

# Partnership: Gender + Disability to Address COVID-19

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Persons with disabilities face more discrimination and barriers during COVID-19.



GBV against women  
and girls with disabilities  
increases during COVID-19.



Persons with disabilities have the same rights to SRHR.



**1 IN 7** PEOPLE IS A PERSON WITH DISABILITY



**During COVID-19, persons with disabilities face more discrimination, violence, and barriers to accessing information, education and services related to gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health.**

**WOMEN AND GIRLS WITH DISABILITIES ARE AT HIGHER RISK**



COVID-19 response must engage organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) and networks in decision making



During COVID-19, GBV among women and girls with disabilities increases due to social isolation, disrupted routines and if caregivers can't reach them

**x3**

Persons with disabilities are 3 times more likely to experience different forms of violence than persons without disabilities



**COVID-19  
PERSONS WITH  
DISABILITIES  
KEY MESSAGES**



To prevent GBV during COVID-19, persons with disabilities should be able to use accessible hotlines, reach trusted family and caregivers and have persons who check on them to ensure their safety



During COVID-19, persons with disabilities face discrimination and barriers to access information, education and services



Persons with disabilities have the same rights to SRHR on an equal basis as others during COVID-19



# COVID-19 Response



- **UNFPA's priorities during COVID-19 has been to:**
  - **ensure uninterrupted access to life saving services related to SRHR and GBV**
  - **exercise reproductive rights including CSE**
  - **highlight the 'gendered' implications of the pandemic**
  - **safety from harmful practices**
  - **using demographic intelligence to help understand and address the challenges**
  - **engage young people in COVID response**
  - **highlight the importance of promoting and protecting the rights of marginalized populations including persons with disabilities**

# Partnership on intersectionality + COVID-19



- **Building on UNFPA’s efforts on disability inclusion especially the *WE DECIDE* Initiative, and with UNWomen’s existing work**
- **With the opportunity that the UNPRPD Programme to Supporting Disability Inclusive COVID-19 Response and Recovery at the National Level – UNFPA, UNWomen, and WEI joined forces**
- **Key area of cooperation on Gender Based Violence – building on existing partnership between UNFPA and UNWomen**
- **Both entities bring specific strengths – able to maximize the funding opportunity, share substantive expertise, operational cooperation, joint strategizing**
- **Entities will always have mandate specific work but can collaborate on other areas that are best achieved together – UNPRPD type mechanisms**
- **Through the UNPRPD multi-donor TF, UN entities are able to bring together respective key strengths to address common goal**

- **Setbacks:**

- gender equality and women and girls' rights further threatened
- women and girls disproportionately impacted from socio-economic point of view, as health care workers, care burden, increased GBV
- Future financial forecast and impact on programming for women and girls

- **Opportunities:**

- can build back better
- can forge even stronger partnerships
- and bring development-humanitarian-peace nexus to consider

- **Joint approach key for efficient use of resources, avoiding duplication, and coordination**



# Building Back Better **For All**

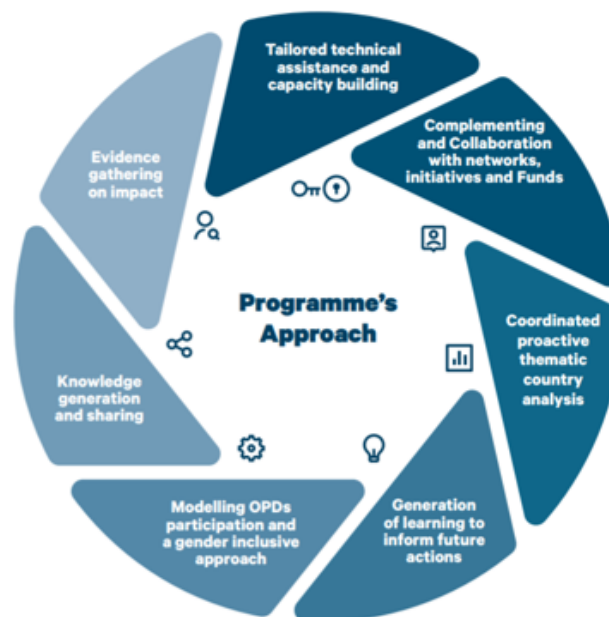
UNPRPD Global Programme Supporting Disability Inclusive COVID-19 Response and Recovery at National Level

## Programme brief

The COVID 19 pandemic is disproportionately affecting persons with disabilities, who are often invisible, excluded, and more at risk of feeling the shocks from weak health, basic services and social protection systems. The response to this crisis must, therefore, consider the pre-existing marginalisation, discrimination, exclusion, and inequalities of persons with disabilities to ensure that they are not even further left behind.

This global joint programme leverages the experience of 9 UN agencies, organizations of persons with disabilities and broader civil society to support countries and other global initiatives to incorporate a strong disability inclusive perspective to COVID-19 response and recovery.

The programme will work closely with 20-30 country teams and will expand its outreach to other countries through the generation of guidance and practical tools.



## Expected Results

- UNCTs have **better understanding and capacity** to develop and support a disability-inclusive response to COVID-19.
- **OPDs are supported** to engage in planning, implementation and monitoring of a disability-inclusive response to COVID-19 emergency.
- **Evidence, analysis and programmatic guidance** is generated for countries to design and implement inclusive recovery plans.

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### Implementing partners

