

# **Key Issues in Asia and the Pacific on Disability-inclusive Technology and Innovation**

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**2018**

# Outline

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- ❑ Enabling international policies
- ❑ Ten dimensions of challenges

# Enabling international/regional policies

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## ☐ SDGs:

- ✓ Target 9.1, and 9 c of the SDGs goal 9 are relevant to the context of this meeting

## ☐ Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

- ✓ Articles 2, 3, 9, 20,21 24,27,29 and 30.

## ☐ Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction

- ✓ Recognize universal design, accessibility.
- ✓ Persons with disabilities are one of key actors.

## ☐ Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities

- ✓ Goal 3 on accessibility

# Yes, no more “reinventing the wheel”, and, but....

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□ [LINK](#)

<https://vimeo.com/147471245>

# Challenge 1: common misconception about technology

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- ❑ Technology has a whole spectrum
- ❑ Tend to disregard “low-tech”
  - ✓ i.e., communication cards for persons with intellectual disabilities, hard of hearing etc.,
  - ✓ Powerpoint



# Challenge 2: common misconception about accessibility

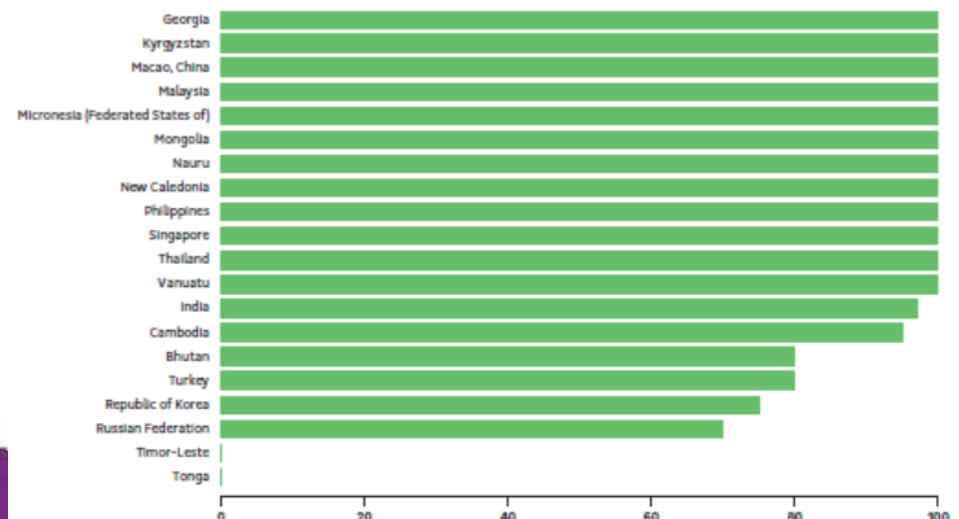
❑ Focus on wheelchair access:



FIGURE 21: PROPORTION OF ACCESSIBLE GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS



FIGURE 22: PROPORTION OF ACCESSIBLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS



# Challenge 3:availability

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- ☐ Is the technology produced in your country and made available? Your state/province/cities/communities?
- ☐ Is the technology imported to your country without any tax imposed?



# Challenge 4: affordability

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☐ Can you afford it?

☐ Do you have to buy it?

✓ 100 per cent covered by government?

✓ Or any subsidies?

✓ Or do you have to pay it all?



# Challenge 5: Ineffective distribution system

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- ☐ have to go long distance to apply and get.
- ☐ Have to wait for a long time

# Challenge 6:usability

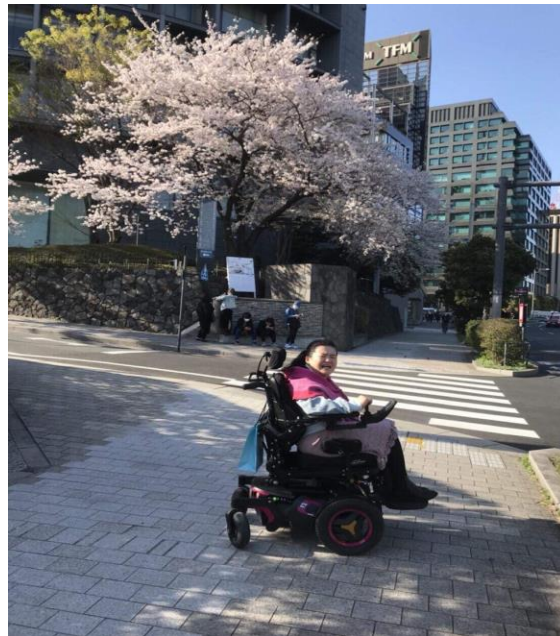
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❑ Is it really usable?

- ✓ i.e., I phone equalizer might be not compatible with hearing aids
- ✓ Hospital- style wheelchairs
- ✓ “accessible bathrooms”.



