultural activities due to the climate crisis severely impacts food security, leading to higher rates of malnutrition among people with disabilities, which can hinder neurological development, cognitive growth and learning potential<sup>6</sup>. Extreme

weather events also limit access to water, forcing many with disabilities (especially individuals with mobility impairments) to rely on the same water source(s) for drinking and hygiene purposes<sup>7</sup>. Extreme weather events (cyclones and floods, in particular) worsen the shortage of clean water, particularly increasing potential health risks for those with disabilities missing caregiver support and/or living in rural areas<sup>8</sup>. Women, including those with disabilities, often encounter harassment and violence while accessing available public sanitation facilities and clean water<sup>9</sup>.



#### **Physical and mental health:**

Barriers for people with disabilities to manage daily medications, access

temporary health facilities, secure medical equipment and receive counselling services remain pervasive<sup>10</sup>. For individuals with albinism, the climate crisis and exposure to intensified ultraviolet rays heightens the risk of disfigurement, mortality and rising cancer rates<sup>11</sup>. High temperatures and poor air quality have severe impacts on perinatal and maternal health for women with and without disabilities, but women with

<sup>5</sup> Action on Disability and Development (ADD), 2023; Action Network for the Disabled (ANDY), 2023; Islamic Relief, 2023

<sup>6</sup> Atlas Alliance, 2023; Birkman et al., 2022

<sup>7</sup> CBM Global, 2022

<sup>8</sup> CBM Global, 2022b; World Vision, 2020

<sup>9</sup> SDD, 2024a; World Vision, 2020

<sup>10</sup> CBM Global, 2024b; HI, 2023b; WOW, Unknown date 2

<sup>11</sup> Lyakirema Initiative for Persons with Albinism (LIPA), 2024

disabilities experience barriers to accessing maternal health services<sup>12</sup>. Extreme weather events also deepen isolation for people with disabilities, amplifying their vulnerability and stress, limiting their ability to adapt to the climate crisis and potentially worsening existing mental health conditions<sup>13</sup>. Young people with disabilities are especially prone to such distress, even more so young women with disabilities<sup>14</sup>. Heatwaves are of particular concern for people with chronic illnesses, older people with disabilities, as well as individuals with psychosocial disabilities<sup>15</sup>.



**Education:** Disruption to education and lack of protection during climate emergencies places a high

burden on children with disabilities – they are more likely than children without disabilities to be out of school and without access to education and/or safe spaces provided by humanitarian organisations<sup>16</sup>. Children with disabilities who once attended school often discontinue their education and begin working following climate emergencies, to contribute to household income. This disruption leads to a decline in academic performance and, in some cases, permanent school dropout, impacting children's long-term development and wellbeing<sup>17</sup>. Extreme heat conditions can also negatively affect all children's learning capacity<sup>18</sup>.



### Standards of living:

Adverse weather conditions and rising temperatures reduce work capacity and

significantly decrease crop yields and livestock productivity<sup>19</sup>. The climate crisis further restricts agriculture-based income-generating activities (IGAs)<sup>20</sup>, deepening financial instability for many with disabilities. The climate crisis is forcing some people with disabilities to change their livelihoods<sup>21</sup> and seek support from neighbours, engage additional family members in IGAs or lease additional land<sup>22</sup>. Young adults and women with disabilities face additional barriers due to restrictive gender- and disability-related social norms and/or limited access to insurance and credit, making it harder to engage in climate-smart livelihoods or migrate for work<sup>23</sup>. People with disabilities are also disproportionately impacted by inadequate training on climate adaptation, leading to lower adaptive capacity<sup>24</sup>.

Social protection systems are critical for strengthening economic stability and climate resilience, but often fail to adequately consider people with disabilities. Many of those who are eligible remain unable to access existing social protection mechanisms, including ones designed to address climate crisis impacts, often due to a lack of coordination between government bodies<sup>25</sup>. The costs of rebuilding lives after extreme weather events, such as rising food prices and medical expenses, strain already limited financial household resources of

<sup>12</sup> IDDC, Unknown date

<sup>13</sup> CBM, 2021; CBM Global, 2024a; IDDC, Unknown date

<sup>14</sup> World Vision, 2023

<sup>15</sup> HI, 2023b; Spark, 2024; World Vision, 2023)

<sup>16</sup> UNICEF (2018), Guidance: including children with disabilities in humanitarian action; J. Holden et al., (2019), Disability Inclusive Approaches to Humanitarian Programming

<sup>17</sup> Able Child, 2024; CBM Global, 2024b

<sup>18</sup> Zivin et al., 2015

<sup>19</sup> The Leprosy Mission, 2023a; World Vision, 2023

<sup>20</sup> Life Haven, 2024

<sup>21</sup> CBM Global, 2022b

<sup>22</sup> CBM Global, 2024b

<sup>23</sup> Spark, 2024; WOW, Unknown date 2

<sup>24</sup> CBM, 2022b

<sup>25</sup> HI, 2023b



people with disabilities<sup>26</sup>; only one instance of disability-inclusive loss and damage calculation was identified from the data analysed for this report, highlighting a significant gap in the policy response<sup>27</sup>.



**Housing:** Damaged homes and the disruption or lack of access to resilient and accessible housing, severely compounds living standards

for people with disabilities<sup>28</sup>. They often face disproportionate, inequitable access to energy (this includes women and other marginalised groups), underscoring the critical need for inclusive energy policies, services and regulations<sup>29</sup>.



**Voting:** The impact of the climate crisis on people with disabilities' access to voting has been documented in

Nepal, where extreme weather events have been shown to worsen existing physical, attitudinal and institutional barriers to electoral participation<sup>30</sup>.

