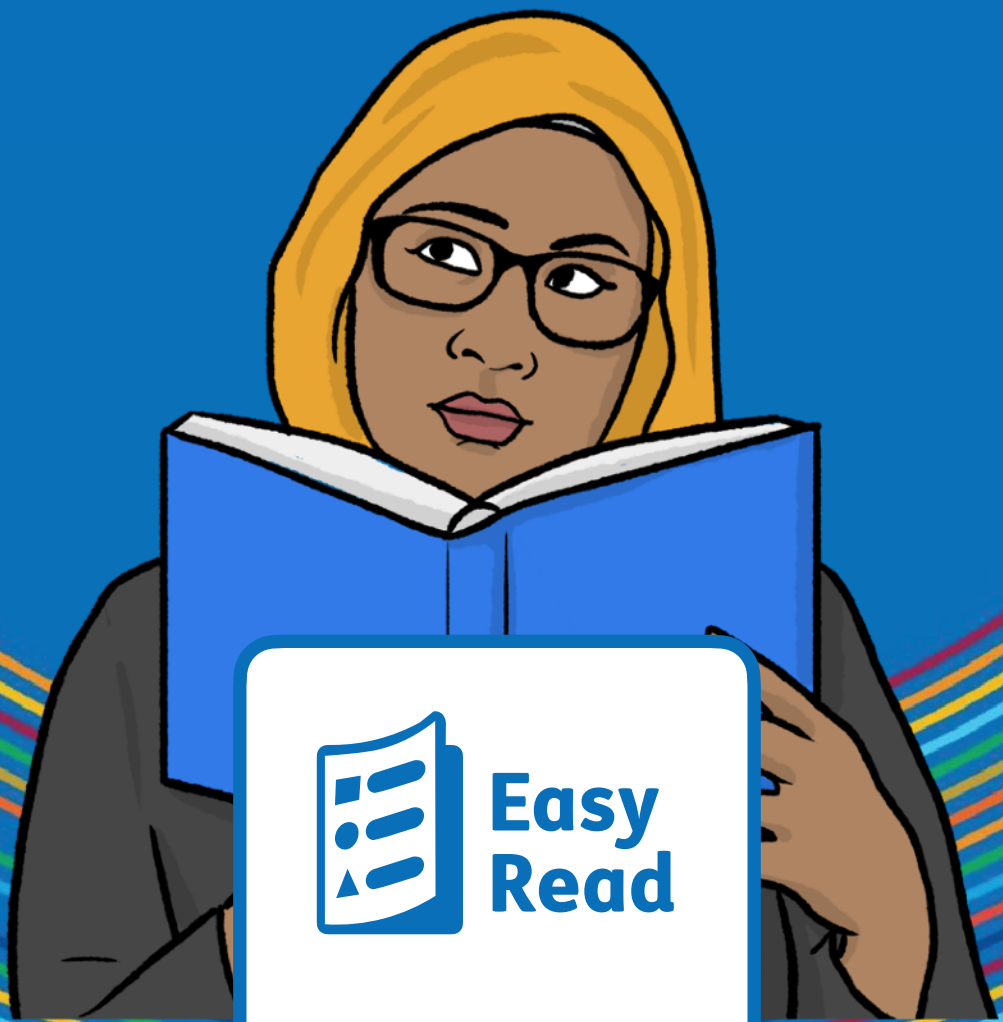
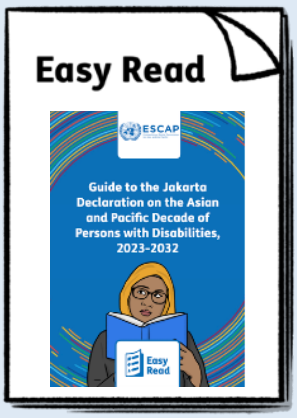
ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Guide to the Jakarta Declaration on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2023-2032



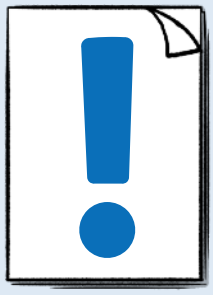
Easy Read

Easy Read



This is an Easy Read version of information to help countries follow the Jakarta Declaration on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2023 to 2032.

In this booklet, we will call it **the guide to the Jakarta Declaration** for short.



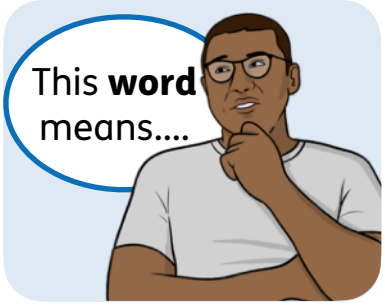
This booklet may not include all of the information from the guide to the Jakarta Declaration. This booklet will only tell you the important parts.



This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures. Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker. These are important words in the booklet.