# Ms. Mami Goibuchi: 39 yr. old Japanese woman: Cerebral Palsy



❑ Free motorized wheelchair provided by government Every 6 years





# Mr. Swang Srisom: 39 yr. old Thai man: Polio



- ❑ Never uses government-provided wheelchairs
- ✓ Had to wait too long
- ✓ Many Thai persons with disabilities use Japanese wheelchairs

# **Challenge 7: Confidentiality of information**

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- ❑ Denied to use certain technologies “to protect information from public”**
  - ✓ i.e., voice recognition application, helpful for hard of hearing people at business meetings**

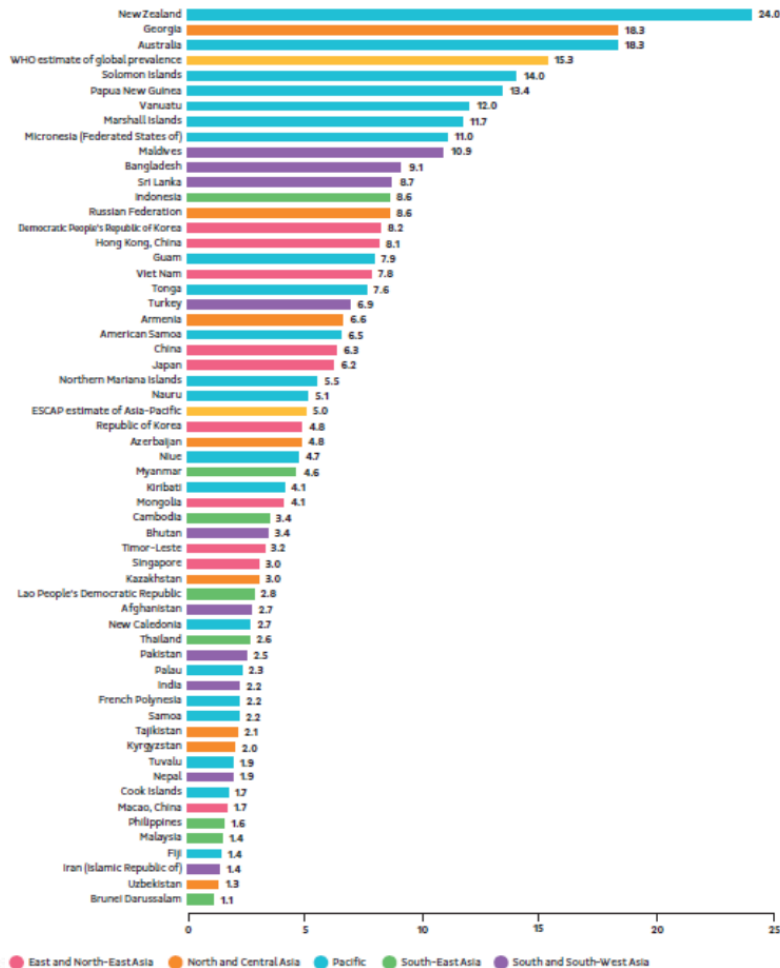
# Challenge 8: Marketability

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- ☐ Technologies are available but not produced and integrated into products and services, as it adds cost
  - ✓ Headphone tailoring needs of hard of hearing people

# Challenge 9: Dearth of Data

FIGURE 33: PREVALENCE OF DISABILITY IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, AS OF 1 AUGUST 2017



- ❑ Persons with disabilities underestimated
- ❑ Data on accessibility not generated/submitted



# Challenge 10:

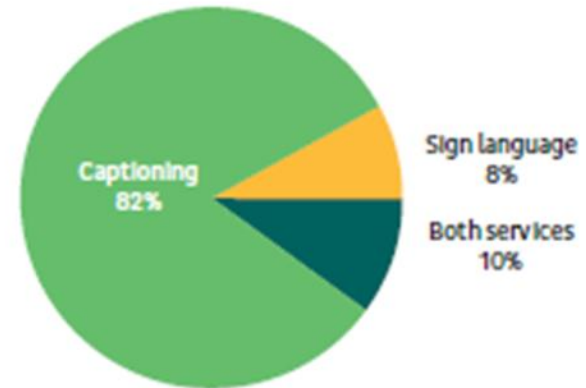
## Lack of will

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- ❑ Technologies are available, but not just used as a decision-makers at a government, companies will not do it.

- ✓ Sign language on TV

FIGURE 23: DISTRIBUTION OF ACCESSIBLE NEWS PROGRAMMES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, BY TYPE OF ACCESSIBILITY SERVICE



***There is no need to reinvent the  
wheel!***

***No One Left Behind!***



**<www.maketherightreal.net>**