An estimated 750 million persons live in Asia and the Pacific with some form of disability. Amongst them, Deaf women tend to be left behind.

Indeed, Deaf women tend not to be allowed to make their own decisions about their reproductive health, including family planning. They experience more unwanted pregnancies. Some may even be deprived of their right to parenthood. This deprivation is worsened by the lack of access to sign language-based communication.

This side event aims to raise awareness of issues faced by Deaf women and enhance the use of sign language to enable Deaf women’s access to reproductive health services.