In addition to the impacts of the climate crisis on daily life, data analysed for this report also provides clear evidence that humanitarian and emergency responses to climate emergencies frequently overlook the needs and rights of people with disabilities. Evidence suggests that women with disabilities, older people and individuals with speech, hearing, intellectual

or multiple disabilities are the most vulnerable to discrimination in evacuation and humanitarian assistance<sup>31</sup>. Girls with disabilities are particularly vulnerable to exploitation and have less access to essential services compared with their peers without disabilities<sup>32</sup>.

During evacuation, people with disabilities experience a heightened risk of injury and significantly lower chances of being rescued due to physical and attitudinal barriers. The widespread inaccessibility of infrastructure, transportation, early warning systems and emergency procedures severely impedes the safe and timely evacuation of people with disabilities<sup>33</sup>. People with disabilities are frequently left behind by families and neighbours due to inaccessible evacuation routes and fear of stigma and harassment in temporary shelters<sup>34</sup>.

Once in temporary accommodation and shelters, individuals with disabilities experience barriers to essential services:

- Food aid distribution centres are frequently inaccessible<sup>35</sup>.
- Temporary schools and education materials are often inaccessible to learners with disabilities<sup>36</sup>.
- Health equity is limited, including access to medication, assistive devices, medical equipment, as well as health care facilities and services<sup>37</sup>.

<sup>26</sup> Life Haven, 2024

<sup>27</sup> CBM UK, 2023b

<sup>28</sup> CBM Global, 2023c; Life Haven, 2024; Spark, 2024

<sup>29</sup> WOW, 2021

<sup>30</sup> IFES, 2024

<sup>31</sup> CBM UK, 2022b; Spark, 2024

<sup>32</sup> OHCHR, 2018

<sup>33</sup> Blind and Visually Impaired People of Solomon Islands (BVIPSI), 2023; CBM Global, 2022b; HI, 2023b and 2024a

<sup>34</sup> CBM Global, 2022; BVIPSI, 2023

<sup>35</sup> Atlas Alliance, 2023; CBM Global, 2023c

<sup>36</sup> Zivin et al., 2015

<sup>37</sup> CBM Global, 2024b; HI, 2023b; Work and Opportunities for Women (WOW), Unknown date



- Toilets and washing areas are rarely segregated or accessible, undermining the dignity and safety of women and girls with and without disabilities<sup>38</sup>.
- Menstrual hygiene products and supplies for pregnant and lactating people, are frequently neglected, including for women with disabilities<sup>39</sup>.
- Counselling and mental health services are severely insufficient<sup>40</sup>.
- Girls and women with disabilities are at heightened risk of exploitation and violence, including gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual abuse<sup>41</sup>.

### Evacuation in solidarity: A show of support to people with disabilities from their neighbours in Nepal

Cheypey, a deaf woman, and her daughter, Urmila (who has physical disabilities), faced unique challenges during the Melamchi flood in 2021. When the disaster struck, neighbours had to alert Cheypey about the rising water as she could not hear the warnings. In a state of panic, Cheypey carried her daughter on her back to safety, unsure of what was happening around her. When she returned the next day, their home had been swept away. She was left without food, clothing or basic necessities, underlining the heightened vulnerability of persons with disabilities, particularly in emergencies.<sup>42</sup>

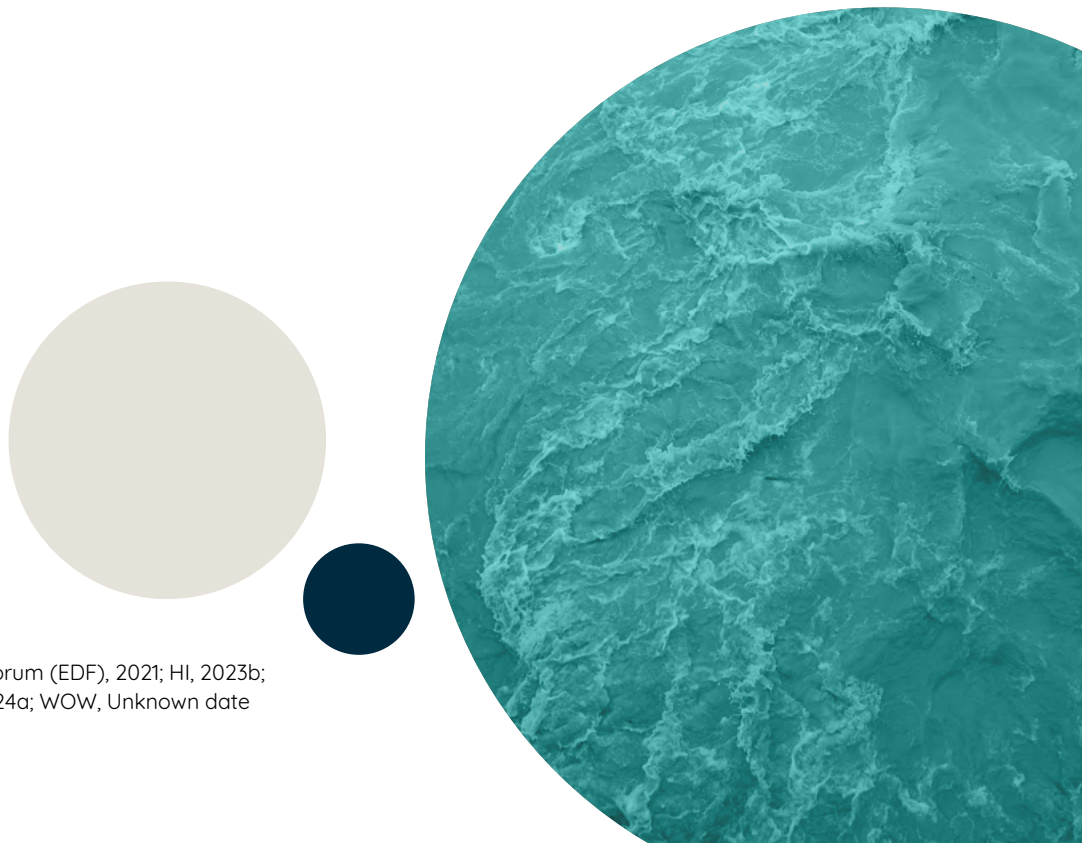
<sup>38</sup> SDD, 2024a

<sup>39</sup> SDD, 2024a

<sup>40</sup> CBM Global, 2024b; HI, 2023b






<sup>41</sup> CBM, 2021; European Disability Forum (EDF), 2021; HI, 2023b; Plan International, 2024b; SDD, 2024a; WOW, Unknown date

