

Webinar on disability statistics

Mapping and assessing progress against global and regional frameworks: a focus on the Jakarta Declaration on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2023-2032

Date: 3 June 2026

Hour: 2.00 – 3.30 PM Fiji time

Venue : Online, [Ms Teams](#)

Concept note

Background and rationale

Across the Pacific region, countries are committed to multiple global, regional and national frameworks related to disability inclusion, including the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the [Jakarta Declaration on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities 2023-2032](#) (Jakarta Declaration), and the Pacific Regional Framework on the Right of Persons with Disabilities. These commitments come with associated reporting requirements, with varied degrees of alignment across indicators, expectations and timelines. While the frameworks are closely related, countries continue to face challenges in understanding how they align, what indicators can be derived from available data and how official statistics can be used to support monitoring and reporting.

Through its leadership on disability-inclusive development, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) supports countries to close disability data gaps and strengthen capacities to track progress in disability-inclusive development. This includes statistical system strengthening and capacity-building activities. Action recommended in the [Operational Guide](#) on the Implementation of the Jakarta Declaration aims for disability data and statistics with a strong intersectional lens that can be used for disability mapping, disability equity targeting, participation assessment, and barrier assessment. ESCAP and the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) have developed and presented an e-learning course on disability statistics since 2024. A broader initiative on more systematic collaboration between Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) and statistical systems on citizen-generated data on disabilities is also being strategized to further support capacity building in the region.

Through the Pacific Group on Disability Statistics (PGDS), the Pacific Community (SPC), has supported Pacific countries and territories to strengthen disability data collection, analysis and use, including the use the alignment with the Washington Group tools, development of national disability monographs and technical capacity-building activities.

The Asia-Pacific region-wide midpoint review of the Jakarta Declaration implementation will be taking place in 2026. ESCAP is currently shaping up the midpoint review plan and methodologies. This provides a timely opportunity to reflect on progress, identify gaps and shape priorities for the implementation of the second half of the regional disability decade (2023-2032). In this context, the webinar offers a platform to solicit inputs from Pacific Island Countries and stakeholders for the design of the midpoint review, specifically how Pacific Island Countries and the Pacific subregion as a whole can participate and co-own the stocktaking process. The midpoint review is expected to provide guidance and recommendations for further supporting countries in meeting their commitments under global and regional frameworks: Bringing country stakeholders together to share lessons learned, discuss challenges, including those related to strengthening disability statistics and highlight emerging needs for capacity building and statistical system strengthening. The webinar responds to this need by offering an overview of how global and regional frameworks relate to one another, practical approaches to mapping indicators and data sources and sharing country examples from the Asia-Pacific region aligned with global and regional commitments. The Jakarta Declaration is the most recent and regionally endorsed framework for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, providing a unifying platform to operationalise and align existing global commitments—such as the CRPD and the SDGs—through a focused emphasis on strengthening disability data for implementation and monitoring.

Webinar objectives

This webinar is a first of a series of collaborative webinars between PGDS, SPC, ESCAP and SIAP which aim to strengthen understanding and awareness of disability frameworks, enhance capacity in disability statistics and support their use for inclusive policies and programmes. This webinar aims to:

- Highlight linkages between global and regional existing frameworks related to disability-inclusion with a focus on the Jakarta Declaration on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2023-2032
- Introduce the midpoint review plan for the Jakarta Declaration and solicit inputs from Pacific countries on how to better reflect the Pacific perspectives in the relevant processes, including practical approaches to mapping, assessing and using disability data
- Share country experiences and identify common challenges and good practices on monitoring progress

Expected outcomes

By the end of the webinar participants are expected to:

- Have a better understanding of the Jakarta Declaration (the Asia-Pacific region-wide framework on disability) and its alignment with the global framework

- Strengthen country capacity to monitor progress through existing tools that align with Jakarta Declaration
- Gain insights from country experiences on how to improve monitoring and reporting for the Jakarta Declaration implementation

Format

The webinar will be conducted online, with a duration of 1 hour and 30 minutes, and will be held in English.

Target Audience

- Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs)
- National Statistical Offices (NSOs)
- Line ministries involved in disability statistics and reporting
- Development partners involved in disability data and monitoring
- Designated national disability focal points

Provisional agenda

A detailed agenda will be developed and circulated in due course. The webinar is expected to address the following thematic:

- (10 min) Introduction and general context
- (20 min) The Jakarta Declaration
 - Presentation of the context and key priorities
 - Alignment with global frameworks
 - Midpoint review plan in 2026 and 2027
- (20 min) Overview preconditions proposed in the PRFRPD
 - Data gap, methodological challenges, and opportunities to track inclusion
- (20 min) Country experience
 - Role of OPDs in generating and using data and statistics to advocate for disability-inclusive policies (Philippines)
 - Role of OPDs in census planning and training (Samoa)
- (20 min) Discussion and Q&A