Sometimes if a bold word is hard to understand, we will explain what it means.



Blue and underlined words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

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About this guide



ESCAP has written this guide to help countries in Asia and the Pacific make sure persons with disabilities are treated fairly.



The **Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)** is a group that is part of the United Nations.



The **United Nations** (UN) is an organisation made up of many countries from all over the world. It works to make the world a safer and better place.



Countries from across Asia and the Pacific are part of ESCAP.



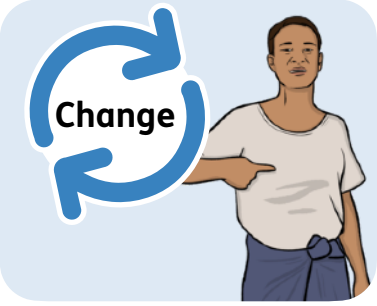
ESCAP gives countries support, information, money, projects, and more.



This guide is not a strict set of rules.

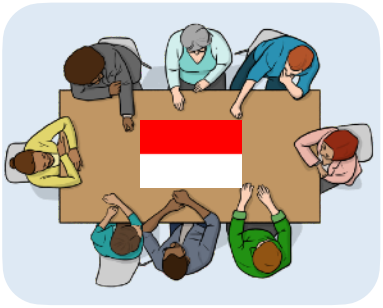


It suggests ideas and ways of working.

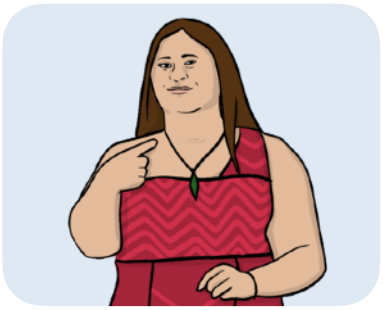


These ways of working can change.

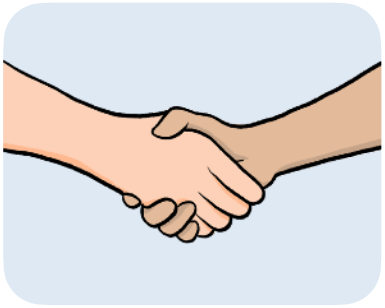
The Jakarta Declaration



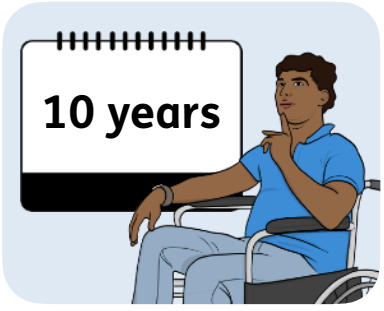
This guide was written after a big meeting in Jakarta, in Indonesia, in October 2022.



The meeting was about how to do more to include persons with disabilities.



The countries at the meeting made a promise, called the **Jakarta Declaration**.



The promise said that they would work to improve the lives of persons with disabilities over the next 10 years.

Whole-of-government



In many countries, only one part of the government is in charge of supporting persons with disabilities.



But they do not always have enough money or people to do this.



All of the government should lead the way in including people with disabilities in everything they do.



The leaders of the government can make sure that changes happen.

This is called a **whole-of-government approach**.

Whole-of-society



It is not just the government's job to include persons with disabilities.



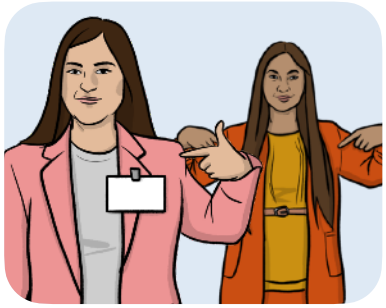
People, companies, schools and other organizations must work together.



They must include persons with disabilities when they make decisions that affect them.

This is called a **whole-of-society approach**.

Key people who will make changes



The governments of different countries will usually be in charge of making sure persons with disabilities are treated fairly.



They must have enough money and staff to do this.



They should make sure that all parts of the government think about what persons with disabilities need when they work.



Everyone should help with this work, including groups outside of the government, like **organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs)**.



Organizations of persons with disabilities are very important.

These are groups that are run by persons with disabilities, to help persons with disabilities.



Companies could do more to include persons with disabilities.

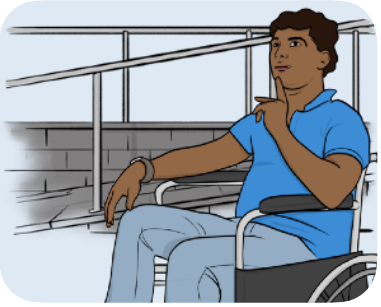


The United Nations can also help to include persons with disabilities.

Including persons with disabilities helps everyone



Including persons with disabilities is good for everyone.