<sup>42</sup> CBM Global, 2023c



## Case study Comprehensive and participatory research to bridge the data gap on climate and disability

### Key facts:

 <b>Project:</b>	The Climate Change and Disability Data Collection Project funded by Global Greengrants Fund
 <b>Organisation:</b>	The Blind and Visually Impaired People of Solomon Islands Organisation (BVIPSI)
 <b>Country:</b>	Solomon Islands
 <b>Target groups:</b>	Blind and partially sighted people
 <b>Topics:</b>	Data

### Context:

To counter the data gap on climate and disability, BVIPSI conducted comprehensive research on how the lives of blind and partially sighted people are impacted by the climate crisis on their communities. The research covered the areas of DRRM, adaptation, health and mental health, governance, participation, sensitisation, capacity building, data and intersectionality.

### Key learnings:

The extensive data collection among people with disabilities generated new insights for the country:

1. Blind and partially sighted people are at heightened vulnerability to the climate crisis.
2. Early warning systems are inaccessible and information is shared in inadequate formats.
3. Barriers to climate adaptation resources should be dismantled by inclusive provisions integrated in climate, humanitarian and disaster risk reduction (DRR) policies.
4. The climate crisis increases isolation, sometimes leading to mental health challenges.
5. Community involvement and local leadership drives solutions anchored in lived experiences.
6. Empowering people with disabilities to participate in the programme transformed them into active contributors, effectively challenging stereotypes.
7. Addressing the effects of climate crisis and intersectional discrimination is only feasible by designing tailored approaches.
8. Assistive technologies like apps, GPS and audio tools can enhance climate adaptation accessibility.







## 4. Emerging practices and data gaps for strengthening disability inclusion in mitigation and adaptation measures

The research and programmes that provided data and insights for this report deliver evidence and learnings which can guide the design and implementation of future initiatives to strengthen disability inclusion across climate action. While proven practices appear limited and small in scale (based on the data analysed for this report), they still indicate important pathways to change. The data analysed for this report also identifies key gaps for further research or programmes.

The research and programme data analysed indicates that mitigation measures (“human interventions to reduce emissions or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases”<sup>43</sup>) are typically designed without sufficient consideration of diversity and disability, and, as a consequence, they often have a negative impact on people with disabilities<sup>44</sup>. For example, while those with disabilities already face inequitable access to energy services (see [Section 3](#)), research into the impact of reducing the energy source from non-renewables on people with disabilities is limited, and clean energy transitions often overlook critical

aspects of social justice, including disability inclusion<sup>45</sup>. While the data analysed provided no tools or processes that can be used to routinely strengthen disability inclusion in mitigation measures, the data underscores the importance of introducing social safeguards and disability-focused impact assessments, with a clear need for research and programmes focused on equitable access to energy.

The research and programme data analysed also underscored that adaptation (“the process of adjustment to the actual or expected climate and its effects, to moderate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities”<sup>46</sup>) to the climate crisis is most successful if it is based on indigenous knowledge, and fully includes all social groups (including people with disabilities)<sup>47</sup>. People with disabilities can benefit from programmes to protect, restore or preserve their living environment if they live among the targeted local communities. Rainwater harvesting initiatives in India have supported older people with disabilities<sup>48</sup>, while reforestation projects in Uganda have benefited people with albinism<sup>49</sup>.

<sup>43</sup> IPCC, 2018

<sup>44</sup> SDD, 2023

<sup>45</sup> WOW, 2021

<sup>46</sup> IPCC 2018

<sup>47</sup> BVIPSI, 2023; CBM Global, 2023c

<sup>48</sup> Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti (GRAVIS)

<sup>49</sup> LIPA, 2024

A project to support the adaptation of agriculture has included targeted safeguards and social protection for those with leprosy in Sri Lanka<sup>50</sup>. A desk-based literature review by SDD identified some positive examples of disability inclusion in nature-based solutions (NbS) programming; evidence indicated that the involvement of indigenous people and people with disabilities throughout the NbS project cycle added real value to programme outcomes, ensuring consideration of more societal groups<sup>51</sup>.

The data analysed also suggests that mainstreaming disability in vocational education and on-the-job training for green jobs and climate-smart agriculture successfully addresses skills shortages<sup>52</sup>. A CBM India programme helped individuals with disabilities to become master trainers on climate-smart agriculture and business development, leading to greater recognition of the skills and leadership of people with disabilities and countering stigma. The resulting success of their agribusinesses led to increased funding and loans for women and men with disabilities.

### How entrepreneurship and environmental conservation drive better solutions: A young woman with disabilities successfully engaging with NbS in Nepal

Aakriti is a 24-year-old married woman living in Bardiya, Nepal. As part of a Plan International project, Aakriti participated in training which focused on entrepreneurship and environmental conservation initiatives. Aakriti chose vermi-compost production because it uses readily available local materials like cow dung, vegetables and grass, which also support her family's vegetable farming. Through the training, Aakriti gained skills in agricultural resources utilisation, income generation and self-reliance, finding independence in earning her own income. This project empowered Aakriti and other young women by developing their leadership skills, encouraging them to become successful self-employed entrepreneurs, while promoting environmental conservation<sup>53</sup>.

