



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

National Disability Strategy 2010–2020

Australian Government Action Plan

November 2017

Easy Read version



How to use this document



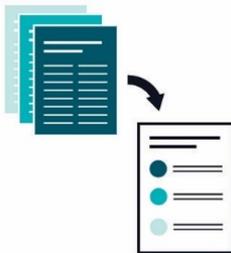
This information is written in an easy to read way. We use pictures to explain some ideas.



This document has been written by the Department of Social Services (DSS). When you see the word 'we', it means DSS.



Some words are written in **bold**. We explain what these words mean. There is a list of these words on page 29.



This Easy Read document is a summary of another document.



You can find the longer document on our website at www.dss.gov.au/nds

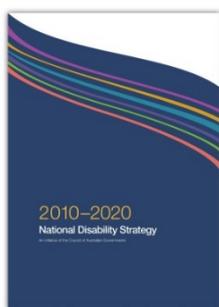


You can ask for help to read this document. A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

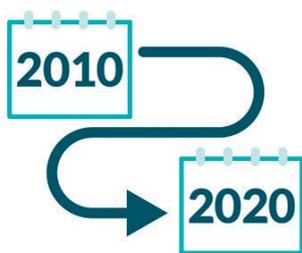
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What is the National Disability Strategy?



The National Disability Strategy is a plan for improving the lives of people with disability. In this document we call it 'the Strategy'.



This plan is for 10 years. We will use it from 2010 to 2020.



The Strategy is based on ideas that are in the United Nations *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (UN Convention).



The UN Convention is an international agreement. It applies all around the world.



The UN Convention sets out the rights of people with disability. It explains how people with disability should be treated fairly.

Who uses the National Disability Strategy?



The Strategy is for all Australians.

It is used by all the governments in Australia, including:



- the Australian Government



- state and territory governments



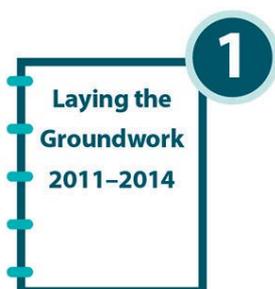
- local governments.

Implementation plans



So far, we have written 2 plans.

These are called **implementation plans**.



The first one was called *Laying the Groundwork 2011–2014*.



The second one is called *Driving Action 2015–2018*.



Our implementation plans help us explain what we are working on.



They build on the great things people are already working on.



At the moment, we are working on the ideas in the second implementation plan.

The Australian Government Action Plan



We have written this plan – the *Australian Government Action Plan*.

We call it the Action Plan.



The Action Plan explains what different parts of the Australian Government will do to make the Strategy work well.



We have also written a plan to make things better for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability.



States and territories are making their own disability plans.



Local governments across Australia are making their own disability plans too.

In some states there are laws that say they must do this.



All of these plans need to match what is in the Strategy.



Different parts of the Government have told us what needs to be in the plan so it gets the best results for people with disability.



Each level of government will keep working towards changing what the community know and think about disability.

The main ideas we are working on

The Strategy covers 6 main areas:



Taking part in the community



Our rights for fair treatment



Work, money and housing



Getting support



Learning and skills



Health and wellbeing

Areas we need to focus on

There are 4 areas that the Australian Government is focusing on:



1. Moving to the full National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).



2. Making things better for people with disability who work or want to find jobs.



3. Making things better for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability.



4. Things we do to tell people about the Strategy and its goals.

How will the Action Plan work with other programs?



Disability is not always the only challenge people with disability face.



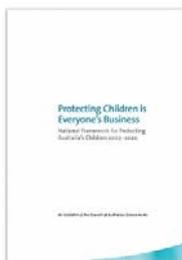
People with disability sometimes face other challenges because of their:

- gender
- age
- sexuality
- culture and background.

Our Action Plan works with other plans the Government is working on to make people's lives better, such as:



- the *National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010–2022*



- the *National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009–2020*



- *Closing the Gap on Indigenous Disadvantage.*

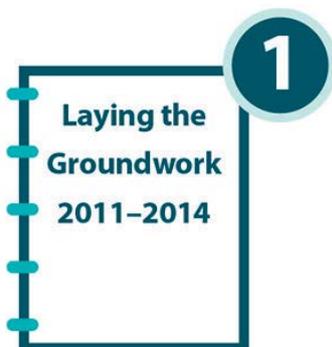
Our Action Plan



We have set goals for each of the 6 main areas of the Strategy.



We explain what we'll do to achieve our goals below.



We already worked on some areas in our first implementation plan.

Our goals



Taking part in the community



We want our community to be **inclusive** – people with disability can take part, just like everyone else.



We want our community to be **accessible** – so you can:

- enter a place or building
- use a service
- get information.



Our community has services, programs and facilities for everybody to use.

