

8 Session plan: Policy and legal instruments

National / Regional / District

Learning objectives

By the end of the session participants shall be able to:

- Define policy and legal instruments.
- List the main policy and legal instruments on disability at international and national level.
- Explain the rights provided by the UN CRPD.
- Explain the link between rights in the UN CRPD and the five components of the CBID
- Describe the scope of the rights for persons with disabilities enshrined in the main legal and policy instruments.
Describe strategies to enforce legal and policy instruments.

Time allocated

- 80 minutes.

Resources needed

- PPT presentation
- Participant Manual
- Whiteboard or flipchart
- Flipchart paper and markers
- Participant Handout

Preparation

Research:

- Find out what National Instruments are most relevant for disability issues in your country. For example, explore what the Constitution says about disability or persons with disabilities. Find out if there is a Disability Act or Policy and whether it is aligned with the UN CRPD and SDGs. Check if any poverty reduction strategies make mention of persons with disabilities. Check what Social protection laws exist. Find out about commitments made at the Global Disability Summits.

Produce a Handout:

- From your research, prepare information on at least four instruments in a handout to be used in the Activity. Try to have one page of information on at least four different instruments for the groups to discuss. (See example from Zambia in package resources).

Familiarize with:

- Relevant content of the Participant Manual
- PPT slides.

Print:

- Handout on National laws and policies for each participant to be used in the Activity.

8.1 Introduction (5 minutes)

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Introduce the session.

Policy and legal instruments

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- Describe strategies to enforce legal and policy instruments.

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Introduce the learning objectives of the session.

8.2 Why knowledge of policy and legal instruments is important (5 minutes)

National / Regional / District

Define policy and legal instruments and the purpose that they serve.

Policy and legal instruments

- Outline laws, policies and guidelines that affect the rights of persons with disabilities.
- Provide a framework and standard for mainstreaming disability in programme development and implementation.
- Reflect national efforts to domesticate international legal and policy instruments and guidelines on disability.

Policy and legal instruments of disability: 3

- Outline laws, policies and guidelines that affect the rights of persons with disabilities.
- These instruments provide a framework and standard for mainstreaming disability in programme development and implementation at various levels.

Knowledge of instruments

- **National level:** stakeholders are accountable to develop and revise laws and policies.
- **District level:** knowledge can be used in planning, coordinating, and to hold national level stakeholders to account.
- **Community level:** knowledge of rights is empowering – enabling people with disabilities to claim their rights.
- **All levels:** Being aware of instruments can help mobilize resources for disability.

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- Understanding policy and legal instruments is valuable to all stakeholders.
- At national level stakeholders are accountable to develop and revise laws and policies to meet the rights of persons with disabilities.
- At district level knowledge can be used in planning and to hold national level stakeholders to account.
- At community level knowledge of rights is empowering – enabling people with disabilities to claim their rights.
- Being aware of instruments from a disability perspective can also help mobilize resources for disability.

8.3 International instruments (10 minutes)

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Trainer's notes:

The UN CRPD and Agenda 2030 have been covered so move through these slides quickly as brief revision.

UN CRPD

- Main international instrument is the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD).
- Most important international treaty on disability.

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Explain: We have covered the UN CRPD previously – it is considered to be the most important international treaty on disability.



- The other major international instrument we discussed previously is Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- They address all three dimensions of sustainable development: environmental, economic and social.

Other international instruments

- UN Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities
- The Salamanca Statement
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- African Disability Protocol
- The Marrakesh VIP Treaty
- Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women.

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- There are many other international instruments - some are listed here and information on these is provided in your Participant Manual. Having knowledge of all of these instruments can help you to advocate for persons with disabilities.
- In this session, we are going to look more closely at some of our National Instruments.

8.4 National instruments (30 minutes)

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National instruments

- Constitution
- Acts
- Policies
- Global Disability Summit Commitments

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Trainer's notes:

Prepare information in advance on the relevant National instruments including the Constitution of the country. Add detail on this slide, and additional slides if necessary. Ensure you have written information available on a range of instruments to be used in the activity. This can be provided as a handout.

8.5 Policy and legal instruments activity (30 minutes)

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Activity

- In your group, read the information provided to familiarize yourself with the national instrument you have been allocated.
- Consider to what extent the instrument is being implemented to meet the rights of persons with disabilities.

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Introduce the activity.

Activity: Policy and legal instruments	
Groups	Give a copy of the handout to each participant. Divide participants into four groups.
Instructions	Allocate each group one of the National Instruments included in the Handout. Ask them to read through the materials relating to their assigned instrument and to discuss the extent to which the instrument is being implemented to benefit persons with disabilities. Allow 15 minutes.
Monitor	Check that each group is reviewing the relevant section of the handout.
Time	Allow 15 minutes for participants to review the information on their assigned instrument and discuss its implementation. Ask each group to summarise their discussion for 2-3 minutes. (Total time: 30 minutes with changeover time).
Feedback	Ask: Does the range of international and national policy instruments in place protect people with disabilities from being discriminated against? Acknowledge responses.

Ask for a few comments on how participants might share the information they have learnt in this session.

Close the session.