<sup>50</sup> The Leprosy Mission, 2023

<sup>51</sup> SDS, 2022a

<sup>52</sup> WOW, 2021 and 2022a

<sup>53</sup> Plan International, 2022a



The research and programme data analysed also highlights the value of participation and localisation efforts to prioritise context- and community-led solutions<sup>54</sup>. Tailoring solutions to the geographic and climate conditions of the local context and considering the social, economic and demographic characteristics of local residents (including people with disabilities) ensures impactful mitigation measures and adaptation<sup>55</sup>. Collaborating with local experts also sustains progress in addressing harmful social norms<sup>56</sup>. Evidence of the benefits of such collaboration has been documented in the context of the energy transition<sup>57</sup>.

More specifically, the research and programme data analysed indicated few disability-inclusive DRRM practices. DRRM frameworks (informed by the 2015–2030 Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the 2016 Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Guidelines on inclusion of people with disabilities in humanitarian action) are in place.

DRRM practices that include people with disabilities have also been piloted; there are some examples of local good practice ready to scale-up (particularly on early warning systems)<sup>58</sup>. However, the reported data suggests an implementation gap persists.

DRRM practices inclusive of those with disabilities are not routine; the data reported also provided no evidence of climate risk assessments integrating disability inclusion, suggesting disaster preparedness largely overlooks the needs of people with disabilities. Evidence of good practice was confined to disaster risk management (DRM) rather than specifically to climate action<sup>59</sup>.

Mental health and psychosocial support is also essential to building comprehensive and inclusive DRRM practices; the reported data suggests that this issue is also largely neglected<sup>60</sup>.

<sup>54</sup> CBM Global, 2023c; Islamic Relief, 2023; Plan International, 2024a; WOW, 2021

<sup>55</sup> BVIPS, 2023; CBM Global, 2023c

<sup>56</sup> UK Pact, 2024

<sup>57</sup> WOW, 2021






<sup>58</sup> Humanity & Inclusion, 2023

<sup>59</sup> Atlas Alliance, 2023; Social Development Direct (SDD), 2023

<sup>60</sup> CBM Global, 2024a

## Case study Highlighting climate impacts on marginalised groups is key to finding solutions – women with disabilities are leading the way

### Key facts:

 <b>Project:</b>	The Spark project for inclusive rural transformation and its report entitled, “Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Report – Understanding the Impact of Climate Crisis on Women with Disabilities and Their Role in Averting Climate Crisis in Maharashtra”
 <b>Organisation:</b>	The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is supported by a consortium composed of Light for the World, International Labour Organization (ILO) and Procasur
 <b>Country:</b>	Washim District, Maharashtra State, India
 <b>Target groups:</b>	Women with disabilities
 <b>Topics:</b>	Agricultural livelihoods

### Context:

SPARK is an innovative programme currently active in Burkina Faso, India, Mozambique and Malawi. It tackles entrenched barriers facing people with disabilities through systemic, multidimensional efforts spanning policy enhancements, capacity building, grassroots leadership and knowledge management. In India, a comprehensive report was developed to understand how women with disabilities are coping with the climate crisis in rural and agrarian economies. The research, which included a climate vulnerability assessment and capacity report, examined the issue from multiple angles, focusing dimensions of vulnerability and the capacity of women with disabilities to adapt and mitigate climate impacts.

### Key learnings:

The report evidences how the climate crisis disproportionately impacts girls and women with disabilities and highlights the radical adaptation strategies that they have already employed to address climate crisis-demonstrating existing capacities. For example:

- Restoring the balance between nature and humans, addressing conflicts with wild animals (for example, boars and blue bull antelope) that damage crops
- Advocating for a ban on hunting, chemical fertilizers and pesticides to improve crop and dairy yields
- Planting trees, such as banyan and neem, to provide shade, reduce heat during heatwaves, and improve the environment, overall
- Improving water conservation and afforestation efforts



The research and programme data analysed also underscores several cross-cutting elements essential to realising disability inclusion, but often missing from climate action:



### **Quantitative and qualitative data:**

While this report demonstrates the availability of qualitative

data, robust quantitative data on the impacts of the climate crisis on people with disabilities remains scarce, especially in the sectors of health and (re)habilitation, DRRM<sup>61</sup>, humanitarian action<sup>62</sup>, NbS<sup>63</sup> and urban planning<sup>64</sup>. Where quantitative data is available, data usability is commonly hindered by two key limitations: it often lacks the necessary depth to fully capture the barriers, risks and impacts faced by people with disabilities<sup>65</sup>; data is not systematically disaggregated by identity factors such as disability, sex, gender and age<sup>66</sup>.



### **Accessibility and reasonable accommodation:**

The research and programmes that

provided data and insights for this report flag the value of improving the accessibility of physical infrastructure, transportation, information and communication across all climate action areas, including to mitigate some of the impacts caused during climate emergencies (see [Section 3](#)). Strengthening access to reasonable accommodations will partially mitigate the persistent accessibility gap<sup>67</sup>. Research in the Solomon Islands demonstrated the potential role of assistive technologies (such as mobile applications,

GPS systems and audio-based information systems) in supporting blind and partially sighted people to engage in preparedness activities and respond effectively during extreme weather events<sup>68</sup>.



### **Sensitisation and capacity strengthening of disability organisations:**

The research and programme

data analysed indicates value in strengthening the knowledge and capacity of OPDs and disability activists to engage in inclusive climate action, particularly in climate policy processes<sup>69</sup>. A comprehensive survey conducted in Nepal<sup>70</sup>, as well as by the International Disability Alliance (IDA) and other OPDs involved in the Disability Caucus advocating at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP), identified considerable interest among OPDs to engage in climate action.

Analysis of existing capacity suggests OPD capacity is not commensurate with their level of interest. Capacity gaps have been identified in knowledge about the climate crisis and its impacts, the climate agenda and related topics, such as urbanisation and employment<sup>71</sup>. Capacity gaps among OPDs have also been identified on how to join and lead vulnerability assessments and emergency responses<sup>72</sup>. An opportunity to enhance these skills further lies in building on the OPDs' existing experiences in humanitarian and DRRM sectors, while also establishing connections with broader climate justice frameworks and movements<sup>73</sup>.

