# Preface

In 2012, member States of ESCAP adopted the Incheon Strategy to "Make the Right Real" for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific.[1] Through ESCAP resolution 68/7 of 23 May 2012, they also declared the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013-2022, as the timeframe for implementation of the Incheon Strategy.

The Incheon Strategy provides the Asian and Pacific region, and the world, with the first set of regionally agreed disability-inclusive development goals, arrived at after more than two years of consultations with governments and civil society stakeholders. The Incheon Strategy goals cover a range of development areas from poverty reduction and employment to political participation, accessibility, social protection, education, gender equality, disaster risk reduction, data collection, CRPD ratification and international cooperation.

To ensure that the 10 goals are successfully met, the Strategy identifies 27 targets as well as 62 related indicators for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the 10 goals. These targets and indicators are essential for developing practical implementation strategies, ensuring success, and identifying areas where significant challenges remain.

The purpose of this publication is to guide data collection and generation by ESCAP member States through providing them with relevant methodologies and tools to construct and use the 62 indicators of the Incheon Strategy, in order to monitor the achievement of the 10 disability-inclusive development goals.

Goal 8 of the Incheon Strategy accords particular priority to data collection, calling for improvement of the reliability and comparability of disability data across countries in the region. Member States, in target 8B, have specifically committed to establishing a baseline with reliable statistics by the midpoint of the Decade in 2017, as a source of tracking progress towards the achievement of the Incheon Goals.

As such, the present Guide is organized into two parts:

- Part I elaborates on the concept of disability and how it relates to the methodology for classifying and measuring disability. It also discusses the different purposes behind defining persons with disabilities, and provides an overview of measuring barriers in the environment.

- Part II provides guidance on appropriate definitions and methods of computation for each of the 62 indicators, and suggests possible sources for data collection.

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1   UNESCAP (2012). *Incheon Strategy to "Make the Right Real" for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific.* United Nations, Bangkok.

This Guide builds on previous data collection efforts led by ESCAP, including the *Disability at a Glance* publication series,[2] a comprehensive biennial review of disability policies and practices, as well as relevant country data and information. Like the Incheon Strategy, the Guide is rooted in the principles enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).[3]

Ultimately, the goal of this Guide is to support and inspire policymakers, civil society and academia to collaborate in generating reliable and comparable disability data and to design more responsive, effective and evidence-based policies to improve the lives of the 650 million persons with disabilities living in the Asian and Pacific region.

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2    UNESCAP (2012). *Disability at a Glance 2012: Strengthening the evidence base in Asia and the Pacific*. United Nations, Bangkok.

3    United Nations (2007). *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*. Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 13 December 2006 (A/RES/61/106).