We call these **mainstream services**.

They include things like:



- doctors
- dentists
- shopping centres
- sports clubs
- schools
- housing
- transport
- websites.



If our community is inclusive and accessible, it is good for everyone.

What we plan to do



There is a plan for helping people with disability take part in arts and cultural activities.



It helps people who organise arts and cultural activities understand how they can be made accessible.



Sports clubs and organisations will be supported to help them include people with disability.



We are also working with governments across Australia to create more affordable housing.



Governments are making more homes available to people who need them most.

This includes people with disability.



The Australian Government is making changes to the *Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport*.



The Australian Government is supporting airlines and airports to give people with disability the information they need about the services they can use.



The Australian Government is making online information and services more accessible.



Our rights for fair treatment



We want everyone in the community to understand that people with disability have rights.



We want to make sure that laws are working well for people with disability.



We want all people with disability to feel safe, especially women and children.



We need to find ways to make the justice system more accessible.

What we plan to do

Helping organisations that represent people with disability will:



- give people with disability a voice



- let people with disability take part in Government decision-making.



The National Disability and Carers Advisory Council will give the Government advice and help them understand what people with disability need.



We will do what is needed to keep people with disability safe.



We will make changes to improve the National Disability Advocacy Program (NDAP).



The NDAP gives a person with disability an advocate.

An advocate can help you:

- make decisions
- make a complaint
- understand information.



The *National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010–2022* is making sure governments across Australia are doing what they can to keep women and their children safe.



Everyone will keep working to reduce violence against:

- women and children
- women and children with disability.



Work, money and housing

1

2



We want people with disability to have choice and control over their own lives.



We want people with disability to be able to plan for their future.



If people with disability have good jobs they can live a better life.



It can be hard for people with disability to find good jobs.



People with disability also need to find housing that:

- meets their needs
- is affordable.

What we plan to do



We will make changes to Disability Employment Services (DES) so that this service gets better results.



We will make sure that the JobAccess Gateway is working well.



This is a service that helps people with disability get information to help them find good jobs.



We will make sure jobactive is working well.



Jobactive is a service that helps to connect people who are looking for jobs with employers.



We are making it easier for people with disability to work for the Government.



We will make sure people with disability and their carers are getting the support payments that are right for them.



Governments across Australia will work hard to make sure people who need housing get the support they need.



Getting support



We want to make sure people with disability, their families and carers, get the support they need.



With the right support, people with disability can live independently and take part in:

- community activities
- school
- work
- social events
- sports and recreation.



This means they can reach their full **potential**.
Your potential is what you could become.

What we plan to do



The NDIS is an important part of the Strategy and a big change in the way people with disability get support.



We will make sure the NDIS works well and people get the supports they need.



We will develop a way to support people whose lives change when they are badly hurt in accidents.



We will improve the support we give to carers.



This includes the Carer Gateway – a website where carers can look for the support they need.

www.carergateway.gov.au



Learning and skills



We want to help people with disability:

- get the education that is right for them
- keep learning throughout their lives.



We want students with disability to get good results:

- at school
- in training they do
- at university.



We want mainstream education, schools and training programs to be more inclusive.

What we plan to do



We will help child care services become more inclusive through the Inclusion Support Program (ISP).



The ISP gives support and funding to child care services that need to be more accessible and inclusive.



We will collect information from across Australia about the work that is being done for students with disability.



This will help schools understand how to support students with disability and what works well.



We are working to support schools to be more inclusive.



The Government will increase funding for students with disability every year for the next 10 years.



We will keep supporting young people to find good jobs, including young people with disability.

Health and wellbeing



We want people with disability to live long, healthy lives. We don't all get to do this.



At the moment, people with disability experience more health problems than other Australians.



Some people have trouble finding and using the health care services they need.



We want to change this.

What we plan to do



We have set up Primary Health Networks (PHNs) to make sure people get the right health care, in the right place at the right time.



We will help people find out which services or medicines they can get help to pay for.



We will support the work done by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC).



The NHMRC does research that can help people with disability to be healthier.

How will we make sure things are going well?



Every 2 years we write a **progress report** to let people know how things are going.

It explains:



- how things are going and what things are like for people with disability



- what we have been doing



- what people think about what we have done.

Word list



Accessible

You can:

- enter a place or building
- use a service
- get information.



Implementation plans

Plans we write to help us make sure everybody knows what the Strategy wants them to do.



Inclusive

People with disability can take part, just like everyone else.



Mainstream services

Services, programs and facilities for everybody to use.

They include things like:

- doctors
- dentists
- shopping centres
- sports clubs
- schools
- housing
- transport
- websites.



NDIS

The National Disability Insurance Scheme.



Potential

Your potential is what you could become.



Progress Report

A report we write to let people know how things are going.

Contact us



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