<sup>61</sup> EDF, 2021

<sup>62</sup> CBM Global, 2023a

<sup>63</sup> SDD 2022a

<sup>64</sup> WOW, Unknown date

<sup>65</sup> SDD, 2023

<sup>66</sup> EDF, 2021; HI, 2023b; SDD, 2022a; WOW, Unknown date

<sup>67</sup> NCDPZ, 2024; Plan International, 2024b

<sup>68</sup> BVIPSI, 2023

<sup>69</sup> CBM UK, 2023b

<sup>70</sup> HI, 2023b






<sup>71</sup> WOW, Unknown date

<sup>72</sup> WOW, Unknown date

<sup>73</sup> OSF, 2021

## Case study Climate action cannot succeed without participation of people with disabilities

### Key facts:

 <b>Project:</b>	Nepal's changing climate and its impact on communities, including people with disabilities
 <b>Organisation:</b>	CBM Global
 <b>Country:</b>	Nepal
 <b>Target groups:</b>	People with disabilities, with a focus on those living in poverty, in remote areas and operating on subsistence agriculture
 <b>Topics:</b>	Humanitarian action, participation

### Context:

In Nepal, the climate crisis intensifies environmental impacts and disaster risks, endangering ecosystems and human lives. The 2021 Melamchi flash-flood and landslide showcases how climate-induced disasters can devastate people with disabilities, leading to the loss of homes, agricultural land, food supplies and livestock, as well as hindering access to essential services like clean water and sanitation.

### Key learnings:

Inclusive adaptation that reduces poverty and inequalities is vital to minimising climate-related loss and damage. To achieve this, a review of programme reports indicates the following lessons:

- Use local indigenous knowledge from communities and recognise people with disabilities as technical experts and active decision-makers, with lived experience of changing environmental conditions and the knowledge to offer practical solutions, including nature-based mitigation solutions
- Champion locally led adaptation plans that are responsive and accessible to people with disabilities
- Underpin all new national-level adaptation infrastructure investments (across economic, transport and social sectors) with accessibility considerations and universal design principles



### **Collaboration, partnership and participation of people with disabilities:**

People with disabilities have been historically left out of climate action initiatives, including broader climate policy dialogues, strategic planning and budgetary processes<sup>74</sup>. Women, youths, older individuals and those from ethnic, religious or indigenous communities with disabilities experience greater underrepresentation<sup>75</sup> and are often excluded from leadership roles in climate and disability movements<sup>76</sup>. The active, contributing role of people with disabilities, and the recognition of their inherent and specific knowledge to be part of the solution to the climate crisis, is rarely acknowledged or valued<sup>77</sup>.

The research and programme data analysed suggests that strengthening networks by including people with disabilities and/or OPDs can enhance capacity, scale social inclusion impacts beyond project scopes<sup>78</sup> and improve inclusion of people with disabilities more broadly, including in the contexts of climate-induced humanitarian disasters<sup>79</sup>. The data analysed indicates that engaging people with disabilities and/or OPDs strengthens risk analysis and mitigation measures as part of the climate programme<sup>80</sup>. Yet, the data analysed also reveals collaboration between

the climate justice and disability movements is extremely limited<sup>81</sup> and often sporadic<sup>82</sup>. Structured partnerships, including through funding of institutionalised partnerships and especially at grassroots level have been flagged as potentially transformational<sup>83</sup>. OPDs could also enhance their collaborative efforts by forming new alliances, such as with the older people's movements<sup>84</sup>, women's or indigenous movements.



### **Governance, budget and advocacy:**

Existing international and national climate policies frequently overlook people with disabilities, failing to incorporate their rights and perspectives in planning, implementation and reporting<sup>85</sup>. Some frameworks focus on general social inclusion, with disability only occasionally referenced<sup>86</sup>. Only 20 per cent of state parties to the Paris Agreement currently refer to persons with disabilities or disability in their active Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)<sup>87+88</sup>. When international and national climate policies do include disability, they often adopt a vulnerability lens or portray people with disabilities as recipients of care and not as rights-holders or agents of change<sup>89</sup>. Mainstream gender- and age-responsive measures often fail to include women, girls, boys and older people with disabilities in all their diversity<sup>90</sup>.

<sup>74</sup> ANDY, 2023; Asociacion de Personas con Discapacidad Física de Cochabamba (Asodifimco)

<sup>75</sup> BVIPSI, 2023; International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), 2024

<sup>76</sup> OSF, 2021

<sup>77</sup> PFPH-MAD, 2021; Spark, 2024

<sup>78</sup> UK Pact, 2024

<sup>79</sup> PFPH-MAD, 2021; GRAVIS

<sup>80</sup> SDD, 2023

<sup>81</sup> OSF, 2021

<sup>82</sup> CBM Global, 2022

<sup>83</sup> OSF, 2021

<sup>84</sup> HelpAge International, 2023

<sup>85</sup> Asodifimco, Unknown date; CBM UK, 2022; EDF, 2021 and 2024

<sup>86</sup> SDD, 2023

<sup>87</sup> Sébastien Jodoin, Amanda Bowie-Edwards, Katherine Lofts, Chloe Rourke, Sajneet Mangat and Elham Youssefian, Disability Rights in Climate Policies: 2023 Status Report, Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism and International Disability Alliance, 2023

<sup>88</sup> Jodoin and all, 2023

<sup>89</sup> BVIPSI, 2023; CBM Global, 2023c; EDF, 2024

<sup>90</sup> BVIPSI, 2023; HelpAge, 2023

The research and programme data analysed spotlights several potential solutions. Donors could play a transformational role by using DRRM as an entry point to integrate disability rights into climate justice funding and programmes, given that disability is more effectively mainstreamed in this area<sup>91</sup>. The growing recognition of disability rights at forums like the UNFCCC COPs could be leveraged to strengthen the application by UN agencies and processes of disability rights in climate crisis discussions<sup>92</sup>. At the national level, expanding responsibility for disability beyond social affairs ministries could address coordination and communication gaps across national climate systems<sup>93</sup>.