If buildings and services are easy for persons with disabilities to use, this can also help:



- Family members or helpers of persons with disabilities.



- Families with young children with disabilities.



- Older persons.

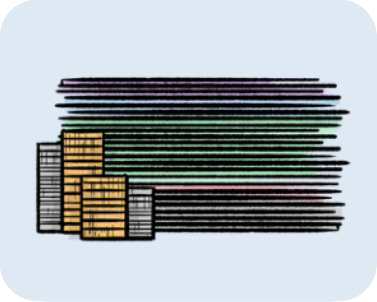
What countries should do



Governments should make sure that the law says that persons with disabilities have the same rights as others.



Rights are things that every person should have by law. Like the right to be safe and the right to be respected.



They should plan to use enough money so that they can:



- Follow the ideas in this guide.



- Support different groups of persons with disabilities.



All parts of the government should work together to include persons with disabilities.



The people in charge of the government should check that this is happening.



The people who work for the government should have training to make sure they are treating persons with disabilities fairly.



OPDs and other organisations should work to:

- Let people know about disability.
- Change the bad opinions people might have about persons with disabilities.



The government, OPDs and other organisations should think about how to:



- Treat persons with disabilities fairly through their whole lives.



- Treat women and girls with disabilities fairly.

Priorities



Priorities are very important things that countries should work on first.

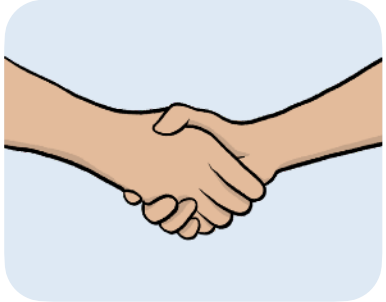
These are the priorities that countries should work on:

Laws



The **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** is an agreement to protect and respect the rights of persons with disabilities.

In this guide, we will call it **the Convention** for short.



Most countries in Asia and the Pacific have agreed to follow the Convention.

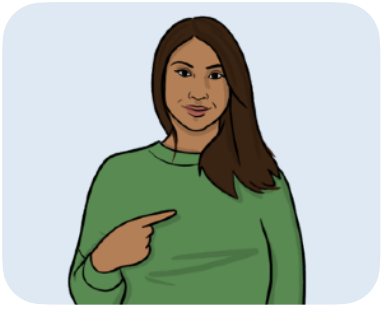


They must check and make sure that their laws follow the Convention, so that they are fair to persons with disabilities.



They should also make sure that police and lawyers understand people's rights and follow the laws.

Making decisions



It is important for persons with disabilities to have a say in the decisions that affect them.



These decisions could be about laws and other important things.



Involving persons with disabilities in these decisions is called '**meaningful participation**'.

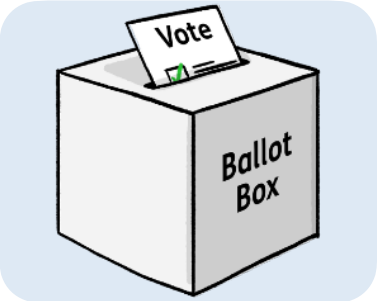
Countries should:



- Make laws to make sure persons with disabilities can be part of making decisions.



- Listen to organizations of persons with disabilities to help people to speak up.



- Make sure persons with disabilities can take part in voting and politics.

Accessibility



Accessibility means making sure something is easy to use and understand, or a place is easy to get to.

Countries should make things easier for persons with disabilities to use, including:



- Buildings, like by adding ramps.



- Ways of getting around, like buses and trains.



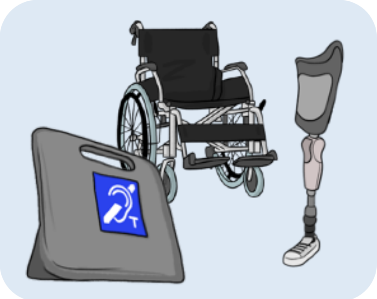
- Add more information on the internet, television and other places.



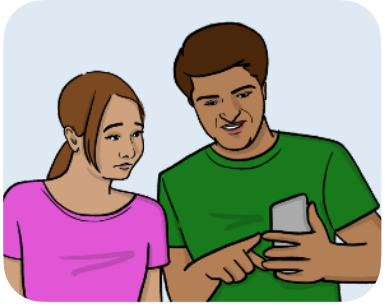
When these things are easy for everyone to use, this is called '**universal design**'.



We also want to make sure that persons with disabilities have the right tools to help them do things.



These tools are called ‘**assistive technology**’. They include things like wheelchairs or computer programs.



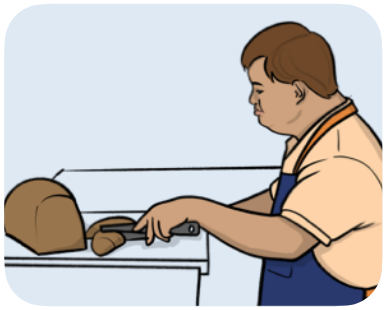
There needs to be enough assistive technology for everyone, and it must not be too expensive.