Challenges also persist in climate financing and financial data; there are indications of a ‘zero-sum’ game between CRPD budgets and increased spending on climate action<sup>94</sup> with concerns present among government ministries regarding costs they associate with disability inclusion<sup>95</sup>.



<sup>91</sup> OSF, 2021

<sup>92</sup> OSF, 2021

<sup>93</sup> CBM UK, 2023b

<sup>94</sup> CBM UK, 2023b

<sup>95</sup> SDD, 2022a

## Case study Climate change, disability inclusion and intersectionality

### Key facts:

 <b>Project:</b>	Multi-Country Programme supported by UNPRPD
 <b>Organisation:</b>	UNDP (coordinator), ILO, OHCHR, in collaboration with OPDs and governments offices
 <b>Country:</b>	Jordan, Somalia and South Africa
 <b>Target groups:</b>	Governments, OPDs, civil society organisations, UN Country Teams and academia
 <b>Topics:</b>	Governance, public policy and advocacy for inclusive climate action

### Context:

Despite the disproportionate impact of the climate crisis on people with disabilities, few countries include disability in their national adaptation plans (NAPs) or nationally determined contributions (NDCs). A global lack of guidance on addressing intersecting discrimination against people with disabilities in climate policies and actions also exists. This programme aims to strengthen climate resilience by developing guidance notes for policymakers on mainstreaming disability-inclusive approaches in NAPs and NDCs, integrating intersectionality into disability-inclusive climate action at the national level.

### Key learnings:

Among the three countries of intervention, significant progress was made in Jordan in embedding disability inclusion and intersectionality into national climate policies. A comprehensive review of legislation and policies (including the Just Transition, NAP and NDC) examined factors influencing disability inclusion. Key stakeholders from government, the private sector, development partners, civil society, academia and unions were engaged through interviews and discussions to identify gaps and priorities. The findings, validated through participatory processes and supported by a capacity needs assessment, will guide public, private and civil society actors in integrating disability-inclusive approaches into climate adaptation and planning.

Despite references to “vulnerable groups”, frameworks like the NAP and NDCs typically lack specific measures for people with disabilities. Intersecting vulnerabilities, particularly for women with disabilities in refugee-hosting areas, heighten climate risks, including exposure to GBV. Limited OPD participation and insufficient disaggregated data further hinder inclusive policy-making. Policymakers also face knowledge gaps in disability-inclusive climate strategies. To address these challenges, national frameworks can be strengthened by incorporating disability-specific measures, enhancing OPD engagement through formal mechanisms, developing capacity-building programmes on accessible preparedness and GBV prevention, and improving disability-specific data collection to inform policy and monitoring.





## 5. Conclusion

The data and insights shared by DDG and IDDC members (and their partners) underscore that the climate crisis presents public health, economic and social challenges that, unchecked, disproportionately impact people with disabilities. The climate crisis is worsening existing inequalities. While the full impact of the climate crisis on people with disabilities is not yet known, data analysed for this report makes the following clear:

- The climate crisis is negatively impacting all aspects of daily life for people with disabilities (including education, housing, jobs and voting), and leaving those with disabilities exposed, isolated and at greater risk of harm than people without disabilities during climate emergencies.
- People with disabilities will remain overlooked by and excluded from climate responses without quantitative and qualitative data collection efforts to capture the impact and consequences of the climate crisis on people with disabilities. Collecting disability data (including disaggregated data) will enable a robust and evidence-informed response to the climate crisis, reinforcing the effectiveness of policy decisions and delivering on the principle of 'leave no one behind'.
- Data collected by communities and/or CSOs can strengthen disability inclusion across climate action, by providing insights and evidence regarding both the impact of the climate crisis on people with disabilities and the practices deployed to successfully protect disability rights.
- Social safeguards and disability-focused impact assessments of mitigation measures are not routinely used; tools and/or processes need to be developed to help put in place social safeguards and undertake disability-focused impact assessments.
- Mitigation measures and adaptation efforts are more effective if they are developed with the involvement of all key social groups, including people with disabilities. Tailoring climate action to the geographic and climate conditions of the local context and the social, economic and demographic characteristics of local residents both strengthens solutions put in place and helps to address harmful social norms.
- Considerable interest exists among OPDs to engage in climate action, including programme delivery, broader climate policy dialogues, strategic planning and budgetary processes. Investment is required in strengthening both the knowledge of OPDs and formal partnerships that include OPDs.
- Climate financing could be transformational by using DRRM as an entry point to integrate disability rights into climate justice funding and programmes, given that disability is more effectively mainstreamed in this area.
- While there is a growing recognition of disability rights at forums like the UNFCCC COPs, disability rights continue to be broadly absent from UN processes and global discussion(s).



- National-level climate action commonly lacks a government-level disability champion that can address coordination and communication gaps between across national climate systems and processes.
- Mainstreaming disability in vocational education and on-the-job training for green jobs and climate-smart agriculture successfully addresses skills shortages and helps to counter stigma and/or exclusion experienced by people with disabilities.
- DRRM practices inclusive of people with disabilities are not routine. Existing evidence and examples of inclusive DRRM practices require scaling-up, and tools are required to ensure climate risk assessments integrate disability inclusion.
- Digital technology can serve as both a lifeline and a barrier for people with disabilities; the ‘shift to digital’ across climate action (including in DRRM practices) requires accessibility to avoid the exclusion of those with disabilities.
- Evidence gaps regarding disability and the climate persist. Specific research gaps identified by this report include research focused on equitable access to energy, the experiences of people with disabilities in all their diversity in climate-affected areas, and the long-term impacts of the climate crisis on people with disabilities.



**The climate crisis presents public health, economic and social challenges that, unchecked, disproportionately impact people with disabilities.**

## 6. Recommendations

The insights in this report provide a snapshot of the impact of the climate crisis on people with disabilities. They highlight the fragility of disability rights and the importance of a focus on climate justice that is disability inclusive. Coordinated action is needed to ensure the health, economic and social impacts of the climate crisis on people with disabilities are addressed, and that their demands are used to move towards equitable climate action.

The insights shared in this report also emphasise the relevance and added value of community and CSO-generated data in strengthening our understanding of the climate crisis. Insights in this report expose the weaknesses of official data systems. If harnessed correctly, community and CSO-generated data can complement official data systems to deepen understanding of the climate crisis and strengthen climate action.

To strengthen disability inclusion in climate action, and to help prevent inequalities experienced by people with disabilities from deepening, the DDG and IDDC call to governments, donors, INGOs and all climate stakeholders is to:

**Bridge the data gap to identify, address and report inequities experienced by people with disabilities and prioritise advancing disability inclusion across all climate action and responses.**

**National climate action systems and processes, and global forums,** to actively seek and use community and CSO-generated data to inform the development, implementation and monitoring of climate action. *(Short-term)*

**Government ministries and national statistical offices (NSOs)** to strengthen the collection, use and reporting of disability disaggregated climate data in local and national contexts. *(Short-term)*

**Research, funded by donors and governments,** to be actively undertaken on disability inclusion and climate action, including research focused on equitable access to energy and a Just Transition, the experiences of people with disabilities in all their diversity in climate-affected areas, and the long-term impacts of the climate crisis on those with disabilities. *(Long-term)*

## Accelerate climate financing that includes a focus on disability inclusion and is accessible to disability organisations.

**National governments and donors** to encourage, facilitate and allocate funds for programmes focused on disability inclusion in climate action, including to document and scale-up examples of ‘what works’. *(Long-term)*

**National governments and donors** to strengthen the availability of climate financing to OPDs. *(Short-term)*

**National governments and donors** to encourage, facilitate and allocate funds to strengthen both official data and community or CSO-generated data focused on disability and climate. *(Long-term)*

**National governments and donors** to support knowledge exchange and capacity building between OPDs, as well as between OPDs and mainstream climate actors. *(Long-term)*

## Prioritise people with disabilities in climate responses and long-term planning, implementation and budgeting.

**Government climate coordination bodies** to critically assess all planned and recently adopted climate response strategies on whether they adequately consider people with disabilities, embedding in plans and strategies inclusion frameworks that support localisation and locally led solutions that ensure accessibility, inclusion and sustainability. *(Short-term)*

**National governments** to strengthen and improve targeting of social protection measures based upon an intersectional analysis of the economic impact of the climate crisis on people with disabilities. *(Long-term)*

**UN human rights, CRPD and UNFCCC** to produce guidance to state parties regarding how to report on disability-inclusive climate action in existing UN reporting processes and mechanisms.

**Strengthen partnerships and coordination mechanisms to increase the engagement of people with disabilities and/or their representative organisations in climate responses.**

**Government ministries and UN agencies to partner with OPDs** and disability organisations to jointly develop tools and guidance to apply social safeguards and disability-focused impact assessments to climate action. *(Short-term)*

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**UN agencies** to formalise consultation of people with disabilities and OPDs in climate action, including by creating a Disability Constituency at the UNFCCC COPs. *(Short-term)*

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**Governments and CSOs** to ensure climate mitigation and adaptation response plans and other national and sub-national strategies, budgets and implementation plans engage people with disabilities and/or OPDs, introducing participatory budgeting cycles to monitor and review the disability inclusion in climate programmes and applying universal design principles. *(Long-term)*

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**OPDs and CSOs** to develop training and climate education materials for people with disabilities, to strengthen awareness of disability rights and climate justice.

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# Annex 1: List of organisations that contributed data to this report

Below is the list of all organisations that contributed data and insights for this report; they are either direct member organisations of BOND and IDDC or their partner organisations:

1. Able Child
2. Action Network for the Disabled (ANDY)
3. Action on Disability and Development (ADD)
4. Africa Albinism Network
5. Asociacion de Personas con Discapacidad Física de Cochabamba (Asodifimco)
6. Atlas Alliance
7. Blind and Visually Impaired People of Solomon Islands Organisation (BVIPSI)
8. CBM Global Disability Inclusion and CBM UK
9. European Disability Forum (EDF)
10. Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti (GRAVIS)
11. HelpAge International
12. Humanity and Inclusion (HI)
13. International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC)
14. International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)
15. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
16. Islamic Relief Ethiopia
17. Life Haven
18. Light for the World
19. Lyakirema Initiative for Persons with Albinism (Lipa)
20. National Council of Disabled Persons of Zimbabwe
21. National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda (NUDIPU)
22. Open Society Foundation
23. Plan International Indonesia, Nepal, Timor-Leste and Zimbabwe
24. Plateforme des Fédérations des Personnes Handicapées de Madagascar (PFPH MAD)
25. Procasur
26. Social Development Direct (SDD)
27. Sightsavers
28. The Leprosy Mission
29. United Kingdom (UK) Pact
30. United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD)
31. Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO)
32. Work and Opportunities for Women (WOW)
33. World Vision
34. Zimbabwe Parents of Handicapped Children Association (ZPHCA)

## Annex 2: List of resources reviewed

### **Able Child**

- Impacts of Climate crisis on Children with Disabilities (Child Perspective), 2024