Companies



Companies can help make the world better for persons with disabilities.

Ways that companies can help people include:



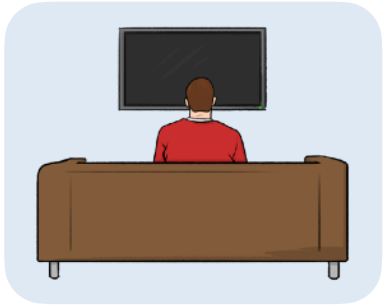
- Making sure that the things they sell are easy for persons with disabilities to use.



- Making sure that they hire persons with disabilities to work for them.



- Making sure that their workplaces are easy for persons with disabilities to use.



- Making sure that their adverts, TV shows or movies do not make fun of persons with disabilities.



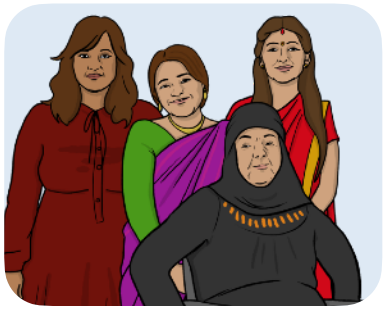
Companies can make more money if they follow these ideas, because more persons with disabilities will want to buy things from them.

Support for different groups of people



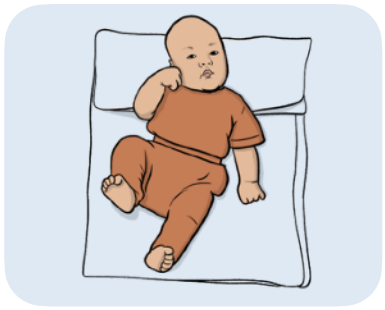
Governments should support:

- Persons with disabilities of different ages.



- Women and girls with disabilities.

To do this, governments can:



- Check babies and young children to see if they have a disability.



- Provide services for young children with disabilities and their families.

Governments can also:



- Make sure that children with disabilities can learn at schools, with support that is right for them.



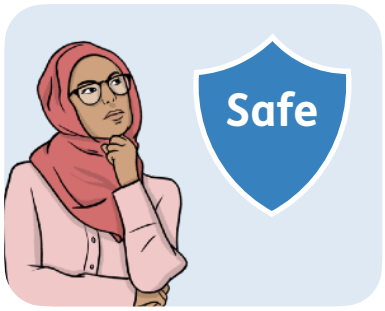
- Give children with disabilities support to move from school to work.



- Give adults with disabilities support to help them keep a job and live independently.



- Help older persons with disabilities get the right support that they need.





Countries can support women and girls with disabilities in many ways, including:

- Making sure that the law protects them from being hurt.

- Making sure that they can make choices for themselves.

Information



It is important to have the right information about persons with disabilities.

Countries can use this information to:



- Check how well they are doing at including persons with disabilities.



- Make sure that persons with disabilities are treated fairly and get the help and support they need.

To do this, countries should:



- Collect information about persons with disabilities that they can compare with other countries.



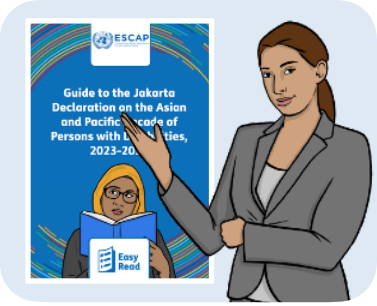
- Include questions about disabilities when they find out information about the people in their country.



- Make sure that persons with disabilities can see the information.

What ESCAP will do

ESCAP will:



- Help countries in Asia and the Pacific to learn how to use this guide.



- Work with groups in Asia and the Pacific to tell people about the work ESCAP is doing and to get support.



- Check on how countries are acting on the Jakarta Declaration.

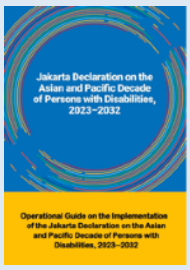
Find out more



You can look at our website here:
www.unescap.org



You can read the full Jakarta Declaration here:
repository.unescap.org/handle/20.500.12870/6388?locale-attribute=es



You can read the full guide here:
https://www.unescap.org/kp/2024/operational-guide-implementation-jakarta-declaration-asian-and-pacific-decade-persons

We wrote this guide with the help of Jessica Murphy, Min Kyong Kim, Tingting Chen, Alysha Brahmantiara Putri, and Qianyu Li.

They were supported by Srinivas Tata, Director of the Social Development Division and Cai Cai, Chief of the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Section within the Social Development Division, ESCAP.

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