### **Action on Disability and Development (ADD)**

- Disaster Risk Reduction among Disabled People in Bangladesh, 2023

### **Action Network for the Disabled (ANDY)**

- Inclusive Climate crisis Adaptation Project (ICCA), 2023

### **Asociación de Personas con Discapacidad Física de Cochabamba (Asodifimco)**

- Training Cycle on Environment and Disaster Risk Management

### **Atlas Alliance**

- The Interlinkages between Climate crisis, Disability and Food Security in Uganda (Case Report) and the Other Two (Ethiopia and Mozambique) TOFI Selected Countries, 2023

### **Blind and Visually Impaired People of Solomon Islands (BVIPSI)**

- The Blind and Visually Impaired People of Solomon Islands (BVIPSI) Climate crisis and Disability Data Collection Project, 2023

### **CBM Global and CBM UK**

- Report on Climate crisis Adaptation in Madhesh Province (Nepal), 2024
- Case Report – Climate crisis and its Humanitarian Consequences – The Impact on Persons with Disabilities in Southern Madagascar, 2023a
- Climate crisis and Disability Rights: Does the Climate Crisis Impact Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities? A Three-Country Report, 2023b
- Nepal's Changing Climate and its Impact on Communities Including Persons with disabilities, 2023c
- Climate crisis and Disability Rights – Discussion paper, 2023d
- Missing in Climate Action, 2022a
- Report on Disability-inclusive Climate Crisis Adaptation (DiCCA), 2022b
- Climate crisis, Mental Health and Wellbeing – Examples of Practical Inclusive Practices, 2021

### **European Disability Forum (EDF)**

- Rights of persons with disabilities and climate action – Final report, 2024
- Review of Disability-inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Practice across Europe and Central Asia, 2021

### **Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti (GRAVIS)**

- GRAVIS' overall approach for climate action

### **International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)**

- Climate, Elections and Disability Rights Training for Organizations of Persons with Disabilities from South Asia, 2024

### **Islamic Relief Ethiopia**

- SERVE Thematic Project – Climate crisis Adaptation Initiative, 2024

### **Life Haven**

- Impact of Climate crisis to Persons with Disabilities – A Phenomenological Report in Laoang Municipality in Northern Samar (Philippines), 2024

### **Lyakirema Initiative for Persons with Albinism (LIPA)**

- Baseline on the Effects of Climate crisis on Persons with Albinism in Kasese (Uganda), 2024

### **HelpAge International**

- Enhancing Decent Work among Older People Engaged in Nature-Based Solutions in Indonesia, 2024
- Climate Justice in an Ageing World – Discussion paper, 2023

### **Humanity and Inclusion (HI)**

- Analysis of Access Barriers for Men and Women with Disabilities to Civil Protection Services and Humanitarian Assistance in Four Communes of Haiti's South Department, 2023a
- Persons with disabilities and climate crisis in Nepal: Humanitarian impacts and pathways for inclusive climate action, 2023b
- Improving Inclusive Community-Based Adaptation and Climate Resilience in Four Municipalities of Nepal, 2024a
- Inclusive Anticipatory Action, 2024b



**Inclusive Futures**

- Disability Inclusion Helpdesk – Evidence Digest Focus Issue: Climate crisis and Disability Inclusion, 2021

**International Disability and Development Consortium (IDCC)**

- Disability Inclusion Perspective on WHA77 Resolution on Climate crisis and Health

**National Council of Disabled Persons of Zimbabwe (NCDPZ)**

- My Body My Future Programme (MBMF2), 2024

**Open Society Foundation**

- Disability and Climate Justice – Research Project, 2021

**Plan International**

- Humanitarian and Resilience Programme, 2018
- Assessment on Status and Opportunities in Circular and Green Economy Sector in Nepal, 2022a
- Greenskill Project, 2022b
- Diversity and Inclusion Programme, 2024a
- My Body My Future Programme (MBMF2), 2024b
- Promoting Inclusive Education Project and Green Economy, 2024c

**Plateforme des Fédérations des Personnes Handicapées de Madagascar (PFPH-MAD)**

- Disabled People Facing Climate Crisis Programme, 2021

**Social Development Direct (SDD)**

- Exploring the Links between Flooding and Violence against Women and Girls in the Eastern and Southern Africa Region, 2024a
- Gender-Based Violence against Climate crisis Activists, 2024b
- Disability Inclusion Helpdesk Report No97 – Disability Inclusion in Climate Justice Frameworks and Environmental and Climate Risk Assessment Processes, 2023
- Disability Inclusion Helpdesk Report No87 – Disability Inclusion in Nature-Based Solutions Programming, 2022a
- Gender-Based Violence and Other Gendered Impacts of Transition to a Low Carbon Economy, 2022b

**Spark**

- Advancing Disability Inclusion in Rural Development: Key Insights from a Sparkling Learning Event, 2024, <https://sparkinclusion.org/learningcentre/advancing-disability-inclusion-in-rural-development-key-insights-from-a-sparkling-learning-event/>, [Accessed on 21 November 2024]
- Climate crisis in Maharashtra: Study finds women with disabilities are lacking Opportunities, not capabilities to contribute to climate crisis mitigation, 2024, <https://sparkinclusion.org/learningcentre/climate-crisis-in-maharashtra-report-finds-women-with-disabilities-are-lacking-opportunities-not-capabilities-to-contribute-to-climate-crisis-mitigation/>, [Accessed on 21 November 2024]

**The Leprosy Mission**

- Climate crisis, Environmental Degradation and Disaster Risk Assessment, 2023
- Bridging the divide between health, social development and environmental interventions: an example from The Leprosy Mission <https://cjgh.org/articles/10.15566/cjgh.v8i1.543>

**United Kingdom Pact**

- Embedding Inclusion in Climate Action – Lessons from the UK PACT Green Recovery Challenge Fund Portfolio, 2024

**United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD)**

- Climate crisis, Disability Inclusion and Intersectionality Multi-Country Programme, 2024

**VSO**

- Cyclone Idai Response – Active Programme and Integrated Peace, Humanitarian and Development Programme, 2019

**Work and Opportunities for Women (WOW)**

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